Report by Annie Brown KISC EQUIP (Kathmandu International Study Centre Teacher Training) on the Kathmandu Inter Schools Art (KISA) teacher training day held at TBS Sat 26<sup>th</sup> November.

It has been a great venture to partner with TBS this year in the preparations and training of teachers for KISA 2017.

The TBS Art Department were our hosts and joint trainers for a day of creative thinking and making held at the TBS site on Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup>. The KISA project vision is about getting participants to connect, collaborate and create. Two practical workshops encouraged 35 teachers from a mix of government, charity and private schools, with some art students from Kathmandu University, to explore locally sourced and recycled materials to make art works.

In one workshop teachers used second-hand sari fabric and locally sourced bamboo to make temporary dwellings. They looked at how people from Tibet to Timbuktu have developed unique designs for living in temporary dwellings and considered the reasons for that choice; including for celebrations, religious festivals and travel. We also reflected on the time many of us had taken to temporary shelters during last year's earthquake.

A second workshop introduced teachers to techniques of using paint with recycled plastic, wire and paper to decorate traditional Nepali nanglos (bamboo baskets used for sifting rice and seed crops). Each school was given 5 nanglos to work on with their students over the next few months and to bring back in March for the KISA 2017 event and exhibition.

At the start the day teachers considered how art can contribute to a student’s education. We looked at the impact of art on a student’s life-long learning skills through their understanding of universal human values, visual language and for creative and critical thinking to solve visual problems. By the end of the day teachers had got to know each other better, developed new thinking and had learnt new ideas and skills through art.

‘I have learnt for skills in managing things, cooperation and team work is needed.’

‘One should not underestimate one’s hidden creativity’

‘We can learn more from the process than from the result’.

‘We can create extraordinary things from ordinary materials’

**At the end of the day teachers told us that Art is....**

‘not just drawing or colouring but art is the connection to the world of life.’

‘all our cultures, faiths, human values and norms..so art includes all of life’s processes’

‘for teaching many subjects’.

‘expressing the human behaviour.’

‘something that comes out of our hearts’

‘fun!’