

Baobab Children Foundation Ghana | Westafrika



Socially and physically challenged - hand in hand

Newsletter December 2018

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The year has come to an end and since now there was only one newsletter. Why?

I extremely suffered from a prolapsed intervertebral disk and due to this I was only fit for action very partly. I was in Germany for six months to get treatments. In the meantime, I am back in Ghana and feel relatively well.

In Germany, I was at the Textilmesse Nadelwelt in Karlsruhe in May together with Lou and Johannes, who gave me their very active support. Monika, Lina and Veronica worked at the Textile Art in Berlin, supported by Heike. We had to cancel Stuttgart this year, even though we would have had a great team of supporters mainly consisting of former volunteers. We were able to carry out the festival in Emmendingen, resisting the great heat. There, Gudrun, Jens, Sophie and Julia helped, which worked very well. Many thanks to all the hard-working helpers.



stand in Emmendingen

A container gets loaded

This year I got the opportunity to be present during the loading up of a container. This was pure Africa! There was blazing sunshine at the Fahrräder für Afrika's village of prefab huts (the containers had to be removed out of the hangars because of some restauration-works) and an unbelievable number of people helped to load the container. Thank you to all diligent collectors and helpers.



many, many helpers



bikes are stored in the top container

Good news from Ghana:

The good news from Ghana: Despite my long absence and limited ability of actions, everything went very well in Ghana and Alhaji realized quite a lot construction projects with great effort and together with some colleagues.

Water project Water is life

1. The water project is nearly completed. The water of the well is non-drinkable. The waterworks can install a filter to make it drinkable. This costs 2.800,- €. Walther just found a sponsor for this filter! Thanks a lot!
2. The rainwater lake is enlarged and shall become a fish pond, where we can cultivate sweet water fish. There already is a “mud fish”, which is simply there. We, though, want to cultivate fish professionally, which can be sold, but also be used for the schools’ kitchen. For this, the lake needs a solid fence, so that not everybody comes for fishing.



James caught a mud fish

3. Both the new and the old rainwater reservoir now have a solar pump, which are already in use.



Alhaji and Isaac getting introduced into the way how to operate with the solar pump

“Refurbishing Project” – Renovation of old buildings

Most people want to support new projects, but they forget that the old buildings continuously must be restored and renovated. Especially in the tropic climate with heavy rainfalls, a high humidity and countless of nibbling termites! As I mentioned this towards Walther, he said: no problem! Write an application and show pictures of the state of the buildings, do an estimate and I try to find sponsors. He really accomplished this task and we were able to begin to restore five buildings. Up to now, due to higher costs we realized three projects.

1. The boy’s house got a ceiling installed to let the heat escape and to cool down the room. Everything was newly painted.



in the boy’s house a new ceiling was installed to fight the heat

- The fourteen years old school building was in a very bad condition. While removing the roof, Alhaji found out that the whole roof truss was rotten. Everything had to be removed. Doors, window frames and windows, an intermediate ceiling (which was not existing before), cracks in the walls, new ramps for the wheelchair users, ... Meanwhile we also decided to build in a storage room for the artists. There they can leave tripods and materials which they can use to paint, without having to carry them over the entire schoolyard. The room is very big and there is enough space for this.



the whole roof truss had to be renewed.



the new old school building

- The old girls hostel is used as the teacher's home. Right now we extend a room to become a kitchen and at the end of the building a bathroom with a toilet is built, the rooms get renovated and the roof will be renewed. In total, the house contains seven rooms.



the extension

The new own clinic

It was always hard for me to give the project a name. Now the students helped me making the decision: They call everything concerning well-being or sickness “clinic”. How short and simple. This is why we call the new project “Baobab Clinic”.

There we build a room for physical therapy, which was sponsored by the association share1love in Regensburg. This young and engaged association has some physiotherapists as members itself. A few years ago, Daniel (doctor) and Steffi (physiotherapist) came to Ghana and Steffi worked with our handicapped students for three months. As the idea to build a clinic developed, they began to collect the money by doing many small campaigns. 8.000,- € were collected in total. 2.000,- € got doubled by the Zukunftsstiftung and they reached their goal: 10.000,- €. Co-sponsor is Hans W. Geißendörfer. Thank you so much.

Additionally, the building will contain a surgery for a nurse, who comes two days of the week and treats our children. Worse cases are sent to the clinics nearby. We temporarily offered her a room where she already works.



Mad Christie, the nurse

This is how far the constructions have already reached.



Clinic

Wheelchair donation to the Central Regional Hospital

There was a cooperation with the Central Regional Hospital in Cape Coast. Due to the fact that in the last container there were many wheelchairs – thanks to Lena from Munich! –, Alhaji was able to do an official donation campaign. From them, we wanted to have a physiotherapist on a weekly basis, they got the wheelchairs they wanted. A win-win situation! We look for German physiotherapists who would like to work at our place for some weeks. We offered the hospital that German physiotherapists could also upskill the physio helpers in the Regional Hospital. Win/Win!



Donation of wheel chairs to the Kissi community



donation of wheel chairs to Central Regional Hospital

AID APPEAL – AID APPEAL – AID APPEAL

Christmas is around the corner and we have, as every year, some wishes:

1. Mostly, we wish to have new sponsors, because we lost some due to us moving to Africa action. Sponsors are those who finance the running costs and at the moment the income of the sponsorships is not enough anymore. A sponsorship is 30,-€/ month or any amount can be chosen for a sponsorship for the school.
2. In context of sustainability we want to enlarge and professionalize the apiculture. Costs: 2.500,- €.
3. Our dear Hannah, who cares for Augustina like a mother for fourteen years, urgently needs a small house in her village. She does not have a home there. Maybe Augustina can also move in there and we could support her to have an own small business, to earn some additional money besides the support she gets from us. Expected costs: 5.500,- €.

A huge thank you to all our supporters and sponsors.

WE HELP – THANKS TO YOUR DONATION



DONATION ACCOUNT

africa action/Deutschland e.V.
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IBAN DE03 3706 0193 0000 9988 77
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