



Misingi newsletter 19

December 2020

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1 A warm New Year's Eve call

In July 2019, Misingi vzw started the Afya-project. By December 2021, we aim to renovate the current dispensary in Endallah and build a new maternity unit. You can read and view a report of the past months in this newsletter and on our website.

<https://www.misingi.be/en/health/afya/>

1.1 Your donation is tax-deductible

We already financed some of the costs with our carefully built up reserves and sponsorship of the past year, for which we are very grateful. But we are not there yet. Just like our previous projects, the [King Baudouin Foundation](#) is once again cooperating. Until the end of December, a gift from EUR 40, 60% instead of 40% is **tax-deductible**. You will then receive the tax certificate in February. A tax certificate is also possible for deposits outside Belgium. Please contact one of the Misingi members before making a deposit.



IBAN: BE10 0000 0000 0404

BIC: BPOTBEB1

Structured statement: 128/3211/00037

Attention: only by using this structured statement, your donation will end up on the project account of Misingi vzw!

Without a tax certificate:

Misingi vzw

IBAN BE90 9731 2363 6332

BIC ARSPBE22

Asante Sana

1.2 Donation of medication and medical equipment

We are regularly asked whether, in addition to financial support, it is also possible to donate medication and/or medical equipment. Dr. Solomon and nurses Eliaichi & Felister drew up a list. The medication must not be expired or damaged. We provide an English leaflet and promise that everything will be delivered quickly. Please contact one of the Misingi members to make an appointment.

[Link to document](#)

1.3 De warmste week

<https://dewarmsteweek.be/oproepen/geef-je-medicatie-een-2de-leven>



Hoe kan je ons helpen?

Heb jij ook een berg (niet vervallen) **medicatie** en (onbeschadigd) **verzorgingsmateriaal** liggen in je apotheekkast die je niet meer gebruikt?

Tijd voor een **opruimactie** voor het Zuiden!

In 2017 stierven er nog 295000 vrouwen tijdens de zwangerschap en bevalling. Maternale koorts, infecties en bloedingen zijn gevaren die dankzij jouw opruimactie vele moeders en kinderen kunnen redden!

Sinds 2019 is VZW Misingi gestart met de bouw van een verloskamer en materniteit in Endallah, Noord-Tanzania. Samen met de medewerkers ter plaatse wordt gewerkt aan een onafhankelijke en betaalbare apotheek en dispensarium. Zo kan gezorgd worden voor een veiligere bevalling en kraamperiode voor moeder en kind. De hele community heeft hier baat bij!

Houd rekening met volgende **donatielijst**:

https://www.misingi.be/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Misingi_Afya_MedLijst.pdf

Maak jij samen met ons het verschil? Reageer dan op deze oproep!

Over het initiatief

vzw Misingi is bezig met een nieuw (groots) project, Afya. Een renovatieproject van het huidige dispensarium, het bouwen van een materniteit met inrichting ervan, het uitbouwen van een klein en financieel onafhankelijke apotheek,....

Sinds juli 2019 is dit project van start gegaan, samen met de inwoners van Endallah.

Door een gebrekkige medicatievoorziening van de overheid kampt Endallah dispensary (hier werken 1 dokter met 3 verplegers/verpleegsters voor 6500 inwoners) met een groot tekort aan medicatie en verzorgingsmateriaal.

Een aantal vrijwilligers van vzw Misingi trekt regelmatig naar Endallah om het project te ondersteunen en realiseren.

Organisator

vzw Misingi

2 Project Afya



Photo of animation on the website. A visualization of the project progress.

In the newsletter of May, we mentioned that 'Phase 4', the construction of the maternity ward, was delayed several months due to unprecedented persistent rainfall affecting all of East Africa. The roads and water pipes were destroyed and now repaired. Because trucks constantly got stuck in the mud, we paid higher transport costs. The major infrastructure works were therefore stopped and only the incinerator (small incinerator) was completed. The old, dangerous, "waste-pit" near primary school, a hole in the ground fenced with acacia branches where all medical waste was burned, is now a thing of the past.

In the meantime, work has resumed and the structural work with the foundation trenches, reinforced structures and walls are almost completed. The stairs at the entrance are also bricked. Due to the failure of one of the two Tanzanian cement factories, we paid a higher cement price. Due to a greater height difference than expected, a heavier foundation has also been made. A broader central corridor is provided for the purpose of providing training. These factors have led to higher costs for the time being.

In the past months we received a nice gift from France. Delphine Laisne travels to Endallah in February and started a crowdfunding. In this way she collected € 2,170. Asante Sana, Karibu Endallah! [Link to her page](#)



The next phase starts with the construction of a ring structure to support the roof. For the past month, Steven, Barbara, Billie & Pim were in Endallah and took some pictures. January, February and March, Sien, Mieke & Vincent are on site and will support the project. The final phase, the purchase of all medical and care equipment, is scheduled for November and December 2021.

This phase is fully funded by [Afas Foundation](#), many thanks.







3 Ursulinen Mechelen supports girls' boarding school



At the end of the 2018-2019 school year, Mieke, Barbara and two colleagues selected 10 enthusiastic students from [Ursulinen Mechelen](#) to participate in an immersion trip to Endallah during the Easter holidays of the 2019-2020 school year. The trip was planned at the end of March, but corona put a stop to it. With much heartache, the trip was canceled.

