

## Newsletter 20

*"Mchagua jembe si mkulima."* This African proverb might be translated as: Who is choosy in selecting the hoe is not a peasant. In figurative terms: Who is afraid of hard labour will not harvest. If applied to our foundation: who has no endurance and cannot stand frustrations will not have any impact. We spent six weeks in Zanzibar, mostly in the village of some projects of our foundation, interrupted only for some days in Dar es Salaam to see good friends, to buy books and to visit an artist cooperative which we once supported.<sup>1</sup> The timing (30 November until 11 December 2021), however, was quite inconvenient as Jambiani Secondary School (JSS) with about 500 students was busy with national examinations almost the whole of November. In December the school was completely closed so that the cows could quietly graze on the schoolyard, inclusive eatable rubbish.

We memorize the CDF projects there:

- 1. Construction of a conference hall in cooperation with a Belgian NGO
- 2. A tutorial pilot project
- 3. Support of the inclusion of disabled students
- 4. Installation and maintenance of an electronic learning management system (eLMS)
- 5. Scholarships for vocational training and higher education for young women
- (1) The conference hall is almost ready; missing, however, are still electricity, water connection, toilets, plastering inside and outside. We visited the building together with the responsible constructor and one teacher. A member of parliament (in autumn, there were political elections!) had sponsored 200 sacks of cement that had to be stored intermediately for there was no construction activity in the last months. The completion of the building will probably take until summer 2022. The Belgian partner organisation will supervise this process. The conference hall shall then be leased from time to time for marriages, birthdays and funerals in order to gain some income for the maintenance of the building. We try to counter this intention a bit because we think the hall could and should be used mainly for the sake of education, for example team work, video or film presentations, IT-working places, pedagogical lectures and school meetings or even school competitions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information visit <u>www.tingatinga-berlin.de</u>

- (2) In the tutorial pilot programme, we supported 25 (selected from 45) girls from April till the end of October in preparing the national F4 examinations with the assistance of four tutors: three teachers and Sharifa Kassim Ali. The objective was that 15 out of these 25 girls should pass successfully examination in order to open them the path to higher education (F5, F6) or qualified vocational training. In 2020, only one girl (compared to 6 boys) did so. The intermediate report by Sharifa, however, was sobering: in August 2021 only 11 of the 25 students were still active in the programme. In November, they entered examinations, yet the results will be known only in the middle of January. Nevertheless, perhaps we still experience a positive surprise.
- (3) We also drew our attention several times to the inclusion project. With the assistance of one teacher, we visited – among others – the majority of the disabled students. For those interested in this part of our activity, detailed minutes and suggestions for potential additional support of these children are attainable. Up to now (28.12.2021), however, there exists no reliable plan of JSS how this project shall proceed. So far, only a shopping list of possible (and partly expensive) technical equipment is available. There is a lack, in particular, of professional teachers and assistants caring for these students.

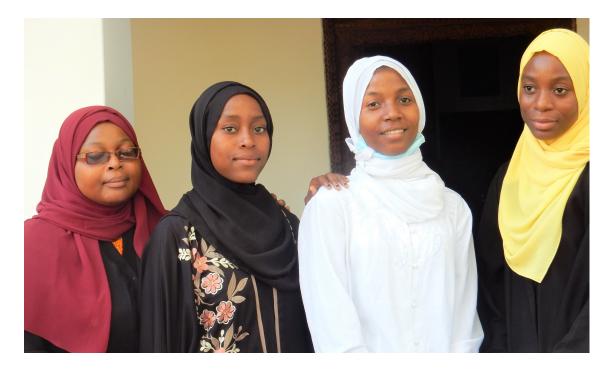


Furthermore, we got in personal contact with a Polish NGO that is active in Jambiani village, also at JSS, since about one year: *PiliPili Pomagam*.<sup>2</sup> It turned out that this NGO pursues almost the same objectives as CDF, being active – moreover – in the health

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.facebook.com/PiliPiliPomagam/</u>

sector. Behind this organization stands a big hotel chain with capital power, which obviously intends to demonstrate its "corporate social responsibility", certainly also to its own advantage. According to our impression, this NGO works highly professional under its manager Julianna and with much more financial capacity than CDF. We mutually agreed to cooperate; in particular we intend to examine in our own countries which kind of progressive technical equipment for disabled students already exist and at which price level. Details und results of this agreement still have to be worked out. In the long-term, CDF will/should probably leave this place of activity, except the scholarship programme.

(4) The eLMS project is at the edge of great success or half failure. We invested a lot into an evaluation by TIE (Tanzanian Institute for Education) and Open University in Dar es Salaam and the revival of the system on a new server. The internet access required for eLMS' operation to its full extent, however, failed so far. Reports and comments to the deplorable state of the art, again, are accessible to our interested reader. We also engaged a highly competent IT-team in Stone Town which is ready to install internet access and to provide training to the teachers. Moreover, we got the firm assurance of the director at TIE to visit and to advise JSS, as well as to guarantee the direct link to the e-Library of TIE (inclusive modern video- und film material). Up to now (28.12.2021), however, we haven't got any engaged and reliable feedback from teachers or the headmaster of JSS which assures a promising proceeding of this project. The cooperation with PiliPili, for example, could in this case again ensure the financing of a modern computer infrastructure including continuous IT-advice.



(5) The vocational scholarship programme is running satisfactorily. Currently, we support four young women, in the picture above (from left to right): Sharifa Kassid Ali (continuing her study in medicine at State University of Zanzibar [SUZA], at the same time serving as secretary to CDF with a small salary); Mayasa Sinatama Makame (studying diploma in IT at Karume University); Sabiha Bandari Ame (studying diploma in journalism at SUZA); Leila Suleiman Hassan (studying diploma in IT at SUZA).

