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*Building relationships with effective grassroots African organizations.*



Several months ago, Mary Muhara, Africa Rising's East Africa Liaison, needed to find a way to translate hundreds of pages of information on growing maize from training manuals into practical knowledge for our partner organization working in Kilisa Village in Eastern Kenya. And she needed to do this with a budget of \$0.

The result was an extremely successful training for farmers hosted by the Kilisa Village Development Committee on their demonstration plot. [Read the full story](#) to see how this was accomplished and what the farmers learned. [See photos from the training.](#)



Thank you for your support in the GlobalGiving Challenge. It was a huge success and we exceeded our goal for the challenge and earned a permanent spot to post projects. So far the total is at 85 donations and \$6510. These funds will allow exchanges between Africa Rising partners throughout the year. Quarterly project reports will be available on the [project page](#) and emailed to all donors. Thanks again for helping us end the year with a success!



The Africa Rising Summer Internship Program with grassroots partners in East Africa is now open. Above are just four of the wonderful locations where students will be hosted for the eight-week program. Positions are available in teaching, business development, grant writing, and many other areas. If you

know an undergraduate or graduate student who would like to apply, please send them to the website to learn more. Also, see for yourself what meaningful activities students will engage in to support Africa Rising partners. [Learn More...](#)

**KWANI?** **litfest** 2010  
DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup>  
nairobi

**Featured Writers:**  
Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o (Kenya)  
Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye (Kenya)  
Micere Mugo (Kenya)  
Yvonne Owour (Kenya)  
Okey Ndibe (Nigeria)  
Binyavanga Wainaina (Kenya)  
Cornelius Eady (USA)  
Rebeka Njau (Kenya)  
Mukoma wa Ngugi (Kenya)  
*and many more...*

**Events:** writing workshops • lit talks • writers in conversation • book parties • book cafe • sunday salon • open mic • public lectures • music, food & parking

The vision of Kwani? is to create a society that uses its stories to see itself more coherently. The organization recently organized a week-long program of workshops, conversations, and celebrations culminating in a book party to celebrate the release of [Kwani? 06](#).

Kwani? take special measures to nurture the literary voices of the next generation of Kenyans. Based on the current curriculum in schools and African literature read internationally, some would think there are no young literary

voices in Kenya. This was clearly proved wrong when Kwani's short story competition gathered over 500 submissions from writers born after 1978. The competition was judged by five distinguished judges who were overwhelmingly impressed by the literary voices. [Click here](#) to watch a video of one of the judges talking about some of the winning stories.

Kwani? is in the beginning stages of planning a book tour in the US to include some of the writers in their network. If you have contacts who would be interested in key note addresses, literature readings, or hosting literature festivals on college campuses, please contact [amber@africanrising.org](mailto:amber@africanrising.org).