Hope for Tanzania
Report to the Trustees on Computing in Arusha – October 2012

Programme in Arusha October 2012
I went to three primary schools to look at the progress and use of the Computers which had been sent out by Computers4Africa (www.computers4africa.org.uk) earlier in the year and sponsored by Hope for Tanzania.

Uhuru Primary School
This school has 1700 pupils and 46 teachers. I spoke to the academic teacher in charge of the computing training as well as the head teacher.

- The room is well set out with proper desks and chairs and a carpet.
- There are central electrical points and a total of 20 places.
- The classes have one session per week @ 40 minutes and I saw the programme, which has been going for two months.
- The sets do need dust covers and I made this point to the teacher.
- There are three sets which do not work and two US screens. There are 5 old mice which really need replacing with optical ones.
- Each set has Microsoft Office 2003 and 2007 and Open Office.
- The staff are using the computers for their work and learning how to operate them and all are very thankful and enthusiastic about the computers.

Ukombozi Primary School
I spoke to the teacher in charge of the computer training and to all the teachers available at that time. This is also a large school of 2400 pupils and 42 teachers.

- The smallish room provided was well set up with proper desks and chairs and a carpet. There were central electrical points. They wanted to expand the room and had some plans to do so.
- Out of 18 sets provided, four were not working and this was because of the screens which were damaged.
- None of the teachers have access to computers at home, but were undergoing training in the computer suite and were very enthusiastic and thankful about their use.
- Each set has similar applications to the first school.
- There are 5 old mice and these should be replaced by optical mice.
- A programme for the students has been in place for about a month and they have one lesson per week. The syllabus was on the board and looked really helpful although basic.
- There were no dust covers in this suite and I mentioned this to the teacher that this was needed.

Kijenge Primary School.
I spoke to the teacher in charge of the computer training although the original computer teacher had in fact gone.

- The computer room was well kitted out in the prescribed manner with proper tables, chairs and carpet. The electrical points were properly provided and there were dust covers.
- Because the main computer teacher had disappeared, the policy was now to train up the teachers and allow some of them to teach computing. The programme on the board was good and the teachers were very enthusiastic and thankful about the computers.

- Out of 20 computers given, one was in the office, 3 boxes were US (no RAM in two), 4 screens were US, there were unsuitable ps2 keyboards. There were 5 old mice which should be replaced by optical ones.
- I suggested that they source RAM locally and non ps2 keyboards.

Arusha Secondary School

This was visited as part of the ex Tuishime pupil follow up, but opportunity was taken to look at the computer suite there. I spoke to the computer teacher and the head teacher.

- The suite was laid out in the proper prescribed manner and was in use regularly.
- There were 23 old TV style screens and a number of old non optical mice.
- Naomi said that since help had been forthcoming to the Arusha schools with computers, the ministry of education had raised the priority of Tuishime pupils at Arusha Secondary, which was considered to be a good school for Tuishime pupils.
- It was felt that anything that we could do to support the school would continue and strengthen the profile of Tuishime as a good feeder to this school.
- It is recommended that HFT consider sending out flat screens and optical mice to the school when it is able to do so financially.

Tuishime Primary School

The computer suite is in excellent condition with a programme already being implemented. The teachers were using the suite to do work and become familiar with operating the units. There were good dust covers. A single computer was connected to a projector and the teacher could project things onto the screen and teach from that. The overhead projector was not demonstrated whilst I was there, but I asked the IT teacher to demonstrate its use to teachers and particularly to show how transparencies are printed with the laser printer and then used in the class for their prepared work.

Laptops in Tuishime.

The following has been arranged with regards to the laptops in Tuishime.

- The IBM Thinkpad left in October 2011 is in good order and this is for the accounts. It has Office 2010 and is being used with Excel 2003 in the compatibility mode, which means that it can be used with my Excel 2003 and we can communicate by e-mail without compatibility problems.
- The second new HP laptop taken out this time will be used for the office administration for mainly non finance work. I recommended that everything on the administrator's finance laptop should be backed up on the admin computer and vice versa.
- The old Toshiba does work but may need a new battery, this will be sourced locally and go back to being used by the other lady student, to whom it had been given.
- One old IBM Thinkpad taken out in 2009 was US and I have returned to the UK with this.
- One old IBM Thinkpad taken out in 2009 has gone missing.
- The new Toshiba taken out this time will be used for teachers to sign out under special circumstances and be supervised by the computer teacher.
- The HP taken out last time is in good working order, but needs a battery pack. This will be sourced locally. This computer will be used also to sign out to teachers under the supervision of the computer teacher.

<u>Overall Recommendations / Observations</u>. It is recommended / noted that

- Optical mice are set out as soon as possible to replace old mice in all the schools.
- Recommendations for Arusha Secondary are implemented.
- Computers4Africa are contacted to report the unserviceable (US) units and in later commissioning from them we stipulate that all mice should be optical and all the keyboards should not be ps2.
- The computer schools should be issued with a number of memory sticks so that teachers can keep their work on there and this would also make it easier for them to print when only one computer in the room is connected to a printer. HFT might consider sending out a number of these to the schools.
- The head teacher of Uhuru primary asked if she could have a laptop as this would mean she could do confidential work.
- It is recommended that the next batch of computers are distributed through the local Tanzanian office of HFT rather than being nominated by the local Government and that Shalom is considered as a candidate.
- The specification of some of the computers appeared to be 1.0 to 1.5 Gb RAM, 60 to 70 Gb ROM memory, 1.86 GHz chip. This is a good specification and computers seen appeared to be very quick.

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October 2012