The UCT Knowledge Co-op offers an access point for community groups to access the resources of UCT, in particular student dissertation research. Here are examples of types of issues that we can or cannot offer support with through the UCT Knowledge Co-op:

What we **CAN HELP** with is mainly:

1. Research projects:
   1. Collecting information on an issue that you want to bring to the attention of the authorities for their action. Eg students collected evidence why a footbridge was needed in a community; this helped the local women’s group make a presentation to the City.
   2. Research to inform your programmes, e.g. why do men/ young people not use services you offer? What are their reasons? What could be done differently?
   3. Study of problems that you are dealing with, e.g. what are the most urgent needs of people in the support group / after school programme. This type of research will help you understand better what is needed and how to address the need.
   4. What is the best way of starting a specific programme such as support group for single parents, vegetable gardening, networking,  etc.
2. Practical support
   1. Design of a website or blog for your NGO
   2. Teaching of computer skills
   3. Solving a practical technical problem, e.g. a NGO asked us to design a fence that was not valuable enough so no-one would steal it. Or a candle that cannot fall over and burn down a shack.

You may also want to look at projects listed on our website to see what projects have been taken on (<http://www.knowledgeco-op.uct.ac.za/proj/>).

With all of this, please note that we cannot guarantee that we will find someone to work with you on such issues; but once we have your ideas we will advertise them to our students and lecturers and hope to find one who will be interested in working with you.

What we **CANNOT** help with:

1. Tutoring – although there are some teaching resources I could share with you for use on smart phones or computers
2. Volunteers for working with your organisation
3. We do not have funding for NGOs and cannot help with fundraising

By discussing this in your team you may come up with issues / questions that would be helpful for you. If you do, please get back to us with those. Then we can meet to discuss those further and plan how to take them forward.

Barbara Schmid

Project manager