



# ANNUAL REPORT

2015

Africa ICT Right

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## 1.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Since our inception, Africa ICT Right have been removing barriers to digital literacy and sustainably bridging the digital divide. By access to the necessary skills to utilise modern information and communication technologies, communities obtain an unbridled opportunity to facilitate their own solutions.

The year 2015 was hugely successful for Africa ICT Right. The progress made with partners was a pleasing aspect, not only did we set up ICT lab, train more teachers and install more computers in schools but we did it at a higher level of quality by delivering an even better offering to schools through improved training, educational content and support than previous years.

Our achievements would not be possible without our talented team and those who generously volunteer their time. It is always hugely motivating to walk into AIR office and see such dedicated people giving their time and skills towards our goal of empowering communities through technology.

This is just the start. We have started to map out our strategy for the next three years. Central to this will be proving the impact we are having and delivering an even better quality offering to schools. We have made great strides on our training and now need to ensure we have context specific educational content that can enable teachers to do an even better job. In addition, we need to ensure that our engagement with schools does not end at the training and dispatch, but rather it will be the start of a long term relationship with associate schools.

I can't close this foreword without expressing a word of appreciation and thanks to all our strategic partners and sponsors, to the members of our Board as well as to the members of our staff for supporting our organisation to bridge the digital divide.

Thank you.



**Daniel Kwaku Ganyoame**  
**Executive Director/ Founder**

## 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, 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).

We believe that Information technology is a powerful driver of economic and social progress, but there is great inequality in the distribution of these tools—some people are able to use them but most are not. The result is a severe “digital gap”:

We partner with schools, technology companies and community organisations to address this detriment through an integrated development programs that provide low-cost refurbished computers with relevant open source educational software, support and teacher training directed at schools and community centers especially in less privileged areas where the digital divide is at its greatest.

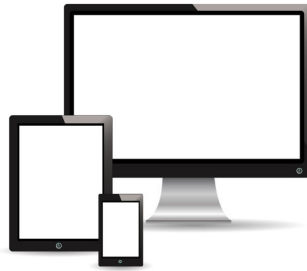
By staying at the cutting edge of technological and educational trends, AIR remain the leading supplier of integrated ICT solutions to the educational institutions in Ghana, empowering learners and staff with the most appropriate hardware, software, service and skills.

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 in Ghana and to inspire people to use ICT to make a positive difference in their communities.

## 2.3 Mission Statement



Our mission is to provide technology resources, training and technical support to less privileged schools, to empower youth to use information technology, and to establish Computer Technology Centers in underserved communities.

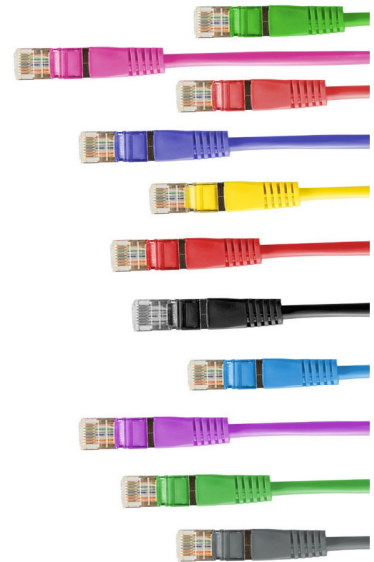
In our five-point strategic approach to ICT for development, we aim at:

- Connectivity
- Access
- Education
- Content
- Research

## 2.4 Objectives

AIR's main and broad objectives are:

- To ensure that schools and communities have access to ICT labs.
- To provide low-power and low-cost computers.
- To provide ICT training for teachers and youth.
- To close the gender gap in the technology sectors.
- To identify critical national problems pertaining to education and technology.
- To work in close collaboration with schools, communities, institutions, governmental and private organizations to implement ICT awareness programs.



## 2.5 Our Main Programmes

Our major program areas include:

### CONNECTIVITY

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- ICT Centers for schools and communities
- Libraries

### ACCESS

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

### EDUCATION

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- ICT training for youth and teachers
- ICT Awareness & Sensitization
- ICT clubs in schools

### CONTENT

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- ICT training content (on CDs and Website based )
- Content training for youth and teachers

### RESEARCH

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- 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**

- Plans and implements a yearly campaign and action plans for obtaining donor funds.

