



ECHO[®] NEWS

volume 42 | issue 1

honoring God through sustainable hunger solutions



in this issue: big move, huge impact • a place to wait, a place to prepare fields and forums • Biblical basis for ECHO • intern spotlight: Matt Cunningham



David Erickson, President/CEO

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” James 1:17

Dear Friends,

The more things change, the more they stay the same*. In this issue of ECHO News, you can see that things are changing. For example:

- ECHO’s move to a new location near Chiang Mai, Thailand is dramatically expanding our capacity and bringing opportunities to resource and equip thousands of additional farmers and development workers in the coming year alone; and,
- Harnessing the internet is enabling ECHO to disseminate the knowledge in ECHO Development Notes (and much, much more) to millions of people rather than the few thousand who were served by the paper version.

But these are only changes in the “means” by which we are able to work. The underlying purposes, methods, and motivations of ECHO have not changed. Our goal remains to spread hope in hard places by equipping small-scale farmers and bringing glory to God.

It seems like an obvious thing to embrace changes in the means of mission while maintaining fidelity to the essence of the mission itself. But it is not easy. By God’s grace, ECHO has been able to hold onto the essential unchanging hope of the Gospel while increasing our reach more than a hundred-fold. Thank you for supporting and encouraging our faithfulness to the Lord and to the service of the people and creation that He loves...all around the world!

With unchanging gratitude,

David Erickson, President/CEO

* This expression was reportedly written by an early 19th century French writer Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr.



ECHO exists to follow Jesus by reducing hunger and improving lives worldwide through partnerships that equip people with agricultural resources and skills.



Cover photo: Tim Albright, Chief Operations Officer presented a session on Community Development at the ECHO International Agriculture Conference 2019.

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edited by Danielle Flood

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in this issue



big move, huge impact

3 a place to wait, prepare

6 fields and forums

9 intern spotlight

13

Rwanda Symposium Resources Available

ECHO East Africa held a symposium on Improving Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture from November 26-28 in Kigali, Rwanda.

There were 116 participants, hailing from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Ethiopia, DRC, Rwanda, Canada, and the USA, with 26% of the conference attendees being women. Mornings were filled with plenary sessions from practitioners around the

region, giving attendees the chance to ask questions specific to their situation.

One of the most impactful sessions was a panel of farmers sharing their personal experiences with the audience.

The presentations will be available at ECHOcommunity.org for you to share freely with all who could benefit.





Big Move, Huge Impact

By Zach Walker

The ECHO Asia Impact Center moved its seed bank to provide easier access, improved training, and extended outreach.

Daniela Riley used to drive four hours on two-lane highways and dirt paths to the former ECHO seed bank north of Chiang Mai, Thailand. When she left, she wouldn't return for months. The distance allowed for only a handful of trips each year.

Now, she drives only twenty minutes to the new seed bank three times a week.

Riley, Office Manager at the ECHO Asia Impact Center, facilitated the seed bank's move from a village four-hours north of the city to a site just 20 minutes away. The new facility, called the ECHO Seed Bank and Small Farm Resource Center, houses more than 170 varieties of seeds and hosts tours, demonstrations, and training aimed at supporting the ECHO mission in Asia.

"Our focus is to share," Riley said. "To make our trainings and our knowledge and our site more accessible."

**"Our focus is to share," Riley said.
"To make our trainings and our
knowledge and our site accessible."**

The old seed bank looked like an over-packed freezer, Riley said. Vacuum sealed plastic bags of seeds sat crammed together on shelves, leaving little room for organization. They still

served their purpose, being sent to small-scale farmers across Southeast Asia, but Wah, ECHO Asia Seed Bank Manager, knew the seed bank could do better.

Fall 2017 marked the beginning of the move. At the new site, wooden frames shaped new planting beds while banana trees nestled into the soil. Seeds slowly

made the journey to their new home while continuing to travel to farms across the globe. The ECHO Asia team split time between the impact center office and the new bank location, a former nonprofit fishery on the outskirts of Chiang Mai.

