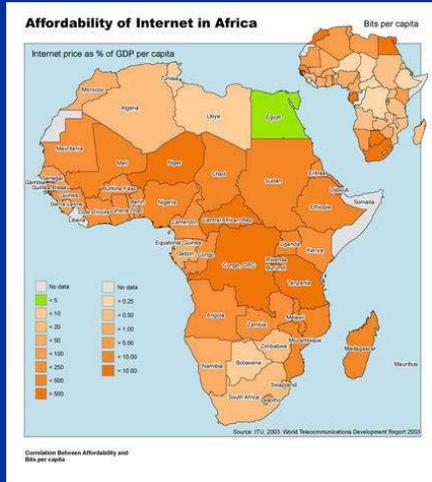## Statistics

- Africa only has about 3% of internet users in the entire world.

- Of the almost 44 million internet users in Africa, less than 1% are in Cameroon, Africa. This is a 1,750% growth increase since 2000.

- Less than 1% of the population of Cameroon have a personal computer.

- 4.6% of Cameroon's $3 billion imports come from the US.

- Cameroon has a 30% unemployment rate

- 79% literacy rate in Cameroon

Affordability of Internet in Africa

SIFE
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

Through SIFE, we develop tomorrow's leaders by making positive changes in others today. Our mission is to provide the opportunity to develop leadership, team building and communication skills by teaching the principles of free enterprise, and in turn, improving the quality of life and standard of living for millions of people.

For project and sponsorship information, please visit: www.sife.clubs.cofc.edu

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Technology for

AFRICA

Think locally, act globally.

SIFE
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

Project Overview

The College of Charleston's **Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE)** team is initiating a service learning project to encourage free enterprise in Africa through the use of technology.

The *Technology for Africa* project aims to promote entrepreneurship around the world by providing residents of the central African country of Cameroon access to computers and training on how to use them for economic development. Students will promote free enterprise by raising the necessary funds to set up three computer labs in the province of Douala and conduct training for future entrepreneurs.

"When a UN forum asked sixty poor countries what they wanted to alleviate poverty, they said access to information and opportunity, not charity."
- Vikas Nath

Through educational, entrepreneurial outreach initiatives, SIFE students make a difference in our community by helping people develop a better understanding of how our free enterprise system works and how to use this information to empower themselves in achieving new successes. Students learn more by teaching others through the use of hands-on learning activities.

Labs & Planned Itinerary

Technology Labs

SIFE students will set up computer labs in the following cities:

- *Foumband* - 10 desktop computers will be used by students and entrepreneurs
- *Yaounde* - 15 desktop computers set up at Catholic University of Central Africa for use by entrepreneurship students.
- *Douala* - 12 desktop computers set up at Libermann High School for K-12 education

Planned Itinerary (March 2009)

- <u>Friday</u>: Depart from Charleston to Paris
- <u>Saturday</u>: Arrival in Douala
- <u>Sunday</u>: Travel to Bafoussam
- <u>Monday</u>: visit local governments, businesses and schools
- <u>Tuesday</u>: Visit Sultan in Foumband and set up first computer lab
- <u>Wednesday</u>: Travel to Yaounde and set up second computer lab. Meet with US Embassy officials and Ambassador of the Order of Malta.
- <u>Thursday</u>: Morning meeting with UCCAC University students for enterprise planning instruction and afternoon departure to Douala.
- <u>Friday</u>: Morning meeting with Libermann High School in Douala students and setup of third lab and instruction.
- <u>Saturday</u>: Depart from Douala to Paris
- <u>Sunday</u>: Arrive in Charleston

Benefits

For the citizens of Cameroon...

- They will receive 40 new computers, with the latest software and Internet capability.
- They will acquire computer knowledge and training in utilization of the computers.
- With the ability to obtain the Internet communication, they will have the chance to connect with cultures, people, and information around the world which will help facilitate entrepreneurial opportunities.
- The citizens of Cameroon will share a new experience with American students.

For the SIFE team members...

- A first hand experience in a unique entrepreneurial opportunity.
- Ability to teach and encourage the benefits of technology and the creation of new enterprises.
- Introduction to a new culture.

For South Carolina...

- Establishment of future trade partners
- Cameroon is among the 13 most thickly populated countries in Africa motivating demand for any product and export opportunities.
- Market opportunities in agriculture, natural gas and light manufacturing sectors