Here’s a photo where I am standing as the only girl among the winning teams at the Hackathon. I quickly came to wonder why I was the only girl (or among very few girls) at Hackathons. I then decided to host a girls only hackathon in my college campus to give my fellow women the room to discover and build tech without being intimidated by the boys.
The hackathon was successful and the girls got to learn how to google anything they would like to build, as well as make a few basic programs. I then set out to inspire the girls to take on even bigger projects, that is, attempt to solve the problems around our college residence using technology.
Not as many girls turned out for this event, but those who did created working programs and pitched them to a panel of judges. In the final 3 winners announced at the end of the event, 2 were girls! There was a realization in the room that women bring a different perspective to the table. It is my hope that the participants can use what they’ve learnt to help other girls gain more confidence in tech too.