

Estella's Brilliant Bus | Mobile Learning Center | CNN Hero

sponsored by; **THE GLOBAL PROMISE GROUP INC.**

ESTELLA'S BRILLIANT BUS MOBILE CYBER LAB GLOBAL UNIT

INTRODUCTION; Education is one of the first steps which lead to awareness, development and poverty alleviation. We can perhaps agree that education is a basic human right. When this right is granted, the society as a whole improves in areas such as health, nutrition, general income and living standards. With the Global Education Service admitting that: Over 64% of pupils at the basic level cannot read, understand and write. ICT lessons are just taught in the classrooms theoretically. 90% of community libraries have collapsed It is therefore very difficult for children to acquire knowledge if the libraries in their schools and communities are not stocked with reading books and can only take ICT exercises with the aid of diagrams. Reading is an essential part of language instruction at every level of education because it supports learning in multiple ways. For pupils to gain a more complete picture of the ways in which elements of every language work together to convey meaning; they must read and comprehend at all times. In 2009, Estella's Brilliant Bus Board commenced a pilot project in the North America and promised replicating it in the other regions Globally. The decision by Estella to support the initiative to acquire Mobile Cyber Units Globally is commendable; as an NGO that strives to make the dreams of school children around the Globe a reality. It is a non-partisan organization which aims at helping to reverse the falling standard of education by enhancing access to good quality education through the rehabilitation and provision of educational facilities and equipment, and scholarship schemes to needy but brilliant children. In accordance with the The Global Promise Group inc. (USA) Goals of reducing poverty through educational development , the foundation is determined to make education accessible and more affordable to every child. To this end, with the support of donors and central governments,

chiefs, queen mothers, communities imbibed with enthusiasm to bring this initiative around the World. A Mobile Cyber Unit in this context is a vehicle providing Computers, Books, and Health services to the change in student's learning conditions. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab therefore is to answer a clear need to give the less fortunate children the same learning conditions as other children in the fortunate countries. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/Cyber Lab therefore, focuses on improving children learning conditions by providing basic academic resources such as reading books and computers for ICT lessons to thousands of students .64% of pupils at the basic level cannot read, comprehend and write. There is also a prevailing trend of 50% of Junior High School pupils failing in their Basic Education Certificate Examinations (BECE), with a similar number failing at the Senior High School level. Most of these students who live in deprived areas where there are do not have access to computers for their ICT lessons. The only option left for them is to be taught by the use of computer diagrams and write their exams with their colleagues living in cities who had the opportunity of using the computers very often. This is a major challenge to educating of children. Justification According to Prof. J. Anamuah - Mensah, a former vice chancellor of The University of Winneba; "the abysmally low performance in literacy and numeracy captured in the Education Service report must not be taken lightly, but viewed with all the seriousness it deserves". To continue with the vision of enhancing access to good quality education, the Foundation is seeking to carry out the Estella's Brilliant Bus/Cyber Lab Project to enhance the reading habit and also provide access to computers for students around the Globe. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. are uniquely positioned to undertake this project because of its commitment to support student's education especially in deprived areas. Aimed to assist in reversing the falling standard of education by enhancing access to good quality education through reading, computer training and health services 1. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc services focuses on improving learning conditions for children by providing basic academic resources in a library such as reading books and computer lessons (ICT) to

thousands of students around the Globe. The whole exercise features two strands: (i) The learning of grammar and vocabulary in a careful and structured way following the syllabus, and a wide range of communicative activities to be able to use Grammar effectively. (ii) Usage of activity based pupil's books that contain stimulating language presentation accompanied by wide range of practice exercises. This dynamic new reading system focuses not only on reading skills, but also on the attention and working memory skills a child needs to have in order to learn.

2. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. also focuses on the four areas that have been shown to have the greatest impact on a child's ability to read – grapheme phoneme matching, sustained attention, mental processing speed, and working memory.

3. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc will also donate textbooks as well as loan literature/reading books to schools that participate in the project for a term.

