One Laptop per Pacific Child
Better Basic Education for Oceania

Michael Hutak, OLPC Regional Director, Oceania
1. One Laptop per Child
Vision
Who

• Global non-profit association
• MIT Media Lab First project Dakar in 1982
• XO prototype launched WEF in Davos in 2005.
• First XO deployment Feb ‘07
• Mass production starts Nov ‘07
• 1.2m units produced
• Projects in 31 countries in 19 languages
Why
Global policy touchstones

1990  Convention on the Rights of the Child
2000  Dakar Framework on Education for All
2000  Millennium Development Goals
      (esp. MDG 2 – universal primary education)
2005  WSIS
      Tunis Commitment to bridge the digital divide,
2005-14
      Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
2. One Laptop per Pacific Child
Pacific context

• c. 1.7m children aged 6-12
• Six of the world’s Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
• 40% 6-12yos attend no school
• In PNG: 1.1m 6-12yos, 50% attend no formal school
PICT project drivers

- Political Leadership
- Sufficient Planning
- Coordinated Deployment
Principles for community deployment

- The XO Laptop should be deployed through a process of community consultation; should only proceed with assent of the entire community, taking account of their needs and concerns; and should be fully integrated into existing systems and tools.

- Without compromising child education, access to the XO Laptop should be available not just for the child, but the family and the community.

- Communities should develop their own principles and guidance for coordinating communal use of the XO Laptop.

- Where appropriate, children should be included and encouraged to actively participate in using the technology for whole-of-community actions and projects.

- The technology should be available to contribute to community efforts and solve community problems and not be leveraged for private personal profit or commercial gain.

- Knowledge and data generated with the laptop is in the public domain, and needs to be freely available and shared.
Principles for community deployment (cont)

• Without discouraging community-level market activity which support sustainability – such as microfinance, technical services, spare parts repairs and maintenance – communities should put in place disincentives to the emergence of a secondary commercial market for the XO.

• Communities should share local knowledge, best practices and lessons learned with like communities and within their sub-regional, national and regional contexts.

• Deployment should, wherever possible, proceed in alignment and harmony with existing regional and national efforts on education for sustainable development, and should be designed to strengthen and enhance those efforts.

• An "end of life" program should be put in place to recover derelict laptops to avoid environmental damage and hazard.

• An Internet Safety program should be established wherever the XO is deployed.

  - Developed for further discussion at OLPC Asia Learning Workshop, Bangkok and SPC, August 2008
Pacific policy milestones

2007  Pacific Plan, Pacific Islands Forum
       Pacific Regional Digital Strategy, PIF
2008  16th ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Port Moresby
2009  Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum, Tonga
       Forum Education Ministers Meeting, Tonga
       Pacific Plan Action Committee
       PIF Leaders Meeting, Cairns
2007: PIF Pacific Plan and OLPC

In their Communique, Pacific leaders noted:

“the potential utility of the One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) initiative and the need for education authorities ... to assess the priority to be accorded to it in their countries as a tool for education and disseminating information to rural and remote communities...”
2008: OLPC and SPC/PIFS partnership

• OLPC Inc. donates 5000 XO laptops to Pacific (USD 1m), appoints Oceania rep
• With PIFS guidance, SPC deploys XOs according to country-led demand
• SPC Program Coord. and Expert Consultant
• 2700 units deployed in 5 PIF countries
• Oct 08, SPC approved to seek funding to continue the OLPC program
‘Every RICS site can be an OLPC hub’

- RICS/OLPC Trials mounted by SPC under the Pacific Regional Digital Strategy, agreed by 2007 PIF Leaders Meeting

- SPC’s Rural Internet Connectivity System (RICS) programme is highly complementary with OLPC.

- RICS provides the broad infrastructure to accommodate at-scale OLPC rollout in remote contexts.

- 80 RICS/OLPC sites planned for PNG by end 2009

- Regulatory, ongoing funding issues
2008 coordinated action

5 PIF countries w/ trials underway:

• Papua New Guinea (3)
• Solomon Islands (3)
• Niue*
• Nauru
• Vanuatu
2008 coordinated action

8 PIF countries w/ formal request for trials:
• Cook Islands
• Fiji
• FSM
• RMI
• Tonga
• Tuvalu
• Tokelau
• Samoa
2008/09 coordinated action

- **OLPC Friends** founded to support Pacific deployment
- **PNG Government** announces OLPC program and intention to extend trials to **25 schools in 2009**.
- **PNG Sustainable Development Program** seeks SPC assistance to run trials in **12 non-govt schools in 2009**
- **GFC impacts SPC**: fund shortfall hits OLPC program
- **ACER** sees need for credible M&E, offers to lead.
- **ITU** offers assistance with resource mobilisation
- Draft MOU to form **OLPC Technical Working Group**
TWG Lead partner roles

