

PROJECT PROPOSAL

ON

Free Computer Literacy Program for Girls

Girls In Technology Liberia (GITL)



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PROJECT TITLE: FREE COMPUTER LITERACY PROGRAM FOR GIRLS

PROJECT DURATION: Twelve (12) months

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The speed of a nation's development is directly related to the quantity and quality of vocational skills possessed by its workforce. The basic knowledge of computer skills is very important in today's environment because everything is centered on technology. Computer literacy is also important because of the changing work environment.

The workplace today is 95% computerized, "no matter where you find employment, there is a good chance a computer will be a basic tool you will have to use". It is very important that we try and equip our girl's with basic computer knowledge in order to use these skills in classrooms, work or businesses. Capacity building is the prime priority of education which is not possible without Computer Literacy.

The purpose behind Computer Literacy Programme (CLP) is to establish computer center in each and every county for girls. Girls from age 18 to 35 years will learn about basic computer education and would be able to practically use it particularly in Basic Computer and Microsoft Offices Suite.

1.1 Reduce hurdles in learning of advance technology

Barriers to modern education are rooted within our cultural and social norms. While economical concerns are sometimes cited as the reason behind the refusal to send girls to attend modern institution, other major factors including, low ratio of middle communities in advances skills. There is a need to raise awareness on the futuristic education through extensive liaison with the community.

1.2 Lack of Commitment by the Community

Certain schools of thoughts and other institutes are always run by the people only for the sake of earning money. In this way our community does not takes any interest in such institution. Schooling is traditionally perceived to be the responsibility of the government and private sector stakeholders.

Families do not realize that their participation can enrich the educational experience of their child. All out efforts are needed to involve the community in Computer Literacy Program (CLP). This can be achieved through the School Management Committees and Parent Teacher Councils with their specified roles.

1.3 Goals and Objectives of Computer Literacy Program (CLP)

To empower girls in the rural and urban communities with free computer education which will include knowledge in computer programming such as Microsoft Office and technical skills in computer engineering – installation, assembly and repairs.

The objective of this program is to establish a district wise network of computerized vocational training centers covering every county for girls in the district and offering training courses on a wide range of occupational skills.

- To improve education in rural and urban communities through establishing and equipping of computer education centers in the counties.
- To establish Computer Center in the counties specializing in the use of information technology to support education of girls with relevant local content and for intellectual development.
- To improve skills of the participants and to increase computer literacy ratio in the area.
- To provide adequate education to these girls to make them good citizens and have a better future through computer vocational training.
- To bring a positive change not only in the lives of girls but in the society as a whole.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Competition in the modern world is improving day by day because the world is now changing into global village. One corner of the world has direct effect on the other.

Most of the girls don't get any proper computer education at their secondary level because education is limited to text books, no computer subject in their course outline and non-availability of computer labs in their school's premises. After completion of their secondary school education they have no knowledge and skills which will allow them to use a computer with some proficiency.

This is increasingly becoming a concern at all levels of education, each of which is trying to fill this need in their own ways and unable to complete their assignment in further education. GITL has endeavored to provide computer education in each of these counties to enable these girls to get exposure and access to a computer course, creates awareness about its uses and the latest technology innovations that are going on in the world.

3. PROJECT AREA PROFILE

There are two counties the project will be implemented which are Margibi and Bomi County. Margibi is located on the central coast of Liberia. Kakata serves as the capital with the population as of the 2008 Census is 199,689. Its Literacy rate is 38%. All major infrastructures for communication, Water and Electricity facility are available. The main language is Bassa / English language is also well understood.

Bomi is located in the western portion of the West African nation of Liberia. Tubmanburg serves as the county's capital with the population as of the 2008 Census is 84,119. Its Literacy rate is 34%. All major infrastructures for communication, Water and Electricity facility are available. The main language is Gola language / English language is also well understood.

