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# BOOTSTRAPPING OLPC DEPLOYMENT IN RWANDA

Reflections of 3 months of work in 15 minutes

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# About Rwanda

- Rwanda is small country in East Africa
- with ~10M inhabitants, it's the biggest density in Africa
- Economy is mostly based in agriculture with coffee and tea as main exportation products
- the country is usually remembered by the 1994 genocide where more than 1M people lost their lives



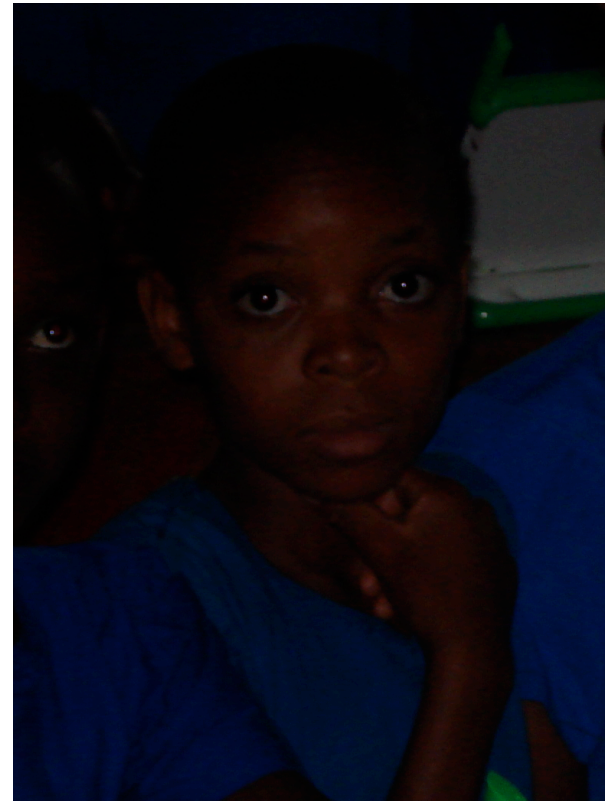
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# Education

- Educational system is divided in primary, pre-secondary and secondary schools
- Primary education is free and most of the kids are enrolled into school
- Most of people only goes to primary school since there aren't enough secondary schools
- Primary School goes from 1st to 6th grades
- Trilingual program
- Big lack of resources



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# Schools

- Infrastructure of the schools and classrooms is very limited
- Primary education is free and most of the kids are enrolled into school
- Average of 1500 students per school but can go up to 5k
- 70 per classroom but can reach 100 in the countryside
- high drop out rate after 3rd grade
- 4% of the schools “have” electricity







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# Government

- President Kagame himself is the main supporter of the project
- The Minister of State in charge of Primary and Secondary Education, Mr. Théoneste is our main champion
- The project ownership belongs mainly to the Ministry of Education
- Our main point of contact is the Project Coordinator, Richard Niyonkuru

