



# School-Based Telecentres (SBT)



## SchoolNet Uganda (SBTs)

A case study of a typical RCDF Supported Schools Project

Presented by

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## WHAT THE PRESENTATION COVERS...

- UCC-RCDF Supported SchoolNet Uganda School-Based Telecentre (SBT).
- What was SchoolNet Uganda motivation?.
- Project Objectives
- Project Partners :Roles & Obligations
- The Project Implementation Process
- Project Successes.
- Project Challenges.
- Future plans.

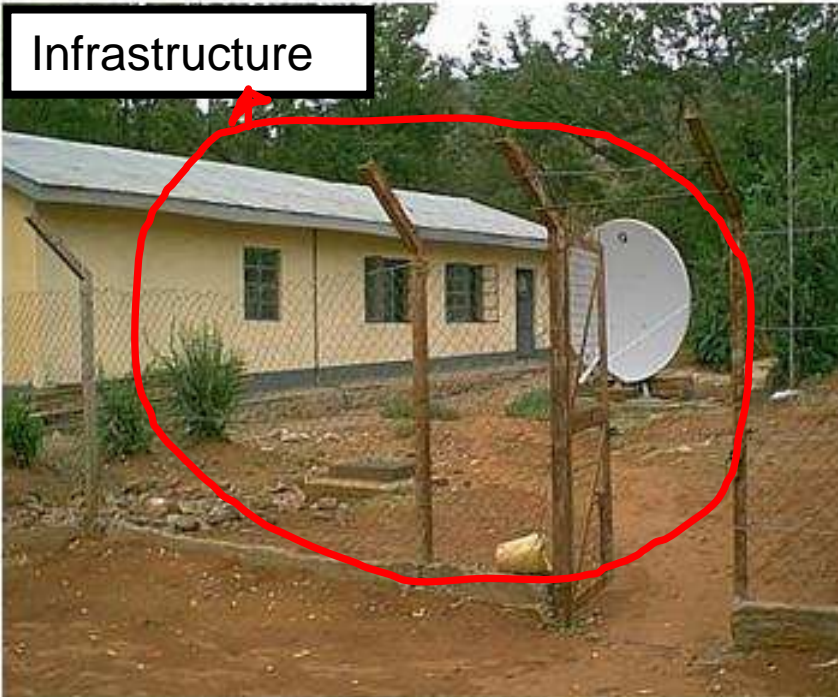
# UCC-RCDF Supported SchoolNet Uganda School-Based Telecentre (SBT) Project

	School-Based Telecentre (SBT)	District
1.	Bukomero SS	Kiboga
2.	Ngora High School	Kumi
3.	Bweranyangi Girls	Bushenyi
4.	Bukooli College	Bugiri
5.	Muntuyera High School	Ntungamu

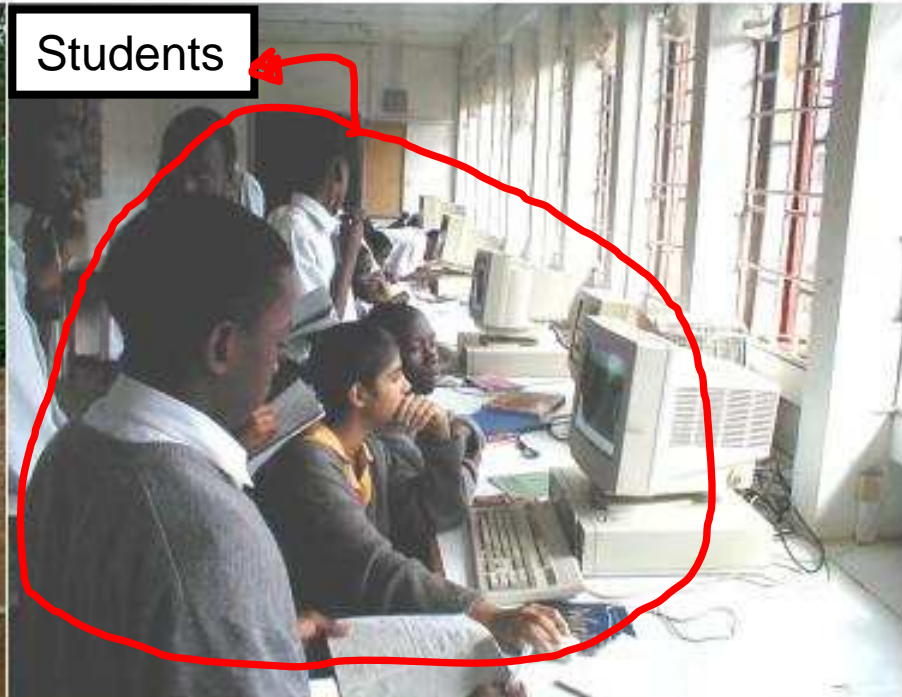
*A School-Based Telecentre (SBT) is an ICT resource centre which is based at a school but opens to the community after school hours, over the weekend and during the holidays.*

