

# Spotlight on GhanaThink Foundation

@ YASC 2016 Trip  
Orientation



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Foundation





# MOBILIZING (2001-2004)



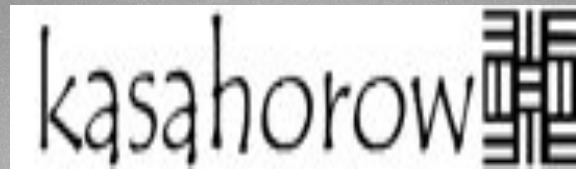
- ▶ Homesick Ghanaian students
  - Including Yale students
- ▶ Reunite, friends, community
- ▶ GhanaConscious MSN group
- ▶ Web discussion forums
- ▶ Active community members
- ▶ First blogs
- ▶ Think-tank with solutions
- ▶ Tsooboi: let's do something
- ▶ Let's start projects





# ORGANIZING (2004-2008)

- ▶ Organization needed to back projects
- ▶ GhanaThink created, registered in Ghana and US.
- ▶ Managing executive of active members
  - ▶ Arms - GhanaConscious, Tsooboi, Homefront, AfricaThink
  - ▶ Languages → Kasahorow
  - ▶ Popular music → Museke
  - ▶ One-off projects; competitions





# TRANSITIONING (2008)

- ▶ Discussion forum activity waning
  - Less interest
  - Facebook
- ▶ More influential members and organization
- ▶ Barcamps starting around Africa, tech communities building
- ▶ Barcamp Africa proved the concept
- ▶ Diaspora + Homefront
- ▶ Offline mobilizing and organizing





# BARCAMPING (2008+)



- ▶ Bootstrapping and fundraising
- ▶ Cash & in-kind sponsorship
- ▶ 150 young, influential, tech savvy people
- ▶ Young resource personnel
- ▶ 3 keynote speakers
- ▶ Unconference – uniqueness





# BARCAMP GHANA program - 2008+



- ▶ Local presence for scaling & sustaining
- ▶ Targets 18-35 year olds
- ▶ 56 Barcamps
- ▶ 12 towns, 10 regions
- ▶ 9000+ impacted attendees
- ▶ Partners like Google, World Bank, Web Foundtion, Vodafone, MAVC, Tigo
- ▶ Entrepreneurship, Leadership + Technology
- ▶ Learning, Sharing, Networking, Mentoring
- ▶ Network of changemakers, doers and entrepreneurs
- ▶ Affiliate Barcamps





# JUNIOR CAMP GHANA program - 2013+



- ▶ Grew out of Barcamp Ghana
- ▶ Targets 12-18 year olds
- ▶ 28 Junior Camps
- ▶ 8600+ impacted students
- ▶ Provide value to high schools
- ▶ Career guidance and mentoring
- ▶ Junior Camp Internship Program (paid)
- ▶ 10 trainees
- ▶ 6 training companies
- ▶ Partners - Webster, World Learning Institute
- ▶ Building skills

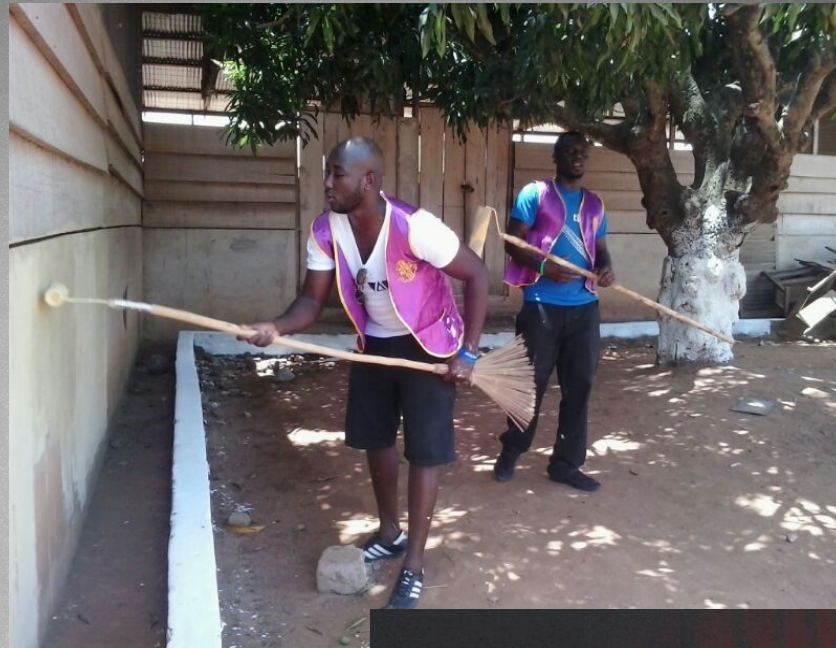




# GHANA VOLUNTEER Program - 2013+



- ▶ Leadership problem
- ▶ Volunteering problem
- ▶ VolunteerinGH solution
- ▶ Founders Day → National Volunteer Day
- ▶ 34 activities, 233 volunteers
- ▶ 80 activities, 300 volunteers
- ▶ 90 activities, 2000 volunteers
- ▶ Unilever Global Handwashing Day, Volunteers for 10+ activities
- ▶ Heart of community development
- ▶ Building experience





# CONNECTING (2014+)



- ▶ Filling the gaps between Barcamps for the community
- ▶ Happy hour, networking event ideas
- ▶ People, products and places
- ▶ 30-50 per event
- ▶ Accra-agnostic
- ▶ #KumasiKonnnect
- ▶ Cape Coast Connect
- ▶ Tamale Connect with One Acre Fund
- ▶ Local support





# PARTNERING (2012+)

- ▶ UNESCO driven education forum
- ▶ Techcamp West Africa with the US Embassy
- ▶ SADA Young Forum with SADA and GhIE
- ▶ #PIAGhana Networking Dinner with MIT D-Lab
- ▶ Business Seminar with Pacific Ideas
- ▶ Mentoring Events for high school students with Ahaspora, Rural Heights, Mindshift, etc





# BRANCHING (2013+)

- ▶ #FiestaDebate – Twitter discussions
- ▶ #ReubenRides
- ▶ #BestOfPlays
- ▶ Promoting & supporting several events
- ▶ Leveraging our expertise, experience, etc for more revenue opportunities
- ▶ Working more with partners
- ▶ Gradually move towards better compensation and fulltime staff





# Less talk, more action



Morevim!



# THANK YOU



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# PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS