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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 this 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 www.kunezuva.nl. (Dutch only)

Funds

Last year Kune Zuva received almost €8.000 in sponsorship, in response to the Christmas newsletter. In addition to private sponsors, an increasing numbers of organizations are becoming involved with our work. Therefore we were able to spend over €22.000 on meaningful projects in 2012. A great result, Thank you!

Retrospect

The year is almost over.

The water supply for a large primary/secondary school, to improve the hygiene, which we reported in the previous newsletter, is now operational.

In Namibia we helped the San Tsintsabis throughout the years with the construction and further development of Treesleeper, a community based tourism campsite. This year we mainly invested in the training of young San, for which an intensive training program was set up. This program will continue, mainly internally, through the coming years.

In Kenya we ran a workshop in paper making at the Turkana. Most of the raw materials are available locally, and the beautiful paper which includes flowers and beads in it, for example, suitable for the tourist industry.

This year we have, in addition to the sponsorship of the various students, phased out of some kindergartens, (see the story on the back of this newsletter).

Introducing...

Tesfaye Petros, our contact in Gambella, West Ethiopia

Tesfaye is in his early thirties, and was born and bred in Central Ethiopia. He is driven to contribute to the progress of his country. He has therefore chosen to work as a missionary with the Anuak tribe. The Anuak live in an inhospitable, unstable area in the West of Ethiopia, near the border with Sudan. Girls perform only household tasks, and are often married off at a young age. They rarely get the chance to go through primary school, let alone high school. Tesfaye has a personal goal to guide eight girls, from four different villages through secondary school. They will stay in a House on the Mission. Here they can also study in the evening (outside it's already dark at 6 pm!), but inside there is light. The girls get private tuition to prepare for their national examination. This is necessary, because the quality of local education is low, and does not offer enough of a base for the national exam. Hopefully in this way they will play an exemplary role in the future, and thereby improve the position of the Anuak women.

Independent pre-primary education in Namibia and Ethiopia?

How can you increase the children's prospects better than to give them a good start? Specifically in less developed areas, pre-primary education plays a key role, in that children have a better opportunity to successfully go through primary and secondary education. In a playful way they develop the basic skills for reading, writing and arithmetic. Also, of course, co-operating and working independently. Sometimes the kindergarten is the first place where they learn the official language of the country, which is indispensable in further education. For years we have run four nursery schools in Ethiopia and Namibia. The Namibian government decided some years ago that kindergarten teachers would be paid by the Government so this was an appropriate time for us to phase out.

In Ethiopia kindergartens only exist due to the private initiatives of teachers. These private schools are responsible for all costs, which directly determines the level of school fees. A good teacher costs money. Kune Zuva's aim is to give children from poor families access to good pre-school education.

For the nursery schools in Ethiopia, which we have supported since 2004, we are working on a phasing out of the regular sponsorship. Our goal is, that after years of support, the schools now become independent. Start-up costs, such as training the teachers, or procurement of teaching materials, are paid by us. Our aim is that, in time, the community will be responsible for regular costs like the teacher salary. Our objective is "pre-primary education accessible for all children". This means that we sometimes continue to pay tuition for children of poor parents.

Recently there have been two developments in our work areas, which affect the speed at which we are phasing out of the projects. The first is the asset of some large, wealthy development organizations who would like to invest in pre-school education. Unlike Kune Zuva they can, and want, to finance the long-term running of the nursery schools. We set a good base for pre-primary education in Arba Minch and Turmi. This initiative will give these organizations a head start, so that we can stop our support faster than expected here. This gives us opportunities to take on new projects.

In addition, there are the so-called. Early Childhood Centers (ECC) of the Organization "Save the Children". An ECC focuses specially on children who have not followed pre-school education in order to prepare them for primary education. The creation of ECCs is a positive development. In this way more children start off prepared with primary school. A disadvantage, however, is there is not real investment in well qualified teachers, so that the final level of education remains low.

In Dimeka, a village far South of Ethiopia, inhabited by the Hamar tribe, we have run a kindergarten since 2004. Because there are more children who want to go to school than the places we can offer in kindergarten, it is a good development that there is now also an ECC. The planned removal of our support for our 'own' kindergarten means that our target group (the children of poor parents and of the Hamar tribe) will go to the ECC. The level of this ECC is, however, not comparable to the level of our Montessori Nursery school, where a qualified teacher teaches reading, writing, counting, the official language Amharic, and even though some basic words of English.

The village is happy with our years of support, and has therefore asked if we can continue our support for a few more years. We would like to give as many children as possible access to good education. Therefore we decided to phase out more slowly in Dimeka. We have noticed that the initiators of the ECC would like to cooperate with us in our activities to coordinate this as closely as possible.

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 NieuwVossemeer, 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 2013, 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 2013!

