



[www.teKSafari.org](http://www.teKSafari.org)



# 61 WEEKS LATER

*a year in perspective*



**teKSafari**  
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## The Humble beginnings

In early June 2022, we kicked off with our very first workshop. We operated on a convenience basis, and that was reflected by the number and diversity of the participants.

With little over 20 students, we didn't know that this was just the beginning of a great adventure.

The excitement, willingness to learn, and determination of the students – most of whom didn't even know how to use a computer – is what fueled our spirits.

Initially conceived as a one-month project, our initiative evolved into a 6-month endeavor, culminating in the establishment of a fully registered organization. Emphasizing collaboration, we leveraged partnerships with local institutions and women's empowerment initiatives, tapping into their networks and expertise. This approach helped break down barriers, offer mentorship, and foster a diverse learning ecosystem, extending our impact to underserved communities and empowering more youth to pursue STEM careers.



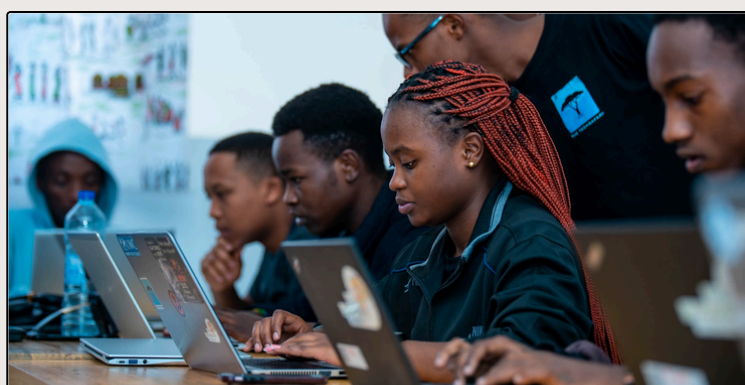
## Establishing a STEM space to run for 6 months

By partnering with other key players in STEM space we established a computer learning center to run for over half a year. This initiative provided students with essential access to technology and hands-on learning opportunities, allowing them to apply theoretical knowledge practically and fostering a collaborative learning environment, enabling students to work together on STEM projects and develop valuable teamwork skills.



## First ever regional STEM fair

Our strong emphasis on project-based learning resulted in heightened student engagement and a sense of ownership over their knowledge. This approach led to the creation of a STEM fair, where students showcased their innovative projects, demonstrating the practical application of their STEM skills. The competitive atmosphere, coupled with the prospect of prizes, motivated students to strive for excellence, fostering continuous improvement.



## TeK-Konnekt Series

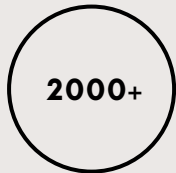
We launched TeK-Konnekt with the goal of promoting tech-literacy and fostering youth networking. Season 1 in Arusha featured diverse activities, including coding challenges, tech talks, and a typing contest, creating a unique platform for participants to enhance technical skills and connect with like-minded individuals. This series solidified our commitment to building a tech-literate community ready for the challenges and opportunities of the digital era.

# The new beginnings

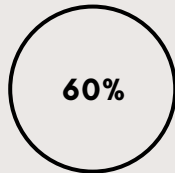
Now it's time to look back and reflect on this journey full of lessons not only for the students but also for us. Through this initiative, we have had an opportunity to get closer to the people in our community and further understand and relate to the learning needs of people more than just those in our immediate community. One thing that has been really evident to us is that true change can only emerge when the young generation is continuously well-educated.



Regions



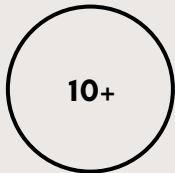
Reached



Female



Raised



Partners

## Word from the beneficiaries



**Genesis Uhuru**

Winner, STEM fair 2023

Participating in a competition and constructing a project proved to be a challenging endeavor. Despite intense competition, the support from the teKSafari team played a crucial role in transforming an idea into a tangible prototype. Despite my initial lack of knowledge, their resources and encouragement filled the gap. Winning was an almost surreal experience, solidifying the project's potential to affect those with visual impairments and also inspired me to learn more as I know have an idea of what is truly possible



**Marion Xanfon**

Winner, teK-KonneKt SI

As a passionate advocate for the teKSafari's cause, I've had the pleasure of observing and actively engaging in the innovative strides made by the organization. Their visionary commitment to spreading technological education throughout Tanzania has left me deeply impressed. I am genuinely excited and looking forward to witnessing how teKSafari continues to redefine the "tek" landscape and shape the future for young, brilliant minds across Tanzania. I can't forget to mention that I am also looking to participate in more contests organized by teKSafari!



