

*An NGO in special consultative status with ECOSOC, United Nations.*

## **NEWSLETTER – octobre 2018**

Dear members and friends,

The annual trip to Kenya was undertaken by the President alone this year, during September-October, in particularly harsh and difficult conditions. The reasons ? Huge distances to go inside the country to supervise our projects, precarious and rudimentary living conditions, extreme heat (38 C) in Pokot country and a permanent contact with poverty and distress along past 3 weeks. These conditions require good nerves and a strong morale. However, there were moments of warm conviviality, humor and laughter. Humankind can laugh at everything, that's part of our fabulous ability to adapt and face the difficulties.

➤ Let's start with our project to build 4 classrooms and sanitary facilities in two villages in the Maasai countryside.



The 2 new classrooms built by MAA at Iloopilukuni, Transmara



Inauguration by Annie, during a village ceremony organized by the school, parents, teachers.



The 6 new latrines, necessary after increasing the number of school classes.



2 new classrooms built by MAA at Orgumaek, village, Loitokitok district, south Kenya.



With 4 new latrines.

School boys dressed like Maasai warriors are dancing around !



MAA coordinator, Nemayian.  
We offered a cupboard to the school teachers, so that they can store safely their school material, exams etc.

In the two villages where MAA inaugurated the 4 new classes, opening ceremonies awaited us, organized by the school and the whole village.

We gathered under a tree, the guests, the local authorities, all the students, parents and the crowd of the curious.

Apart from the traditional ribbon cutting, followed by the official speeches, the show of dances and songs performed by the primary classes and often by mothers too, the gifts offered (Maasai beadwork jewels and Maasai blankets), it was also a meal prepared by the villagers. Mostly rosten goat, rice and potatoes.

Everyone eats and the guest of honor receives the best piece (the liver of the sacrificed goat!).

This is how the Maasais celebrate a big event in thanks to the donor who enlarged and embellished their school, pride of a whole village, or maybe region.

The thanks of the people come back to our faithful donors: The Service of International Solidarity, of State of Geneva, the Lord Michelham Foundation, The Gertrude Hirzel Foundation, the BNP Paribas Foundation and our collaborators in Kenya who made this realization possible: John , David, Nemayian, Rebecca, Moses.

- Follows the WATER WHEELS project, made in India under an American patent.

120 pieces took the boat from Mumbai port, they crossed the Indian Ocean and arrived at the port of Mombasa, Kenya. Then they were cleared and distributed to rural Maasai women through the care of our collaborators John, Rebecca and Nemayian.



In villages near Narok.



In Rombo area.



In Rombo, Loitokitok



In Transmara area.



In some cases, WW are transported via motorbike.



So now, when you walk in the bush, you may come across women fetching water in this way !

This project, **funded by BNP-PARIBAS Foundation**, was a great success for rural Maasai women. The only inconvenience is that the price of WW has more than doubled between the port of Mombasa and the final recipient in the village. Why ? Excessive State taxes (more than 45% on the purchase price of the goods) customs fees, transport by container etc. Pity ! If the importation of goods by humanitarian organizations is so heavily taxed, there is no doubt that this is not in the interest of Kenyan people ...

- Project: Tiaty Peace Initiative (north of Baringo Lake)

Annie visited the East Pokot area for the first time, north of Baringo lake. This district was a year ago the scene of bloody quarrels between two communities living in the area (Pokots and Tugens) and between the Kenyan army and hungry and thirsty Pokots. I could see the sweltering heat (38C), the aridity, the rivers all dried up, the lack of water, the lack of food, the lack of everything ... MAA, thanks to an endowment of **SIG Foundation (electric Power of Geneva)** was able to distribute emergency food aid in 4 primary schools of the area. We provided food for two months to more than 600 children from 3 to 12 years old. We bought ourselves 16 bags of 90 kg each of corn and dried beans and then distributed them to schools that urgently needed food for their pupils.

Here are the photos of this action:



Maize, beans, cooking oil and salt.



Annie and Rebby the two organizers of food relief action in East Pokot.



In the first school : Lemuyek primary



the second school : Kashokon primary



We offered a cooking pot of 75 L in a



Once the vehicle is empty, two girls pick up the last cereal grains by hand. Not a grain should be wasted!

school.



Last school (4th) delivered, in Chemolingot, where more than 150 refugee children, homeless and without parents live into the school facilities.

And here are some pictures.

I know they will shock more than one. They speak for themselves:



Why a Pokot pupil of 8-9 years old, goes to school with her baby sibling ?



Answer : so that the baby could get food, as the pupil, once per day ! Kashokon primary.



Old Pokot woman, gaunt and hungry.  
Lemuyek village



Maasai woman, at  
Ishinon village. Mother of twins, she is in danger of dying

from underweight and needs special enriched food. The 1 year old baby presents only a 3 month development!

MAA distributed during September-October 2018, 2200 kg (2,2 tonnes) of cereals to the following villages :

In East Pokot, north Baringo,

- Lemuyek, Chepilat, Kashokon and Chemolingot (primary schools)

In South Kenya, Rombo area :

- Matepes Victory Academy, Olasiti (primary schools)

Parents and teachers have already said:

- do not forget us in January 2019, when schools will open for the new school year!

A heavy task for MAA.

Only hope is, a call to your generosity during the end of year holiday season: between turkey, "foie gras" and other victuals, have a thought for people with a hollow stomach.

MAA will be responsible for having your aid delivered on site and distributed fairly.

Thanks for your attention and your interest in reading us.

For M.A.A. committee :

Annie Corsini

Françoise Desson

[www.e-solidarity.org](http://www.e-solidarity.org)



A school cooking place : the big pot full of food.



Every child comes in school with its plate. At noon, a portion of boiled cereals will be distributed, often the only meal of the day...