In March 2019, the last seed entered its new bin, organized and padded with breathing room.

The seed bank itself is three times larger than its predecessor, and it's only part of the site. Adjacent to ponds that once held tilapia, the seed bank is surrounded by housing for staff and visitors, fences that hold cows, pigs, and chickens, a path that winds through a forest of saplings, and stations for agriculture demonstrations.

"This is a space where we can elevate our training," Riley said. "We can understand the needs and serve those needs."

At the end of a gravel road bordered by rice paddies and rural villages, the former seed bank attracted few visitors. In a good year, 100 people would make the trek.

Since the move, the new location has welcomed over 60 people each month.

People like the missionary couple from Bangladesh who attended a training on soil fertility. After a week at ECHO, they brought the new knowledge back to the refugee community they serve.

And service goes beyond visitors, as the new seed bank provides direct support to neighbors just across the road. Like the cattle farmer with skinny cows.

During the dry season in Thailand, feed is not widely available, causing the farmer's cows to go underfed. But when he attended a training at ECHO, he learned strategies for field rotation and supplementing feed with waste products like rice hulls.

The cows are now plump and well fed, and the farmer spends 10 percent less per year on feed.

"We want to help our literal neighbors," Riley said.

Even those who will never visit the seed bank are affected by its efforts. Seeds are mailed every day to small-scale farmers where they are planted to provide nourishment and knowledge in areas that have long needed a boost.

Due to the enlarged seed bank building, more seeds are stored and new storage processes are utilized. To reduce plastic, some seeds traded vacuum sealed pouches for air-tight glass jars, an option not possible on the cramped shelves of the old bank.

Other storage structures like a hut made with bags of dirt and clay are part of the demonstration sites at the new location. Accompanied by demos on composting, herb gardening, and an organic charcoal fertilizer called biochar, the storage options provide additional insight into potential solutions to global hunger issues.

Issues like dry soil and unlucky harvests and meals that can't sustain a family. Issues like never hearing about other options. Never learning unless somebody reaches out.

These are the issues that ECHO strives to combat with ventures like the new facility. They are issues that can be solved through outreach and education—through seeds and trainings and demonstrations.

An estimated 720 people will visit the ECHO Asia Seed Bank and Small Farm Resource Center every year. Seven times that of the previous location. 600 more people will hear about ECHO and the work that can be done and the knowledge that needs to be shared.

And they are just seeds. Once they leave ECHO, they will grow, produce, and then multiply.

"We want to be in the community, serve the community, and help share knowledge that is useful for small-scale farmers," Riley said. "Our focus is to serve them." 🌍

"This is a space where we can elevate our training," Riley said. "We can understand the needs and serve those needs."

A place to wait, a place to prepare

By Zach Walker



Jeremy and Claudia Hazel, a missionary couple from Statesboro, Georgia, spent 2016 living amongst the San people of Tsumkwe, Namibia, a group that has never before heard the gospel. In 2019, they lived on ECHO's campus and learned sustainable agriculture practices that they will take back to Tsumkwe.

Claudia Hazel hiked three hours through the desert every other day to gather firewood. The trek was a prerequisite to roasting warthogs and porcupines over an open fire.

Other days, she would make ostrich egg jewelry while her husband, Jeremy, accompanied village men on a safari hunt or attended school to learn Ju/'hoansi, the local clicking language.

They immersed themselves in the culture because they were on a mission.

Jeremy and Claudia Hazel, a missionary couple from Statesboro, Georgia, spent 2016 living amongst the San people, or Bushmen of Tsumkwe, Namibia, a group that is unreached by the gospel. In May and June of this year, they lived at ECHO in Fort Myers and learned sustainable agriculture practices that they hope to apply once they return to Tsumkwe.

"Our hearts are with these people," Jeremy said.

