



United Planet Tanzania National Profile 2010-2011



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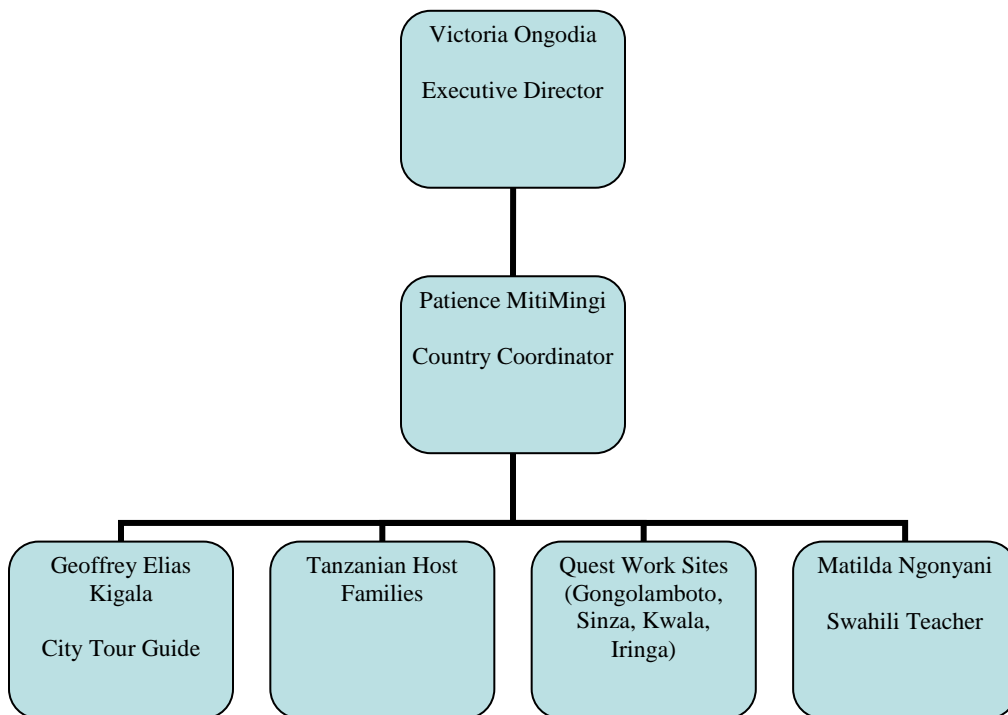
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United Planet Tanzania

United Planet Tanzania (UPTZ) became a partner of ICYE in 2009. As a local, Tanzania-based non-profit organization, UPTZ is dedicated to bridging the cultural gap between Tanzania and other countries. Through volunteer, community-based assistance, cultural exchange visits, and homestays with local families, greater cross-cultural understanding and long-lasting impact within communities is fostered.

UPTZ/ICYE Tanzania Organizational Structure



UPTZ/ICYE Tanzania Office Location

The office is located in the Burungi section of Dar es Salaam, within the campus of the Burungi School for the Deaf.

About Tanzania

Tanzania is a country blessed with exotic cuisine, spectacular scenery, prolific wildlife and a superb coastline. It has long attracted seekers of an exotic holiday from across the globe. Tanzania includes the islands of Zanzibar, Pemba, and Mafia, as well as the continent's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, in the northern region. The country is also home to the site of the oldest fossils of the human race, the Olduvai Gorge. Its rich history, cultural heritage, idyllic beaches and wildlife safaris complemented by the warm hospitality of the people, make for a memorable experience.

Tanzania (formerly known as Tanganyika) became independent on December 9, 1961 (from UK-administered UN trusteeship). Zanzibar became independent on December 19, 1963 (from UK). Tanzania united with Zanzibar on April 26, 1964 to form the United Republic of Tanzania. Dodoma is the political capital, but Dar es Salaam is the main harbor and major trading centre for the country. The current population is 35 million with a national growth rate of 2.8%. The major language used in Tanzania is Swahili. As a secular state, Tanzania is politically and socially stable, making it a popular country for investment and leisure activities. Tanzania has progressed due to economic reforms leading to a private sector driven economy and currently has a GDP of about \$800 per person. Despite these progressions, Tanzania still lacks the basic infrastructure to provide good healthcare, especially in dealing with the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and education for its citizens.

