

Baobab Children Foundation

Ghana | Westafrika



Socially and physically challenged - hand in hand

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

Dear friends and supporters of Baobab,

After having been in Germany for a good three months I have now been back in Ghana since the 10th of October.

I visited Würzburg twice during my stay in Germany to meet with sponsors.

Also I went to Bochum, where I met Mrs Dr. Massmann from the „Zukunftsstiftung“ to work on a training programme for young people together with a colleague. The training programme is thought to be able to provide enough financial aid for the second part of our farm project.

We were able to get the company Koenig & Bauer and Warema to support our farm project. Even more companies are interested but are currently waiting for the business plan relating to the next few years. There have also been some private sponsors helping to realize our farm project. A big thank you for all your help at this point!

I visited the St Joseph girls' school in Hanau under strict hygiene measures. I met with 4 different classes after they had seen a digital presentation, so that they could ask questions. I brought Moringa seeds for each student, which they all planted in their individual flower pots.

The school also organised a sponsored run under strict hygiene measures to support the farm project financially. The girls managed to collect an amazing 9,470 € , of which 4,650 was doubled by the „Zukunftsstiftung“ so that the end result is 14,120 € - wonderful! Our dearest thanks to all the students for their commitment and also to the very active teaching staff, especially the headmistress Mrs Höller-Gaiser, who was open to do the sponsored run as well as accepting my visit at the school despite the Corona situation and also to Mr. Grote who has been continuously supportive as a parent representative over the past few years.

[Link to the newspaper article](#) (Article from Hanauer Zeitung)

Since we couldn't visit any festivals or fairs and my school visits and public presentations didn't take place over the last two years, we experienced an immense reduction of donations for all the extra costs besides the running costs. Additionally we have had to co-finance the Baobab House since last April, which is running a bit better now. The Baobab House was originally there to assist in the cost of running the school.

It was even more beautiful to see this enthusiastic school and to present our farm project there.

Development in Ghana

First of all, some important information: Due to financial reasons we unfortunately have had to postpone our 20 year anniversary celebration from this year to the 31th March 2022. We hope that we will manage to be more financially stable by then and also to successfully fund-raise in Ghana.



Mr. Michael, Farmmanger

A group of farm workers from Kissi come regularly with our former headmaster Mr Divine to help on the farm. There were also some farmers from the village, where our farm is situated, who came to work for us at the farm.

The next step will be a vegetable farm. In order to plant the vegetables, two acres are being ploughed at the moment. Carrots, lettuce, pepper, egg plants, zucchini, cucumber, green beans will be grown. These vegetables will partly be used to supply the school and the restaurant of the Babab House while the rest will be sold. A small vegetable stand on the side of the road will be opened for those passing by to buy their vegetables there. Supermarkets like Shoprite and hotels will also be supplied.

The farm has been operational since July during my absence. Many diligent hands helped to plant or sow about 24,000 moringa seedlings. All students have been equally involved in this work. Ginger, turmeric, beans and orange fleshed sweet potatoes have been planted as cash crops on the 13 acres as well. A green manure called „Mukuna“ has been introduced to enrich the soil and also to control weeds through ground coverage.



Moringa plants with intercropping

Besides that, beekeeping is in the planning stage as well as the production of gari with cassava and orange fleshed sweet potatoes. More will come.



Levin, one of our volunteers, likes to help on the farm



Students help on Friday's farmdays



Mr Devine's farmworkers



Our former Headmaster Mr Devine

Financing the project

Still we are looking for sponsors for this project, which is important for the sustainability of Baobab. We are currently working on a detailed business plan. If someone has any idea who else we could introduce this project to in order to attract them as sponsors, they can request this plan from us. Companies are sometimes open for such sustainable projects: organic farming and training, as well as the preservation and reforestation of the rainforest.



Our rainforest

Adopt a Tree for Christmas !

Adopt one, two, 10, 25 trees in the name of the person to whom you want to give a Christmas present and we will send you a personalized certificate in a digital form to download and print.