# School-Based Telecentre Model

Infrastructure



Students



Teachers



Community



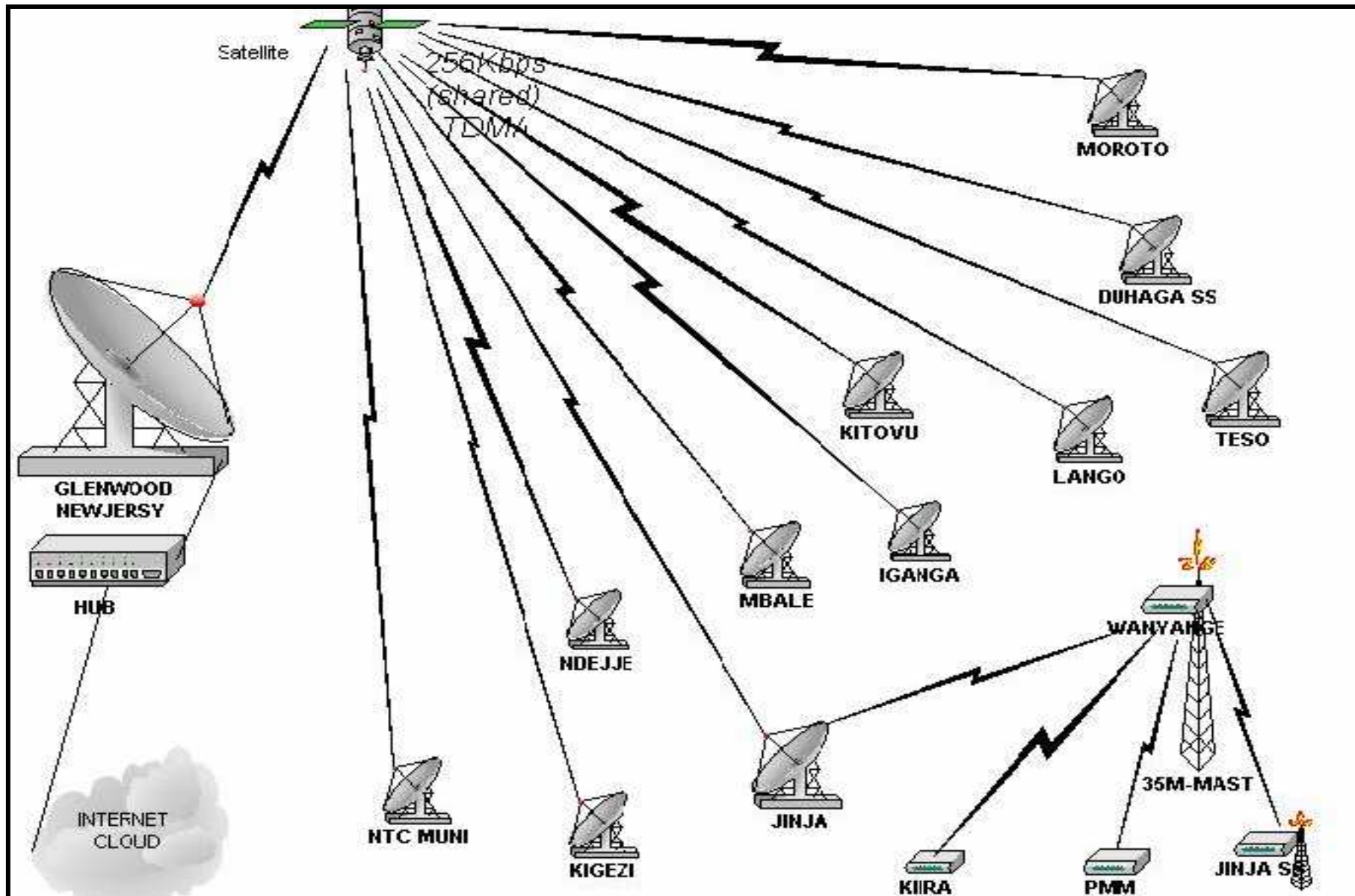
# What was SchoolNet Uganda's Motivation?

