

Greetings!


We want to tell you a little bit about the story of Kijani...

About a year and a half ago, a couple of young people from a small church in a little known part of Nairobi, Kenya, came together. The little dusty tent in which they met didn't lend itself to eminence or distinction, nor did their own stories. David was raised in rural Kenya, for some time walking over 3 hours a day, through bush and rivers, just to get to school. Haron, orphaned as a child, was about to enroll at the Kenya School of Law.

Dickens was raised in the slums of Nairobi, while Liz, the lady of the team, dreamed of finding a job that could complement her natural ability. Daniel had just graduated from Northwestern University in the USA, and Tobias – a German – was on a 6-month visit to the country.

They sat together as friends and they knew that they wanted to do something together to make a difference in Africa and inspire hope among its youth.

Today, *Kijani Forests For Change has been awarded by MIT for its unique model in tackling youth unemployment and forest degradation. David is employed permanently to engage the community while the rest volunteer. The XIV World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa just invited Kijani to speak at an "Africa Special Event" in front of 2000 people to tell the world about this initiative. The team has expanded, now with several more volunteers and an intern from Kenyatta University. We are also preparing to host our second German student for an internship with Kijani. There have been tons of other



the founding members of Kijani (left to right):
David, Haron, Liz, Dickens,
Daniel, Tobias

accomplishments, such as the near release of a 60-page baseline survey report of the target area, the establishment of two tree nurseries, and the planting of first trees with kids in a tree-planting academy that we hosted last year. This is just a taste of what this past year and a half has meant for Kijani and it has all happened on a budget of less than \$4000 in 2014 alone.

This is just the beginning...

Starting in October this year, Kijani will roll out its first pilot project. This will empower 20 community members by allowing them to farm 2.2 acres of land in an agroforestry model that ensures forest regeneration at no cost to Kijani. The potential is limitless. With millions of acres of degraded forest in Kenya, and a youth unemployment rate of 60%, there is no shortage of demand for their work.

The team is excited and we need your help for the next leg of the journey.

* Fun Fact: In case you were wondering, 'Kijani' means 'green' in Swahili, but it is also remarkably similar to the word 'Kijana', meaning young person!

There are 3 ways you can support Kijani:

Volunteer

You can volunteer for us. We need people with experience in business modeling, agroforestry, grant-writing and more! Remote volunteering is possible. We also need people interested in long-term, on-the-ground service with our organization who are able to raise their own support. If you are a young, innovative thinker and want to take ownership of an empowerment project in a developing world context; this is for you!

Give a Laptop

You can donate an old laptop. We have Kenyan team members who need to be "wired" and able to communicate with the rest of the team. Our goal is to get 5 laptops.

Donate

You can donate. While we expect grants to carry us to our goal of financial sustainability, there is little we are eligible for without proof of concept. We expect mostly to be dependent on donations for at least 6-12 months. You can give to one of three projects:

- **David:** He is our only employee and the Manager of Community Engagement. We need \$250 per month to pay his salary.
- **Tree nursery:** We run 2 tree nurseries that will help source the indigenous tree seedlings for the pilot project. We need \$200 per month to run the nurseries.
- **Volunteers:** We have a team of Kenyan volunteers that work part-time for Kijani with little reward. We need \$200 per month to continue to compensate our volunteers for their expenses.



All donations are tax-deductible. If you choose to donate, we will send you monthly updates from the project you helped to support. Our accounts are publicly accessible; go to www.kijani.ngo/accounting to track how we have spent our money since the project began. 100% of funds go towards their intended project. You can also support us by buying a stylish Kijani tote bag for \$8.50 at www.kijani.ngo/totebag.

If you're not able to give in any of these ways but still want to keep up-to-date with our project, please sign up for our newsletter at www.kijani.ngo/newsletter. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter and visit our blog (see links below). You'd also do us a big favor by sharing this with some friends.

Do you have any questions or would like to know more about our project or request additional materials? Send an email to daniel@kijani.ngo.

We look forward to hearing from you!
Sincerely,

Daniel Omondi
Co-founder & Project Manager

Tobias Lohse
Co-founder & International Coordinator



Kijani members with school kids after the first successful tree-planting academy

Budget details as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| David's salary | \$250/month |
| Tree Nurseries | \$200/month |
| Volunteers | \$200/month |
| Overhead (Transport, Accommodation, Community Forums) | \$150/month |
| TOTAL | \$800/month |

Short Form for Donations

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| _____ | Name |
| _____ | Donation pledge (monthly or one time) |
| _____ | Impact Project (David/Nurseries/Volunteers, leave blank if you don't care) |
| _____ | Email (to receive newsletter) |
| _____ | Address |
| _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I want to receive regular project updates |

please fill this out and send it to daniel@kijani.ngo if you intend to donate

Donations can be sent through Springs of Africa:

Mail a check to Springs of Africa, P.O. Box 10096, Lancaster, PA 17605.

OR

Visit springsofafrica.org for Paypal and credit card donations.
(please note change of url on the Springs of Africa website from .com to .org)