ANNUAL
REPORT

ORGANISATION
OVERVIEW

Profile

Africa ICT Right (AIR) is an ICT-oriented NGO established in 2007 and run by a team of volunteers. AIR was established in order to use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools to address critical national problems pertaining to the education, gender, youth empowerment and health in Ghana.

AIR was created out of the belief that the modern world is in the midst of a profound transformation in which personal computers, mobile phones and Internet technologies play critical role but there is great inequality in the distribution of these tools, which is detrimental not only to underserved communities, but also to our society.

We partner with donors, governmental and private institutions, NGOs and local communities to address this detriment through our integrated development programs that provide technological solutions and support directed at educational and health facilities especially in less privileged areas where the digital divide is at its greatest.

Vision

A computer literate society in Ghana where Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is be used to address developmental needs of communities.

Mission

Empowering underserved communities by providing technological resources, training and support to address developmental needs.
In our five-point strategic approach to ICT for development (ICT4D), we aim at:

- Connectivity
- Access
- Education
- Content
- Research

Main Objectives

AIR's main and broad objectives are:

- To ensure that schools and communities have access to IT infrastructure
- To provide low-power and low-cost computers
- To provide ICT training for teachers and youth
- To close the gender gap in the technology sector
- To identify and address critical national problems pertaining to education, gender and health using mobile solutions
- To work in close collaboration with communities, donors, governmental and private institutions to implement Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) programs

Core Values

As we pursue our vision, AIR is guided by the following core values:

- **Collaboration**: Our work thrives on teamwork, strategic alliances and communication within our organization and the communities we serve.
- **Accountability**: We are dedicated to the efficient and effective use of resources entrusted to us. We accept responsibility of the public trust and are accountable for our actions. We also communicate our successes and challenges to partners, stakeholders, and donors.
- **Integrity**: To do the right thing and adhere to the highest ethical standards of honesty, transparency and loyalty.
- **Professionalism**: We value professionalism by all employees. We develop our staff to perform their work with expertise, dedication and care.
- **Excellence**: We hold ourselves to high standards of performance and aim to improve outcomes continuously. We consider ourselves to be fortunate to be doing this work.

MESSAGE FROM THE
DIRECTOR

2017, will be a crucial year for Africa ICT Right. May 2017 marks the 10th anniversary of when AIR was officially founded and is also when all our funded programs by Google and WeTech will draw to an end.

Whatever we do, when we finish the job, we judge ourselves based on our impact, the resilience of the people, and the sustainability of the work. There are many things that distinguish us from other organisations doing similar work. When we fall short, we refine our strategies and devise new ways to implement them. We seek to be a learning organisation, identifying approaches that will produce the best results.

It's clear that statistics cannot capture the whole picture of our impact. It's a view held strongly by each member of our Board of Directors, but it is incredibly satisfying to hear similar sentiments from visitors to our office. More often than not, they express confidence in our projects and financial management.

The move to a new office building in 2016 helped us transition to a better way of working by aligning the design of the building with new IT infrastructure. All staff has been equipped with a laptop to allow them to access all work applications and information online.

