Empowering Teachers and Principals from a Remote Rural Province through AMA Education System’s (AMAES) e-Learning Solution

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AMA Education System

• Founder: Amable R. Aguiluz V, the Father of IT Education in the Philippines

• **AMA**: Amable M. Aguiluz, the father of the school’s founder

• First IT school in the Philippines

• Largest network of IT school in Asia (200 campuses including 10 overseas)
AMAES e-Learning Solutions

- Fully online courses
- Blended learning
- Hybrid between Webcast and VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal)
Purpose of Research

Describe the lived experiences of 10 school teachers and principals who are currently taking the Program Master’s Degree in Computer Education from AMAES through an e-learning solution using hybrid between VSAT technology and Webcast.
The Situation

- Learners in Northern Samar, Philippines
- Devastated by Typhoon Haiyan (2013)
- No college offering Master’s Degree on IT
- AMAES is in Metro Manila, Philippines
- Separated by 754 kilometers distance
- 19 hours of travel by land and ferry
- 4 hours by air and land travel
Best Experiences

1. Empowerment to enroll in a Master’s program
2. The VSAT and Webcast class experience
3. The cooperative face-to-face learning activities
4. Online access to the professors’ lectures
5. Very good course content
6. Course assessment activities
7. Being part of innovative e-learning solution.
Challenges

1. Economic difficulty
2. Time and demand of work
3. Hazards from weather
Wishes for the Course

1. Early announcement of program calendar
2. Professor’s more timely provision of feedback
Implications/Conclusions

The hybrid blend of VSAT and Webcast-

1. Offers an effective solution to access and empowerment
2. Enables personal touch between learners and professors