

iEquip *International*

“FOR TOMORROW”

Proposal for Schools ICT Skilling Program- 2021 in Pakwach



Introduction



- This project proposal is for the proposed implementation of the Schools ICT Skilling Project-2021 in Pakwach District (Uganda), by *iEquip International*.
- *iEquip International* is a not for profit community based organization founded with the aim of offering skilling opportunities to communities so as to equip them for opportunities ahead. The organization started as an ICT students group of five classmates who wished to share their ICT knowledge and skills with people who didn't have the opportunity to acquire these skills. Through ICT training projects around the University neighborhood and in schools the group was able to reach out to many people and schools.
- The activities of the organization has changed many people's lives, many of whom have made good use of their newly acquired skills and knowledge, for instance some of the students have gone on to take IT as careers, small-scale business owners and schools now using computers to manage their businesses and schools.
- It is out of this experience that we seek your support to enable the organization take this skilling project to other parts of the country, your support to this project shall make the difference for us all.

Project Summary

Schools ICT Skilling Project.



The *Schools ICT Skilling Project-2021* is designed in form of course modules that shall make teachers well equipped to try out new methods of impacting on their students. At the same time offering the students a foundation to ICT.

The project goal is to equip the teachers and students in these schools with the purpose of readying them for opportunities in the digital world.

Project implementation and success shall mainly rely on availability of computers to be used in the trainings through a mobile ICT Lab, and the establishment of an ICT Lab & Resource Centre in the district for public use.

The establishment of the ICT Lab & Resource Centre shall enable access to ICT services, continued skilling and development of the rest of the population.



Problem Statement

Uganda, like in many other low developed countries, still face a challenge of access to ICT services, including learning institutions. Students in the rural areas grow up minus ever discovering their potential in ICT simply because they have nowhere to start from.

Teachers who are supposed to be the ones laying better foundations through better preparation and guidance to the learners, are equally either poorly equipped or without knowledge about ICT. They continue using old outdated teaching methods, without any fresh ideas to add on, thereby offering poor quality education to the young generation. This state of affairs, therefore, makes it impossible for any student from these communities to ever think of pursuing ICT as a career, and also rendering them less competitive in the job market.

It is against this background that *iEquip International* has developed the **Schools ICT Skilling Project**, a project aimed at trying to bridge the ICT skills gap, as well as enabling rural schools have an equal opportunity to access ICT and its services. Through skilling up of the teachers, they will be able to make use of the various resources over the internet to enhance their teaching skills and methods, while the students shall get a chance to learn a new area which consequently helps in shaping their career choices.

It is *iEquip International's* mission to ensure that such skilling opportunities are taken to the disadvantaged communities, and it is our belief that these skills ultimately make a difference in their lives.

Objectives



The objectives of the Schools ICT Skilling Project are;

- To provide a platform upon which basic ICT skills can be accessed by teachers who ultimately shall be able to get better teaching tools and methods for their learners.
- To help bridge the digital gap that exists between schools in urban areas and those in the rural areas through ICT access.
- To enable learners have the opportunity to build a better foundation of learning through access to ICT and its services.
- To create a platform for schools, youth groups and other members of society to be able to benefit from ICT.
- To harness employment opportunities that become achievable for the unemployed, as well as the employed as a result of the ICT skills acquired.
- To fuel business start ups for those who are able to use the skills to serve the community through start ups such as internet cafes, document centers among others.



Key Benefits of the Project



- ❖ Teachers will have new skills to improve on their teaching methods and general way of work.
- ❖ Through the training students will have a better foundation of learning, thereby shaping their choices of careers.
- ❖ There will be a better understanding of ICT and the opportunities available for schools, farmers, business people among others.

- ❖ Improvement in grades for the students as a result of well informed teachers who are able to research and give their students the best.
- ❖ There will be improvement of income as the beneficiaries make use of their acquired skills to get employment and also start up businesses.
- ❖ Establishment of an ICT Lab and Resource Centre in the district to serve the community.

Statement of Work

Project Requirements



❑ **Computers** - the organization shall acquire 10 desktop computers and 3 laptops. They are to be used in the mobile ICT lab and then later at the ICT Lab & Resource Centre.

❑ **Internet** - this service shall help in enabling access to training materials, effective communication with stakeholders, and to be used in the training sessions.

❑ **A Projector** - for the visual aspects of the training/workshops.

❑ **A Printer** - to enable printing of documents and other materials.

❑ **Whiteboards**

❑ **A Generator** - for power in areas where there is no electricity supply or in case of power blackouts.

The organization also intends to facilitate the following;

❑ **Salaries and Allowances** for both administrative and field staff.