SchoolNet Uganda had zero economic interest in putting up the School-Based Telecentre(SBT) project. SchoolNet Uganda put up this project as part of its Social Corporate Responsibility (SCR).

Inspired by the success of the Uganda Rural VSAT School- Based project , SchoolNet had implemented in partnership with the World Bank, World Links and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (2001-2003), SchoolNet wanted to use its experience to assist rural schools in underserved areas use Information Communication Technology (ICT) to bridge the Urban-Rural gap in academic performance.

*It is important to note , that unlike many of the other RCDF –supported projects, SchoolNet Uganda was a project promoter and not a direct beneficiary in this project.*

Uganda VSAT Rural School-Based Telecentre Project implemented by SchoolNet Uganda (2001-2003). **1<sup>st</sup> Satellite based Internet** connection to schools in Africa and **finalist in category Education, Stockholm Challenge 2002.**



**Busoga College, Mwiri**



**Mbale SS**



**Iganga Girl's School**



**Teso College**



## UCC-RCDF Supported SchoolNet Uganda School-Based Telecentre (SBT) Project – **Project Objectives**

- To build teachers' technical capacity, pedagogical capacity and know-how for integrating ICTs in the curriculum.
- To facilitate networking amongst educational institutions for information sharing and dissemination.
- Develop local applications and ICT enhanced Educational content.
- To explore creative ways of ensuring sustainability of educational institutions' ICT facilities and activities.
- To monitor and evaluate the impact of the use of ICTs in Education
- To act as training centres for the Ministry of Education and Sports and SchoolNet Uganda.

## UCC-RCDF Supported SchoolNet Uganda School-Based Telecentre (SBT) Project – **Project Partners**

- **Uganda Communication Commission (UCC)** – RCDF (Rural Communication Development Fund) (5 VSAT equipment & 10 new computers, LAN labour costs)
- **Ministry of Education and Sports** – School selection, allowing the schools to add an extra charge, policy support , training, coordination of meetings, project monitoring and evaluation
- **SchoolNet Uganda )** – Project management & coordination, 50 used computers, technical , pedagogical & telecentre management training and support, integrate the SBTs in SchoolNet activities.
- **School** – dedicate a room, burglar proofing, power upgrade, security, recurrent electricity and Internet bills, avail teachers for training, act as a training centre for MoES, form a telecentre Management Committee, open the centre to the community & be in the driver's seat.
- **Faith Action Organization Development** – stakeholder mobilization & SBT management at Ngora High School