Never in our history has AIR been so well positioned to deliver scaled and lasting change in underserved communities in Ghana. These tales inspire us to do more and, with change in the air, we know that 2017 is the time to be even
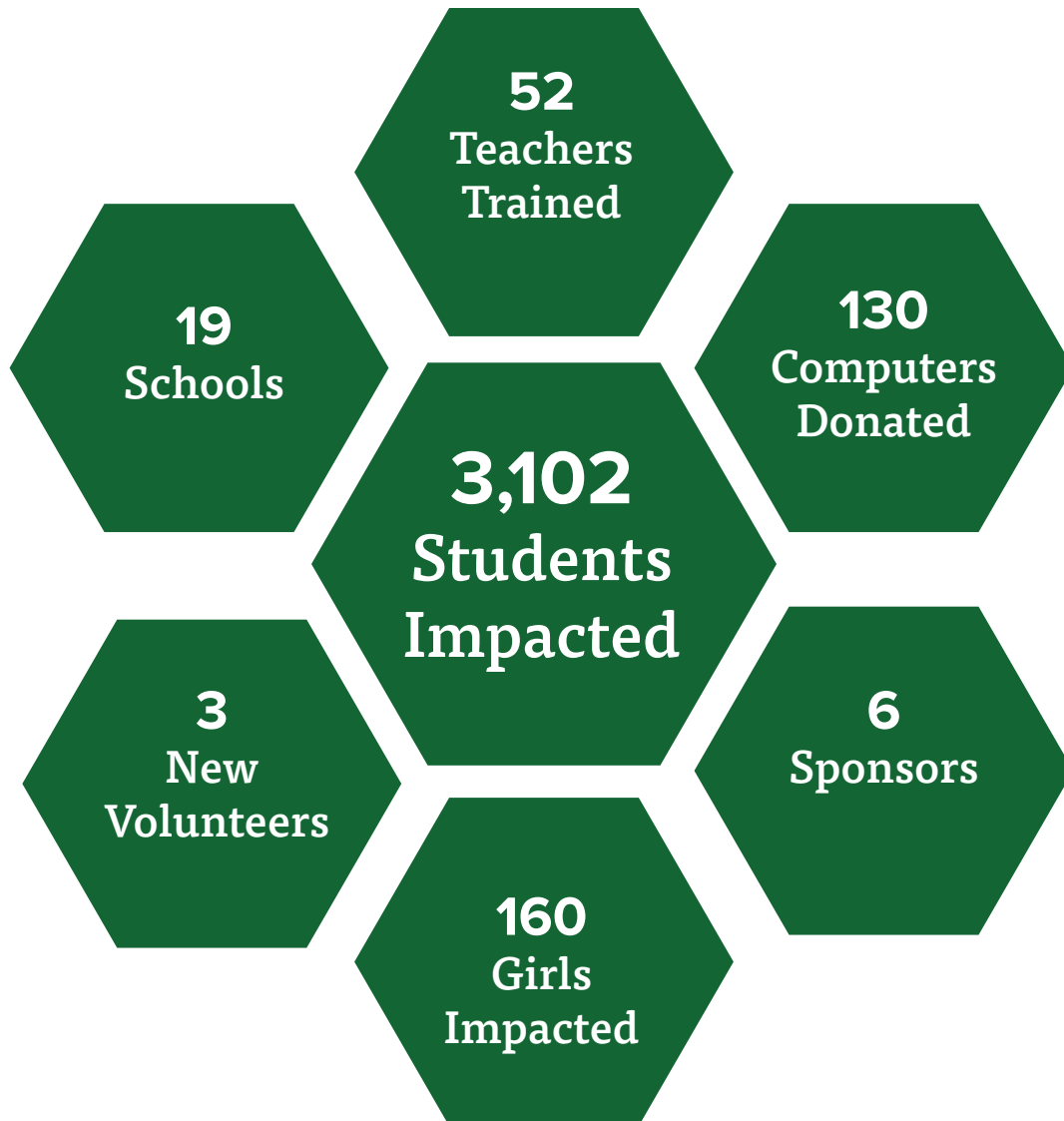
more ambitious about what we can achieve together.

Moving forward, our overarching goal will be based on three approaches: Partnership, Branding and Sustainability. For Partnership, we have to forge strong relationships with a wide range of International NGOs operating in Ghana by identifying their priorities and needs so that we can grow our programs. For Branding, we have to continue our effort of using new media to enhance organizational visibility and impact. And for Sustainability, we have to set up ICT training centers that generate income to support our operations.

We are deeply grateful for the many generous donors who support AIR each year. Thank you so much to all of you who supported our work and to our committed staff teams and volunteers - without them none of this would be possible.

OUR
IMPACT

52
Teachers
Trained

19
Schools

130
Computers
Donated

3,102
Students
Impacted

3
New
Volunteers

6
Sponsors

160
Girls
Impacted

PROGRAM
OVERVIEW

iTeach ICT

Teachers play a critical role in the integration of ICT in teaching and learning, and their capacity must be built to effectively use ICT tools to enhance the teaching and learning process in the classroom.

The iTeach ICT program seeks to equip Science, Technology, English and Mathematics (STEM) teachers with the relevant skills and content to help them integrate ICT into their teaching and learning.

Computer4Change

The introduction of ICT as a compulsory subject under the new Ghana Education Service (GES) curriculum has created a massive challenge to schools that lack access to ICT infrastructure, computers, and qualified teachers. It is hard for these schools to implement the ICT component of the syllabus. Majority of students in Ghana do not have the ICT proficiency required to pass the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE) successfully.

