

West Africa Regional Workshop on Youth, Information and Communication Technologies and Global Challenges



Date: 21 & 22 May 2014

Venue: Ghana-India Kofi Annan Centre of Excellence in ICT, Accra/Ghana

Organizer:

International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF INNOVATIVE APPROACHES
TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Supported by:



Ministry of Communications
Facilitating Information and Knowledge-based Society for Ghana



NATIONAL YOUTH AUTHORITY
GHANA



Foreign Affairs, Trade and
Development Canada

Workshop Objective:

Contributing to Youth engagement and Youth empowerment through modern Information and Communication Technologies in the context of Millennium Development Goals and post2015 Development Agenda with a particular focus on exploring the potentials and feasibility of IAAI's institutional and technological innovation "Global Challenges Youth and ICT Centers" in West African context for Fostering Entrepreneurship and Action oriented Civic Engagement of Young people in post2015 Sustainable Development Agenda by providing Internet Access, Collaborative Space, advanced Information and Communication Technologies Infrastructure as well as Capacity Building and Knowledge Management Services in partnership with local, national and international private and public partners with particular consideration of United Nations programs and goals.

Workshop Description

At the workshop a group of about 50 participants (youth representatives, ICT experts, social entrepreneurs, public sector, universities, etc) will discuss **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) needs for youth led civic engagement in post2015 global Sustainable Development Action in West African context.**

The workshop in Accra is a preparatory workshop for the **International Conference "Sustainable Development, Innovation and Youth" taking place 4 – 6 June 2014 in Klagenfurt/Austria** and shall explore how a planned **"Global Hub on Youth, ICT and Innovation for Sustainable Development"** based in Klagenfurt/Austria could interact and support youth engagement in Sustainable development action in West African countries' context – especially so with regard to setting up a global **network of Global Challenges Centers** as **local level ICT and knowledge nodes of a global action network for sustainable development.**

Agenda:

- 9.00 AM **Welcome** by the Organizers and Partners of the Event and other VIPs
- **Miroslav Polzer**, secretary General IAAI (Background and Rationale of the Workshop)
 - **Ras Mubarak**, Chief Executive Officer, National Youth Authority of Ghana
 - Dr. **Yahuza Tomda**, *Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation*
 - Mr **Vivek Verma**; NIIT Director and CEO
 - Mr **Enoch H. Cobbinah**; Ghana National Commission for UNESCO
 - Dr. **Cheryl Gopaul-Saikali**, High Commission of Canada Ghana Program DFATD
- 9.45 AM **Keynote Speech –**
“The Role of ICT and Youth Entrepreneurship in the Development Agenda of Ghana/West Africa”
H.E. Dr. **Edward K. Omane Boamah**, Minister for Communications in Ghana (*to be confirmed*)
- 10.15 AM **Tour de Table –**
Introduction of Workshop Participants and their expectations regarding the workshop
- 11.30 AM Coffee Break
- 12.00 AM **Introductory Presentation: Global Challenges – Global Opportunities:**
Sustainable Development, post2015 Development Agenda, ICT and Youth Engagement
Miroslav Polzer, IAAI & **Kirstie Adu-Gyamfi Angstmann & Freeman W.K Homatekpor**
- 1.00 PM Lunch
- 3.00 PM **Presentation of Youth, ICT and Innovation Programs and Initiatives - IAAI and Partners**
- *Concept presentation: Global Challenges Youth and ICT Centers in West Africa*
Maxwell Adew, IAAI representative in Accra/Ghana & **Abrahamane Ouedraogo**, IAAI representative in Burkina Faso & **Purpose Osamwonyi** (Nigeria)
 - *Presentation of plans for a “Global Hub on Youth, ICT and Innovation for Sustainable development (YouthICT4SD)” in Klagenfurt/Austria* which will provide global technical and financial support services and quality assurance to the GloCha centers network
Ravi Karkara, Children and Youth Advisor, UN Habitat and UN Millennium Campaign, New York (*Videomessage*)
 - *GloCha Centers as Satellite Based Internet Service Providers*
Tihomir Divjak and **Blaž Golob**, GoForeSight Institute Ljubljana/Slovenia (IAAI Partner) (*video message*)
- 5.00 **Related ICT for Development programs of UN agencies, Official Development Providers and Foundations in West African countries and Youth Perspectives**
- 22nd May
- 9.00 **Presentation of Good Practice cases of Youth Led ICT Based Action for Addressing Global Challenges in West Africa and Identifying Key Enabling Factors**
- 10.00 **Working Groups on country specific GloCha Centers Establishment Action Plans**
- identifying key partners among UN agencies (UNECA, UNDP, UN Habitat, ITU, etc.)
 - identifying national government and local government partners for pilot GloCha Centers
 - fundraising strategies (incl. crowdfunding on globalgiving.org etc.)
- 12.00 **Presentation of outcomes of the working Groups and Conclusions**
- 13.00 The **End** of the Workshop – The **Beginning** of a new promising Journey of West African Youth towards ICT empowered globally connected youth focused development

Accra+GlobalYouth  SocialGood

Accra Workshop on West African Youth, ICT and global Challenges is a +socialgood event
+SocialGood platform unites a global community of innovators around a shared vision:
The power of technology and new media to make the world a better place: www.plussocialgood.org