

A NARRATIVE REPORT ON E-WASTE AWARENESS PROGRAMME DARJEELING AND SIKKIM

1. Profile of the Organization-

Name of the Organization: Dajeeling Ladenla Road Prerna, Hayden Hall Complex, 42, Ladenla Road, Darjeeling 734 101.

Vision Statement

Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna (DLR Prerna) believes in a world that sees the need to live as one family where the environment is preserved and protected, where conscious efforts are made to remove unjust structures while striving to build a just and humane society.

Mission statement

Our mission is to build sustainable human communities in the Darjeeling hills and the adjoining areas by promoting peoples participation, gender equality and living in harmony with the environment.

Strategic Goals

1. Promote, facilitate and strengthen peoples' organisations.
2. Promote organic agriculture and appropriate technology.
3. Undertake Development and Environment Education with educational institutions and community based organisations.
4. Provide support to other organisations.
5. Undertake research, development and dissemination on developmental issues pertinent to the Darjeeling hills.

2. Profile of the persons delivering the module-

- i. Ashesh Rai is the first employee of DLR Prerna and Administrator and finance manager. Besides his office engagement, his early work engaged him in community work specialising on social analysis, micro-finance and self help groups. In the past three years Ashesh shifted his focus to community based solid waste management and managed a pilot project in Darjeeling town. Successively he built his capacity by attending trainings and workshops on zero waste and Zero Waste Himalayas Group, Darjeeling.
- ii. Ms. Priya Shrestha, Landscape Coordinator, WWF-India, Sikkim . She is also a member of the Zero Waste Himalayas (ZWH), Sikkim Support Group
- iii. Ms,Lak Tsheden Theengh, Senior Project Officer, WWF-India, Sikkim. She is also a member of the Zero Waste Himalayas Sikkim Support Group.
- iv. Ms. Yojna Lama, Project Manager ECOSS, who is currently engaged in research based activity on Extended Producer's Responsibility for the ZWH Group and has been trained as a

resource person of r Zero Waste Himalayas on the concept, principles and practices of Zero Waste.

- v. Sudeep Bomzon and Christopher Lepcha have an experience of 6 years in the developmental field especially in the field of disaster management. They has also been conducting school programs on disaster management in different schools of Darjeeling District.

3. Background of the programme : Mention the relevance of the programme in your state and in the areas of action

The Second Phase Project on E-Waste Awareness Programme in Schools of Darjeeling with the support from Toxics Link, New Delhi commenced from 15th May 2012 and completed by 30st November 2012.

This Awareness Campaign “Nokia-Planet Ke Rakhwaale” was implemented in the Darjeeling District by Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna with collaboration the other three partner organizations namely Anugyalaya Darjeeling Diocese Social Service Society and Friends For Trees Forum and Ecotourism & Conservation Society of Sikkim.

With rising tourism and consumerism there have been several negative fallouts - one of them being the improper management and careless disposal and treatment of solid waste. Till recently there was not much attention being paid to this problem and hardly developed proper systems of waste collection and disposal. Dumping unsorted garbage in a landfill, down hills is the general practices resulting in pollution of water sources from the leachates. The region also has a high concentration of Chinese electronic goods including cell phones flooding the market, resulting in a high per capita usage of cell phones. Many of these cellphones have very short life span so end up dumped and replaced at an alarmingly fast rate.

The Nokia programme for a school level campaign for awareness about responsible waste management and its collection of discarded mobiles for recycling has come at a very appropriate time. E-waste legislation in the state is in its infancy and it is very important to highlight the danger of contamination of water and the environment from hazardous metals and chemicals through improper disposal of electronic-waste items. It would also be a valuable learning exercise in engaging with the students, teachers and school authorities and bringing about awareness and concern amongst this very influential section of society for responsible and safe disposal/recycling of e-waste and in particular of mobile handsets.

4. Approach for the workshop- In this section, the design and the content of the programme should be detailed out. Also mention if training or capacity building of the staff was undertaken for this.

