The *IWitness in Rwanda* project is a partnership between the Aegis Trust, a U.K.-based genocide prevention organization, the Kigali Genocide Memorial Center, and University of Southern California’s Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education. The initiative was borne of the need to address the challenge of engaging students cognitively and emotionally, and the need for educational tools that inspire students to think critically and explore how they can contribute to Rwanda’s social and economic development. Using the knowledge and experience of the partners, the *IWitness in Rwanda* project also addresses the need for values education in the general curriculum.

For 25 months (beginning February 2013), the *IWitness in Rwanda* project will hold several educator trainings and workshops, in-classroom IWitness pilots and various information sessions and demos throughout Rwanda. Through progress reports and thorough evaluation, the project will submit their suggestions for content to be included in the revised national curriculum and work with education officials to enhance the quality of teacher training and education in Rwanda. The project will reach upper secondary students and young adults (13 to 25 years old); enhance students’ problem solving abilities; allow students to apply new media skills; and encourage students to recognize and value responsible sociopolitical participation in society. Educators will expand their capacity for working with technology in the classroom; develop new classroom management capacities; and develop the pedagogy and theory necessary to use testimony effectively in values education.

IWitness ([iwitness.usc.edu](http://iwitness.usc.edu)) is an educational website developed by USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education. It is designed for educators and students and provides access to watch, search, and construct and most importantly, learn from over 1,500 video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of genocide (Holocaust, Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, Nanjing Massacre). With time, this collection of testimonies will grow to include other groups. Using IWitness, students can watch testimonies and use them in individual or group multimedia projects; teachers can assign activities as classwork or homework, and can even custom-build their own lessons and activities.

What makes IWitness unique is the rich pool of audio-visual testimonies, which are engaging, compelling and inspirational. It also brings educators and their students together at the intersection of genocide and history education. In various parts of the world, IWitness has been tested in technologically challenged areas with educators and students with varying degrees of historical knowledge and digital literacy has been shown to be valuable in various ways. In short, working with visual testimony makes sense because it engages students cognitively, emotionally and spiritually, and can effect change in cognition, values and attitudes.

To explore IWitness, please visit [http://iwitness.usc.edu](http://iwitness.usc.edu).