

# COVID-19 AND OUR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**E-W INFORMATION SYSTEMS LIMITED - MAY 2020** 

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# 1.0 Executive Summary

EWIS has provided an uninterrupted service to Government and Private Sector Organizations to effectively carry out their activities during Covid-19 pandemic. As a Sri Lankan Company that has always acted with the national interest at heart for over 34 years, EWIS is humbled to be a part of these projects, during this biggest medical challenge the country has ever faced.

This report provides insights on the CSR initiatives carried out by EWIS during Covid-19 pandemic.

### Education

- A Distance Learning Programme was implemented for Government, Private and International Schools, Universities and Vocational Training Institutes.
- Technical and Engineering support was provided for Rupavahini Corporation, to telecast a series of educational programmes under the theme "edu.com".

### Health

- A video conferencing facility for Health Ministry officials.
- 24/7 uninterrupted support in ensuring the availability of medical supplies across the country.
- Technical and Engineering support to telecast the "National Corona Awareness Programme" in all the local TV channels simultaneously.

#### Retail

• 24/7 support to the Essential Service Provider- Sathosa, to carry out its operations effectively.

### **Public & Government**

- Video conferencing facility for the SAARC Country Heads Meeting.
- Smart Board implementation for the Task Force at the Prime Minister Office.
- Local Government Project.

#### **Technical Services**

#### Innovation

• Donations for General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU), to develop Medical Assistant Robots.

# 2.0 Education

# Distance Learning Programme - EWIS Empowers Schools with Technology

During this challenging time, EWIS intended to take the Education Sector of Sri Lanka, into a new panorama with **Distance Learning**. Accordingly, under the direction of **Microsoft Corporation** and **Ministry of Education**, EWIS introduced **Office 365** including **Microsoft TEAMS** for:

- Government, Private and International Schools
- Universities and
- Vocational Training Institutes.

A prior training was also conducted to ensure successful implementation. The intention of the training programmes, was to enlighten the teachers on how to carry out distance learning effectively while catering to the learning needs of different students (Basic, Intermediate, Advance).

Phrases covered under EWIS Distance Learning Programme:

- Designing the architecture of virtual classrooms.
- Training the staff on data collection and data cleansing.
- Creating user accounts for all the students and teachers.
- Training the staff on how to utilize the system effectively. Training was conducted in Sinhala, English and Tamil.
- Distribution of user manuals for teachers, parents and students.
- Staff training on content development when carrying out online lessons.
- Implementation of two designated helpdesks for students and teachers.
- Continuous monitoring to ensure seamless performance of the system.

#### Government, Private and International Schools covered under EWIS's Distance Learning Programme

#### Ladies College

Ladies College partnered with EWIS to introduce smart interactive boards to the classrooms of Ladies College and is the first school in Sri Lanka to be fully equipped with smart interactive boards in every classroom of the school. EWIS partnered with Ladies College once again to introduce a Distance Learning Programme to ensure the continuity of education for its students during Covid-19. The programme enabled distance learning for over **1700+ students** from Nursery to grade 13. **98% of the students were benefited** since majority of the students have access to technology. Training programmes were also introduced to facilitate successful implementation.

### **Training Brief**

Training was conducted for 8 batches including 300+ participants for 23 hours.

Each training session comprised of following programmes:

- Orientation Programme
- Advance Training Programme
- Intermediate Training Programme
- Basic Training Programme

#### Dharmaraja College

Dharmaraja College also partnered with EWIS's Distance Learning Programme enabling distance learning for **4200 students** from grade 1-13. This is the **first National School of Sri Lanka**, to introduce a Distance Learning Programme. The program commenced operations on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

### **Training Brief**

Training was conducted for **3 batches** covering **257 participants**.

The training programme focused on following areas:

- Teacher training
- User accounts and teams configuring
- Admin Centre special teacher training





#### Asian International School

Asian International School is the **first International School of Sri Lanka**, to be onboard with EWIS's Distance Learning Programme. System was setup within **10 days** connecting **1500 students** from grade 1-13. Training programmes were also introduced by EWIS to facilitate successful implementation.

