

The Anvil

Your monthly update from Tools For Self Reliance Cymru

Containers

Our container #22 is now aboard ship and steaming towards Tanzania. We've already begun filling container #23. We had some logistic difficulties picking up #22 which I'm sure we'll take as a lesson learned and provide better instructions to the trucking firm about how trucks need to be configured for our situation. Regardless the driver was fantastic and he got the job done, eventually. It usually takes about 30 minutes to swap containers but due to the truck loading from the passenger side instead of the driver's side swapping, turning, dragging, etc. took about 3 hours, in pouring rain as well. Poor guy was a hero. You can track the 'Savannah Express' container ship [here](#).

We are still actively asking for tools to send. We need everything. I was asked if we could use a table saw the other day and I was reminded of a DIY table saw at a shop we visited in February. Needless to say, the answer was yes please.



Why we do this

It has been a productive training. I am now fully employed!

"My name is Samson Wambura, 34 years old and a resident of Buhongwa area in Mwanza. I am married with three children and from 2019 I have been working in home area fixing some electrical wiring problems in people's houses. I don't have any formal training in electricity but I acquired the skills from a friend of mine. Just imagine, although I am a Mwanza resident I did not know this project before. It is only when you visited us at Mkolani and had a meeting with groups of artisans when I know there is this very good project. Then, after you selected me to be among trainees in that short course last year I got to know much more of the project and that there are people in Europe who support it.



But let me share with you something. You know four years ago a my relative linked me with Tanesco (organization supplying electricity in Tanzania) and they occasionally hired me to carry out some simple field work. I did not have any formal document indicating my skills hence I was only working as a temporary staff. The certificate I got from Kalwande [*Electrical Installations short course*] performed wonders to me. I presented it to my immediate boss and based on that I am now employed as a full time Tanesco staff! Well, I am not a highly paid worker but what is the best of me is that now I have a permanent job, and, in a big and reputable government institution. Thank you for this training opportunity which did not only give me a good certificate but it has also added more skills on what I had before.

You told us that your project also provide tools to artisans. For your information my friends who work in carpentry, building and shoe making had already requested and obtained tools from Kalwande. Even in my group there is a new leader now and they are preparing for tools request. Thank you for all the support and please pass my greetings and gratitude to Kalwande leadership and your supports in Europe. I can't remember the name but greet them all"

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Locally

We've had a busy and productive festival season. Events like the Greenman, Green Gathering and Between the trees were all huge successes. Trustee Pete did an excellent job of managing all the details that these big events require and juggling the schedules of all the volunteers who helped out. Many thanks to everyone who joined us or helped in the pitches. We've still got a few events coming up before Christmas so keep an eye on our website for event details. We raise much of our funding through this very hard work so please drop by for a workshop or a newly refurbished tool.

As you can see, we're still very much on the job:



Thank you / Diolch yn fawr / Asante Sana