

**MEGA ICT TRAINING, COMPUTER DONATIONS AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR  
YOUTHS IN GOMBE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, GOMBE STATE, NIGERIA**

**BY**

**APOCHI OBED OKWOLI**

**GM/21B/0325**

[apochiobed@gmail.com](mailto:apochiobed@gmail.com)

**07068191083, 08150947014**

**OCTOBER 2021**

## **Table of Content**

### **1.0 Executive Summary**

### **2.0 Situational Analysis:**

### **3.0 Statement of need/justification or theory of change**

### **4.0 Brief about Project Implementers:**

### **5.0 Project Description**

#### 5.1. Goal

#### 5.2. Objectives

#### 5.3. Project Activities and Strategies in solving problem identified

#### 5.4. Summary of Activities

##### 5.4.1. MEGA Computer Training Sessions

##### 5.4.2. Donation of Computer Sets

##### 5.4.3. Career Development Training

### **6.0 Expected economic benefits**

### **7.0 Environmental benefits**

### **8.0 Project Partners**

### **9.0 Community support**

### **10.0 Project Management**

### **11.0 Budget &Resource Allocation**

### **12.0. Marketing**

### **13.0. Prospects Economic Benefits**

## 1.0 Executive Summary:

Gombe State is located in Northern Nigeria, and is one of the country's 36 states with a total population of 2,365,040 as per the 2006 census and covers 18,768 km<sup>2</sup> (7,246 sq mi). It was created out of Bauchi state on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1996 by the then military Head of State, Gen. Sani Abacha. Gombe state shares boundaries with Yobe state to the North, Borno and Adamawa state to the East, Bauchi state to the West and Taraba state to the South. It is chiefly inhabited by many indigenous tribes of which Fulani constitute the majority. The state is nicknamed as “Jewel of the Savannah”.

## 2.0 Situational Analysis:

The government of the Nigeria Federation has duly tried to provide education for all ensuring that no child is left behind. But as the world evolves and technology replaces tedious human efforts, our manpower has greatly reduced as we have (in real-time) barely matched this evolution. This is largely due to our in-exposure to information technology. A predominant situation we discovered in the Gombe local government community.

The promotion of the application of information technology is a means that would enhance competitiveness. In the spring of the year, the BCDA conducted a survey of the awareness and use of IT by area businesses. Within the economic zone, 85 small businesses (less than 20 employees) were contacted and interviews were held with 79 of them; an astonishing response rate! The survey found that less than 10% of local businesses use the internet to buy services, market their product, or directly sell. Only 4% had their website.

Another sad discovery was the cluelessness in the eyes of adolescents when questioned on what career path they wish to take after they must have completed their secondary education. The ignorant quest for medicine and law is predominant amongst the youth, and this reveals our inadequacy in educating them about the several choices of career paths that are available.

### Brief description of the solution

To these prevailing situations, I propose to carry out the following projects in the Gombe community;

1. Embark on a **6 months MEGA Computer training** projected to graduate 500 hundred youths and 200 secondary school students with certification
2. Equip 2 public Schools with **6 computer sets** and (if the need arises), renovate their ICT lab.
3. Donation of Educational books and Career Training to 5 Secondary Schools.

### Expected economic benefits

On completion of these projects, community members are expected to have;

1. Acquired relevant ICT knowledge to be able to compete in the international job market
2. Obtained an up to date facility where continuous IT training and activities would continue to go on even after the completion of this project.
3. Resolved on a unique career path independent of peer influence, thereby creating more entrepreneurs than graduates solely dependent on white-collar jobs.
4. Gained experience in the use of ICT to the development of their community, the state and the nation at large.

### 3.0 Statement of need/justification or theory of change:

By observation and personal inquiry, there are not many standard computer training centres in Gombe Local government, and a huge fraction of its dwellers are not knowledgeable in ICT.

Possible barriers to the adoption of IT are and not restricted to:

- Low awareness of the benefits of IT,
- Distance of training centres from interested individuals, and
- Concerns over the cost of using IT solutions.

Most public schools in Gombe town despite having a well-equipped ICT unit lack qualified instructors, this has resulted in little or no practical knowledge on the path of the students who eventually understand nothing of what is taught in the schools except they make extra efforts and pay extra fees to acquire these experiences.

To address these issues, the applicant will host information sessions to raise awareness of the benefits of IT and encourage the development of IT partnerships and alliances as a low-cost way of utilizing IT tools.

