# Website without the net

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Psycle Interactive

# Background

- TESS-India (Teacher Education through School-based Support in India)
- Working to improve practice of primary and secondary school teachers
- Started in 2012, running over 7 key states

# Background

- Project led by The Open University's International Development Office
- Funded by UK Aid
- Create multilingual teacher professional development programme
- Commitment to release content online (Open Educational Resources)

# Website

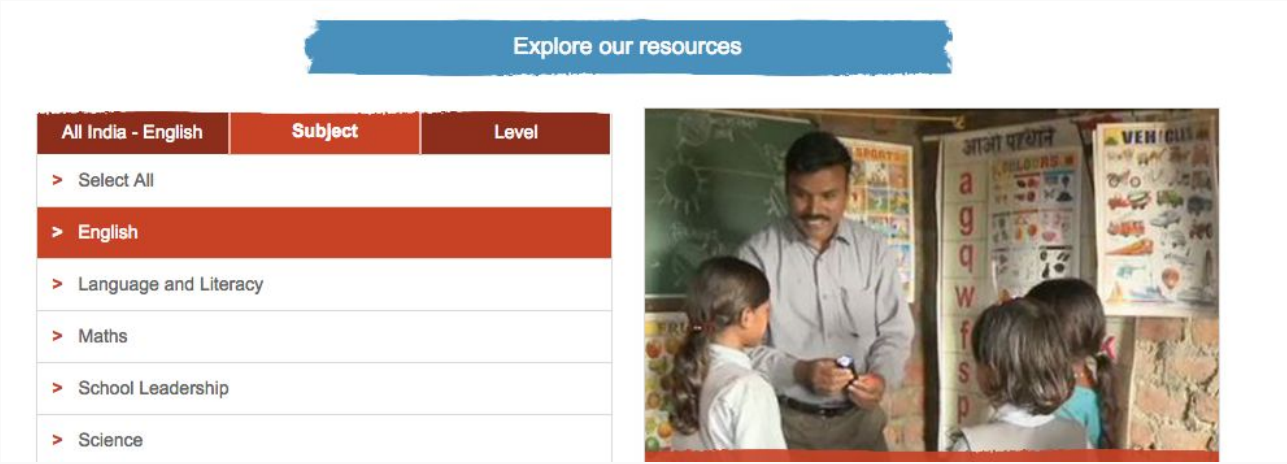
- Project had already created a website
- Focused on project stakeholders - time to shift focus to the teachers
- Initial phase:
  - Make the site mobile friendly
  - Import the learning materials
  - Videos hosted on YouTube - it can detect bandwidth and provide lower quality videos where appropriate
  - Provide fast & simple route to find relevant content

# Content discovery

- Target users might have connectivity but...
- Don’t assume users will have significant time/budget to browse site

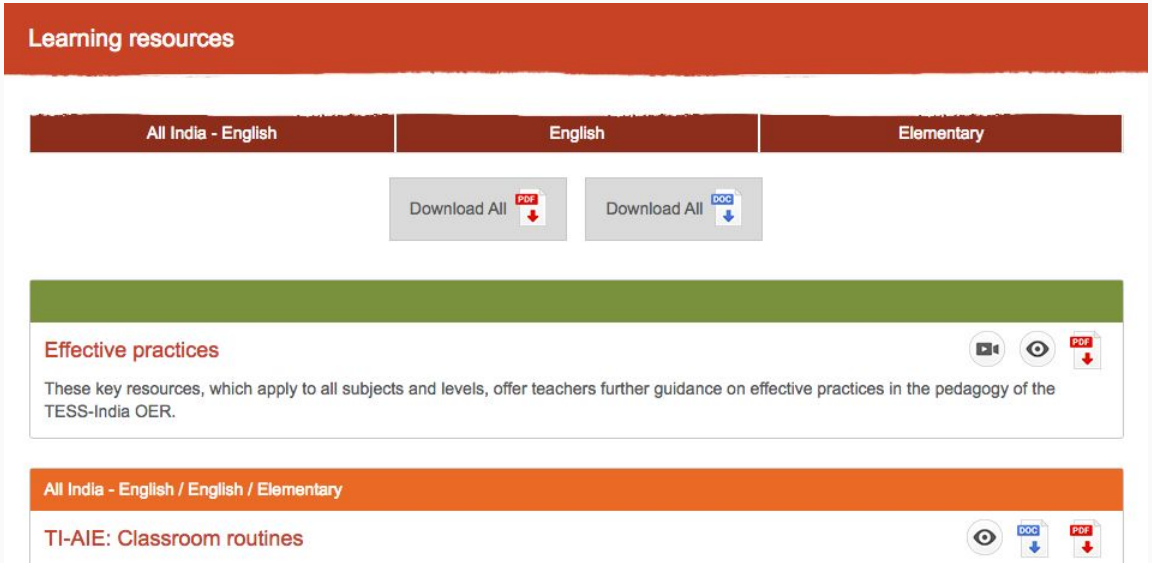
# Content discovery

Simple filters to find relevant content (state, subject and level)



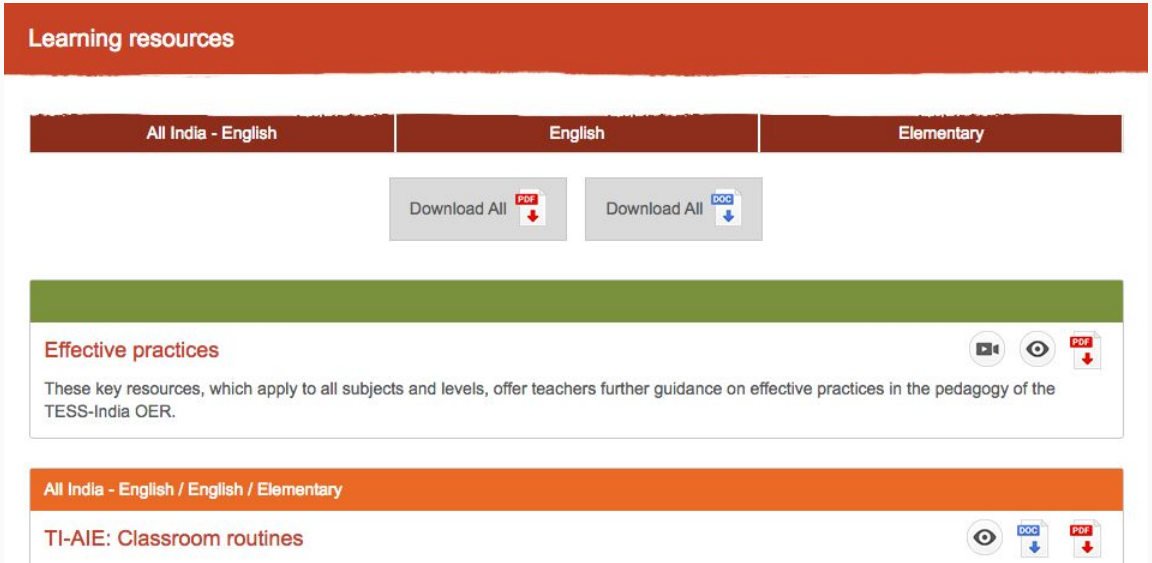
# Content discovery

List of content relevant to user's selection of state, subject and level



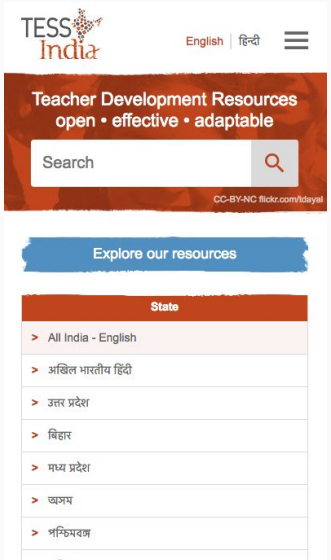
# Content ‘take away’

Option to download zip file of all content relevant for the user



# Result: website for teachers

## Mobile




## Desktop

# Ambition

Deliver the website to users in no bandwidth locations using:

- Fixed media
- Standalone wifi hotspots

# Create static site

- Alternative site templates
- Process to save all pages out as HTML files
- Copy all site assets such as images
- Process to handle embedded YouTube videos
- Generate PDF and Word zip files for every combination of filters
- Learning Materials listing page - client side filtering
- No site search

# Result: website on fixed media

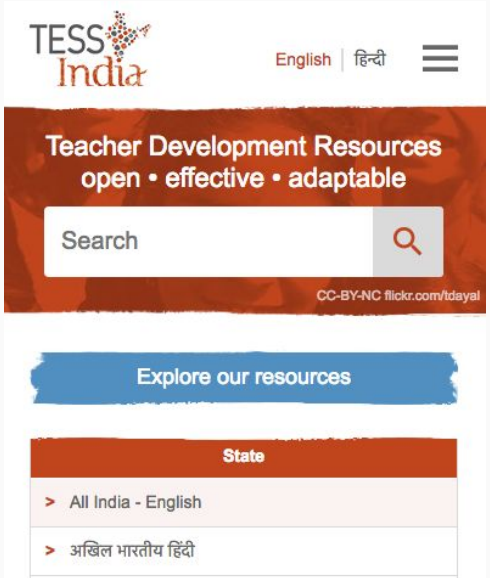
# Create standalone WiFi hotspot

- Raspberry Pi (Raspbian OS) configured as a WiFi access point webserver
- Process to generate site - similar to static site build process (minimise processing demand on low power device)
- Implement site search using SQLite
- Site files on SD card

# Result: website on wifi hotspot

# One site - three modes of delivery

Internet




Fixed media

Standalone WiFi hotspots

# Outcomes

- TESS-India’s in-country team are delighted
- Aiming for wider distribution subject to funding

- Get tech team involved as early as pos
- Reduce the pressure on low power device.
  - Design site to minimise what needs to be done by ‘server-side’
  - Use process to create static site to do any remaining ‘heavy lifting’
- Help users find relevant content that they can ‘take away’ and use offline.

# Resources

- TESS-India website:
  www.TESS-India.edu.in

- The Open University's International Development Office:
  www.open.ac.uk/about/international-development