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**NIEUWS
BRIEF**

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The Foundation

Kune Zuva

The Foundation Kune Zuva means ' the sun shines '. This is also the objective of the Foundation ' let the sun shine for people in Africa by giving opportunities in life '. Kune Zuva supports the Foundation's goal by creating, running, and (partly) financing small-scale projects. Kune Zuva supports more and more people each year, and there are currently projects in Ethiopia, Namibia, Kenya, South Africa, and Tanzania.

Extensive (background) information about our projects can be found at our new website www.kunezuva.nl. (Dutch only)

Funds

Last year Kune Zuva received more than €8,000 sponsorship, in response to the Christmas newsletter. In addition to private sponsors, an increasing number of organizations are becoming involved with our work. Therefore we were able to spend over € 20,000 on meaningful projects in 2013.

A great result, Thank you!

Retrospect

The year is almost over. The perfect moment to look back on the activities of the past year.

In Turkana, Kenya at the Edome Kare center there is a scarcity of food, and a total absence of any kind of education. By offering a base in both for the 70 children, a serious start is given for change and improvement.

In Murewa, central-Kenya, we recently started to support and guide 30 orphans (20 elementary, and 10 of secondary school age).

In Namibia we helped the Bushmen of Tsintsabis throughout the year with the construction, and further development of Treesleeper, a community based tourism campsite. However, the past years have been difficult, and commitments from the Government have not been honoured, which has led to serious delays in the construction of the lodge. This is putting the entire project at risk, but will be a continuing story.

In Ethiopia various students graduated, and despite the high unemployment rate, some have already found jobs.

Introducing...

Gilbert Ouma, *Artist in Nairobi, Kenya*

Gilbert is 38, and was born in Mombasa on the Kenyan coast, but later moved to Kisumu near the border with Uganda. He loves art, and his inspiration is the beauty of the northern Kenyan people, and landscapes. He works at the Nairobi National museum as an exhibition designer. As a heritage practitioner, he finds time, mostly during his leave days, not only to make beautiful paintings, but also to help his brother. His brother, Steven, works as a missionary in Todonyang, Turkana on the Kenyan and Ethiopian border.

He has facilitated art workshops, for example weaving and paper making out of locally available raw materials. The workshops are meant to give alternative livelihood possibilities, and to keep people gainfully engaged in their daily battle for survival. The Christmas card, including the pictures, are made and designed by Gilbert. See also the story on the reverse.

Creative workshops for Turkana, Northern Kenya

Turkana, in northwestern Kenya, is a geographically isolated area with scarce rainfall, and high temperatures. Two tribes live in the area along Lake Turkana: the Turkana and the Dassanech. The most important needs of both the Turkana, and the Dassanech, are provided by their cattle. Skins are made into mattresses, hut roofs or sandals. The main foods are meat, milk, and blood. Blood is tapped from the animal (which does not need to be slaughtered). The Turkana are masters of survival. Extreme drought, and the related lack of food, is something that recurs almost every year, and results in a high mortality among children and livestock.

The area is "forgotten" by the authorities. Most Turkana have no access to education, or medical care, and there is hardly any work available. During dry periods 75% of the population is dependent on food aid. In order to make life easier, and to reduce the continuous trend of tribal war (by food shortage), our contact person is looking for other sources of income. In recent years we have invested in fisheries for the Turkana along the lake side. Several dams have been built to secure drinking places during drought. Further workshops have been organized on how to make baskets, and chairs, with reeds from the lake. Kune Zuva has recently invested in these workshops, to show how to make beautiful paper using these locally available reeds. This project ran well until the tribal fighting erupted again. The Turkana are afraid to cut reeds now in fear of the Dassanech. To be continued.

Further inland there are similar problems with drought, unemployment, but without the threat of conflict with a neighboring tribe. This pushes a lot of people from the countryside to the town, but there is hardly any work. However, in town there is sufficient waste glass available, which forms raw material for a new initiative.

Over the last year, we asked Gilbert (see "Introducing" front) to examine the feasibility of producing glass beads from old glass in Turkana. Glass (including broken glass) is reused in this way. The Turkana have a culture of beads, and they attribute magical-medical properties to the colors of their beads. For example blue is associated with fertility, while white symbolizes peace treaties.

Eight years ago, we carried out a glass beads project in Namibia.

There we taught people how to make beads from old glass, with the help of the Ghanaian Kudjo Owuso.

This teacher has built an oven using the locally available resources of sand from a termite hill, and some parts of a derelict car. Glass powder is made from glass fragments and is poured into molds, then baked into beautiful glass beads - a type of bead that is not available yet in Turkana. These beads can be painted, and exchanged on the local market, or sold to locals and tourists.

To help the project get underway additional funds are crucial, as Kudjo must come from Ghana and proper guidance is necessary.

The following three groups fit perfectly into this project: a group from the big city Lodwar (> 50,000 inhabitants) a group from a village not far from the Lake (10,000 inhabitants) and a group of young people from Kakuma (> 20,000 inhabitants), the location also of a large refugee camp (110,000 refugees mainly from South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Uganda). All three of these groups are Turkana, and have experience with the processing of traditional beads.

Local guidance is available, and in addition to Gilbert, who also has done research, and amongst others there is, Father Joseph Ekalimon. He has worked with all three groups, and his compound is available for the course. Joseph, a Turkana himself, sees the need for the extra skills and moral support to the target groups to become successful. The aim is that they will then train new people.

Kune Zuva is keen to get this project up and running!

Christmas wish from Kune Zuva

As you can see, Kune Zuva keeps supporting marginalized people in Africa. Kune Zuva works hard to continue the support of the various projects. The focus is on all phases of education, from kindergarten to university, for the marginalized people in society. Most of these projects will extend into future years. In this respect your (financial) support is essential for us; and will be gratefully received.

This year we send our newsletter with our Merry Christmas greetings. We sincerely hope you are willing to support our foundation with a donation to ING 5837915 of Foundation Kune Zuva, Tolsedijk 10, 4681 SV Nieuw Vossemeer, The Netherlands (international transfers via IBAN NL89 INGB 000 5837915 - Swift/ BIC Code INGBNL2A). By supporting our foundation you are not just wishing us a happy 2014, but you will let the sun shine for a few people in Africa, and provide them with the key to a successful future.

Thank you in advance and thank you also from our friends in Africa!

A Loving Christmas and a Sunny 2014!