### **Training Brief**

Training was conducted for 2 batches including 222 participants for 4 hours

### Other Schools Covered

#### Colombo

School	No: of students	Grades Covered	Implementation Time
St. Peter's College, Colombo 4	4350	1-13	Start Date: 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
			18 days for the entire school to go live.
Stafford International School, Colombo 7	2000	1-13	20 days for the entire school to go live.
Buddhist Ladies College, Colombo 7	1200	1-13	2 months for the entire school to go live.
Logos College, Colombo 6	1000	1-13	1 month for the entire school to go live.
St John's Girls School, Panadura	2100	1-13	1 month for the entire school to go live.
St Joseph's Girls College, Nugegoda	2000	1-13	25 days for the entire school to go live.
Bishop's College, Colombo	2000	1-13	15 days for the entire school to go live.

### Kandy

School	No: of	Grades	Implementation Time
	students	Covered	
Trinity College, Kandy	2950 ( excluding grade 14)	1-13	30 days for the entire school to go live.
Kingswood College, Kandy	3500	6-13	Start Date: 20th May 2020
Girls' High School, Kandy	4527	1-13	Start Date: 16th May 2020
Swarnamali Balika Maha Vidyalaya, Kandy	3064	1-13	-
Ranbima Royal, Kandy	-	6-13	2 months for the entire school to go live.
Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy	4000	1-13	Start Date: 15 June 2020
Sylvester College, Kandy	4000	1-13	Start Date: 2 <sup>nd</sup> may 2020
Sri Chandananda Buddhist College	3987	1-13	Start Date: 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020

# Jaffna

School	No: of	Grades	Implementation Time
	students	Covered	
Chandikuli Girls' High School, Jaffna	1809	1-13	1 and $1/2$ months for the entire school to
			go live.
St. John's College, Jaffna	1898	1-13	30 days for the entire school to go live.
Jaffna Hindu College, Jaffna	2034	6-13	20 days for the entire school to go live.
Angel International School Manipay, Jaffna	786	1-13	10 days for the entire school to go live.
Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai, Jaffna	358 out	1-13	10 days for the entire school to go live.
	of 1705		
St.John Bosco's Vidyalayam	39	1-5	10 days for the entire school to go live
Vembadi Girls' High School	2100	6-13	15 days for theentire school to go live

# Kurunegala

Uva College, Badulla

School	No: of students	Grades Covered	Implementation Time
Maliyadewa Girls' College, Kurunegala.	2100	6-13	1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to go live.
St. Anne's College, Kurunegala	2000	6-13	1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to go live.
Athugalpura Prince, Kurunegala	900	6-13	1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to go live.
Lakdasa De Mel College, Kurunegala.	2100	6-13	1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to go live.
President Girls' College, Kurunegala	1500	6-13	1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to go live.
Badulla			
School	No: of students	Grades Covered	Implementation Time
Darmadutha College, Badulla.	2046	1-13	1 and $1/2$ months for the entire school to

2042

1-13

go live.

go live.

1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to

#### Matale

School	No: of students	Grades Covered	Implementation Time
St. Thomas' College, Matale	2000	1-13	Start Date: 15th June 2020
Science College, Matale	600	10-13	Start Date: 15 June 2020

#### Others

School	No: of students	Grades Covered	Implementation Time
D.S.Senanayake National School, Ampara	1500	9-13	1 and 1/2 months for the entire school to go live.
Vidyalooka Maha Vidyalaya, Ambagasdowa	500	6-11	1 month for the entire school to go live.
Poramadulla Central College	2850	6-13	Start Date: 15th June 2020

Universities covered under EWIS's Distance Learning Programme:

#### The Oceans University

The Ocean University is a university set up by the Government to conduct academic and professional education and vocational training activities in fisheries, marine and nautical engineering to fulfill and develop the needs of the fisheries and allied sector. It has **7 Regional Centres** in Mattakkuliya, Tangalle, Kalutara, Galle, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Negambo and Jaffna. EWIS introduced its Distance Learning Programme for The Ocean University connecting the students to their Regional Centres. The implementation was carried out within **10 days** for **1000 students** and **200 faculty members**.

#### **Training Brief**

The training programme focused on following areas:

- Lecturer Training
- Admin Center Training.

#### National College of Education Peradeniya

The Distance Learning Programme of EWIS was introduced at the National College of Education Peradeniya for first and second year students. The project was initiated on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 connecting **654** students.

