«Maasai want digital learning»

Selenkay Smart Learning Community
Roland Diethelm, Field Report April 2021

1   Visit Objectives

- Form a strategic alliance for quality education among Maasai communities and marginalized schools
- Team formation wiLearn 4 Life and Gamewatchers Safaris – Porini Camps for education excellence
- Familiarize and train Gamewatchers staff to implement digital learning in conservancies
- Establish a technical support structure for current and future projects in conservancies
- Kickoff meeting with Selenkay Smart Learning Communities Lenkisem & Iloirero
- Facilitate an introduction workshop for community members and teachers
- Apply a scalable project model for Smart Learning Communities that is sustainable
- Establish strategic partnership with Virtual Essence on Gov approved eLearning software MsingiPACK

2   Team Formation

2.1 Entry Meeting at Gamewatchers Safaris

After a phase of virtual meetings and joint preparation for the digital education project in Amboseli we finally met as a team at Gamewatchers Safaris office on Friday 19. March 2021. Present were Mohanjeet Brar - Managing Director of Gamewatchers, Esther Malanga – Head of Corporate Affairs, Sarah Omusula – Conservation & CSR Coordinator, Jeremiah Chege – Marketing & IT and myself, Roland Diethelm, CEO from wiLearn 4 Life.

As implementers of an exciting new learning approach we all acknowledge the vision and action taken by Peter and Barbara Diethelm from the PD Foundation to connect with the founder of the Gamewatchers conservancies, Jake Grieves-Cook who made this partnership in education excellence possible. Thanks to the PD Foundations generous funding pledge and the Gamewatchers logistical and networking contributions the mobile learning solution from wiLearn 4 life can take root in the rural schools of Selenkay and Maasai Mara conservancies. It's seen as an important measure to strengthen the ties between the sustainable eco-tourism, nature conservation and the local community who highly values a modern education for their children. Their children as Kenya's future leaders and protectors of a delicate ecosystem shall get the best opportunities to understand the cause and effects of men and wildlife living side by side. The unique mobile learning platforms designed by wiLearn seem to be the right fit for the Maasai communities not yet connected to grid power and the internet.

In pursuit of a successful smart learning program we as project partners stated the goal of making such vital education enhancing tools available to all children in the GWSA conservancies starting with Lenkisem and Iloirero communities. As a project team we then confirmed the roles each one is taking on.

- Mohanjeet will coordinate and supervise the Smart Learning projects in the selected GWSA conservancies
- Sarah Omusula will be acting project manager liaising between the project communities and Gamewatchers along the agreed project objectives and under the guidance of her superior.
- Jeremiah will give technical IT hardware and software support to operations upon request. He will integrate locally relevant software for easy access by the communities. Jeremiah will also support the data collection from the offline servers upon request.
- Roland will supply the mobile learning equipment and lead the installation and introductory workshop in the communities. He will provide technical support for operations upon request from the field team. Roland will lead the Smart Learning project team and liaise between GWSA, PD Foundations and CAF UK to coordinate the partnership as well as the project reporting and funding.

2.2 Mobile Learning Lab Interactive Tech-Training

The tech training with Jeremiah started at once at the GWSA Nairobi office as he was not part of the field team visiting the communities. He is now conversant with the moLLi (mobile learning lab interactive) solar power monitoring system from Victron, the battery charging system, the tablet charging procedures, the operation of the wiLearnCAP and the integration of software education modules thereof. He is also briefed in the organisation of the local server library and basic hardware administrative functions of the wiLearnCAP. Although the training was very brief, the major tools to operate and maintain the server have been deployed. Further instruction and support will be given via Whatsapp as needed.

wiLearn recommended a plan of having one wiLearnCAP at GWSA main Nairobi office in order to get to know the system well and provide an online reference to the field server via router. The development of Online/Offline educational information campaigns on conservation issues need further discussions as the team grasps the capacity and opportunities of the mobile server. Other key players like iLab Africa and Governors Camp have expressed a sincere interest in the development of digital education among the conservancy communities.

