



Durian

# **The need for a DIY Learning Space for Young people in Imafon, Akure, Ondo State**

A research carried out by Durian Nigeria

11/3/2020

# Introduction

- This research covers answers provided by 52 students from Spring Tide International Group of Schools, Oni Pannu and Pat Model Secondary school Imafon, Community. The aim is to know if the students within these communities have technical knowledge as well as to understand their needs. The two schools will be treated as one sample, as we are not comparing the two schools.
- This research was conducted by the Research team of Durian Nigeria. Durian is a registered Non-Governmental organization in Nigeria. It empowers communities to become self-sufficient through transforming its local waste into a means of livelihood. It currently works in Imafon community where the organization teaches women in groups on how to convert cocoa pods to African black soap, bamboo to crafts and fabric/banner waste into purses and bags.

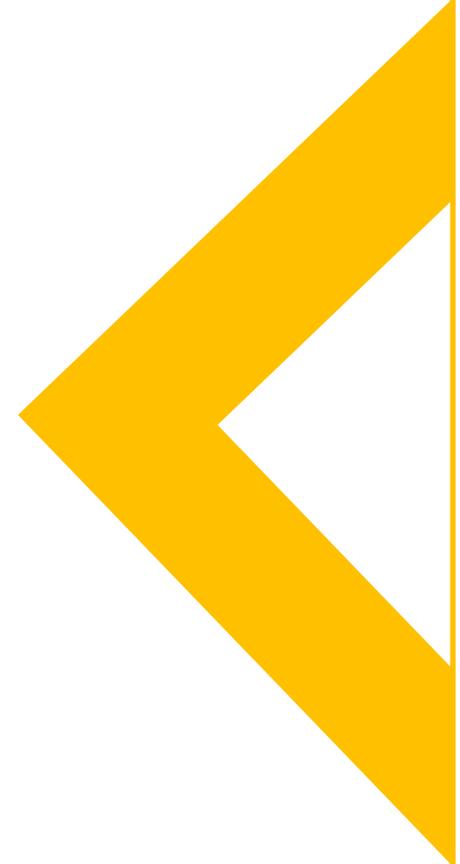
# Justification

- As part of the activities carried out within Durian, we have a children learning space. In the learning space the children learn about how to make different things from waste as well as English, mathematics and general knowledge. In 2019 we introduced 25 of them to arduino and how to make use of a computer. It was during this experience we understood that most of them do not have access to information about computers and electronics. This informed the need for us to carry out this research. We have spread it out across 2 different schools in 2 different locations because we want to understand the realities in the communities. The children in these schools are from the following communities- Ilado, Igusi, Imafon, Sajowa, Apedu, and Oni Pannu. Hence, the data in this document represent 6 communities.

# How

- We used a questionnaire that was administered in the schools identified. We used a participatory method that ensured that the students understood each question. We also engaged in a focused group discussion where 8 students were asked what they will like to create if they had access to the right equipment.

- Important: the questionnaire had 31 questions out of which we found the data for 11 questions very striking and will focus on this for this report.



