

OPERATION IMANI

Ideas for Sustainable African Development

Join activist, author and independent filmmaker Greg John onsite in northern Tanzania as he profiles the journey that Imani Vocational Training Centre is making towards complete sustainability and self-reliance. You will get an inside look at a major international development construction project, discover simple but innovative technologies that foster long-term prosperity, and hear thoughts from Imani's fascinating director Sister Placida Mosha, 2008 Women's World Summit Foundation Laureate for Rural Creativity. Operation Imani provides practical ideas that Canadian and overseas organizations can use to maximize the long-term impact of their development dollars, emphasizing the importance of innovative, home-grown solutions. Witness elegant simplicity combined with eye-opening complexity and change the way you look at international development.



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Imani Vocational Training Centre

Imani Vocational Training Centre is located near the northern Tanzanian town of Moshi. Run by the Sisters of Our Lady of Kilimanjaro, Imani attempts to equip youth aged 14-25 with the vocational skills they need to gain future employment and independence. The school offers three-year training programs in carpentry, tailoring, knitting, welding, bricklaying and catering, and currently has 100 male and female students enrolled. It was founded in 2001 with a mandate to serve disabled and non-disabled youth, and today a third of the student body is physically or mentally disabled in some way. While Imani's high quality vocational training in a resource-limited setting is itself worthy of attention, it is the school's determined effort to eliminate its dependence on outside support that is the focus of Operation Imani.



Canada-Africa Community Health Alliance (CACHA)

Canada-Africa Community Health Alliance (CACHA) is a humanitarian NGO that seeks to improve population health and provide HIV care and education to remote African communities. It accomplishes this through the provision of adequate resources based on the determinants of health that include: childhood education, water and sanitation, women's rights, income security, housing, and nutrition. CACHA has worked in partnership with Imani since 2005, together implementing food- and income-generating activities that prioritize Imani's long-term financial independence.



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Greg John • Filmmaker, Presenter



A systems design engineer by education, a mathematics teacher by profession, Greg John has been deeply engaged in the field of rural African development since first travelling to Tanzania in 2005

on a CIDA internship. During his two years living in East Africa he worked closely with African organizations to help them develop their infrastructure and programming, including the construction of a 2400 square-foot HIV care and treatment centre at a rural hospital. Greg fully immersed himself in Tanzanian life, becoming fluent in Swahili and gaining deep insights into both East African culture and the field of international development. He published a book, *Mzungu Days* (Victoria, B.C., Trafford Publishing, 2007), about his Tanzanian experiences, and has spoken extensively about the lack of investment in long-term, sustainable solutions he perceived while in Africa. *Operation Imani* is his first documentary film.

Sister Placida Mosha • Director - Imani VTC

Sister Placida Mosha is a Catholic nun of the Order of Our Lady of Kilimanjaro and has been devoted to serving Tanzania's rural poor for over 40 years. During that time she founded and built



St. Francis School for the Deaf and Blind, but then remarkably turned her attention to other endeavours; in 2002 she founded and began the construction of Imani Vocational Training Centre. Now the director of the school, Sister Placida is a champion of sustainability and maintains a vision of complete self-reliance for her school. For her efforts to achieve this vision, mainly through the implementation of food- and income generating projects, Sister Placida was awarded the 2008 Women's World Summit Foundation Prize for Rural Creativity. A truly remarkable individual, Sister Placida Mosha blends sober wisdom with captivating enthusiasm and an inspiring commitment to human dignity.

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Fundraising

Operation Imani is being used as a means to raise money for Imani Vocational Training Centre. 100% of the profit generated by donations and DVD and ticket sales will be donated to the school, with the condition that it be invested in activities that further the cause of sustainability and self-reliance. The money will be transferred to Imani via Canada-Africa Community Health Alliance (CACHA, www.cacha.ca) so that donations will be acknowledged with a registered Canadian charitable tax receipt. To date CACHA has invested almost \$50 000 in sustainability-related projects at Imani; funding was provided for a garden irrigation system and the construction of a carpentry workshop, a maize milling building, and pig shelters. The fundraising goal for Operation Imani and its associated screenings is a further \$100 000.

Screenings

Vancouver

5th Avenue Cinemas
Friday, July 10th, 2009
7:15p.m.

Pacific Cinématèque
Tuesday, July 14th, 2009
8:00p.m.

Calgary

Plaza Theatre
Thursday, July 16th, 2009
7:15p.m.

Ottawa

Mayfair Theatre
Thursday, July 30th, 2009
7:15p.m.

Toronto

Royal Theatre
Wednesday, August 5th, 2009
7:15p.m.

Revue Cinema
Thursday, August 6th, 2009
7:15p.m.

Waterloo

Princess Twin Cinema
Tuesday, August 11th, 2009
7:15p.m.

Princess Twin Cinema
Wednesday, August 12th,
2009
7:15p.m.

More screenings TBA - please visit www.operationimani.com for the latest information