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**GEM-TECH AWARDS 2014  
WINNERS**

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## GEM-TECH AWARDS 2014 CATEGORY

1

**ICT APPLICATIONS, CONTENT,  
PRODUCTION CAPACITIES  
AND SKILLS FOR WOMEN'S  
SOCIAL, POLITICAL  
EMPOWERMENT AND  
WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT  
LINKAGES WITH SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

### **ORGANIZATION**

United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural  
Organization (UNESCO)

### **COUNTRY**

Ethiopia

<http://en.unesco.org/womeninafrica>

The UNESCO project "Women in African History: An E-Learning Tool" aims at promoting the central role of women in African history and its development. Composed of digital comic strips, rap/slam soundtracks and diverse pedagogical resources, this e-learning tool focus on a selection of women figures central to the history of Africa and its diaspora.

The platform is dedicated to all students, teachers, and the general public interested in the history of Africa, disseminating knowledge of women's role in the continued economic, social, cultural, and political development of the region, countering prejudices and stereotypes and providing a more gender-balanced view of history and development.



**GEM-TECH AWARDS 2014  
CATEGORY**

**2**

**ICT APPLICATIONS, CONTENT,  
PRODUCTION CAPACITIES  
AND SKILLS FOR WOMEN'S  
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT  
AND POVERTY REDUCTION**

**ORGANIZATION**

iMerit Technology Services

**COUNTRY**

India

<http://imerit.net/>

iMerit provides scalable, web-based solutions to global clients that help transform their businesses. iMerit empowers 500 young employees, 70% women, from the most underserved regions of India, by providing a motivating, digital, work environment. iMerit's human capital model is a 3-step process:

Rural women are mobilized for an intensive 12-week market-aligned course, preparing them for employment in IT-services

Students with strong IT skills are recruited to work in iMerit teams that deliver projects to clients

Employees are upskilled and encouraged to enter leadership positions so that they can increase their incomes and prepare to build powerful careers.



**GEM-TECH AWARDS 2014  
CATEGORY**

**3**

**PROMOTING WOMEN IN ICT  
SECTOR – INITIATIVES AIMED AT  
ATTRACTING, RETAINING AND  
PROMOTING WOMEN WITHIN  
THE ICT SECTOR AND INTO  
DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS  
(PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR)**

**ORGANIZATION**

BCS, The Chartered  
Institute for IT

**COUNTRY**

United Kingdom

[www.bcs.org/category/8630](http://www.bcs.org/category/8630)

BCSWomen, part of BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, is a countrywide networking group encompassing 1500 IT professionals. The team leading BCSWomen works to encourage more women to join the IT profession and support those who are part of it, including its members.

BCSWomen runs face-to-face activities for its membership, conferences to encourage IT graduates and post-graduates to join the industry, mentoring and career support schemes for women in technology, and virtual activities using social media and discussion groups. The group also works to inform the UK Government and other Professional Bodies of the issues regarding the lack of diversity in IT.



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CATEGORY**

**4**

**ENABLING GIRLS TO BECOME  
ICT CREATORS – INITIATIVES  
AIMED AT PROVIDING GIRLS  
WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
BECOME NOT JUST ACTIVE  
USERS BUT ALSO CREATORS  
OF ICTs AND CONTENT**

**ORGANIZATION**

Research Center for Feminist  
Action (CIPAF)

**COUNTRY**

Dominican Republic

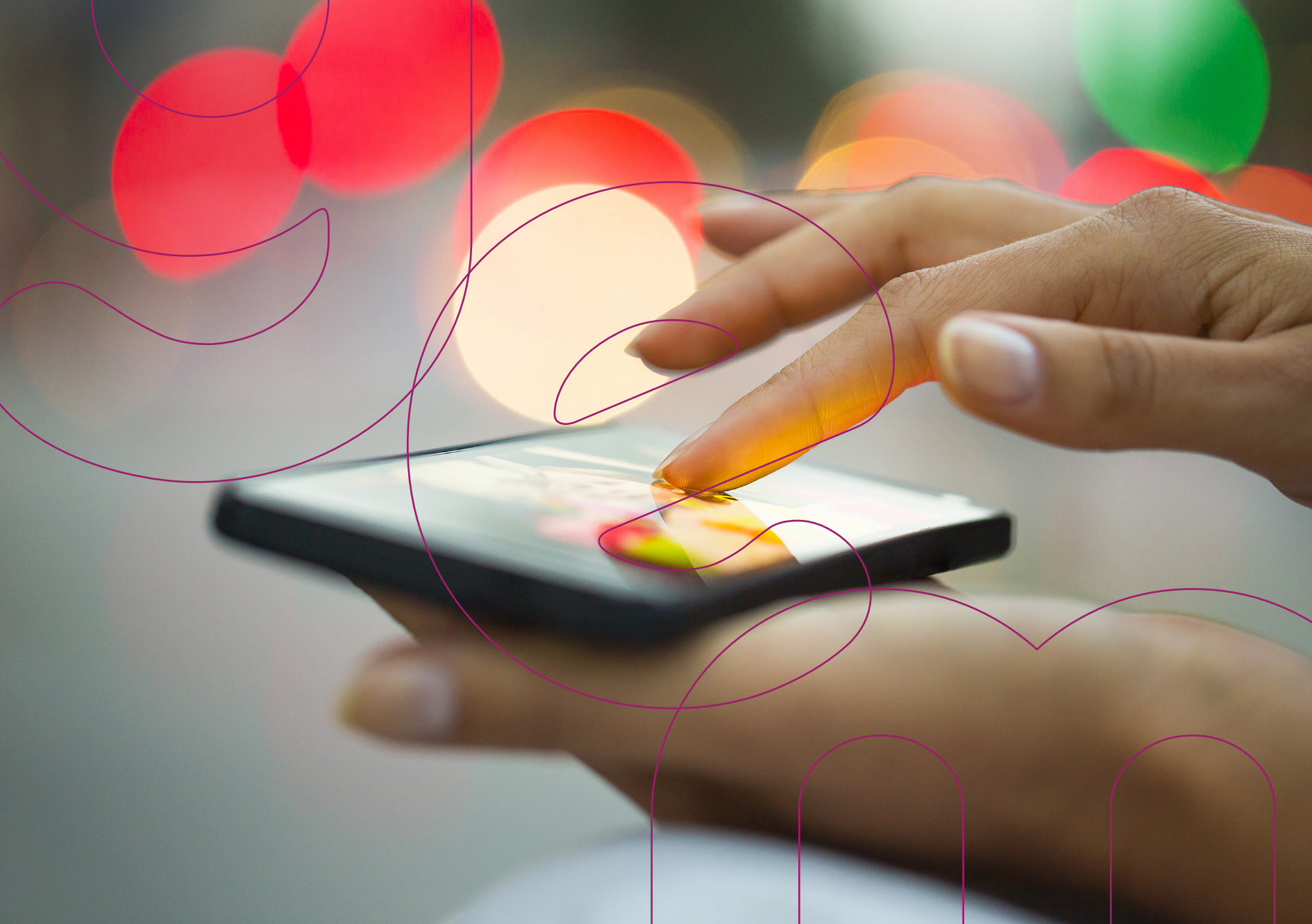
E-Chicas and Supermáticas STEM clubs for girls and young women ensure that they are not excluded from areas of knowledge only because of their sex, while helping fill the gap in professionals in studying math, science, engineering and technology, which affects the Dominican Republic's competitiveness in the world economy.