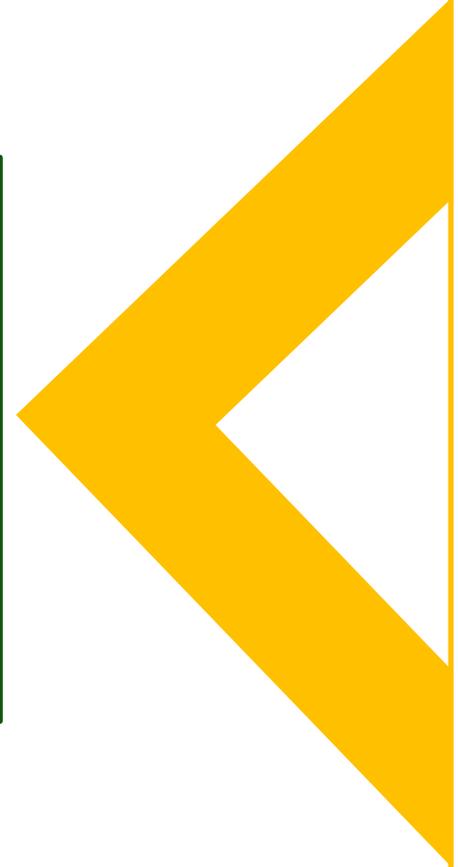


*Imagine not having the right environment needed  
to keep your dream alive!*

# Demography

- The questionnaire was administered to 52 students out of which, 41 were females while 11 were males. Each school has more female population as compared to male. They are students from ages 10-15.

- This number cut across the 2 schools where we carried out the research. The average number of students in both school is 200

