

Baobab Children Foundation Ghana | Westafrika



Socially and physically challenged - hand in hand **NEWSLETTER D E C E M B E R 2022**

Dear godmothers and godfathers,

dear supporters,

dear friends of Baobab,

The year 2022 is coming to an end and first of all I would like to thank all those who continue to make it possible to support Baobab and give our children a perspective.

There are the sponsors, private donors, companies like Formesse, Koenig & Bauer and Warema, the Zukunftsstiftung in Bochum, africa action, which accepted us as a member, schools like the Kirchnerschule in Frankfurt, the Mädchenrealschule in Hanau, the Rathenausculen in Schweinfurt, the Montessori Schulhaus in Freiburg and many more, who have contributed to the fact that this year could run somewhat normally for Baobab.

Many thanks to all who have contributed in some way.



With all the bad news from all over the world it is very important not to forget the poorer countries. And we feel this again and again through your support.

It was not an easy year for all of us and we are infinitely grateful that we, nevertheless, receive the support we need. Even though there were months in which we had to reduce the lessons to the bare minimum due to immense price increases in Ghana, in the meantime up to 150% in some cases, because there was not enough money for materials in the workshops. We have lost some students because of this but we are still in good spirits and as always look positively into the future.

„God will take care of it“ as the Ghanaians say.

Our plan for the new year is as follows:

1. At the beginning of the coming year we will not accept new students, if at all then only emergencies, because with a reduced number of students we have less costs: less materials, less food costs, less medical costs. Then we have to look at producing more. Talks about this have already taken place with the masters.
2. The masters have asked for a raise, but I can't give a raise if there is not enough money, as much as I would like to do it for them and their families. So we have encouraged them to produce more and if they bring their own orders, they will also share in the profits.
3. the students are more involved in the ADEPA farm so that we have less labor costs there. But this must not be at the expense of the lessons. Our students do a 6 month service after finishing school. This should now take place on the farm with the prospect of a job on the farm. Michael, our farm manager, would like to employ more former students of the Baobab School, because in his opinion they understand the concept of organic farming and the concept of Baobab better than employees from outside. They learn it for 4 years and seem to be the better farmers.

Good news!

Baobab Adepa organic farms

As much as we have thrown ourselves into this farm project with a lot of enthusiasm, it is unfortunately difficult to get support for it. I still believe that in this day and age it is extremely important to protect the rainforest from deforestation on the one hand and to provide food security on the other.

But in order to build up the farm so that it can be effective and generate not only food but also income, we need support in the first few years.

What can't be done today because of lack of money has bitter consequences for tomorrow“, unfortunately we had to experience this on the farm in the last months.



Therefore, we have thought about a campaign how the farm could be supported sustainably in the first place.

Become a farm sponsor:

The worldwide inflation, the declining Ghana Cedi exchange rate and ever increasing food prices are not only a great challenge for the population, but also for us as an organization. With the cultivation of our farm, we can make ourselves independent of the market prices and continue to offer the students healthy, varied and balanced meals.

Already 10 Euro per month help to grow our vegetables

On our organic farm we grow a variety of vegetables: Cabbage, carrots, beans, sweet potatoes, cassava, corn, cucumbers, peppers, onions, Spring onions, eggplants, African Spinach, Garden Eggs, Ginger, Chilli, Turmeric, Pineapple....

Farming here means manual labor: the land is cultivated with the help of hoes, shovels and machetes, we do not use fertilizers, insecticides or similar products.

Become a farm sponsor for 1 year with 10 € per month.

Farm sponsor for 2 beds - 30m long and 3m wide.

This money covers all costs for the cultivation of these beds, which include care, sowing, irrigation and harvesting as well as the payment of the employed farmers. We plant continuously throughout the year. Depending on the maturity of the plants we harvest 1-6 times a year.

Help us to provide our school with vegetables and staple foods from the farm throughout the year and raise money for the school by selling to the Baobab House and other customers. Become a Farm Patron.