Local Ownership & Sustainability from the word go

# Project Preparation Stages

<b>Date</b>	<b>Key Activities</b>
Jun, 2004	<b>Submission of Project Proposal</b> to UCC. Total project investment USD\$97,580. Requested for USD\$ 60,250
July, 2004	<b>Award of UCC subsidy of USD\$40,000.</b> UCC requested SchoolNet Uganda for detailed costing & implementation plan .
Nov, 2004	<b>Identification of schools</b> by Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES). MoES selected Muntuyera High School (Ntungamo), Bweranyangi Girls (Bushenyi), Bukomero SS (Kiboga),
Dec,2004	<b>School Technology inspection</b> (current infrastructure & ICT state, security, LAN design & costing, recommendation etc.
Nov 2004- May 2005	<b>Planning Meetings</b> (SchoolNet Uganda, MoES and Heads of schools). Meetings chaired by MoES. The role of partners (UCC, MoES, SchoolNet ) clarified . School roles :- dedicate a room, burglar proofing, power upgrade, security, recurrent electricity and Internet bills, avail teachers for training, act as a training for MoES.
Jun 2005	<b>Submission of Implementation</b> plan & detailed costing to UCC. Plan accepted . Subsidy to be disbursed in the ratio of 5:3:2.

## Project Preparation Stages (con't)

Date	Key Activities
Nov 2004-May 2005	School-based meetings: PTA & Board to discuss financial implications & to authorize expenditure
Jun 2005	SchoolNet Uganda made an Advance Payment Guarantee to UCC equivalent to 50% subsidy ( <a href="#">Explain the delay</a> ).
May-Jun 2005	Supply of computers to Muntuyera, Ngora & Bweranyangi by SchoolNet Uganda (10 computers to each school).
Jun 2005	School-Readiness Meeting chaired by MoES to agree on the order of implementation
Jul 2005	UCC made the initial 50% disbursement to SchoolNet Uganda
Jul 2005	LAN construction at Muntuyera, Ngora & Bweranyangi
Aug-Sept 2005	VSAT installation at Muntuyera High School, Ngora High and Bweranyangi Girls, + 2 computers each.
Dec 2005	Submission of 1 <sup>st</sup> Progress report to UCC
Jan 2006	1st Technical Audit of the project by UCC
Feb 2006	UCC made the 2 <sup>nd</sup> ( 30%) disbursement to SchoolNet Uganda
Mar-Jun '06	LAN installation, VSAT installation, supply of computers to Bukooli College & Bukomero SS

UCC-RCDF at each school included:



VSAT



2 NEW COMPUTERS

DONATED BY  
UGANDA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
& SCHOOLNET UGANDA

KU-Band VSAT Equipment and two brand New Computers funded by :**UCC-RCDF : The Rural Communications Development Fund**

**Implementation Process- Example 1: Bukooli College, a Rural school in Bugiri District.**



Students waiting  
outside HM's  
office

## **SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY INSPECTION: BUKOOLI COLLEGE**

The school is located 1km from Bugiri town. It is a mixed day school with a student population of 1,600 and a teacher population of 43. The school fees structure is 49,500/= per term for O'level and 59,500/= for A' level.

**Existing ICTs in the school:** Only mobile phones. The school has neither publicom nor village public phone.

**Security status:** School is not fenced. Security of the school has to be beefed up when the SBT is implemented. Security of the room proposed for the SBT project has to be improved by reinforcing steel bars in the windows and putting steel doors. The room size is 25ft x 30ft.

