

QUARTERLY

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EMINENCE

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

NEWS LETTER

THINKING SCHOOLS ETHIOPIA

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“Facilitating the achievement of thinking skills bears the fruits of adaptive, proactive, and innovative minds”

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TRAININGS

for change


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Partner Organizations



Thinking Schools International

is known for its systems thinking philosophy and 21st century training methodology. TSI works with other countries and organizations internationally with the whole school/organization approach of teaching/applying thinking. It is a partnership between Kestrel Education in the UK and Designs for Thinking in the US.

The Designs for Thinking consulting group brings a wide range of experiences and unique talents to the implementation of Thinking Maps® and Software in whole school communities.

Designs for Thinking
dft.designsforthinking.com



is a personal and organizational development consultancy that is based in Edmonton, Canada. Expertise includes: organizational leadership development, organizational capacity building, personal coaching, training, and facilitation.

Inspired Insights



Addis Ababa Education Bureau,

as gov't institution, it strives for every child to acquire quality education. As a result this organization has signed a memorandum of understanding with Eminence-SE for training programs meant for gov't schools.



Thinking Schools International



ROBERT SETH PRICE

Robert Seth Price is a global educational trainer and consultant. He specializes in Literacy, Mathematics, Visual Arts and Class Room Management Techniques. Robert has extensive experience in urban school districts both in class and after school projects and is well-versed in issues of diversity, including language, culture, class and cognition. He also coaches individuals and organizations to improve communication, management, and planning in the area of organizational development.

Previously, he consulted National Urban Alliance (NUA) in many capacities including leading professional development (K-12), training new national trainers, implementing technology. NUA provides professional development, advocacy and organizational guidance that transform urban and suburban schools. His work included whole district long term projects in Seattle, Indianapolis, New York City, and Birmingham USA. Recently, he piloted a student voice initiative that now is a key component of all NUA projects.

He is the co-author of *Growing Thinking Schools Inside Out*, the TSI handbook for understanding and implementing the six starting points of thinking. He is experienced in facilitating visual tools (Thinking Maps®), Reflective Questioning, Collaborative Learning (students and educators), Structuring Environment and Dispositions (Habits of Mind) - all starting points of thinking. The handbook guides educational leaders and teachers through learning researched thinking practices while building a visual map plan of implementing the thinking schools approach. Most recently he is co-author on TSE for an upcoming book on thinking to be published by Corwin Press. He is currently developing and implementing structuring environment curriculum.



Dr. David Hyerley, the creator of Thinking Maps and a colleague of Robert Price, holds talks with Ato Dilamo Otores, Head of Addis Ababa Education Bureau(AAEB) that has led to a bigger and very important step of signing a memorandum of understanding between Thinking School International and Eminence Social Entrepreneur on the one hand and AAEB on the other for an ongoing collaboration towards materializing quality education.



Robert interacting with Ato Dilamo during a training session meant for AAEB educational experts team.



Robert shares ideas with Kebour Ghena, CEO of Initiative Africa during a workshop about the Thinking School Approach.



Thinking Schools Ethiopia program

1. What is a Thinking School?



Government Schools Training

A thinking Schools is an educational community in which all members share a common commitment to giving regular, careful thought to everything that takes place. This involves learning how to think reflectively, critically and creatively, and to employing these skills and techniques in the co-construction of a meaningful curriculum and associated activities. Successful outcomes will be reflected in students across a wide range of abilities demonstrating independent and co-operative learning skills, high levels of achievement, and both enjoyment and

satisfaction in learning. Benefits will also be shown in ways which all members of the community interact with and show consideration for each other and in the positive psychological well-being of both students and staff. In short, a thinking school is a school that puts the teaching of thinking at the heart of learning

2. Why a Thinking School?

A Unique 21st century, research based, in line with the Ethiopian education policy approach to the Teaching of Thinking based on Thinking Schools International's experience of working with hundreds of schools across the globe. All schools take a 'whole school' approach in which every teacher and student uses the same thinking tools to develop specific thinking skills.



Private schools Training



Thinking Schools Ethiopia program

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Private schools Training



"to Teach, Inspire and Support"

The trainees mainly consisting of school leaders and owners came as far as Afar and Dessie in the north, Dire Dawa in the east and Bale in the south west parts of Ethiopia. In between sessions they reflected that the training was one of a kind, organized both in terms of trainers and training materials and timely available to solve the many problems of quality education in Ethiopia.

Bikolos Nur Academy: Reflections on the Beginning Pathways

Students and Teachers at Bikolos Nur Academy recently shared their reflections on the beginning pathways of implementing Thinking Maps as part of the Thinking Schools Ethiopia (TSE) whole school initiative. Thinking Schools Ethiopia (Eminence Social Entrepreneurs) Facilitators Dagim Melese and Atsede Tsehayou conducted these interviews during the regular on-site professional development with the Bikolos Nur Academy staff. The on-site professional development supports the implementation including collegial coaching, demonstration lessons with students and building the capacity of the whole school staff.

Thinking Schools Ethiopia to support Initiative Africa Project

Thinking Schools Ethiopia (Eminence Social Entrepreneurs) in collaboration with Initiative Africa previously organized a two days training on thinking methodologies, reading and spelling. The training was conducted from June 15-16, 2013 at the 4 kilo Sports and Education Center. Participants were thirty school leaders and six education Bureau officers from selected schools in Addis Ababa, Kolfe Keraniyo and Gullele sub-cities, Boset Woreda, East Shewa, Oromia and Angolela Tera Woreda, North Shewa, Amhara regions.

Purpose:

- Connecting the All Children Reading Initiative with Growing Thinking Schools Ethiopia Approach for a Sustainable Initiative.

