

Learning from challenges: An Image based mapping process to study influences of community based ICTD initiatives in Sri – Lanka

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Research Problem

How could digital story telling be used to identify problems and challenges faced by community based ICTD Initiatives in Sri Lanka.?

Is it possible to develop a participative and inclusive methodology?

What s the effect of participative methodology on the initiative and the community?

Methodology

Communities make digital stories on their own experiences of the challenges faced while setting up, implementing and sustaining ICT centres.

The Digital stories are discussed, analysed and interpreted by practitioners, communities and the researchers.

Its a action oriented snowballing methodology.

The study process

Digital story production has taken place in four ICTD community centres

A pool of digital story tellers have been trained and they would join in the interaction

ICTD policy makers and fellow researchers are being interviewed for stories.

Tentative findings

In a emergent study where respondents become active participants .The preparatory process is fairly long and complicated and not all participants would be comfortable

The quality of response drastically improves as the process progresses

When ICT centres are better connected with the Local Knowledge pool the possibility of facing to a challenge drastically improves.

Sustainability of community based ICT facilities are linked to its relationship with the local knowledge pool.



On going process: The next phase of the study will facilitate further interaction through the website www.telradio.org and blog -Lanka ICT. The digital stories produced from the study process will be discussed on the web space.