

"Umoja Ya Wa Toto Kwa Dunia Ya Computer", or "Unity of Children in the World of Computers" in Swahili

Umoja OLPC partners with [FORGE](#) to **connect** with communities, **share** our knowledge and **empower** societies to create vibrant livelihood by deploying XO laptops in Lusaka, Zambia.

Mission

‘Umoja’ and FORGE hope to empower the youth of Lusaka with educational opportunities and knowledge so that they can be agents of change, development and prosperity in the future. Deploying XO laptops to primary schools will engage the Zambian youth with world-class technology and build the necessary capacity to enable inter-generational mobility out of the cycle of poverty. Zambian youth will gain a vital foothold into gaining unique knowledge and exposure to technology preventing future marginalization.

School	University of California Berkeley, U.S. & Cavendish University, Zambia National Institute of Public Administration
Team	Umoja- ‘Unity’ OLPC
US-team	Jack Chi, Laura Keys, Jessica Yueh
Zambia-team	Boas Fernando, Mohammed Kwase, Antoine Ngeleka Kikassa Kamona, Paul Joseph, Peter Oromo
Location	Lusaka, Zambia
Contact	calolpc@googlegroups.com

Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, is a lively urban center with a unique charm of traditional African culture. The culture is diverse with a mix of tribes and over 72 spoken languages. Yet, the city faces an extraordinarily high unemployment of over 60% that limits opportunities and expectations for the youth. By empowering the children with knowledge we are planting the seed for the next generation.

NGO Support

FORGE (www.forgenow.org) is an international NGO and Operating Partner of the UNHCR that works with refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Rwanda, Burundi and Sudan. Founded in 2003, FORGE builds upon the capacity of African refugees to cultivate empowered communities and to create the conditions for peace and prosperity in their countries. Commended by UNHCR, FORGE is committed to training refugees to rebuild their communities. Preserving this notion, Umoja will work with a local refugee team based in Lusaka to train them in Sugar-XO operations to maintain the deployment and provide support to the primary school after the summer.

Deployment

The Zambian team has begun discussions with management at the **Arthur Wina Basic School** in Chilenje South, Lusaka. During the initial meeting, the Head Teacher, Mrs. Veronica Mwila Sinpila, was very open and receptive to the project and is willing to provide any additional support to ensure long-term project success. The primary school holds 2,500 students from ages 5 to 19 using English-language curriculum. Since the school is government-owned, there is a reliable power source. The children will be in school over the summer months, over the Second Term from mid-May through September. Coordinating the logistics and project details for deploying 100 XO laptops with such a large student population is still being worked out. We are

designing various models spanning after-school programs, computer labs, and in class research assignments utilizing XO laptops.

The Head Teacher is strongly committed to providing access for her students to technological tools to build the skills necessary for succeeding in today's fast-paced society. Bringing XO laptops to Lusaka will empower the local youth by transferring knowledge-building tools and sparking the curiosity for learning. In a community that is facing increasing levels of unemployment and disparity, XO laptops offer Zambian children a structured educational tool that will enable them to succeed in subsequent years of higher education. XO laptops will equip the youth with the tools they need to become future leaders through improvements in literacy, access to information, and future economic opportunities.

Sustainability

Umoja is formed by a diverse group of students with varied backgrounds and nationalities, but a common interest in leveraging technology for international development. In order to engage the local community in a sustainable manner and provide knowledge-sharing at every step of this process, half of our team will consist of local university students in Lusaka. As the International Team works to find resources and partners for the deployment, our counterparts in Zambia will begin working with local primary schools. Over the summer, the two sides will come together for mentorship and a knowledge-transfer of technology, resources, and local community practices.

Both the U.S. and Zambian teams have held numerous meetings and are confident about the project proposal. The U.S. team primarily speaks English, but the refugee team will have the local familiarity and language skills necessary for project implementation. The U.S. team is actively researching funding opportunities from university grants, partnering with other organizations, and research other avenues of funding to sustain the deployment into the future. One specific active grant awarded each year is the "Bears Breaking Boundaries Contest" for continuing funding after the summer installment.

