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Mission Schools International November 5, 2009



MISSION SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL

Science + Technology + Entrepreneurship

Dear Friends of MSI,

Recently, the World Bank named Rwanda the most improved country on their [Doing Business 2010](#) survey of the best places to do business. They are the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa to achieve this. Congratulations to our many Rwandan friends who were part of this great accomplishment. Rwandas continued progress gives us even more optimism about the lasting impact MSI will be able to have in Rwanda.

MSI has had a busy summer as well. We have hired Molly Norton as country director, held a reception for top government officials in Rwanda, gave presentations to Stanford and Harvard Business School alumni traveling in Rwanda, and formed a partnership with students at Harvard Business School to develop our entrepreneurship curriculum.

In the coming months we will be launching our capital campaign which will help make the MSI dream a reality. Stay tuned to learn more about the many ways you can help.



Molly Norton Country Director, Beekeeper, Gourmet Cook

We are jumping for joy to announce our newest addition, Molly Norton, to the MSI team. Molly has lived in Rwanda for over a year, working on a honey production business for the Wildlife Conservation Society and a community development project with Kagano Worldwide. She has the local knowledge, political savvy, and entrepreneurial spirit to conduct all MSI operations in Rwanda. Prior to moving to Rwanda, Molly established the Food Justice Program at Just Food in New York and managed the Africa Department at Geographic Expeditions in San Francisco. Molly holds a BA from Washington and Lee University and an MA in

DONATE TO MSI:



UPCOMING EVENT:

[San Francisco Fundraiser Dec. 2](#)

MORE WAYS TO HELP:

Plan a fundraiser or cocktail party in your community

Forward this newsletter to friends

Identify partners to develop the science and technology curriculum

Connect us with writers who will do a story about MSI

Donate warehouse space so we can start collecting school supplies

Connect us to a marketing/branding firm who will do pro bono work

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:



AMAZING PROGRESS:

Today, we look to nearby Rwanda. Progress sometimes comes so slowly. But in a

International Environmental Policy from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. In addition to all of these achievements, she is also a Master Beekeeper, Master Composter and marathon runner.

After more than a year working in Rwanda, I am convinced that a solid education, combined with nutrition and healthcare, creates the foundation from which all other efforts must stem in order to achieve effective development. I have seen first hand the dire consequences of both kids who don't have the opportunity to go to school and kids who don't learn to think critically and creatively. I am excited to be part of a program that is breaking those trends.

Molly Norton, MSI Country Director



Officials Gather to Support MSI

MSI hosted a reception at the historic Chez Lando Hotel in Kigali to thank its many supporters and further update them on our progress. The meeting included Dr. Charles Murigande, Rwandan Minister of Education; W. Stuart Symington, U.S. Ambassador to Rwanda; Francis Gatere, Economic Advisor to President Paul Kagame; Emmanuel Mudidi, Member of Rwandan Parliament; and many others. Minister Murigande suggested that MSI consider becoming a national school so that students from all over the country could benefit. He was also very supportive of our proposal to have the work we are doing in entrepreneurship be incorporated into the national curriculum. MSI seeks to not only impact the lives of our students, but also to play an important role in education and economic development nationally. This is a great step towards that goal.

...come so slowly. But in a country that had been ravaged by genocidal conflict, the progress is amazing. It has one of the fastest growing economies in Africa, even in the midst of the global recession.

U.S. Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton 8/5/09
in Nairobi, Kenya

DID YOU KNOW?

Plastic bags are illegal in Rwanda



MSI to focus on Science, Technology, and Entrepreneurship

MSI's school in Rwinkwavu will have three areas of focus - Science, Technology, and Entrepreneurship. These are the three key areas that have been recognized by the Rwandan government as necessary in developing a knowledge-based economy. MSI students will be trained to become doctors, nurses, scientists, web designers, accountants, and entrepreneurs across all fields, helping Rwanda achieve its mission to develop job creators, not just job seekers. At the end of their final year (12th grade), groups of students in each course of study will compete in a business plan competition. MSI graduates will be the future of Rwanda. They will be the leaders who transform Rwanda's economy from 90% agriculture to one that is dynamic, diverse, full of opportunity, and on the path towards self-sufficiency.



Thank you all for your continued support of MSI's work.

Please invite your friends to join us in helping to bring about lasting change in Rwanda.

*Gratefully,
Brendan Kennealey*

www.missionschoolsinternational.org

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