iEARN Professional Development Program Nov. – Dec. 2010

Workshop Title: “iEARN Online Project Based Learning (Beginners Training Workshop)”

Date: Friday, 24th December, 2010

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (1 Day)

Target Professionals: Subject teachers, Computer Teachers, Principals/Head teachers, Curriculum Directors/Coordinators, Head of the Departments and Trainee/Pre-Service teachers

Abstract:

The iEARN online projects are a 21st Century pioneering model for engaging students in meaningful technology based learning opportunities. iEARN Online projects have great potentials to enhance students’ expression, language skills and understanding of the world. iEARN projects present an opportunity to work with students of this digital society to engage in discussions and dialogue on common issues and those related to one’s culture with peers and experts globally.

The iEARN Beginners Training Program is a hand on professional development session focused at enabling the teachers with tools and skills to participate in online curriculum based collaborative telecommunications projects with classrooms from 130 countries around the world.

The various sessions of the workshop will present ways to integrate technology in the curriculum in meaningful projects. Participants will be able to build a supportive community of educators globally that share the latest teaching methodologies.

There will be multimedia presentations, off-line and online group activities to help participants select, plan and be ready to implement an iEARN projects independently. Participants will be encouraged to collaborate with each other during the work-shop and to take the time to connect with international teachers in other sessions. Each participant will get their own copies of the latest iEARN Project Description Book.

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Objectives of the iEARN Beginners Training

During the workshop sessions, participants will:

- be exposed to and discuss iEARN’s mission and vision
- get familiar with and navigate iEARN web site and available resources at hand
- find out the underlying objectives and cross curriculum aspect of any one iEARN online collaborative project and its correlation to teaching standards
- practice using iEARN's technology tools and be aware of the difference between them
- discuss the advantages and disadvantages of Project-Based Learning
- understand the nature of asynchronous/synchronous communication in online collaborative projects
- find out and discuss how to prepare classes for online collaboration
- select and plan a project that correlates to participants curriculum’s objectives and teaching standards