

A photograph of elephants silhouetted against a bright sunset sky. The sun is a glowing orb in the center, with its light reflecting on the water in the foreground. The elephants are standing in the water, and their reflections are clearly visible. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of orange, yellow, and brown.

2016
*Learning Opportunities
East Africa*

Tanzania

4 – 25 July 2016



Hello,

So, what is this learning and service opportunity about?

This opportunity is mainly about experiencing the life of the African Maasai tribe and providing practical assistance to an active grass-roots organisation, Naserian, who help Maasai widows. It is about learning from the Maasai people, their attitude to life, nature, environment and learning about their medicine, and walking through the forest where they gather natural remedies.

This opportunity is for those who would enjoy the experience of visiting the cities, towns and villages in Tanzania, and the challenges involved in living in these environments. After a short stay in the district of Arusha, we will spend most of our time in the villages, living with the Maasai in their traditional huts.

This is a unique opportunity to be of service to the local inhabitants by joining the local Maasai and using their traditional techniques to build a centre for widows and helping Naserian with other projects, including: documenting and creating a book of the stories of each of the hundreds of Naserian widow members, helping the Naserian Coordinator with writing funding proposals, providing IT assistance, teaching children, teaching English language to the widows, creating new designs for the traditional handmade jewellery, helping find a route to market for the jewellery etc.

We will visit the World Heritage Ngorongoro Crater & Conservation Area and other wildlife areas for a Safari with expert Maasai guides and will camp under the stars close to the National Park.

We will meet with local non-governmental organisations and charity groups in Tanzania and will learn about their work.

We will visit the headquarters of the East African Community (EAC). EAC is the regional intergovernmental organisation of the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda & the United Republic of Tanzania.

We will visit the headquarters of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda which is an international court established in November 1994 by the United Nations Security Council to judge people responsible for the Rwandan Genocide and other serious violations of international law in Rwanda.

There will be an opportunity to give a presentation on international legal instruments and other topics that may be of use to the local NGOs and a chance to share your learning.

At the end of the trip, we will travel to the exotic island of Zanzibar for a short break and to experience the attractions of this spice island, the turquoise warm sea, white sandy beaches, snorkelling in a coral reef and if we are lucky, swim with wild dolphins!

Interested? Read more....





What is Naserian

Naserian is a charity working for and with the local Massai women in Tanzania. It was founded by us in 2010 in response to the needs of the women in various villages and was initially established in three villages. Naserian was named by the widows. It means "Grace of God" in Maasai language. In 2013, Naserian was registered as a charity in Tanzania and is now active in eight villages. There are over 600 widows who currently benefit from Naserian. It is run by the widows themselves with help for coordination from a local Massai warrior.

The widows decide what they would like their organisation to do, how to raise money and how to spend it. They have developed their own fund and have a number of projects including: a goat herd, chickens, making & selling soap, candles, jewellery and training in FGM and human rights.

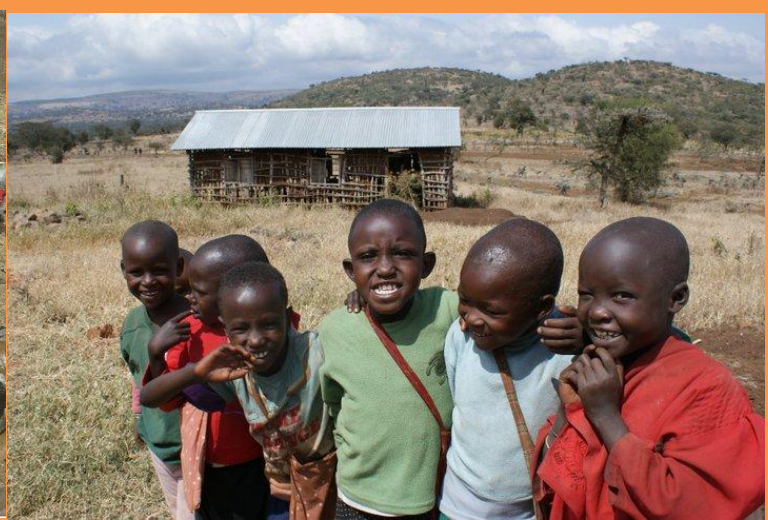
Polygamy is practiced in the Massai culture, so when a husband dies he may leave behind a number of widows. This means that their children are also left without a male supporter. According to the Massai tradition, in order to protect the widows, they are inherited by a male relative. Naserian works to help the communities understand that in some cases the widows may prefer to have the support to have independent lives and keep their property and control over their children.