3 Kickoff Meeting Lenkisem, 22. March 2021

- As we operate as a team Sarah from Gamewatchers who attended and instructed during the week has written the report from Kickoff to the end of the wiLearn workshop in Lenkisem. (see attached report)

4 eLearning Software – Government approved

- wiLearn was able to initiate the availability of MsingiPACK Academy on our offline server. We are the first in Kenya to have the ground breaking curriculum aligned and Government approved lessons from Grade 1 to 4 and Class 6 to 8 available on our server. Just 1 day before departure from Nairobi to the Selenkay conservancy we managed to install the 176 GB heavy self-oriented learning tool made in Kenya on our offline community library.
- An MOU agreement between wiLearn and the producer Virtual Essence will also warrant a life time offline licence per wiLearn server and the installation of Grade 5 when its ready.
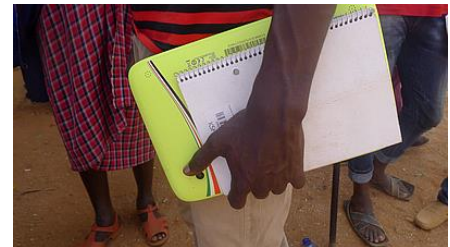
5 Learning and Actions

- The Maasai community has adopted the idea of digital learning with great enthusiasm. This was also noted with the employees at Porini Camp who huddled around the library every evening if they were given the chance to access the tablets. They are hungry for information and expressed their thankfulness for receiving the opportunity to learn with the tablets in a new and exciting way.
- During the workshop we received several request to sell them tablets and headphones for their families. We explained that one tablet equals

approximately the price of two goats (150 USD) but can serve the entire family. The project team will evaluate and establish a demo kit with a choice of locally available gadgets (Nairobi) that the individual families in Selenkay can order from Porini Camp at cost. This could enhance the literacy level among all generations and engage young and old in the learning program.

- Code of Conduct Agreements between the community, the schools and the project team shall be signed as soon as they receive the hardware. All hardware remains property of wiLearn for the duration of the project to assure its proper use, care taking and accessibility of server data. The agreement states clearly that the equipment can be removed from the community or its institutions if a grave breach of the agreement is noted by team members.
- Contracting ICT teachers support upon the release of the school cases (moLLi) From the beginning the project team has assigned one ICT teachers supporter for each school who attended the initial workshop. They will be contracted part time for the project by GWSA for a maximum 12 month period to act as superuser, administrator and teacher classroom support.
- Engage at school level with local assets. During the workshop we connected the Government deployed Windows tablets in the eLearning library with success. Between 50 and 200 Government gadgets were deployed to rural schools but rarely used. Teacher at Iloriero explained that they never received usable content with the tablet PC so the information thereof was extremely shallow. Now with access to the wiFi library all of those tablets can be revived to engage more school children in digital learning practices with MsingiPACK Academy and many more education modules.

6   Outlook

- A second workshop at the respective schools seems important to assure the school community is adopting the eLearning opportunities. Some teachers could not attend the workshop as they were administering the exams that week. We must ensure that there is not a large gap between the training and the application of the learnt matters. I therefore suggest to plan for 2 days of eLearning integration in each school as soon as the entire school staff and pupils are back in May.
- Further to the deployment of 1 moLLi library case per school and the community facilitation case (wiLLi) wiLearn will deliver 2 tablet charging cases (TABEA 16) for each school to compliment the equipment. Finally each school will practice the eLearning with 42 tablets in mobile cases that can be shared between the classes. The scheduling of the equipment for class will be an important process that the project team would like to be a part of hence the second workshop is planned at the beginning of the next semester.
- The team has already received requests via the chief to include other schools in the program. As Lenkisem and Iloirero shall serve as a role model for Maasai communities, Gamewatchers and wiLearn keeping the expansion to the other schools within the conservancies on the agenda.
- Fundraising for other schools can be started anytime by all parties. The overall cost per institution should drop significantly as the international expertise from wiLearn is reducing and more local staff have gained the knowledge and skills to operate the gear in a sustainable manner.
- An open ended MOU has been drafted to create a common understanding among the partners, PD Foundation, Gamewatchers Safaris and wiLearn with the intention to expand and scale current activities reaching all children in the respective conservancies. I will circulate the draft shortly to

receive your inputs and amendments. This document shall not have a legal character but rather serve as a guideline and communication tool for the partnership development.

