

terrat

Bridging the Indigenous and Modern

A newsletter published by Terrawatu

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PROJECT UPDATES

Technology comes to Uswaa Primary School



Uswaa Primary School students and teachers with Terrawatu staff.

Terrawatu's newest computer center in Tanzania was established in February at Uswaa Primary School.

Computers were purchased locally in Arusha and installation, networking and training were provided by Terrawatu staff.

Funds for this project were provided by a group in Olympia, Washington. Organizers Ed and Shirley Swan have the following to say:

"Thank you so much. We can't tell you how excited, thrilled and happy we were to see the computers at Uswaa Primary School. Your pictures really tell the story of computers coming to Uswaa. It's a dream come true."

Maasai Women's Bag Project Begins Production

After months of reviewing trainers, raising funds, and preparing the women of Mkonoo, our Maasai Women's Bag Project has begun production. Nine women from the village of Mkonoo have begun training in leather work and professional beading, creating leather purses through the embellishment of their traditional satchels. Our goal formally was to have distribution beginning around this time, however due to a delay securing a competent, loyal and interested leather worker production has been put off until this time.

The Maasai Bag's Project will be begin with producing a variation on the Maasai milk satchel with intricate beading on its front, a button closure, and each bag will come with a brief biography of the

woman who made that particular bag. Once the women have become proficient in this type of bag we will begin consideration for another style and beading ideas.

At this time in the project we are hoping to have the first few bags ready for distribution in time for the Leon Sullivan Conference from the 2nd to the 5th of June and will begin international distribution following the conference. Once the bags are ready for distribution we will send around another newsletter particular to this project and an order form to follow. Pictures of the women working, the bags produced, and the beading patterns will be available as well.

Roots & Shoots/Terrawatu Collaboration to Begin

The partnership between Terrawatu and Roots & Shoots, a project of the Jane Goodall Institute, to increase environmental education in schools and promote the integration of ICT and conservation began in Arusha in late March. A gathering of fifteen local teachers representing five schools in which Terrawatu is active began the formal collaboration.

The training that took place included the explanation of Roots & Shoots clubs, review of Tanzanian environmental problems, and conflict management using PowerPoint presentations, interactive handouts and games. The goal of the training was to provide an example of how to integrate education and technology as well as to introduce Roots & Shoots to the schools and offer the option of creating Roots & Shoots clubs to the schools.

At this point most schools seem interested in creating a Roots & Shoots club and are currently investigating ways to get their schools, students, and parents involved and what focus their clubs make take. We are also promoting teachers to create a support group within themselves so as to offer support and brainstorming methods within their same location. By using each other for information and support they create a more sustainable project and are better equipped to save money on any ICT problems they may run into.

This training was the first of many trainings that Terrawatu and Roots & Shoots will conduct. From this training we are able to take lessons learned and receive feedback from the participants on how to improve this training in the future. The collaboration has already become successful and Terrawatu looks forward to continuing in its work with Roots & Shoots.

Students Fundraise for Natema Primary School

Students from Washington College, Maryland, USA have begun fundraising for the completion of classroom construction at Natema Primary School. The students are participating in this prior to their visit to Tanzania this coming June. The fundraising efforts will be completed by the time of their arrival and construction will take place directly after.

This is just one example of how investment can lead to sustainable change. If you or anyone you know is interested in investing in Terrawatu's other projects please see page 3-4 of the newsletter.



Students at Natema Primary School, Arusha region, Tanzania.

ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS



Terrawatu's International Relations Officer, Dr. Tanya Pergola.

Terrawatu searches for a new volunteer Program Officer; Due to the departure of Program Officer, Meagan Carmody, Terrawatu will be conducting a search for a new voluntary Project Officer. We are looking for someone with an interest in development work, initiative, creativity and no less than a one-year commitment. Experience with sub-Saharan Africa desirable.

Terrawatu seeks out international donors to continue project progress. We are looking for 5 to 10 yearly donors who will invest in the future of Terrawatu and help to sustain Terrawatu's work and name in the Arusha district of Tanzania. The investors will have specific annual newsletters investigating account resources and allocation of funding as well as the ability to investigate projects of their own interest.

Terrawatu's International Relations Officer, Dr. Tanya Pergola participated in the Alliance for the New Humanity meetings in Costa Rica in March 2008. The mission of ANH is to create and connect global communities of personal and social transformation. Tanya showcased the work of Terrawatu at this international conference (see page 5 of the newsletter for more about ANH). Pergola is currently on the Brain Trust of TEDAfrica.org, an organization licensed under the prestigious TED Conferences LLC of New York and based out of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Terrawatu says goodbye to P.O. Meagan Carmody. Ms. Carmody, Program Officer with Terrawatu for nine months, will say goodbye to the organization come the end of May this year. Her spirit and skills have greatly helped Terrawatu's staff and projects, however it is time for her to pursue further education. We hope to see her back upon her completion of her Masters degree.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DONATE NOW!!!