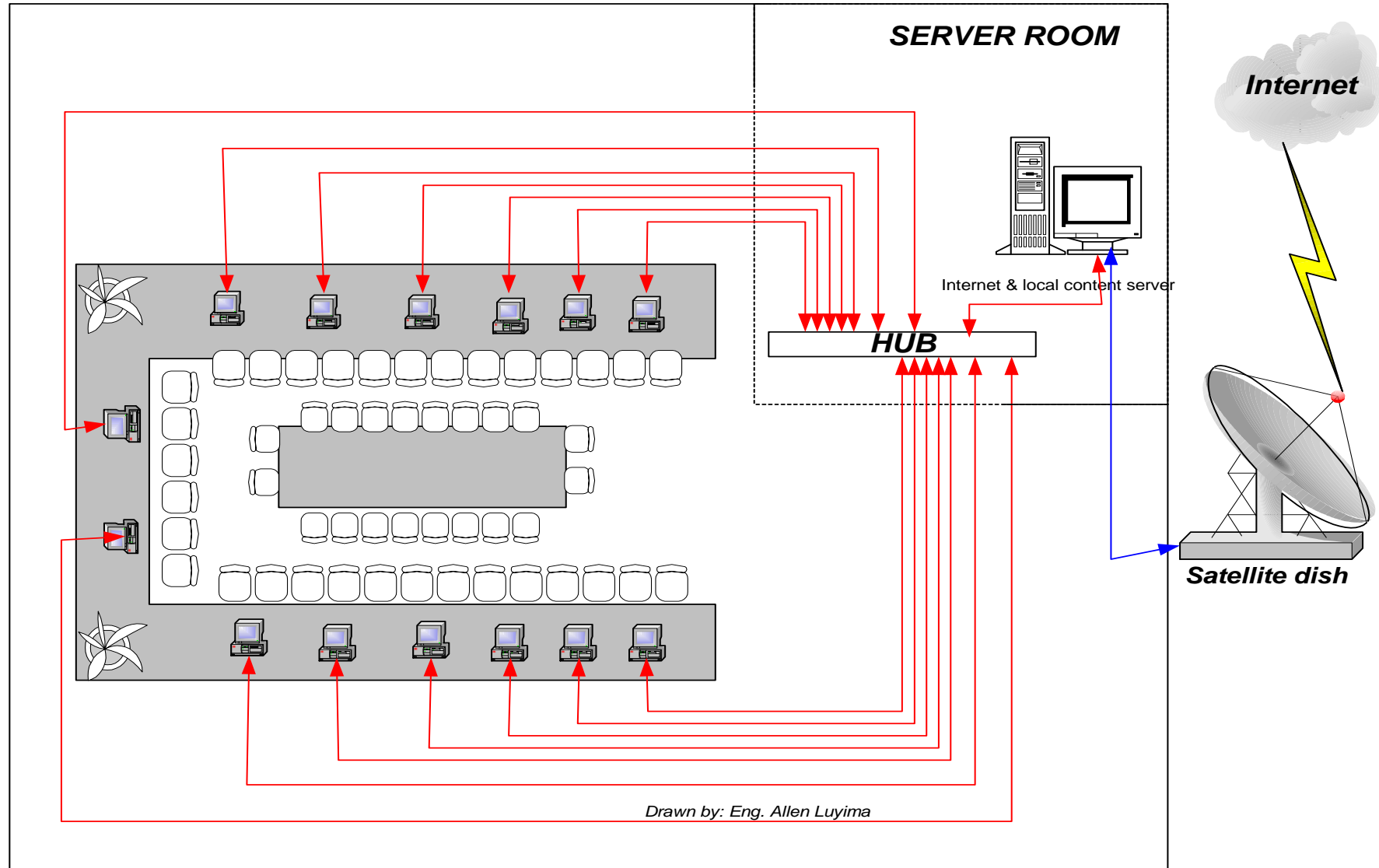
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**The school was requested to do the following:**

- Install electricity in the building and provide 20 double-socket power points. Electricity currently stops at the building adjacent to the proposed Computer Lab.
- Reinforce windows and doors with steel burglar proof to improve on security.
- Replace the blackboard with a white board.
- Install fluorescent tubes (not bulbs) as fluorescent provides better illumination.
- Chairs are more comfortable than stools for users in the Computer Lab.
- Conferencing table shall be required as well.