Tsumkwe is a desert. The sun beats no cooler than 85 degrees, and rainfall bypasses the region nine months out of twelve. Soil is sand, so the San people rely on traditional hunting and gathering. Aside from what the men can stick with arrows, meals consist of government supplied cornmeal, gathered produce like nuts and berries, and beetles and caterpillars plucked from trees.

Outside the town center, there are more than 30 small villages made up of family groups. Wooden shacks with tin and tarp roofs serve as shelter, and there are no fences to guard from the African wildlife that moves through the surrounding Nyae Nyae Conservancy.

Inside Tsumkwe, there is one gas station with two pumps, a secondary school, and scattered 55-gallon metal drums of homemade alcohol brewed from fermented fruit. The people of the region lack the liver enzyme that fuels alcohol tolerance, so a single shot can get them drunk.

The Hazels remember watching intoxicated locals fighting in the streets from their front yard. Sometimes the fight would end with both parties passed out in the middle of the road and drivers stopping to roll them onto the shoulder.

But in the surrounding villages, alcohol is of little interest and many leaders have outlawed the substance.

"They don't like people running around being drunk," Jeremy said. "There are things to do. They are literally trying to survive every day."

The San people have upheld traditions for more than 20,000 years and are believed to be the oldest living people group on Earth.

Come New Years, villages ignite in the largest celebration of the year. The people congratulate each other on another year of survival and roast a cow or goat in a traditional barbeque called a braai.

But in 20,000 years of survival, the San people have remained unreached by the gospel.

The Hazels arrived in November 2015 with the goal of planting churches and discipling believers through Bible stories told in the Ju/'hoansi language and context.

"I want them to engage scripture and tell the story from their cultural point of view," Jeremy said.

In October 2016, they were forced to leave due to complications with their work visas.

They then entered into a period of waiting. With full financial support and ready to pack up their lives and their two-year-old daughter and move back to Tsumkwe, they are at the mercy of the Namibian government who has full control over their travel privileges.

In an attempt to expedite the process, the people of Tsumkwe wrote letters to the government in support of the Hazel's return.

Awaiting a response, they decided to come to ECHO to learn skills in agriculture and appropriate technology that will apply to their mission work.

ECHO has housed missionaries since 1981, providing temporary housing, learning opportunities, and a network of staff and interns passionate about global missions.

"We want to support the church and support people who are working internationally," ECHO Director of Agriculture Training, Brian Flanagan said. "They can come and learn, relax, regroup, and refocus."

Claudia worked with ECHO's Propagation Manager and learned techniques for more efficient tree planting in dry environments. She practiced grafting and air layering in hopes to plant small forests in the villages around Tsumkwe that will eventually provide shade to sustain a garden.

Jeremy spent time developing appropriate technology that would improve life in Tsumkwe with the limited resources available. Alongside ECHO's Appropriate Technology Manager Elliott Toevs, he built a solar powered dehydrator using only supplies found on the farm. Scrap plastic and bamboo was combined to create a machine capable of drying meat, vegetables, and leaves.

"In the bush, you use what you have to build what you need," Claudia said.

Currently, Tsumkwe utilizes its 300 days of sun for solar energy, but applications of that energy are not widely available, causing the San people to resort to hanging meat on trees to dry. Jeremy's machine would allow for faster dehydration and protection from insects.

Even outside of appropriate technology, the Hazels focused on helping Tsumkwe. When Jeremy was herding pigs with ECHO Intern Billy Arthur, he asked questions about the process of raising the animals and if it could be done in Namibia

The couple gave back to ECHO by leading an intern seminar on conflict resolution on the mission field, hosting dinners for interns, and sharing their story and a devotion at an all-staff meeting.

"Having them come here and share their story greatly motivates us," Flanagan said. "It was a huge encouragement to interns and staff."

The ECHO mission aligns with every facet of the Hazel's work. Once back in Tsumkwe, they hope to begin the process of church planting followed by discipleship, with the ultimate goal of teaching the people enough about Christ that their efforts spread to others even after they leave.

