

Executive Summary



Ensuring inclusive education remains a priority for the Department of Education (DepEd) and UNICEF, particularly for learners with disabilities. The **Development and Production of Digital Learning Materials for Deaf Learners** initiative aims to address educational barriers faced by deaf students by enhancing access to digital learning resources and improving teacher competency in utilizing these materials. In parallel, the **Training Workshop on Effective Utilization of Integrated Language and Reading Lesson Exemplars** supports early-grade teachers in implementing the **MATATAG curriculum** using structured literacy frameworks and DepEd storybooks.

Objectives

The project aims to achieve the following objectives:

- **Improve access to and quality of digital learning materials** for deaf learners by converting existing Self-Learning Modules (SLMs) into accessible ePub formats with embedded Filipino Sign Language (FSL).
- **Enhance teachers' competencies** in utilizing digital learning resources effectively through capacity-building workshops.
- **Strengthen the DepEd Learning Management System (LMS)** by integrating a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system to track usage and effectiveness.
- **Develop structured training modules** aligned with the **DepEd National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP)** template to guide teachers in utilizing **Lesson Exemplars** for literacy instruction.

Methodology

The project employed a multi-phase approach:

- **Content Development:** Conversion of 500 Ready-to-Print SLMs into ePub formats with embedded FSL interpretation.
- **Capacity Building:** Training of 2,500 teachers and supervisors on the effective use of digital learning resources.
- **M&E System Development:** Customization and pilot testing of an LMS-integrated monitoring system to assess engagement and impact.
- **Training Module Development:** Alignment of training materials with DepEd NEAP standards, ensuring structured implementation for literacy instruction.

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Key Findings

Digital Learning for Deaf Learners

- Deaf students face **significant barriers** in accessing traditional education due to **limited specialized resources, lack of sign language integration, and low teacher competency in inclusive education.**
- Converting **SLMs into ePubs with FSL** provides a scalable, accessible learning tool for online and offline use.
- Teachers require **ongoing training** to implement digital tools effectively, highlighting the need for **structured professional development.**
- The **DepEd LMS requires enhancements** to monitor and sustain digital learning initiatives.

Training on Lesson Exemplars for Literacy Instruction

- The MATATAG curriculum emphasizes **early-grader literacy development**, requiring structured teaching approaches.
- Integrating **DepEd storybooks** into **Lesson Exemplars** provides a structured framework for literacy instruction.
- Key challenges** include teacher readiness, lack of training on integrated lesson planning, and inconsistencies in curriculum implementation.
- The training module design aligns with the **Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers (PPST)**, ensuring professional competency development.



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Recommendations

1. Expand Digital Learning Resource Development

- Continue scaling the conversion of SLMs into accessible formats beyond the initial 500 modules.
- Strengthen partnerships with organizations supporting deaf education to ensure sustainable resource development.

2. Enhance Teacher Training & Support

- Institutionalize **teacher training on inclusive digital learning** through DepEd NEAP.
- Develop **peer mentoring programs** where trained educators support colleagues in adopting digital learning tools.

3. Optimize Monitoring & Evaluation Systems

- Fully integrate the M&E system within the **DepEd LMS** to track engagement, assess impact, and inform continuous improvements.
- Conduct periodic evaluations and feedback sessions with **teachers and learners** to refine training methodologies.

4. Strengthen Literacy Instruction Through Lesson Exemplars

- Provide **ongoing coaching and mentoring** for teachers on structured literacy instruction using **DepEd storybooks**.
- Align Lesson Exemplars with **regional learning needs**, ensuring adaptability across different contexts.

Conclusion

The **Development and Production of Digital Learning Materials for Deaf Learners** and the **Training Workshop on Effective Utilization of Integrated Language and Reading Lesson Exemplars** represent critical steps in fostering **inclusive and high-quality education** in the Philippines. By equipping educators with the necessary tools and knowledge, these initiatives contribute to a **more accessible, equitable, and effective learning environment**. Sustained commitment from **DepEd, UNICEF, educators, and policymakers** is essential to **scaling impact and ensuring long-term success**.