**Kennedy Nnko**

Web Development intern  
April - Sept 2023

The teKSafari has provided me with essential resources like access to a PC and the internet; these were fundamental to my self-directed learning journey. Engaging in diverse tasks, like managing the organization's repositories and databases, encouraged me to think critically and creatively, gaining valuable experience from programming and participating in events such as Arduino Day, TechMaster, and TeK-Konnekt. Most importantly, the trust placed in me to fully implement and exercise my ideas significantly boosted my confidence and inspired me to learn more.



**Nehemia Kaaya**

Full Stack development intern  
May - September 2023

During his time at teKSafari, Nehemiah demonstrated true ownership of the project, executing tasks with unwavering passion.

He not only led tutoring sessions covering electronics/hardware programming but also independently built the prototype for a later commercialized software, securing funds crucial for the education project

Nehemiah also played a key role in an AI automation project that placed 1st internationally, receiving a \$2000 award, which contributed to the organization's ability to host more events and hackathons.

His remarkable achievements and dedication have earned him a full scholarship to attend a United World College (UWC) in the USA, where his commitment to community impact has only intensified.

### Project impact on me

Being part of teKSafari was a transformative experience. As an aspiring teK enthusiast, it was deeply moving to have the opportunity to utilize my skills to uplift other youths in my community who weren't as fortunate to have access to technical education. My time at teKSafari also enhanced my software development, project management, and problem-solving skills as I became involved in multiple projects.

The teKSafari team was undoubtedly a place of immense efficiency but also one filled with love and care. Working at teKSafari taught me the value of teamwork and cooperation—values I will carry with me wherever I go. The project's collaboration with institutions and groups with similar goals further exemplified the importance of cooperation in achieving a greater purpose.

### Proudest Achievement

A few days into any program in the project, whether it was a programming course or a hardware integration course, witnessing the progress made by the participants was one of the proudest moments of my life. Sowing seeds of curiosity and passion in young minds is a cause I proudly took part in at teKSafari.

### Moving forward

As I move forward in my career, I carry with me the invaluable lessons learned at teKSafari. The experience has not only equipped me with technical skills but also instilled in me a deep commitment to community development and education. I am inspired to continue this journey of empowerment and innovation.



# Word from teKSafari's leaders



**Stephen Kitomary**  
Chief Technical Officer

## What lessons have you gained being a project leader?

Engaging with teKSafari has proven to be a valuable learning journey. I've acquired a deeper understanding of organizational operations, delving into aspects such as business model canvases, marketing strategies, and objective key results. The ability to assess project progression and make informed decisions has become instinctive. The lessons gleaned from this experience have been priceless, significantly contributing to both my personal and professional development.

Utilizing the project's collaboration and management tools, such as Notion and Google Workspaces, which we adopted to streamline our workflows, has been one of the most rewarding lessons. Applying these skills and tools in my personal life has significantly improved my organization and focus, enhancing time management across various aspects of my life.

## What enduring success do you think the project have had?

Reflecting on teKSafari's enduring successes since its inception, the growth and impact we have had in such a period of time is really humbling. Personally, I take pride in influencing numerous students, providing them with valuable skills in the ever-evolving field of technology.

Our collaborations with various governmental and non-governmental organizations collectively working towards tech advancements have also been instrumental in our success. We are committed to ongoing support for our students and community to achieve greater success in the future.

## What are you most proud of?

I've found great joy in the excitement of exploring new places and engaging with young, passionate minds. Throughout our journey, we've made a significant impact in the community, offering cutting-edge training, mentoring, and sharing our extensive knowledge. Witnessing the transformation of students, previously unfamiliar with programming or electrical circuits, into achievers is truly heartwarming—a testament to the power of knowledge and mentorship.



**Said Hozza**  
Chief Operations

The leadership at teKSafari.org stands out for its inclusive and collaborative approach, this open environment not only nurtures personal development but also empowers the entire team by emphasizing individual ownership and purpose.

teKSafari's partnerships with major STEM stakeholders like TME Education underscore teKSafari's strong network and impact in the STEM and Innovation space.

My experience with teKSafari has been truly fulfilling, and I look forward to making ongoing contributions and achieving future successes together.



**Ignas XV**  
Executive Director

During the inception of teKSafari.org, I never foresaw the trajectory of our small summer project. As someone once remarked, "Success is not just about individual accomplishments but the lives you touch, positive changes you bring about, and the lasting legacies you create." The individuals I've influenced through teKSafari, who will continue to achieve greater heights, will be my legacy. I view this as just the beginning of something significant, aspiring to impact more in my community and, hopefully, extend that influence to other African countries in the future.

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