❑ **Transport refund and Refreshments** for the project participants.

❑ **Transport and Logistics** to facilitate field work i.e. staff and equipment.

❑ **Office and ICT Lab space.**

❑ **Furniture and Fittings** for the operation office and the ICT lab.

Statement of Work



The Schools ICT Skilling Project shall be in two phases, with the first phase expected to commence in the second week of the 1st School term of 2021. This phase shall cover teacher skilling and ICT for students.

Teachers from the selected schools shall be invited for periodic training sessions at an appointed time, for a period of three months. Thereafter, the students shall join in the second school term till the end of the school year. Course content shall include;

- Basic Computer Knowledge (Hardware and Software)
- Document Creation and Design (Ms Office)
- Internet & Email

The second phase of the project is expected to cover the establishment of an ICT Lab & Resource Centre within the town center, to offer ICT resources and services to the public.

The center shall be a public ICT hub offering different ICT services such as skills development, internet service, consultancy services among others, under the control and management of *iEquip International*, and accessible at a small fee.

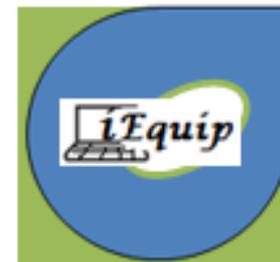
- The small fee to be charged shall cater for maintenance of the facility.
- Process of establishment is planned to begin in October 2021 so that by the end of the year the facility is officially open.

Project Timetable



The Schools ICT Skilling Project in Pakwach is expected to be fully operational in the first quarter of 2021, with the first phase beginning in February 2021 as detailed below;

	Description	Start Date to Completion Date
Phase 1	Teacher Skilling	Feb 2021 to June 2021
	ICT for Student Excellence	June 2021 to December 2021
Phase 2	Establishment of the ICT Lab & Resource Centre	October 2021 to December 2021



Budget Estimates

The Schools ICT Skilling Project is estimated to cost \$20,000 (UGX 75M). The table shows budgeted items and total cost.

Resource	Budget (UGX)
Personnel	10,000,000.00
Technology & Materials	38,000,000.00
Lease & Utilities	16,000,000.00
Misc. Expense	11,000,000.00
Total Cost	75,000,000.00

Budget Breakdown



Personnel- This shall include expenses on staff recruitment; salaries, wages and allowances for staff; and workshops.

Technology and materials expense shall cater for acquisition of computers and accessories, training materials, setting up of the ICT Lab & Resource Centre among other activities.

Lease & Utilities expense shall be for acquisition of office space and premise for the ICT Lab & Resource Centre, Furniture and fittings, and utilities.

Miscellaneous expense shall cater for unexpected eventualities that may occur with possible negative repercussions to the project; but shall also among others cater for transport refund to participants, refreshments during trainings, and certificates to participants.

Evaluation



Project evaluation shall be an ongoing process, and shall start once implementation begins till the end, and after the project closure. The following shall be in place to ensure quality in service delivery;

- a) The Program Manager shall carry on monitoring and evaluation of all the processes to ensure a smooth and timely implementation of the project.
- b) The Program Manager shall also ensure that the right training materials are used in the project, as well as having the right personnel for implementation.
- c) The project team shall get adequate preparation through workshops to ensure proper understanding of the project goals and objectives.
- d) Engagement of the selected school heads to create time and prepare their schools.
- e) Proper and well planned spending of project funds to ensure proper accountability and transparency, for a successful implementation of the project.
- f) School visits shall be done to measure the extent to which ICT skills have changed the ways of teaching as well as appreciation of other ICT services.

Previous ICT Projects



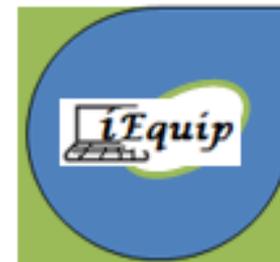
ICT Training at Nakulabye Language Centre

Using 3 desktops at the centre and 2 laptops from our group, up to 20 participants were mobilized and given theoretical and practical training. Among the participants were public motorcycle riders commonly referred to as bodaboda, students, small scale business owners among others. Courses content included **Basic Computer Knowledge, Document Creation & Design** using Microsoft Office packages, and **Internet**.

ICT Training for School Staff

After a successful training at the language centre, the administrations of Shalom Daycare & Nursery School, Makerere Parents Primary School, and Nakulabye Primary School invited us to train their staff. In total the organization trained 35 teachers and 14 others in the schools.

The 3 trainings covered **Basic Computer knowledge, Document creation & Design** using Microsoft Office packages, and **Internet**.



For Enquiries...

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