

FACILITATING EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION WITH TANZANIA

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This project will enable a select group of 12 Northwest Ohio university faculty and/or graduate students involved in area studies, K-12 teachers, and a skilled videographer, to learn about East African history, culture, economics, and to examine the available communication infrastructure that might make feasible an ongoing exchange with Tanzanian educators and citizens using the internet and global communication tools.

In meetings with Tanzanian teachers, public policy experts, government officials, artists, and businesspeople, seminar participants during this five-week seminar would enhance their respective Social Studies, Art, Theatre, Geography and World History curricula by acquiring unique resource materials, including cultural artifacts such as indigenous arts and crafts, video interviews with key Tanzanian officials and policy-makers, as well as video documentation of arts and crafts production techniques. In the project's post-travel focus, participants will collaborate in creating an ongoing online resource that will benefit teachers and educators in both the U.S. and Tanzania by providing access to curricular materials and communication channels that will link colleagues and students overseas to each other.

The specific objectives of the project include: (1) Increasing team members' indigenous knowledge and insight and enlarging their versatility as educators to expand their East African curricula; (2) Developing effective strategies for teaching and illustrating Tanzanian history, art, economics, and social studies topics with the help of Tanzanian educators, artists, clergy, businesspeople, and political leaders; (3) Training and empowering team members to be mentors and peer resources persons to disseminate the results of the project to area secondary and post-secondary colleagues; (4) Creating an ongoing, online resource center to facilitate the continuing dialogue and the establishment of real-time interchange between Tanzanian and Ohio educators and students via the internet.