

2007-2008

ANNUAL REPORT



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Africa ICT Right



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1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A word of thanks to the individuals and organizations who successfully contributed their support, time and experiences in helping Africa ICT Right in its activities since its incorporation in 2007.

Donors and Partners

AIR is proud to have developed partnerships and membership affiliations with the following organizations:

1. CompTIA Foundation
2. Microsoft
3. Canadian Education and Training Awards (CETAA)
4. Interconnection
5. OneWorld Africa
6. Wango
7. Kabissa
8. Junior Achievement
9. Ikando
10. Taking IT Global
11. ItrainOnline
12. Computer Aid International

Individuals

Mr. Emmanuel kobby Yawson, *Hyperlink Network System Ltd*

Mr. David McNally, *Associate Director, Peace Corps.*

Mr. Sam Adeyemi, *Unlimited Potential Group Project Manager, Microsoft, Nigeria*

Mr. Bright Appiah, *Executive Director, Children's Rights International*

Governing Council

Mr. Simon Yakah, *Educationist- Chairman*

Mr. William Grant, *Management Consultant, Member*

Mr. Daniel Kwaku Ganyoame, *Executive Director, Africa ICT Right-Member*

Mrs. Abigail Ganyoame, *Businesswoman, Secretary*

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Organizational Profile

Africa ICT Right (AIR) is an ICT-oriented non-profit organization established in 2007 with its Head Office in Accra in Ghana. It is registered as an NGO (under the Companies code 1963, Act 179) with the Registrar General's Department (Registration No. G.20,276) and also with the Department of Social Welfare (Registration No. DSW/3613).

Africa ICT Right's aim is to uplift rural and urban communities in developing countries by providing educational resources, technology resources and training to empower the youth to improve their lives and also to bridge the digital gap.

Africa ICT Right (AIR) was created out of a belief that the modern world is in the midst of a profound transformation in which personal computer and Internet technologies play a critical role. However, some groups in our society are not being included in this progress, which we believe is a detriment not only to the disenfranchised, but also to our society. A recent study showed that Africa households are increasingly falling behind the rest of the world population in computer ownership. We believe that people must have access to computing and Internet resources in order to participate in the emerging information economy.

Currently, a 5-member Governing Council composed of dedicated corporate and community leaders who volunteer their time and resources, governs Africa ICT Right and decides its priorities. Africa ICT Right expects to take a leadership role through helping build a community that cares about its citizens by bringing together business, labour, the non-governmental organizations, and the government where appropriate. It is clear that regional or community needs can rarely be met by just one organization or institution. Africa ICT Right would therefore develop the organized capacity for people to care for one another; leveraging resources to get this accomplished. Through this approach, Africa ICT Right will act as a natural interface and a representative link between donors and communities. AIR will provide support for donors who are interested in making contributions to meet the education, development and other critical needs of Ghanaian communities.

2.2 Our Vision

Our vision is to build a computer literate society by providing access to computers and inspiring people to use ICT to make a positive difference in their communities.

2.3 Mission Statement

Our mission is to become an ICT champion in Ghana by providing technology resources and literacy to less privileged youth and communities with no access to computer, to empower the youth and to bridge the digital divide by helping to establish Community Technology Centers with at least one computer in each classroom by 2020.

In our five-point strategic approach to ICT for development, we aim at:

- Connectivity
- Access
- Education
- Content
- Research

2.4 Values

The values governing Africa ICT Right development are as follows:

- We must pursue excellence in everything we do.
- We are sustained by supporting each other professionally and personally.
- Our culture requires personal growth, respect, honesty, openness, and humility.
- We are responsible for making prudent and wise use of all of our resources in ways that achieve goals most efficiently.
- We will make a meaningful difference by recognizing and pursuing opportunities, thinking creatively, and taking thoughtful action.
- Our grant decisions must be guided by research, purposeful discussion, fact-based judgments, fairness, and clearly articulated expectations.
- We must hold ourselves to high standards of effective grant making and our granters to high standards of performance.
- We will advance the areas in which we work by acknowledging and sharing our failures and successes with others.
- We are privileged to do this work.

Each associate of the AIR is responsible for bringing these words to life.

2.5 Core Service Areas

Our major program areas include:

CONNECTIVITY

- ICT Centers for schools and communities
- Libraries

ACCESS

- To supply computers to schools and communities
- To set up computer recycling centers

EDUCATION

- ICT training for youth and teachers
- ICT Awareness & Sensitization

CONTENT

- IT training content (on CDs and Website based)

RESEARCH

- ICT research (mobile phone technology, e-governance, solar energy, telecentres, mobile van, e-agriculture, telemedicine, e-banking etc.)