They do not want to simply give. They want to teach.

Like ECHO, the Hazels strive to equip those in need with knowledge so that they can grow personally and spread that growth to others. Through their time on campus, the Hazels have built a skillset centered on faith and pointed toward progress.

The San people of Tsumkwe, Namibia, need the Hazels right now. But in the future, they may only need themselves.

"The goal is to start having believers and start discipling those believers," Jeremy said. "And ultimately teach them how to disciple themselves." 🌍



what's happenin

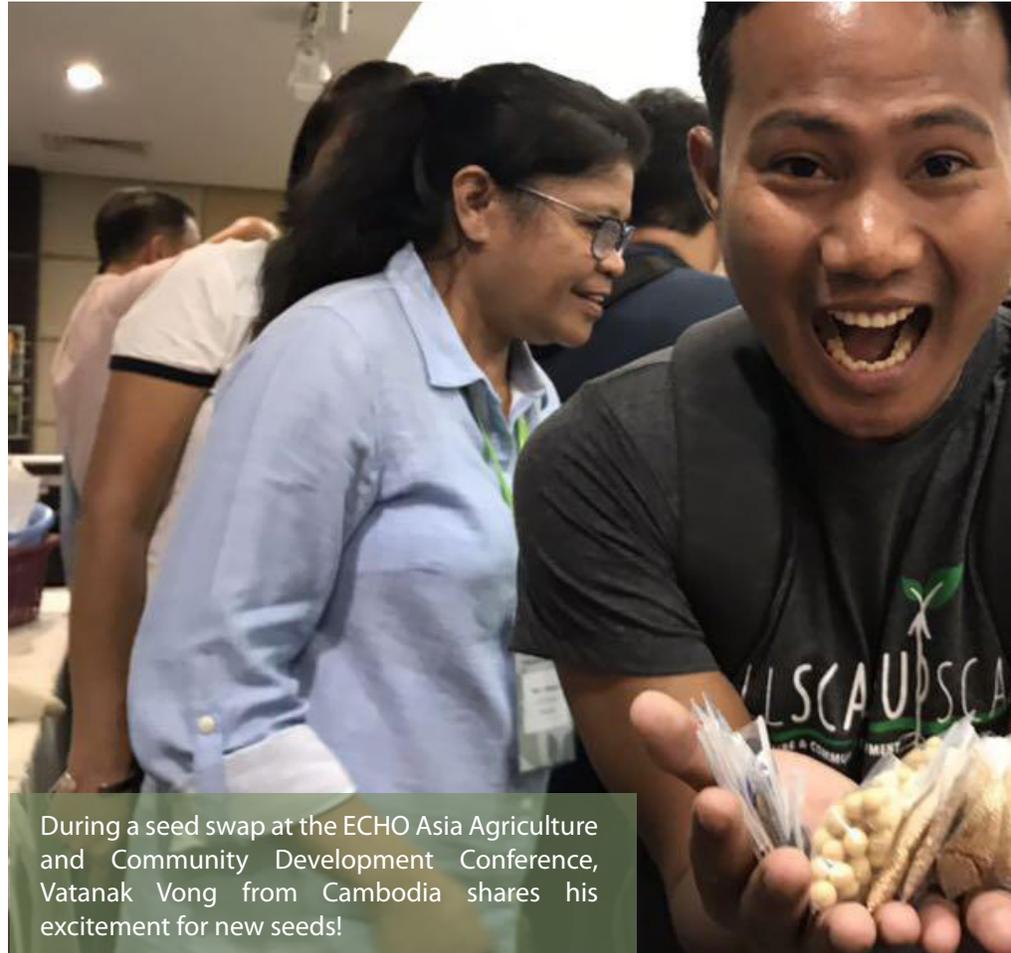


Florida interns and staff spread mud on the earth-bag seed storage building. Lowering humidity and temperature, this method improves seed viability without electricity.

