

**1) Describe the main training activities of the last 3 months**

- The last SOW term ended on July 9<sup>th</sup> at Tubakuta and July 11<sup>th</sup> at Fajara, so the last three months has covered the long summer break.
- During this time we have been trying to recruit new students, despite limitations of the COVID-19 state of emergency. But praise God, two official interview days were scheduled and run in August as well as some one-off interviews.
- The new term started on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at the two sites. We are thankful for the students who have registered and begun their studies with us, as well as for a providing a teaching faculty able to cover the timetable at both locations.
- Part-time courses at Fajara include the Navigator's Lord's Harvest Discipleship courses 1 & 2, and Explore the Bible (Bible overview course from George Whitefield College).
- The full-time preaching course at Tubakuta started with a farming week, and an orientation week. The preaching course classes themselves will start on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Classes starting include Ephesians, Exodus, Mark's Gospel, Principles of Preaching and Principles of Bible Interpretation.

**2. Describe any other activities of the last 3 months.**

- In addition to the recruitment activities, a lot of work has gone in to the new timetables and preparing for teaching. Four British members of staff have returned to the UK, and therefore some of the faculty are preparing to teach new courses.
- Development of the campus facilities was able to continue through the rainy season, albeit at a slower rate. The kitchen, laundry, and security buildings are now complete, and five thousand blocks have been moulded for the foundations of a new library and reading room. Construction will start once the rains are finished in October. Work has continued on the two-apartment farm house, we hope one apartment will soon be ready to accommodate the SOW Farm Manager.
- A partnership has been developed with the Bible Society, who are willing to support SOW by running some literacy and language classes in Tubakuta village. This is an important part of our community engagement.

**3) Please share an encouraging story or feedback from students in the last 3 months.**

It has been very encouraging to hear that the students who completed their training are already missing their colleagues and being at SOW.

One student came back and volunteered to serve for six months at Tubakuta. He wants to gain some extra experience and has a long-term vision to start something similar in his home country of Liberia. He already has support from his family and church pastor there, and has managed to raise enough money to buy a plot of land that may one day become a SOW-Liberia! He is already making himself really useful at Tubakuta and will begin to help other staff to facilitate some of the classes in the coming months.

Finally, it is wonderful to have three pastors within the group of students enrolled for part-time training at Fajara.

**4) How many people have you trained in the last 3 months?**

- 3 full-time students so far have enrolled on the Tubakuta Preaching course, we are praying that more will join in the coming weeks
- 6 students have enrolled at Fajara on the part-time Discipleship course
- 4 students have enrolled at Fajara on the part-time Explore the Bible course

Numbers probably have been impacted by the uncertainty around COVID-19 state of emergency.

**5) What are your top challenges for the next 6 months for which we can pray?**

- New faculty members teaching new courses
- New students settling in to their studies
- We would love a few more students to join, it's not too late!