

# IPRO 335: Developing Technology to Improve Education In Haiti

## The Challenge

Most schools in Haiti have no source of electricity. In 2008, Haiti received a donation of 11,000 laptops to improve quality of education. Our partner schools in Lascahobas received laptops in 2009 as they were one of the few towns receiving grid electrical power. Unfortunately, the grid hasn't been functional since the devastating earthquake of Jan. 2010, and these schools, and over 1,000 children who already have laptops, now have no way to charge them, rendering the technology virtually useless.



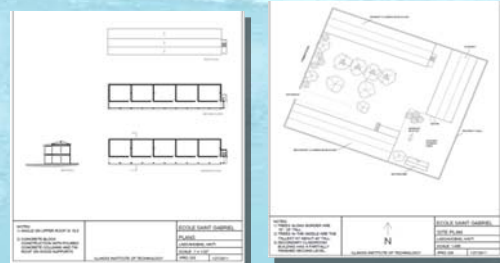
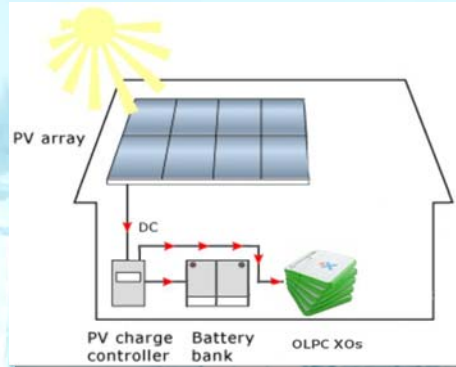
## Our Approach

We are designing an affordable, replicable solar powering solution for the schools, so the laptops can be used again. We are also developing educational curriculum on solar energy, to raise awareness among teachers, students, and the community. We will install our solar solution at two pilot schools, and are working with engineering students, the State University, and Ministry of Education, building both capacities and a business case for the solution to be implemented nation-wide.

## Team Progress

### Solar Team:

- Finalized specifications for each school
- Created diagrams for each school
- Created mini-models of pilot schools



### Fundraising Team

- Held multiple events on-campus
- Rotary Presentation
- Coordinated with IIT Greek Community
- Applied for numerous grants

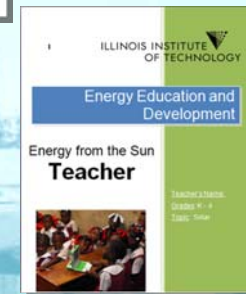
### Public Relations Team

- Article in Chicago Tribune.
- Featured on Engineering 4 Change site
- Contact with numerous organizations working in Haiti
- Upkeep of the website



### Education & Community Outreach Team

- Lesson plans for solar energy education, including:
  - How solar energy works
  - The benefits of clean energy
  - Electricity safety
- Created Solar maintenance plan
- Created baseline survey



## Moving Forward

### Implementation Trip & Beyond

- Continue to Secure Funding
- Install solar solution in two schools.
- Collaborate with teachers on lesson plans
- Host community meetings, training, & maintenance sessions
- Administer baseline survey to collect data
- Develop a plan with our partners in Haiti to ensure the continuity and scalability of the project