



**Computer Aid
International**



Computer Aid International - Bridging the Digital Divide

August e-newsletter

Computer Aid ships its 150,000th PC to a Fair Trade Banana Association in Ecuador

At the beginning of August we shipped our 150,000th PC, which is now on its way to Asoguabo, the Association of Small Banana Producers, in Ecuador. The Association's member producers grow and export bananas, including organic bananas, to the highest social and environmental standards. Products are exported with the FLO certification, making them available to fair trade markets.

Computer Aid's 150,000th PC was shipped as part of a consignment of 540 computers and will be used by indigenous primary school children in one of the 17 schools in the El Oro, Azuay, Guayas and Bolivar regions on the border of Peru, where Asoguabo operates. Or it will go to one of the Trade Unions of its affiliated members or be used for the day to day running of the banana producers association.

The association was launched in 2008, as part of a development programme on health, education, community building and fair trade. You can read more on Asoguabo's website [APPBG](#)



Image courtesy of [APPBG](#)

Coca-Cola boosts its CSR Programme by Donating their old IT Equipment to Computer Aid

Coca-Cola have donated 1,750 pieces of IT equipment to Computer Aid, since they began donating to us in 2007. Coca-Cola's ongoing donations to Computer Aid are boosting an impressive Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (CRS) programme incorporating charitable contributions and recycling schemes amongst other measures. In addition, the donations are proving a cost effective outcome for the company's excess IT equipment.

Through Computer Aid's asset tracking service, Coca Cola knows exactly where its donated equipment is being used. Existing consignments are already helping a number of education institutions around the world, including communities in rural Ecuador where computer labs have been set up to provide IT training to school children. Another shipment has been placed with the not for profit Todo Chilenter programme, which helps disadvantaged schools in rural areas of Chile, where the uneven distribution of wealth has led to a more pronounced digital divide than in developed countries. [Read more](#)



Children have an IT lesson on a Computer Aid donated PC, in the Manabi Province in Ecuador.

Schools and Communities in Zambia benefit from Bournemouth University's donations of PCs

Bournemouth University is empowering rural communities in Zambia with access to fully-equipped Wi-Fi networks by donating more than 500 PCs to Computer Aid. Following its IT refreshment cycle, the university donated the working equipment which has now been data wiped, cleaned and professionally refurbished. A large proportion of the equipment has been sent to our partner organisation Linknet's Wi-Fi project in Zambia.



Bournemouth University is helping organisations such as the Linknet Zambia to have access to fully-equipped Wi-Fi networks

LinkNet Zambia is a cooperative organisation providing communications infrastructure and services for special interest groups in rural areas. Using Bournemouth University's equipment, Computer Aid has delivered 200 PCs and 400 Wi-Fi routers to provide the Choma community in Zambia with access to Africa's largest rural mesh network. Farmers can now research the most suitable crops for the soil and climate to increase yields of their smallholdings, nurses are being trained in rural hospitals, and school children are receiving better education opportunities at the Macha Girls High School.

[Read more](#)

Recent Press Coverage

Below are links to some press coverage Computer Aid received over the past two months:

In response to a report released by the research company [Gartner](#) which claimed that re-using secondary PCs is not necessarily 'green'. Tony Roberts, Founder and CEO of Computer Aid, disputes their claims and highlights why OEMs should be held financially accountable for the world's e-waste, read coverage in [PC Advisor](#) , [Macworld UK](#) and [PC World](#)

The [Daily Mail](#) recommends using Computer Aid to ensure the data security of your PCs.

Sainsbury's pledged 5,000 computers to Computer Aid as part of our charity [Twitterthon for computers](#), read in [e-week](#)

Coca-Cola's unwanted PCs help schools in Ecuador and Chile read more in [Computing](#) and [PC Magazine](#)

Bournemouth University empowers rural communities in Zambia read more in [eGov Monitor](#) , [Education Executive](#) and [PublicTechnology.net](#)

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Please help us spread the word about the importance and potential of Information Technology to poverty alleviation and development. If you have found this newsletter interesting please forward it to a friend.

Best wishes,

The Computer Aid International Team

Computer Aid International - Reducing Poverty Through Practical ICT Solutions

Computer Aid is the world's largest and most experienced non-profit provider of high quality professionally refurbished PCs to non-profit organisations in the developing world. We have provided over 150,000 PCs to over 100 countries since 1998.

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