



# PBL South Asia Network

## A concept note

Email: TBD

Website: [www.pblsouthasia.net](http://www.pblsouthasia.net) <TBD>



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**South Asia**

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# PBL SOUTH ASIA NETWORK – CONCEPT NOTE

## Background

This document serves as a concept note for the creation and genesis of the proposed PBL South Asia network. The vision and the objectives of the network as well as the envisaged implementation of the network among the South Asian partners is discussed in this document.

## Genesis of the network

PBL South Asia is an ERASMUS+ funded project involving higher educational institutions from Europe and South Asian partner universities from India, Nepal and Bhutan. The project focused on the utility and implementation of Problem-Based Learning in the context of higher education in South Asian universities. Through the project, the partners felt the need for a sustained engagement among the universities that should go beyond the project duration for successful penetration of the PBL philosophy in the higher educational institutions of South Asia in order to reap the benefits of this novel approach to learning. The formation of network thus germinated as a result of this project.

***“PBL South Asia Network would serve as an anchor for fruitful engagement of partners to sustain problem-based learning”***

## Network highlights

The PBL South Asia network right now is primarily visioned to be actively engaged in the countries of India, Nepal and Bhutan with a vision to spread it to other South Asian countries.

PBL South Asia Project Team

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# VISION OF THE PBL-SOUTH ASIA NETWORK

The vision of the PBL South Asia network is to play an anchor role for sustained engagement of the partner universities in South Asian region to adopt and utilize Problem Based Learning philosophy in the pedagogy and learning among the higher education students in the region.

The immediate objectives of the network would be

- To create a forum for the partner universities to collaborate and exchange ideas surrounding PBL
- To conduct activities to introduce and strengthen the PBL based processes and ideas in the faculty of South Asian region
- To create a sustained network of individuals/universities who would play a major role in percolation of PBL philosophy in the long run.





# PROPOSED EVENTS TO LAUNCH THE NETWORK

## *Development and Launch of PBL South Asia Network website.*

**Status:** The website prototype has been developed. Securing Vendor to develop the website, purchase the domain ([www.pblsouthasia.net](http://www.pblsouthasia.net)) for the website for the next few years.

Website to contain the following features

- Information on the PBL philosophy
- Links to documents on PBL
- Login for Members of the network
  - Members would have access to certain documents and case studies of PBL SA members
- Links to MOOC (members only?)
- Links to ToT and Best Practices Manuals
- Contacts of partner universities and persons in universities.

## *Launch of PBL South Asia Network*

**Status:** The launch of PBL South Asia Network is being right now planned to be a soft launch in India surrounding an event of PBL SA. The launch in Nepal would be timed with the IIT Bombay teams visit to Nepal. Similar launch can happen in Bhutan once travel is possible to Bhutan.

## *Outline of events planned for the next one year*

The following are the events planned to be organized in the next one year.

1. Website Launch (May - to be timed with PBL launch in Nepal)
2. PBL SA network launch event in Nepal (Mid May 2022?)
3. PBL SA network - requirements gathering from Nepal partners (series of meetings till July 2022)
4. PBL SA network - requirements gathering from Bhutan partners (series of meetings till July 2022)
5. PBL SA network - requirements and mentors from European partners (meetings till July 2022)
6. PBL SA network Training the trainers first workshop at IISc Bengaluru (28 May - 03 June) - Hybrid? Participation from Nepal and Bhutan?

7. PBL SA network - Webinar series launch for India, Nepal and Bhutan
  - a. Planning around 2 webinars till August 2022
  - b. Student case study presentations can also be part of it.
8. PBL SA network launch in Bhutan?
9. PBL SA online forums (in line with Quora) launch for members (August 2022?)
10. PBL SA workshop as part of ICORD in January 2023
11. PBL SA networks to adapt MOOC? (bring it to nptel.ac.in or other platforms?)

# NOTES ON SUSTAINIABILITY OF THE NETWORK



## Revenue streams for the network

- Institutional and industrial sponsorship
- Handholding by universities
- Member fee (to be kicked off after a few months into the network)
  - Lifetime subscription to be put in a corpus
- Periodic events for revenue generation

*The network would develop on periodic events in the first phase and then reinforced with revenue streams from membership fee later on.*

## Costs for maintaining the network

*Initial handholding by the partner universities. Costs can be absorbed once the number of members*

- Website costs
- Costs for creation of new material for member use
- Conduct of periodic events
- Network specific associated personnel recruitment and salaries (to be kicked off later)
- Other incidentals and consumables