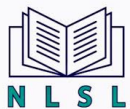


Skills Online Sri Lanka



Employed for the Unemployed

Presenter: Premila Gamage

Country Coordinator

COL-Coursera

Workforce Recovery Programme

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Why we initiated the project?

- Sri Lanka's labour market skills mismatch has been recognized for many years, especially in the context of high levels of unemployment among educated youth.
- Covid-19 taught the lesson that there is a need for re-skilling people who loose employment due to the new nature of jobs and workplace environment.

What were our goals?

National Library of Sri Lanka (NLSL) decided to invest in education and training programmes to:

- Address the impacts of COVID-19 and help unemployed workers re-skill and re-enter the workforce
- Reinforce job related skills to regain employment - especially among youth, women and disabled.

"I was able to increase the value of my Resume within a short period of time and I received many employment opportunities with many employers not only in Sri Lanka but also from abroad. - Chanaka Perera"

How did we do?

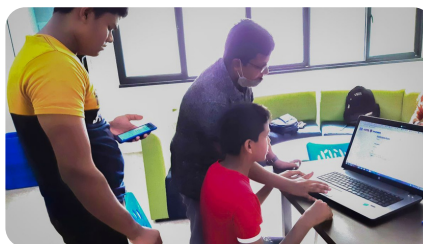
Together with **Commonwealth of Learning-Coursera Workforce Recovery Initiative** the National Library launched the 'Skills Online Sri Lanka - Employed for the Unemployed'

Provided learners unlimited and free access to 5000+ courses from world renowned universities



Formed local partnerships

Vocational Training Authority / Public Libraries / Educational Institutes / Employes/ Lions Clubs / Civil Society Organisations



Accomplishments & Achievements



21343



4345

"This is my first job. The courses conducted by coursera were really helpful for me to find this job. - Wimarshika Thamali Rathnayake"

LEARNERS COMPLETED COURSES **4345**

2401

M

677

1944

F

499



Challenges

- Maintain the adoption rate
- Language barriers - contents offer in non-local languages
- Course content not cater to disabled persons i.e. Visually impaired

What's next

- COL extended its support for another 3 years through its 'Skills for Work' initiative
- New Local Partners - Sri Lanka Telecom