Building Hope Academy

Calleva Project Report
November 2023

COMPUTERAID

Project Overview

Introduction

Building Hope Academy (formerly named Eating Stones) is a Primary School situated near the town of Narok in the South-West of Kenya. The school has students from Primary Grade 1 till Junior Secondary Grade 7. This is because Kenya is currently shifting to a new curriculum and is transitioning between the older model and new model. The school was provided with 18 desktops for its computer lab, and 28 laptops, ensuring that every teacher at the school has a laptop. The equipment was installed in June 2022.

In Year 2, it was decided that the priority was to build a new ICT classroom rather than provide renewable energy and a water source, given the Kenyan government's new curriculum requirements to have more classrooms for specific subjects. Since the school lacked further classroom capacity, this was deemed the most pressing priority by the school management. The lab will be completed by the end of 2023. The Rotary Club of Calgary, one of the other project partners assisted in building a system for clean water for the school and community.

Teacher Training, Assessment & Certification

In total, 14 teachers were selected for training from Building Hope Academy, 7 men and 7 women. The teachers were trained in a variety of ICDL (International Computer Drivers License) modules including: Computer Essentials, Online Essentials, Documents, Spreadsheets, and ICT in Education. Teachers were provided with digital certificates in pdf format for the modules which they passed. The full ICDL results are presented on Page 5.

School & Student Usage

The school has already provided examples of how the equipment has benefitted them. Teacher have been using the equipment to help with school administration such as creating lesson plans and accessing the new CBC curriculum. Students have also been utilising the equipment in classes and have enjoyed the ability to edit and save documents, which they can resume editing between classes.

Joyce Sinatoi Muntet, Grade 6 Pupil: "I use the computers to do research about topics which we learn in class. I have also learned that computers are a great tool for communication."

Mark K, Grade 7 Pupil: "Since we started using computers, we have reduced the use of paper; learning is now more fun and I can store and access my data whenever I want."

Bootcamp & Open Learning

The new computer lab which will be completed this year will be opened to the community from January 2024, allowing members of the community to access and use the computers. There will also be a bootcamp running in the current computer class from the 6th till the 30th of November. The bootcamp will provide first time access for some members of the community, some of whom are anxious about digital technologies, given their lack of use.

Case Studies

Eunice Kilumet teaches all subjects to her Grade 1 class. She passed 4 ICDL modules with an average pass mark of 86%. Her highest mark was 92% in the 'ICT in Education' module.

Eunice has therefore been certified in Computer Essentials, Documents, Spreadsheets, and ICT in Education modules.

Bradely Mpusia who teaches English and Science at Building Hope Academy passed 4 ICDL modules with an average pass mark of 85%. His highest mark was 88% in the 'Computer Essentials' module.

"The computer lab has reduced the workload by making it easier to create lesson plans, compile results, and make other subjects interactive and fun for the students as we have now integrated technology to other subjects like English and Sciences."

ICDL Results

The table below shows the results for all recent ICDL assessments, from a total cohort of 14 teachers.

Module	Passes	Highest Score	Average Pass Score
Computer Essentials	14	97%	82%
Computer & Online Essentials	4	97%	96%
Documents	14	88%	87%
ICT In Education	10	97%	91%
Spreadsheets	14	97%	87%
TOTAL / AVERAGE	56	95%	87%

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT G⊙ALS

Quality Education

This project contributes to Target 4.4 of SDG 4 which states:

By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

Both teachers and students at project school are directly gaining and have the opportunity to gain relevant technical skills that will improve their job prospects, contributing to Target 4.4.

Gender Equality

This project contributes to Target 5.B of SDG 5 which states:
Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.

By working exclusively with schools with similar ratios of boys to girls and in some cases having more female students, usage of equipment by both genders ensures that no individual is excluded.

Industry, Innovation And Infrastructure

This project contributes to Target 9.C of SDG 9 which states:
Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.

By providing schools with computer labs and assistive technology such as projectors, thousands of students have access to information and communications technology.

Responsible Consumption And Production

This project contributes to Target 12.5 of SDG 12 which states:
By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

ICT Equipment used in projects is donated largely from companies; equipment is data-wiped and refurbished before being sent to projects. Therefore, this project is promoting the reuse of equipment and reducing e-waste.

Next Steps

Currently, 69 students and 15 teachers are repeatedly using the current computer lab, and further students will benefit from classes in the new computer lab when it is completed later this year. Teachers will continue to cascade their ICT knowledge to the students.

The upcoming bootcamp in November will provide community members with the first opportunity to access the equipment, and the Open Learning initiative from January 2024 will provide more consistent access and usage of computers and assistive technology to community members.