



## **AFRICA ICT RIGHT**

**Empowering Communities Through ICT** 



## **ORGANIZATION 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:

- Enhanced access to IT infrastructure in public schools
- Enhanced quality of teaching and learning of STEM in schools.
- Improved access to quality health care in rural areas.
- Closed the gender gap in the technology sector.
- Collaborate with partners and communities for 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 privileged doing this work.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

First of all, I want to wish everyone a good start to the New Year 2020.

I am delighted to report that 2019 was a year of significant growth for AIR, with many successes to celebrate. During the year, AIR played an important role in the training of teachers and students in STEM, and also adding another Digital Village ICT Learning Center at Savelugu. Please see the impact page for more details.

It is absolutely unimaginable for many to envision a life without a computer and uninterrupted access to the Internet. Unfortunately, not everyone in our part of the world can afford this seemingly indispensable privilege. Therefore, we at Africa ICT Right have taken it upon ourselves to cater to the needs of the technologically unprivileged communities by providing them with access to ICT.

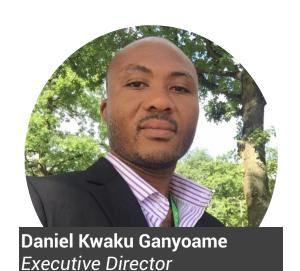
The goals for 2020 are to train more teachers in STEM because of the introduction of Scratch in the new curriculum, expand our Mobile 4 life program to reach more pregnant women, and to reach more students through our after-school coding club.

We envision reaching out to more students through our Digital Village Learning Centers in Battor and Savelugu.

2020 will be a pivotal year for AIR since we will be reviewing our impact to date and designing our strategy for the next four years. We will engage all of our stakeholders, including our partners, donors, beneficiaries, communities, and government authorities, in developing our strategy for 2020 and beyond.

As we conclude another year, we are thankful to God for His faithfulness and grace. I thank our Chair and the Board members who motivate and guide us and our committed staff and volunteers who work with one heart and one mind towards bridging the digital gap in these underserved communities. We acknowledge most sincerely, all our communities, stakeholders and partners, government authorities, sponsors and donors for their support and encouragement.

We are hungry for more. We seek to build on past achievements, driven by a faith which urges us to tackle these challenges head on and to constantly refine the way we work and as a result, improving the quality of our service to our beneficiaries.



# CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Another year has gone by in which Africa ICT Right (AIR) can celebrate its successes and evaluate its challenges in reaching out to the most vulnerable communities in Ghana with ICT—Based solutions. The year 2019 saw our strong commitment toward bringing ICT access to vulnerable communities.

Access to ICT is a key driver for the development of any society in today's world. Improving access to information contributes to the elimination of poverty and disease, leads to better education, provides job opening and job creation opportunities and allows for greater gender equality. However, the cost of new equipment, limited infrastructure, and the lack of IT knowledge and proficiency, means that many people still have no access to IT. AIR aims at closing this gap.

In our effort to close the digital gap in 2019, we opened a new Digital Village Learning Center in Savelugu, trained 494 youth in ICT, trained 268 students in ICT, and also reached 2,575 girls through our STEM education program.

At our last Board meeting, my fellow Directors were impressed with the excellent presentations that demonstrated the progress made through AIR's programs. The stories of transformation captured on videos, and the testimonies presented to the Board made us all feel so blessed to be a part of AIR.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the staff of Africa ICT Right for their selfless efforts in maintaining the core values of empowering underserved communities through ICT.

We acknowledge our partners and donors, especially ATC Ghana and Motorola foundation for their continued support.

We look forward to the coming year with a renewed commitment to our communities.

We say "Thank You" to all our stakeholders for your continued support, and look forward to creating and sharing more reports of the impact of AIR in our communities with you in 2020!



## **PROGRAMS** OVERVIEW

#### **ITEACH ICT**



Teachers play a critical role in the integration of ICT in teaching and learning, and that 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 aid them integrate ICT into their teaching and learning.

#### **COMPUTER 4 CHANGE**



The introduction of ICT as a compulsory subject under the new Ghana Education Service (GES) curriculum has created a massive challenge as most schools lack access to ICT infrastructure, computers, and qualified teachers to implement the ICT component of this syllabus.

Thus, the majority of students do not have the ICT proficiency required to enable them 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**



Girls in Tech (GTech) is an after-school STEM education program for junior high school girls aged 9-16 from underserved communities.

The GTech program aims to close the gender gap in the technology sector by educating, inspiring, and equipping high school girls with the skills and resources to pursue opportunities in computing fields. Students learn basic coding skills, build exciting projects, and develop strong relationships with mentors in the field.

