Report

On

Spatial Thinking (SpaT) Campaign At SOS-HGIC



Organized by AccuGeospatial Company Limited

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1.0 Introduction

Spatial Thinking (SpaT) Campaign is a program that has been instituted by AccuGeospatial Company Limited, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility. This program targets students in second-cycle institutions. AccuGeospatial had its maiden edition of SpaT Campaign at Liberty American School and it was a success.

AccuGeospatial Company Limited, an ESRI Business Partner (Silver Tier), is an experienced Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS) solution and service provider focusing on deployment of modern GIS and GPS technology to meet client needs.

2.0 Objectives

The main objective of this program is to equip students with spatial thinking skills as well as create awareness in Geospatial Technology. This can be achieved by teaching students to examine objects and their associated data, based on their location (coordinates) to ignite spatial thinking in them.

AccuGeospatial believes that technology is a significant player that can catalyze Africa's development, hence SpaT Campaign.

3.0 Participation

A team of six (6) from AccuGeospatial visited SOS-HGIC. A total of seventeen (17) students participated in this program as well as two (2) teachers who played supervisory roles. The students came from various fields of study, such as Humanities, Sciences, etc.

4.0 SpaT Campaign

On the 16th and 17th of October 2017, the second edition of SpaT Campaign was held at SOS-HGIC, Tema.

The first day began with an introduction to some fundamentals of geography, how to leverage on physical geography to create maps of objects they see and how to acquire and analyze geographic information.

Students were also taught how the ArcGIS Software can be used in location analytics and business intelligence.

The students participated in short quizzes and group works to ensure that the concept was grasped by all.





Figure 4.1: Students attentively listening to the instructor

Figure 4. 2: An instructor explaining concepts to students

On the second day, students were introduced to some ArcGIS applications i.e. Collector for ArcGIS, Story maps and web applications. They also had hands-on experience with ArcGIS Online. Students had the opportunity to collect spatial data using Collector for ArcGIS installed on their tablet devices. This was a field activity conducted on the school's compound. In groups of three, map features such as points, lines and polygons were captured by accessing the internet in real time.



Figure 4.3: Students collecting data with smart devices

Figure 4.4: Instructor-led hands-on session

Students successfully mapped flag poles, office buildings, trees, classroom buildings and some pathways on their compound. With the data collected, students were taught to create story maps and how to share them with their friends.

5.0 Conclusion

The two-day SpaT Campaign at SOS-HGIC was well received as some students expressed in pursuing GIS/IT related careers.

To some students, it was an eye-opener and were excited at the many uses of GIS and tried to relate it to some other sessions they have had in school.

Generally, students demonstrated much intelligence by participating actively in the quizzes and data collection session. They also comported themselves very well and interacted respectfully with the team from AccuGeospatial.

The team from AccuGeospatial was very grateful for the opportunity to introduce spatial thinking to the students and interact with them. SpaT at SOS-HIC was also successful.