<https://www.baobab-children-foundation.de/de/spenderkonto/patenschaften/>



A success story

Emmanuel Frimpong, after 11 years of support from Baobab, passed his Fashion Design exam at the Technical University with distinction. He got the highest score in all subjects! He will now complete his National Service with Baobab and work for Baobab for 3 more years. During his National Service he will do his Bachelor on weekends.

A very big thank you to Brian Bromka, his American sponsor, who has sponsored him all these years.

Emmanuel came to Baobab from the Ivory Coast in 2011 with only half a primary school education. He spoke Fante, as his family came from our village, a little French but not a word of English. He still passed the Foundation exam, our highest exam in English, after only 4 years, after which he moved to Biriwa for 3 years at the NVTI state vocational school to pass 3 more exams, and was then able to start his studies in Fashion Design at the University of Technology. In 2021, he was awarded as the best Fashion Designer there.

Congratulations dear Emmanuel. Keep up the good work, you will go far.



Emmanuel best student's fashion designer winner at the SRC Student's award



Emmanuel at fashion show. Theme Masquerade

**PTA (Parents-Teacher-Assembly) on 1.12.
with the graduation of 14 students.**



PTA Meeting and Graduation



Emmanuel's presentation as new member of staff



Certificate given to Luis



Michael gets his sewing machine from Mr Wilson



Some more advising words of staff members



All Graduands

At graduation, I was especially fond of Louis. He was a very difficult student, who fell out every now and then, and always had little disruptive actions in his head, all with a charming smile and to the great amusement of the other students. Although he is an excellent carpenter, he was not allowed to do his service with us, because we feared for the girls.

So he did an internship in a construction company in Accra for 6 months. Now they have taken him on, he has a place to sleep and is not badly paid. He also learned welding there. It is certainly no walk in the park, but he seemed very happy.

The tailors also made a very good impression. They also looked very content in their fancy self-made clothes.

Girls Empowerment Program

We have started working specifically on a girls' empowerment program. In January, we will start sending interested girls to a male-dominated workshop for one week every month. We also shared this with parents at the PTA meeting and there was a lot of approval from their side.

Part of this is also starting a **girls soccer team**. After we were invited to a soccer match of the nationally ranked Lady Strikers from Cape Coast and went there with 9 girls, the fire was lit. Since then a girls team has been formed and a coach has been found.



Girls strikers



Team with actual trainer Angelina

Who would like to finance the trainer?

That would be 50 € per month. Maybe a girls soccer club?

We are looking for:

Soccer clothes for girls, shoes (from size 38), pads, footballs etc.

The girls would be very happy about everything we could get.

Appeal for donations for the farm

The farm is in desperate need of some smaller hand tools right now to make the work more effective.

2 Cutters	These are gasoline powered, tied around the belly, and are used to cut the weeds, especially between the moringa trees and the newly planted trees for the rainforest.	per piece 60 €
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1 hand plow	The farm is too big to do everything by hand with the hoe	800 €
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water dam extension	In the rainy season, the water overflows and seeps away. It should be collected because the dam can also be used for fish farming.	3.230 €
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**Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year**

**Edith,
the students
and the whole Baobab team**

DONATION ACCOUNT

Due to the difficult financial situation in Ghana, the Zukunftsstiftung is doubling the €10,000 that has already been used up by another €5,000 from collection donations.

Thank you to Dr Massmann and her colleagues.

Important: The Zukunftsstiftung has to be informed about who is making the donation.

Beate.Oladeji@gls-treuhand.de Beate.Oladeji@gls-treuhand.de

Zukunftsstiftung Entwicklung

DE05 4306 0967 0012 3300 10

BIC: GENODEM1GLS

Code: „Baobab Sammelspende“

Enter your address as well.