Margibi and Bomi County is blessed with resources include diamond, rubber, timber, iron ore, gold, water, stone, sand and fertile agriculture land. 70% of the population engage in agricultural activities; therefore, most of the people in profession are farmer. They are engaged in agriculture either directly or indirectly. Industrial labor has increased after the establishment of factories in different places of the district. Some people are engaged in business and Government service also.

4. PROPOSED INTERVENTION

Girls In Technology Liberia(GITL) has planned initially for establishing computer literacy centers in the various counties for girls. The only aim of establishing the computer center is to make familiarity of girls with the new technologies of the advanced world.

Margibi, and Bomi, has been chosen as the few underdeveloped counties in Liberia and has one of the high dropout rate. The high dropout rate is attributed to the poor quality of education. The girls often lose interest in school in the face of harsh treatment and outdated teaching methods while the primary reason for parents withdrawing girls from schools is the lack of progress in the child's learning. By implementing a system where girls like play an important role in learning, GITL will make learning fun for girls and reduces the probability of drop out.

A unique Interactive and new technical methodology will be used with excellent results. We are confident that we will be able to create a model, which can be replicated by the government and private institutions in other areas of the counties as well. GITL will provide quality services as well as use a high standard teaching methodology and will also serve as a model for widespread replication in the area. GITL intended to build capacity of these girls through implementation of Computer Literacy Program (CLP).

5. TARGET AREAS

Girls In Technology Liberia(GITL) will initially implement Free Computer Literacy Program (FCLP) in the following proposed counties cities: **Harbel and Tubmanburg**

5.1 Project Beneficiaries

Project beneficiaries of Free Computer Literacy Program will be from age 18 – 35 years, girls. Approximately thousand (1000) girls shall be directly benefiting from this project.

6. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be carried out for achievement of the above-mentioned objectives.

6.1 Opening of Computer centers in the counties for girls

In the targeted area computer labs will be established and equipped in the counties for girls where we will create a very friendly learning environment with the latest computer hardware and software technologies. Publicity campaign will be launched in targeted areas through community broad based meetings and newspapers. Posters will also be pasted on walls widely in the community.

6.2 Hiring and Training of staff

Girls In Technology Liberia(GITL) will be responsible for hiring teachers/ trainer and other staff for the Free Computer Literacy Program (FCLP).

7. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

For better management of this program the whole team of GITL will develop a system, which would be practical, transparent and effective. For this purpose, GITL will make work break down structure which will be based on project Committee, audit Committee and Monitoring. These committees have their own role and responsibilities and working under the umbrella body of the GITL.

7.1 Provision of Learning and Teaching Material

The teaching methodology will be focused not only on theoretical knowledge of computer but also providing appropriate and inexpensive active learning material. This active learning material helps to clarify the concept of students by providing them hands-on experience. GITL will provide learning and teaching material in soft as well as in hard form to the computer centers.

7.2 Technical Assistance

Girls In Technology Liberia (GITL) on a regular basis will provide technical assistance for Free Compute Literacy Program (FCLP). The primary motive behind this is to ensure that the employees are encouraged and helped throughout implementing the methodology during which they will be continuously facing new challenges and hurdles.

7.3 Community Involvement

Community involvement is a process in which community participation is used to improve major decisions during the planning, development and operational stages of a project. A good community involvement program contributes to the best possible development and operating decisions. Female Support Committee for FCLP would be formed in the catchment areas that will Support the program and cooperate with GITL.

8. EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT

Girls from age 18 – 35 years shall be directly benefited from this program because they shall be fully prepared with all necessary curriculum and hidden curriculum material. After the girls have being equipped with the computer training, they will be prepared mentally and socially for the world of work in later life. Literacy ration will be increased and society atmosphere will be unruffled from jagged and dreadful characters. When participant have all necessities of modern knowledge then they will come with high speed and literacy rate will be boost.

