



An NGO in special consultative status with ECOSOC, United Nations

NEWSLETTER – August 2017

Dear members and friends,

We bring you fresh news from Kenya and our young beneficiaries, thanks to the trip of Annie (president) and Perrine (member, 20 years old) in July 2017 for 3 weeks in the field. Perrine and Annie had in their luggage, books in English (donation of an English teacher), illustrated books for young children, pens (donor), colored pencils (Caran d' Ache donation) clothes and shoes, and obviously a lot of attention and love. We also transported two anti-FGM (anti-female genital mutilation) medical models that we left there for future campaigns, one in Narok area, and another in Kuria region (Homa Bay, Migori).

Reminder for all our members : you can participate in one of our annual trips to Kenya (in July) and enjoy the beauty of wildlife in Kenyan parks as well as our visits to massai villages and schools. New and strong experience, guaranteed!

Some pictures of the journey through Kenya:



Perrine is feeding giraffes in Nairobi.



Oletukat primary school : MAA sponsored students offer a maasai bracelet to Perrine.



More gifts (maasai handcraft) offered by Maasai mothers by way of thank you.

- Here is the progress of our 2017 projects, as found on the ground:

The school infrastructure and water supply project in 2 villages Oletukat and Iltuntum in Narok region (Central Kenya), supported by the City of Geneva and the Commune of Meyrin, has been completed.

Here are some pictures :



Primary school of Oletukat : the new classroom is hosting the pre-school classes (3-6 years).



The new MAA classroom at Oletukat.



With Oletukat pupils, the Head Teacher and Annie.



The 4 new sanitary (without doors here, as they get still dry) which were necessary with one more class room.

- The water now is reaching Intumtum primary school, which has been supplied by underground pipes for 3.5 km, from a sorting point. Students were trained to systematic handwashing after use of latrines.



Intumtum primary, with teachers, the HT lady and John (MAA coordinator).

Pupils prepare the "washing hands" homemade device.



Operated by foot, the "washing hands" after latrine, is efficient.



Teachers use it as well.



1200 coloured pencils separated in 6 prizes for 6 different primary schools. Donated by CARAN of ACHE, Geneva.



300 BIC pens distributed among students sponsored by MAA. Donated by a Greek lady who sends them to us every year.

- The second major project this year is the improvement of school infrastructures in three villages in the south of Kenya (Loitokitok, region of Rombo), supported by the SSI (international solidarity service) of the State of Geneva and by the Foundation "Lord Michelham of Hellingly" is also completed successfully. Here are the results:

- an additional class for the overcrowded Lemongo school.
- 4 more latrines for the same school
- one more class for the school of Matepes
- 6 more latrines for Matepes
- finishing of the water supply in the village of Enaramatishoreki (drinking place for animals, fence)



Matepes primary school, the new classroom built by MAA



With the beneficiaries pupils at the forefront.



The 6 new sanitaries necessary with the school extension at Matepes primary



Annie and the Matepes sponsored students.

Photos de Lemongo primary :



Annie inaugurates the new class of Lemongo, cutting the ribbon, in the presence of the director.



Class room interior with the equipment.



Girls dances, festivities that followed the inauguration



With the students beneficiaries of the new class room and school authorities.



New sanitarities at Lemongo primary



10 needy pupils whom MAA will soon sponsor in Lemongo school, here with Cynthia Nemayian the faithful collaborator of MAA, and Annie the president.

And M.A.A. achievements in the Enaramatishoreki village, 70 km south of Narok, in an arid area difficult to access and without road !



The well is operated by 16 panels, the tap next to the school supplies the village's homes with clean drinkable water, and the animal's trough makes donkeys and cows happy!



In each school visited, the ritual is immutable: welcome word, signature of the visitors' book, visit of MAA's achievements, collective prayer, dances and songs by the students of the school in honor of the visitors, speeches from school and community authorities and at the end, the forum is given to the visitors for the final word. Then, gifts offered to visitors in thanks (a cape at the shoulders and massai jewelry around the neck). Towards the end, a meal is offered to the visitors (served first to ladies visitors, in spite of the Massai tradition where ladies are served at last !), the teachers of the school, the parents who attend and finally all the pupils. After the festivities, we are presented with

a list of "wishes" expressed by the school, most often their needs or a list of needy children who can not pay tuition ...

MAA always arranged to make everyone happy and the whole village smiles on the farewells!

We refrain from promising things that we can not logically assume because, as I say, "we are not politicians to promise paradise on Earth, but we will do our best."

This year the "wishes list" is extremely long, but not unrealistic!

The important thing is to keep hope that new sponsors will join soon the association.

- The 3rd project that seems to us valuable and which is funded by the BNP PARIBAS Foundation is the purchase of 2 grain mills (posho mills in kiswahili) to be offered to 2 Maasai women cooperatives, to empower them and start economic activity.



The house (shelter) where the grain mill will be set up in Intuntum for the 35-member MAA women group. MAA offers house, posho mill and 5 bags of corn to start trading.



John Mepukori, MAA main coordinator in Narok district.



Costaud le moulin !

In Rombo the 2nd women's cooperative called "NOSIM women group" of 45 women:



Seated under a tree, the council of the first cooperative, MAA women group. We are discussing the details before finalizing the project.



The women gave Annie a massai cloth in which was embroidered with pearls "Ashe Naramat" (thank you Annie, in massai).



With the cooperative Chair lady, Irene, in Rombo.



Perrine's gift embroidered "Dear Perrine, Welcome".



Finally a gift for the donor. It is written in pearls: "Ashe Bank BNP Paribas Foundation, for posho mill. Nsim women group".
Perrine whose father works in the Bank will give it to the donors.

It would be impossible for us to narrate here all the news from Kenya. You can see from the smiles of both (guests and locals) that the sharing was rich in emotions, information, news exchanged and strong feelings. Despite the villages poverty there was always a special attention for us the visitors, coming from so far ... What touches the people there is, that we travel 6000 km by plane and a few hundred more by motorcycle, bush bus or other means, to go and meet them.

All our struggles are worth the effort : to give to simple people the feeling that they are not forgotten and neglected because of their geographical and social isolation, and that in our eyes they matter and we take care of their lives.

We stop here for the moment, and we will send you the rest of our news to the next Newsletter edition.

Thank you for your attention and interest in reading us.

For M.A.A. committee

Annie Corsini

Françoise Desson

www.e-solidarity.org