- **OLPC**
  - Supply chain
  - Partnership Stakeholders
  - Donor Relations
  - Policy and Strategy

- **SPC**
  - Country Assistance
  - Field Deployment
  - Ongoing support
  - NGOs, schools, communities

- **ACER**
  - M&E
  - Development, guidance, oversight

- **ITU**
  - Regional Assistance
  - Resource Mobilisation

- **Friends**
  - Volunteers, Deployment Support
  - Grass roots Community Development
  - Private Sector engagement
  - Lessons learned, best practice
2009: TWG Mission

In 2009, assess the viability of OLPC initiative in Oceania and its suitability for scaling up from 2010 to 2015.
2009: TWG Objective

• complete existing OLPC trials in 5 PIF countries and commence trials in 8 more at the request of countries.

• provide evidence and frameworks to enable PIF countries to adequately assess whether to take OLPC to scale in their countries and across the region.
TWG expected outcomes

• **credible evidence base** which donors and PIF countries can use to assess their capacity and readiness to take OLPC from trials to scale, with sustainability, from 2010;

• **monitoring and evaluation framework** and country-level M&E baseline model, each tailored to the Pacific context;

• **needs and readiness assessment** to take OLPC to scale in 13 PIF countries (PPAC)

• draft **Plan of Action** to deliver one laptop to every child in basic education across Oceania by 2015, for the consideration of PIF Leaders
TWG 2009 resource needs: USD800k

OLPC
- PNG National Stakeholders Consultation in Port Moresby in March 2009
- Stakeholder Meetings in 4 other PICTs
- Needs assessment in 8 PICTs

SPC
- Re-engage Expert Consultant to complete trials in 5 PIF countries
- Engage 2 more expert ICT field consultants for 12 months

ACER
- Develop community model for integrating M&E into existing OLPC trials in five PIF countries

ITU
- Scope systems to facilitate shipping equipment to the region
- TCO costing models and options for sustainable Resource Mobilisation

Friends
- Source qualified volunteers to support SPC’s Expert Consultant in trials in 5 PIF countries
- Engage private sector partners
There is an urgent need...

to immediately mobilise sufficient resources to complete the work begun in 2008
to meet the requests of PIF member countries and
to demonstrate progress to Pacific leaders at their next summit in Cairns, Australia, in August 2009.
We need to know...

- Will it work in the Pacific?
- Will it work in my country?
- What does my country lose or gain by finding out?
We need to know...

✓ Will it work in the Pacific?
✓ Will it work in my country?
✓ What does my country lose or gain by finding out?

We need to gather the evidence to answer these questions

We owe it to our children – and to their future – to find out
3. A Pacific model: OLPC PNG
Political leadership

“OLPC will bring enormous benefits to our children, schools and teachers and the volume of benefits if rolled out fully, will cover over 7,000 Educational Institutions from elementary to secondary schools, benefit over 1,160,000 children and 35,700 teachers... transform this country and greatly narrow the digital divide.”

Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Puka Temu

Opening Ceremony,
16th Session ACP-EU Joint Parliament Assembly,
25 November 2008
Goal: Universal Basic Education in Papua New Guinea

Target: One XO laptop for every child in Basic Education by 2015

Objectives: 1. Increase access to Basic Education
2. Increase the number of children completing Basic Education
3. Improve the quality of existing Basic Education
OLPC PNG – National Core Team

- Whole of Government approach
- Cabinet sub-committee, led at Ministerial level
- Reports to National Planning Committee

### Political Team
- Dep. Prime Min. Puka Temu
- Foreign Affairs
- National leadership
- Strategy, Policy and Partnerships
- Donor Relations

### Planning Team
- Treasury & Finance
- Physical Planning
- National Planning & Rural Development
- Community Development
- Info and Communications

- planning and project management
- identifies schools and sequence of roll-out

### Pedagogy Team
- Education
- teacher training
- content, curricula
- localisation
- monitoring & evaluation

### Logistics Team
- Public Services
- shipping, distribution, security, repairs, maintenance
- Sweat Equity

### Technical Team
- Info and Communications
- National Planning and Rural Development

- Deployment
- Infrastructure
- Power
- Communications
- Connectivity
XO comes to PNG
What can ICT ministers do?

✓ Support the concept note
✓ Help resource the TWG
✓ If there are trials underway/planned
  • get inside the loop on RICS/OLPC
  • be a driver in an whole-of-government effort
  • convene a Core National Team in your country
✓ If there no trials planned
  • engage your colleagues in education, infrastructure, energy and planning
  • request a trial program
Thank you...

http://wiki.laptop.org/go/OLPC_Oceania