

# Tanzanian and American Teachers Working Together To Promote Active Teaching and Learning.



TENDA  
TEACHERS

PROJECT  
ZAWADI

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*On behalf of the TTP Leadership Team from Tanzania I would like to send a special word of appreciation to you for the support you have offered financially and materially. Thank you! Your support is very helpful to the children, teachers and the whole education system in Tanzania and gives us hope for a better future.*

*- Adrian Maganga  
Lead Teacher, TTP  
Leadership Team*

My colleagues at ProjectZawadi, the Tenda Teachers Project (TTP) Leadership Team, and I want to give you a midyear update on our work to improve teaching and learning in Tanzanian schools. We are happy to report that all three projects – the Active Teaching and Learning Handbook, Demonstration Schools and Sisters Schools - are off to a strong start.

In January we finished the first draft of the Active Teaching and Learning Handbook. It includes descriptions of 54 active teaching and learning strategies



that can help transform the learning experience for students in Tanzanian classrooms. We are thrilled that professor, Allen Rugambwa from Mwenge University in Moshi, TZ, has agreed to co-author the handbook with us. He is a prominent educational leader who will assist us in our work to write and disseminate the materials around the country. In addition, Fran Vavrus, a professor from the

University of Minnesota who has worked extensively in Tanzania, has also joined the writing team. In addition, we have begun discussions with Haki Elimu, the largest educational advocacy group in Tanzania, to review the handbook and assist us in our promotional efforts.

Filming for the project started in February. We identified 25 strategies to video tape for the handbook and for a Facebook page. Many Tanzanian teachers now own smart phones and use Facebook. This is ground breaking work for Tanzanian teachers and will allow teachers in even the most remote regions to see best teaching practices in action. Our plan is to finish the first edition of the handbook and launch the Facebook site this summer.

Our Demonstration Schools at Makongoro and Mihingo Secondary Schools are also off to a great start. Seventy-five primary school graduates attended our two month English Bridge Program to prepare students for secondary school where English is the language of instruction. Mastering English is important for success



*My name is Elvis Edward. I am a Form I student at Mihingo Secondary School. I attended the English Language Bridge Program for two months at the school. I am thankful for the program. It helped me to understand the language. The lessons I liked the most were greetings, parts of speech, tenses and writing sentences. Because of this program I can understand other subjects. Thank you to my teachers and sponsors of the program.*

*Elvis Edward  
Mihingo Secondary  
School*

on the national examinations. In addition, teachers in both schools participated in two trainings on active teaching and learning strategies. Select teachers participated in the first round of filming and the best of these were identified and will be coached and video-taped for the handbook.



Adrian Maganga, a lead teacher-trainer and member of our Tanzanian Leadership Team, and I will train teachers to use active teaching and learning strategies in three areas of the country – Nyamuswa, the Bunda District and the Bagomoyo schools. The Bunda training is our first collaborative effort with district educational officials and is designed as a train the trainer model for replication in other areas of the country. The Nyamuswa training will focus on how to effectively use the 22,000 books that we secured from Books for Africa for use in 14 public and private schools in the Nyamuswa area. ProjectZawadi has also committed to funding the creation of libraries and shelves for these materials. The book donation is valued at over \$250,000 and includes textbooks and literature books that will arrive in March. In addition, five schools in the Bagomoyo area have requested our training services as well.

Finally, the Sister Schools – three from St. Paul and four from Tanzania – have exchanged letters, videos and pictures. Slideshow presentations were shared at all of the participating schools in St. Paul and laptops, LCD projectors, speakers, modems and sports equipment were delivered to all of the Tanzanian schools. Adrian Maganga, visited St. Paul this March and met with students and faculty at all of our sister schools in St. Paul.



My colleagues and I want to thank you again for your generous support. Your contribution is making a difference

All the best,  
Ian Keith  
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<http://projectzawadi.org/programs/tenda-teachers/>

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