



Newsletter

January 2022

Welcome

A happy new year! First of all, God bless you for the new year, what will this year bring us? We're going to experience it. KingdomIT is ready to get back to work with great projects with full energy.

In this newsletter we want to tell you something about our plans, we look back and look forward. Enjoy reading this first newsletter of 2022!

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Project KingdomIT Box

Recently, the development of the KingdomIT Box has come to a standstill, partly due to pressures of the day to day life, but also by the disappointments that the covid-19 pandemic brought with it. For example, the missionaries using the KingdomIT Box couldn't do much because of lockdowns or we couldn't meet them for training, support, etc. so we sometimes lost focus and enthusiasm. But our God is good we are still here to carry on this year.

Touchscreen



KingdomIT Box with touchscreen

At the moment we are working on expanding a KingdomIT Box with a touchscreen, with this screen you see the same as when you connect your phone to the Box. In collaboration with various parties and in collaboration with pastors, we hope to reach areas where people do not have phones with WiFi, as this is a requirement for the current version. Because of this small screen it is possible to enjoy the possibilities of the Box, such as reading the Bible in your own language, watching the Jesus Film or following training courses.

Rewriting the software

The current KingdomIT Box is written in the PHP programming language. This language is less powerful in communicating and controlling hardware. We have therefore chosen to rewrite the KingdomIT Box in the Python programming language. We have not only opted for a new programming language, but also for the Django framework, which makes the development of the KingdomIT Box easier and faster, and it also gives more structure in the code, which promotes collaboration with various volunteers and/or partners.



New solar panel battery



Left the new battery and right the old/current battery

An important part of the KingdomIT Box is the separate battery with solar panel. We recently started using a new battery as a successor to the older model. The new version is said to have a better solar panel and battery and looks a bit bigger than its predecessor. Unfortunately, we have not yet been able to test the new battery in the field, but we hope this will solve the problems in West Africa, where the solar panel battery sometimes melts in the sun, something we have not experienced in East Africa. The sun is probably less sharp there. We hope to give some more information about these steps soon.

KingdomIT Box in the mission field



We also have a KingdomIT Box in the West African country of Guinea, which missionary Teun Hakvoort of the Reformed Congregations Missionary Organization (ZGG) uses. He wrote to us:

“In the photos above you can see the first computer course that has started in West African Guinea. A country where most schools have no electricity. Where many young people still want to learn ICT. It was not difficult to get this first group of 15 people

together. When they signed up, they were told that we are primarily there for the gospel – and that we want to help them in the second place on a practical level: in this case IT. In the months that we are together, we pass on the Gospel to them.”

This year we want to get more stories about the use of the KingdomIT Box, we are still looking for a more efficient method. More on this later.

Project ICCM-conferences (Europe and Africa)

ICCM–Europe

The ICCM–Europe conference will take place from February 3–4, 2022 and, just like last year, it will be online due to corona. During this conference, Ruben Felix will provide a basic Kubernetes workshop on behalf of KingdomIT and we will mainly be present to build and/or maintain existing contacts. In addition, we will try to promote the KingdomIT Box and the ICCM–Africa conference.

ICCM–Africa

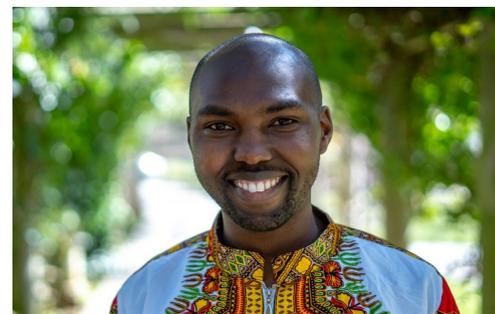
KingdomIT has been responsible for organizing the ICCM–Africa conference in Kenya for several years now. In 2020 we had to cancel ICCM–Africa and there was no conference in 2021. This year we hope to organize another ICCM–Africa conference, either physically on location, hybrid or completely online, depending on the possibilities. The conference will be held from March 30 to April 2, 2022 in Kenya (or online). We have a separate website for this where you can read more about the project: <https://iccm.africa>

Board KingdomIT



Bert Verhelst

Bert Verhelst was our secretary until the end of December 2021. Bert has become busier in his work as a freelancer and he has also got a girlfriend. He would like to focus on this and has therefore decided to resign his position and hand it over to Lazarus Gatimu, the new secretary from January 1, 2022. We thank Bert for his commitment and dedication within KingdomIT as secretary and wish him well success and blessings. At the same time we welcome Lazarus and wish him success and Blessings in his new role within the foundation.



Lazarus Gatimu

Ministry of the newsletter

We will also occasionally include a ministry of the newsletter. In this section we will pay attention to a specific ministry or partner foundation and how KingdomIT supports or works with the ministry. In this newsletter, we begin with Operation Rescue Foundation, with the Evangelist and missionary: Aart Elbertsen.

The Operation Rescue Foundation has the vision and mission to make Jesus known everywhere and to offer help where necessary. They do a lot of street evangelism in the Netherlands and Belgium, but are also active in Romania and Suriname. In Romania they hand out bread and stuff and offer practical help.

KingdomIT helps the Operation Rescue Foundation with their ministry by providing IT services and support, such as the website, web hosting and email. In addition, we offer IT support if necessary. In January we helped Aart Elbertsen set up his new computer, completely remotely. We wish Aart God's blessings and lots of fun with his new computer.



ICCM–Africa Registration software

When we took over the ICCM–Africa conference from LightSys and became responsible for organizing it, Albert Pool and Ruben Felix immediately developed a system for conference registration. Through this system it is possible for people to register for the conference, pay and register additional participants from the same organization. The new system takes a large part of the administrative work off your hands. The system is written in PHP with the Laravel framework. We have also simplified the registration process, for example, the form is shorter, additional information that is not immediately necessary for the registration is automatically requested afterwards and you can pay directly using various payment methods. The system has taken about 100 hours of work, and is not yet finished, but can already be used in production. Unfortunately, the ICCM–Africa 2020 conference never took place due to corona, but the registrations did go through this new system. This year we are also using this system and it is a huge success. Other ICCM conferences are also interested in our written software that we have decided to offer the software as Open Source on the Internet. We have put the code on Github, a platform where you can share code with others in the world or where others can help write this software. We hope that more people will get involved in this project and that we can expand the system completely.

George (Kenyan) is helping with this project, he is responsible for the frontend of the website. He will build the front end using the WordPress API and ReactJS (the front end is everything you see when you visit the website.)

Prayer points

- ICCM conference preparations
- Development KingdomIT Box
- Development of the ICCM–Africa registration system
- Future KingdomIT and its projects
- Contacts with the mission field

Prayer Thanks

- Income from collections
- Bert Verhelst's commitment to the foundation and the new acquisition of Lazarus Gatimu
- Various projects
- Possibilities during corona

KingdomIT Foundation
www.kingdomit.nl

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Bank name: Rabobank
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ANBI RSIN Number: 855118957



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