A Perspective on Computer Science Education in Africa
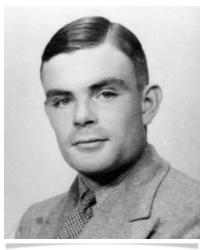
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1912 to 1954

❝ The first computer in the whole of central Africa is known to have been installed in 1960[a] ❞

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[a]http://www.ifip.org/36years/m16zw.html

❝ A brief look at the standard ACM/IEEE curricula reveals that they do not even mention environment and climate issues ❞[a]

[a](Sutinen and Tedre 2010; Tedre, Bangu, and Nyagava 2009)

Different Environments

Ghana, Source: Internet

The Netherlands, Source: Internet

Real Challenges

Include but not limited to…

- Inadequate electricity infrastructure/power supply
- Counterfeit products
- "Different" natural environments for imported hardware
- Lack of warranty that makes purchases of hardware parts risky
- Lack of qualified staff and specialists to operate imported tools and equipments.

The Way Forward

In addition to theoretical computer science knowledge

- Practical sessions, hands-on projects, skills development
- Context-sensitive education
- Pushing for international recognition (conferences, publications, etc.)