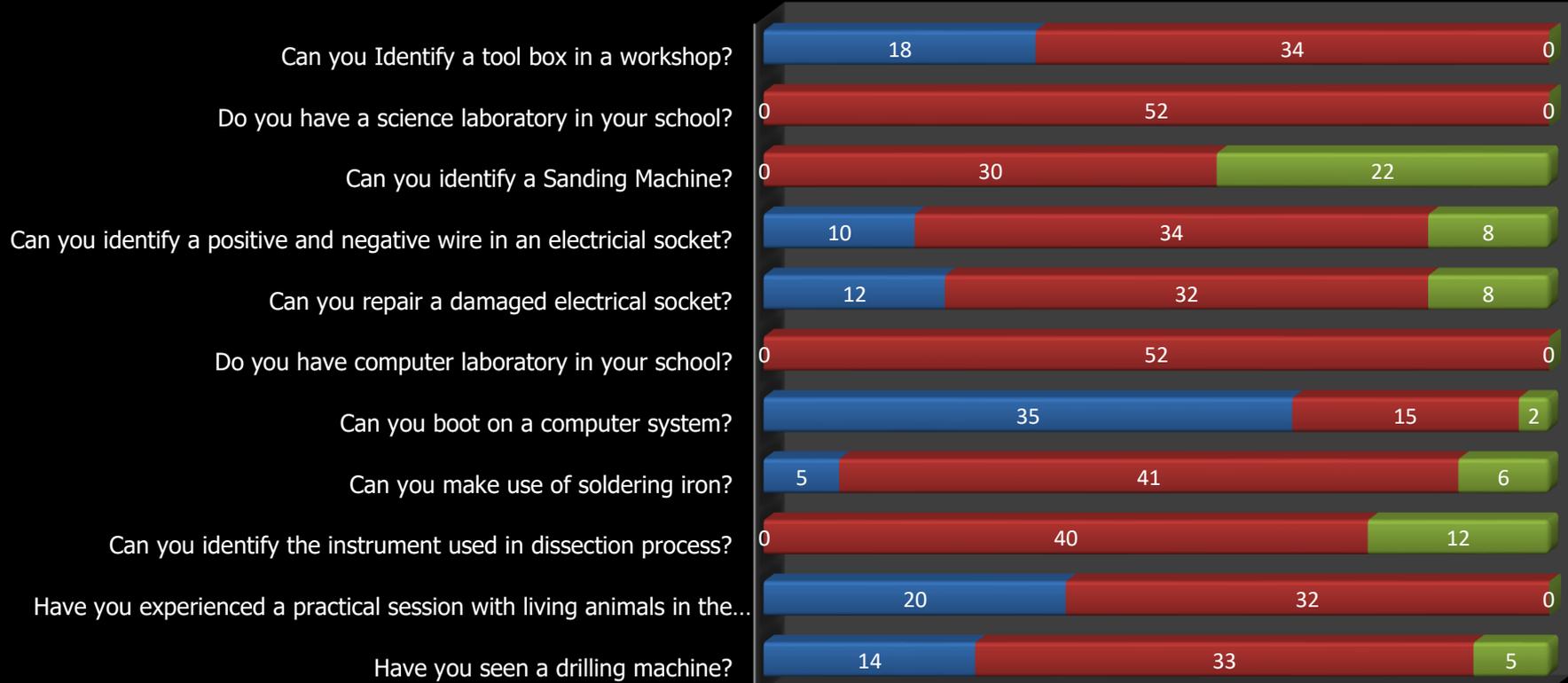


# What we found out

- We found out that none of the 2 schools identified have a computer lab. In this day and age where ICT is the future, children in these communities are not getting prepared for the real world
  - We also found out from this research that only 5 out of the 52 students know what a soldering iron is and only 12 can repair a faulty electrical socket. This goes a long way to show that the students are not introduced to technical skills in school. Added to this is the fact that the schools do not a laboratory to carry out practical. Hence, they are only confined to book knowledge.
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# What the data says

( Blue- yes, Red- No, Green- No idea )

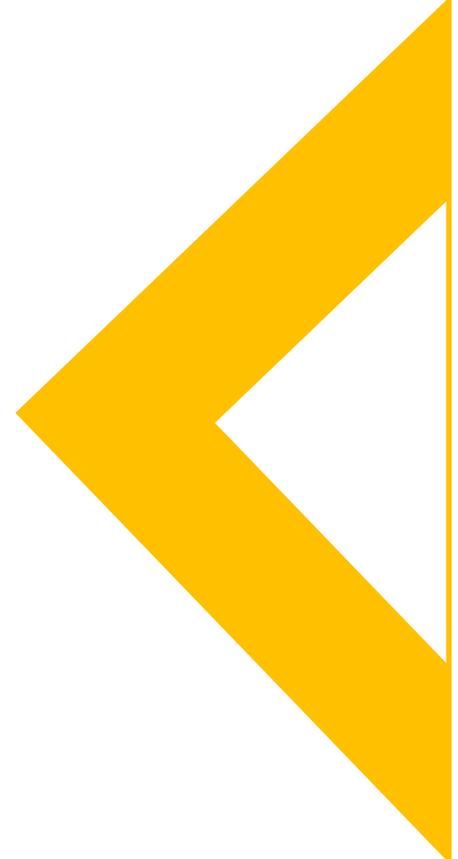


# Recommendation

- One of the main findings was that there is a hunger for knowledge in the community. The students want to know more, but they currently don't have a place to express their creativity.

Hence, there is a need for a "Do it Yourself" learning lab in these communities. This lab should be constructed in a community that is central to the areas where the students live.

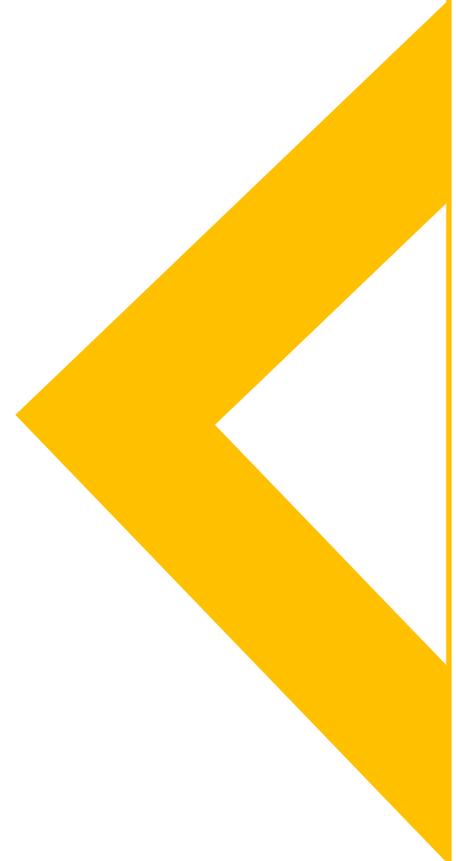
**Important:** The space could be made out of eco-friendly materials that will encourage creative thinking among the students.