4. Support from community libraries in the areas under review with books, computers and internet service.

5. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab that features laptops and pentium (IV) desktop computers connected to a wireless internet source. It is expected to give students an opportunity to have a hand-on, practical experience with computers especially at areas where there are no electricity whenever funds are enough for commencement at a particular area.

DURATION This project shall be executed intermittently as and when needed resources pooled are enough for a period of 4 years (2015 -2019).

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

| Objectives/Activities | Time | Resources needed | Expected Output | Assumptions |
|--|------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Identification of schools in Regions. | | | | |
| 1.1 Conduct need assessments | Sept - Dec | All year Personnel Transportation | Stationary Data from GES | Schools are selected from town in all selected districts from the regions Comparatively children in these schools are the most in need. |
| 1.2 Data collection and categorization based on needs | | | | |
| 2. Mobilization of funds and materials | | | | |
| 2.1 Visiting and discussing proposal with potential donor bodies | Sept - Nov | All year Personnel Transportation | At least 70% of funds and materials needed have been pooled. | That at least 90% of presses contacted will respond positively and |
| 2.2 Collection and gathering of available donations | | | | |

donate generously 3. Implementation of The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc service. 3.1 Launching of an All year Personnel Transportation Media coverage for the General public made aware of ICT reading exercises and Health services commences at the start of schools academic year. having The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc instructors ready, computers and other needed materials pooled for the project. 4. Monitoring and Evaluation All year Project manager and team members Transportation Regular visit to the schools Donated items might be stored instead of given it to students

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. Activities Duration month 2015 2016 2016 2017 2018 Responsible Quarter Quarter Quarter Quarter Institution 4 1-2 3- 4 1-2 3- 4 1-2 3- 4 1-2 3- 4 Labels

Description (A) Recruit project management team (B) Establish coordinating team in district and communities and sensitize Governmental Entities (C) Identify schools to be used for the projects, Using Reading Strategies Language instructors are often frustrated by the fact that students do not automatically transfer the strategies they use when reading in their native language to reading in a language they are learning. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. instructors will show students how they can adjust their reading behavior to deal with a variety of situations, types of input and reading purposes. They will help students develop a set of reading strategies and match appropriate strategies to each reading situation. Helping students adjust to read more quickly and effectively This strategy includes: a) Previewing: reviewing titles, section headings and photo captions to get a sense of the structure and content of a reading selection. b) Predicting: using knowledge of the subject matter to make prediction about content and vocabulary and check comprehension; using knowledge of the text type and purpose to make prediction about discourse structure; using knowledge about the author to make prediction s about writing style, vocabulary and content. c) Skimming and Scanning: using a quick survey of the text to get the main idea, identify structure, confirm or question predictions d) Guessing from context: using prior knowledge of the subject and the

ideas in the text as clues to the meanings of unknown words, instead of stopping to look them up e) Paraphrasing: stopping at the end of a section to check comprehension by restating the information and ideas in the text. The instructors will also use cloze (fill in the blank) exercises to review vocabulary items. This will help students to guess meaning from context. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. instructors will help students learn when and how to use the reading strategies in several ways to benefit their studies individually. IT Lessons, This section of the project is termed as "CYBER LAB ON WHEELS". The computers will be set up in the ICT bus to provide computer lessons and E – learning services on all subjects based on Education Service syllables to participating schools. The ICT instructors will teach students about computers and applications in an ICT bus to have some basic knowledge. These beneficiary schools will be those in deprived areas where there are no electricity or access to computers. The ICT bus will have a generator(s) to supply electricity for its operations. Students will therefore have the privilege to see, feel and operate the computers by themselves which will help them compete very well with their colleagues in the cities during examinations. To impart ICT knowledge very well, the ICT section will also establish a temporal ICT lab in the school for a week which will be based on the school's academic timetable. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. will eventually donate computers and build a computer lab for the school whenever resources are available. Sample "CYBER LAB ON WHEELS" setup in a Bus E – Learning service for students in ICT Bus ICT lessons in a bus Community Cinema. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. will have videos/ CDs on the history of Education and Technology. These videos will include some captured activities of the people on camera during the day which will be shown to them in the evening. This will help the instructors to have very good interaction with the indigents and also help the people to acquire more information about each area's history. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab will be loaded with reading books which will be carefully selected to suit the academic level of the beneficiary students. A make-shift Cyber Lab