# SchoolNet Uganda designed the Local Area Network (LAN)

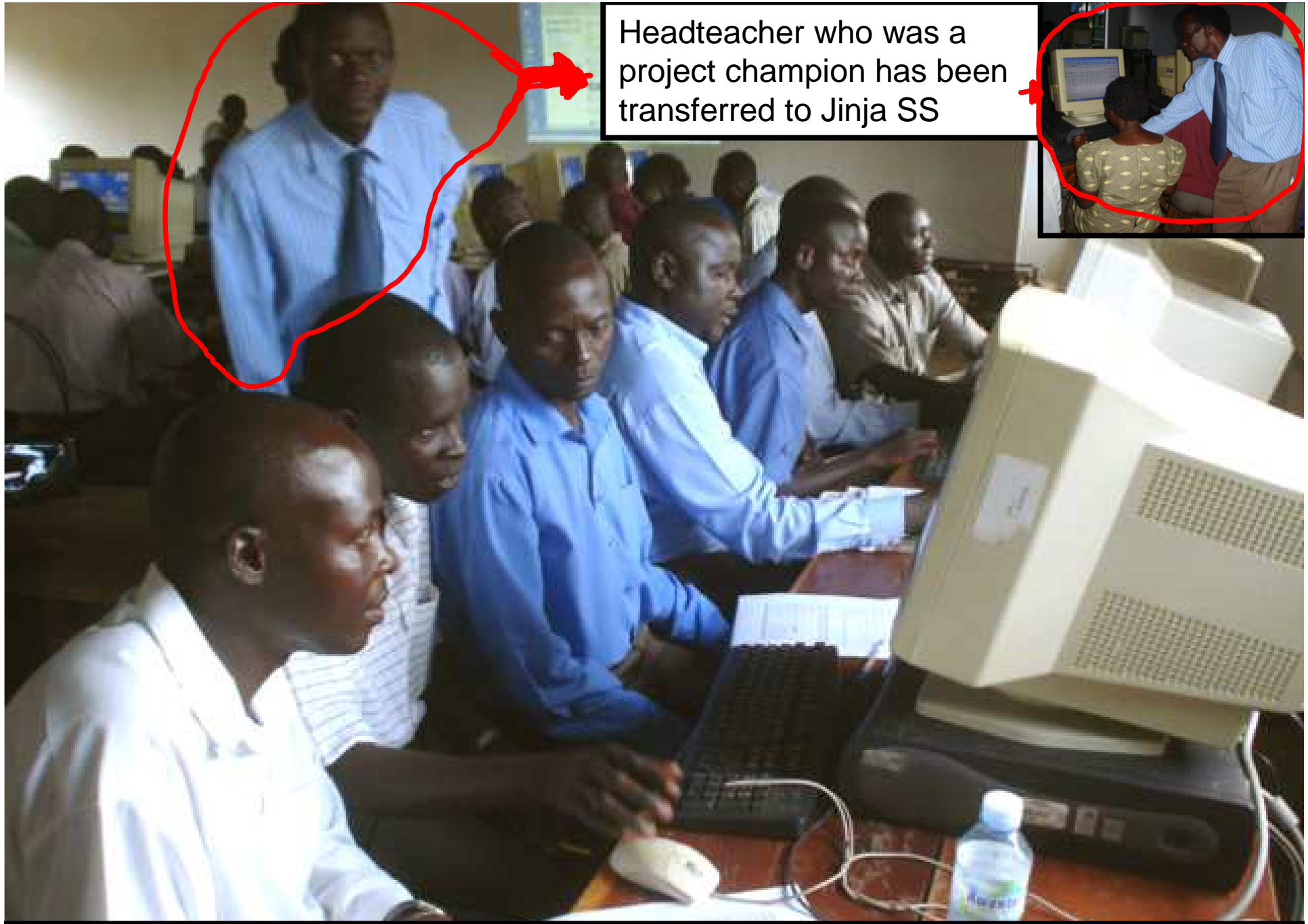
## PROPOSED LAN SETUP FOR BUKOOLI COLLEGE SCH.



