

Mkombozi

Empower. Engage. Enable.



ICT SENSITISATION SEMINAR:

ACTT reaches out to Moshi primary schools

By Bruno Shayo, ACTT Sales & Marketing Officer

On the 30th of April 2009, ACTT conducted a one-day sensitisation seminar for primary school teachers from all primary schools (public and private) within the Moshi municipality. The District Education Officer, Regional Education Officer, Municipal Director, and all Heads of Schools were invited. The seminar was attended by 50 participants (school representatives) and a "guest of honour", the Municipal Council Secretary from the office of the Municipal Director.

The key topics / themes discussed were:

- ICT as enabling education and community development;
- challenges facing ICT in Tanzania;
- our roles in reaching out to support ICT initiatives;
- questions and answers on ICT;
- suggestions from teachers on how to learn / acquire PCs affordably.

Although there is a formal ICT subject taught in the school primary school programme, the teachers expressed a lack of skills and materials for teaching the subject. Recognising the importance of ICT skills and awareness, the teachers felt that the government must offer additional support. Notably, a major obstacle in equipping schools with computers and promoting ICT is the lack of electricity.

As a group, the teachers concluded with the following resolutions:

- ALL teachers were ready to support ACTT's mission on ICT and committed to respond positively whenever a call is made by ACTT on the issues on ICT. This was also shown by their solidarity for ACTT and their recognition and appreciation for the work done by ACTT in supporting schools throughout the Northern zone.
- ALL teachers were ready for computer training by ACTT and made a special request on this for free training or reduced payments.
- ALL teachers were ready to negotiate / sign with ACTT to buy computers on a long-term payments scheme.

At the end of this incredibly informative and valuable day of sharing and education, the Head Teacher of Mji Mpya Primary school won a free computer (worth Tshs 250,000), and another teacher won free computer training.

Additional positive outcomes included:

- total cash sales of Tsh 1,650,000;
- registration in computer training by 6 teachers (at a 50% fee);
- computer purchases by 6 teachers (at a 50% reduced price);
- compilation of contact list including Heads of Moshi primary schools.



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