

# CEEWA-Uganda ICT Project Partnership with Rural Community Telecentres

CEEWA-Uganda ICT Project works closely in partnership with Community multimedia and Information Centres to promote use and application of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the rural communities for economic empowerment. These include **Buwama Community Multipurpose Community Centre (BCMC)**, **Iganga Computer and Resource Centre (ICRC)**, **DAMKAT Business and Computer Training Institute** and **The Source of Life Resource Centre and Café** (The Source)

CEEWA-Uganda and her partners are convinced that the coordinated contribution of various partners can achieve greater impact on communities specifically women. The partnership is committed to address;

- a) Unequal opportunities of access by different groups such as women, youth, men, farmers
- b) Unequal distribution of infrastructure in different areas.
- c) Differences in costs for the services between different areas.
- d) Disparities in skills needed to effectively utilize ICTs.
- e) Sustainability of community telecentres and information centres

## **Buwama Community Multipurpose Community Centre (BCMC)**

### **Background:**

Buwama Multimedia Community Center is located in central Uganda approximately 80 Km south of Kampala along a major high way and off Buwama trading center. Buwama Sub County is located in Mpigi District a typical rural area with farming as the major economic activity.

BCMC is one of the Two Acacia Community Multipurpose Pilot Telecentres started in 1999 to support and promote application of information communication technologies for economic empowerment of rural communities.

### **Vision:**

To fight rural poverty through sharing, exchange, and dissemination of information using ICTs.

### **Mission Statement:**

To provide access and promote application of modern information communication technologies, learning resources and indigenous knowledge to stimulate and build local capacity for sustainable rural development.

### **Philosophy:**

Building structures for information roads to un-reached grassroots rural person

### **The overall aim of the project:**

The overall aim of the project is to stimulate rural development by facilitating access to information, learning resources, communication technologies in the community.

### **Objectives:**

1. To stimulate and accelerate capacity for the community to access local ,national and global information resources:
2. To generate local information and knowledge from resources available within the community
3. To utilize information and Telecentre databases for rural community development
4. To Impart skills in information searching including the use of modern information technologies to rural communities

5. To Provide accelerated methods of diagnosis problems and prescription of solution to rural communities in their activities using information and communication technology

#### **Communities served by the centre:**

The Centre targets women, farmers, youth and the marginalized groups, like the people with disability, the business community, local leaders, researchers, NGOs and CBOs and students in the catchment areas, and other organizations. Services have been delivered to these different targets and benefits have been documented for supplementary references by new projects in the country.

#### **Services offered:**

##### **1. Content development**

Apart from communication services, the telecentre is involved in providing information services. Access to information is the overriding services in the project design, which communities must access with out exclusion. An effort has been done to develop appropriate and relevant information to the community.

##### **2. Community outreach:**

In the out reach program, the telecentre takes ICTs to bridge the information gap between information sources and end users (people in their communities and markets) to be able to disseminate information. This increases access, use and application of ICTs for enterprise development.

##### **3. Buwama Community Radio:**

In early 2008, UNESCO donated a radio to the centre which is used as a platform to disseminate information related to community information needs such as Agriculture, market information, Health, Education, Gender issues and other development programs in the community.

##### **4. Secretarial and other services:**

All secretarial services are offered at BCMC at a user fee to ensure that telecentre can maintain the services and meet the operational costs. Other services offered include: Computer Training in office applications, binding, typing and printing, Community radio, photocopy, video shows, Print library and information dissemination on community notice boards.



**Beneficiaries attend a computer class at BCMC**

#### **Management structure:**

The telecentre operates six days a week and twelve hours a day. It has a manager, responsible for daily operations of the center assisted by two volunteer's .The local management committee, which is responsible for over seeing the running of the center (LMC).Their role includes monitoring and decision making on issues that affect the Telecenter services.

#### **For more information Contact:**

Semwogere Robert, Manager Buwama CMC, P.O. Box 163, Buwama-Mpigi, Tel: +256-77-4307556  
Email: [simurobert@yahoo.com](mailto:simurobert@yahoo.com)

## Iganga Computer and Resource Centre (ICRC)



Iganga Computer and Resource Centre is located in Iganga Town along Iganga Main Street, Iganga district in the south eastern region of Uganda. It was established in the year-2005 as a Non Governmental Organization by Action for Artists in Development.

ICRC is designed into a dual purpose Centre with a business mission on one hand to provide business training services, information and ICT services to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) within Iganga district. ICRC also has a community support mission mainly focusing at empowering the girl child to acquire skills in information technology and promote education opportunities and networking among the communities & the outside world in socio-economic issues with the support of Rotary Club.