# Official IT partner for Edu.com Rupavahini Classroom

EWIS provided Engineering and Technical Support to the National Broadcast Provider; Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation to telecast a series of educational programmes under the title "edu.com". The programme intended to gratify the educational needs of the students who will be sitting for Grade 5 Scholarship, GCE Ordinary Level and Advanced Level Examinations. Modern study equipment such as Smart Boards were provided by EWIS to conduct the lessons effectively.



# 3.0 Health

EWIS believes that only a healthier nation will take the country into the next level. Therefore, various programs are being conducted by EWIS to improve the health standards of people in Sri Lanka.

# Video conferencing facility for Ministry of Health

A video conferencing facility for more than 500+ Health Ministry officials from around the island to connect and conduct critical meetings day & night to meet the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic

# 24/7 uninterrupted support in ensuring availability of medical supplies across the country

EWIS has implemented an end-to-end solution at the Ministry of Health to efficiently distribute 48 Billion Rupees worth of medical supplies to over 1500+ Healthcare Institutions Island wide. This system has enabled The Medical Supplies Division to minimize unavailability of medical supplies in hospitals by effectively managing the distribution. During Covid-19 pandemic, EWIS has extended this platform by adding 133 more Healthcare Institutions, expanding the service to 2000+ Healthcare Institutions in total. Thereby EWIS has provided an uninterrupted service to the Healthcare sector by ensuring smooth functioning of medical supplies distribution across the country.

# National Corona Awareness Programme

EWIS provided Technical and Engineering support to the National Broadcast Provider; Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation to telecast a National Corona Awareness Programme on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The programme was telecasted in all local TV channels simultaneously providing insightful guidelines on the precautionary measures to be taken to combat Covid-19. Modern equipment such as Smart Boards and Kiosks were provided by EWIS to conduct the programme effectively.





# 4.0 Retail

Being identified as an "Essential Service" provider during Covid-19, Sathosa immediately discounted its essential items in all their outlets and also commenced its door to door delivery services to the citizens. This task was geared through the EWIS system with 24/7 support to facilitate the Sathosa Management with the required information for decision making and immediate roll-out.



# 5.0 Public & Government

# Video conferencing facility for SARRC country heads meeting

EWIS made necessary arrangements to facilitate effective communication in hosting the video conference which took place among the leaders of SAARC member countries on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The intention of the video conference was to chalk out a joint strategy to fight against Covid-19. EWIS was involved in this globally significant project with the sole intention of contributing to a national cause at this critical time of need.



# Smart Board implementation for the Task Force at the Prime Minister Office

EWIS implemented a Smart Board at the Prime Minister Office for the Presidential Task Force. The device helps to facilitate effective communication to make critical decisions during Covid-19.

# Local Government Project

A video conferencing facility was introduced for the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Council & Local Government. Accordingly, EWIS was able to assist the Divisional Secretaries and Ministry Secretaries to connect and carry out their daily operations online.

# National Corona Awareness Programme

National Broadcast Provider, Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation telecasted another Awareness Programme, on how the Government is controlling Covid-19 with the direct involvement of National Intelligence Services. This programme was telecasted on other Public and Private TV channels simultaneously. Being the National Technology Partner, EWIS provided Engineering and Technical support to facilitate effective communication in telecasting the programme. Modern equipment such EWIS Smart Boards were utilized

to effectively conduct the programme. This is the second time company involved itself to telecast a Covid-19 Awareness Programme on both Public and Private TV channels. EWIS takes great pride in being the IT partner for both these occasions.



# 6.0 Technical Services

EWIS provided technical support for following organisations, to carry out their daily operations with minimum interruption during Covid-19.

- Supplies Department
- Attorney General's Department
- Department of Immigration & Emigration
- Hatton National Bank
- Bank of Ceylon
- Japan Airport Consultation
- Reckitt Benckiser
- Credit Information Bureau

# 7.0 Innovation

# Medical Assistant Robot by KDU

EWIS donated three tablets for the students of KDU to develop three robot units for the KDU hospital. The robot units were developed to assist the Healthcare sector during Covid-19.







