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I took on this challenge again this year because (a) I enjoyed the experience and feeling of being volunteer and develop results that can be beneficial to a new country and (b) I wanted to see the difference that would happen if I ran my team differently from the way I ran it in 2011. My experience last year was based on not particularly knowing what was required and having the let's be friends' approach to this year, being the leader from the beginning- implementing a game plan that was long developed before the competition started. From previous experience I knew that we as a team had to establish good ground rules about communication and deadlines and what is required from individuals to work collectively to make it happen. Being there yourself to provide guidance and direction but attaining results and hopefully developing a friendships along the way.

From my introduction letter I made it clear about my intentions and how I wanted the project to run, firstly I explained that I would be using deadlines and that they would be letting everyone down if they did not make deadlines. Result being that I only ever had one deadline that was broken and they had contacted me to say the use of the internet is restricted. This made me feel so relaxed and really enjoyed putting the business proposal together as nothing was rushed. Secondly I really enforced open communication and that all ideas were going to be treated as equals and if English was a problem, that I would happily work individually with them but emphasis that no idea was a bad idea. -The way that we communicated was through Whiteboard as everyone had access to it and that everyone else could see people conversation and ask questions etc, when I did use Facebook with a team member it was more for quick chat about that person individual task, but we always added the main facts of what was talked about to the team's whiteboard so nothing was hidden. I think implementing the use of Whiteboard was a great success as there was neutral base for people to post their questions and not be afraid of their English abilities.

I ended up contacting an academic for two of members who immediately joined after being spoken to, so we had a team of 7 - honestly ideas were pretty broad but ran along similar ideas- so narrowing the idea down quickly made everything easier to a degree. I think I wrote a structure and ask who wanted to do what, that was my mistake as no one put their up so I delegated areas to whom I thought was best suited, either through English capacity or geographical location. I had two people who lived together so I told them to write the biggest part since they had two brains and 4 hands. After assigning parts I set mini deadlines to see where everyone was at and this showed me on track we were and enabling anyone to fix mistakes at an earlier stage.

The only true problem I had was when I received all the work from my team mates they ended up giving me too much, I ended up having to edit 13 pages of strong factual information to 6, this was the most time consuming as I wanted to use everyone parts equally and still have a strong point of our service coming across. We had tiny hiccups where my Iranian had the internet cut off for a few days and then emailing me to say that she didn't think her English was good enough (I got around this problem by reassuring her that I had no problem understanding her (I understood the general point 99% of the time)

The result was that I had the ability to finish the report 2 days before the 17th, which was a nice feeling. Culturally it felt strange to take on a more dominating leader position but I think it was beneficial and needed to gain a good and positive response. The two moments that made me smile the most is from my Rwandan - I feel so honoured that you would consider doing this project on Rwanda and my Columbian spelling Project like Proyect for our front page.