#### MOBILE 4 LIFE



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 local healthcare system and 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 respectively.

#### CONNECTING THE UNCONNECTED

Developing a model for a low-cost ICT centers in underserved communities in Ghana is a necessity for helping the country achieve a middle-income status and also meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Connecting the Unconnected program seeks to create a replicable low-cost ICT center model in underserved communities which can then be used throughout Ghana and Africa.

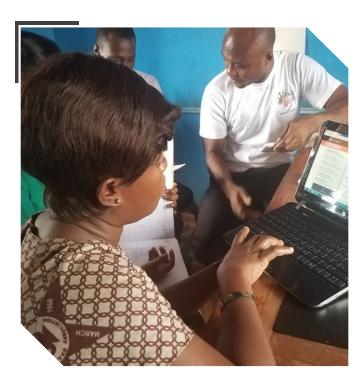
## OUR IMPACT

With your assistance and donations, we can reach more underserved communities who do not have access to ICT.

Visit: www.africaictright.org/get-involved to learn how you can make a change.

ICT LAB SETUP 1,326 197 GIRLS IMPACTED WOMEN IMPACTED 1,517
STUDENTS IMPACTED SCHOOLS REACHED NEW SPONSOR 494 YOUTH TRAINED

## PROJECT MOBILE 4 LIFE



and 23 community health workers (CHWs) to enable them to register new pregnancies in their communities, track patients' antenatal care visits with scheduled reminders, flag any high-risk pregnancy, and report deliveries at both health facilities as well as home deliveries.

We hope to implement a similar project with the EP Church Health Directorate in Wapuli in the Northern region in 2020.

Our partnership with the Methodist Health Directorate for the Mobile 4 Life project at Methodist Clinics at Aburaso and Bebu within the Atwima Kwanowa District of the Ashanti region came to a close in July 2019.

The project aims to reduce the mortality rate among pregnant women and infants in the Aburaso and Bebu communities. AIR setup two Mobile 4 life help desks for the health facilities, registered 197 pregnant women and also provided training for 10 midwives



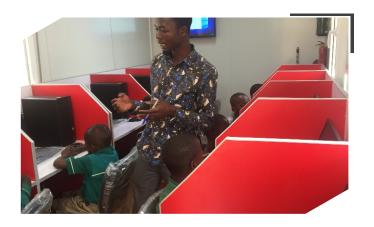
## PROJECT CONNECTING THE UNCONNECTED

Our partnership with ATC Ghana continued in 2019 with the inauguration of the 2nd Digital Village ICT Learning Center at Savelugu in the Savelugu Municipal Assembly in the Northern region. The inauguration was graced by dignitaries like the MP for Savelugu, the Honorable DCE for the municipality, the Municipal Education director, Chief of Savelugu, the Chief Imam for the area, ATC Ghana CEO, to name a few.

The Digital Village ICT Learning Centers at Battor and Savelugu saw 3,337 people through its doors including children, students, and adult learners.

The facility at both Battor and Savelugu provided free IT classes to 268 children who would otherwise have limited or no access to computers despite needing to pass IT exams as part of the national curriculum. It also provided valuable skills training to 12 IT teachers in these communities and to 494 youth and adults keen to develop their skills and improve their employment prospects.

The two centers were also used for our after-school STEM education program for girls and it reached 2,575 students in 2019 with funding from Motorola Foundation.









## PROJECT GIRLS IN TECH (GTECH)

One of AIR's most successful initiatives is our Girls In Tech (GTech) program. In 2019, this after-school STEM education program reached 2,575 students with funding from Motorola Foundation.

In partnership with the Ghana Education Service and ATC Ghana, we started a new STEM education project for students in Battor and Savelugu.

The project aims to get early learners interested in STEM education by engaging them in innovative, handson technology and engineering activities, such as coding, programming, and robotics using the free Scratch software.

In Savelugu, the Digital Village Learning Center trained 1,795 students while the Battor center trained 780 students on how to think critically and use engineering or technology in imaginative designs.





Students were also exposed to creative approaches to real-world problems while developing their mathematics and science based skills.

Of the number of students trained, 57% were girls and 43% were boys, with Savelugu recording 51% girls and Battor recording 54% girls. We have also received reports from some of the participating schools and teachers about the performance of the girls taking part in our coding program and the results have been positive.

In comparing their performance before the start of our project and after the project, there has been a significant improvement in their overall grades and specifically their STEM Grades.

# MEET OUR TEAM



DANIEL K. GANYOAME

FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MCDANIEL DUAFAH

OFFICE CORDINATOR

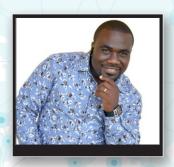


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