

Dear friends,

For a while I have been trying to return to East Africa - now to Rwanda instead of Tanzania - and continue working in lexicography to serve the Ikoma people, alongside my colleagues whom I got to know and appreciate during my initial 7 months in Tanzania.

The doors cracked open a couple months ago for me to return to East Africa. Sil Tanzania tells me that there is a possibility I might need to return to Canada after three months, depending on the evolving long-term visa situation (which I feel hopeful about). However, both Wycliffe Canada and Sil Tanzania have approved my going back at this time, and I now have my tickets. I am scheduled to depart Whitehorse in one week on August 30 and to arrive in Rwanda on September 1st. I've got a place to stay for the first couple weeks, and will be able to get an initial visa at the airport. As with the first time I went to East Africa, I am going on faith, and with your prayers. If all goes well, I will be there for two years.

Most of the missionary team I worked with in Musoma is already in Kigali and settled in, and for now the levels on COVID-19 in the country are manageable enough that Kigali is not under lockdown. My colleagues have found that we can travel from Kigali to Tanzania for short trips without undue hardship, and I look forward to participating in trips to hold lexicography workshops in Tanzania at some point. The majority of my work, though, as it was when I went to Tanzania, will be done on the computer, working with the Ikoma database. I am looking forward to working with a more experienced lexicographer colleague with the purpose of moving the Ikoma dictionary project along to the next stage, which is entry-writing.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all. You have supported me, prayed for me, shared your thoughts with me and encouraged me faithfully and generously, and you made my time here in Canada much easier than it might otherwise have been. I will keep you updated as I continue my work from East Africa, and I hope to keep hearing from you once I arrive in Kigali. Keep me and my colleagues in your prayers!

Pray especially...

- for the travel next week
- that I will find just the right kind of visa for what I'll be doing in Rwanda
- that I will find a furnished apartment to rent in the right location in Kigali (close to a Nazarene church, near the neighborhoods where other SIL members are living)
- that I will adjust to living in Kigali without too much difficulty

Thanks again!

God bless,

Nora