

About

The GhanaThink Foundation is a social enterprise that mobilizes and organizes talent for the primary benefit of Ghana. Our vision is to build a critical mass of young patriotic, passionate, positive, proactive, progressive and productive people in **Ghana**. We work in the youth empowerment space and we run mentoring, networking, volunteering and training programs. Our [Ghana Youth Social Entrepreneurship Program \(GYSEP\)](#) - **Komseko** trains and supports youth in Ghana in various professional, topical and sectoral skills. It began in 2017 through a partnership with the Digital Opportunity Trust. Social entrepreneurs and other participant groups are trained in workshops, through online courses, etc. They are also mentored. The training is free. The program includes competitive aspects where the top ranked trainees are awarded prizes and other benefits. There have been 2 cohorts of new social entrepreneurs: 20 in 2017 and 24 in 2018.

Through our **Barcamp Ghana** program, GhanaThink has engaged and inspired many social enterprises. Our **Junior Camp Ghana (JCG)** program provides value to high school students - a demographic that many social enterprises target. Our **Ghana Volunteer Program (GVP)** encourages more volunteerism which brings more social impact. As a social enterprise, GhanaThink is looking to help grow the social entrepreneur ecosystem - with more social enterprises instead of not-for profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs). We believe this would ensure more sustainable organizations and enterprises in general.

Komseko also covers the **AgroGhana** project run by GhanaThink which emerged from the DAIN Agribusiness Bootcamp. It is also covering aspects of the Jobcamp project run by GhanaThink in conjunction with STAR-Ghana in 2018.

Komseko started in 2017 as the **Ghana Youth Social Entrepreneurship competition**. GYSEP's training program is run in conjunction with Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT) - a Canadian charitable organization and social enterprise that delivers technology, entrepreneurship and leadership training programs to young people in East Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and Canada.

Komseko accepts applications from all over Ghana and selects the trainees based on carefully considered criteria that is similar to other attractive and great training programs globally. At least half of the selected trainees in the social enterprise cohort must be based outside of Greater Accra region (Accra) and half of them must be women. Due to our Barcamp Ghana program primarily, we are able to reach and impact such youth all over Ghana.

Learn more about our Digital Skills Program - <https://bit.ly/KomsekoDigitalSkills>.

Social entrepreneurs are trained through a semi-intensive 2 month period involving an online course and facilitated workshops. The trainees are ranked at the end of this period after a pitch competition (MVP prototype fair). They receive mentorship, support and other opportunities within GhanaThink's activities after the training in posterity. All trainees receive certificates of participation. They are also featured in various GhanaThink social media channels during and after the training program.

❖ +233267879382/ +233246881417

❖ gysep@ghanathink.org | [#GYSEP2018](#) | [#GYSEC2017](#)

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The **GhanaThink Foundation** has also continued to support them in various ways; mentorship, introductions to opportunities, etc.

Story

In 2017, 20 new social entrepreneurs were trained. 6 of the social entrepreneurs were awarded with funds to work on their ideas. They were Ivy Barley (Developers in Vogue), Princess Allotey - ArithOut (Kids And Math), Enam Agbozo - Y-TIDE(now Radix Nest), Justica Anima (Green Arts Culture), Lamisi Atinga (Savana Oils), and Mawuli Amenyedior - Ho Node Hub. They participated in the DOT Unconference in Kigali, Rwanda, where they presented their businesses and networked with other social entrepreneurs and other stakeholders. They have been able to establish great social enterprises and are continuing to grow and scale.

In the 2018 workshops, some of the 2017 class shared experiences with the program, how it helped them and how the current class should take advantage of the opportunities. They include **Isaac Sesi** (Nsesa Foundation), **Nana Yaa Ayim** (Proteos Technologies), **Saraswati Efua Arthur** (Reading Factory), Ivy Barley (Developers in Vogue), and Enam Agbozo - Y-TIDE(now Radix Nest).

In 2018, 24 new social entrepreneurs were trained. 3 of the following social entrepreneurs were awarded with funds to work on their ideas. They were **Proschia Gaisie**(Let's Share), Abdul Ehm Kannde (StarnaLabs), and **Doreen Aglago-Cofie** (Heighten Up). 6 of the trainees: **Proschia Gaisie**(Let's Share), **Emily Bansah** (Solar Barter), **Doreen Aglago-Cofie** (Heighten Up), **Bright Bruce Acquaye** (TGYC), **Simeon Martey** (Tamale Children Hub), **Michael Sedinam Tenu** (Xcel Packs)- participated in the DOT Unconference in Kigali, Rwanda, where they presented their businesses and networked with other social entrepreneurs and other stakeholders. They have been able to establish great social enterprises and are continuing to grow and scale.



