



# KUNE ZUVA NEWSLETTER

2017 / 2018 #19

## 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'. The Kune Zuva Foundation creates, runs and finances small-scale projects. We support more people each year and there are currently projects in South Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania and South Africa.*

### Funds

Last year Kune Zuva received sponsorship of almost € 8,000, in response to the newsletter. In addition to private sponsors, some organisations are involved with our work. It is due to these contributions that we could spend almost € 20,000 on meaningful projects in 2017. Thank you!

### Looking back

The year is almost over. It's the perfect moment to look back on the foundation's activities in 2017.

As well as being a tax-deductible NGO, we received official Dutch recognition in 2016 for our efficient management and expenditure. This year we declined this recognition, as the yearly application fee more than doubled.

The famine in East-Africa was at its worst in the areas where we work. Food aid is not something that fits within our small foundation. But the money received, in response to our appeal to you, has been used directly where needed the most.

In the last newsletter we explained the difficulties in building a first (primary one) classroom in South Sudan. While the South Sudanese situation is not improving, the classroom is in full use. Because the costs of the furniture were lower than expected we managed to get the school garden up and running. We got two ox-driven ploughs, seeds, fruit trees and garden tools like spades.

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## Introducing...

### Mammo Beriso, Ethiopia

We met Mammo in 2003, when he was a third-year student in Water Technology. We supported him while he completed his Bachelor's degree. Then, with the support of the government, he went to India to do his Masters in Environmental Science and Engineering. While he was in India he kept in touch with us.

He proposed a girl's empowerment programme to us. His idea was to support high-performing girls from disadvantaged families through a specific sponsorship programme in further training. The plan was then discussed with us and elaborated on. Since 2007, on a yearly base,

several girls have been presented to us. Hana (see overleaf) was one of them. In addition, Mammo had several empowerment sessions with these girls and continues to follow up. This has been a good learning process for Mammo, but also for us. Now, we have 25 girls in this programme. Last year 7 of them graduated.

Mammo has also been doing his PhD in Hamburg and is currently the director of a major development programme in southern Ethiopia funded by Caritas Austria, Trocaire, CAFOD, SCiAF and others. Finalising his studies is not easy with everything else on his plate. But he brings impressive added value to developments in southern Ethiopia. Mammo can be contacted at [mammbu@gmail.com](mailto:mammbu@gmail.com).

## These young women are making the difference in East-Africa

### Hana (Ethiopia)

Hana (23) saw a vacancy for an expert in education in the city where she completed her high school study. She didn't hesitate to apply and got the job. That job fits her perfectly (and us!): Supporting the Empowerment of Girls, a position that helps to make girls more capable of dealing with both social and cultural pressure. They receive support and are motivated to complete at least primary school but preferably also high school. The parents are also involved and the importance of education is made clear.

Hana, for example, gives training in making reusable sanitation pads, but also how to deal with the menstrual cycle. A significant reason for leaving the school is when girls get their periods. The facilities we experience as 'normal' are not available there. In addition, in rural areas, female circumcision is a big problem, but also marriage at a very young age (to a much older man). For Hana it is a big challenge to discuss these issues. She also helps to find other forms of income for girls aged 16-19 to give them independence and more opportunities.

We meet Hana back in 2013. Once her parents are no longer in a position to support her education, Hana may finish primary and secondary school at the expense of the local Catholic Missionary School. When she successfully passes the university entrance examination, we were asked to further support her with her study of Education Planning and Management. She graduated in 2015.

### Esther (Tanzania)

After Esther (30) graduated, she decided to work on eliminating female circumcision within her tribe. After she put her ideas on paper, she did a practical training at Amref Flying Doctors to see how they were following a similar course of action. During her internship, she went to a rival tribe. There was a lot of resistance to changing the ritual. Amref and Esther had to work under police guidance. Esther is now ready to fully engage to better the position of Maasai girls, both in terms of education

and the aspects surrounding circumcision. During her education, she was the point of contact for many Maasai girls from her area, motivating them to finish their schooling, and to take advantage of other opportunities rather than to get married to a much older man as his 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> wife and have many children. Esther visits schools to inspire girls in primary and secondary education, but also talks with parents about the importance of education in this changing world.

Esther was married off in 2004, a logical step within the Maasai if a girl is finished with primary education. Esther, however, wanted only one thing: to go to high school. She fled and with the help of her grandmother and our financial support, she completed high school, college and university as well.

### Jeniffer (Kenia)

We met Jeniffer (23) in 2010, having been sent home from high school again, because she is not able to pay school fees. After her mother died, she was admitted to her brother's family, but his wife didn't accept her. The result was a difficult childhood. With our support, she has achieved a better life for herself and she will graduate at the end of 2017 as a medical laboratory worker at the Kenyatta university. In recent years, besides her studies, she has shown a great commitment and enthusiasm to motivate and guide other orphans and vulnerable students from within the Kune Zuva programme.

In addition, she advises and inspires us with her ideas on how to select and motivate students and pupils in high school and to guide them personally.

*Extensive background information about our projects can be found at our website [www.kunezuva.nl](http://www.kunezuva.nl). Recent updates and photos can also be found on Facebook (Dutch only).*

## 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 less fortunate people in society. Most of these projects will extend into future years. In this respect, your financial support is essential to us and will be gratefully received.

Also this year we are sending our newsletter with our Merry Christmas greetings. We sincerely hope you are willing to support our Foundation with a donation via IBAN NL89 INGB 000 5837915 – Swift/BIC Code INGBNL2A of Foundation Kune Zuva, Tolsedijk 10, 4681 SV Nieuw-Vossemeer, the Netherlands. By supporting our Foundation, you are not just wishing us a happy 2018, 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!

**Loving Christmas and a Sunny 2018!**