#### **3.2 Programmes 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**

Works hand-in-hand with the Programmes committee. This committee shall:

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

#### **3.4 Public Relations Committee**

Serves as the public relations outfit of the organization. The Public Relation Committee shall:

- 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 ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

The following targets were accomplished in the year:

### April 2015 USAID AND IREX WEST AFRICA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

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In April, USAID in partnership with IREX organised a regional conference in West Africa to support continuous networking and professional development for the 2014 class of Mandela Washington Fellows. The Mandela Washington Fellowship is the flagship programme of President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI).

The regional conference brought together Mandela Washington Fellows from 21 countries in West and Central Africa as well as decision makers from the private sector, the US government, International and local organization representatives participated in the event (approximately 200 – 300 attendees).



In addition to participating in the West Africa Regional Conference, IREX also extended an invitation for our organization to participate in a partnership expo. The expo enabled our company representatives to connect with YALI fellows on an individual basis, showcase our work and promote our available volunteer opportunities as well as network with leading companies and organizations from the private, public, and non-profit sectors.

Our Executive Director, Mr. McDaniel Duafah, the administrative officer and Miss Bernadette Afful, the communication officer, were in attendance.

### April 2015 WOMEN IN TECH GHANA SPECIAL SESSION

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As part of the regional conference organized by USAID and IREX, the Women in Tech Ghana Network extended an invitation to AIR to attend a special session entitled "Women and Technology – The Future for Africa." The program was held in the evening at the Alisa Hotel.

Women in Tech Ghana Network is a formal Pan-African Network of Women in Technology who organizes regular activities to provide support to women in technology across various African



countries. It encourages mentoring and provides excellent networking opportunities to its members. The group meets every month.

This dynamic session brought together speakers such as Founder of Women in Tech Ghana, Ethel Cofie; Airtel MD, Lucy Quist; Mobile Web Ghana Director, Florence Toffah and David Hutchful, Director of technology and innovation at Grameen Foundation.

Our Executive Director, Mr. McDaniel Duafah, the administrative officer and Miss Bernadette Afful, the communication officer were in attendance.

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### **May 2015                      FIELD TRIP TO PROJECT SITE IN TAMALE**

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On 21<sup>st</sup> May, AIR's technical team went on a one week field trip to Tamale in the Northern region to monitor and evaluate our existing projects in that region. The team met with the principal of the schools under our GTech project as well as some beneficiaries' students to find out the impact of the project as well as the challenges facing them in accessing the GTech project.

The team also met with some opinion leaders of the community where the GTech Resource center is sited to deliberate on how the project can have maximum impact on the people in the located community.

This project was made possible with funding from the Google RISE program.



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### **July 2015                      ESTABLISHMENT OF GTECH RESOURCE CENTRE IN SHAMA**

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In our quest to bridge the gender gap in ICT, AIR established an ICT resource centre called 'GTech Resource Centre' in Shama within the Shama District in the Western Region. This project was made possible from funding provided by Women Enhancing Technology (WeTech).



The centre is furnished with 20 computers with internet access, an LCD projector and screen.

The centre serves over 200 girls from four basic schools within the district including Shama Catholic JHS, Methodist JHS, Model JHS, and Castle JHS.

It is our hope that this project will be sustained

for a long period of time. As part of a sustainability plan for the centre, we engaged with opinion leaders and the district education directorate in terms of recruitment of the schools and the identification of a suitable location for the centre. An MOU was also signed with the district assembly to takeover supervision and operation of the centre after a year.

The representatives from the beneficiary schools and opinion leaders of the community who received the facilities on behalf of the beneficiaries were enthusiastic and expressed great joy upon receiving the facilities.

They were grateful to AIR and particularly to WeTech for the gesture extended to them and pledged to use the facilities for the intended purpose and also keep it well maintained.

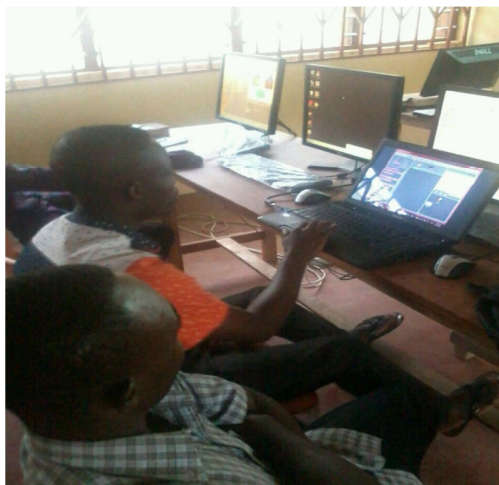
### **July 2015                      TRAINING FOR TEACHERS IN SHAMA**

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As part of the GTech program in Shama, we held a three days training programs for 5 teachers and 2 volunteers from the beneficiary's schools from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of July, 2015. The teachers and volunteers were taken through the 16 weeks lesson plan for the program.

