



KNOW-HOW 3000

Experience AT A GLANCE

One Laptop per Child (OLPC) in Western Province, PNG

What is it about?

„One Laptop per Child (OLPC)“ project: Introducing schools to computers – from scratch

Why an intervention?

- Computer literacy is generally low - this is an incentive and hindrance to projects like this at the same time. Many secondary schools do not include ICT into their teaching. Students entering universities often are not able to cope with the technology, just as young people starting into work life.
- Classroom teaching often still follows a teacher-centred approach, leaving little room for students exploring knowledge for themselves, an issue OLPC tries to improve as well.

What does it change?

- Increase of basic computer skills of students
- Overcome fear in order to approach technology
- Students/ Children learn more by themselves without teachers' guidance.
- OLPC promotes a “learn by exploring” approach to teaching, giving teachers a facilitator's role.

How does it work?

Implementation of the Principles of OLPC:

- right of child ownership
- low age use
- continuous digital saturation (each child in an area should have it)
- connectivity (by a network)
- free and open source use for local growth and learning

Community Participation as new “PNG” principle

- Selection of schools by an informed local authority (Catholic Education Secretary)
- Training of all teachers of a school,
- Selection of an “OLPC champion” who receives further training and henceforth provides training and assistance to his colleagues.
- Mentoring of the “Champion” by e-mail consultancy
- Laptops are owned by community (schools) to avoid internal conflicts.
- Project provides stimulus for increased PC-ownership in the area

Who are the beneficiaries?

Teachers and students in participating schools, Parents, Community Members, Education Sector, as schools are better connected and administrated.

Who could use that approach?

- Government education agencies
- Church education agencies
- NGOs

Who is already using it?

Catholic Education Agency, Kiunga, Western Province, PNG



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AUSTRIAN ORGANISATION FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Sector: Education
Period: since 2009
Organisation: Catholic Education Agency, Kiunga, Western Province, PNG
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