# 8.0 Conclusion

Being an authentic Sri Lankan Company, EWIS never forgets its responsibility as a Corporate Citizen and is humbled to be a part of these projects. These are one of the many projects of EWIS in saving lives and serving the community during Covid-19 pandemic.

# 9.0 Our journey continues in empowering the nation with technology

The power of a nation lies in technology edge in almost every domain. Technology helps to generate unprecedent opportunities to the community while stimulating economic empowerment and quality of life. As a tech company that touches lives, we make a conscious effort to take IT education to the grassroot level of the country under our CSR initiative "Mawubimata danum sathkaaraya".

In addition, being a Sri Lankan Corporate Entity, we have gone that extra mile to serve diverse communities in the country under our CSR initiative "Mawubimata Praja Sathkaaraya" and will continue to do so with great enthusiasm in the years to come- Companies that serve the society today are those that will thrive in future.

We have created a culture ingrained with sustainability where we inspire our employees and multiple stakeholders we work with, to become catalysts of change in their communities and beyond.

# Mawubimata Danum Sathkaaraya

### Grooming Teachers into Quality Online Instructors

As discussed in 2.0, with the synergy of Microsoft and Ministry of Education EWIS introduced a Distance Learning Program to schools and universities to facilitate continuity of education during Covid-19. EWIS distance learning program was introduced to both urban and rural sectors covering more than 30 schools in almost every district, ensuring equitable access of education.

However, providing equitable access to education is not sufficient. Quality education is vital for effective learning outcomes. Therefore, EWIS conducts island-wide training programs to groom the teachers into Quality Online Instructors. Lack of proper training on distance learning can lead to a prejudiced mindset among teachers that technology can obstruct the role of the teacher as an authority. Also, it can drive those without strong knowledge in technology to a steep learning curve. Therefore, training conducted by EWIS on distance learning can help the teachers to feel confident about their subject delivery, interact with a diversity of students with different learning needs (Basic, Intermediate, Advance), facilitate active learning, foster reciprocity and cooperation among students and equip students with tools to learn independently as opposed to content-heavy examination-focused education system.

Province	No of schools participated	Introduction Session	Champion Teachers Session 1
Central	271	1508	964
Western	138	799	426
Uva	104	337	147
North Central	102	331	55
Nothern	200	553	0
Eastern	167	641	0
Southern	159	503	230

# Empowering our workforce and their families

Our employees are our biggest asset that inspires us to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. Therefore, we make it a priority to go that extra mile to provide them with opportunities for the development in both their personal and professional lives.

Accordingly, we donated a laptop to a family of one of our factory workers to empower them to excel in IT education. As a Sri Lankan Corporate entity with national interest at heart, we make a conscious effort to unlock the potential of the thousands across the island who help to source, produce and sell our products





# Bridging the Digital Divide

With the emerging concept of "New Normal" derived from Post-Covid Era, economies are transforming their services to "digital by default". However, it is vital to ensure that everyone has access and ability to use technology.

Digital divide refers to gaps that separate segments in the society who are unable to reap the benefits of IT opportunities to those who are not.

EWIS as a socially responsible organization, make a conscious effort to bridge the digital divide by ensuring availability of IT equipment to diverse communities in the country. Accordingly, a laptop was donated to an undergraduate who is studying software engineering, to carry out her educational activities effectively.

Also, with the collaboration of Prime Minister's Office, two laptops were donated to school children located in Sooriyawewa, taking IT education to the grassroot level of the country.



In addition, under the direction of His Excellency, the President of the Country, with the intention of bridging the digital divide across communities, EWIS provided computers and other necessary equipment for a newly established computer lab at KG/Dehi/ Dickellakanda Junior School. The intention was to



provide quality access to education by enhancing student's exposure to the digital world of learning through various educational computer programs.

### Nurturing the talent of tomorrow

We believe encouraging and rewarding academic performance to be an important aspect in motivating the students to achieve great heights. Therefore, with the collaboration of Ministry of Education, we rewarded the top performers of Grade 5 Scholarship Examination 2020 and two students who have shown exceptional achievements by donating 12 smartboards to the schools in which they study. The event took place ceremoniously on 24th November 2020 at the Ministry of Education with the patronage of Hon Minister G. L Peiris and Susil Munasinghe. Our focus is to ensure that every child gets a quality education with the usage of innovation and technology. We are immensely joyful to support the students of our country who will undoubtably contribute to the society.

