OLPC for Sri Lankan Children

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Secretary
Ministry of Education
Sri Lanka
Sri Lanka is a small tropical island in the Indian Ocean, situated close to the south eastern tip of India.
| **Population** | 19.6 m |
| **Student Population** | 3.9 m |
| **Teachers Population** | 0.2 m |
| **Literacy Rate** | 90.7% |
| **Area** | 65,525 sq. km. |
| **Currency** | Rupees (1 £=215Rs., 1US$ = 112Rs.) |
| **GNP** | 1350 US$ |
| **GDP** | 1355 US$ |
| **Provinces** | 9 |
| **Capital** | Colombo |
| **Official Language** | Sinhala and Tamil (English is a link language) |
• Sinhalese 74.0%
• Tamils 18.3%
• Muslims 7.7%
& Other
Religion

- Buddhist 69.3%
- Hindu 15.5%
- Christian 7.7%
- Islam 7.4%
- Others 0.1%
Education System

Ministry of Education (Central Ministry)
Department of Examinations
National Institute of Education

Provincial Ministries of Education (9)

Provincial Departments of Education (9)

Zonal Education Offices (92)

Divisional Education Offices (304)

Schools - 9714
[National Schools 327, Provincial Schools 9387]

*Policies are introduced by the Central ministry for both Provincial and National schools*
## Schools by Type Vs Student & Teacher information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type No.</th>
<th>Type of Schools</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1AB</td>
<td>1C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>1,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>1,191,030</td>
<td>1,250,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>54,111</td>
<td>63,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stud/Teach Ratio</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1AB** - Schools with grade 1-13 having all three streams for G.C.E A/L (Science, Commerce and Arts)

**1C** - Schools with grade 1-13 having two streams for G.C.E A/L (Commerce and Arts)

**2** - Schools with grade 1-11 (up to G.C.E. O/L)

**3** - Schools with grade 1-5 (Primary Section)
Why OLPC?

- To provide different type of education experience for children in small schools which are usually located in remote and rural areas.
- More than 35% of schools (small schools) do not have access to electricity through National Grid.
- Such small schools have less than 100 students. Most of these schools are in deprived area with no electricity. OLPC can be taken to scale in these schools.
Can OLPC enhance education

- OLPC has to eliminate techno phobia and help gain access to knowledge and promote self expressions.
- It has potential to improve the Computer : Student ratio. [Existing ratio is 1:130.]
OLPC will initially be implemented as a first phase and thereafter “taken to scale.”

Since the Ministry of Education is the focal point of this phase, it has already developed the criteria to implement the project.

Ministry of education recognises OLPCs potential. All those organisations willing to share in this phase can provide to the school system. However, it should satisfy the criteria set up by the Ministry.
Evaluation will be taking place from the beginning to observe the impact of the first phase with a focus on cognitive development.

Educational contents will be determined with the involvement of the teachers, parents and the community.
Appreciate Your Attention!