The Computer 4 Change program seeks to solicit and distribute low-cost refurbished computers with relevant open source educational software to schools in underserved communities where the digital divide is at its greatest.

Girls In Tech (GTech)

The GTech Club works to educate, inspire, and equip high school girls with the skills and resources to pursue opportunities in computing fields. This program teaches girls to develop computer games, animation, mobile applications and web design.

We partner with schools and technology companies to close the gender gap in thetechnology sectors. We train volunteer teachers with technical backgrounds, provide them with curriculum, support and computers, and match them with our education partners.

Mobile4Life

The Mobile 4 Life program aims to reduce the high mortality rate among pregnant women and infants in Ghana by using mobile phone solutions to improve the local healthcare system. This is achieved by equipping community health workers and pregnant women with mobile phones to send and receive important pregnancy and childbirth information in their own language via text and voice messaging.

PROJECT:
iTEACH ICT

Teachers play a critical role in the integration of ICT in teaching and learning, and they must be trained to effectively use ICT tools to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom. The objective of the iTeach ICT program is to train Science, Technology, English and Mathematics (STEM) teachers with the relevant skills and content to help them integrate ICT into their teaching.

This year with funding from Sankofa Tech Inc. we trained 52 teachers from 9 schools:

- Mary Afriyie SDA JHS (host school)
- Mamponteng R/C JHS "A"
- Nureel Huda Islamic JHS
- Mamponteng R/C JHS "B"
- Fawoade D/A JHS
- Nuriya Islamic JHS
- Ntonso SDA JHS
- Dumanefo D/A JHS
- Mamponteng D/A JHS

The teachers were taught how to create and use interactive Microsoft PowerPoint presentations for their daily and weekly lesson plan. They learnt how to use the internet to conduct online research to find reliable and useful information (for example, searching for images for lessons) and store it in the cloud via Google Drive. The teachers explored Microsoft 2010 Excel software to create simple and complex formulas and also how to use these formulas to solve real life problems in the classroom.

They were also introduced to some of the technology tools they can integrate in their classrooms, such as laptop, LCD projector, projector screen, camera, scanner, printer and iPad.

These teachers can potentially transfer these skills to over 800 students.

PROJECT:
COMPUTER4CHANGE

A total of 130 computers were donated through the Computer 4 Change program this year. Of these, 50 computers went to schools in Tamale, La, Hohoe and Kumasi, 25 to the Michael Lapsley Foundation in Accra, 40 to the E.P, Church youth center and 15 computers to the Ghana Education Service (GES) in Shama.

In 2016 we provided 3,102 students in 19 schools with access to computers. However, 33 schools still need computers.
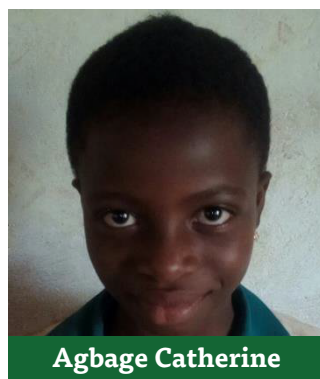
Computers open a world of opportunities to these children, from learning how to browse the internet to looking for answers to questions. Some of these children have only heard of computers or seen pictures in their textbooks. With no practical knowledge, they face a real handicap in this technologically advanced world. Students of beneficiary schools are learning to type, use social media and download apps while improving their ICT scores.
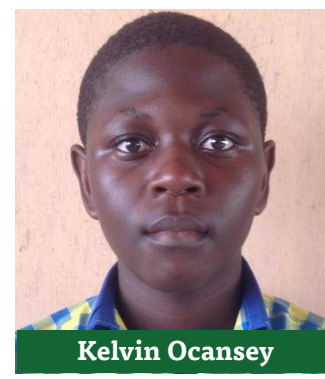
Our goal in 2017 is to donate 330 computers to 33 public schools. We require funds to the tune of $47,763 to achieve this goal.
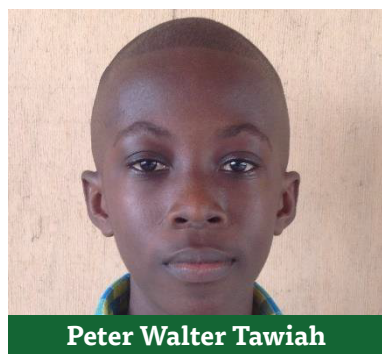
Ayiko Kekeli

"I know what a computer is because I had never seen a computer before."