will be set up in the school's classroom or a near by church/community center for students to learn. The instructors will teach the students the strategies of reading and the comprehension of Technology . Some of the reading books/computers will be loaned to the students and the schools for a period. Computers, exercise books, pens, pencils and other learning materials will be donated to the school per need assessment made by the instructors. The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. will request the building of a Library/Cyber lab for the school/community whenever needed resources are available. The IT lessons will be taking place simultaneously with the reading. A different class from the school will be participating in this section while others are reading. The instructors will teach the students basic knowledge about computers and its applications which will be based on the Hosted Governmental Education Service ICT syllabus. The instructors will set up a makeshift computer lab which will be made up of (25-40) computers. They will ensure every student benefits from both the reading and the ICT lessons. Goal & Objectives Verification indicator Source of Verification Assumption GOALS* will help improve children learning conditions by providing basic academic resources such as textbooks, exercise and pens, pencils and computers to thousands of students. **Example:** Most Schools and community libraries are closed after school and on weekends. In Ghana, Africa 64% of Ghanaian children can not read, comprehend and write. Ghana Education Service Lack of reading materials and computers Objective 1 1. Increase access to reading and work books through the The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. 2. Provide computers for ICT lessons for every school visited. 3. Donate computers to schools visited Pupils continue to fail in their BECE exams. Lack of practical lessons in ICT is gradually diminishing interest in ICT lessons Project reports Lot of schools do not have textbooks and Computers for mandatory ICT lessons. Objective (2) Support local/community libraries to open after school and on weekend Community libraries continues to be closed after schools hours Project reports Over 176 community library have virtually collapsed Objective (3) To crave the participation of opinion leaders, teachers,

paramount chiefs to fully participate in The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab Project, Paramount chiefs, GES and heads of institutions fully involved in the project. Formation of a vibrant local steering committee to coordinate the project at the grass root. Project monitoring and evaluation report Opinion leaders, traditional leaders continue to show support and offer recommendation on the sustainability of the project. Objective (4) Increase the participation of opinion leaders, especially chiefs in the project activities. 1. Chiefs actively involved in the project. 2. Participation of local committees to coordinate the project activities. 3. Existence of partners and networks working with The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. in support of the project Monitoring and evaluation reports Opinion leaders continue to offer support and advise Objective (5) To establish a Management Information System (MIS) which will provide accurate, timely and relevant information for the effective management of the program 1. Procurement of items/equipment 2. Reporting format developed and adhered to. 3. Staff trained to operate MIS 1. Purchase invoice 2. Receipts 3. Monitoring and evaluation reports 4. Training Funds released and disbursed on time

BUDGET FOR The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab, HUMAN RESOURCE Project management team Drivers Accountant (full time) 6 2 1 300/month 200/month 300/month 1,800.00 4,00.00 3,00.00 TOTAL 2,500

EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES 17-inch screen high definition laptops Pentium (IV) desktop computers (5 KVA) generator Fuel for generator Projector Extension Board and Cables Marker Board and accessories Light bulbs White material for projector Water (bottled) 5 25 1 15 gallons/week 1 10 1 5 3 4 boxes 1,500.00 400.00 4000.00 11.20/gallon 2500.00 300.00 500.00 18.00 20.00 20.00 7,500.00 10,000.00 4,000.00 8736.00 2,500.00 3,000.00 5,00.00 90.00 60.00 80.00 TOTAL 27,898

VEHICLE Turbo Diesel with W/High Roof Cargo Van 1 55,000.00 55,000 TOTAL 55,000

VEHICLES MAINTENACE Comprehensive Insurance VEHICLE RUNNING Two (2) Vehicles 90 gallons/week x 52 11.20/gallon 1,500.00 1008.00

