

LEAD Uganda's Computer Learning Center

Kampala, Uganda

The [Stephen Shames Foundation](#) and its' Ugandan partner, [Concern for the Future](#) plan to create a state-of-the-art computer learning center, which will train and prepare high school students from all over East Africa, including all of LEAD Uganda's scholars, in technology skills, which are essential for today's competitive global job market. The computer center will not only imbue our scholars with marketable 21st century skills, but will produce income for Concern for the Future.

The Plan

The Computer Learning Center (CLC) will be self-supporting. The Center will rely on tuition fees from students and fees from conferences and meetings. The Center will provide free education to orphans and vulnerable children. All of CFTF's students would attend the center during school breaks.

[Dr. John C. Muyingo](#), headmaster of Uganda Martyr's Secondary School — Namugongo, the #1 high school in Uganda will administer the center. Dr. Muyingo agreed to give us land at Seeta High, one of three schools he runs. Dr. Muyingo is Minister of Education for the Buganda Kingdom. (The Buganda are Uganda's largest tribe.) Dr. Muyingo's involvement insures our computer center will be a well run, academically advanced school with full enrollment.

We will be a separate campus at Seeta High. Our campus will focus on computer-related topics such as technology, programming, and communications. To save costs, our students will take their other academic subjects at Seeta High.

The school will start with A level instruction. (A level is 12th and 13th grades). We plan eventually to teach all high school grades and include workshops for college level students.

The Computer Center will run educational workshops during school breaks. The Center can also host conferences for business and government. We could include a restaurant and guest house on the grounds for conference use.

Profits from the school will be shared by Seeta School and Concern for the Future, allowing the LEAD Uganda program to become self-sustaining.

[The Ecosa Institute](#), an architectural college, has agreed to design the center in an environmentally friendly way, using local materials. (www.ecosainstitute.org/) The

mission of the Ecosa Institute is to restore health to the natural environment, and thus the human environment, through education in design.

The Ecosa Institute and Dr. Musingo will oversee construction. The Stephen Shames Foundation will be the fiduciary agency.

Issues in Uganda

1. The Computer Learning Center will need its' own power source. Power is not reliable in Uganda. There is not enough power for the country's needs, so electricity is off every other day in various sections of the country.
2. Telephone lines are not good. Most people and businesses use cellular phones. The Center will have to rely on satellite links for our internet connection.

Next Steps

We have good partners in Uganda: Concern for the Future and Dr. Musingo. John Nagenda, the President's media advisor and a principal in a Ugandan communications company has expressed interest. We are seeking to establish a partnership with Makerere University's Directorate for ICT Support.

We are developing a plan for the center. We are considering what technology is needed, and how to insure this will not be outdated.

We are looking for a naming partner — possibly a computer hardware or software corporation — that wants to help us undertake this project.

Summary

Our vision is an Africa that is independent and which makes contributions to the solutions of its' issues and to the world.

Why can't Africa follow the path India and China are taking? Why can't it be an innovative leader in ideas? The success of Concern for the Future's students shows that the potential is there. If Africa is going to escape from dependency (which is a form of colonialism), its' young people need 21st Century skills.

The Computer Learning Center will give young people in East Africa the training in computer skills and imaginative thinking. The creation of a computer learning center will change the future of Africa.