

# School Connectivity Project Application Form

Administered By:



Association for Development,  
Communication and Environment

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**“Bridging IT & Education”**

Major Partner:  
MTN Foundation-Cameroon



## Brief History

The School Connectivity Project is an initiative developed by ADCOME (The Association for Development, Communication and Environment) to introduce youth to computer and information technologies that they may use later in life. Since its creation in 1999, ADCOME has actively supported sustainable community development through its educational programs and local projects. In a short time span of 4 years, ADCOME has received accolades from educational and government authorities in Cameroon and abroad for impact of the School Connectivity Project. We believe that by “Bridging IT and Education” we are making a major step towards promoting sustainable development in our communities: the School Connectivity project is the primary way in which ADCOME is trying to achieve this goal.



When ADCOME began, we focused mainly on providing IT training and services to University students and residents around Buea, in the South West Province, Cameroon. During the first few years in operation, our founder realized that the majority of our customers had little or no experience with computers before coming to us for help. IT education at the lower educational levels was virtually non-existent. As a result, ADCOME

decided to start the Computer and Internet Access Centers (CIAC) Project in 2002 by installing multimedia centers and offering computer courses in Secondary and High Schools in the Southwest Province.

In 2005, ADCOME formed a partnership with the MTN Foundation of Cameroon; our CIAC project became the MTN School Connectivity Project. With their financial support, we are in the process of installing 50 computer labs in Secondary and High Schools throughout the country. To date ADCOME has successfully established the project in 12 schools, reaching over 9500 students with plans to expand within the country and to other regions of Africa.

## Project Feedback

This is what school administrators have said about the School Connectivity Project:

*“In September 2002 ADCOME installed a Computer and Internet Access Facility in Baptist High School Buea for the students and staff use. We saw the project through its first year of existence as a milestone in modern technology in our school system. Today 900 students of Baptist High school know what computer technology and the use of computer is all about. The leadership of the Cameroon Baptist Convention and other educationists were impressed with what they saw in the centre.” – TETEVI BODYLAWSON, Former Principal, Baptist High School, Buea.*

*« Voici des commentaires par des proviseurs à propos du School Connectivity Project: Adcome a installé un Centre MultiMédia au Collège Polyvalent du Nord. Depuis Juin 2005, nous sommes branchés sur Internet grâce à un partenariat que Adcome a bien voulu établir avec MTN. Cet outil nous a permis de rendre concret le rêve de mettre nos élèves et notre personnel en phase avec les NTIC. Ce qu'il faut relever à notre sens, c'est l'apport pédagogique que cet outil apporte au personnel enseignant qui désormais très facilement se met à la pointe des dernières informations relatives à leurs cours. Encore qu'il faut relever pour s'en féliciter que Adcome a mis à la disposition du Collège un cadre formé aux NTIC qui permet à notre personnel d'être bien outillé et se familiariser avec l'outil informatique. L'essentiel des avantages que nous avons tirés*

*de cet outil est pédagogique et nous pensons permettre à nos élèves d'en bénéficier tant que faire se peut. Fier de notre partenariat avec ADCOME, nous sommes à votre écoute et ne manquerons pas de satisfaire dans la mesure du possible, notre part de responsabilités. Franche collaboration. » -Mr NJOCK Benoît, Censeur du Collège Polyvalent du Nord*

## How to become a CIAC School



Due to limited resources and the high demand for the project, all candidates must go through an application process in order to become a School Connectivity participant. We want to ensure that our labs are installed in locations that have the greatest need for IT education and have the largest potential impact in the surrounding communities. Your school must fulfill the following basic requirements to participate in the program:

- Registered as a Primary, Secondary, or High School with the Ministry of Education
- An available space large enough to accommodate a Computer Lab
- Ability to raise a small percentage of the Project Costs

If your institution meets these three requirements you may be considered a viable candidate for the project. The first step in applying to become a School Connectivity participant is to complete the brief questionnaire on the following pages. Schools that pass the first round of evaluations may be asked to supply supplementary materials to facilitate the selection process. Please send the completed form to the following address:

ADCOME  
School Connectivity Application  
P.O. Box 252  
Buea, Southwest Province  
Cameroon



If you have any questions concerning the application or would like more information about the School Connectivity project please contact us via telephone (237) 793-70-65 or email: [info@adcome.net](mailto:info@adcome.net). We look forward to reviewing your application and possibly bringing the School Connectivity project to your institution. Together by "Bridging IT and Education" we will encourage development in our schools, neighborhoods, and our country.

## Application Questions

Please respond to the following questions to the best of your ability. Feel free to expand upon your responses or include any other pertinent information concerning your application on additional pages.

1. Describe how students, teachers, and the community in general will benefit from the School Connectivity Project.

2. We require that each student is able to access the computer lab for at least one hour per week. Will your school be able to fit a computer course in the class schedule? If so, how will your school incorporate the use of the School Connectivity lab in the school curriculum?

3. This project is funded jointly by ADCOME, corporate sponsors, the school and, in some cases, the local government. How does your school intend to raise the necessary funds for maintenance of the lab? Provide a detailed plan.

\*please note that maintenance fees vary according to the school population and size of computer lab.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide a detailed plan for raising funds for the lab's maintenance. The box occupies most of the lower half of the page.

4. We install on average 1 computer per 60 students in each lab. Based on this calculation, how many computers will need to be installed at your facility? Is there available space to accommodate a lab of that size? If so, please provide a description of the proposed space (materials used in construction, dimensions, etc.).

## Project Partners

ADCOME would not be able to provide such a dynamic project without the support of others. The following is a list of organizations that have contributed to the School Connectivity Project.



The MTN Foundation in Cameroon is the main sponsor for the MTN School Connectivity Project. They have agreed to fund the construction of 50 computer labs by the year 2010 throughout Cameroon.



Global Net supplies and maintains internet service for all of the School Connectivity Labs. Their service provides students with reliable and affordable internet access which has become an important tool in their education.



The Institut Africain d'Informatique (IAI) in Yaounde supplies first class instructors for each School Connectivity Lab.