#echofightshunger



Follow us on Instagram for pictures of ECHO's work all around the world. #echofightshunger



During a seed swap at the ECHO Asia Agriculture and Community Development Conference, Vatanak Vong from Cambodia shares his excitement for new seeds!

One year later, What's Different?



During a follow-up visit to villages trained in early 2019, ECHO staff members were pleased to see improved harvests in many villages in rural Burkina Faso. This sorghum harvest, laid to dry on a wooden platform, was two times larger than the previous year.

ing at ECHO



A Lot Can Happen In Two Weeks

The Burmese staff at Full Moon Children's Home learned how to make and use bio-char while visiting ECHO Asia in October. Two weeks later, they had applied what they learned and built a biochar oven on their own property. "Moments like this are what ECHO trainers live for" shares Elizabeth Casey.

Improving Nutrition in Rwanda



Women take a break while attending the ECHO symposium on Improving Nutrition in Highland Areas held in Kigali, Rwanda.



Hands-on: Trained to train others

Through the ECHO International Agriculture Conference, delegates receive hands-on experience and training from local and national experts in their fields.

Fields and forums



By Zach Walker

In a traditionally offline operation like agriculture, the internet and technology allow ECHO to reach more people in need, communicate information more efficiently, and continuously develop, but the core mission has remained steady.

Martin Price sent the first issue of ECHO Development Notes to 37 people in 1981. Hand addressed, stamped, and slid into a mailbox by Bonnie Price, 32 copies traveled overseas to Christian mission organizations. The other five went to his family.

Now, ECHO Development Notes reach tens of thousands.

From the first desktop computer to thousands of daily clicks, ECHO has utilized the internet and

technology to further its mission of instilling knowledge to help the world feed itself. Every click, scroll, and tap plants a virtual seed. A seed that started on five acres in Fort Myers, Florida, and grew across nations.

“We didn’t want to make money,” Price, ECHO’s founding CEO, said. “We wanted to change the world.”

“We didn’t want to make money,” Price, ECHO’s founding CEO, said. “We wanted to change the world.”

Before the first computer arrived on the ECHO campus, Price typed pages of agricultural research called ECHO Development Notes, or EDN, on a typewriter set on a piece of plywood atop two metal file cabinets.

He punched eight pages of solutions to small-scale international farming issues into paper every three

to four months. His wife, Bonnie, drove the sheets twenty minutes to the nearest photocopier, and only after she returned could ECHO begin sharing the findings.

Recipients began with mission organizations and spread to professors, agriculture professionals, and government organizations.

Price sent more than 100 copies of each EDN to the Peace Corps office in Washington D.C. where they were disseminated to every Peace Corps library in the world. From there, farmers in search of information but unable to reach a city library could access ECHO research.

He traveled to science conventions and set up an ECHO booth with a seed guessing game to draw attention. Professionals would stare at a bag of seeds and count long enough for Price to introduce ECHO. Soon, he had partners.

Partners like the professor from Nebraska who mailed a letter about hybrid corn seeds and later wrote an article in an issue of EDN. Partners who built ECHO’s information base. Partners who listened to questions and fed the world with answers.

“We were here to answer questions,” Price said. “To show options.”

The first word processor at ECHO displayed two lines at a time. But it was faster than a typewriter.

The first computer cost \$4,000 and was even faster.

Price typed copies of EDN, wrote computer programs for mailing labels and seed inventory, and even began communicating through email.

Mary Cochram, an intern in 1991, received the first email from ECHO. Working on a rooftop gardening project in Moscow, Russia, she communicated with Price through the new Yahoo! address.

Price started saving international stamps as he knew they would one day cease altogether. Today, an ECHO conference room is adorned with a map of the world crafted from those stamps.

But with the loss of stamps came a gain in outreach. Price would often set aside days to do nothing but reply to emails, including questions from overseas, as more than 400 had amassed in his inbox.

Then the doubt began. With the rise of the internet, he wondered if ECHO would become obsolete. If anyone could search anything on Google, why would they need EDN or the agriculture expertise that ECHO provided?