As an individual and in collaboration with other reputable NGOs such as Grace Bible Computer Consultancy (GBIS), Calabar; and the Emancipator Initiative (NGO), Apochi Obed has hosted and conducted free computer training and Virtual skill acquisition training. All these efforts and achievements are documented in his Facebook page;

<https://www.facebook.com/emancipatorinitiative>

### 4.0 Brief about Project Implementers:

1. **Apochi Obed Okwoli** with state code **GM/21B/0325** is a serving Corps Member under the NYSC in the **Sabana Specialist Hospital, Gombe. Gombe State, Nigeria**. He is a graduate with **BSc. Human Anatomy** from the prestigious University of Calabar; and a certified **Digital Psychology and Persuasion Specialist with the ConversionXL Institute, USA**.

Shortly after graduation, I had discovered the hidden gold in the ICT world and tapped it with great benefits. And this has enabled me to gain over 30 certifications across ICT and the health sector only through the year 2019 to 2021 (20 through the year 2020 alone).

2. **Elisha Ebeh Chidera** is an **ex-corps member** and a Software Developer in Gombe, Gombe State. He is also a graduate with a **BEd. Computer Science Education** from the prestigious Michael Okpara University of Agriculture. Umudike, Abia State. Even more, he is a Google Certified Android Basic Developer, Africa Developer Trainee Program and several others.

**3. Okala Benjamin** is a serving Corps member in Government Day Junior Secondary School where he teaches Computer Education. He is a graduate of Psychology from the Benue State University, Makurdi. He has **6 years of active experience in practical computer teachings** in his state of origin (Benue state).

**4. Chuckwuiken Praise** is a serving Corps member in Funaki, Gombe State. He graduated with a **BSc. In Computer Engineering** from the Caritas University, Enugu Nigeria and holds several IT certifications. He is also a web developer with up to 4 years of active experience.

## **5.0 Project Description:** Project Goals and Objectives

Goal:

- To promote the use of information technology by youths and students alike
- To provide an opportunity and access to practical ICT leanings for secondary school students
- To facilitate informed career choices amongst secondary school students

Objectives:

- To attract not less than 500 youths and 200 students and sensitize them to understand the need for information technology and learn (in practice) the basics of ICT from November 2021 through March 2022.
- To provide instructional materials for ICT practical leanings
- To educate students in Secondary Schools on Career development

Project Activities and Strategies in solving problem identified:

4. Resource Mobilization through submission of Project Proposal
5. Embark on a **5 months MEGA Computer training** projected to graduate 500 hundred youths and 200 secondary school students with certification
6. Equip 2 public Schools with **6 computer sets** and (if the need arises), renovate their ICT lab.
7. Carry out **Career Development Programs** in 5 Secondary Schools.
8. Monitoring and Evaluation of Project

Summary of Activities:

### **1. MEGA Computer Training Sessions**

The sessions will take place at the Gander Hotel from Mondays to Thursdays, from January 2022 through May 2022. It will be two hours in duration starting at 3:00 pm and ending at 5:00 pm. The session will consist of 50 minutes theory sessions and 50 minutes practical sessions each for their topics.

Students will come in batches of 50 and will learn for one month, after which they will be tested and certified.

High achievers will therefore be recommended for employment.

Presenters, Roles and presentation topics will be:

| S/N | Presenters          | Roles           | Presentation Topics                   |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1   | Apochi Obed Okwoli  | Project Manager | Computer Introductions                |
| 2   | Chukwuiken Praise   | Lead Trainer    | A career in IT and Skill Monetization |
| 3   | Okala Benjamin      | Trainer         | Microsoft Word, Excel                 |
| 4   | Elisha Ebeh Chidera | Trainer         | Microsoft PowerPoint, Internet Access |

The whole topic will be exhausted in 3 weeks; the fourth week will be an introduction to ICT monitory skills, administration of exams, certification and graduation.

The event will be promoted with public service announcements and by direct invitations via social media like Facebook, Instagram etc. The applicant will handle all meeting logistics including printing of materials, room set-up, and post-conference evaluation. As part of the evaluation, individuals will be asked to indicate their level of interest in pursuing professional IT programs. The applicant will not be responsible for the travel and accommodation arrangements or costs of volunteers and partnering organizations. The organization will also set up display tables in the networking session where local IT companies can promote their products.

