**Item 5**

**Multiple Solutions**

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Senior Design Project I

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## 

## Project Overview or Summary

This project aims to create a comprehensive and informative website dedicated to raising awareness about the current situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The website will serve as a platform to educate visitors about the various social, political, economic, and environmental issues facing the DRC.

## Proposed Solution

A proposed solution to this problem is to bring attention to the complex challenges facing the country. Creating a website that details some of the different problems facing the country and ways that people can help, will give the people support financially. There will be links to some humanitarian groups that directly support the communities in the DRC. Some strengths that this solution are that by supporting the humanitarian groups it provides immediate relief to the populations affected by crises. The website itself will be structured in a way that is visually appealing and grabs the focus of the visitors. A weakness of this solution is that access to humanitarian assistance is a short-term focus. Humanitarian assistance focuses on addressing needs and providing emergency relief, which may not address the underlying root cause of crises or contribute to long-term sustainable solutions. Another area for improvement that can be found using this solution is that at the beginning of that website, getting users to visit the page will take a lot of work. Most people tend to not care enough about what is happening to those not in their country or to them.

## Review of Alternate Solutions

An alternative solution to this problem is creating a website just focused on advocacy for policy reform. This website would provide information on policies and regulations affecting the DRC and advocate for reforms that promote accountability and sustainable development. It would include lobbying the government by providing templates for letters or emails, and directions to international organizations that implement and enforce regulations that protect human rights.

A strength of this solution is that the website can effectively disseminate information to a wide audience, including policymakers, activists, and the general public. Another strength is global reach. This website has the potential to reach a global audience, enabling individuals and organizations from around the world to learn about the issue.

A weakness of this solution is the policy implementation challenges. Advocating for policy reform is important but achieving the desired changes and effective enforcement of the policies can be challenging. Especially in the context of corruption, weak governance, and political instability.

## Advantages of Proposed Solution over Alternate Solutions

The advantages of the proposed solution over the alternate solutions are the emotional appeal, the direct impact, and the humanizing of the crisis. The proposed solution focuses on the humanitarian effects of the situation and can evoke empathy and compassion from visitors. By sharing the stories, photos, and videos of individuals and communities affected by the conflict can appeal to people’s emotions and inspire them to take action. Highlighting the humanitarian effects of the crisis in the DRC can directly impact individuals and communities in need by raising awareness and facilitating humanitarian assistance. Visitors to the website may be motivated to donate funds, volunteer their time, or support humanitarian organizations to provide aid to those in need. The solution can put a face to the statistics and headlines associated with the conflict. By sharing first-hand accounts of those affected can help break down stereotypes, challenge misconceptions and foster understanding and empathy for the people of the DRC.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, this project aims to address the complex challenges facing the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by creating a comprehensive website dedicated to raising awareness about its current situation. While alternative solutions such as advocating for policy reform have their merits, the proposed solution focusing on the humanitarian effects of the crisis is the DRC offers several distance advantages. By highlighting personal stories and providing avenues for direct support to affected communities, the proposed solution taps into the emotional appeal of the issues. Furthermore, by facilitating immediate relief and fostering understanding the website not only addresses the immediate needs of those affected but contributes to long-term sustainable solutions. As the project continues, the goal of humanizing the crisis along with bringing awareness, has the potential to make a significant impact on the lives of those individuals and communities in the DRC.

**References**