	Name of the student	School
1	M. F. Mohommad Amar	Zahira College,Maradana
2	A.H. Sihath Sandinu	Dharmapala Vidyalaya, Arawwala
3	Devuli Yasasmi Thilekerathne	Sri Sumanajothi Primary College, Ingiriya
4	M.D.H Sasmitha Gunatilake	Bandaragama Central College, Kalutara
5	S.D. Siyathi Vithumsa Karunathilake	Sanghamitta Balika Vidyalaya, Galle
6	W.A. Thasindu Avishan	Tangalle Boys' School, Kadurupotha
7	P.K. Dovindu Chiranjth Peramune	President College, Embilipitiya
8	H.M Senudi Damsara	Eheliyagoda Primary College
9	H.M. Thenuja Manumitha Bandara	Siripura Primary College, Polonnaruwa
10	Yehara Yethmini Epa	Girls' High School, Kandy
11	Ramal Christoper Sahabandu	Karagampitiya Vijaya Vidyalaya, Dehiwela
12	E.A.U.S.E.Silva	Aswedduma Subharathi Vidyalaya











# Celebrating diversity- Leaving no one behind

As a Sri Lankan organization understanding its true responsibility towards the society, EWIS recognized two students who have excelled in 2020 Grade 5 Scholarship Exam and presented them with specially designed computer units to support their education. The event took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 with the patronage of State Minister commemorating the International Day of People with Different Abilities.







### Official IT partner for Guru Thalaawa

EWIS provided modern study equipment including smartboards to Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation to telecast a series of Educational Programs named Guru Thalaawa. This series of educational programs intended to gratify the educational needs of the students who will be doing subject streams that are followed by the majority of students for the GCE Advanced Level Examination. Many reputed teachers participate in this program, and it is now being telecasted every weekday from 2 pm to 4 pm. We are glad to contribute to this initiative with the sole intention of empowering the nation with technology.



# Mawubimata Praja Sathkaara

We believe happiness is felt deeper when it is being shared.

# Donations to a Children's Home

Provision of a morning meal, toys and dry rations for a Children's home on Chairman's birthday.



# Donations to an Elders' Home

Provision of dry rations for an Elders' Home on Chairman's birthday.



# Donations to a Children's Ward in Peradeniya

Donating toys and gifts to a Children's Ward in Peradeniya.





### Donation of a BiPAP Machine to Kegalle Hospital

Under the direction of the chairman, we donated a Bi PAP equipment worth of Rs 15 lakhs to Kegalle Hospital to treat the patients suffering from Covid-19. Bi PAP is an equipment used to ease the respiration process.





කෑගල්ල නගරයේ පදිංචි, දැනට e-wis ආයතනයේ සේවය කරන තරුණයෙක් පසුගිය දවසක ඇවිත් ඔහුගේ පුධානියාට කියනවා ''සර් අපේ කෑගල්ල හොස්පිටල් එකේ BiPAP Machine එකක් දැනට නැහැ. අපිට ඒක අරන් දෙන්න fund එකක් open කරලා දෙන්න පුලුවන්ද" කියලා. BiPAP ක් යනු පෙණහලූවලට වාතය තල්ලූ කිරීමට යොදාගන්න උපකරණයක් වන අතර මෙම වායු පීඩනය සමඟ පෙණහලූ විවෘත කිරීමට උපකාරී වන නිසා හුස්ම ගැනීම පහසුකරයි. කෙසේ හෝ මේක ආරංච වෙන e-wis සමාගමේ නිම්කරු සංජිව විකුමණායක එම සතිය තුලදීම ලක්ෂ 15 ක් වටින BiPAP Machine එකක් මිලදී ගෙන කෑගල්ල රෝහලට පුධානය කරන්න කියලා ඔහුගේ ආයතනයේ එම සේවකයාට සහ ආයතන පුධානියා හට ලබා දී තිබෙනවා. මේ තියෙන්නේ එම

# Donation of a Video Conferencing Board

A video conferencing board was donated to Abhayaramaya Viharaya – Narahenpita to enable the priests to connect with hospitals and health professionals across the island during the third wave of Covid-19.