In addition to team building, some lessons about Tanzanian culture and language, raising money for Misingi's projects was an important part of and a condition for the immersion trip. Barbara and Mieke asked the teacher team of Endallah Secondary School what the current needs were. The answer: beds. Beds? Indeed, the girls' boarding school was overcrowded. An extra sleeping building was already there, but there were no beds there. As a result, many boarding school girls slept with 2 or 3 in one bed.

The committed immersion travel team organized a sleepover at school, a pasta evening, a party, a bag sale, ... and thus collected € 7,415.47. They did not get to Endallah themselves, but the money did get there. Steven and his [Zuiderhuis](#) colleagues who hit the spot were able to ascertain this with their own eyes. And the girls? They sleep like babies in their own bed.





4 John elected district president

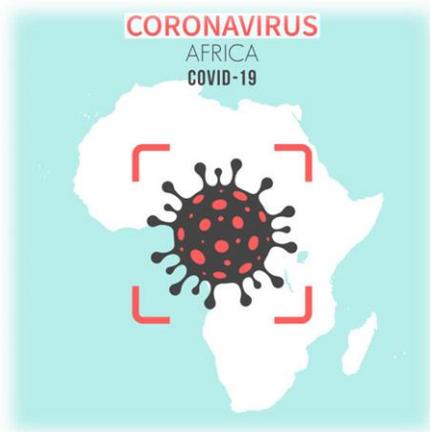


On October 28, John was elected for the third time as "diwani" or "deputy" to the Karatu district for the congregations that come under Endamarariiek (Endallah is one of them). Last week he was nominated by his fellow deputy as district chairman. Our good friend John is now the highest political authority in the entire Karatu district. A nice reward for his decades of dedication to the local population!

This is also good news for us. Unfortunately, things can only really move in Tanzania if the right people at the right level are pulling the strings. John is now in this position. That's not to say we couldn't make progress before. After all, thanks to our own funds, we were relatively independent and were always able to realize our projects. But what used to be difficult and often even opposed will now undoubtedly go more smoothly.

A good example is the electricity supply in Endallah. For several years now we have been promised that the water pump ('Maji') would be connected to the electricity network. For political reasons, much of this has never been achieved. However, the electricity company has been on site for a few weeks now. The connection will now be fast. The large, diesel-consuming generator can now be retired (we keep it on site as a backup for power cuts) and the cost of pumping the water will now go down significantly. Where there's a will there's a way. We already predict 5 busy project years ...

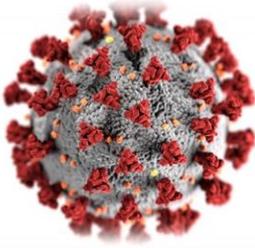
5 Also some good news from Africa?!



While we are struggling with the corona virus and the color red, only "yellow" seems to color the map. The figures clearly show that Africa has been much less affected by the coronavirus than other continents. Only 3.5% of all corona deaths fell in Africa, while 17% of the population lives there. But how is this now? There are a number of factors that are likely to play a role. The mild climate and the small housing mean that most people live largely outside, where a large part of their activities take place. The youthful population also plays a role; the average life expectancy in Tanzania is

around 60 years, partly due to the large proportion of young people. Other plausible explanations are the existing immunity, genetic factors and behavioral factors. In March, Karatu, a town 20 km from Endallah with thousands of inhabitants, 50 people died from Corona.

In the run-up to the presidential elections, incumbent President Magufuli decided not to give any more updates on the current health situation. The most recent information that the [World Health Organization](#) of Tanzania has, dates back to May 8. The Tanzanians themselves do not know what the health situation is like in their country, which causes uncertainty for the population and the medical staff. The National Health Center in Dar Es Salaam is the only laboratory that can test samples for COVID-19. President Magufuli's policy therefore raises many question marks among Tanzanians and his comments about the coronavirus have not gone unnoticed.



In addition, spreading "fake" corona news (read: "negative") can be punished with imprisonment. Nevertheless, it is a fact that there are currently no confirmed cases being treated in Karatu, nor are there any corona deaths. Our local contacts, Dr. Solomon of Endallah and Dr. Simpa, who work in the Covid ward of Karatu Lutheran Hospital, confirm that there has been no COVID19 in Endallah and the surrounding area since May. Life goes on as usual, which seems to indicate that corona is indeed only marginally present in Tanzania and perhaps only in large cities such as Dar Es Salaam or Dodoma.

The economic damage caused by Covid19 is less good news. Tanzania is one of the ten fastest growing economies worldwide. For 2020, the African Development Bank forecast a slight growth of 0.5 percent and in 2021 the growth would be 4.1 percent. Nearly 20 million jobs in Africa are at risk from the virus, in both the formal and informal sectors, according to a study by the African Union (AU). Countries heavily dependent on tourism (such as Tanzania) and the oil industry will be the hardest hit.

Unfortunately, there is no system in Africa like in Belgium, where employees receive compensation. Many friends and acquaintances in and around Endallah who work in the tourism sector also have a hard time. No income = no food for themselves and their family. Tanzania's international airspace has been open since May 18 and tourists are once again welcome. Since 1 October, Belgians can also go to destinations outside the E.U. to travel.

<https://www.vrt.be/vrtnws/nl/2020/10/30/de-apocalyps-was-voorspeld-maar-afrika-bleef-grotendeels-gespaa/>

<https://www.mo.be/nieuws/coronavirus-maakt-einde-aan-afrikaanse-economische-groei>

<https://www.mo.be/nieuws/offici-le-coronacijfers-woorden-geheimgehouden-tanzania>

<https://www.mo.be/analyse/waarom-heeft-afrika-zo-weinig-covid-doden>

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