His doubt was soon answered. And he was wrong.

“We had no idea what was going to happen,” Price said.

Today, ECHO reaches millions of small-scale farmers in more than 160 countries. EDN is still in circulation and questions are answered daily. And everything is digital.

ECHOcommunity, an online global communication

network that houses research documents and instructional materials, launched in 2011. Options and solutions for farming around the world are organized by region, and an entry into the search bar will yield hundreds of articles, webpages, and reports manually translated into 10 languages.

“Conversations,” a forum page on ECHOcommunity where users can pose and answer questions,

debuted on a projector screen at the 24th Annual ECHO International Agriculture Conference in 2017. Attendees browsed the site from folding chairs and pondered

questions asked by farmers overseas.

Now, the same process is repeated every day on the forums. Discussions on pig feed and velvet beans and how to be a successful livestock owner in East Africa occur between international ECHO staff and rural farmers and between the farmers themselves.

Before the internet, a group of ECHO staff in Fort Myers called the Technical Response Unit would

If anyone could search anything on Google, why would they need EDN or the agriculture expertise that ECHO provided?



meet once a week to slice open written letters and brainstorm answers to the questions posed inside. Library books and professional advice from around the farm and global network was sourced to find the solutions that would be sealed in envelopes, stamped, and returned.

The unit still exists today. And they still meet once a week. Made up of researchers and the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) team, the group sits around a conference table and reads questions from ECHOcommunity before gathering resources like research and contact information. After a few keyboard taps, answers are sent.

Sometimes letters come in the mail. So they write a response. Pen to paper. Stamped and sealed.

“In agriculture development, there is often no one right answer to a problem,” ICT Manager Nate Flood said. “To give somebody options gives them something to try and evaluate.”

ECHO cannot operate alone. Research and impact rely on a two-way communication channel, with both ECHO staff and the farmers being impacted

contributing to discussions. ECHO learns from feedback in order to improve service for the future. The minds and experience of international farmers are valued the same as professionals and executives. With every issue of EDN or agricultural discovery that is applied to the field, ECHO relies on feedback from small-scale farmers to improve upon their findings. Without reported results, no changes could be made.

Before ECHOcommunity and the internet, a coffee grower in the highlands of Guatemala had no means to share methods of combating leaf rust with a farmer in Ethiopia, a land of similar environment, or with ECHO headquarters in Fort Myers. Now, that grower can post their

discovery on an online forum where everyone can learn.

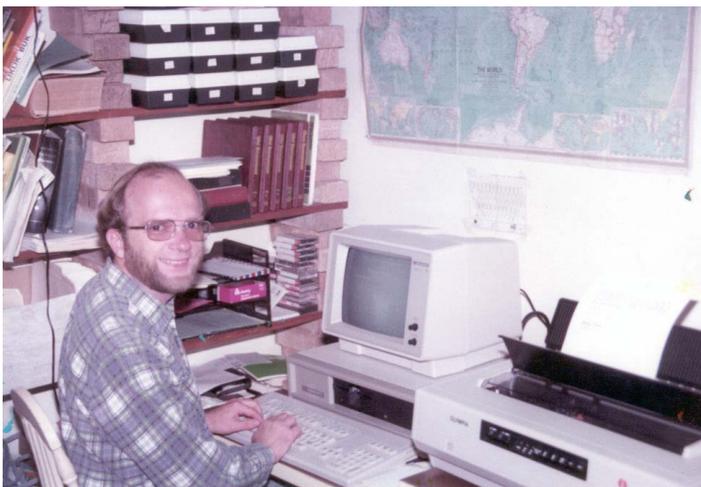
But the digital knowledge is not limited to those with internet connection. Farmers in rural areas not yet reached by modern technology communicate with ECHO through intermediaries, or individuals with a direct digital connection to ECHO who facilitate training in specific areas of the world. Often, intermediaries are farmers as well.