The clubs are committed to improving the quality of life of girls by building their self-esteem, teaching them

about collaborative work, leadership, and promoting gender awareness. The girls receive special training including an introduction to robotics, electronics, coding, and tutoring support in math and science.

The STEM clubs also aim to address girls' retention in school and the problems of early pregnancy by teaching them about their sexual and reproductive rights, thus strengthening their self-awareness.





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**5**

**CLOSING THE ICT GENDER GAP – ENSURING ICT ACCESSIBILITY FOR WOMEN, SUCH AS DIGITAL LITERACY TRAINING, AND INITIATIVES AIMED AT MEASURING THE ICT GENDER GAP INCLUDING RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S ENGAGEMENT WITH ICTs**

**ORGANIZATION**

Telecentre.org Foundation

**COUNTRY**

Philippines

Telecentre Women (TCW) is a global, multi-stakeholder initiative of Telecentre.org Foundation (TCF) geared towards bridging the gender gap in ICT by empowering women and girls with ICT training, knowledge, entrepreneurship and skills that expand their opportunities for better lives. The initiative started out as a Digital Literacy

Campaign in 2011, and has since transformed into a major TCF programme that seeks to make an even greater impact on the lives of millions of women and girls worldwide, building on the digital skills already gained and empowering them further by equipping them with entrepreneurial skills and mentors as well as through advanced online training.



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**6**

**EFFORTS TO REDUCE THREATS  
ONLINE AND BUILDING  
WOMEN'S CONFIDENCE AND  
SECURITY IN THE  
USE OF ICTs**

**ORGANIZATION**

Association for Progressive  
Communications (APC)

**COUNTRY**

South Africa

Since 2005, APC Women's Rights Programme has looked at the connection between information and communication technologies (ICTs) and violence against women (VAW), and found this to be a critical issue that compelled deeper engagement. The Take Back the Tech! (TBTT) campaign was initiated in 2006 as one of the ways of achieving this goal. TBTT is a collaborative campaign that accompanies the annual 16 Days of Activism

Against Gender Violence (25 November - 10 December) to harness ICTs to end violence against women. The campaign calls on all ICT users - especially women and girls - to take control of technology and strategically use any ICT platform at hand (mobile phones, instant messengers, blogs, websites, digital cameras, email, podcasts and more) as part of their activism against gender-based violence.



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**7**

**ICT AND BROADBAND  
STRATEGIES AND POLICIES,  
FRAMEWORKS THAT  
PROMOTE WOMEN'S DIGITAL  
EMPOWERMENT**

**ORGANIZATION**

Federal Ministry of  
Communication Technology

**COUNTRY**

Nigeria

The social and economic transformation of Nigeria requires that the economically active population be empowered and productive. Women, a significant part of this population, traditionally tend to be marginalized, but ICTs provide a useful avenue for the inclusion and active participation of women in development. The Nigerian government recognizes ICTs as tools for empowering women and girls and has put in place policy frameworks to ensure that gender issues move from the sidelines of policy and decision making and become one of the key

priorities. These include the National ICT Policy and the National Broadband Plan which calls for a conscious effort to target women "who would not normally see the need for the use of ICT". Implementation of the policies is exemplified by the gender-oriented projects of the government aimed at increasing the interest and capacities of girls in ICT-related subjects, increasing the employability of young women in ICT fields and expanding the knowledge and connectedness of Nigerian women through mobile phone technology.



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2015**