# Meeting Minutes

ICT4D Working Group, April 29, 2015

Chair: Jade Lamb, Pact

Organizations Attending: UNESCO, MIMU, Winrock, Phandeeyar, Thabyay Education Foundation, UNDP, JSI, Telenor Myanmar, Paywast, UNICEF, MCRB, Third Story, Dimagi, Richardson Centre, WFP, Point B Design and Training, British Council, DFAT, Ooredoo, Connect Institute, Pact, PSI

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| Activity | Follow up |
| This meeting was held as a roundtable discussion related to innovation, technology and education, framed by a brief discussion from UNICEF’s Regional Director of Global Innovations.Tanya Accone/UNICEF: * Approach is centered around youth engagement and empowerment, enabling them to be agents of change; how can technology help young people be resources
* Need to know youth’s aspirations, challenges; many “solutions” don’t really address (or understand) root problems
* Sector shouldn’t matter, solutions should be applicable in multiple situations
* What are challenges and opportunities we’ve been seeing?
* Where are some low-hanging fruit?

Key points raised in discussion:* Teacher education is a major issue for Myanmar, even with increased recruitment many remain untrained. Can we use ICTs to help?
* Another issue is curriculum and materials. There is a disconnect between textbooks and reality.
* ICTs can provide experiential learning opportunities through video or other multimedia.
* Many ICT education delivery platforms already exist. Content may or may not be applicable. Very limited content available in Myanmar languages.
* Lack of imagination is one root cause of current education problems. System is focused on rote learning. Demonstrating examples through video helped people to then create their own stories.
* Lack of data on consumer behaviors. How are people using technology? Phandeeyar has been doing surveys on user behavior (with a convenience sample of event attendees)
* PSI is looking at the [Inkling](https://www.inkling.com/platform/?_ga=1.196494252.1406464082.1433839712) Platform for continuing education for health professionals.
* Byay Foundation has been using laptops to show educational videos in Burmese and ethnic languages in rural areas with no electricity. One advantage is that people feel more comfortable asking questions after a video than they do asking questions of a teacher.
* Social network platforms have the potential to connect and empower people
 | Jade to set up spreadsheet for inventory on data available on technology consumer behavior in Myanmar (what people are using and what they are using it for) |
| 2. Requests for information* Please share any use of ICTs for PWD, especially blind people using Facebook, with the working group
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| 3. Upcoming Events* Phandeeyar hosting a hackathon June 6 on making census data accessible. Phandeeyar also hosts a monthly makers meeting.
* MCRB is presenting the ICT Sector-wide draft assessment June 17-18.
* Next ICT4D WG meeting will be June 24 at 10 AM.
 | Anyone with future ideas for WG presentations or discussions, please contact Jade |

Attendance

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