Jean Apedoh, an intermediary based in West Africa, trained five villages in Togo on the System of Rice Intensification, or SRI, a method promoted by ECHO. After the initial trainings, the idea began to spread to other villages as farmers saw their rice harvest and monetary profits multiply.

Talk of SRI spread across Togo after Apedoh's introduction, reaching more than 2,000 farmers. Because of online communication and a knowledgeable intermediary, rice production increased and lives changed. And it started with a few clicks.

“There are millions of farmers using ECHO information around the world, but we could not

“In agriculture development, there is often no one right answer to a problem,” ICT Manager Nate Flood said. “To give somebody options gives them something to try and evaluate.”



Martin Price sits at his desk in front of an early computer and printer. The larger screen allowed for more than only two lines of text to be displayed, and the printer reduced the need for trips to the photocopier. “It was an incredible blessing to be able to do that,” Price said.

possibly talk to all of them," Flood said. "Intermediaries are the lifeblood of agriculture development." On the farm and overseas in the field, technology is utilized for research as well. In Fort Myers, a low cost sensor for plant readings is being developed for international use along with a program to track data for every tree on campus in order to build a virtual database of information to be utilized by small-scale farmers.

Additionally, an interactive tool for selecting green manure cover crops, a type of crop planted to increase soil fertility for future growth, is available on ECHOcommunity. Anyone with access to the site can enter specific growing conditions and will receive a ranked list of the most beneficial cover crops for their situation.

And in the future, internet access may be unnecessary.

The ICT team at ECHO is currently developing a mobile application that will provide access to the knowledge found on ECHOcommunity without internet connection. Users will be able to download documents for offline

"We're a toolbox for all the people with their feet on the ground," ICT Specialist Steve Snyder said.

use and share them with others through an internet-free connection system, allowing everyone in the ECHO network to access the resources they need.

"We're a toolbox for all the people with their feet on the ground," ICT Specialist Steve Snyder said.

ECHO mailed its final paper copies of EDN on January 29, 2015. Stamped, addressed, and tucked into a mailbox, they traveled the world, carrying the power to teach. To change lives.

As they moved in mail trucks and shuffled through post offices and arrived in the majority world, the same information was sent through the web to thousands of users. And people were already talking. Or rather, typing.



Locals from Northeast India assess rice fields grown with SRI. The method was developed at Cornell University and is promoted at ECHO through ECHOcommunity and global trainings. "Often times, the problem people have in farming is a knowledge one," Nate Flood said. "We want to facilitate people being able to access the information they need."

Technology and the internet uprooted the process with which ECHO operates. Communication, research, and development forever changed due to the world wide web, but the core of ECHO remained steady.

Martin Price typed the first issue of EDN on a typewriter balanced on two file cabinets because he cared about what he was saying. He had a mission to teach the world how to feed itself. And that mission has never changed.

The way information is communicated at ECHO may be forever updated. Because those changes reach more people. They feed more people. They teach more people.

But with every update, every new idea or development, the mission will stay the same.

"We have worked to build, learn, and develop to meet our main goals," Flood said. "To connect people to each other and to the information they need." 🌍

Intern Spotlight

Matt Cunningham

Hello! My name is Matt Cunningham, from beautiful Colorado Springs, CO, a graduate of Colorado State University in Fort Collins. I currently steward the Urban Garden where I get to practice agriculture in a challenging, city-like setting. Having studied landscape design under the Environmental Horticulture program at CSU, I desired to find a way to apply my training as a landscape designer through missional service to God. By God's gracious and guiding hand, I find myself at ECHO learning more than just the working of the land.

Here in this season at ECHO, God is opening my eyes, my heart, and my mind to lessons I didn't expect to learn while here in this place. He is healing me of the blindness of pride allowing me to love others where they are, not where I want them to be and to be open to the service He has in store for me and not my idol of what I expected Him to lead me into. He is opening my heart to love myself, others, and God Himself as He leads me to engage with my own personal testimony and the intersection of the gospel with my brokenness.

