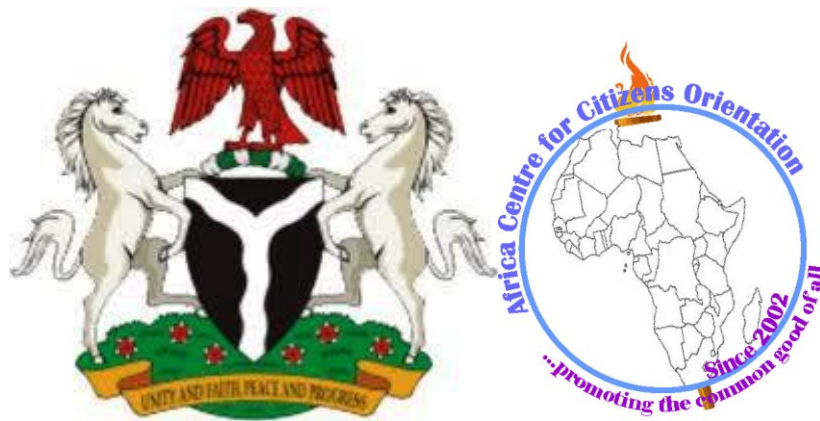


# COMMUNITY ICT SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT



## PROJECT REPORTS

# **COMMUNITY ICT SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT 2014 PROJECT REPORTS**

## **DESCRIPTION**

There is an increasing awareness among policy makers and development practitioners of the powerful role that ICT plays in enabling and empowering rural people with the necessary tools to improve their capacity across sectors.

However, in most developing countries of the world, the rural areas in comparison to their urban counterparts are underprivileged, because they lack ICT infrastructures and facilities. The challenges faced by various stakeholders are how to reduce the digital divide and create digital opportunities by providing rural communities with affordable, equitable, and quality access to ICT. One solution to these concerns is public access communication and information services for the benefit of rural dwellers, most especially students in schools and community youths.

In the rural schools, most lack access to ICT infrastructure, computers, and qualified teachers to implement the ICT education. The majority of students don't have the ICT proficiency to enable them use computer as research, communication and publishing tool.

The program focused on empowering students, Corp members and teachers within community schools with ICT education. Under this program, we trained students, IT teachers and principals to understand, maintain and operate the infrastructure, ensuring the project is sustainable in the long-term.

The Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Millennium Development Goals (OSSAP – MDGs) gave an approval to kick start the

Community ICT Sustainability Project Proposal submitted by the African Centre for Citizens Orientation (ACCO) on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2014.

Our organization was mobilized to project sites and letters were issued to carry out ICT training and bring sustainability to MDGs ICT Centre in three selected communities. The benefitted centres are: Iwere College Koko, Warri North Local Government of Delta State (South-South Zone); Queen of the Rosary College, Onitsha, Anambra State (South-East Zone); and Usman Dangwaggo Secondary School, Bungudu, Zamfara State (North-West Zone).

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

1. To improve quality of secondary education resulting in enhanced intellectual, social and cultural learning.
2. To provide training for students, Corp members and teachers to learn computer and gain ICT skills.
3. To bring sustainability to existing rural ICT centres in Nigeria with the aim of developing local efforts, promote integrated and whole systems oriented approaches to grassroots development.
4. To enable student, Corp members and teachers access new knowledge and information that can be incorporated into their local knowledge and context.
5. To complement and support the national human capacity development efforts by building a platform to absorb and develop young people talents and contributions using ICT, for the realization of Nigeria's economic vision and meeting the target of MDGs.

## **SCOPE**

- Identify community and school ICT needs
- Training for ICT Trainers
- Establishment of ICT Club
- Partnership with schools and technology companies
- Project for students to teach at after-school ICT club

- Intra and inter-school's ICT quiz competition
- Development of relevant offline educational content with our partner

## **OFFICIAL COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

### **1. IWERE COLLEGE, KOKO, WARRI NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF DELTA STATE (SOUTH – SOUTH ZONE)**

This centre was opened on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 after needs assessment has been carried out in two states of the South-South zone. General cleaning, proper maintenance and refurbishment were carried out by the Project Team. The opening ceremony and commission of the ICT Centre was held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 with the Representative of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs, Mr. Gbenga Abimbola Akinbola in attendance. Also in attendance were: the Representative of the Honourable Commissioner of Education, Delta State, Mr. Sonny Egoms who is also the Chief Inspector of Education in the State; the School Principal, the Director, School Management Board (SBM); the Reps, Honourable Chairman, Local Education Authority and National Youth Service Corps (NYSC); former Principal, members of Staff and also the Students.

