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1. What are the main functions of ALE institutions in the crisis?

- ONIE and ALE institutions have the leading roles in creating more learning spaces, and promoting knowledge and skills for affected people during and post COVID-19 pandemic.
- ONIE is currently considering the development of the new project “Building Learning Cities for Post-COVID-19 Era” in 20 provinces with the highest number of people affected by the pandemic in Thailand.



2. Which shortcomings did the crisis highlight in the ALE sector?

- The impact to the ALE sector may not be significant compared to the formal education sector since ALE pedagogy often has more flexibility. The pandemic led to the closure of community learning centers (CLCs) affecting the learning activities which are normally organized over the weekend. ONIE needs to adapt and develop the new curriculum during the crisis utilizing on-air (television) and online approaches.

3. How will the COVID-19 crisis transform ALE and ALE providers?

- ALE providers including CLCs will play a more important role to assist all people affected by the crisis to regain income and social stability. ALE providers will need to be more pro-active in providing extensive knowledge and skills development, income-generating programmes and supports for all people.
- ALE providers should take into account the different contexts and needs of individual learners. For example, try to address the gap in developing the capacity/knowledge of senior citizens in urban and rural contexts so that they will be able to protect themselves from contracting the virus.

4. What will be the main challenges for our societies after the crisis? And how can ALE contribute to manage them in an inclusive manner?

- The main challenges after the crisis will be how people could live together and adopt the new normal culture during the economic recovery and rehabilitation.
- ALE can significantly contribute to leveraging quality of life of all people toward lifelong learning societies. ALE can help people learn to live together with empathy and be able to adapt themselves to the changing world. ALE can promote shared responsibilities of people as the citizens of their country, regional and global communities. ALE providers will need to educate people to be lifelong learners more than ever.