TYRE & SPARE PARTS Tyres Oil change & lubricant 4 2 160.00 300.00 640.00 31,650.00 TOTAL 34,798

PUBLICITY Printing of A3 posters Banners 4x8 size 1,000 2 0.50 120.00 500.00 240.00 TOTAL 740

PRE-

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES Administrative Cost Launching of the project Branded The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab T- Shirts Branded, Cap Honoraria Training of Project staff 40 40 10 6 25.00 10.00 1000.00 340.00 12,000.00 1,000.00 400.00 10,000.00 4,500.00 TOTAL

28,240 SUMMARY BUDGET The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. project which is intended to be implemented in deprived areas within the various Districts of Ghana is subject to the Budget above. SPONSORSHIP Category Contribution (GHC) Co- branding on all The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. Vehicles and paraphernalia Visitation by the Patron Banners advert on the Foundation's website for 1 year Invitation to all foundations' events Logos on all promotional materials and visibility at the The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. activities Audience with the Patron. Signed Certificate of Appreciation by the Patron

(Asantehene) Platinum 200,000 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Gold 100,000 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Silver 80,000 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Bronze 60,000 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Paper 50,000 ✓ ✓ ✓ Donors 10,000 ✓ ✓ ✓ Item Amount Human Resource (Allowances) 2,500.00 Equipments & supplies 27,898.00 Vehicle and maintenance 89,798.00 Publicity 740.00 Pre - implementation 28,240.00 GRAND TOTAL = GHC 149,176.00

US Dollar equivalent =Funding/Support Soliciting for funds/support from sponsors to donate either in cash/kind towards the purchasing of the listed items in the budget table. All funds will be managed by the Foundation. Traditional leaders and the District Assembly will play a major role in assisting the Mobile Library team in terms of accommodation and providing security. The head teachers will help in organizing the project in their schools. Teacher volunteers will also assist the Mobile library team whenever necessary. Timeline for implementation Activities
 Period Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Nov Dec Selection of schools Conduct needs assessment Meeting with stakeholders Mobilization of resources Implementation of program Monitoring and Evaluation Management Staff of the foundation will be involved in the day-to-day activities of the project i.e. sourcing for funds/materials to be used for the project. They shall report to the Project Manager who shall in turn report to the executive director on the progress

of this project. At the local level, a new management structure that consists of a representative of the chief, district assembly, assemblyman, opinion leaders, and parent teachers association will constitute a school management committee that will locally coordinate the activities of The Estella's Brilliant Bus/ Cyber Lab and The Global Promise Group inc. Financial arrangement will pass through the existing accounts and audited through existing structures of Donor Bodies. Community level Patron Accountant Board of Trustees Project Managers Executive Director Volunteers Administrative Manager IT Manager Chiefs School Management Team Head Teachers Library Teachers Student Library Prefect Students/Pupils Expected Output The foundation hopes to: 1. Serve all shortlisted 1,673 public and private basic, Junior, Senior Secondary schools. 2. Visit All 412 towns, Cities, villages and Hamlets 3. Conscientize all 2,170,000 pupils with the habit of reading and ICT. 4. Reduce the percentage of pupils who cannot read well and operate computers in the areas under review (Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Eastern & Volta regions) to 25% the national average currently stand at 64%. 6. Rally all community leaders to support the project 7. Follow all project implementation guidelines and deliver sponsors benefits. 8. Reward communities, schools and pupils who excel annually. Collaborators Asanteman Council Ghana Education Service Ghana library Board District Assemblies Traditional Council All sponsors Media Risk/Uncertainties In event that the project activities cannot be undertaken due to unforeseen circumstances, the foundation will



communicate this to the relevant stakeholders and reschedule the funds as necessary. We will take this same approach Globally to insist on "OUR GLOBAL PROMISE" WE THE WORLD THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!