



ICIP member, James Wire of LinuxSolutions, configures and deploys new Inveneo systems in a school in Uganda.

The Inveneo Certified ICT Partner Program

Bringing Information and Communications Technology Access to Rural Africa

Today, more than two billion people live in rural and remote areas of developing countries where access to communications is severely limited by availability and/or affordability. Inveneo's goal is to provide sustainable ICT solutions for organizations that serve these marginalized communities.

However, information and communications technologies are only truly sustainable when they are affordable and can be serviced and supported locally. The Inveneo Certified ICT Partner (ICIP) program recruits, trains, and certifies in-country ICT partners in the design, installation and support of rural ICT solutions and provides them with the technical and business support they need to help accelerate ICT access among rural communities.

The ICIP program is designed to create an ecosystem of skilled local professionals and local ICT companies who can help Inveneo expand ICT access for people and organizations in rural and remote communities. The program includes recruitment, training and certification of in-country IT technology entrepreneurs can then sell, deploy, and support the Inveneo ICT solutions. Once certified, ICIP partners retain 100 percent of fees charged for service and support.

This training and certification program consists of written documentation and hands-on training which culminates in an advanced certification. For those who qualify, Inveneo offers training and certification on Inveneo systems; access to Inveneo technologies for resale; revenue opportunities for equipment sales and deployment, installation, and support services to as many as three people in their organization.

To Qualify as an ICIP

To qualify for the ICIP program, entrepreneurs must be in the ICT business in the country where they want to operate—typically our partners have between 2 and 20 people in their company. Some are ISPs or run Internet cafes, others sell computers or technology.

Potential partners must have deep experience in three of the following areas:

- IT networking
- Long-distance wireless (WiFi) IT networking
- VoIP, enterprise level and experience with IP-PBX's
- Alternate power - battery/solar/generator systems
- Linux/Open Source

For more information or to become an Inveneo Certified ICT Partner, please contact: itpartners@inveneo.org

The ICIP Training Program

The ICIP training curriculum focuses on design, deployment and support of rural ICT systems. Training covers five key solution areas: IT networking, long-distance wireless (WiFi) networking, Linux/Open Source desktop and network management, VoIP system design, and power solutions. Inveneo is partnering with the Center to Bridge the Digital Divide at Washington State University (<http://cbdd.wsu.edu/>) to develop a high-impact, open-source curriculum based on technical input from Inveneo.

The instruction will be classroom-based and hands-on. The classroom training will cover theory, problem solving, and specific technology solutions and options. This is followed by participation in an actual solution deployment. This approach helps to ensure that program graduates have high confidence in their own ability and are fully prepared to install and support these systems upon certification.

What Inveneo ICT Partners Offer

Inveneo Certified ICT Partners understand and can deliver:

- ICT system integration and networking
- Alternative power sources and management
- System deployment and maintenance
- End-user support and administrator training

- Open Source software support and maintenance
- Hardware support and maintenance
- WiFi deployment and support

About Inveneo

Inveneo is a non-profit social enterprise whose mission is to get the tools of information and communications technology into the hands of organizations and people who need them most—those in remote and rural communities in the developing world. For more than two billion people living in these communities, gaining access to ICT—either directly or via service organizations—can transform their lives in simple

yet profound ways. Access to ICT can help save lives (through rural health care), provide better economic opportunities (for farmers and entrepreneurs) and provide a better future for children (through better education).

To date, Inveneo has projects completed or underway in Uganda, Rwanda, Ghana, Mali, Guinea Bissau and Burkina Faso. These projects serve schools (50%), economic development groups, telecenters, microfinance programs, and relief camps in 66 communities. They will reach people, directly or indirectly, with life-changing ICTs. Our goal is to serve over thousands communities in the next three years.



Inveneo Certified ICT Partner, Norbert Okec (in the red and white shirt) at a site survey in an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp near Gulu in northern Uganda.



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