And He is renewing my mind with the truth that sharing my story can have the good impact of healing in the lives of others, and that the joy of working the land is an important part of that journey.

I've also learned the importance of having an invested heart in our work. When our hearts are touched by the grandeur of the gospel, our eyes are opened to the incredible privilege of partnering with God for the restoration of all creation, and our hearts may partake as grateful and undeserving recipients of His love.

Though I do not know where all of these lessons are taking me, I do know the One who has led me here to ECHO and this season of great growth. I know He's trustworthy to continue to lead and provide in ways that only He can. God has been so good to me in this season and I do look forward to the steps ahead beyond ECHO that, when taken in faith, will lead me into the life everlasting which He has promised us in Christ. 🌱





The Biblical Basis

We continue our series exploring Biblical themes that provide the foundation of ECHO and agricultural missions. This issue examines the seventh theme, Equipping of the Saints.

ECHO's work is an equipping role. We train others to train others to keep training still more. We "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12 ESV)

Training is a multiplication process. Jesus modeled that when He intentionally invested in 12 disciples and a core group of women. Paul modeled that. He described training to the fourth generation in 2 Timothy 2:2

"What you [Timothy, second generation] have heard from me [first generation – Paul heard directly from God, but also Ananias (Acts 9) and Barnabas (Galatians 2:1)] in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men and women [third generation] who will be able to teach others also [fourth generation]." (2 Timothy 2:2)

We train others in the information we have and we tell them to pass it on – to train still more.

A phrase we often use is that our mission strategy is based on scripture, informed by statistics, and developed under the guidance of the Holy Spirit 

The New Year and the upcoming tax season makes it an ideal time to assess our personal finances.

Here is a tax-saving tip for 2020:

Donating appreciated stock to a charity is one of the smartest ways to give.

You can reap substantial tax savings by donating stock that has increased in value since you purchased it. If you've owned the stock for more than one year, you can avoid paying the capital gains on the increased value. You'll get a charitable deduction of the fair market value of the stock on the day the transfer is made without owing any capital gains tax. As a tax-exempt charity, ECHO won't have to pay any capital gains tax either.

Another wise way to keep your financial affairs in order is to review your will. Because assets, relationships and tax laws change, experts recommend taking a look at your financial documents every three to five years.



If you'd like to name ECHO as a partial or full beneficiary in your will or bequest, here's the language to use:

"I do hereby give, devise and bequeath to ECHO, Inc., a non-for-profit organization located at 17391 Durrance Road, North Fort Myers, FL 33917, Tax ID# 23-7275283, XX% or \$XX, of my estate to support for general use and purpose."

To learn more or explore other options to leave a lasting legacy of helping the hungry, call Amy Wiggins, Advancement Director, at (239) 567-3341. 

INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

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in their own words...

Placing quality, open-pollinated seeds of underutilized crops into the hands of missionaries, development workers, and ultimately smallholder farmers, has been at the core of ECHO's mission from the very beginning. It was in 1981 that the first 38 packets of seed were acquired by Dr. Martin Price.

Last year, the ECHO Asia team had the privilege of hosting the first ever Seed Bank Managers Forum, bringing together 24 managers of partnering seed banks from countries across Southeast Asia. Many of these network partners have been trained by ECHO and have benefitted by ongoing research of low-cost alternatives for storing seeds. To come together in one room was a unique opportunity, and served as a reminder of the vast potential each of these partners has to offer their respective communities.



Holly Sobetski, ECHO Florida Seed Bank Manager shared, "When I was sharing with the seed bank managers about how ECHO's seed bank started with just 38 packets, I wanted to encourage them that we started small and it took time to build the ministry to what it is today. They may have small seed banks right now, but they are beginning and building a legacy of preserving genetic diversity and getting it to the people that need it most and that is something to be celebrated!" 🌍

Donate Now:



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ECHO Intro Video:

