Dear friends,

The spring/autumn equinox came and went a few weeks back and I don’t know about you, but it sure felt like winter, even in the heat of Africa. The global economic tsunami had taken its toll on Terrawatu with significantly lower donations over the holiday giving season; less visitors coming to Tanzania; and project partners generally hitting the pause button awaiting to catch some ray of hope on the horizon....

One thing you learn for sure in Africa, is patience. It is perfected as an art form here.

And guess what?! Patience has paid off.

Now we have some very exciting news to share with you in this solstice edition of the Terrawatu newsletter. Here made short and sweet for a pleasant read...

Terrawatu is now OFFICIALLY a formally registered 501c3 organization in the United States! While all your donations have been tax-deductible during the waiting period, it will now make it easier for corporate matching programs to double or more your contributions. We have already been receiving funds from Microsoft and Google employees. So your $500 donation can become $1,000 by following the simple directions for the matching funds program. Terrawatu’s EIN # 26-0212786.

Right now, you can click on www.terrawatu.org and then “Contribute” and make your tax-deductible donation by check or credit card.

On 19 June, a team of four wonderful people from Global Technology Academy in Washington State jetted into Kilimanjaro International Airport with 60 computers and related technology equipment. During their weeks in Tanzania, the team, led by Ms. Linnea Rye, will outfit a new computer lab at a Teacher’s College in Arusha and a Terrawatu Internet Café/education center. This exciting project has been supported by an outpouring of individual donations, many from parents whose children have been on previous GTA trips to Tanzania with Terrawatu. Additional funds will help with Internet connectivity and maintenance so please do consider making a contribution today. Thank you all for your support!
Co-Director, Lekoko Ole Sululu was interviewed in March by law students from Northwestern University School of Law, in Chicago, Illinois, in the United States. A team of 25 law students in the International Team Project Tanzania course visited Tanzania to learn about several legal topics. The students who interviewed Sululu are researching the area of how modern law impacts the ancient Maasai culture, in particular, how the displacement of indigenous tribes such as the Maasai into larger metropolitan centers such as Dar es Salaam effects traditional systems of governance.

Terrawatu has forged an institutional partnership with Thunderbird School of Global Management in the United States. The Director of Career Advising & Education noted that "Terrawatu's mission and that of Thunderbird are so unique and similar that we look forward to the beginning of what we hope to be a long and mutually beneficial institutional partnership. We are so happy to meet Terrawatu!" The first assistant on board is Ms. Elizabeth Wells, who has joined the Terrawatu Team as Program Officer. Ms. Wells received her MBA in May '09 and will be assisting Terrawatu in developing and marketing its People-to-People Safaris and small business development programs.

A group of ten students and one Professor from Washington College in Maryland, USA participated in a People-to-People Safari sponsored by Terrawatu from 30 May – 18 June. This is the fourth trip for Washington College and it just keeps getting better for all involved! The educational and service learning tour of Tanzania included visits to Maasai villages, Terrawatu’s project sites, wildlife safari, and an in-depth exploration of Zanzibar and Islamic culture. A number of students who have participated in these life-changing tours with Terrawatu have followed through with amazing continuing support for humanitarian projects both in Tanzania and in their home countries. Thank you all for all you do!

“[Re-imagining ways of relating to the environment] is especially important now that the scientific consensus is that climate change is already upon us and that Africa in particular will be negatively impacted. The challenge for Africa is, therefore, a challenge for all of us, too.”

Until next time...blessings to all!
Warmest regards,

Tanya and The Terrawatu Team

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You may also go to our Website - www.terrawatu.org - to learn more about our mission and projects.
This e-newsletter is published quarterly by Terrawatu, an NGO based in Arusha, Tanzania with global partners around the world. If you would like to be removed from this notification list, please send an email to info@terrawatu.org