Training and empowerment of members of staff and students started on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November and ended on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. The total number of 12 teachers/Corp members and 89 students were trained in the following areas: Computer simplified, Operating System, Internet Basic, Email Basic, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Child Online Protection, Entrepreneurship Development, MDGs and ICT and also Innovative Ideas. Please see attached for the training materials, video and pictures of the event.

## **2. QUEENS OF THE ROSARY COLLEGE, ONITSHA, ANAMBRA STATE – SOUTH EAST ZONE**

This centre was tagged MDGs Media Centre because it housed the MDGs ICT Centre and the school library. It is a multi-faceted centre used by the students, members of staff and Corp members for their day-to-day learning. This centre was brought back to life when our Team visited the school on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 and conducted orientation sessions with the students, members of staff and Corp members on how to maximize the use of the mega ICT centre within the school premises.

General cleaning, proper maintenance and refurbishment as needed were carried out by the Project Team led by Mr. Olugbenga Adeleye and Mr. Ernest Onyeka who also facilitated the training. The opening ceremony and commission of the ICT Centre was held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 with the Representative of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs, Dr. Ify Ukaegbu in attendance. Also in attendance were the School Principal, the Director, School Management Board (SBM); the Local Education Authority and National Youth Service Corps (NYSC); Sisters, members of Staff and also the Students.

Training and empowerment of members of staff and students started on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November and ended on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. The total number of 18 teachers/Corp members and 52 students were trained in the following areas: Computer Simplified, Operating System, Internet Basic, Email Basic, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Child Online Protection, Entrepreneurship Development, MDGs and ICT and also Innovative Ideas. Please see attached for the training materials, video and pictures of the event.

### **3. USMAN DANGWAGGO SECONDARY SCHOOL (UDSS), BUNGUDU, ZAMFARA STATE – NORTH WEST ZONE**

Our Team arrived at the Usman Dangwaggo Secondary School, Bungudu on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 and met the Centre in total disarray. It took the efforts of the Team to revamp the centre and commence the training in earnest.

The opening ceremony and commission of the ICT Centre was held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2014 with the Representative of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs, Mr. Gbenga Abimbola Akinbola in attendance. Also in attendance were the Emir of Bungudu, the Council Protocol, the Reps, Local Council, the School Principal, the Representative of the Honourable Commissioner of Education, Zamfara State, Chief Imam of Bungudu, the Local Education Authority and National Youth Service Corps (NYSC); members of Staff and also the Students.

Training and empowerment of members of staff and students started on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November and ended on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. The total number of 29 teachers/Corp members and 22 students were trained in the following areas: Computer simplified, Operating System, Internet Basic, Email Basic, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Child Online Protection, Entrepreneurship Development, MDGs and ICT and also Innovative Ideas. Please see attached for the training materials, video and pictures of the event.

#### **KEY DELIVERABLES**

- Infrastructures:
  - Hardware
  - Software
  - HP Printer
  - Internet Facilities

- Web Cam
- Power back-ups/Inverters
- Furniture
- Electrification
- Networking, etc
- Display system – Integrated Projector
- Faculty/facilitator
- Training to teachers and Capacity building
- Digital Content [offline/online ]
- Courseware/learning material
- Maintenance of equipment

## **OBSERVATIONS**

1. All the Centres except that of the QRC are not in use until the commencement of ICT Sustainability project.
2. All the centres are experiencing security challenges. Cases of burglary and theft were recorded in Iwere College and UDSS.
3. No permanent ICT/Computer teachers. Where there is, they are not competent or have little experience about computer.
4. Corp members' attitude to community development is poor. They need proper and adequate orientation about their roles in community development and national human capacity development.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The OSSAP-MDGs should liaise with the Federal Ministry of Education and National Youth Service Corps to post Corp members who studied computer science to the MDGs ICT schools in order to manage the centre properly.
2. OSSAP-MDGs should encourage the State Government to employ the services of security guards to man the centres.
3. OSSAP-MDGs should employ an ICT Manager for each centre or each zone who will continue the training with them.

4. The training materials or manuals used for the just concluded training should be published and distributed to all students and teachers in Nigeria to aid ICT learning and education. Adequate funding is needed from the OSSAP-MDGs to publish more training materials.
5. National ICT for Development Quiz Competition should be organized; this will go a long way in developing ICT skills among the students and bring about sustainability to the existing ICT centres in Nigeria.
6. Other MDGs ICT centres should be considered in the next budget year. The sustainability should be for all the centres knowing full well the roles and power of ICT to economic, social and cultural development.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is a great privilege to be part of this year's ICT Sustainability Project as funded by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Millennium Development Goals.

*Signed,*

**Mr. Olugbenga Adeleye**

*For: African Centre for Citizens Orientation*

Dated: