

## Situation

Social impact organizations are facing challenging times. An increasingly global service landscape, paired with a highly competitive funding and resource pool, create an environment where finding the ideal communications tools requires a delicate balancing act. Organizations need communications tools that are inexpensive, yet tested and trusted; easy to implement, yet robust enough to communicate between different continents; use cutting edge technology, yet will not become outdated quickly; facilitate communication methods that are targeted to their specific needs, yet do not conflict with an organization's existing systems.

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## Proposed Solution

We want to open source the core intranet package that we have developed and are currently grafting on to our clients sites. We call it 8 Trees, and it has all the basic elements teams need to improve knowledge management and communications: a blog with commenting for discussions, a shared calendar, and a space to hold and work with documents. It also has a clear workflow that makes using the tool intuitive so no training is required.

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## Drupal Wins

Our intranet package uses three core modules: Organic Groups, Spaces, and Context UI. This project will greatly advance work on all of these modules, particularly Spaces and Context UI which are still in early development. Additionally, the project will make huge steps toward building a stronger Drupal shop environment by helping facilitate better communications, organization, and transparency with clients by providing a high quality and freely available intranet tool.



**Context UI** Context\_ui allows users to create context definitions – bundles of views, content types, panels, menu items, and blocks – that can be used to model 'sections' or 'features' on a Drupal site.

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**Spaces** Spaces provides a more flexible toolset for collaborative sites. It leverages Organic Groups to relate users and content to groups, and it extends context\_ui to define 'features' that can be controlled individually in each group on a site.

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**Making Stronger Drupal Shops** Over the past year, our refinement of the system as our own intranet has resulted in an 8% cost savings on projects by reducing overhead and efficiently wrapping up issues at the end of the project. This has the potential to have serious ripple effect throughout the community.

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## Bigger Picture Wins

Transferring and managing knowledge is a major challenge for all organizations. This is why we've built intranets for large organizations like Human Rights Watch and the World Bank. Drupal is well positioned as a platform to surpass enterprise systems like SharePoint because of its flexibility and extensibility. This is evident as it's already becoming a preferred choice for organizations needing portals and intranets that provide collaborative online spaces for professional communities.

As a lightweight framework for intranet tools, 8 Trees can be used by companies, nonprofits, and other groups to internally communicate with their teams. Its can also be paired with other systems to better serve larger organizations. Its simple workflow makes it intuitive to use and, combined with its powerful communications tools, leads to huge performance improvements within teams.

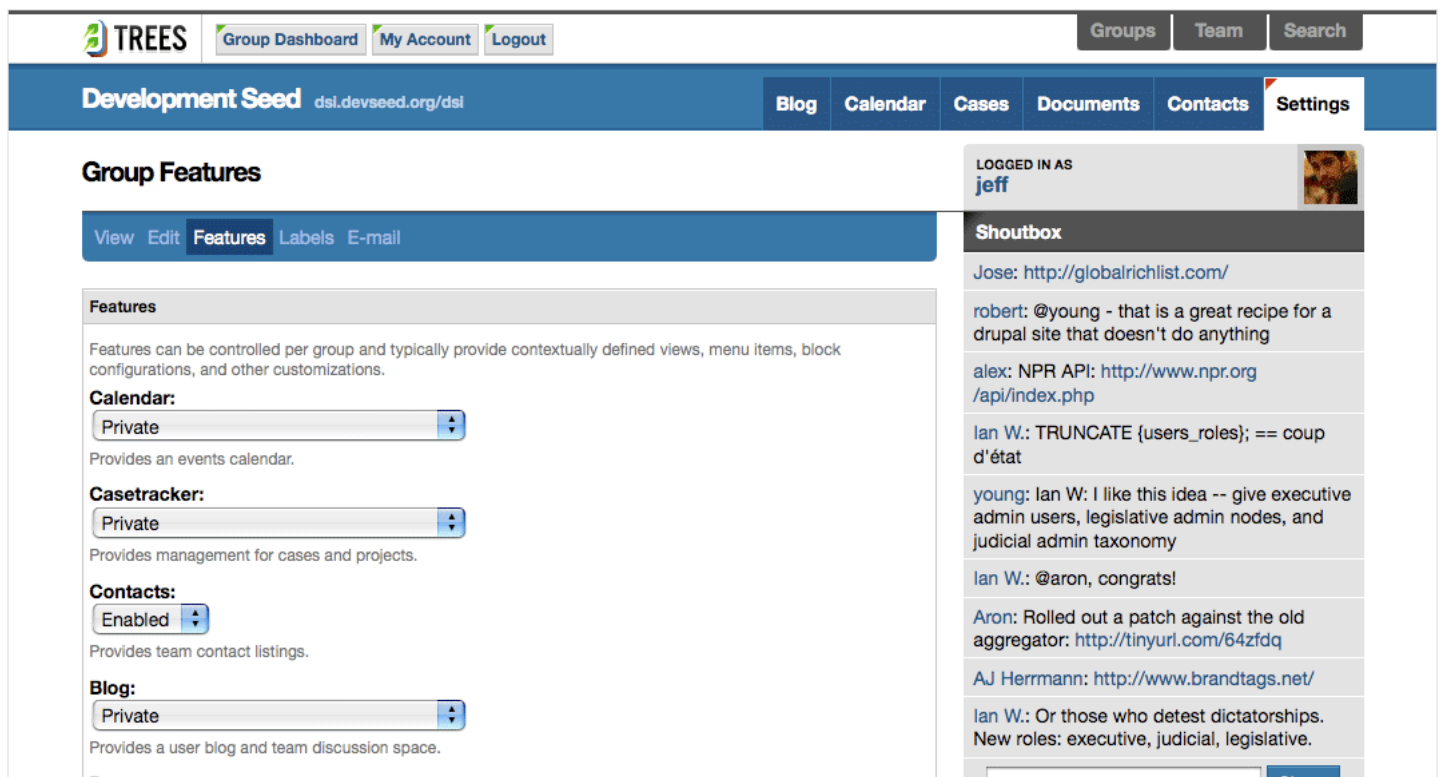
## Budget

Here are our basic budget projections for this project:

- ▶ Timeline: Four weeks
- ▶ Cost: \$73,000

For more detailed budget information, please send an email to Eric at [eric@developmentseed.org](mailto:eric@developmentseed.org).

A look at the feature selection page on our internal 8 Trees implementation ("Shoutbox" is informal conversation).



**Group Features**

View Edit **Features** Labels E-mail

**Features**

Features can be controlled per group and typically provide contextually defined views, menu items, block configurations, and other customizations.

**Calendar:**  
Private  
Provides an events calendar.

**Casetracker:**  
Private  
Provides management for cases and projects.

**Contacts:**  
Enabled  
Provides team contact listings.

**Blog:**  
Private  
Provides a user blog and team discussion space.

**Shoutbox**

LOGGED IN AS jeff

Jose: <http://globalrichlist.com/>

robert: @young - that is a great recipe for a drupal site that doesn't do anything

alex: NPR API: <http://www.npr.org/api/index.php>

Ian W.: TRUNCATE {users\_roles}; == coup d'état

young: Ian W: I like this idea -- give executive admin users, legislative admin nodes, and judicial admin taxonomy

Ian W.: @aron, congrats!

Aron: Rolled out a patch against the old aggregator: <http://tinyurl.com/64zfdq>

AJ Herrmann: <http://www.brandtags.net/>

Ian W.: Or those who detest dictatorships.  
New roles: executive, judicial, legislative.



for more details, contact Eric Gundersen at 202.250.3633 or [eric@developmentseed.org](mailto:eric@developmentseed.org)