



This project aimed to provide assistive technology training and support to teachers in South East Asian countries (Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Nepal, & Cambodia) through teacher training programs. The aim is to encourage the consideration, selection and implementation of low and medium tech devices/supports in mainstream classrooms to support students with disability to access education.

Introducing AT for Teachers in SE Asia

The project aimed to accommodate for the lack of affordability of AT for students with disability in developing countries in SE Asia, by introducing low and medium tech AT to teachers through teacher educators. The project was supported by a researcher in Australia.



Philippines

Sri Lanka



India

What is the impact for AT users and other stakeholders?

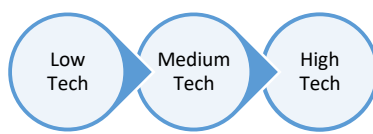
By skilling teachers, AT users in classrooms will benefit from increased AT use and teacher understanding.

Country	Teacher Educator	In-Service Teachers	Pre-Service Teachers
Australia	2	-	27
Cambodia	2	-	20
India	18	45	-
Nepal	2	31	60
Philippines	4	-	15
Sri Lanka	3	20	-
TOTAL	31	96	122

Implications for Products, Provision, Personnel or Policy?

Products

Teachers are introduced to the concept and practice of AT and continuum of devices. Exposure to a variety of AT products, particularly those that are more readily available in developing countries. An AT package was developed for all Teacher Educators to use.



Provision

AT and how it could provide for the needs of students with disability in classrooms was illustrated through in-class learning and hands on construction of low tech devices.

Personnel

Teachers are key personnel involved in supporting students with disability in their initial use of AT for educational (and life) purposes. Training of these personnel is critical to ensure a student has the greatest opportunity for success.

Policy

Assist teachers to identify appropriate AT to support new or existing policy on inclusive education or specific AT policy.

Implications for other aspects of the Global Research Agenda

The AT training project for teachers provides information about best practice solutions to teachers who can implement the solutions to meet the needs of students with disability in their classrooms. Some of the implications include:

- Collaboration between university and school personnel
- Development of a quality universal curriculum for in-service and pre-service teachers on the use of AT.
- Increasing number of AT personnel globally.
- Cost efficient approach (existing cohorts).

Strategies to share and build global capacity based on this work

The group of teacher educators involved in this project in SE Asia welcome your interest. We can share:

- The package of AT training (basic) devised.
- Experiences using package
- Tips on classroom AT

Contact details for global liaison

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