

2018 INTED DESIGN THINKING PROGRAMME, SAVANNAH INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

Module	Design Thinking
Facilitators	Kwabena Amporful, David Liggett
INTED Admin	Louisa Koomson
Admin Volunteer	Elorm Billy-Awittor
Date	5th - 6th July 2018
School, Region	Savannah International Academy, Northern Region
Population	6 Teachers / 2 Administrators / 20 Students (estimate)



The Classroom Experience Challenge and insight discussions

Overview

During the 5th - 6th of July 2018, INTED engaged two teachers and two administrators of Savannah International Academy (SIA) in the Design Thinking module of its Design Technology Programme. Participants were taken through sessions including: *Overview and Techniques of Design Thinking, Two Design Challenges (Wallet as a product, Classroom as an experience)* and *Design Thinking for Savannah International Academy*.

The 2-day programme had been modified from its original 4-day version. Prior to the start, INTED had pre-training logistics discussions with the management of the school, led by SIA Programmes Manager, Yasmin Bitugu. Considering the number of attendees (four), SIA proposed using the conference room of Workspace, their Accra office space for the training. Another SIA teacher, Nana Adwoa joined the training for the first day.

Day 1

INTED Administration, led by the CEO, Kwabena Amporful began an interactive and informative session with the trainees. Kwabena thanked the school administration and trainees for inviting INTED and proceeded to present an overview of the training programme. He also used the opportunity to clarify the INTED Certificate and Attendance Policy, which required

all attendees to be present at all times with attendance checking a necessary way of knowing which trainees completed the programme, and which would require a make-up session. He applauded management of SIA for taking the bold step to join the over 45 schools, whose teachers and heads across the country INTED has trained towards improving their students' achievements. Kwabena drew the curtains by introducing the facilitators and admin staff collectively as the 'INTED Training Team' to the trainees. INTED's Overview video was then played, which showed trainees more information about the organization, its inaugural programmes, and stakeholders.



Kwabena introducing participants to the challenge for the day

After Kwabena's remarks and video, he led the first day's Design Thinking challenge activity of Designing a wallet (as a product).

The almost 2-hour long session took participants through their first experience with the Design Thinking process. Attendees came up with prototypes of "better wallets" as they worked to identify and meet wallet user's needs. This was achieved through building empathy by understanding the wallet user's situation through an interview, defining a problem statement upon getting a point of view, brainstorming and selecting ideas, followed by building and testing with the user, and rapid prototyping.

Kwabena then went through the general overview of Design Thinking and how it was used by non-designers to build EMBRACE, an affordable incubator to solve the global baby hypothermia problem. The example proved apt for Ghana, where there is a local drive by the Kokrokoo Foundation on the dire need to keep pre-term babies warm.

David Liggett is a classroom biology teacher who uses Design Thinking a lot in planning activities for his young learners. He introduced the Design Thinking challenge on *Improving the Classroom experience* for which participants had to do some empathy interviews.

After lunch break, two prospective students of SIA (Shawn and Eliana) with whom arrangements had earlier been made, joined the session starting with empathy interviews. Empathy as a technique helps assist “designers” get an understanding of the user’s needs. The trainees in groups then took turns with the user interviews and other initial steps of the Design Thinking and classroom experience challenge.



“Empathy” Interview sessions with “Users” Eliana and Shawn

The day ended at about 5:15pm with the session on idea selection which continued on day 2.

Day 2

Day two of the training begun at 8:50am without Yasmin who joined in a little later. Kwabena caught her up on what she missed when she joined.

On the Classroom experience challenge which started the previous day, users (in this case students Shawn and Eliana) were presented with prototypes, and feedback was collected for improvement.



Presentation of first prototype of water dispensing units to users



Designers prepare to present prototype solutions to students’ emotional needs in the classroom

Facilitators David and Kwabena led the trainees through the rest of the steps of the Design Thinking process while demonstrating its different constituent techniques. Trainees enjoyed strategies and were entreated to sign-in to indicate their presence for the day’s training.



Discussions on application of Design Thinking learnings to SIA

Using practice activities on “How Might We” statements, the after-lunch session facilitated a discussion on how SIA could use Design Thinking in the coming academic year broadly, and more specifically how it could be: (1) taught to students (2) taught to peer teachers (3) used broadly to improve school administration, processes, etc.

Some insights from the discussions highlighted using Design Thinking in planning projects with the community (outreach) and for students to work on transforming the playground area amongst others.

The SIA management and programme participants are expected to brainstorm further specific plans post-training, to inform support that INTED may provide in rolling out Design Thinking for other teachers and students more broadly when school resumes.

Evaluation

In order to improve the delivery of the programme, a survey form was prepared and sent to all trainees after the training to collect individual feedback on the programme.

Report compiled and signed by:

.....
 Kwabena Amporful
 (Founder and CEO)

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 Elorm Billy - Awittor
 (INTED Volunteer & Recorder)