Privileged to be welcomed with the Maasai's friendly smile, grilled meat and their gentle way of life the visit has been a rewarding learning experience for me. It also included some Maa language training. Ashe Oleng!

A great thank You goes to the Gamewatchers Safaris and Porini Camp Team for their welcoming friendship, readiness, flexibility and commitment. It is so good to know you and work alongside your dedicated leadership and staff. It has been a joy working with your Kenyan team that I can trust and get support from. Your superb hosting at the camp as well as the daily drive to work was a real treat. I have no doubt that together we shall head for a successful project outcome. Reflecting on my field visit objectives, I think together we have achieved all of them.

Thank you Peter and Jake for your vision and support, so we can look forward to the next opportunity, hopefully in May 2021!

Roland Diethelm
CEO, wiLearn 4 Life

Lufingen, 6. April 20121

Appendix A – Gamewatchers Field Report (Selenkay Smart Learning Kickoff and Workshop)
Appendix B – Code of Conduct Agreement (for the user community and teachers)

The Selenkay Smart Learning Community Training 23rd -26th March 2021

The Selenkay Smart Learning Project was initiated by the wiLearn 4 Life funded by the PD Foundation in collaboration with Gamewatchers Safaris. The kick- off was on the 22nd March 2021 in attendance were Gamewatchers Safaris Managing Director Dr. Mohanjeet Brar, CEO WiLearn 4 Life, other Gamewatchers Safaris staff, teachers and community members from Iloirero and Lenkisem areas. These was later followed by a 4 day training workshop with 21 participants in attendance were 6 teachers from Iloirero and Lenkisem Primary school, 2 Assistant Chiefs, 2 ICT interns who will help train the teachers when schools resumes and 10 community members selected by the Headteachers and the school Board of management committee.
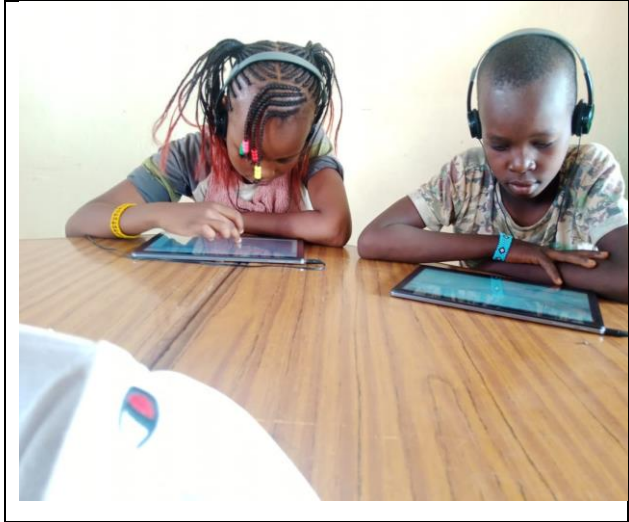

The 10 community members were selected based on literacy capacity, interest, a basic understanding of technology and ability to apply the new skills after the training. These Smart Learning project seeks to empower students and local community on use of ICT learning that will empower the community and provide equal opportunity to learning for the Selenkay community. The training begun on the 23rd -26th March 2021 and the main objectives of were to:
- Introduce digital learning
- Train teachers and some community members on basic skills to operate the server, projector, tablets and
- Access the offline digital library materials on the server
- Learn how to use and connect the equipment to Bluetooth
- Upload and download lessons, photos and videos on the server and projector for student access

The Smart Learning Project is important because it will enable the Selenkay community and students to access offline education which was not available to them previously. The equipment have a portable solar that will provide energy that will ensure easy access to the education material. The community members were grateful to the WiLearn 4 Life for the initiative and to Gamewatchers for considering them for the ICT learning, they recognize how useful and its impact in their children learning. It was impressive to see that, even after the kickoff meeting some community members were inquiring where to find tablet. There was 100% attendance since the start of the training workshop. One of the trainees enrolled to the Catholic Church computer training after the first day of training.

There were other participants and community members who were interested in purchasing tablets to upload educational material from the server for their kids to use at home. Each day the training began with reflection of the previous lessons learnt, challenges experienced and solving those challenges before getting to another session. On the last day the participant were put into 3 groups worked on a project that captured all lesson learnt during the training and presented their work to the rest of the team these helped us analyze the level of understanding and challenges experienced, that enabled us identify where more clarity was required to resolve these issues. Although the schools are on holidays, we gathered a group of children of different ages among them were 3 grade 4 students who were handed with tablets to explore the modules and the education library from the server. The rest of the children who were younger watched some videos from Kolibri which were projected on the screen. They were all excited and ready to learn.

Due to the pandemic, the school year calendar has changed and the participants suggested that the school kits to be kept by the Gamewatchers Safaris till the school reopens in May 2021 for handover to the school. The community kits were assigned to the assistant chief to facilitate the community meetings and awareness program on health, livestock keeping and female genital mutilation programs around the Selenkay community.

By the end of the 4 day training the participants were able to setup and connect the equipment, download/upload, copy/save documents on projector and the server. They were also able to operate and access the education modules/ digital library on the server. Besides, some of the participants were able to create accounts, use and access the education material on Kolibri module. We were able to connect the government tablets to "Rachel" server, this will help more students to access the Msingipack and other digital learning educational material. At the end of the workshop, the participants were issued with the certificate to show that they successfully completed the training.

AGREEMENT – LENKISEM SMART LEARNING COMMUNITY

This agreement is based upon the approved **Selenkay Smart Learning Community Project** supported by the PD Foundation, UK.

The agreement is between **Gamewatchers Safaris Kenya, Project Coordinator** (herein called project coordinator) the Lenkisem Community representing the beneficiaries of the digital learning project in the ***Selenkay Conservancy, Amboseli,*** **Kenya** (herein called Smart Learning Community) and the project **lead organisation, wiLearn 4 Life Switzerland** (herein called wiLearn) representing the equipment supplier and funding organisations.

Appointments

- **Community** has appointed **Mr. Peter Nangunin (ICT Intern) and Mrs. Julius Orudaru** as Smart Learning Communitys of the project management team
- **Project Coordinator** has appointed **Mrs. Sarah Omusula** as Operations Manager of the Smart Learning Community Project
- **wiLearn** has appointed **Roland Diethelm** as project coordinator, technical instructor and donor relations

Purpose

This agreement shall form the basis of project steering and collaboration among the parties of the project team. They herewith agree to the terms and conditions stipulated as follows:

Our Common Vision

We empower school children and the local learning communities within the conservancy areas through digital learning tools to improve equal access to quality education in Selenkay.

Our Common Mission

Learners of all ages living in the project area gain free access to digital information in a save learning environment. Through instructions, self-directed learning methods and collaboration, learners discover their own potential by extending their digital media competencies. wiLearn is a faith based organisation with Christian values. Our teaching and learning culture includes faith related subjects providing free and equitable access to all relevant literature and media for a peaceful, social and productive society irrespective of religion, culture or ethnicity.