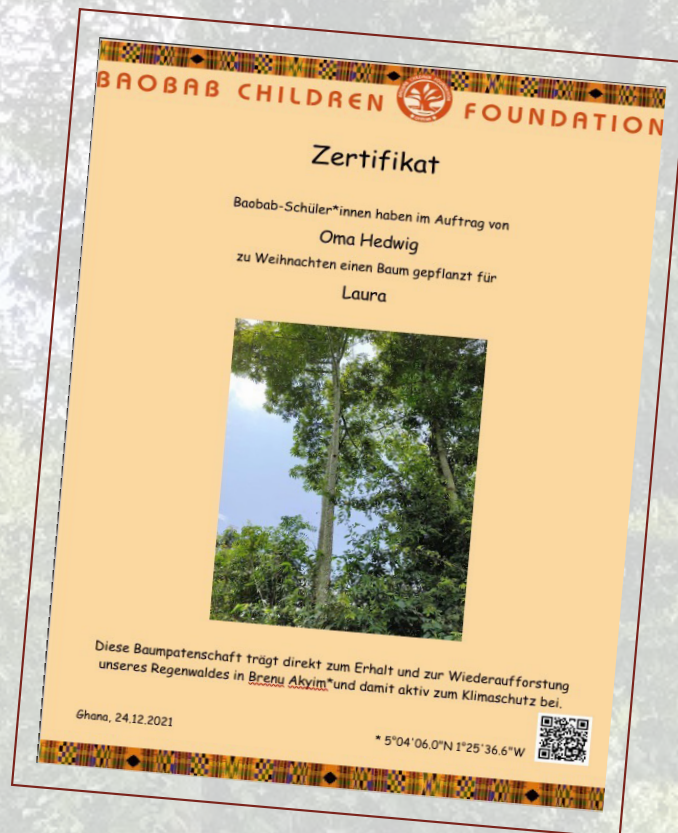
One tree costs 15 € and the students of Baobab will plant a tree in our rainforest.

Please pay the amount to:

africa action/Deutschland e.V.
Pax-Bank eG Köln
IBAN DE03 3706 0193 0000 9988 77
GENODED1PAX
Betreff: GH 75 BAOBAB

and please write an email to Monika Lockemann: patenschaften@baobab-children.de mentioning the name of the one who is giving the present and the one who is receiving the present and we will send you a digital certificate for you to download, print out and present to your relative or friend. It is also a Christmas present for Baobab and we will appreciate it a lot.

Thanks so much!



The Baobab Schule

This year 16 students have graduated from school. At the moment we have 33 female and 35 male students at the school. Unfortunately some students had to leave us due to the Covid situation as well as those who violated our rules. In these cases we were forced to send those students home again. We feel especially sorry for these cases. Sometimes it also happens that students go home without permission. We then try to convince them with a lot of effort and many conversations to come back to school to finish their education. Those who love quick money, like some of the older boys at the school, are, unfortunately, hard to convince. They would rather drive Praggia, become mates in trotros and whatsoever.

It is sadly beyond our power to convince them to think in the longer term and to come back to school. There is also the risk with some of the well-advanced carpenters to go and do an internship and to not come back to school because they are offered a place there.

At least this is a small success for them. One girl, who got pregnant last year, has come back to school and was able to be fully integrated again. Something which makes us especially happy.



Madam Ruth with her fundamental class



Mr Takye teaching Maths



Special class



Bright, assistant teacher in special class, always busy preparing teaching material



Academic Quizz Competition



Catering students



Diana is the only girl in Cane & Bamboo



Linda, Bright's sister, is doing well in sewing



Mr Takye, Headmaster, is presenting products of the competition

Heart operation was successful

Nancy needed an urgent heart operation after breaking down several times. Thanks to a donation of share1love of 4.000 € and Zukunftsstiftung who doubled it, we were able to finance this operation that cost us 8.000 € at the Teaching Hospital Corlebu at Accra.

The operation was successful and Nancy is on the way to recover fully. We hope she will be back at school in January.

We thank share1love and Zukunftsstiftung from all our heart for this support.



Nancy with her mother at Corlebu Teaching Hospital at Accra after her heart operation

What does the new year bring?

In January we will get some new students again. We will also introduce a new lesson for computer technology, thanks to the generous donation of five computers from Andreas from Munich. A big thank you at this point! Levin, one of our volunteers, has offered to teach our students the basics on four of our new computers. One computer will be needed for the headmaster's office.