3.0 COMMITTEES

Africa ICT Right's Committees established by the Governing Council consist entirely of volunteers. Each committee is chaired by a member of the Governing Council who presents recommendations of his/her committee to the Governing Council for approval.

3.1 Fund Raising Committee

This committee plans and implements a yearly campaign and action plans for obtaining donor funds.

3.2 Programmes Committee

This committee:

- ⌚ Identifies potential projects based on eligibility criteria.
- ⌚ Organize workshops and seminars for selected staff and governing council members to further enhance their capability.
- ⌚ Tracks progress and results of funded programs to ensure targets and objectives are met.

3.3 Disbursement Committee

This committee works hand-in-hand with the Programmes Committee. This committee:

- ⌚ Develops eligibility criteria for target programmes
- ⌚ Disburse funds for approved programmes / projects
- ⌚ Monitor programme implementation and accountability

3.4 Public Relations Committee

This committee serves as the public relations outfit of the organization. The Public Relation Committee:

- ⌚ Develops communication materials like booklets, brochures, print and electronic advertising etc.
- ⌚ Builds a relationship between Africa ICT Right and the Ghanaian community through the media.

4.0 ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE



October 2008: Africa ICT Right (AIR) received scholarship from Canadian Education and Training Awards (CETAA) for its Executive Director to undertake a two-month Certificate course in NGO Management at GIMPA. The Executive Director successfully completed this course.



September 2008: AIR, with support from CompTIA Foundation, conducted a training program for 10 students under the Creating Future Program. The training course covered areas such as A+, Network+, Server+, Security+, and Project Management for IT Professionals



April 2008: AIR offered basic ICT training for 22 needy youth in Madina under its Catch *IT* Young Program. The training course covered areas such as Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Office (including Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint) as well as general web concepts such as navigation and searching.

5.0 ONGOING PROJECT

5.1 Completion of Likpe Todoma ICT and Library Project in the Ho Municipal Assembly

Under this project, there is not much to show for the structure right now. After a disappointing fundraiser, we are basically back to 'square one'. Also, we've applied to the US Ambassador's Self-Help Fund, but we have learned that their funding has been cut. However, communal labor in this village is very strong. We finish clearing the area and collecting stones and dirt. Soon we will start to make blocks for the building. Also, we are involved in a community-based tourism project, which brings in some money into the community. There is a possibility that some of this money could be used towards the ICT centre.

The total cost for Likpe Todoma ICT and Library Project is GH¢18,540

6.0 UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

6.1 Microsoft Unlimited Potential Program

Under the Microsoft Unlimited Potential Program, Africa ICT Right will have the opportunity to install genuine Microsoft Windows Xp, Microsoft Windows 2000, and Microsoft Office 2003 software's for about 20 schools across the country.

The total cost for the Microsoft Unlimited Potential Program is GH¢3,000

6.2 Construction of Suhum ICT Center Project

Under this project, AIR will build a multipurpose ICT Center in the Suhum/Kraboa community in the Suhum/Kraboa Coaltar District in the Eastern Region with the help a suhum citizen based in Canada.

The total cost for the multipurpose ICT Center Project is GH¢12,500

6.3 Creating Future Program

Africa ICT Right will receive an ICT sponsorship package from CompTIA Foundation for the training of 20 Students under their Creating Future Program of which successful Student will be awarded international certificate. The training course covered areas like A+, Network+, Server+, Security+, and Project Management for IT Professional.

The total sponsorship package from CompTIA Foundation is US\$3,260.

6.4 Digital Pipeline Program

Africa ICT Right will have the privileged to receive about 400 computers to supply to 40 schools across the country.

The total cost for the Digital Pipeline Program is GH¢6,500

7.0 CONCLUSION

Like many emerging economies, there has been a haphazard approach to addressing community concerns. While health stands as major donor priority and receives the bulk of corporate giving, there are also other concerns including skills training, youth activities, homelessness, girl child education, etc, that lack the type of investment needed for Ghana to grow.

Over the years, we have accomplished some of the aims and objectives as a formidable non-governmental organization. Africa ICT Right in the year 2008 has also been innovative in the delivery of services to its target groups.

We have conducted our services and operations in accordance with the generally accepted standards. These standards require that we plan and perform the delivery of assistance to attain reasonable assurance even though we have been faced with financial and unforeseen obstacles.

The organization maintains a low budget due to financial constrains and the difficulty to secure enough financial support. Never the less, contributions through personal donations of the Executive Director and on the accrual basis of accounting have made our success commendable.

Based on evidence, our assessment of the past years' support to the needy and as well as evaluating our future programs have been fair and in conformity with the general mission of our organization.