8.1 Project Committee

This committee will be comprised of a team who will be accountable to control the quality of project and will ensure effectiveness of the project.

8.2 Audit committee

The audit committee will strongly audit each and every activity of the program and will make the audit report of the project.

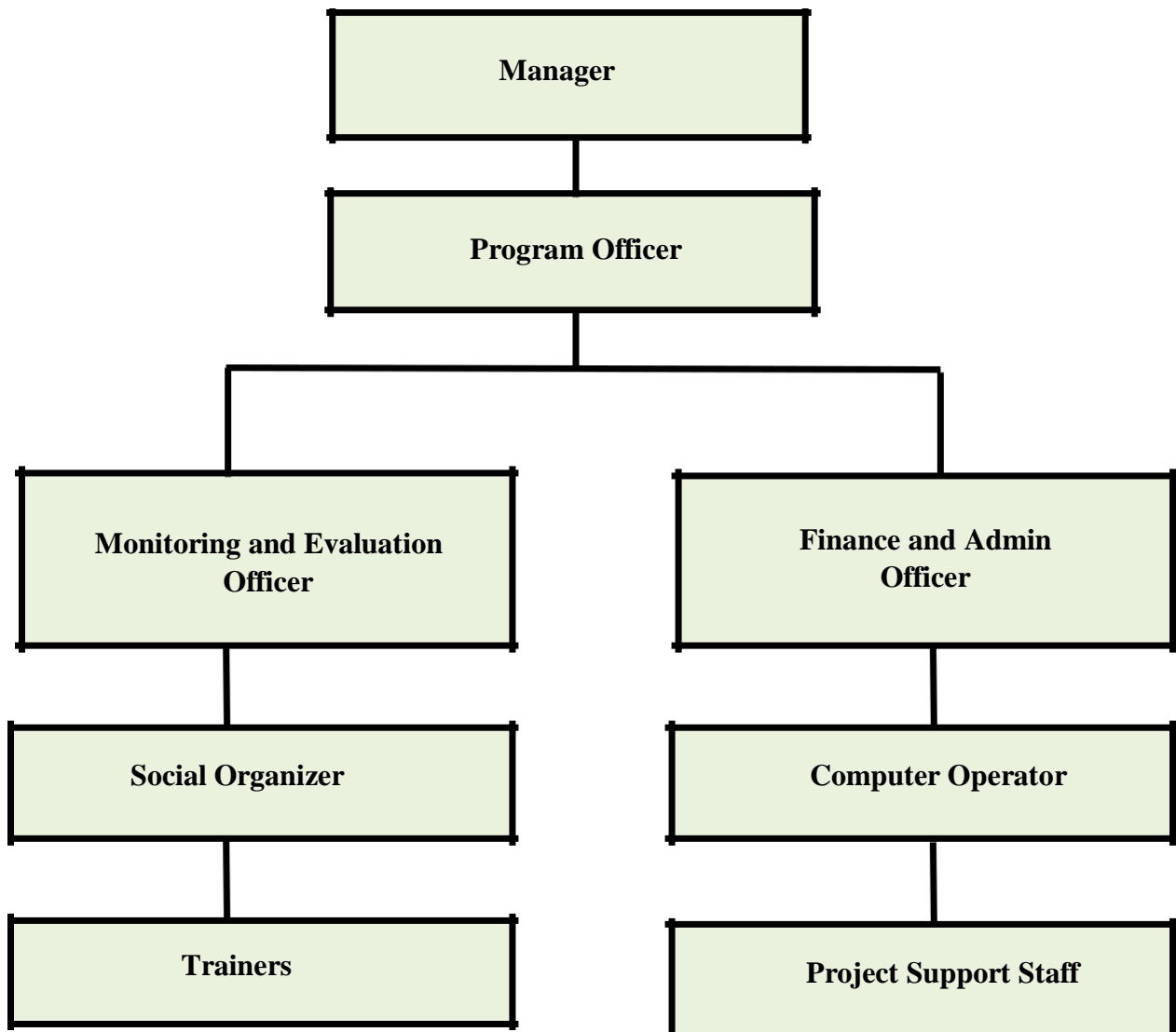
8.3 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of this program will be done at several levels. GITL have the monitoring mechanism and formats. Specific formats will be used for monitoring and evaluation. These reports come to monitoring and evaluation (M&E) unit of GITL and then analyzed for correction and improvement in the program. Monitoring reports are time to time shall be prepared and keep it on record both in soft as well as in hard form for onward submission to donor. Detailed analytical documentation will be done and results will be discussed in meetings. If need arise then some changes will be made in the monitoring formats. Detailed notes to files by each of the staff members will be written, as being practiced by GITL. Monitoring will be done against the objectives of the program.

9. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improvement in participants learning/academic achievement
- Improvement of access to technology for all participants
- Increased employability and reduce poverty and unemployment.
- Greater Earnings Potential
- Greater Access to Resources
- Increase economic growth of the area.
- Improve community social structure.
- Positive change in participant's life and further education
- Enhanced community involvement in development

10. Administrative Structure of Free Computer Literacy Program



11. Detail Budget for Free Computer Literacy Program (FCLP)

Establishment Cost							
S. No	Items	Centers	Unit	Total QTY	Unit Cost LRD	Total Cost LRD	Total Cost US \$
1.	Computers	2	26	52	87,750	4,563,000	23,400
2.	Projector	2	1	2	136,500	273,000	1,400
3.	Projector Screen	2	1	2	39,000	78,000	400
4.	Printers	2	1	2	87,750	175,500	900
5.	Chairs	2	30	60	9,750	585,000	3,000
6.	Tables	2	30	60	15,600	936,000	4,800
7.	Generator	2	1	2	263,250	526,500	2,700
8.	UPS	2	8	16	19,500	312,000	1,600
9.	Stabilizer	2	8	16	11,700	187,200	960
10.	Extension Cord	2	30	60	5,850	351,000	1,800
11.	Rent	2	1	2	351,000	702,000	3,600
12.	Project Vehicle	2	1	1	2,925,000	2,925,000	15,000
Sub Total:						LRD 11,614,200	USD 59,560
Staff Salaries							
S. No	Post Title	Unit	Salary/Month LRD	Months	Total Cost LRD	Total Cost US \$	
1.	Program Manager	2	139,295	12	1,671,540	8,572	
2.	M & E Officer	2	99,482.5	12	1,193,790	6,122	
3.	Finance & Admin Officer	2	99,482.5	12	1,193,790	6,122	
4.	Social organizer	2	71,630	12	859,560	4,408	
5.	Trainer	4	49,741.25	12	2,387,580	12,244	
6.	Office / Clerical Assistant	2	31,850	12	382,200	1,960	
Sub Total:						LRD 7,688,460	USD 39,428
Other Cost							
S. No	Description	Centers	Unit Cost	Monthly Cost	Months	Total Cost LRD	Total Cost US \$
1.	Stationary	2	2,486.25	4,972.5	12	59,670	306
2.	Printed Material	2	1,990.625	3,981.25	12	47,775	245
3.	Software	2	8,125	16,250	12	195,000	1,000
4.	Contingency	2	1,495	2,990	12	35,880	184
5.	Utilities	2	1,738.75	3,477.5	12	41,730	214
6.	Bank Charges	1	3,900	3,900	12	46,800	240
7.	Internet	2	17,111.25	34,222.5	12	410,670	2,106
Sub Total:						837,525	4,295
Grand Total:						20,140,185	103,283

Project Cost	LRD	US \$
Total Project Cost:	20,140,185	103,283
GITL Contribution 10 %:	2,014,018.5	10,328.3
Amount Requested:	18,126,166.5	92,954.7
Exchange Rate used:	US \$ (LRD. 195)	