# Recommendation

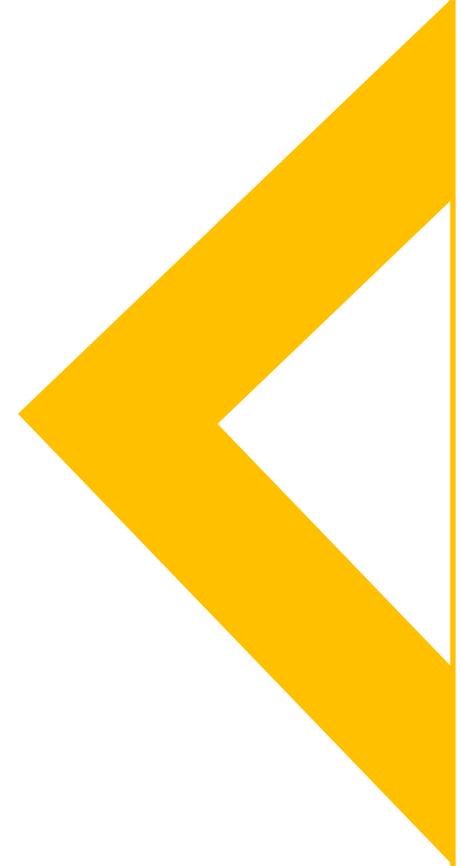
- It should be a place where the students can experiment their ideas as well as learn. It should be equipped with computers, tool box, soldering iron, drilling machine, sanding machine and other equipment needed for them to experience what is like to create.

**Important:** The space should be powered by solar energy so that it is not affected by unstable power supply from the national grid



# What we want to do

- *We want to create a DIY space for young people in the community.*
- One of the students who we interviewed at a focused group discussion said that she like to create a robot that can serve as cooking stove so that women stop using fire wood. Another said "I want to create a mobile fan that can make use of battery rather than electricity. I want to create an electronic computerized door that can use password for entry and exit. I want to develop an automobile vehicle that can use Gas as fuel instead of petrol."



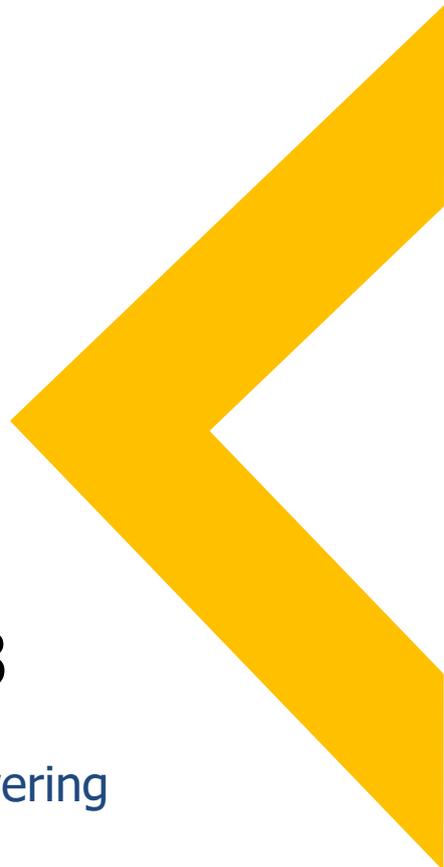
# What we want to do



- We are looking forward to creating a learning space that will meet the needs of not only these 52 students but also the over 300 young people from the different communities we work.
- The eco-friendly built space will have 10 computers connected to the internet, 2 tool boxes, 3 soldering irons, 2 drilling machine, 2 sanding machine and other equipment
- It will be able to sit 20 people at once

# What we want to do

- To manage the numbers of students that will be interested in this program, we will divide the group into teams. Each team will have 10 people and also choose a specific time when they will come to the facility on a weekly basis.
- There will be a teacher/facilitator in the space to guide them through the self-learning process.
- To run this facility we will be partnering with the GreenLab Micro factory(an NGO), Youth Corp Members serving in these communities, and community youths. This way the project and facility we set up will be managed and protected by members of the community. We know that community engagement is key to sustainability.



**Durián**

**Thank you**

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Rural is cool! Let's make it cool together by empowering  
people within communities