Objectives:

- Multi-directional development which is a belief system and model where all participants recognize their own capacity for aiding the others globally: ideas and innovation originate within and across all places globally.

- Whole systems change that involves 'whole schools' in implementation including all students, teachers, administration and parents.

- People must have an understanding, 'buy-in', and develop mastery of methods for change to root and become imbedded in the process of change.

Methodology

Thinking Schools Ethiopia is a 21st century sustainable model developing educators and children who are innovative thinkers through:

- whole school training approach
- training leadership team as leaders using and modeling methodologies
- creating models of excellence using methodologies that are research based,

- creating new innovative patterns based on the fact that the brain seeks patterns and to change how we teach children to be lifelong thinkers starts with the leadership and educators

- Methods that are lifelong learning tools; across all disciplines; involve and are used by all levels of the community within and outside the school from students to adults.

Thinking Skills

- Collaborative training model for developing highly qualified Ethiopian facilitators/trainers

- Ongoing Action Research
- Criteria for achieving 'Thinking Schools' accreditation
- Sustainable design

Reflections

"This training is a pilot project (August 2012 training with AAEB expert team), next we'll go to schools and we will train teachers and principals. Gradually the program will be at a national level. Let alone your job or other businesses, it helps even in our day to day life [Thinking Schools approach and methods]..."



Dilamo Ottore
Head of Addis Ababa Education Bureau (AAEB)



"I would like to see this continue in some form. This was a complete success. It would benefit to have this training on an ongoing basis for public school teachers that would assist the whole education system in the country. This was a workshop about changing minds and acquiring a new set of beliefs about what education is all about."

Awol Endris, Ph.D;
Program Officer, Education and Training
UNESCO- International Institute for Capacity Building,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Fetum: The first time I took the training was through our school network with around 15 other schools. By then, I was convinced and believed this is the way to quality education. Immediately after the training, I introduced TSE to my school. Now, it is a month since its introduction and within this time I have seen a big change. The students are starting to think clearly and improved creativity as well as creating their own way of thinking and simplifying things.



Fetum Ahmed,
Founder and School Director of Bikolos Nur Acc

Reflections



Growing thinking schools program is mainly concerned in transforming schools from traditional way of teaching contents to a methodology which involves thinking process. To this end Eminence Social Entrepreneurs in collaboration with Thinking Schools International is now in a way to launch training for 450 government school principals and supervisors in the coming month.

Atsedet Tsehayou, Thinking Schools Ethiopia Trainer

"It goes without saying that in-service training plays the role of enhancing teachers' competence of effectively imparting lessons. The training, in my view, did constitute an enlightening and capacitating workshop as far as teachers' roles in facilitating and suiting students' learning is concerned. It bore the idea that entitling students [children's] brains to learn of their physical and social environment by its own has in the long run the advantage of shaping independent learning at one's own pace, intellectual capacity and other particular circumstances. It generally is a shift towards making education students' responsibility."



Dagim Melese, Thinking Schools Ethiopia Trainer



I really think that Thinking maps make a big difference in my life because before I really didn't read my books much because it takes too much time to understand, but now I am interested to open my exercise books make Thinking Maps to actually study and know what I am reading. We can be independent and learn by ourselves, because Thinking Maps are our teachers. They make everything easy so that we can read and remember it makes you visualize things. Thinking Maps capture our thinking in our mind.

Hannan Abdulfetah, Student, Bikolos Nur Acc

I really want to thank the thinkers who give us Thinking Maps and make us think to ourselves and for our students. Thinking Maps are very helpful. I have spent many years teaching chemistry and I have been trying many methods to visualize chemistry to students. The thinking maps made everything clear in these 2-3 weeks after the training.



**Adefres Zerihun
Vice Director and Chemistry teacher, Bikolos Nur Acc**

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upgrading my
knowledge

promoting
my company?

success

wedding
planner

H
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quality
education

"Yeshi gabicha" 2014 Coming Soon



Message from the Founder



Eminence is a pioneer social entrepreneurial company in Ethiopia. As entrepreneurs, rather than leaving societal needs to the government or business sectors, we find what is not working and solve the problem through innovative approaches. Our work so far is a testimony for our dedication and passion to fill the gap. At Eminence, every endeavor we take, never lose sight of sustainable change and social significance. As

Training and consulting business unit, we firmly believe that a country's development can only be sustainable when its citizens have acquired developed thinking Skills and positive attitude. Unfortunately, these two things are not abundantly seen in our work force and academics. Hence, we are facing challenges in our personal and professional lives which ultimately cripples our economy and welfare. In this issue, we invite you to witness our effort so far on various sectors and the uplifting reflections we have been granted from our clients. That is not all; you will be the first one to look at upcoming events and trainings of the coming three months.

Wishing you enjoyable reading time.

Asriake Amanuel

Chairman of the organization



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SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

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401, Cape verde Street, off the Bole Road, [close to EU delegation] or Bole Rwanda, 200m off the bridge from the main road (Africa Avenue) in front of Sidama Lodge.

ABOUT

Eminence Training and consulting is an innovative center established to deliver quality and efficient training and consultancy services for both local and international clients. Our training and consultancy services on diverse areas are aimed at revitalizing the service industry with trainings that are innovative, applicable and sustainable. We also work intimately with you to design, develop and then deliver fully customized training programs to assist your business to achieve its highest goals.

Us

Our training programs in the past years on education and financial institutions has been recognized as the best of their kind due to the techniques we use to develop them and the lasting impressions they leave on our clients.

Vision: To be a leading training and consultancy service provider.

Mission: To provide high quality training and consultancy service on personal and institutional levels.

What sets us apart?

- Our Entrepreneurial state of mind
- A strategic focus on long-term relationships
- 21st century training methodology
- Giving back 10% of our profit to charity
- Strategic Partnerships

