

ZAWADI*

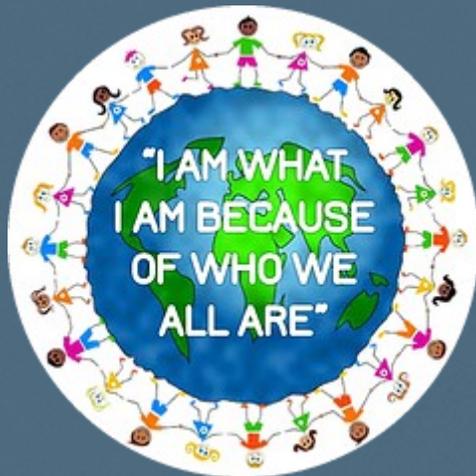
THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

JANUARY 2020 – VOLUME 4

Connection Ubuntu provides computer labs to students and entrepreneurs in Africa.

Events

- Jan. 13th – Board meeting
- January Fundraiser—Dean's Beans Coffee (see page 3)



Remember the easiest way to contribute:
<https://www.connectionubuntu.org/donate>

**CONNECTION
UBUNTU**



* Zawadi is the Swahili word for "The Gift"

"Have you ever touched a computer?"

"Of course!" you say, "Who hasn't?"

98% of the people in Africa have NOT touched a computer. That means out of one hundred people only 2 people have ever put a hand on a computer.

This is why we do what we do, to expand possibility, opportunity and hope.

**Thank you for supporting
Connection Ubuntu in recent
fundraising events!**

Between the Woodfire Grill fundraiser, #Giving Tuesday and the Gifts That Give Hope Fair, we have raised over \$1,200 this fall. This makes a huge impact in setting up computer labs and expanding education.



SPOTLIGHT

Grow Biointensive Agricultural Center of Kenya (G-BIACK) Thika, Kenya



From their 3rd Quarter Report:

We are happy to present to you this quarter's report which focuses on the computer training that we are offering the community members in Thika and other parts of the country

Our trainings are divided into 2 groups

1. The Girls Empowerment Programme (GEP) which focuses on young women who come from all over the country and who reside at the G-BIACK centre during their training for a period of one and a half years
2. General public who want to learn how to use computers

Between June and September 2019 there are 50 students who are taking our computer class as follows

- 40 girls from the Girls Empowerment Program GEP .
- 10 students who are from within Thika county who commute everyday

Currently, G-BIACK has 18 computers, 15 laptops and 3 desktops which are working well.

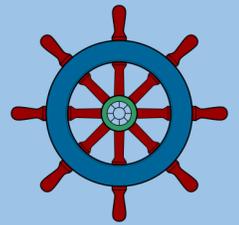
Challenges

1. We still have a challenge of the shortage of computers. We divide the class into 3 groups and at times 3-4 students are forced to share a laptop during classes.
2. The computer room is small too and the students are congested which makes the room stuffy.

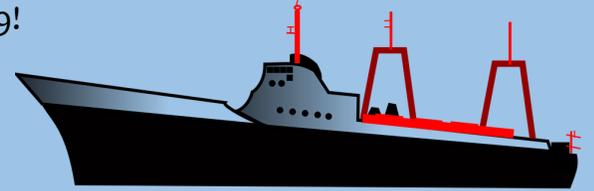


"My name is Anita Ntalai , a maasai from Magadi in the Rift valley. I came to G-BIACK to learn several things and I found that they were offering computer classes. I had never even seen a computer before and I was so happy. This is my 8th month and I can be able to use a computer, save my work, watch you tube, movies and others. I am so happy for G-BIACK. I wish the they can educate many girls from my region".

SHIPPING NEWS



- Computers for the Emuhaya Group of the Disabled (EGD) lab left port on September 27 ... arrived in Mombassa and they are ready to be picked up/delivered as of 12/18/19!





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Learn more about the coffee at deansbeans.com



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EXCITING SYNCHRONICITY

In this month's Spotlight (page 2) you can read about the work and needs of Grow Biointensive Agricultural Center of Kenya (G-BLACK). We heard their need for more computers and were able to enable them to purchase 5 more computers in November!

At our December Board meeting, we became aware that Connection Ubuntu received computer lab requests from not only our existing partners but also 10 new requests via our website! Some of them were from areas in Tanzania and Uganda, where we do not presently have partners or contacts in country. We determined that we were not able to help all of them at this time, and that it is important to have some connections there already.

The very next day, our Founder, Vicki Poole, received this email: *Dear Vicki, One of our mandate here on earth is to spread our interventions in African Countries and so far we have done so in about 10 countries. We would like to reach out to as many African countries as possible. Recently, Peris traveled to Tanzania and in 2 weeks, she taught 700 farmers. The result is now to form The GROW BIOINTENSIVE Centre Tanzania G-BIAC and as we speak, Pastor Elijah and his wife are very passionate about empowering their communities in Tanzania and so we want to support them to initiate this programme.*

The question is would connection Ubuntu be interested in starting a computer lab in Tanzania? Love, Samuel

Still lots to talk about, work out and vote on, but it was so exciting to see the ways the ripples spread!

Thank you for your continued support!



Samuel



Peris

Does it snow in Kenya?

Snow in Kenya is not a particularly common sight, given that the east Africa country sits right on the equator and has vast stretches of semi-desert scrubland. And yet, there is one spot where you can always find snow in Kenya.

Mount Kenya is the tallest mountain in Kenya, and the second highest in all of Africa. Only Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro towers higher. The top of Mount Kenya is perpetually snow-covered due to the high elevation. In fact, the Meru people call the mountain "Kirimara", which translates from their language to "that which has white stuff", in reference to the white peaks.

However, in September of 2008 and July of 2017, photos and videos shared on social media showed whitish substance on the streets of the town of Nyahururu located in the country's Laikipia County. Was it snow that the Kenyans in rural villages experienced? It was actually determined that it was dense hail (up to 4 inches in some places!)

Still quite a surprise — and because of its thick nature it did not melt right away even with summer sun. People were concerned about how their cattle would graze — just not weather conditions they are used to.



Credit: Africanews.com. <https://www.africanews.com/2017/07/05/kenya-enjoys-rare-snowy-feel-but-meteo-agency-says-it-was-hail-storm//>
Other resources: <http://www.kenya-advisor.com/snow-in-kenya.html> ; <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/7596134.stm>

So the next time we experience snow, think of your friends at Connection Ubuntu and our partners in Kenya.



VISION STATEMENT

Ubuntu: "I am what I am because of who we all are."

Connection Ubuntu believes that the world is a global community where all members have the right and freedom to be active and valuable participants when given the technological tools and knowledge needed for successful global community engagement and local



Don't forget to find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ConnectionUbuntu/