

BRIDGEIT INITIATIVE

In September 2007, the International Youth Foundation (IYF) and the Tanzania Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) launched Bridgeit Tanzania, in close partnership with the Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), Nokia, Nokia Siemens Networks, Pearson Foundation and Vodacom Foundation. Bridgeit's goal is to significantly increase the quality of teacher instruction and achievement among primary school boys and girls in math, science, and life skills through the innovative use of cell phone and digital technology. The Bridgeit project in Tanzania is a replication of a successful project in the Philippines known as *text2teach*. Locally, the Bridgeit Tanzania project is known as *Elimu kwa Teknolojia* (or ET), which means "Education through Technology." This two-year project is supported through a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and is working in the following seven regions: Lindi, Mtwara, Pwani, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Dodoma and Kilimanjaro.



Elimu kwa Teknolojia

a BRIDGEIT program

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Bridgeit has three key objectives:

- To launch and expand Bridgeit in Tanzania and integrate it into the education system, at low cost;
- To improve teacher performance, quality of teacher/student interaction, teaching and learning in the classroom; and
- To increase learning gains among standard 5 and 6 students with a particular emphasis on girls. During this two-year "pilot" project, Bridgeit will reach a minimum of 600 primary school teachers and a minimum of 10,000 primary school girls and boys (with at least 50% girls) in 150 Tanzanian public schools.

RESULTS TO DATE

- 40,402 students reached and 1,544 teachers trained;
- Program operating in 150 schools;
- 20 teachers trained as life skills trainers on IYF's Passport to Success life skills program in 20 pilot schools;
- Participatory teacher's guide, 126 videos, and 131 learner-center lesson plans developed and distributed to each school.

APPROACH

Bridgeit Tanzania brings together a dynamic public-private sector alliance that leverages technical assistance and in-kind support from key partners. In close collaboration with these partners, the project adapts and creates mathematics, science and life skills videos and establishes the necessary technological infrastructure for teachers to access the content in their classrooms. Bridgeit also trains teachers and provides them with comprehensive teacher's guides and learner-centered lesson plans in order to enhance student-teacher interactions, ensure student participation, and guide the teachers on how to effectively use and integrate the videos.

"From my side, Elimu kwa Teknolojia is the one of the nicest projects implemented in the education sector in our country. The teachers benefit by having extra teaching materials and the students benefit by seeing the real picture of what the teacher is talking about."

—School Inspector



HOW IT WORKS

Teachers download video content through Nokia N95 cellular phones, which are connected to TVs in their classrooms where the students and teachers view the videos. Videos are paired with participatory lesson plans which together enable teachers to actively engage students in the math and science content. The project allows remote schools and communities to access a vast range of educational content, which children do not otherwise receive because they lack textbooks and other classroom resources.

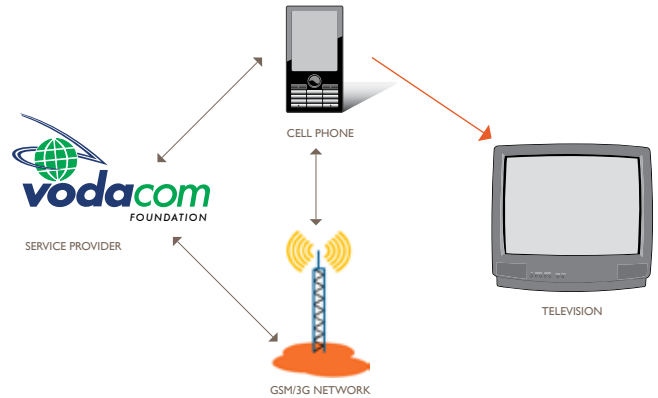
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BRIDGEit TECHNOLOGY



“Part of what makes Elimu kwa Teknolojia so compelling is the coming together of multi-sector partners around a common goal. This leveraging of resources and expertise will enable us to reach greater numbers of young people with quality educational materials through a relatively low-cost delivery system.”

—Honorable Professor Jumanne A. Maghembe, Minister,
Tanzania Ministry of Education and Vocational Training

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