

Ghana: Library and ICT education

In Ghana children are prepared for future work by stimulating them in reading and teaching them computer skills to improve their chances in the future labor market. Net4kids' project partner in support of this educational resource center is To Be Worldwide.



Providing sustainable educational facilities

Encouraging creativity, flexibility and inventiveness in children alongside their practical skills have great implications for a community. Firstly it contributes to a broader perspective of the world, gives them more hope for the future and better chances in the labor market. All of which contribute to reducing poverty in that area.

Computer and internet facilities for Takoradi Educational Resource Center

The Takoradi Educational Resource Center in Takoradi, Ghana, is an educational facility that consists of a children's library and a book-related activities center. All services provided by the center are initially geared towards the primary school level (children aged 6-12). The Takoradi Educational Resource center complements the existing primary school system by providing access to books and activities. For example, it provides book reports, poetry writing, artwork, short drama productions, skills demonstrations to a number of different schools. As the aim is to offer children a broader perspective on life and better skills to enter the labor market, the introduction to computers at this stage in their learning process is vital. Through the cooperation with Net4kids Aid Foundation enough funds have been raised to realise the ICT needs, and computer classes are presently being set up.

Prepare children for future work by teaching them basic computer skills

- Develop computer and Internet skills of the children aged 10 and up
- Stimulate reading and math skills using different software
- Stimulate skills such as logic and creativity
- Develop typing skills
- Encourage communication with children from other schools
- Increase chances for these children in the labor market

Children learn the basic computer and Internet skills

All activities will be developed and guided by a professional computer tutor. He or she will be responsible for the development and implementation of the computer training and for keeping files on the students and report on their progress and achievements.

Hardware training Students will be taught how to hook up their computer and all its accessories. They will also be taught how to make necessary adjustments to sound, brilliance, printer cartridges, etc.

Software training All students will learn to work with basic software applications and will follow a 10-finger blind typing course. Other types of educational software will be introduced at this stage. /span>

Internet training This section includes the basics about how to use the Internet. As the Internet is the ultimate tool of global communication, the Centre will set up/join different virtual classrooms or forums and links with other primary schools within Ghana and abroad.

Give an additional computer tutor for Euro 2.400 per year and 500 more children are able to learn basic computer skills.

Where do we stand now?

The computer training facility is open and fully functioning. In order to enable as many children as possible to learn computer skills a second tutor has been assigned, for which funding is still needed. As the current accommodation is already becoming too small to make optimal use of all the available computers, the planning is to add a new classroom for next year.

as these skills will contribute to a broader perspective of the world, a better future and eventually better chances in the labour market. With this vision they aim to reduce poverty in developing countries.

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How to help

- Sponsor one or more sets of books for the library for Euro 130 per set of 10 books.
- A computer tutor for 1 year: Euro 2.400
- Educational software and games: Euro 500
- Materials for Arts and Crafts: Euro 1.000

About To Be Worldwide

To Be Worldwide, an organization that develops sustainable educational facilities in developing countries, is initiating the project. The Ghanaian Government, Unicef Ghana and the European Union are supporting the initiative. To Be Worldwide strives to implement its projects within the context of the existing education system and the overall vision on education policies of the nations concerned, including girls' educational issues. Their main area of operation is Ghana, West Africa. The goals of To Be Worldwide are to stimulate skills such as creativity, flexibility and inventiveness in children

Net4kids Aid Foundation

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If you had a chance to develop my country, I would ...?

By Kenneth Gyamfi

People always think of how to get such an opportunity to develop their country. For me, if I had a chance to do something to develop my country, I would like to do lots and lots of things.

I would first build roads, hospitals, railways, libraries for children etcetera. Then next, I would decrease disease that kill people. Then I would offer free education and Medicare for orphans and school children or students. I would build schools and also stop people from collecting bribes and other corrupts acts. I would then bring good sources of water to those who don't have water. Then I would give shelter to the poor freely. Then I would also bring food to those who have nothing to buy food. After that, I would also bring good markets.

I would then bring good teachers to teach the children in every school I have built. I would then build libraries for children to improve their reading skills and develop reading habits. Also, stop people from saying bad languages such as broken English. I would then build banks, chemical shops and other places. I would bring soldiers, policemen and women, life guard, fire fighters to protect people from criminals, burglars, murderers and other thieves. I would then build churches for Christians and mosque for Muslims. I would then stop people from serving idols and stop putting charms on their bodies for protection but they should serve God. I would then build villages, bridges.

As a way of communication, telephone booths and post offices will be built in various communities and towns. I would then tell people to stop using dangerous weapons such as guns, bombs, bows and arrows, knives and swords etc and that all men and women should see themselves as one.

The fight against drugs will be practiced. I would also tell them that drinking and smoking is a very bad thing that they must stop it at once. After that, I would advise them that if any body calls them to a very lonely place such as a bamboo house or a

house that has not been fully built, they should not go.

Much money will be spent on computers so that greater part of the population will be computer literates like I am now. Build Internet Cafés for computing and business managing. I would also build traffic lights for people with cars so that there can't be any accidents. I would also build a motor and bicycle way for motors and bicycles. I would also buy school buses for children under 6 years and children under 9 years. I would also buy taxis for teenager under 12 years and teenager under 17 years. I would also buy lorries, timber truck, wheelbarrows, brooms and mops, dustpans and dustbins and other tools for cleaning.

I would then buy fire trucks so that all the fire services workers of my country(Ghana) would drive quickly and reach the fire scene quickly. I would then buy both blackboards and chalks and a whiteboards and markers all for schools and other teaching areas. I would then build colleges and hostels for students who are in the Senior secondary schools. I would then build crèches for babies. After I would build a space port center so that astronauts can float in space, moon and other planets. I would also advise astronauts to fly skyrocket at night so that the sun cannot burn them and their skyrockets also.

I would then take the drunk hearts to a church so that he can be baptized in a lake. After, I would build storey buildings for those who work at the offices. I would also let all stagnant waters be dried up and kill all the adult mosquitoes in the tall grasses in my country with insecticide and weed the tall grasses to keep adult mosquitoes from breeding. I would also buy mosquito nets and mosquito coils. I would then chock all the gutters at the markets to keep rodents off. I would then cultivate or build house on lands of other people. I would then buy computers to people freely. After that, I would buy telephones, mobile phones, cars, faxes and printers freely. I would then connect the faxes, mobile phones and telephones. After, I would also connect the printers to the computers I freely bought for people.

After that, I would build petrol stations so that there would much petrol for cars. After, I would buy lots and lots of food items for people to sell. I would

also buy lots and lots of nails, hammers, saw and other carpentry materials. After that, I would bring plenty of dogs so that they can bark at the thieves and scare them. I would also build houses for a court. I would buy fast and wise cats so that they can kill all the rodents like a mouse that comes and contaminate food and steal people's cheese. I would also kill those who are called thieves. After that, I would buy lots and lots of machines like a crane, garbage machine and so on and so forth. I would also build toilets so that travelers can remove the waste in their body. After that, I will try to reduce the unemployment rate in the country by creating more jobs. After that, I would choose someone to be my helper so that we employ the people in my country. I would also bring a conference center in every city in Ghana.

It will not be a small job to do but can be achieved with the help of other intelligent people and ministries in the country.

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