Global Learning-Space

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Abstract

In December 2004 many schools, teachers, children and families had been affected by a horrible Tsunami.

In the Khao Lak region in Thailand about 15 schools suffered from this natural event. On the other side the Tsunami brought many people to Thailand who offered financial and material help. A modern Computer-Lab with at least 16 workplaces with computer-technology from state of the art has been donated to many schools.

As fast as the Tsunami came, the schools have now the possibility to join a global teaching and learning community, if they have enough qualified teachers and administrators to manage the huge demand on access to bigger learning resources in the Internet.

Teaching in a Computer-Lab isn’t like in a classroom. To have a Computer-Lab running for years requires to control the internet access of the students and teaching staff. Otherwise it takes only some hours and a new modern Computer-Lab will turn into a Computer-Hospital with many things to get cured. Trojan, Viruses, Parent-Control, etc.

LisAndi started to help those schools. They set up computer-rooms with working networks and do teacher-training.

They also organize a School-Partnership-Program called TIGER, which tries to connect schools all around the world with schools in Thailand. The idea is to set up global classrooms with schools from different world-regions assigned to one Thai-School.

Some students already were able to participate on an Online-Conference with their German partner-school.

For the Online conferences we used VoIP and Messenger Clients. Together with a fast ADSL line it was possible to communicate in real-time with another part of our world.

For example the Watkomaneyakhet school in Khuk Khak - Khao Lak. One of their partner-school the Oberland-Gymnasium Seifhennersdorf – Sachsen – Germany is now sponsoring an Internet-Cafe for their Thai Partner school.

The Internet-Café, which will be accessible for all students and even tourists, will open all learners a global learning space. Lessons could be held together with their partner schools. Even essays and reports could be written together.

This will increase the language abilities in English, as it is the main communication language all around the world and especially in computer-science and the internet.

Online conferences could be topped up to a Video-Conference with a fast ADSL Broadband connection. Classes all around the world will be able to join those global teaching events, offered by Thai-schools and elsewhere.
VoIP opens an affordable way of immediate synchronal communication. Students could easily connect each other and have daily contact, which will motivate the global partnerships and knowledge-exchange.

E-Shops could be used to sell products from all around the world. The idea of an OSOP-online-marketplace is already born and will help especially schools in poorer countries to get back some financial support beside the states support.

LisAnDi.com, IMCT.org and the Kultur-und Familienwerkstatt.de are working together to open up online global learning-spaces and global classrooms.