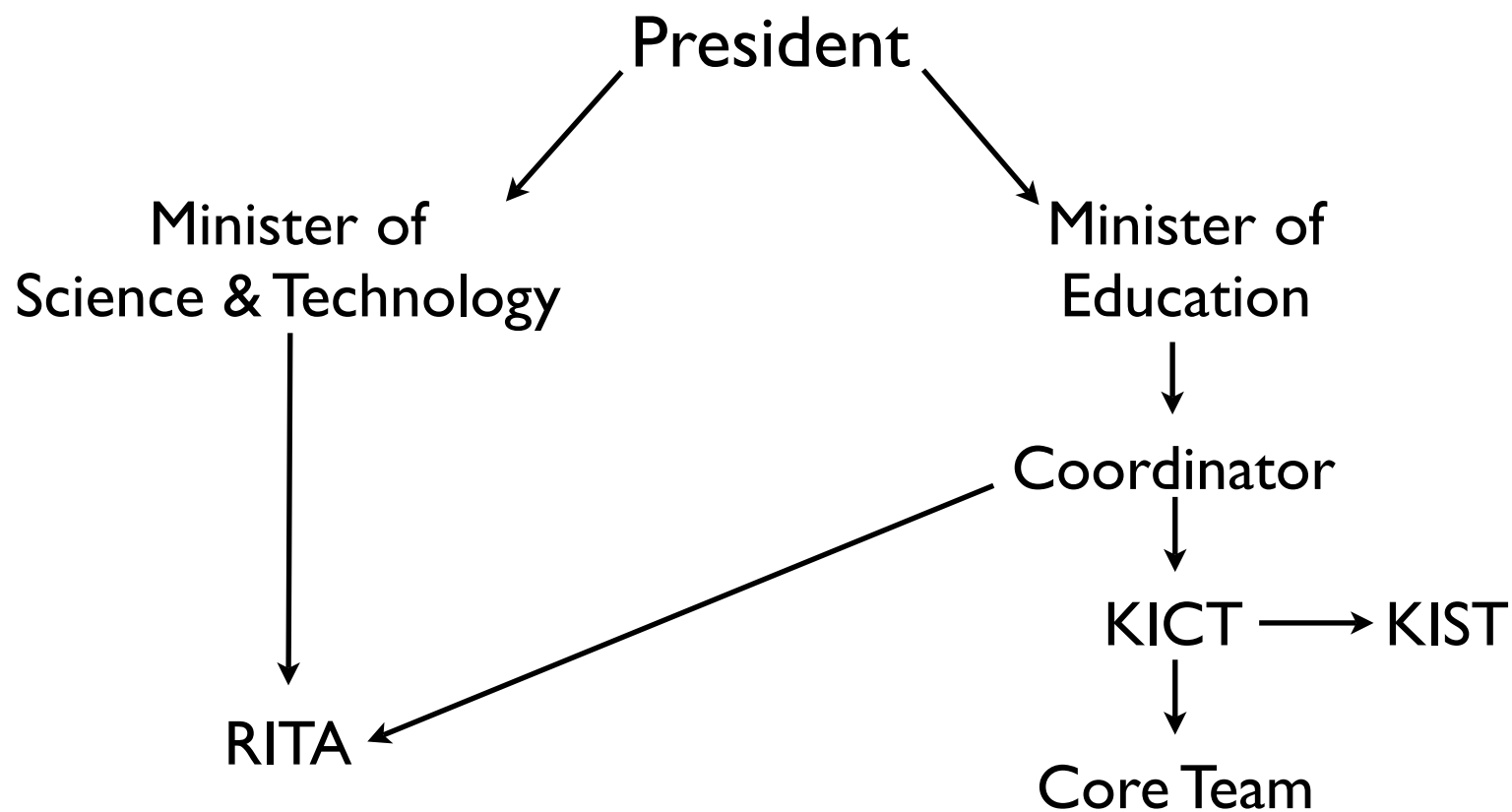


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# Government





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# Deployment

- Rwanda has 5k XO's in the country. Other 5k should arrive in November.
- ~4600 are already in the hands of students and teachers
- The deployment went to 3 schools: Rwamagana (800), Nonko (750) and Kagugu (3050)
- Kagugu has Internet (vSat) and Wireless network. The other schools don't. No servers are installed.





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# Our Work

- Team: Juliano (3 months), Silvia (1 month and a half) and Brian (3 weeks)
- Develop local technical capacity of the core team and depth their experience about learning and computers
- Support the project coordinator and other decision makers on planing
- Create exemplar schools to instantiate more powerful uses of the XO's in learning





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# Guiding Ideas

- Respect with the country and their understanding about their reality
- Practice and Reflection
- Don't do things by ourselves, work with the local team (dependency)
- What we do is more important than what we say
- Be critic about our own practice







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# Timeline

July 3, Arrival in Rwanda



August 6, 1st training  
with teachers

Sept 5, deploy at Kagugu

Sept 22, deploy at Rwamagana and  
Nonko

July 30, Star of the Work with  
the core team

Aug 11, work with core team  
and development of materials

Sept 8, start of the work in the  
school

Sept 29, Workshop





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# Challenges

- Electricity
- Feasible network solutions
- Develop a local tech team that really understands the OLPC development process
- Offer other activities that can offer more authoring possibilities
- Support the government in the development of a sustainable growth strategy



