



Advisor:
Prof. Laura Hosman

Students:
Regine Antenor
Mario Berrones
Simon Brauer
Stephanie Brummer
Jacob Ernst
Brandon Hammond
Erik Harpstead
Annie Hutches
Dhara Shah
Hana Tai
Ryan Tillman

IPRO 335

One Laptop Per Child- Haiti

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+ The Problem

- The One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) project provides laptops to developing countries to enrich children's education through technology.
- In 2009 Haiti received 11,000 donated XO laptops.
- However, 95% of Haiti's primary schools have no electricity.



+ Our Project Goals



■ Implementation Trip in May of 2011

- Raising money
- Completing a Design
- Acquiring Materials
- Creating an Educational Component
- Planning for Continuity

+ Organization of Our Team

■ We divided our tasks into five main initiatives:

- Solar Committee
- PR Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Model Making Committee
- Educational Component Committee

■ Each initiative has a dedicated set of members assigned to it but the entire group can be mobilized to address any specific issue as necessary.



+ Progress Toward Goals

■ Solar Committee

- Specifications and rough designs (bill of materials/diagrams)
- More concrete budget estimate

■ PR Committee

- Written Tech News articles, contacted numerous PR outlets, e.g. Chicago Tribune
- Compiled a list of NGOs that have not used all of the donated money
- Strategic marketing plan to external organizations

■ Fundraising Committee

- Has collaborated with the Greek Community on campus for fundraising efforts
- Has 3 more fundraisers planned
- Identified targets and started grant-writing process
- Initiated alternative methods for fundraising



+ Progress Toward Goals

- Model Making Committee
 - Made massing models
 - Decided on materials and scale of models
- Educational Component Committee
 - Decided on what topics to cover
 - Solar powering
 - Natural disaster preparedness and response
 - Have contacted elementary schools in US for content and to present to students





Major Obstacles Encountered



- Solar Committee
 - Determining whether or not an adjustable system would be cost effective
- PR Committee
 - Having a hard time making direct contact with PR outlets, NGOs & other organizations
 - How to market ourselves to be more attractive to these organizations
- Fundraising Committee
 - \$37,000 is a lot of money to raise
- Model Making Committee
 - The models need to be robust and able to travel
- Educational Component Committee
 - Difficult finding ways to simplify technical information to present to primary students
 - It is a long process to get feedback from the teachers at the schools that we are working with





Anticipated Major Challenges



- Reaching goal of raising \$37,000 in one semester
- Getting solar panels donated
- Getting the materials to the schools
 - Shipping
 - Customs
- Making the prototype something that becomes reproduced throughout all of Haiti
- Ensuring teaching materials are adopted into the curriculum and become sustainable





Our Needs



- Our needs include the following:
 - Solar equipment to test the model
 - Local expert on solar power system design
 - Funds for purchasing equipment and for making the installation trip



+ Questions?

