



Who we are:

TakingITGlobal (TIG) is an international organization, led by youth, and empowered by technology. TIG brings together young people (aged 13 - 30) in over 200 countries and territories within international networks to connect to opportunities, and collaborate on concrete projects addressing global problems and creating positive change. With headquarters in Toronto, Canada, TakingITGlobal has a team of approximately 30 dynamic young staff and full-time interns. TIG partners with numerous international organizations, including five UN agencies.

TakingITGlobal is uniquely positioned at the intersection of three major global trends:



1. Young people form a huge proportion of the population – and are a vast untapped resource for development and change.
2. Major challenges facing our planet, from AIDS to terrorism are global – and such global challenges demand global solutions.
3. Technology is changing everything about how we live, learn, work and play – facilitating connectedness and empowerment.

Key current activities:

- ▶ **Community engagement:** We run the world's most popular online community for young people interested in making a difference, receiving 40 million hits per month and with over 65,000 members from across the world. Available in French, Spanish, Russian, Portuguese Arabic, and English, the online community provides space for youth expression, connection to opportunities, a platform for youth voice, and support for action. Projects like the Global Gallery (world's largest on-line art/photo gallery for youth) and the Panorama On-line Publication offer spaces where youth can express themselves and learn from each other. Also on the site is the largest database of international youth events, and tools such as "TIG Groups" to help youth groups manage their networks.
- ▶ **Organizational engagement:** We empower youth organizations with tools and human resources required to connect with their members & collaborate with each other. TIG has provided tools and web-sites for youth organizations including the Global Youth Action Network, the Youth Employment Summit Campaign, the UNESCO Youth Section, the Oxfam International Youth Parliament, and the UN World Summit on the Information Society Youth Caucus. We also currently have staff sent to work with partner organizations on joint initiatives on 6 - 12 month assignments in Paris, London, New York, Rome, Boston, Ottawa and Sydney.
- ▶ **Educational engagement:** We explore and create meaningful classroom implementations of technology with an international flavor and real-world application. 2003 saw a pilot program in a number of Toronto schools, curriculum development, and advocacy at a series of educational conferences. Over 2004, we have been working with several industry partners to build a global community of educational stakeholders sharing best-practice around the use of ICT's in the classroom environment, as well as developing "TIGed", a web-based application for classrooms. During 2005, a major focus will be on giving voice to students regarding the use of on ICT's in education.
- ▶ **Thematic engagement:** We tap our network and lend our expertise to engage and support young people through global frameworks in addressing key international development challenges, generally in partnership with mainstream institutions. TIG spearheaded the Youth Creating Digital Opportunity Coalition (www.ycdo.net) to provide community, recognition, financing, mentorship and advocacy support for young ICT leaders. TIG has also collaborated to create major initiatives addressing youth employment and sustainable development. In 2005, TIG will be a key partner of the United Nations, engaging youth in the Campaign to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. We also plan to develop and support international networks around HIV/AIDS and Indigenous youth.
- ▶ **Local engagement:** We are working to ensure our work is relevant to local communities and promotes grassroots networking and action. TIG "Open Forums" are physical meetings held by youth in local communities exploring issues related to our Monthly Themes. On the web, we have launched "Country Sites" for each nation – and are progressively seeing these translated into local languages. Starting in Russia, and soon expanding to other countries, we are rolling out an intensive program of workshops, training, youth-media, and educational activities.

Funding and recognition:

TakingITGlobal's supporters have included: RBC Financial Group, Microsoft, Google, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Canadian Dept of Foreign Affairs, Hewlett Packard, UNDP, UNICEF, and the Lifebridge Foundation. In 2002, TakingITGlobal was a finalist in the Stockholm Challenge, and a focus project of the World Economic Forum's Technology Empowerment Network. TIG has been featured in press from TIME Magazine, USA Today, Fast Company, and Stern, to the South China Morning Post.

Future funding and support

Are you interested in becoming involved with TakingITGlobal as one of our supporters? There is a range of options meant to help us move our organization forward—and to help prospective supporters find the closest match in terms of shared priorities at different levels.

- ▶ **Community engagement:**
 - Monthly themes
 - Understanding the Issues
 - Global Gallery
 - Panorama Online Publication
 - TIG Magazine
 - Opportunities clearing house
 - Action program
- ▶ **Educational Engagement:**
 - TIGed Online Learning Community
 - Curriculum resource development
- ▶ **Thematic Engagement:**
 - Millennium Development Goals National Youth Campaigns
 - National Information Society Youth Campaigns
 - Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS
 - Global Youth Media Network
 - International Indigenous Youth Network
- ▶ **Local Engagement:**
 - Multilingual platform
 - Country sites
 - Open Forums
 - Creating Local Connections
- ▶ **Building TakingITGlobal's Organizational Capacity:**
 - Internships
 - Travel Partner
 - Technology Partner
 - TakingITGlobal headquarters in Toronto
 - Endowment

If you are interested in finding out more or supporting any of these programs, please visit <http://support.takingitglobal.org> and download our TakingITGlobal Donor Opportunities document, or contact us.

There are also several other ways you can contribute to our work:

- ▶ **Become a Contributing Member**
To become a Contributing Member, visit <http://takingitglobal.org/whatyoucan/> - If you have a credit card or VISA/MC debit card, you can make a one-time donation or setup a monthly contribution of any amount you can afford - otherwise, you can mail a cheque or money order.
- ▶ **Buy TakingITGlobal Merchandise**
For the holiday season, a great way to celebrate TIG is to purchase TakingITGlobal merchandise (t-shirts, hats, mugs) to give as gifts to your family and friends! Visit <http://takingitglobal.org/store/> to learn more!
- ▶ **Purchase a WSIS Youth DVD**
To buy copies of the WSIS Youth DVD, order them online at <http://www.wsisyouth.org/movie> at a cost of US\$12 per copy plus shipping. If you would like to help cover the costs of this mailing, you can send us a contribution of US\$20 or any amount you'd like.
- ▶ **Invite 10 Friends**
You can help the community grow by telling 10 friends about TakingITGlobal. Visit <http://takingitglobal.org/10friends> - everyone who does this will be entered into a draw to win a TIG prize pack!
- ▶ **Donate to TIG through eBay**
If you can't afford to make a financial contribution, you can still help to raise funds for TakingITGlobal by selling things you don't need on eBay to benefit TIG. Visit <http://takingitglobal.org/ebay> to get started!