Agbage Catherine

"The computer makes me come to school because I want to touch, play and learn with the computer."

Kelvin Ocansey

"I want to thank AIR for providing these computers, with them I personally was able to improve my ICT grades compared to last term."

Peter Walter Tawiah

"Since Africa ICT Right donated computers to the school, it has helped me in doing homework."

Matilda Nai

"Because of the computer, I have been able to know what is going on in other countries."

Precious Lawoe

"Since the computers are in our school, it has helped me in using Microsoft Word to type."

PROJECT:
GIRLS IN TECH

The Shama GTech Centre, located in the fishing community of Shama in the Western Region, is one of the three IT labs established by Africa ICT Right to promote gender equality in ICT education. Started in 2015, the centre trains about 160 Junior High School girls from 4 schools every academic year in basic coding. The girls are also mentored to take up careers in the IT industry.

The centre boasts 20 computers and a projector, and is valued at GHC 54,000.

In May 2016, the centre was officially handed over to the District Assembly as part of an agreement in an MOU between Africa ICT Right and the Assembly. A five-member Management Committee was also commissioned to oversee the effective management of the centre. The project has been successful and has encouraged girls to focus on ICT.

PROJECT:
MOBILE 4 LIFE

In 2013, an estimated 289,000 women died due to complications in pregnancy and child birth in Ghana; dwon from 523,000 in 1990 but still far behind the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 5.

Ghana is currently working towards the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 which aims at reducing maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030. Maternal death is mostly preventable and can be achieved by providing care to pregnant women. Experts have attributed the cause for such high maternal mortality to the lack of information and access to healthcare. While women in the developing world are faced with scarcity of information and access to healthcare, in developed countries, access to both is just a phone call away.

According to the 2014 Techiman Municipal Health Directorate Annual Report, a three-year trend analysis indicated that Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) have been on the rise in the municipality; 218, 220 and 298 deaths were recorded in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. This has urged authorities to select Techiman municipality for the Mobile 4 Life Project.

Africa ICT Right (AIR) recognizes that in this modern world, mobile phones present a potential opportunity to address and positively impact the many health challenges facing patients and hospital staff. AIR has partnered with Medic Mobile and VOTO Mobile to implement the Mobile 4 Life project in the Techiman Municipality in the Brong Ahafo region of Ghana.

The Mobile 4 Life project aims to reduce the high mortality rate among pregnant women and infants by 40% in the Techiman Municipality by using mobile phone solutions to improve local healthcare delivery. Mobile phones equip community health workers and pregnant women to send and receive important pregnancy and childbirth information in their own language via text and voice messaging.

To achieve this primary objective, AIR will implement the following activities within the municipality:

1. Organize community sensitization meetings across 40 communities within Techiman municipality.

2. Organize training workshops for 46 nurses, 10,418 pregnant women, 262 Community Health Workers, 655

3. Community Health Committee members and 24 Heads of Antenatal Care Unit.

4. Equip 23 health facilities and 262 Community Health Workers with the skills to utilize the Mobile 4 Life solution for monitoring during pregnancy.

5. Equip the municipal health directorate to monitor and collect accurate data on maternal and child health.

6. Develop and distribute local healthcare content to pregnant women and healthcare workers.

This project will run for 2 years, targeting a total of 161,872 beneficiaries within Techiman municipality. The total budget for the Mobile 4 Life project is $323,550.
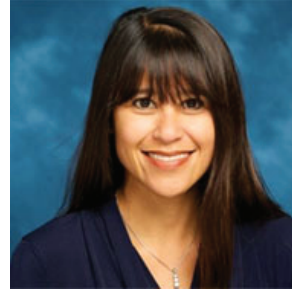
MEET OUR
TEAM

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Founder & Executive Director

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Writer / Editor

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Office Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS
THANK YOU!

Our donors made it possible for us to realize our vision for 2016 and we are deeply grateful to them.

SANKOFATECH

CLOSE THE GAP BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

WeTech™

Educaghana (Belgian charity Society)

With sponsoring of 2 Belgian governments

west-vlaanderen   And   **KUURNE**

A4AI ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE INTERNET

computer reach humanitarian computer outreach

In 2016 we recruited three new volunteers:

1. Elikem Gadzekpo - Fundraising Manager
2. Dan Rocklin - Marketing Manager
3. Damayanti Chandrasekhar - Writer / Editor