

4 WCE Distance Learning Projects: 16 January 2022

#1. Basic Digital Literacy: In too many schools in developing countries, there are “holy rooms” where computers donated by government and industry sit unused because minor repairs are needed or teachers do not know how to use these computers, especially to support student learning. WCE has a team developing distance learning materials to help support these teachers. The initial pilot will be assisted by 2 or 3 WCE volunteers in countries where we have Field Associates.

WCE Board Liaison: [Suzanne Grant Lewis](#)

Leads: [Mulugeta Assefa](#) (Ethiopia) and [Misheck Mutuzana](#) (Zambia)

“Developers”: [William Mellon](#) (Washington DC) and Phil Beder (New York City)

Intern: Jack Tripp

Elements: online coaching, additions to digital content we load, devices, G3 data bundles

Ally: [iEARN Kenya](#)

Pilot Countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, South Africa, Zambia

Status: Team recruited, project being outlined, Ally for pilot is arranged and modestly funded

#2. Refurbishing Clubs: The dual needs for employable skills for youth and the need to update computer hardware and software are being addressed in this project. WCE has clubs in high schools in the USA and Puerto Rico and is now developing clubs in several African countries and in the UAE. WCE has now formed a joint venture with [iEARN Kenya](#) that has been invited by the Kenya Ministry of Education to expand WCE clubs to 7 of their rural schools. This can be a model for other countries.

WCE Board Liaison: [Pamela Cooney](#) (Boston)

Lead: [Sila Too](#) (Kenya) and [Leroy Beldeh](#) (Liberia)

“Developers”: [Tatios Kebrab](#) (Washington DC) and [Andrew Farrugia](#) (Philadelphia)

Intern: [Alice Yu](#) (Boston)

Elements: manual, video, inventory system, online training,

Allies: U Fix It, Kenya Ministry of Education, and [iEARN Kenya](#)

Pilot Countries: Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone, UAE, USA

Status: Team recruited, materials gathered, materials piloted in USA, Ally for pilot in Africa set

#3. Inspire Girls: Girls and their mothers need to know that technology offers safe opportunities for them. Studies show far fewer girls than boys place a priority on computer science. WCE is addressing a number of cultural obstacles to greater female engagement. They are good enough for technology!

WCE Board Liaison: [Ayesha Hassan](#)

Leads: [Lindiwe Ellen Pilime](#) (Zimbabwe) and [Jane Peters](#) (Sierra Leone)

“Developers”: [Sylvia Swinson](#) (Washington DC) and [Gwendolyn Collins](#) (Washington DC)

Intern: Jack Tripp

Options: videos, clubs, games, content, mentors, advocacy, lower computer costs, teacher fellowships

Ally: [iEARN Kenya](#)

Pilot Countries: Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Mali, Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone, USA, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Status: Team working, several products developed, proposal being outlined, proposal to be submitted by March 1st, Ally for pilot is set and modestly funded - needs concept for them to pilot for proof of concept.

[Survey](#) of priorities for options

#4. Online Coding Bootcamps: Youth in developing countries are given transferable skills and employment opportunities when they learn the computational thinking needed to code. WCE is piloting bootcamps in six African countries, working with [Computer Science for All - Puerto Rico](#), and hosting a “[Family Code Night](#)” event for parents and children aged 6-12 across Africa starting in January.

WCE Board Liaison: [Timothy Anderson](#) (Boston)

Leads: [Sila Too](#) (Kenya) and [Nontobeko Madonsela](#) (South Africa)

“Developers”: [Tanha Kabir](#) (Seattle) and [Walter Ortiz](#) (Costa Rica)

Intern: [Bella Leigh](#)

Elements: online coaches, software, devices, data packages, video

Ally: [Family Code Night](#) [MOU](#) [Webpage](#)

Pilot Countries: Kenya, Liberia, Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia

Status: Team built, 2 pilots run, next 3 pilots ready, Ally for Africa family coding made