



## Digital Pipeline Case Study



### Digital Pipeline PCs being used to accelerate learning in Namibian schools

"We are now starting to use refurbished computers from Digital Pipeline in our schools, as we feel that including refurbishes into our model will reduce the cost of implementing ICT in schools, allowing the Ministry to do more with less."

**Johan van Wyck,**  
Deputy Director Information Technology,  
Ministry of Basic Education Sport and Culture, Namibia

#### Fast Facts

**Donors:**

Microsoft, VISA International, IBLF, The Economist

**Beneficiary:**

Ministry of Basic Education Sport and Culture, Namibia

**Partners:**

RDC, National Computer Refurbishment Centre (Namibia)

**Summary:**

The government in Namibia has ambitious plans to use ICT to accelerate learning in their schools.

More than 1200 Digital Pipeline PCs have now been provided for use in Namibian schools to support these plans.

To see other Digital Pipeline Case Studies, please visit:

[www.digitalpipeline.org](http://www.digitalpipeline.org)

Digital Pipeline has helped to bring donors and partners together to provide schools in Namibia with high quality refurbished PCs.

In Europe, organisations like Microsoft, VISA International, IBLF and The Economist donated working computers that they no longer needed.

PCs were first data wiped and quality tested by RDC, a Digital Pipeline Refurbisher based in the UK.

DHL Danzas provided an exceptional economic shipping arrangement to Namibia, where the National Computer Refurbishment Centre in Windhoek prepared the donated PCs for use in Namibian Schools.

The National Computer Refurbishment Centre is a public-private partnership between the Namibian government and Microsoft and was established to create the local capacity to handle and deploy ICT for schools solutions as part of the African Pathfinder Project.

As part of the partnership in Namibia, Microsoft also developed innovative software to make installations of the servers and refurbished clients an even simpler process with minimal intervention or skills required from the teachers. This enabled Namibian students to use the same software as their counterparts across Europe.

With the assistance of the National Computer Refurbishment Centre, more than 1200 Digital Pipeline PCs have now been provided for Namibian schools, saving on costs but using modern software technology that

accelerates learning for teachers and students.

Pratibha Thaker, Regional Director, Africa Department. The Economist Intelligence Unit said:

"In disposing of our surplus PCs, The Economist Intelligence Units wanted to ensure it was done in a responsible way and for the benefit of the next generation."

Zubeir Shah, External Communication Manager for sub-Saharan Africa at Visa International commented:

"Through the Digital Pipeline initiative we hope to help young Africans to realise their potential, by making technology more accessible to as many young Africans as possible. Through initiatives such these, we hope to make a real difference to young people's lives and empower them to build their own futures. We are delighted that our computers, through the Digital Pipeline initiative, are going to address, support and improve lifelong learning for under-privileged young people in Africa."