

# Bee the Solution - Newsletter 7, May 2017

By Chrystel Vert-Pré

## PROJECTS DETAILS

More details on Projects are available on Bee the Solution website @ [www.projects.beethesolution.org](http://www.projects.beethesolution.org)

Each post is a short story about the people, how we came across each other, the seed of the projects... as we grow with the projects, more and more details will be added.

Also browse the website [www.beethesolution.org](http://www.beethesolution.org) for more information.

## THANK YOU ALL



We would like to take the opportunity of the newsletter to thank those people who have and are helping us along the way. As we have mentioned item donations in previous newsletters, this is what is generally seen as support. But support is a lot more than that. While money and items would allow us to go places, we would not be here if it wasn't for the moral and emotional support that we have received.

People who have motivated or re-motivated us, those who show their interest so that we do not feel that we are working in isolation, those who care about what we are doing, those who show their trust and appreciation of what we are doing, those who show their friendship. Thank you so much to all of you, in Africa or abroad, who believe in us and keep us believing in ourselves (see also "[Generosity on the road](#)").



## FEATURE OF THE MONTH

### Maya personal milestone...

This month, Maya has clocked 100'000 km in Africa since she arrived in 2013.

While this might not seem relevant to some, this is a milestone that I wanted to celebrate as all those kilometres were travelled for the setting of Bee the Solution. Whether it was during the exploratory phase (can we do this), meeting people that want support, the set-up phase itself and now, the implementation phase, she has been a key instrument, if not the most important part, of Bee the Solution.

From 13 March 2013 to 12 May 2017, she went to 9 countries, crossed borders 40 times at 21 different border posts, slept in nearly 200 different places and met about as many different people (if not more!).

She is the strong part of how we realise our vision, and despite a major accident and a lot of repairs, she is keeping well, taking us where we need, providing shelter and strength: always there for us.

Thank you Maya... and now, to the next 100'000 km...: Check some stats and pictures [here](#)...

## [Connecting People: Sharing knowledge](#)

Part of the travel is about meeting people and sharing. How we meet, what we share and how it impacts further people makes for interesting stories.

In 2015 in Tanzania, I met Gareth, a South African travelling for his project to promote conservancy, especially the trees. We met in Arusha. He was on his way to Kenya. I was working on a project with the masais near Ngoro Ngoro. But we did meet again in Zambia (well... we planned that meeting) and I went with him to the copper belt in North-East Zambia. I learned a lot about the deforestation there, how we make coals, how this impacts wood availability and agricultural lands.

When we returned to Lusaka, ....

[Read more](#)



## [Maintenance - How can we make small savings](#)

Having celebrated Maya's 100'000 km in Africa, one thing that did have a cost impact during that time is repair and maintenance.... I can tell you that I have learned a lot in the past 4 years about her mechanics...

And so one way of saving is to ....

[Read more](#)

## [Why do we need to be on the ground? Part 2 - Experience](#)

One thing that we will never replace is the hands-on experience of life. We can read what we want, listen to people, watch documentaries or spend 2 weeks holidays, we will never fully comprehend how it is to live in certain settings.

How is it to not have a tap to get water, no electricity to brighten the house as in full day, no fire place to warm up in , no signal to call in case of emergency or just to say hi?

[Read more](#)

## [Communication challenge - Newsletters & Posts](#)

So much I want to say, yet so little did I post...

This year has been challenging in term of sending updates for the newsletter. As you might have noticed, the April Newsletter was only issued now... with the May Newsletter... in June...

In between internet connections, new format (longer to set-up),...

[Read more](#)

### **READ ALL OUR NEWSLETTERS AND ARTICLES**

Find all our newsletters in pdf format @ [www.newsletter.beethesolution.org](http://www.newsletter.beethesolution.org)

To make sure that you receive our monthly newsletter, sign up on the website, for the English and/or the French edition: [www.newsletter.beethesolution.org](http://www.newsletter.beethesolution.org)

### **FEEDBACK**

Please do not hesitate to contact us @ [info@beethesolution.org](mailto:info@beethesolution.org).

Feel free to send us feedback. We are open to suggestions and comments. As we are still young and learning, we value your opinion even more than usual and are very grateful for it.

Let us know about what you want to see in the Newsletter, which projects you are interested in, any ideas you have for a project.

Have a safe month ahead

Chrystel, (Maya), Odile, H el ene and Jean-Louis