With NGO's sprouting up all over Tanzania the scramble for funding has become even more competitive. We at Terrawatu understand the culture, history, and priorities of the communities we work with and have years of experience to enhance our projects. Now we just need you to complete our vision. Invest in Terrawatu and actively change lives. We call it investing because it is one - your financial support will help us to invest our time and effort into empowering women, healing children through traditional Maasai medicine, and rebuilding the Tanzanian ecosystem through education and tree planting. The funds you are able to devote to Terrawatu will support our on-going projects and at the same time allow us the flexibility to focus in other key areas of Tanzania while incorporating your input and thoughts. Become a part of Terrawatu and see why we love Tanzania.

There are several ways to contribute to Terrawatu's work:

* Make a donation directly to Terrawatu. The mission of Terrawatu is to empower communities to improve education and health, protect the environment, and promote cultures of peace. Wouldn't it be nice to have the personal satisfaction of knowing you have directly contributed to this effort? As compared to larger aid organizations that retain 75% or more of financial contributions for administrative costs, Terrawatu uses only 35% for administrative costs. All of the remaining goes directly for on-the-ground project implementation in Tanzania ensuring you get the "biggest bang for your buck".

Donations can be made ONLINE, by MAIL or through a CORPORATE MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM. You can direct your donation to a specific area or program or make a gift for general support. Go to www.terrawatu.org and click on "Contribute". Checks can be mailed to: Terrawatu Inc., 3225 Franklin Ave. Suite #407, Miami, Florida, 33133.

MAKE YOUR DONATION ALMOST PAIN-FREE by considering a monthly or quarterly recurring donation. Instead of having a one-time hit of say \$480, you can easily set up an automatic deduction of just \$40 a month for one year. This is less than the price of one dinner out in some cities in the United States! Simply go to www.terrawatu.org and click on "Contribute". Clicking the "Donate Now" button allows you to set-up your recurring donation. It is FAST and SIMPLE and makes a HUGE difference in sustaining project operations in Tanzania.

- ❖ Keep Terrawatu in mind when you hear about grant opportunities and/or partnering possibilities with foundations and organizations with a similar mission. Many of you have already provided Terrawatu with excellent connections that have helped us prosper. Thank you!
- ❖ Tell your colleagues and friends about our work. Forward this newsletter and Web address www.terrawatu.org to those you think may be interested in learning about Terrawatu.



Recipe

Happy Potatoes

This is a recipe from the African Diaspora...from the Caribbean country of Guyana. It is of African-East Indian origins and is awesome as a side for meat dishes or, as eaten in the Caribbean...in roti or nan bread as a lunchtime meal. Serves 6.

What you need:

- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon rosemary
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 2 pounds (1 kg) potatoes, peeled and sliced
- 1 large ripe papaya or mango, peeled and cubed

- Salt to taste
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 to 1 ½ cups water
- ¼ cup (1/2 stick) butter, melted

What you do:

- Heat the oil in a large skillet. Add the garlic and rosemary and sauté over moderate heat until the garlic begins to look lightly golden. Strain the oil, removing the bits of garlic and rosemary, and pour back into the skillet.
- Reheat the oil and add the curry powder. Stir for 3 to 4 minutes, making sure that the
 curry and oil blend together. Add the potatoes, papaya (or mango), salt, pepper, and
 water. Stir until all the ingredients are combined and the water begins to boil. Lower the
 heat, cover, and simmer the potatoes, stirring occasionally, until they are tender, about 20
 minutes.
- Add the melted butter to the hot potatoes and serve immediately.



Alliance for the New Humanity

A short video clip providing an overview can be viewed at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiBV4GnMGv0

The Alliance recognizes at the core of its vision the unity of all life, and a wholehearted adherence to the noblest aspirations of humankind, as proclaimed in all spiritual and humanist traditions that call for compassion and the celebration of life. The values and principles of the emerging movement for a new humanity, and of the Alliance, which is trying to serve it, are based upon the support of policies, causes and actions that favor respect for life, human dignity, freedom, ecological sustainability and peace.

The basic tenet of the Alliance is a consciousness based on the inseparability of all life, i.e., that everything is connected and that therefore our well-being is the well-being of everyone. This consciousness we believe cannot be just passive, otherwise it would remain irrelevant, it has to be expressed for the benefit of all through service that improves life for all mankind.

To learn more and to join the Alliance go to www.anhglobal.org



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Terrawatu is registered as a charitable, non-governmental organization (NGO) with the Registrar of Societies in The United Republic of Tanzania (So. No. 11220).

NOTE: If you received this newsletter through a friend and want to be added to our circulation list, sign-up on our Website by clicking on "News".



"Beyond our ideas of right-doing and wrong-doing, there is a field. I'll meet you there. When the soul lies down in that grass, the world is too full to talk about. Ideas, language, even the phrase 'each other' doesn't make sense any more."

- Rumi