

organizes and presides over meetings with the ICT Think Tank.

## Ghana - Fact Sheet – Information Communication Technology Initiative

### History and Background

Information Communication Technology (ICT) is a global Peace Corps (PC) initiative. All Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) are encouraged to enhance their projects and partnerships with ICT.

In Ghana, PCVs have been harnessing emerging technology to assist with development issues for almost 50 years. In the last 10 years, ICT became a major objective in the Education Program and the first ICT teacher group of PCVs arrived in 2004.

### ICT Committee

The ICT Committee, called the “Think Tank,” is made up of one PCV representative from each sector and an ICT Coordinator. They are charged with promoting ICT education throughout all of PC – Ghana program sectors. Their responsibilities are to:

- Collect, polish, and distribute existing ICT resources (software, lesson plans, teaching and learning materials, e-books, exams, tutorials, etc.);
- Act as a link to outside (human and material) resources and information;
- Train PCVs in ICT skills during official training events and informal support channels;
- Research and develop new resources
- Help improve and develop the capacity of the Information Resource Center (IRC) located in the Peace Corps main office; and
- Assist staff in monitoring and evaluation (M&E), collecting baseline data; tracking progress; and assisting with the annual ICT initiative report.

### ICT Coordinator

The ICT Coordinator is a PCV, normally in the Education Program, who oversees the logistics and operations of the ICT committee. The ICT Coordinator serves as the ICT point of contact for the Peace Corps Ghana staff and ensures that information is disseminated among PCVs, staff, and ICT partners. The ICT Coordinator also plans,

### ICT Advisor

The ICT Advisor is a Peace Corps staff member who provides guidance and support to the ICT committee and all PCVs. The ICT Advisor helps identify local and national partners to further Peace Corps’ ICT efforts and ensures integration of ICT across all program sectors. The ICT Advisor provides resources and technical and general support for volunteers on issues relating to ICT. The ICT Advisor also monitors and helps evaluate the ICT initiative in Ghana and compiles annual reports to Washington D.C.

### ICT Program Implementation

The geographical distribution of PCVs enables Peace Corps to conduct ICT activities in all 10 regions of Ghana. Some recent PCV accomplishments in ICT:

- Training of over 5000 Ghanaian youth and adults in basic computer skills;
- Setting up of ICT Laboratories and provision of computers to schools and communities;
- Linking communities with internet services;
- Establishing an ICT wiki-website for information exchange;
- Developing software to help schools better develop schedules;
- Launching a multi-media, community outreach campaign to promote awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS in rural communities;
- Broadcasting program information about nutrition and the environment on the radio; and
- The use of social media to share stories and images of Ghana.