

Stakeholder Interview Template

Date	9/03/19	Project #	P20762
Start Time	1:00pm	Customer Name	Marcos Esterman and Dr. Alvaro Rojas
End Time	1:30pm	Location	GLE-4425
Team Members	Caleb		

Was a follow-up with the customer completed? (circle one) **YES** NO

If so,

Date: 09/03/19 Time: 4:30pm

Member who clarified the information: Caleb Wheelock

How was it clarified: Email

Signature: Caleb Wheelock

Summary:

The purpose of this interview was to establish first contact with our customer in Columbia, Dr. Alvaro Rojas. This meeting included introductions, an overview of last years team implementation of their vertical farm, and a few questions regarding expectations for this years project.

Interview Transcript:

- Introductions made with Alvaro
- Communication norms established:
 - Available for email whenever
 - Not available for weekly meetings, will try to attend design reviews
 - Students working on Thesis in this project in Columbia are available for contact
- Focus of this year's project is on cost reduction:
 - Pump: Need continuous water flow with little cost change
 - O2 sensor: Using existing sensor, look for ways to maintain output but reduce cost

- Architecture materials
 - Water Tank: Wood easy to source, but sealing is difficult. Tarp could be used but susceptible to tear. Look for performance and cost effective solutions
 - Plant bed could be made out of PVC
- Current: \$300-\$400 total
- Goal: \$100-\$200
- Challenges with last years implementation:
 - Transportation of materials
 - Water tank was too large and ½ of budget
 - Supplies were locally sourced, but problems arose:
 - Not enough time for building
 - Not all tools were available
 - Farmers: Very enthusiastic but some problems with solution
 - Wanted something for larger application
 - Language barrier
 - Did not have the full product ready for demo
- Lessons Learned for Implementation:
 - Plan at least 3-4 weeks ahead of time
- Timeframe of Implementation:
 - Duration: 2 weeks
 - Time with NGO: 1 day, 10am start, but same as farmers and therefore not ready in time. Lasted 4 hrs
 - Trip took place 1 week after graduation

Additional details:

Will reach out to Alvaro and students in Columbia as needed for specific questions regarding implementation.

Reflections:

Meeting was very productive and helped our group better understand what the role of our contacts in Columbia are. This meeting was also helpful in clarifying our primary focus of this project being cost reduction. Therefore, our primary focus in the triple constraint is cost, while maintaining performance and deadlines.