Bukoli College School-Based Telecentre- Required putting up totally a new building



The 1<sup>st</sup> Computer lab in Bugiri District

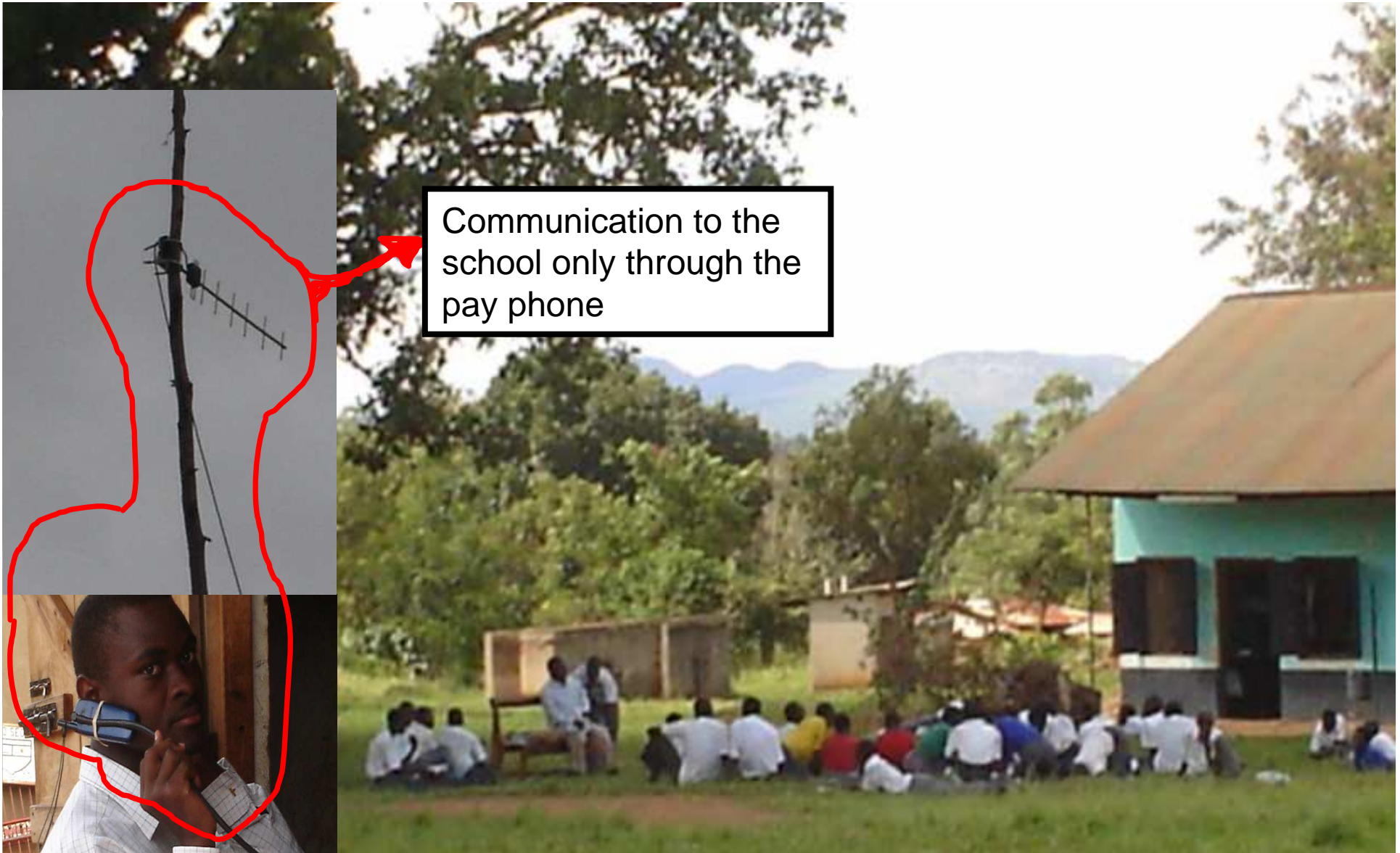


Headteacher who was a project champion has been transferred to Jinja SS

*ICT Training Workshop for Teachers without which, computers would bring very little returns*