The widows who have been trained in the above skills, pass on their knowledge to the whole of the community and so by helping the widows, the whole community benefits. In one village the widows have been given basic training in running education for children and this is the only education the children receive as there is insufficient money to send the children to school.

Naserian has helped widows gain rights over their own property, has raised the status of widows in the whole community, and with the generous donations received has built a kindergarten, latrines, rain water harvesting for the kindergarten and managed to send a girl to secondary school.

The community leaders have given land to Naserian to build a centre for widows in each village, but there have been insufficient funds to build them. This learning & service project will enable us to raise funds for the building materials and the chance to build the centre with the local Maasai. So, by the end of the trip, they will have a centre in one of the villages.

For more information, please visit www.Naserian.org





Proposed Programme *

Arrival in Tanzania
Transfer to Arusha & check in hotel

Tour of Arusha
Visit to East African (EAC) Community HQ

Visit to the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
Travel to Naserian villages

Meeting with Widows of Naserian
Prepare for service projects
Service activities in different villages
Safari in a Wildlife National Park

Return to villages for service activities

Meeting with the local NGOs & community
leaders to share learnings & achievements

Flight to the Island of Zanzibar
Three nights stay in Zanzibar
Visit to a spice farm
Boat ride to a remote island and snorkelling

Return flight to UK

() The itinerary is subject to variation*



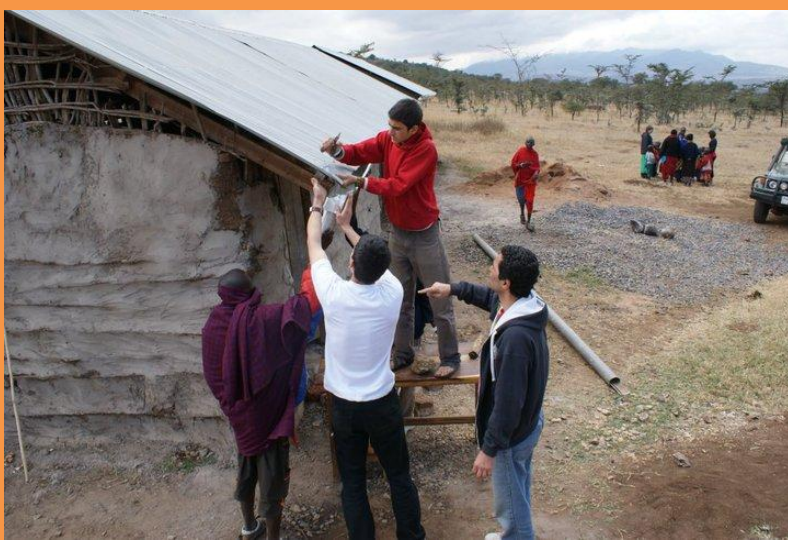


About us

We are a social enterprise offering training and communications skills to individuals, businesses and the not-for-profit sector. The core of our business is about human development. We are passionate about working with young people and believe they should be given opportunities to realise their true potential and release their inner powers.

Since 2005, we have been enabling young women and men to participate in learning opportunities that provide them with challenges outside their normal life environment. These have been primarily at the United Nations, providing young people with the chance to engage in real experience of global governance rather than simulated politics.

Over the past 5 years, we have annually taken young women and men to the United Nations CSW. We have also accompanied and facilitated the accreditation of young people to attend the Human Rights Council in Geneva. Young people have given presentations at a variety of UN processes and been fully engaged in NGO work there. Many have been enabled to give presentations at the Houses of Parliament in London and at various events around Europe.





What next

This opportunity is open to undergraduates and students on their gap year or in the 6th form at school. For more information contact us by phone or by email.

We would love as many people as possible have access to this learning opportunity. However, for practical reasons, places on this trip are limited to only 15 and the candidates will be decided based on a selection process through a telephone/Skype interview.

The trip is not a 'jolly' and the participants can expect a balanced mix of service, learning and recreation.

If you would like to be considered as a candidate, please email us at tanzania@serenecom munications.com stating clearly your name, year at school/university and why you would like to join this trip. The deadline for receipt of applications is **Friday, 4th March 2016** and interviews will be organised & places offered on a first come first served basis.



'realising the potential and releasing the power of people...'

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