

Knowledge of Computer Skills and Information Technology at a Rural Secondary School



Location:

Abdusamad village, Panjakent district, Sogd region, (Tajikistan)

Duration: October 2005 - May 2006

Youth Mentor : Doliev Samandar

Background:

A world of possibilities was opened up to the residents of a small village in Tajikistan on 28th February 2006, when a laptop computer was supplied to the students of Secondary School N55 of Abdusamad Village, Panjakent district, Sogd region. The students have been taught about computers theoretically; however they had never previously had access to a computer. With the provision of the laptop, they are being introduced to the practicalities of computer technology and the potential of the internet.

The head teacher of the school expressed the affect this is having not just on IT learning but across the curriculum; 'Our pupils begin to learn a primary knowledge about computers, Internet and they are understanding that through "World Wide Web (www)" they can get in touch with the world. Your present is the very thing which we need for our school activities, already we are making lots of additional instructional cards for all lessons.'

The laptop was put to immediate use by being used to show the World Youth Congress DVD and raising awareness of the Millennium Development



Goals. Students at the school are inspired and motivated by the possibilities of this new technology and by learning about the Youth Congress and Scotland. One student could foresee that learning the essential IT skills will help him 'not come across with difficulties during my higher education in the future'. The students expressed the desire to 'learn English' and 'become teacher of computer skills'.