Dar es Salaam, the largest city in Tanzania, reflects a fascinating blend of its rich historical past and its contemporary present. Dar es Salaam which means "Haven of Peace" in Arabic was given its name by Sultan Majid Bin Said of Zanzibar when he decided to use the harbor city as a port and trade centre in 1857. Since then, the town has flourished and it is now the commercial hub of the country. Dar es Salaam, and Tanzania in general, offers a wide variety of local art and crafts. There are the Makonde carvings, TingaTinga paintings, bead/bone/malachite jewelry, basketry, spices, colorful wraparounds called "kanga" and "kitenge", and brassware. The rare and brilliant Tanzanite gemstone found only in Tanzania makes a precious souvenir.

Useful Facts and Statistics

Ethnic Breakdown

Mainland-native Africans constitute 99% of the total population. Approximately 95% of Tanzanians may be roughly classified as Bantu. Tribes range in membership from only a few thousand to the Sukuma tribe, which numbers more than 2 million. Other major tribes include the Nyamwezi, Makonde, Haya, and Chagga. The Luo, east of Lake Victoria, are the only people of Nilotic origin; the Masai of the northern highlands are Nilo-Hamites. A very small number of Bushmen-like people are scattered throughout northern Tanzania, where small tribes of Cushitic origin also live. The inhabitants of Zanzibar and Pemba are chiefly descendants of mainland Africans or are of mixed African and Arab extraction. The remaining 1% of the populace is made up of non-Africans, including Arabs, Asians, and Europeans.

Religion

Christianity and Islam are the main religions of Tanzania. About 40-45% of the population practice Christianity and about 35-40% practice Islam. The rest of the population follows traditional beliefs, which usually centers around ancestor worship and nature-based animism. Most Christians live on the mainland, where missionary stations and schools reach deep into the continent. Islam is the major religion of the coastal areas but is also practiced further inland along the old caravan routes.

Religion plays a large part in the daily life of Tanzanians. Easter and Christmas are major events in Tanzania, with services and celebrations often extending far into the day and night. The lunar month of Ramadan is an important time for Muslims around the country, who fast from food and drink from sunrise to sunset. After Ramadan comes the Eid, a time of feasting and festivity for the whole community. Tanzania's Asian religious minority includes Hindus, Sikhs, and Ismailis.

Geography

Tanzania's geography is one of the most varied and unique in the world; it contains lakes, mountains and many natural parks.

The north-east of Tanzania is mountainous, and includes Mount Meru and Mount Kilimanjaro, both of which are active volcanoes. West of these is Serengeti National Park, famous for its annual migration of millions of wildebeest, as well as its abundance of lions, leopards, elephants, rhinoceroses, and buffalo. Further west is Lake Victoria, on the Kenya-Uganda-Tanzania border. This is the largest lake in

Africa and is traditionally named as the source of the Nile. Southwest of this, separating Tanzania from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is Lake Tanganyika. This lake is estimated to be the second oldest (and second deepest) lake in the world after Lake Baikal in Siberia.

The climate of Tanzania ranges from hot and humid on the coast, to a more temperate climate in the elevated centre of the country. Tanzania has two rainy seasons; a long heavy one from March to May, and a shorter, lighter one from November to January.

Political History

Julius Nyerere, Tanzania's first President from 1962 to 1985, was considered the father of the country. Nyerere implemented an economic system called *ujamaa*, an African form of socialism (state control of everything). Although it was a failure, the system remained in place until the 1980s when Nyerere's hand-picked successor, Ali Hasan Mwinyi, began the slow process of dismantling *ujamaa*. Zanzibar continues to elect its own president and House of Representatives, which have authority over the two islands' internal affairs.

In August 1998 the U.S. embassy in Dar es Salaam was the target of a terrorist bombing. Twelve people, all Tanzanians, were killed in the incident alleged to be linked to the international terrorist, Osama bin Laden.

Economic Overview

Tanzania is in the bottom ten percent of the world's economies in terms of per capita income. The economy depends heavily on agriculture, which accounts for more than 40% of GDP, provides 85% of exports, and employs 80% of the work force. Topography and climatic conditions, however, limit cultivated crops to only 4% of the land area. The World Bank, the IMF, and bilateral donors have continually provided funds to rehabilitate Tanzania's out-of-date economic infrastructure and to alleviate poverty. Industrial production and a substantial increase in output of minerals, especially gold, have contributed to economic growth. Recent banking reforms have helped increase private-sector growth and investment. Continued donor assistance and solid macroeconomic policies supported real GDP growth of 7.1% in recent years.

