

Connecting Those Who Need It Most



James Wire of Inveneo Certified ICT Partner, Linux Solutions, installs a long-range WiFi antenna at the Millennium Villages Project in Ruhira, Uganda.

 **inveneo**®

Getting the tools of ICT into remote and rural areas of the developing world



Long-range WiFi antenna at the Coope IDP camp, Uganda.

More than 2 billion people in the developing world live in rural and remote communities that lack basic access to information and communications technologies, such as computing, Internet access, and telephony.

Access to these technologies, directly or via local organizations, can improve their lives in simple yet profound ways, such as:

- Help save lives (rural healthcare)
- Provide better economic opportunities (agriculture, market access)
- Improve capacity for relief organizations (logistics, monitoring/reporting)
- Offer a better future for children (education)

Our Mission

Inveneo is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit social enterprise, which means that we operate like a business with a social mission. Our social mission is to get the tools of information communications technology (ICT), such as computers, telephony, and Internet access to those who need it most – people and organizations in rural and highly underserved communities of the developing world.

Based on three years of successful implementations throughout rural Africa, we have developed the expertise to match the most relevant technology (hardware, software, power), implementation, and support services to each situation and the unique challenges these organizations face. These challenges include:

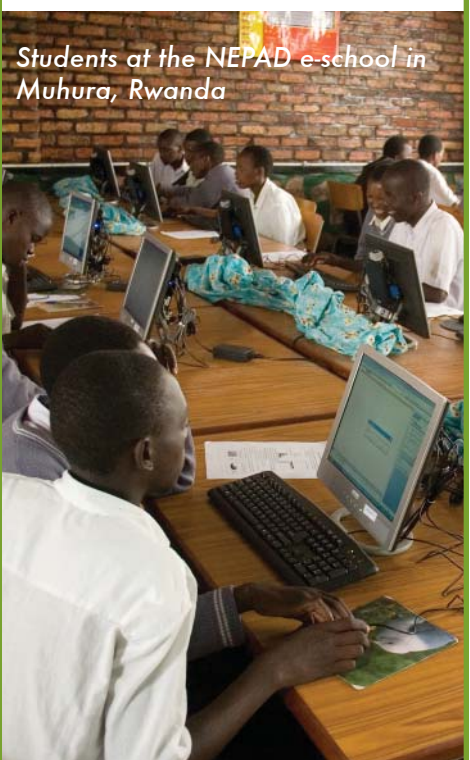
- Lack of dependable – or any – electricity
- Extremely high power costs
- Punishing conditions for ICTs – extreme heat, dust, moisture, and humidity
- Lack of affordable access to Internet
- Novice users and administrators
- Expensive, inappropriate, or inaccessible solutions
- Lack of professional IT support

Today, Inveneo has a rapidly growing network of certified local IT professionals in country, who can implement and support projects in rural and remote communities affordably and effectively.

Our History

In 2004, after working on a volunteer project in a remote community, co-founders Mark Summer, Kristin Peterson, and Bob Marsh realized that the technology existed to deliver better communications to remote and rural communities. Applying a Silicon Valley business model, Inveneo was born as a social enterprise dedicated to delivering information and communications technologies to the hardest-to-reach places in ways that are sustainable, scalable, and easy to support by local entrepreneurs.

Based on our first trial in Uganda in 2005, Inveneo proceeded to launch our first hardware and software solution in 2006. In 2007 we launched the Inveneo Certified ICT Partner (ICIP) program. Together with our 38 trained partners in 13 countries, we have deployed solutions for more than 250 communities, serving directly or indirectly over 700,000 people in 22 countries.



Students at the NEPAD e-school in Muhura, Rwanda

Providing expertise, technology, & infrastructure to serve the underserved

How Inveneo pursues its mission

To achieve our mission, we serve organizations that provide vital education, healthcare, economic development, and relief services to these communities.

In order to deliver the most sustainable ICT solutions for these organizations, we are building a network of in-country entrepreneurs who we recruit, train, and certify to provide local project leadership, installation and ongoing support. Inveneo and our partners now provide professional services to deliver turnkey solutions, which can range from a basic site survey, installation and support to complete project design, software and hardware systems integration and project management.

Providing Expertise

Inveneo can provide expert guidance for implementing highly sustainable ICT

projects. Our needs-based approach focuses on the goals of the organization and its end-users. We assess the current environment including facilities, power, and connectivity as well as other factors like security and user know-how.

We identify approaches that address challenges such as undependable electricity, tight operating budgets, and lack of support resources. We also develop plans for implementation that are designed for and agreed upon by the organization.

