Case Study : Implementation of e-Learning for Malaysian Society

The 4th International e-Learning Conference
Istana Hotel
September 1 – 3, 2005

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Background

The Initiative

MyGfL (Malaysian Grid for Learning) is a national e-Learning initiative undertaken by MIMOS Berhad to promote and support the lifelong learning agenda in Malaysia to accelerate the growth of K-Society through the use of ICT

The Objectives

- To develop systems, tools and repositories in establishing a national learning grid to enable and support e-Learning activities and processes for the purpose of life-long learning

- To bring together all relevant players in the e-learning ecosystem (learners, enablers & providers) to participate in the overall e-Learning value chain and be part of the national learning grid.

- To develop e-learning standards to ensure conformance and adoption of best practices in e-learning content and systems

- To encourage sharing and development of local/indigenous content, thus stimulating content industry.
Background – Cont’d

- Target Audience

Children                   Teenager               Young Adult   Adult

Life Long Learning for
- Certification
- Employment
- Personal development
- Social inclusion

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The Approach

**Integrating Platform**
The integrating platform which comprises of the MyGfL portal, learning support system/tools, metadata repository has been developed.

**Content**
- Content aggregated from heterogeneous sources
- Content Partners
- Content Development

**Guidelines**
A set of guidelines: MyGfL guidelines on Web Resources, Learning Objects and e-Learning systems has been developed.

**Implementation**
A 6 months pilot project was initiated in April 2005 with the objectives:
- To test the model of MyGfL framework: integrating platform, standards, and content
- To measure uptake of e-learning approach by a specific target group of learners
- To assess how e-learning content helps with a specific problem or issue
- To gauge the processes and factors involved in the implementation of e-learning to the community
Pilot Group 1: Rural Community

Programme
- Skills Development

National Agenda
- Economic Development of Rural Community

Background
- Under the Bridging Digital Divide (BDD) initiative, various ICT infrastructure efforts have been initiated such as Medan Info Desa (MID) and Program Internet Desa. With these infrastructures in place, there is a need to step up efforts in delivering suitable and relevant content to the rural community.

Rationale
- KEMAS is one of the implementers of MID which also runs skills-based courses but not utilizing the MID infrastructure
- MyGfL to complement the courses by leveraging on the MID

Partners
- KEMAS
Pilot Workshops for Rural Community

To-date a total of 7 4-day workshops have been conducted for KEMAS participants and trainers. A total of 109 participants attended the workshops.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pilot Group</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th># Participants with Basic ICT</th>
<th>Total # Participants</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>&lt;20</td>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>30-39</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>10-12 Mar</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>11-13 Apr</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>25-26 Apr</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>4</td>
</tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>18-21 Jul</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>22-25 Jul</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>27</td>
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</table>
Workshops in progress for the rural community

Where it happened ……..
Medan InfoDesa
Kg Sg Gulang-Gulang, Kuala Selangor

Learning in Progress………. The E way…

Learning Outcome
Pilot Group 2: Deaf Children & their family

Programme
- Language skills & Communication

National Agenda
- Nilai-Nilai Murni

Background
- About 2000 children are born deaf in the country every year. These children if not sent for early education will have no language skills until they enter primary school. As a result, the teachers will have an uphill task to educate these children. This programme shall address this issue by teaching parents and the general public to communicate with these children at an early age.

Rationale
- Intervention programme to enable deaf children to be at par with other children
- To create a caring society which understands and is able to communicate with the deaf
- To assist parents of deaf children by providing specialized & relevant learning content

Partners
- Malaysian Federation of Deaf (MFD)
- The Society of Interpreters for The Deaf
Pilot workshops for Deaf Children & their family

Fourteen workshops have been conducted from the 12th of May to 17th August 2005. Four schools, in Wilayah Persekutuan and Selangor, were selected based on their ICT infrastructure readiness. Table below depicts the number workshops conducted during this period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>ICT Facilities</th>
<th>Total # Workshop (T-Teachers, S-Students, P-Parents)</th>
<th>Total # Participants (T-Teachers, S-Students, P-Parents)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>T</td>
<td>S</td>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>Sekolah Kanak-Kanak Pekak Selangor, Kelana Jaya</td>
<td>12 PC with Streamyx</td>
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<td>Sekolah Kebangsaan Pendidikan Khas Kampong Baru</td>
<td>6 PCs under SchoolNet Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Sekolah Kebangsaan Pendidikan Khas Selangor, Shah Alam</td>
<td>8 PCs under SchoolNet Program</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Sekolah Kebangsaan (2) Sultan Alam Shah, Petaling Jaya.</td>
<td>14 PCs under SchoolNet Program</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Workshop in progress for the deaf group

The Teachers

The Parents

The Students
Snapshots of content: Storytelling

Storytelling teaches:

- Comprehension
- Vocabulary
- Communication
Snapshots of content: Learning Language

Basic English

Mandarin Language
Challenges

- Lack of indigenous digital content in Bahasa Malaysia
- E-Learning Content industry is still at infancy stage
- Need to address multi-lingual audience
- PC ownership, internet and broadband penetration are still low
- Different levels of E-Learning readiness for the various learner groups
- No obvious driver for life long learning in at the national level, thus the issue of what constitutes life long learning in Malaysia remains unclear
- Business model to ensure sustainability of the national grid
MyGfL Partners ..... so far.....

National Library

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Human Resource

MARDI (Malaysia Agriculture Research & Development Institute)

Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)

Malaysia Multimedia University

Ministry of Information

Universiti Tun Abdul Razak (UNITAR)

National Archive

National Science Center

Malaysian Federation of the Deaf

Selangor Human Resource

Open University Malaysia

Jabatan Kemajuan Masyarakat

E-Homemakers

Univesiti Malaya

Internexia Sdn Bhd

ICT Learning Sdn Bhd

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