It was a training to introduce the teachers to the Scratch program; a great tool which introduces children to computer science, it is very easy, and helps children to create their own games, animations and interactive stories. As well as how they can deliver basic coding skills using scratch programming language to the young girls under the program.

It was a successful event, seeing the teachers developing their own interactive stories using Scratch at end of the three days session.



**August 2015**

**OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SELECTED FOR THE YALI INITIATIVE**

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Our Executive Director, Daniel Kwaku Ganyoame was selected as part of the 2015 Pioneering Cohort of the YALI Regional Leadership Center, West Africa in Accra, Ghana.

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) is a signature effort launched by the President of U.S.A., Barrack Obama, in 2010. The initiative is led by the United State government and the U.S. Department of State in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to invest in the next generation of African leaders by supporting young African leaders to spur growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, enhance peace and security, and shape the future of business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership and public management across Africa.

Our Director was part of the 100 young emerging leaders selected out of 3,000 West



African leaders who had applied for the Pioneering Class of July 2015. The first cohort of 100 young men and women were between the ages of 18 and 35 and hailed from Togo, Nigeria, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Burkina Faso, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

Daniel's recognition highlights his work over many years to empower communities through technology. He has initiated innovative programs such as Girls In Tech (GTech) which aims to close the gender gap in the technology sector and Mobile 4

Life which is designed to provide timely access to antenatal care to pregnant women through a multi-media mobile phone application. This important project is yet to be implemented due to funding.

**September 2015**

**GTech CLUBS FORMED IN SHAMA**

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Africa ICT Right realising the low participation and general apathy of women towards ICT formed 6 GTech Clubs in Shama within the Shama District in the Western region to whip up females interest in technology. The GTech club works to educate, inspire, and equip high school girls with the skills and resources to pursue opportunities in computing fields. The Club is made up of 120 young girls aged 9-14 selected from 4 different





Junior High schools.

The launch of these GTech clubs within these four schools will not have been possible with funding provided by Women Enhancing Technology (WeTech) because initiate like this have implemented before but fail due to various challenges that the schools faces like access to computer lab, power outages, computers, lack of supervision, etc and all these challenges have been taken care of in this project.

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**December 2015**

**CLOSE THE GAP DONATES TO AIR PROJECT**

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Close the Gap with sponsorship from ESSENT, the largest energy company in the Netherlands, donated 90 refurbished computers to Africa ICT Right as its local service partner in Ghana.

Close the Gap is an international non-profit organization that aims to bridge the digital divide by offering high-quality, pre-owned computers donated by large and middle-sized corporations or public organizations to Educational, Medical, Entrepreneurial and Social projects in developing and emerging countries.

The donated computers will be distributed to selected schools and communities in 2016 through AIR Computers 4 Change program.

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**December 2015**

**VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED**

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During the year in review, the organization recruited ten (10) volunteers to assist in its operations. The volunteers include:

1. Federico Flamenco as Development Director
2. Kim Camacho as Human Resource Director
3. Todd Walls as Consultant (Communication)
4. Wycliff Coward as Consultant (Strategic)
5. Roselyn Obasi as Marketing and Partnership Manager
6. Bernadette Afful as Communication Officer
7. Sumita Chandrasekhar as member of the eLearning Content team
8. Patrick Higgins as member of the eLearning Content team
9. Matt Camara as member of the eLearning Content team and
10. Shakis Drummond as member of the eLearning Content team



The following volunteers completed their volunteer work at the end of 2015:

1. Bernadette Afful after 9 months with us as Communication Officer.
2. Sabrina Pinto after 6 months with us as leader of the eLearning Content Developer
3. Todd Walls after 5 months with us as Consultant (Communication)
4. Paige Mason after 4 months with us as eLearning Content team member and
5. Fredrick Neo after 4 months with us as member of the eLearning Content team.





## 5.0 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.

### **Individuals**

Mr. Ronan Caffrey, World Computer Exchange

### **Governing Council**

Mr. Emmanuel MensahAppiah- *Chairman*

Mr. Emmanuel OwusuOware- *Vice Chair*

Mr. Charles Nornoo - *Member*

Mr. Michael AdumattaNyantakyie - *Member*

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

### **Donors and Partners**

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



*humanitarian computer outreach*



**CLOSE THE GAP**  
BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE