



## Stephen and Angelina Cowan

Location: **Tuum, KENYA**

Mission: **Church-based community development and outreach**

**JUNE 2023**



First I worked with the literacy teacher putting beginner literacy lessons onto the phone (there is 84% adult illiteracy). I also worked with the health worker, a farmer and the manager of the honey project. We went out into the community and captured lessons on 'How to prevent Diarrhoea' (there was a current outbreak amongst children), how to manage cattle and pasture and how to harvest natural honey. The community was excited to see these lessons using their context and hearing them in their own language.

In the last few weeks many visitors have generously contributed their time and skills to the work of SAA programme. One of those visitors, Gareth Gilchrist from Ballynure N Ireland, writes the following

I had two objectives for the field tests.

"I spent the first 10 days of May in Kenya with the purpose of field testing an App (iTeach) that I have been developing in partnership with Stephen and Angelina in Samburu.

1. Would the App work on the Smartphones that the Samburu use?
2. Would the Samburu users be excited, seeing the value of having such an App to help the community develop?

The journey from Nairobi up to Tuum is a grueling one which takes its toll on the vehicle and your back! We did it in one day on the way up (14.5 hrs) and took a slightly more relaxed two days on the way down again. The Samburu landscape is stunning especially with the grass growing due to the recent rains. SAA project is multi-faceted, with two and three generations of many many families being impacted by the work that goes on day to day.

The answer to both questions was a resounding yes which encourages us to keep going, to make it a reality in Samburu first of all and then to neighbouring counties and beyond. Thank you Tuum for a warm welcome and such a rewarding trip."

The development of the iTeach App is based on a couple of facts that apply to Samburu and most other rural communities anywhere in the world.

*Gareth and Ebrahim creating first literacy lesson*



1. In every community there is knowledge and wisdom where an individual will be a teacher in one subject and a student in another.
2. Many homes have a smartphone which has become an essential part of daily life.

The App allows such knowledge to be captured in simple step by step lessons on a Smartphone and transferred around the community without requiring Internet or a data bundle.

### Prayer Points

- Give thanks for Gareth and the work he has put into creating iTeach, and pray for its ongoing refinement and direction.
- Continue to pray for the monthly Bible teaching and staff training seminar. The May one has just finished. With at least 84% illiteracy amongst the attendees the SAA programme leadership team need to be thoughtful and creative in their approach to teaching.