



Dear Sponsors, Friends and Supporters of the children in Kenya,

We would like to begin with the rather dramatic development of the year 2011, which just goes to show that happiness and sorrow are closely linked.

During August we began with our Hunger Relief FANYA, in which we were able to assist almost 10,000 families in the draught-stricken region of Turkana and in some cases infact save them. The fact that this relief was such a great success, we owe entirely to you dear sponsors and supporters for your tremendous commitment and overwhelming support.

Unfortunately we had to pay a high price for this success. Our chief-technician Jackim, who accompanied the first FANYA mission was involved in a bad accident during the journey and passed away several days later due to his injuries. It is somewhat comforting to know, thanks to a spontaneous fund-raising campaign among our sponsors and supporters, that the foreseeable future of Jackims wife Rachel und his two daughters is secured.

However a majority (a good deal more) enjoyable things occurred during this year.

The Likunda Primary School (LPS) and part of the Lulu High School (LHS) are now being supplied with power using an efficient solar-system since February. The construction and equipment valued at approx. 100,000 EUR is a donation by the company Phoenix Solar AG, who even sent a technician to Kenya for the assembly and installation.

The canteen of the LHS, which was totally destroyed by fire, could not only be renewed but infact also made bigger thanks to the numerous donations within a few weeks.

Thanks to generous donations the library of the LHS was also completed, a total of 20 brand-new computers were acquired for the schools and all four schools became equipped with internet-connection (of course on a flat-rate basis).

All sponsored children have a free basic medical coverage. Due to the great success of this medical scheme the Mekaela Academies will be increasing this coverage to all boarding pupils on from 2012. If this concept works well with the increased number of participants, then we might be able to expand this beyond the boundaries of the schools.



The Heshima Primary School is now a fully-fledged boarding school with dormitories for almost 200 boys and girls. The Eine-Welt-Stiftung (One World Foundation) and HelpAlliance went to great efforts to financially make this possible. Thanks to additional donations from some of our sponsors and supporters the dormitories size will even be increased. Future plans involve the construction of additional class rooms and a teacher's house.

During summer an employment agency was established which should essentially provide unemployed parents of pupils with a secure job on the South Coast. The project is picking up, so that we hope by the end of next year to have been able to place at least 100 parents into employment.

Micki and Stefan Wentzel, who together with Frank Müther founded the Mekaela Academies in 1993 are now living in Kenya. For anyone visiting the school project, you are more than welcome to contact them, as they would enjoy meeting sponsors and supporters in person be it for the first time or catching up with you again.

The school fees will be increased yet again in 2012, on average of about 5%. Due to the favourable exchange rate of the Euro to the Kenyan Shilling there will however be no changes for the sponsors, as we have increased and calculated an average rate from 100 to 105 KES to the Euro for 2012. Unfortunately the Kenya Central Bank has increased its rate of interest to 18% in December (in 2010 it was still 6%), causing the Kenyan Shilling to increase in value and is moving dangerously close to our limit of 105. We are watching this situation very closely and hope it situation settles somewhat by the beginning of 2012.

Watoto e.V. has grown. More support was gained with new members to our team in Germany these being Anke, Carolin, Kathleen and Stephan. For more details and information about Watoto und Mekaela Academies please contact the internet: www.watoto.de.

On behalf of our children and their families we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all of your support.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas with friends and family and a healthy, enjoyable and relaxing New Year.

All the best from the team at
Watoto e.V.

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