So, currently CDF-investments in Zanzibar are stagnating; of course, we keep our sponsors informed about the ongoing decisions that have to be made in the next two months.

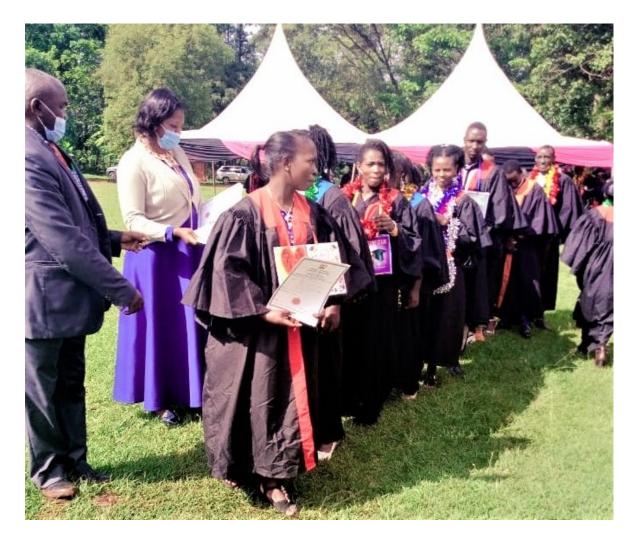
There is only good news from Kenya. We got an extremely informative and engaged report about the activities there by Dr. Issa Kipera, director of our partner organisation ChildFund Kenya, accessible as pdf if requested. We briefly summarize the most important points:

- In Kendu Bay four new scholars (out of 10 applications) were selected according to strict criteria, in Mutonga three (out of 8 applications), two boys among them. The total number of supported children s currently 29, three postsecondary students included.
- (2) Almost all children received a bundle of teaching or revisions books, which has been carefully documented and confirmed by all. Here are scholars from Kendu Bay:



(3) ChildFund Kenya organised in both regions a one-day-meeting during the vacations for sharing experiences and challenges and how to overcome them, as well as for mentoring in questions of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR); girls received packets of sanitary towels. (4) All scholars present themselves with pictures and portraits that inform about their role models (for instance Gladys Wanga, a prominent female politician who represents the region Homa Bay in the Kenyan parliament); professional dreams (e.g. "neurosurgeon", "aerostronic engineer"); difficult subjects (often physics); additional worries or plights (newcomer Adryanna Angel Joy, e.g., reports about an eye problem making it difficult for her to study during morning hours; other complain about "lack of enough time" to study due to work at home). Almost all students wrote appreciation letters (testimonies).

We requested our partner organisation to select at least two further postsecondary students, all the more as Fridah Mutethia Mutiiria (Mutonga Region, at the forefront in the picture) has successfully finished her courses at Chorogia College as pre-school teacher. Moreover, we encouraged ChildFund Kenya to continue and possibly to extent their mentoring activities at the yearly meetings.



Income		Expenditure	
General contributions*	6,600	Kenya:	
Special contributions**	16,900	26 scholarships à Ø ca. 350 €	9,000
Extraordinary contribution***	50,000	3 scholarships à Ø 700 € Administration (ca.10%)	2,100 900
		Tanzania/Jambiani	
		Secretary Sharifa	$2,700^{2}$
		Tutor-Pilot-Programme	2,800
		Scholarship Sharifa	1,200
		Scholarship Mayasa (incl. PC)	930
		Scholarship Sabiha	700
		Scholarship Leila (1/2, incl. PC)	700
		eLMS Evaluation/Revival <sup>1)</sup>	1,800
		eLMS Inclusion (evaluation)	700
Total	73,500	Total	23,530

At the end of this newsletter again the CDF-Budget (Euro) for 2021 in rough figures:

\*) Donations from relatives, friends, acquaintances, colleagues; \*\*) special donations from relatives, friends, acquaintances, colleagues, inclusive own contribution (€5,000; €2,500; 2x€2,000; 2x€1,200; 3x €1,000). \*\*\*) A good acquaintance allied with CDF since a long time.

1) New installation of eLMS and evaluation of both eLMS-projects through Open University of Dar es Salaam.

2) Inclusive compensation of a theft (ca. 1,500  $\in$ ), which happened to Sharifa.

At first, the extraordinary donation exceeds our ordinary framework of action. Apart from the already significant extension of the number of scholarships we are still looking for an adequate use of this amount. In Tanzania larger investments are possible, in particular into the inclusion project if the appropriate conditions can be fulfilled. Currently we also care for an increase in the number of scholarships in vocational training or higher education. The tutorial pilot project probably will not be renewed due to meagre results compared to the high commitment. Our readers will not have missed the possibility that we even have to say goodbye to Zanzibar and to leave this field of action to PiliPili or other NGOs. We certainly will increase the number of scholarships in Kenya, in particular in the field of postsecondary vocational training. We are happy about the loyalty of our sponsors. We cordially thank everybody. We look forward to any suggestions in response to this newsletter and kindly ask for further support for the project.<sup>3</sup>

Barbara and Günther Schmid<sup>4</sup>

Berlin, 29 December 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Contributions should be sent to: Child Development Fund (CDF) (Barbara and Günther Schmid), Bank für Sozialwirtschaft, Stuttgart, Swift Code/BIC: BFSWDE33STG; IBAN: DE98 6012 0500 0007 7818 26. Important! *Please give your private address with the donation and ChildFund Deutschland (Nürtingen) will send you a receipt for contributions to a recognised charity.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Email addresses and homepages: <u>schmidhdb@aol.com</u>; <u>gues@guentherschmid.de</u>; <u>www.childdevelopmentfund.com</u>; <u>www.editionpamoja.de</u>; <u>www.guentherschmid.eu</u>; <u>www.tingatinga-berlin.de</u>