Volunteer Life in Tanzania

UPTZ/ICYE Tanzania Volunteer Program

The volunteer is picked up by a UPTZ staff member upon arrival at Dar es Salaam International Airport. He/she is escorted to a lodge in town for the first night in-country. During the first, full day in-country, the volunteer is given an orientation which covers the volunteer experience in depth, Tanzanian culture, health and safety topics and other important information. The volunteer is escorted to his/her host family which is located within walking distance of the work site. On the first day of the volunteer's work assignment, a staff member of UPTZ will orient the volunteer to the work site with an overview of expectations for work.

Volunteer Housing

Volunteers are placed with a host family which is located within walking distance of the work site. Host families are carefully selected by UPTZ staff. The family will have at least one family member who can speak English. The volunteer will have his/her own private room with a door and lock. A mosquito net is also provided.

Transport

Transport for the volunteer is provided by UPTZ from the airport (upon arrival) to the lodge in town, from town to the host family and from the host family to the airport at the end of the volunteer experience. The volunteer is responsible for his/her own transport costs for any other outings, i.e. trips to town. The most common and affordable form of transport is the dalla dalla (local mini-bus).

What to Bring?

Volunteers are encouraged to bring the following:

- Sunblock
- Hat
- Mosquito Repellant
- Materials to supplement work (i.e., teaching materials)

Cultural Activities/Excursions

There are a variety of ways to get involved or experience the cultural diversity of Tanzania. Some examples include:

- Swahili Language Instruction
- Makumbusho Village Museum (Dar es Salaam): Traditional Tanzanian dance and food.

- SOMBEPA (Dar es Salaam): A home for former street boys where the visitor can participate in Tanzanian dance and drumming.
- Alliance Francaise (Dar es Salaam): Tanzanian Art, History, and Music events
- Zanzibar Island and Bagamoyo: Historical sites and hubs for the former slave trade.
- Safari: Tanzania has 13 game parks throughout the country with lions, giraffe, zebra, hippos, elephants, leopards, cheetah and many others

*Note: The cost of such activities is the responsibility of the volunteer and is not included in the program.

Visa

In order to be able to enter Tanzania you will need a **business** visa.

For U.S. citizens, buying a business visa at the airport in Tanzania is the easiest option. The business visa costs \$150.00 USD. On the form that you will fill out for the business visa, you will need to write the name of the project you are working at (e.g. Ezra Ministries.)

- As you are applying for a business visa, you do **NOT** need an invitation letter from United Planet Tanzania!
- You might be asked for contact information in Tanzania. Please use the information below:

Tori Taugner

tori@unitedplanet.org

Tel: 255-715-919611 (dialing from outside Tanzania)

0715-919611 (dialing from inside Tanzania)

Address: P.O. Box 12335, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

For other citizens, please contact the Tanzanian Embassy in your country of citizenship to discuss your visa needs or contact Tori for more information.

We look forward to welcoming you to Tanzania!

Karibu Tanzania!

Contract for ICYE Volunteers

Please sign in the spaces provided to signify your concurrence with the stipulations of volunteer work.

I _____ have read and understood UPTZ/ICYE Tanzania's National Profile 2010-2011 and agree to the following:

1. I confirm that, as a volunteer, I will abide by the laws of the Tanzania government and the rules of UPTZ.

2. I hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue United Planet Tanzania/ICYE Tanzania, any of its subsidiary or affiliated programs or organizations, any of its in-country partners or in-country coordinators, or any of their respective employees (hereinafter referred to as releasees) from any and all liability claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or relating to any loss, damage or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me or any loss or damage to property owned by me, as a result of my participation in the UPTZ/ICYE Tanzania program or my traveling to other destinations. I further hereby agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless the releasees and each of them from any loss, liability, damage or costs they may incur as a result of my travels. It is my express intent that this release shall bind members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representatives, if I am deceased, and shall be deemed as a release, waiver, discharge and covenant not to sue the above-named releasees.

Name _____

Age _____

Nationality _____

Sex _____

Worksite _____

Period of Stay _____

Passport No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Sending Organization _____

Date _____

Volunteer Signature _____