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Our organization & teams

The [GhanaThink Foundation](#) is registered in Ghana and the USA. GhanaThink has been nominated and named amongst the best social enterprises in Africa. Our current programs are [Barcamp Ghana](#), [Junior Camp Ghana](#), [Ghana Volunteer Program](#) and [Ghana Youth Social Entrepreneurship Program](#). We are also running networking events in different parts of Ghana - with events done already in Kumasi, Tamale, Kasoa, Koforidua and Cape Coast.

Through our projects, GhanaThink has given birth to **Museke, Kasahorow, ReachGhana** which we incubated for a few years and now are autonomous. We have also run **Jobcamp Ghana, Tech Camp West Africa, FiestaDebate**, etc. GhanaThink has local teams in all regional capitals as well as Kasoa and Tema that drive our projects as well as partner projects.

GhanaThink is run by more than 100 volunteer members. **Komseko** is run by a team made up of - **Richmond Anane, Esperanza Yakubu, and Adelina Martey**. They are ably supported by GhanaThink's executive team led by **Ato Ulzen-Appiah**. Various teams of GhanaThink members in different towns organize the Barcamps with the support of the Barcamp Ghana team, alongside other GhanaThink members. Our GhanaThink members are some of the **most influential young Ghanaians** who have excelled in their various fields of endeavours.

Our online presence

GhanaThink leverages social media a lot in what we do, for **promotion, information, discussion**, etc. We have 16 very active Facebook pages (that are location specific) with an aggregate number of fans at 40000. We have 16 very active Twitter accounts (also location specific) with an aggregate number of followers at 60000 (as of 2018). Aside from this, many of our GhanaThink members are social media influencers with more than 10 of them having at least 5000 followers each on Twitter.

Our program so far

- 44 social entrepreneurs trained
- 300+ youth applied who receive tips, opportunities, etc
- 3 established social entrepreneurs involved as judges for pitch competition
- 2017 & 2018 - 6 social entrepreneurs participated in DOT Unconference each year
- Ivy Barley was featured in DOTUnConf in 2018 due to her great growth
- 2017 - Impact Hub Accra and Social Entrepreneurs Ghana involved as partners
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- 2018 - Workshops in Accra and Tamale
- 2019 - Workshop on research organized for social entrepreneurs, etc in conjunction with Anastasia Seferiadis (researcher in sociology from France)
- 2019 - 4 female trainees featured in Ghana Women in Social Enterprise Month
- 2020 - 9 youth trained through the DOT Street Team Project
- 2021 - 5 youth trained through the DOT Street Team Project
- 2022 - 23+ youth trained as community leaders
- 2022 - 20+ youth trained as social entrepreneurs

Our Impact

- 20+ thriving social enterprises
- Providing helpful info, tips and opportunities around the social entrepreneurship space
- Connecting social entrepreneurs from across Ghana



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Our mechanics, sessions, resources and partners

Trainees go through an online course about impact, design thinking, social entrepreneurship that is administered by Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT). The course is reviewed each year with additional and improved modules that train on specific subject areas.

Trainees participate in workshops facilitated by GhanaThink to go through the modules and experiential exercises. GhanaThink members facilitate particular sessions and in other cases, others within our network lead.

The trainees provide feedback through the training program and also fill training and outcome surveys.

Through Whatsapp Groups per class (cohort), the trainees are mentored and advised based on needs, subject areas, etc. This helps the trainees do some peer mentoring and sharing of information and opportunities, while looking at ways to collaborate. We do the same through a Google group which covers all trainees to date. Trainees have also joined Innojo - the Social Innovators Platform - run by DOT.

Many influential entrepreneurs and professionals have been involved in GYSEP. They include Nehemiah Attigah (Hatua Tec), Amma Sefah-Dede Lartey (Social Entrepreneurs Ghana + Reach For Change), Kafui Anson-Yevu (Impact Hub Accra + Women TechMakers), Alloysius Attah (Farmerline), Josephine Marie-Godwyll (Young At Heart GH), Wayne Miranda (Growth Mosaic), etc

Schedule

This is the tentative schedule for KOMseko's training program each year.

Call for applications

Choosing trainees

2 month training program - ranking for rewards

DOT Unconference