Umoja Team wiki:

http://wiki.laptop.org/go/OLPCorps_UCBerkeley_Zambia

Team member information:

http://wiki.laptop.org/go/OLPCorps_UCBerkeley_Zambia/Team

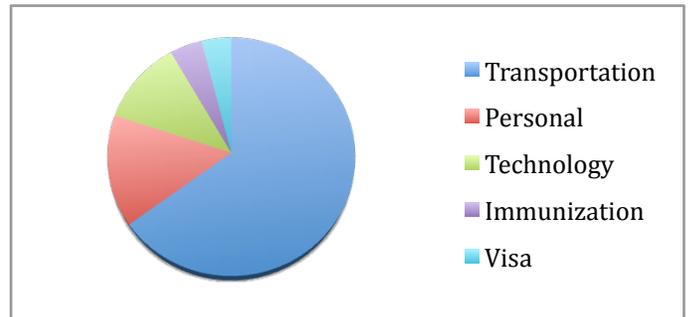
Berkeley CITRUS – Bears Breaking Boundaries

http://contest.berkeley.edu/contest_pages/161

Total Estimated Budget

Estimated cost for 9 weeks of Umoja

Transportation	\$9,000
Personal	\$2,100
Technology	\$1,600
Immunization	\$600
Visas	\$555
Total Expense	\$13,855



Transportation

- International Air Travel (3 team members): ~\$3,000 each = \$9,000
International Team from SFO – Kigali – Lusaka Flights: \$2,800 (low) - \$3,300 (high) roundtrip

Personal

- Housing & Board FORGE Lusaka: \$300 per person/month = 3 x \$700/person = \$2,100

Technology

- Internet (xDSL 32kbps) = \$600 (installation) + 2 x \$500/month = \$1,600
- Arthur Wina Basic School Power (ZESCO-powered) = \$0

Immunizations

- CDC Adult Immunization Schedule: 3 x \$200/person = \$600

Visas

- Business Working: 3 x \$185/person = \$555

Estimated Total Budget: \$ 13,855.00

Additional Budget: Air Travel to Kigali (if sending 1 member): \$800

References

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/adult-schedule.htm>

<http://www.coppernet.zm/index.php/content/view/24/64/>

<http://www.zambiatourism.com/travel/traveladvice/general.htm>



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To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to state FORGE's support for the application of Jessica Yueh, Laura Keys, and Jack Chi to participate in the One Laptop Per Child Program. FORGE is aware of the team's project proposal, approves of the project, and intends to provide some support for the project after the summer of 2009.

FORGE has had a base in Lusaka, the capital of Zambia, for about five years. Though we work primarily in refugee camps in more rural areas of the country, we have often been struck by the untapped resources of the Zambian citizens in the capital. When approached with the idea of bringing laptop availability to primary school children in Lusaka, we were quick to see the potential impact of this project. Most children in Zambia do not have access to the computer skills that could not only provide them with job opportunities in the future, but could also serve as an opportunity for them to broaden their horizons and inspire creativity and ingenuity. OLPC's program would be certain to make an impact in this community.

FORGE currently has an office in Lusaka that would be suitable for housing the OLPC equipment and volunteers as the project is being launched. What's more, FORGE works with eight university students who would serve as excellent coordinators for the project, after the OLPC team departs. These students are refugees who have been sponsored through FORGE to attend university in Lusaka. Many of them are majoring in NGO management and would thus benefit from practical experience in running a program such as this. Further, as individuals who have lived in Zambia for ten years or more, these refugees have a nuanced understanding of how to make projects work in a Zambian setting and with Zambian administrators. Thus, not only would this partnership further OLPC's mission of creating educational opportunities for the world's poorest children, but it would also contribute to FORGE's mission of fostering social entrepreneurship among refugee populations.

In short, FORGE considers a collaboration with this OLPC team to be an asset both to FORGE's programming and to the OLPC vision. We have the capacity to take on a partnership role with the OLPC team and the experience to thoughtfully oversee such a project. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, and we look forward to hearing back from you.

Best,
Abby Speight

FORGE Programming Director