Design and integration of software and hardware solutions

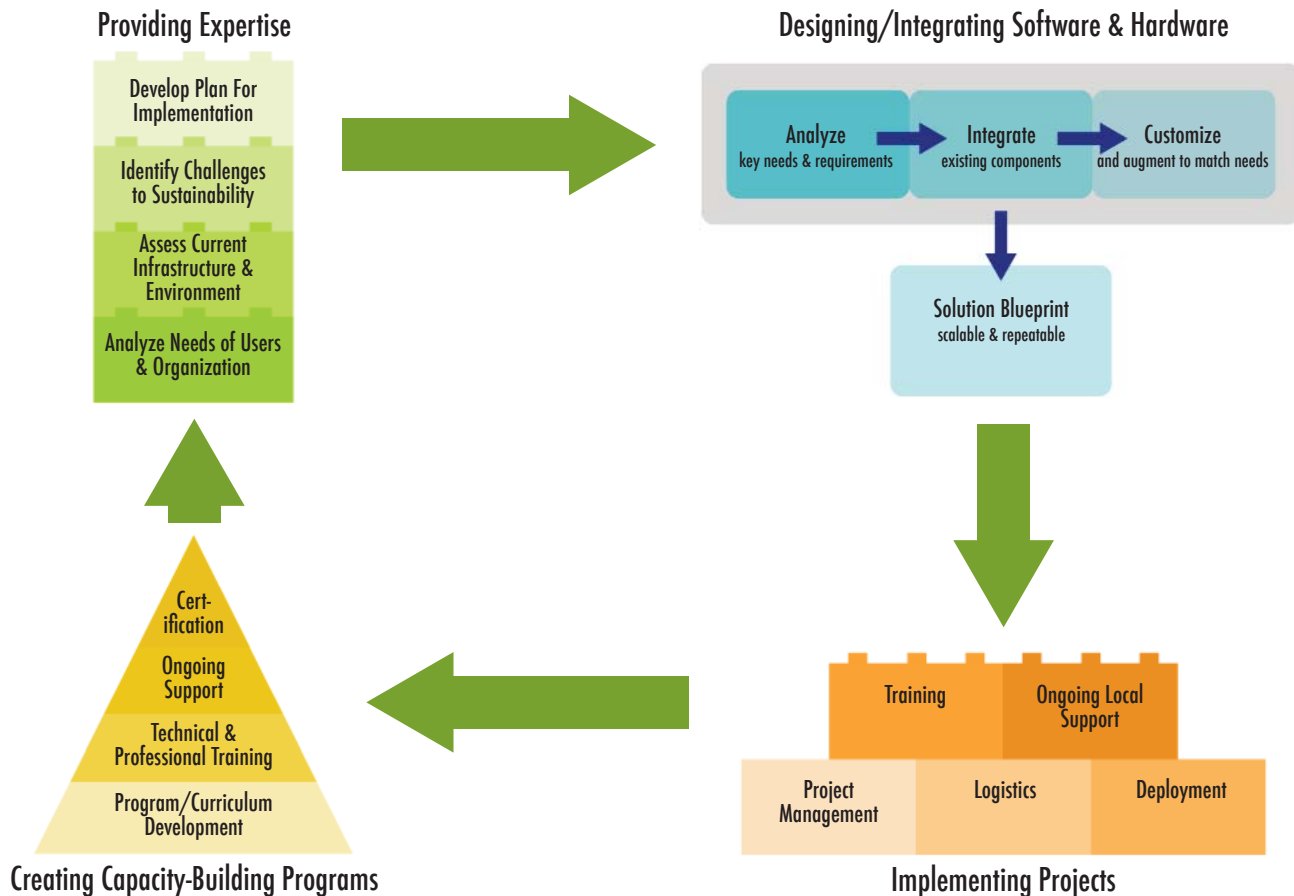
Inveneo identifies, tests, certifies, and in some cases designs software and hardware infrastructure solutions to address the unmet needs for ICTs in low-resource environments in the developing world. We integrate existing

software and hardware components to deliver repeatable and scalable solutions. These solutions range from ultra-low power computers and servers to desktops configured for shared computing environments running open source operating systems. We also design custom hardware systems for specific applications. The result is a solution blueprint that can be implemented in a scalable and replicable way by Inveneo or others.

Implementation of ICT projects

Inveneo and its growing network of certified partners are available to provide highly skilled implementation of projects. We provide project management for the complete implementation: planning projects, shipping and clearing equipment, installation networks, training administrators, and providing ongoing support.

How Inveneo delivers highly sustainable solutions



Building the human capacity to make the technology affordable and sustainable

Capacity building programs

In addition to designing and integrating affordable and highly sustainable ICTs for rural and underserved communities, Inveneo develops and implements long-term capacity building programs such as the Inveneo Certified ICT Partner (ICIP) Program. The development of this program, along with the implementation of training programs, are key components that form the basis for increasing the affordability and availability of ICTs in low-resource environments.

Inveneo Certified ICT Partner Program

The key to long-term sustainability and affordability resides in Inveneo's ability to build local capacity through the Inveneo Certified ICT Partner (ICIP) program. In each country where we work Inveneo recruits, trains, and certifies local ICIPs. These in-country entrepreneurs generate their own revenue by providing installation and support, improving the affordability and levels of

local support dramatically. At the same time, these new ICIP revenue opportunities build the local ICT economy organically, providing increased opportunity for the people in each community.

Inveneo Certified ICT Solutions

In 2009, Inveneo introduced the first line of Inveneo Certified third-party products and solutions. Inveneo Certified products and solutions are chosen because of their specific ability to be easily sustainable in challenging environments. These features include:

- Affordable pricing
- Very low power consumption
- Ability to run on 12VDC power
- Operability in dusty, humid and hot environments
- Simplicity of installation and use
- Optimal size and weight to limit shipping costs
- Availability of warranty
- Microsoft and Linux operating systems compatibility

Inveneo's Social Impact

Inveneo strives to make a positive impact in the world by creating open, relevant, ICTs systems with scalable in-country support networks. For us, it's about results.

Since 2006, Inveneo and our Certified ICT Partners have delivered solutions to more than 250 communities in 22 countries, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa. There are now 38 Inveneo Certified ICT Partners in 13 countries, and we are on track to grow our network to as many as 50 partners in Africa and Asia in 2009. By the end of 2009, Inveneo and our partners will have brought access to life-changing ICTs to more than 1,000,000 people in rural and underserved areas of the developing world.



972 Mission Street, Fifth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103 USA
www.inveneo.org

Phone: +1.415.901.1969x1250
Fax: +1.415.449.6073

Information: info@inveneo.org
Sales: sales@inveneo.org
Press: press@inveneo.org
ICT Partners: itpartners@inveneo.org

Local Partner Information