**Implementation Process- Example 2: Bukomero SS , a Rural school in Kiboga District**

Communication shadow due to the terrain of the place



Communication to the school only through the pay phone

**A RURAL O'LEVEL & A'LEVEL MIXED BOARDING SCHOOL IN KIBOGA DISTRICT**

# Bukomero SS School-Based Telecentre



THE LONG AWAITED INTERNET ARRIVES AT BUKOMERO SS - KIBOGA



**TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS AT BUKOMERO BY SCHOOLNET UGANDA**



## STUDENTS OF BUKOMERO JOIN THEIR GLOBAL PEERS



# THE LONG AWAITED INTERNET ARRIVES AT THIS RURAL NGORA HIGH SCHOOL



# CASCADING ICT TRAINING AT NGORA HIGH SCHOOL SBT



Muntuyera High School School-Based Telecentre



# Bweranyangi Girls School-Based Telecentre



The UDERB is a repository of learning Objects put together by Uganda teachers for teachers

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**SCHOOLNET**  
Uganda

# UGANDA DIGITAL EDUCATION RESOURCE BANK

## Chemistry Past Papers Resources

### Kitovu-S6: Chemistry Paper 1: Mocks , 2004

St. Henry's College Kitovu  
S6. Moch Examinations, 2004  
Chemistry Paper 1  
Click on the link below to download the paper.  
S6 CHEM 1 MOCK 20041 .pdf

*By dkakinda | February 21, 2007 | Chemistry Past Papers | No Remarks as yet*

### Namugongo-S6: Mock Exams 2004, Chemistry Paper 2

Uganda Martyr's SS Namugongo  
S6 Mock Exams 2004  
Chemistry Paper 2  
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Internet

Popular content : Test papers, Marking schemes, study tips, student learning activities, website links relevant to the Uganda curriculum

## Project Successes

- The Technology(Computer labs, LAN & Internet connection) has been set up at all the 5 centres.
- Two of the centres; Bweranyangi Girls & Ngora High have been used by the Ministry of Education & SchoolNet Uganda as training centres for other teachers.
- An online repository of relevant digital resources – the Uganda Digital Education Resource Bank ([www.uderb](http://www.uderb)) has been created to facilitate information sharing with other schools.
- The 5 centres have been integrated in other SchoolNet Projects (The World Starts With Me, Inspiring Science Education for Girls Using ICT).
- Students are offering Computer Studies at O'Level.
- Teachers have been training in basic ICT skills & how to use ICT in different subjects.
- Some of the centres have bought more computers and projectors.
- Some centres are involved into other ICT in Education initiatives like the Cyber Technology Solution (Ngora, Bukooli)
- Bringing together the project partners.

# Project Challenges

## Challenges

- High cost of Monthly Internet Connectivity(US\$176).
- Few computers compared to number of students and teachers.
- Telecentre staff not being on Gov't payroll.
- Erratic power supply and long periods of power-cuts.
- High cost of fuel for a backup generator
- Few community members trained so far.
- Computer breakdown.
- Transfer of Head teachers (Muntunyera, Bukomero, Bukooli).

# Lessons Learned

- Providing ICT facilities to rural schools is quite challenging and calls for working with a number of partners.
- The roles and responsibilities of the benefiting schools must be clearly spelled out from the word go.
- Continuous sensitization of the schools is needed because of the turn-over of teachers.
- Providing computers to schools is expensive but is the easiest part of the process, getting the teachers to use them for teaching is more difficult requiring sensitization and capacity building.
- There is need to create a social network between new schools and those already using ICT for knowledge sharing.
- Schools need on-going pedagogical and technical support

# Future Plans

- Alternative energy solutions for the 5 centres. UCC has provided US\$3,500 for each centre.
- A 5-day Technical training (11-15)th Jan 2008.
- A 5-day ICT in Education Workshop for the School Head teachers.
- More, More professional training for the teachers on integrating ICT in different subjects.
- More study tours to other schools to study the ICT infrastructure and training given to schools.
- Partnership building to bring more partners on board.
- Trying out alternative technologies.

# Thank You Allowing Me To Facilitate This Session