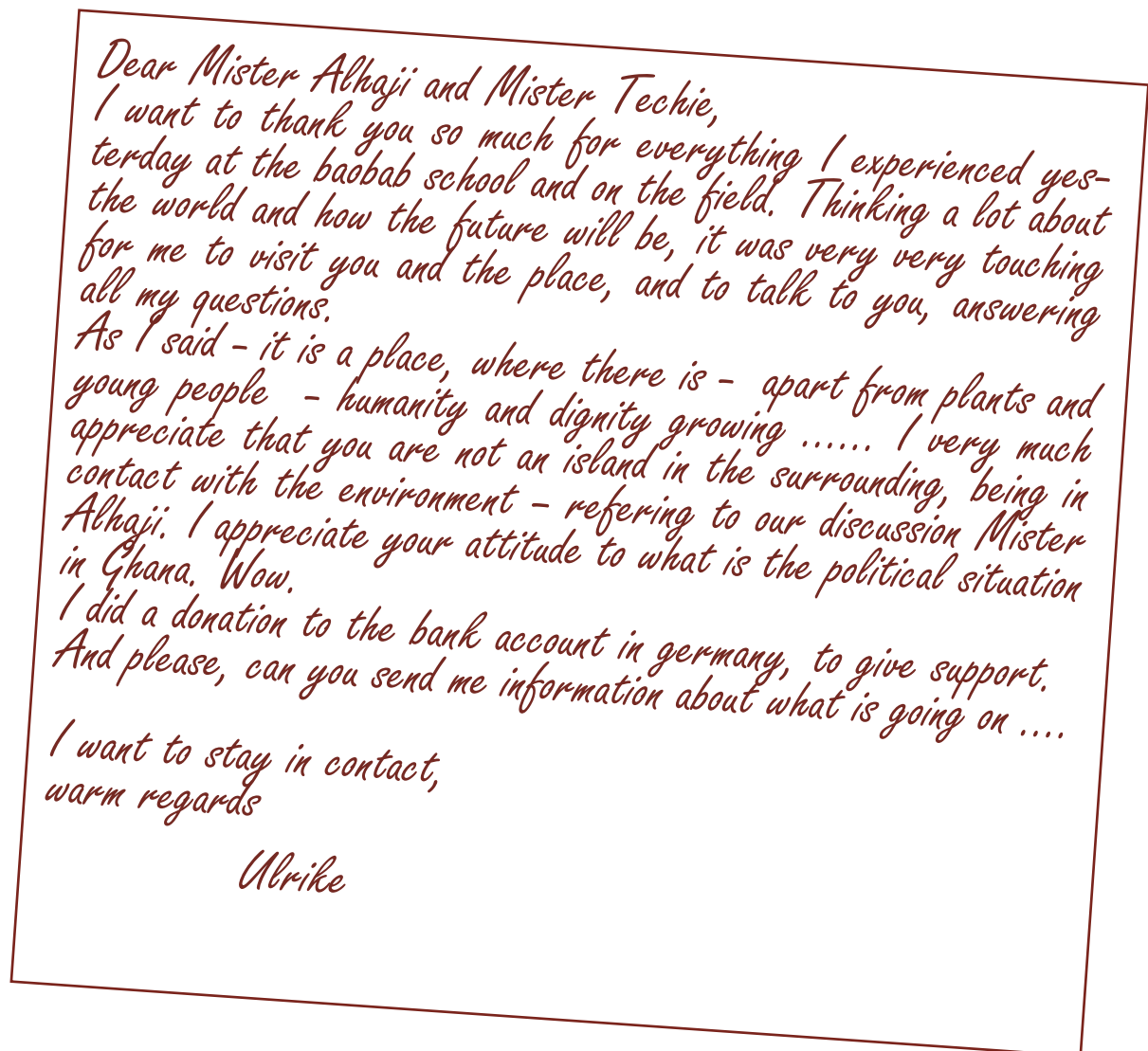
Students from the batik and sewing department will be able to use a special software to do computer designs after they have been introduced to the basics. Emmanuel, who will finish his design studies at the technical university next year, will also work as a teacher for us for at least four years. He is well versed in these design programmes and will be teaching the students on the computer as well as working as a fashion design teacher.

There is a need of more computers and laptops

Visitors to Baobab

Every now and then, there are people visiting us who already know something about us as well as those who know nothing at all about us but who have booked a room at the Baobab House.

We recently received some really touching feedback from one of our visitors who visited us during my absence.



Feedback as such clearly opens our hearts during the difficult everyday life we have to master here. Thanks a lot Ulrike for such positive feedback!

Volunteers in the year 2021

Due to the Covid situation unfortunately all volunteers had to leave Ghana in March of 2020. This year we had Nele as a volunteer for six months. She was the only volunteer for that time and she did a great job according to the staff who all gave her highly positive feedback.

Now we have two new volunteers from Weltwärts, Lea and Levin, who were able to come to us despite the current Covid situation as well as Vera who will be here for 4 months and Magarete, a primary teacher from Germany, who will stay for two months. We are very happy to welcome new volunteers again, as they always provide a fresh breath of air for our Ghanaian team. Magarete started right away to work with our academic teachers. First she visited all our classes before she began to do the workshops. After her first week here she offered to take over the special class until the end of this term in December. Luckily we have already found a new teacher who is now being trained by Magarete to take over the class after her departure. Madame Hannah and Mr Bright will stay in the special class as assistants. Lea, Levin and Vera are currently working on a project to separate the garbage on the school compound properly. Their project fits perfectly with the incinerator we want to build for the school.

We are happy to have you all here.



Levin, Lea, Vera



Margarete with Eunice, the new teacher, in special class



Lea, Vera and Levin during their presentation of the waste separation project



A Ghanaian visitor supports the presentation

Appeal for donations

Apart from sponsors for the farm project and tree sponsorship, we would appreciate any little donation to keep Baobab running. Thanks so much in advance.

Every donation is very welcome.

WE HELP – THANKS TO YOUR DONATIONS

DONATION ACCOUNT

If you would like to help, no matter how much, you can donate directly on our website via Paypal or you can donate to

africa action/Deutschland e.V.
Pax-Bank eG Köln
IBAN DE03 3706 0193 0000 9988 77
GENODED1PAX
Code: GH 75 BAOBAB

Please enter the code and your address for the donation receipt!



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EVENTS, VOLUNTEERS, GENERAL

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