**2. Donation of Computer Sets:** 3 desktop computer sets will be donated to 2 public schools. Each school will be equipped with a secure ICT room and 3 desktop computers each to encourage the practical learning of the ICT course as given in the curriculum. A one month crash tutorial would also be organized for each school as a follow-up program to ensure the kick start of the learning activity.

### **3. Career Development Training**

Unlike the **MEGA Computer Training Sessions**, The Career Development Sessions would be carried out on Fridays for designated schools at the proposed time of 12 – 1 and individual dates depending on what is agreed upon by the school and facilitators.

It would be a seasoned session where professional Career Advisers would be invited to teach students what career development is all about and practical ways to determine their career path, also equipping students with relevant tools to make this a success.

## **6.0 Expected economic benefits:**

On completion of these projects, community members are expected to have;

5. Acquired relevant ICT knowledge to be able to compete in the international job market
6. Obtained an up to date facility where continuous IT training and activities would continue to go on even after the completion of this project.
7. Resolved on a unique career path independent of peer influence, thereby creating more entrepreneurs than graduates solely dependent on white-collar jobs.
8. Gained experience in the use of ICT to the development of their community, the state and the nation at large.

## **7.0 Environmental benefits:**

This project would greatly curb the issue of unemployment; ICT knowledge is one of the major requirements for employment for many industries and institutions. Unemployment is in direct relationship with banditry, premarital pregnancy and other vices.

It would also ensure that youths are more focused seeing they would have an idea of what their career path looks like.

### 8.0 Project Partners:

Partners of Apochi Obed Community Development Project include:

1. The NYSC Board: Letter of Support outlining the linkages of the proposal to their strategic plans.
2. Doma Education Development Foundation: Logistics, and event management

### 9.0 Community support:

Recommendations from the Community and partnering organizations would be seen attached to this document.

**10.0 Project Management:** All financial donations will be channelled into the shipping and local transportation of the 25 computers provided by the *Computer Aids Initiative Computeraid.com*, procurement of hall, equipping of the all with furniture, renovation of ICT hall for beneficiary schools, transportation of volunteers and payment of workers and facilitators. During the project, volunteer persons of integrity will be identified and tasked with several responsibilities and each process documented in a prepared sheet from expenditures to gains and losses.

### 11.0 Budget & Resource Allocation:

#### Budget

1. Schools and Community engagements; preparatory meetings, transportations and engagement with stakeholders = NGN 160,000.00
2. Batch (Cohort) training of 500 youths and 200 students from Gombe Local Government communities on ICT soft and practical employability skill = NGN 300,000.00
3. Computer and Software purchases = NGN 1,000, 000.00
4. Resources relevant for Career Development = NGN 50,000.00
5. Media, Evaluation and reporting = NGN 50,000.00
6. 4 Program staff and 16 volunteers support fees = NGN 200,000.00
7. ICT lab renovation and equipping = NGN 150,000.00
8. Procurement of event Centre/Hall = NGN 200,000.00
9. Miscellaneous = NGN 50,000.00

The total budget for this project is estimated at Two million, Six hundred thousand Naira only (N2,160,000.00)

**12.0. Marketing:** We will adopt the following means of marketing strategies;

- Advertisement on Facebook targeted at youths of 13 to 31 in Gombe state, paid communication such as TV commercials, radio spots and brochures, etc.
- Creation of publicity materials such as handbills and posters in strategic points with a prize incentive for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> winners after the training.
- Non-paid announcements via schools, organizations and religious bodies that are direct beneficiaries of this scheme.

**13.0. Prospects Economic Benefits:**

- **Employment:** Short-term employment (usually employment created during the project).
- **Building Critical Mass:** After these sessions, computer institutions would gain more traction due to the raised awareness of their activities.
- **Skill Development and Transfer:** This project would build capacity in ICT knowledge which would greatly enhance employability among participants.

**Other economic benefits are:**

- **Increased Tax Revenues:** These Projects would generate tax revenues for the governments. These include HST, incremental personal income tax, payroll tax and municipal taxes.
- **Increased Provincial Gross Domestic Product:** with ICT knowledge, participants would be able to compete in the international market, therefore increasing their earnings in dollars and spending in naira.
- **Enhanced competitiveness:** This project would enhance competitiveness amongst computer training centres and schools in impacting ICT on their students.

**Some social benefits include:**

- Increased community confidence
- Public education on ICT
- Increased labour
- Greater efficiency in the workplace