OPPORTUNITY GRANT PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED

TO

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELLING

BY;

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February 25 2021 Butaleja Uganda
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Executive Summary

i).With the challenges imposed by the effects of the corona virus on the education system of Uganda and the rest of the world, Uganda's education system had a tough challenge on deciding on what to do next. The education system did not have a direction to take given the fact that Uganda is a developing country that could not afford to cope up with online studies which was left as the only option to take. The schools remained closed for a while as the government was thinking of how to handle education alongside the pandemic. Of late the government decided to open schools with strict rules only schools with enough facility are allowed to operate, the rest that don't continue to remain closed. The government also introduced online classes for schools that could afford to do online classes. Busolwe students' center is among the schools that were hardly affected by the corona virus pandemic in terms of education. The school did not have even a single computer to facility the online education as was opposed by the government. This is where the need for computers and internet connection originated. Busolwe students' Center has always had a challenge of getting online even before the corona virus hit. Students always lacked ways of completing online university application, do research and any other online activity that would be beneficial to their studies.

ii).The specific objective of the project was to curb the challenges the students of Busolwe students' Center were facing in terms of accessing online classes and complete online university application and all the online activities like research among many more. For this case the main challenge the students were facing was how to get online. This is where I stepped in as their university admission councilor. Personally, I would not wish to have students that have not attained all the required levels of education and for this case my students were going to be very raw because they still had a lot to cover in the education curriculum.

iii) Almost all of the project activities were carried out as planed just a little adjustment on the budget that was un avoidable and a little delay on delivery of the computers.

iv) when planning for this project, I took a very thorough study on the most burning problem that we were facing at the moment. After analyzing the problem, I reached out to my superiors like my supervisor who doubles as the principle for their opinion to my proposal and they ball appreciated the proposal and gave me a go ahead. Therefore the project had been adequately designed through the correct definition of the problem.

v) Through implementing the project, the lessons learned are as follows;

Firstly, as a struggling institution, I learned that there is need for all the teachers to at least undertake a computer training to be able to cope up with the rapidly growing technological world. After delivering the computers, I realized that majority of our teachers do not have any computer knowledge therefore, we first had to train the teachers on basic computer knowledge so they may be able to teach the students.

I also learned that identifying a problem before running a project is so paramount. My school was silently dying academically because of lack of computers and a reliable internet connection. Surely we were left behind in this area.

Project identification

1.1 Context

With rapid technological development and the changes brought by the corona virus pandemic, education system in Uganda and other developing countries demand for change from the traditional way of education to a more advanced and computerized way.

Project Location

The project location is Uganda. The project is located in eastern part of Uganda in Butaleja district around 250 kilometers from capital city of Uganda.

1.2 Origin and problem

i) Origin

The project came after the corona virus changed the way things are done. Initial Busolwe students' Center has been using only books and pens as a way of teaching to its students however with the changes brought by the corona virus, there was need for change in the way the school administered education.

ii) Main problem addressed

Students of Busolwe students' Center had a major challenge of acquiring computers and internet connection to enable them prepare for their final examinations as they were nearing completion. I have acquired ten computers and two internet routers with help of international association for college admission counseling, novo enterprising and a few well-wishers. With the ten computers, students can now attend online classes and will use the same computers to do online university application. At the moment, I am looking for more funds to purchase more computers such that we can be in position to have one shift of lesson, as per now, we have three shift to enable equality to all students.

In general, the main problems addressed by this project are;

• Lack of computers to aid online studies
• Lack of reliable internet connection to enable smooth running of classes

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Project objectives and implementations

i) Project objectives

The main objective of this project was to purchase computers and internet routers to enable students of Busolwe students' Center to attend online classes and complete university. The number of computers purchased are 10 (ten) and two internet routers to enable internet connection. The computers are mainly to be used by the students who are preparing for transition from high school to higher levels of education.

ii) Implementation strategy

The first step of implementing this project was to identify a good computer dealer with genuine computers. I personally travelled to Kampala to search for a dealer and made the first installment of the payment. After payment I waited for delivery of the computers and it is on that very day that I paid the last installment of the payment. From then, we set up the computers ready for use and classes begun on 11th of Feb 2021 after all the installation done.

ii) Assumptions and risks

This project involves collaboration with both domestic and international institutions and there are risks of delayed cooperation and responses. Since I will still need more funding to purchase more computers, I will need to interact with a number of institutions and individuals soliciting for support and for this case not everyone is ready to support ideas. Majority of people turn down.

3. Project performance

Ideally, I would say the performance is so far good enough. Many schools around have not got there students online yet but we have. We are moving and by the end of the year, we shall be somewhere.

a) Specific objective

Specific objectives	Status
Purchase of computers and internet routers to enable students of Busolwe students' center to attend online classes and complete online university application.	Project complete.

b) Schedule

Start date: 22nd January 2021

End date 8th February 2021

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c) Total amount of expenditure

The total amount of expenditure is $5356.4. Overall project budget was spent as planned.

4. Project outcome, Target Beneficiaries Involvement

i) The extent to which the project specific objective was achieved

This project is specifically meant to get the students ready for their final examinations and enable them to complete online university applications. The students are already achieving their first goal that is preparing for final examinations and as well they will be doing online university applications provided the computers and internet are in place. The beneficiaries who are the students of Busolwe students' center have welcomed the project with both their hands.

ii) The situation existing

Given the fact that we are already conducting classes, there is still a challenge of adequate computers. All students cannot have classes at the same time and this implies that classes are conducted in shifts. It is a little bit of time consuming but it is the only way to go for now until we get more funds to acquire more computers.

5.Assessment and Analysis

i) project rational and project identification process

There was actually no time given to identify this project but it came automatically as we had no options to choose from. The project identified its self. However a good foundation is set for the project basing on what we have achieved so far.

ii) The results from the identification process

From the realized project performance and outcome, it can be seen that the project had beed designed through the correct definition of problems, the accurate identification of project objectives, and viable choice of implementation strategy. At the same time, the identification process is closely linked to the problem its self, this ensure the project is able to create impacts to the right target beneficiaries.

iii) Time and project input

As I mentioned earlier on, this project involved collaboration with both domestic and international institutions, this slowed the implementation of the project. I did not have the cash in hand to implement the project therefore I had to wait for the funders to deliver the finances to implement the project. The project was expected to be carried out within the first weeks of January 2021 but had to be extended to a month ahead. International association for college

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admission counseling played a great role in making sure this project is complete. They offered me an opportunity grant award of $3000; novo also gave me $1000 and $1500 from well wishers. I also shouldered some costs like transportation.

iv) Project beneficiaries

The main target project beneficiaries are final year students of Busolwe students' center who are preparing to join higher levels of education.

6. Lessons learned

I learned that there is need for all the teachers to at least undertake a computer training to be able to cope up with the rapidly growing technological world. After delivering the computers, I realized that majority of our teachers do not have any computer knowledge therefore, we first had to train the teachers on basic computer knowledge so they may be able to teach the students.

I also learned that there is need to start working on a project early

7. Conclusion

The project was finally completed on 8th February 2021. A great appreciation goes to international association for college admission counseling (IACAC), Novo enterprises, Mr. Emmanuel Okongo Ofumbi, Osinde Cyrus and Owino Jacob for enabling this project a success.

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