DLR Prerna undertook rounds of sensitization and brainstorming meetings with the core team members of the partner organization. All selected Schools in Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Mirik and Gangtok, Sikkim were firstly sent a Formal Letter of Request for One Hour Awareness Campaign on e-waste to the head of the institution seeking their permission and appointment for Date and Time for the Campaign. Most Schools showed their interest at the same time some schools were replaced by other new schools which were not short-listed earlier.

In number of these schools we have been undertaking development and environment education with special focus on solid waste management making things easier to conduct the campaign.

After fixing dates and time with each school, the core team members of the organizations took the Campaign forward.

a) **Campaign Procedures:** Mention how the schools were approached and how the programme was conducted.

Undertaking development and environmental education in the past helped a lot and the existing rapport with schools were utilized. So through them, the head authority of the school was contacted giving them orientation about the objectives of the programme.

Eco clubs were targeted with some schools, which consisted of students from different standards, and the programme also fitted into the other initiatives that they were involved in. Eco club members were then given the responsibility of spreading the message within the school. In some schools, all students of the higher classes were involved in the workshop.

Collection Procedures: Mention the collection mechanism and setting up of the bins. In how many schools were the bin placed and for how many days

Collection boxes were made and taken to the schools on the day of the programme. After the presentation in presence of teachers, students were asked to designate a suitable place for the collection box where they could drop their e-waste. The bin was left in the school for 3-4 weeks in the particular school. The staffs then collected the bins from the 74 schools after a given time.

5. Material Used during the training programme- Give a list of material used for the programme and the way they were used. Also mention the total quantity used.

The Power Point presentation supplied by Toxics Link, Nokia on e-waste was the key presentation materials with some changes according to the regional issues followed by awareness documentary film. Z-Cards, Posters, Standy, Comic Books, Recycled Pens, Bookmarks and Nokia Collection Bin were used during the presentation.

Sl No.	Material Used per School	Quantity
1	Laptop	1
2	LCD	1
3	Drop Box	1
4	Posters	4
5	Nokia e-waste PPT	1
6	Booklets	7
7	Comic Books	4
8	Z Cards	12

- 6. School Programme-** A detailed section on the schools programme, including number of schools covered, number of students and teachers covered during the programme. The section should also mention about the total E-waste collection from schools.

No. of Schools	Mobile Phones with Batteries	Mobile Phones Without batteries	Chargers	Batteries	Other Accessories	No. of Student Present	No. of teachers Present
74	193	88	251	154	103	6066	278

Details attached in Annexure 1.

- 7. Experiences and challenges:** The section should include experiences and challenges faced in organizing the programme. It should also include any experience during the workshops.

It was a good learning experience for the organization and an opportunity to make a positive contribution through e-waste awareness. Nokia e-waste recycling programme was a great initiative to make students understand the importance of segregation and recycling. The concept being very much relevant to the present situation the school management also welcomed the programme. The students too were very interested in the topic as it was very informative and eye opening to both the students and teachers as well. The programme was very interactive as the students were participating very proactively during and after the programme making the learning experience engaging and fun too.

Level of understanding that was low among the students of rural schools in comparison to urban schools. In the urban schools especially ICSE and CBSE the level of understanding was very high. They could understand the concept and would respond to it but the students from government schools they had very low grasping ability. Another challenge was that of poor infrastructure facility of the school. In some of the schools the school authority gave very little time. The time allotted for the programme was 40 minutes but in most of the school those 40 minutes was given in place of last period. The challenge felt was that the short term engagement would result in loss of motivation among the schools regarding the e-waste. Also there is need for establishment of certified recycling agents or sustaining the e-waste collection for responsible recycling. This would also require appropriate legislation by the State Government.

- 8. The Photographs of the Awareness Campaign in Schools –** Please put some photographs in low resolution in the report. All other pictures of the workshops should be either put on a cd or zipped file and sent.

Photo Plates