**Power of partnerships: CEEWA beneficiaries in Bulowoza parish get access to safe water through ICRC by protecting 5 wells. In pictures a well under construction and after**

The major MSME business areas are: Business and ICT training, computer training, Internet services, secretarial services as well as consultancy/business advisory services.

### **Vision:**

To be the leading fully-fledged Centre for business development services in Iganga district by year 2010.

### **Mission:**

To promote Community Empowerment through development of Life skills.

### **Core value:**

As a Rotary club partner ICRC's core value is to serve above self

### **Objectives:**

- To promote the development of the private sector through training women and men entrepreneurs in productive entrepreneurial, business and ICT skills.
- To network with other like-minded organizations to enable the underserved sections of society access and utilize ICTs for socio-economic development through effective mobilization and utilization of available resources.
- To provide gender sensitive business development services to Iganga community.

### **Services offered:**

ICRC offers a range of products namely;

- Community services including sanitation and hygiene, safe water in schools and communities, micro projects for villages.
- Computer training for a girl child, women and general public
- Business and entrepreneurship training
- Internet services and Email
- Secretarial services



**Zabina & Fatuma demonstrating to a CEEWA field staff how a groundnut Huller donated by ICRC to CEEWA beneficiaries in Bulamagi sub county works**

**For more information Contact:**

Ms Njoro Ellie  
Plot 60A Main Street Iganga,  
P.O BOX 473 Iganga,

Tel: +256-77-2618309, E-mail: [ellienjoro@yahoo.com](mailto:ellienjoro@yahoo.com) or [igangacomputer.resourcecenter@yahoo.com](mailto:igangacomputer.resourcecenter@yahoo.com)



## Damkat Business and Computer Training Institute (DBCTI)

### **Background:**

Damkat Business and Computer Training Institute is located at Nansana town council 10km away from Kampala city along Hoima road opposite Nansana Community Market. Damkat DBCTI was founded as a private company in 2001. The Centre is surrounded by a busy community that is engaged mainly in small-scale trade. In the neighborhood are a number of private Secondary schools, Community Based Organizations, Local government administration units, business set ups, which positions DBCTI into a strategic Centre with a potential customer catchment area.

### **Vision:**

To be the leading one-stop-centre for business development services in Wakiso district by year 2010

### **Mission:**

To provide quality business training and information services on a sustainable basis to Nansana community, Wakiso district.

### **Objectives:**

1. To promote the development of the private sector through training women and men entrepreneurs in productive entrepreneurial, business and ICT skills.
2. To provide gender sensitive business development services to Nansana community-Nabweru sub-county at affordable price.
3. To network with other like-minded organizations to enable the underserved sections of society access and utilize ICTs for socio-economic development through effective mobilization and utilization of available resources. 0

### **Services offered:**

Today, owing to increasing awareness of the importance of Information as a resource in promoting enterprise development, the demand for computer and Internet applications by both urban and peri urban communities within Nansana Township and the surrounding areas is increasing.

Having observed the changing trend among its clients from mere need to learn how to use ICTs towards the desire to learn how to apply and utilize technologies to foster enterprise growth, DBCTI diversified services and products including:

- Computer training
- Business and entrepreneurship training
- Secretarial services
- Internet services and Email
- IT services (Computer maintenance and Local Area Network installations)
- Consultancy and business advisory services

**For more information Contact:**

Alex Wasswa

Nansana-Hoima Road, Opposite Nansana Town Council Market

P.O BOX 5634 Kampala

Tel: +256-41-4533147 or +256-77-2485992, Fax: +256-41-4533147, E-mail: [damkat@infocom.co.ug](mailto:damkat@infocom.co.ug)



## The Source of Life Resource Centre and Café (The Source)

### Services offered and projects:

- Computer training
- Secretarial services
- Internet services and Email
- Crafts shop
- Library with resource information on a variety of areas
- Coffee shop
- Restaurant
- The Source and Kibo Group with "The Muvule (Mahogany) Tree Project". The project is driven by a Greek proverb "A civilization flourishes when people plant trees under whose shade they will never sit". The Muvule tree seedlings are distributed to organized groups to conserve the environment.
- The Source started a water project for communities to access safe water with the aim of tackling river blindness which is rampant in Busoga sub region. It started with churches and supported by sister churches and families outside Uganda.

### For more information Contact:

Mr. Lazarus Wogoli

Manager

The Source of Life Resource Centre and Café

Jinja Main Street

P. O. Box 243 Jinja

Tel: +256-43-120911 or +256-77-2687554

Email: [lazarus@source.co.ug](mailto:lazarus@source.co.ug)