

# WHO WE ARE

Operation Tech Start projects are fiscally sponsored by the Southern New Hampshire University's Community Economic Development Program, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our funding comes from grassroots fundraising plus grants from the Internet Society (ISOC), and the Helia Resource Center SRI Fund.

Our Mission:

1. To educate the practical application of new technologies
2. To preserve cultural values while improving the lives of Tanzania people
3. To strengthen partnerships between local & international entities.

## CONTACT

Operation Tech Start  
PO Box 843  
Tabora, Tanzania  
EAST AFRICA  
Tel: +255 783424957  
[www.operationtechstart.org](http://www.operationtechstart.org)  
[info@operationtechstart.org](mailto:info@operationtechstart.org)

## ABOUT TANZANIA

**Population:** 40,213,162

**Leading exports:** Tobacco, Coffee and Cashew

**Avg. Income:** Over 40% of the population in Tanzania live on less than \$2/day

**About Tabora:** For a number of reasons, the Tabora region has largely been left behind by the international humanitarian aid organizations and government development agencies to date. Attention and aid is critical for this underdeveloped region. Despite the circumstances, the area is extremely peaceful and

Tanzania



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UPGRADING FARMING  
COMMUNITIES THROUGH  
INFORMATION &  
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



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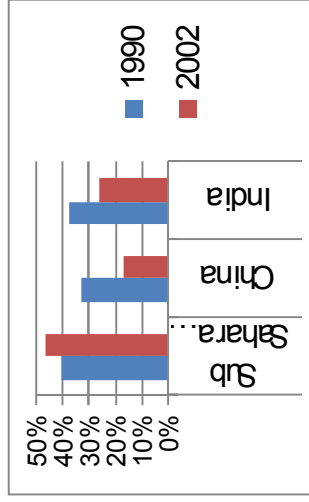
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# OPERATION TECH START

**Information & Communication Technologies do not clothe, cure or feed...but they do boost the economy in developing nations worldwide**

## THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

It's no secret that the African continent has not kept pace with technological advancements. This technology gap has played a vital role in the increasing economic deterioration and ongoing poverty. Projections from the UN indicate that the number of poor in Sub-Saharan Africa is still rising while the number of poor in developing countries with a push in ICT is falling.



To boost the economies in developing African nations such as Tanzania, there will need to be a measurable improvement in ICT access, education and practical application of technology!

## FROM TECH START TO TECH SMART

Operation Tech Start seeks to help disadvantaged communities through the spread of Infor-



mation and Communication Technologies (ICT) such as *mobile phones, handheld devices and computers* for the biggest economic impact.

## OUR RURAL ICT PROJECT

Operation Tech Start has partnered with a local tobacco merchant company to improve the communication practices between the farmers and the tobacco industries stakeholders in Tabora. Our work will identify the best solutions based on three key areas:

**ICT Type**—Who needs the information, who has the information and how do they find each other?

**ICT Method**—What delivery mode will allow the information provider and receiver to share information at the right time?

**ICT Sustainability**—What are the start-up and on-going costs to create, share, and store data? Who will fix the technology tools and/or infrastructure?

## GET INVOLVED

**Volunteer**  
OTS is currently looking for volunteers with a background in technology, business management, or development who thrive in a challenging environment to join our team of volunteers.

**Donate Equipment**  
Do you have extra electronics or supplies that you can give to the farmers in Tanzania? Please contact us to learn more about how to ship your generous gift.

**Help fund the project**  
Tell us where you want your money to go and we'll be sure to apply the funds to the specific area of your preference.

**Share Your Ideas**  
Let us know if you have any ideas for OTS or want to learn more about our program and how you or your organization can get involved.