



Completion Report

UGA-JEN-TAB-P01
Reporting Period: June – November 2017

Technology for the Poor and Remote - Uganda

Budget: \$2,430 - fully funded! (pilot project)

Update:

This project supplied three android tablets to a school with 60 children in Obalanga, a poor and remote village in eastern Uganda. The town grew out of an internal refugee camp during the time of displacement due to the Lord's Resistance Army ten years ago. The children have very little hope of learning how to use technology such as computers and tablets further distancing them from future job opportunities. As the area has no electricity, this project has also set up a solar recharging facility together with a safe to secure the items. The solar power provides lighting after-hours as well. This is a community-driven project. The idea came from an elder who did not want to see the children disadvantaged due their remoteness. Our partners have strategically involved the district education department to share the learning from this project.

We are pleased that our partners are trialling this project to determine if it has the capacity to become a larger project. The first cohort of children has now been completed the program. Twelve children attended a session every Saturday for 2-3 hours to take turns working on the educational apps, facilitated by an adult trainer. Tablets were pre-loaded with a selection of educational maths apps, specifically designed for a sub-Saharan audience and our partners find them excellent. The children grasped the technology extremely quickly and moved through the modules, assisted by the adult trainers. Our partners said, *"The apps come in two modules – one for the younger audience (3-6 years) and the older (5-8 years). The app is designed in such a way that we can track the progress of each student from week to week. Upon module completion, there is a short assessment and, if successfully completed, a virtual certificate is awarded."*



The first cohort of 12 finished the program in six months and a second cohort of 12 is about to finish the program. Our partners report that the children have loved it! They said, *"We have had such good feedback from the children – they have really enjoyed the interactive nature of the teaching, exposure to topics that may not necessarily be covered in local teaching and the opportunity to learn "touch screen" technology. The community is at the heart of this project. Now that the training has been completed, the project is being entirely delivered by the local community."*

Some more detailed follow-up and evaluation will be carried out to determine possible expansion of this pilot program into some schools in the Mbale region of eastern Uganda. Some literacy apps will also be trialled. We are pleased that the pilot program has been a resounding success – thank you for your support to trial this project. A small amount has made a big difference!