



Report on Libraries' datamining trip

To
Executive Board
of
National Health and Education Committee



Written by

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Executive summary and recommendations

According to the executive board of National Health and Education Committee, the coordinator of capacity building program implemented the data finding trip to the libraries of the NHEC between 19 and 21 June 2007. The trip was able to collect some information relating to the libraries to decide future plan for them. The libraries are situated around Mae Sod, Thailand. There are one main library and two sub-libraries. At the moment the libraries are running on track, but it is early to give comment on the sub-libraries.

Therefore, the Capacity Building Program ought to review the libraries after running another two or three months. In addition, the NHEC should have clear policy and decision for the libraries.

To release the library plan of NHEC to the Librarians and whom may concern.

To review at the end of August or September 2007

To decide clear policy the libraries

Introduction

Before the ex-Executive Director resettles in Norway, he runs the libraries and sometimes discusses about the libraries with his colleagues. After, his move to the Norway, the NHEC committee arranges the libraries to combine with other programs of the Capacity Building.

In order to implement the libraries systemically, the Executive Board sent the Capacity Building coordinator to find facts about the libraries.

The report is based on the findings during the trip to the libraries, community responses and librarians. In order to describe the profile of libraries and inform to the EB for right decisions on the libraries, this report is submitted.

Aim of trip

To arrange the Liberian cost effective and efficient for the target groups.

Objectives

To visit the libraries

To implement data mining relating with the libraries

To establish relation with Liberians and the CBP

To suggest the EB for the better libraries

The findings

Main Library

Before the NHEC took up this library to operate, this was implemented by OSI. For some reasons, the original runner of library was not able to carry out the library. As a result, the NHEC had received this library after discussion between OSI and NHEC.

After receiving the library, the ex-Health Director U Win Naing Oo and the ex-Executive Director U Min Min Oo went to Mae Sot and offered U Nyein Wai to carry on the library. But U Nyein Wai did not want to open it in Chiang Mai. After negotiation with U Nyein Wai who will take responsible on the library, all agreed to open the library in Mae Sot.

Since the library was moved to Mae Sot, the library had been opened in two times. First it was located near DK factory. At the moment the library is located near Macro store in Mae Sot.

With the instruction of ex-Executive Director, the library run with mobile libraries, but the Executive Director found that the mobile libraries were not successful as planned. Therefore, the library sector stopped the mobile libraries. No sooner the termination of mobile libraries, two sub libraries were established with the Executive Director.

At the present, the NHEC is providing three libraries in Mae Sot region.



Aim

Original To provide political resources in literacy means
To build up the capacity of activists and opposition groups

Additional To serve the public as an extension aim

Staffing

Libran **U Nyein Wai**
Accountant **Myat Thee Kyu** (The NHEC is going to stop for this post at the end of June 2007)

Operation

In the past, the Executive Director directly control the libraries and the finance department transfer the budget to the Libran U Nyein Wai. U Nyei Wai used to report back bi-annually. But the librarian submits financial report monthly. When the library run the mobile libraries, the main Librarian sent the books to the mobile librarians monthly and received the books the mobile librarians sent back. The mobile librarians had no reporting responsible.

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The times and days for the library are;

Open every Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat and Sun.

Service time is between 11.00 A.M to 05.00 PM.

The library is closed on every Mon day, Tues day and other special days.

Rules of the library

Every member has to pay member fee 20 Baht (No monthly fee and annual fee)

To be a member, he or she will have guarantee from any old member

Every member has a right to rent one book per time

The book will have to return the library between seven days

If any damage and lose, the member who rented the book will have to give value of the book.

Members of the main library

Over 300 members

At the moment main target group, members from Champion factory could not access as the factory was closed down. The percentages on library access are 75 % of migrant workers and 25 % of activists and opposition groups.

The members enjoy the books with 80 % for entertainment and 20 % for knowledge and skills.

(Remark: the main library spent the members' fee on the administration cost 300*20 Th B.)

Books renting at the main library

Over 6000 books

The kinds of books

1. poem
2. history
3. translations from foreign books
4. religion
5. classic novels
6. literacy and art
7. magazine
8. comic and modern novels
9. culture including politic, economy and others)
10. medical subjects



The period of the library

From Nov 2001 to right now and will go on. The NHEC visited two monitoring trips to the main library.

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Out comes

Increasing in literacy standard as members 20 % changed from renting entertaining to classic and politic books
Most members gain awareness on the aims of library
Preserving valuable books and historical books
Members spending their time in systematically and meaningfully

Barriers

Not enough staff for the library
Unstable payments
Stay permit on Thai soil
Inefficient budget to buy and collect new books

Work contacts

NHEC
Sub libraries
Mobile libraries
Book shops in Mae Sot
Book shop in Pegu, inside Burma

Community responses

- The library is good for the migrants' wellbeing
- To have literacy activities such as meeting and discussion among library members, meeting between library members and some authors

Sub libraries (Lamp of the world- law Ka Mee Ain)

This libraries were established by initiated of Ko Nyein Lu. Later, former ED U Min Min Oo discussed with Ko Nyein Lu and both agreed to operate the library as a link of the NHEC activities. But the NHEC intended to support the sub-libraries to be able carry out their library activities and to be sustainable in long run.



Ko Nyein Lu, the contact person of the sub librarians implemented a small scale survey to decide where the libraries should be situated.

Aim

To improve literacy level among migrants

To be able to spend free time in systematically and meaningfully (for migrants)

Staffing

Librarian for sub-library 1 located in north –west of Mae Sot **Ma Toe Toe**

This library is opened between Kwanton factory (Upper) and Kwanton factory (Lower).

Librarian for sub-library 2 located in Ho Fai village, east of Mae Sot **That Pai**

Operating system

The sub- libraries intend to open same as the main libraries. At the present they can not run as they planned.

The sub-libraries allow the members to read at the libraries.

Members of sub-libraries

The sub-libraries have about 100 members each. Member fee is 20 ThB and monthly fee is 20 ThB per member. (100*20ThB)

Books quantities in sub libraries

The sub-libraries are operating with estimated 800 books.



The kinds of books

- Novel
- Comic
- Cartoon
- Magazine
- Religion
- The books the opposition groups distributed

The period of the library 3 month
(Main librarian will monitor two times per month.)

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Out comes

A meeting point for the migrants who enjoy reading
Better literacy standard among the members

Barriers

Due to lack of stay permit, the libraries are affected
Due to limited budget, the libraries are not able to buy all volumes and issues for required books

Work contacts

Ko Nyein Lu
Main libraries
Book shops

Conclusion

The aims for the libraries are quite good. The operating systems for the libraries are not stable. The sub libraries are just about operate and it is a little early to make a comment.



Suggestion

To make ensure that the NHEC has reporting systems, monitoring systems, job descriptions, role and responsibilities for the Liberians
To have clear communication channels with the librarians
To state the NHEC's plan on the libraries
To support the libraries to be able to carry some activities such as librarian training, librarians workshop and other literacy activities
To increase budget for the productive library and reinforce with more recruitments
To visit regular visits to the libraries

Report ended