



Dear Friends and Donors,

Welcome to the first issue of the WATU newsletter. With this newsletter, we would like to keep you updated on our progress, especially with our two major projects, the construction of our Shiri-Mgungani Resource and Learning Center and the sponsored students. But we will also keep you informed about recent developments with regard to our other projects.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to receive further information about our activities.

Greetings from Moshi and Geneva,  
Josiah and Richard,  
Directors

### About WATU

People's Participation in Education (WATU) was formally established in May 2006 by Richard Heery and Josiah Mchome, two now-retired teachers with a great heart for children and a strong desire to support the education sector in Tanzania. In the past 15 years the two founders have been involved in different projects supporting schools and students in and around Moshi. Currently, WATU's major ongoing projects are

1. Construction of a Resource and Learning Center to provide valuable services to both teachers and students
2. Finding sponsors for academically able but financially poor students to help them finance their education
3. Work together with International schools around the world to improve the situation in local schools, e.g. by renovating classrooms, building new facilities or through donations of computers, school uniforms etc.
4. Distribution of textbooks to students at a nominal price

Please refer to our [website](#) to find out more detailed information about WATU.

### WATU's Resource & Learning Center – Recent Developments

- Our first building has been brought to the roofing stage. We plan to start using it as a village kindergarten before the end of this year.
- Work on the hostel has been started in July 2008.
- Within the next months, we will start working on the first block of our main building.



The picture on the left shows the current stage of our first building. With the generous support of our donors, we managed to construct the roof in July. Our next steps include plastering, adding window frames and doors so that the children of the neighboring villages will enjoy their new kindergarten before the end of this year. You will find more pictures of our construction efforts on our [website](#).

### Special Thanks to...

*pamoja tunaweza  
together we can succeed*



Many thanks to the International School of Florence Italy. A group of 17 students and teachers visited Moshi in June 2008 to start laying the foundation of our hostel in Shiri-Mgungani. Not only did they raise a large sum of money in their home country, but - as you can see in the picture on the right - they were also hardworking young people and their help is much appreciated.



We at WATU also want to thank the students and teachers of Geneva International School who visited us in July this year to work with the local fundis and put the roof on the first building of our Resource and Learning Center. The picture on the left shows how this international team was working together - according to our motto "pamoja tunaweza". Asante sana Geneva International School!

### Meet our sponsored students

Currently, 52 students whose families are unable to pay for their education are sponsored through the initiative of WATU with the generous support of our friends from Italy, Switzerland, Germany and England. In each newsletter, we will introduce one of our sponsored students. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you are interested in supporting a Tanzanian student: [pamoja\\_tunaweza@yahoo.com](mailto:pamoja_tunaweza@yahoo.com).



**Student's name:** Hamidu Ibrahim Jeromini

**School:** Majengo Secondary

**Form:** Form V

**Birth date:** 15.03.1989

**Wants to become a...** Pilot

#### Educational & Family Background:

More than five years ago one of Hamidu's primary school teachers approached us asking for whether we could support his secondary education. He doesn't have a mother and his father no longer cares to support him. Thus, Hamidu lives with his aged and severely handicapped grandmother who is desperately poor and who can barely survive herself let alone pay for Hamidu, and yet he is extraordinarily gifted intellectually. Hamidu's donor is certain that "it would have been a tragic waste had he not been supported in his secondary education." Hamidu has always been - and still is - one of the brightest students in his age group. He always had the best academic performances of his class and we are confident that he will continue with this excellent academic performance and make his sponsors very proud.

### Coming up in the next issue of the WATU Newsletter

- Donation of 150 pairs of shoes by Bata Shoes (Kenya) to young girls in Moshi
- The ongoing construction process at our Resource and Learning Center
- WATU students on YouTube