The Smart Learning Community herewith agrees:

1) to promote free access to quality learning content that is relevant, adapted and empowering children, adults and the surrounding community to learn with digital media.
2) To secure and take proper care of all project related hardware and software content provided by wiLearn as per ANNEX I – *List of Hardware & Software*.
3) To provide a completed and signed *Equipment Checklists* every 6 months to wiLearn accounting for all operational, lost, damaged, or malfunctioning hardware equipment and its exact location.
4) To provide a safe learning environment by carefully selecting learning content that is edifying, empowering and enhancing peaceful and respectful community living.
5) To maximise the access and use of the hardware and software provided by wiLearn to promote inclusive, life long learning for all within the project area of his organisation.
6) To empower teachers, pupils and community members to regularly learn and develop the local content to increase the learning skills of beneficiaries.
7) To uphold the **Code of Conduct** of the Smart Learning project as follows:

CODE OF CONDUCT

- Our wiLearn Smart Learning environments stand for high moral and ethical standards in line with child rights and child protection principles.
- The content on the wiLearnCAP server is supervised and scrutinized to adhere to the "do no harm" principles.
- Learning content shall not be offensive, aggressive or derogative of any human being regardless of their origin, ethnic, religious, or gender affiliation.
- Media that animates to violence ,threats or hate messaging will not be tolerated.
- Quality learning content excludes alcohol or drug abuse, sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic content, gross violence and killings, and foul language inappropriate for children's consumption.
- All staff engaged in the project bear responsibility to prevent misconduct and harmful or discriminatory media content.
- Uploaded content shall protect the privacy of the individual at all times. No pictures, videos or digital data of or about an individual learner shall be stored on the server against the individuals consent.

- Anonymous written reporting of inappropriate digital content shall be made available to any content user. If a person finds offending or harmful material he shall report it to the supervisor immediately or file an anonymous report with the Smart Learning project manager or send the report directly to the wiLearn email address provided on the report form.
- inappropriate, harmful or unlawful content shall be removed immediately by the supervisor or project management.
- Written complaints shall be stored confidentially by the project management for analysis and learning to improve a secure learning environment.

8) To report monthly statistical evidence about the use of the wilearnCAP content.
9) To report semi-annually on the Smart Learning project progress
10) To issue a final report to the Smart Learning Community including a comprehensive financial report upon handover of the pilot project
11) To report technical failures and challenges with wiLearn within 5 working days.
12) That the ICT hardware equipment listed in ANNEX 1 is owned by wiLearn and lent to Smart Learning Community for the duration of the project (24month)
13) the ICT hardware can be removed from the Smart Learning Community by the project team at any time during the project if the project lacks accountability or fails to adhere to mutually agreed Code of Conduct or shows gross violation or negligence under this agreement.
14) That the full ownership of the hardware is intended to be transferred to the learning community after successful completion of the project

Project Coordinator herewith agrees:

15) To manage project operations
16) Collect offline data report to forward to wilearn
17) Maintain regular communication to Project Coordinator through quarterly progess reports
18) Write draft reports for the project lead to be forwarded to the project team
19) Contract and supervise ICT interns

Wilearn herewith agrees to:

20) Supply and support the Smart Learning Community with ICT hardware and software solutions to warrant a continuous operation of digital learning.
21) Provide workshop learning opportunities for project staff according the proposal at the beginning and midterm of the project.

22) Communicate regularly with the Smart Learning Community and project staff for mentoring, monitoring progress, and evaluating impact according SDG criteria selected in the proposal.

23) Support the operation by timely and regular payments of the project funds allocated to project management according approved project budget.

24) Collect statistical evidence from the wilearnCAP server and coordinates the flow of information to the donor.

25) Provide regular updates to the Project Coordinator and the donor according pilot project proposal, agreed deliverables therein.

26) For the 24 month duration of the project wiLearn remains the owner of the ICT equipment. At the completion of the project the Project Coordinator decides on location and use of the ICT equipment.

27) Limit the liability of the Smart Learning Community relating to the wiLearn equipment. The Smart Learning Community shall not be liable for partial or all equipment lost due to "Acts of God" like fire, flooding, storms and earthquake, or losses due to armed conflict and terrorism.

28) Provide guidance and support for scaling a successful project to reach a wider community in need of quality education and digital skills development.

Legal

This agreement shall be binding for the 24 month duration of the Smart Learning Community project. It can be altered by written and mutual agreement of all parties and in line with the approved project proposal and budget.

By signature I confirm to have read, understood and commit to the project implementation and collaboration under this terms striving for excellence and the best possible impact for the Selenkay community.

Signatures

Location, Date: *Nairobi, 26.March 2021*

Project Coordinator   wiLearn 4 Life

_____   _____
Dr. Mohanjeet Brar   Roland Diethelm
Managing Director   CEO

Location, Date: *Lenkisem, 26.March 2021*

Smart Learning Community   Smart Learning Community

_____   _____
School Smart Learning Community   ICT Intern

ANNEX 1 – Inventory List of Hardware 31.03.2021

Unit	#	Description	Remarks	Initials
moLLi kit (Solar)	2	KE2103 Project	Victron MPPT 75/15 / 2x 150Wh LifePo Accu	
wiLLi kit (Solar)	1			
AC Adapter	3	240VAC / 180W	Output 19.5 V DC	
Solar Panel	1	120W foldable		
wiLearnCAP	3	CAP 1TB HDD	12VDC Complete 2 with Msingi PACK KE content	
CAP AC Adapter	2	Spare 240VAC / UK	12V DC output for fixed installation at school	
Mounting bracket	2	Spare	for fixed installation at school	
MsingiPack	74	Software Licence	Perpetual Licence - Virtual Essence, Kenya	
Android Tablet PC	21	Alldocube PowerM3	USB-C	
wiFi Projector	3	Android Smart View	15V DC Input	
Projector AC Power	2	Projector	Spare Power Supply	
Keyboard	3	Bluetooth	USB Mini	
Speaker	3	BT Anker SoundCore2	USB Mini	
Headset	20	JVC		
Audio Splitters	10	Accessories		
Mouse	3	BT and wirless	USB Mini	
Charging Cable	3	UBS-C	Spare for tablets	
Wallplug UK	2	USB chargers	Spare for tablets	
Tabea16 Kit	1	Charging Case	Powersupply missing	
Projector Screens	1			

Pending items

Unit	#	Description	Remarks
Tabea16 Case	*3*	*AC Charging Case*	*USB Charging Ports - 20*
Android Tablet PC	*64*		
MsingiPack	*10*	*Software licences*	
Solar Panel	*1*	*120W foldable*	

ANNEX 2 – CODE OF CONDUCT - SUPERVISORS

- Our wiLearn Smart Learning environments stand for high moral and ethical standards in line with child rights and child protection principles.
- The content on the wiLearnCAP server is supervised and scrutinized to adhere to the "do no harm" principles.
- Learning content shall not be offensive, aggressive or derogative of any human being regardless of their origin, ethnic, religious, or gender affiliation.
- Media that animates to violence ,threats or hate messaging will not be tolerated.
- Quality learning content excludes alcohol or drug abuse, sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic content, gross violence and killings, and foul language inappropriate for children's consumption.
- All staff engaged in the project bear responsibility to prevent misconduct and harmful or discriminatory media content.
- Uploaded content shall protect the privacy of the individual at all times. No pictures, videos or digital data of or about an individual learner shall be stored on the server against the individuals consent.
- Anonymous written reporting of inappropriate digital content shall be made available to any content user. If a person finds offending or harmful material he shall report it to the supervisor immediately or file an anonymous report with the Smart Learning project manager or send the report directly to the wiLearn email address provided on the report form.
- inappropriate, harmful or unlawful content shall be removed immediately by the supervisor or project management.
- Written complaints shall be stored confidentially by the project management for analysis and learning to improve a secure learning environment.

As a member of staff of the Selenkay Smart Learning Project I assume the responsibility as a supervisor. With my signature below I confirm, that I have read and understood the full meaning of the **Code of Conduct** under this Beneficiary Agreement.

By signature I consent to adhere to the Code of Conduct anytime and for as long as I am engaged with the project. As a responsible citizen that upholds the law I adhere to human rights and child protection principles. My participation warrants the promotion of a secure learning environment for all, providing equitable access to relevant education resources of the smart learning project.

Location, Date: _____

Name / Function: _____ / _____

Signature: _____