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

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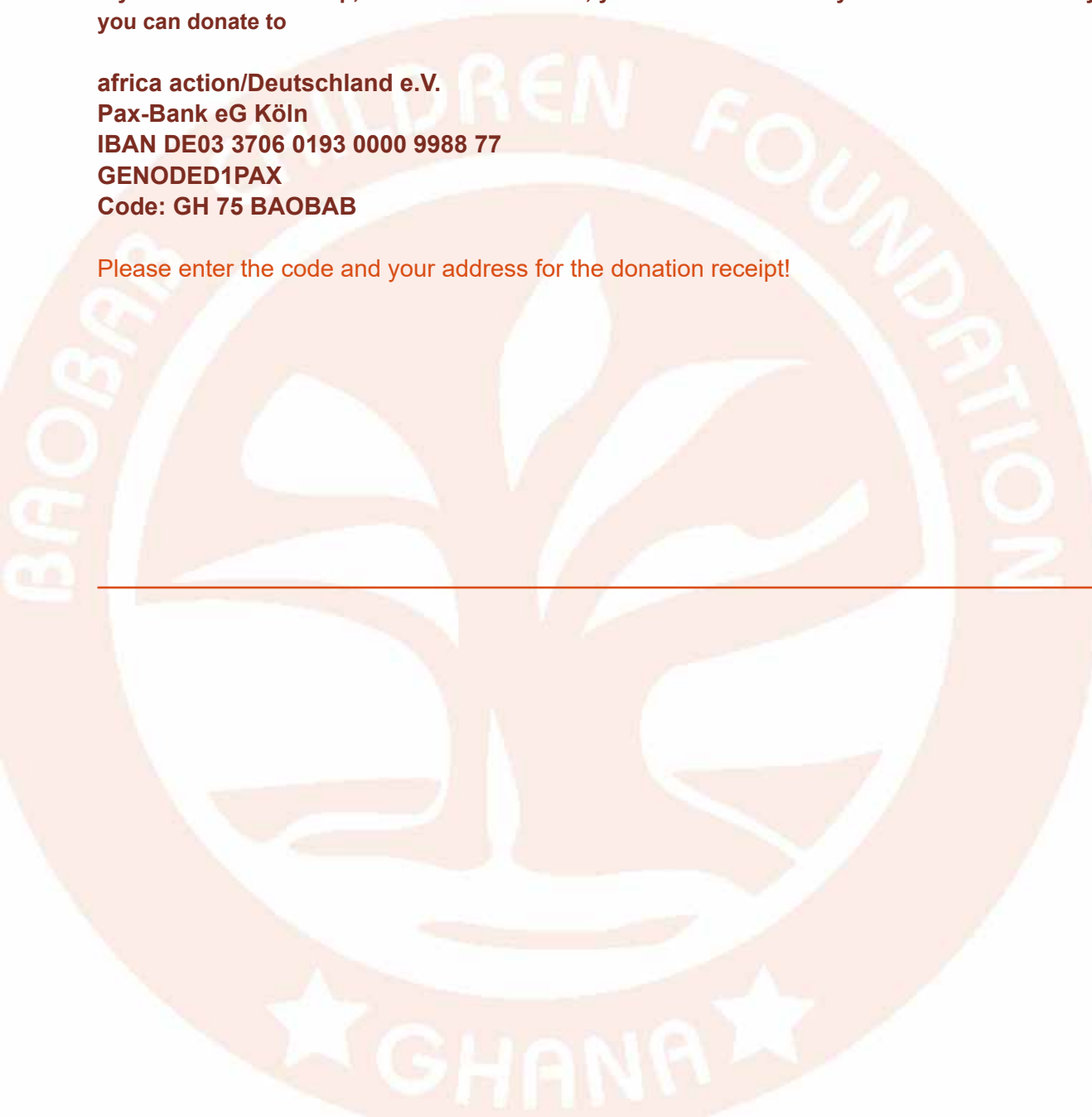
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