

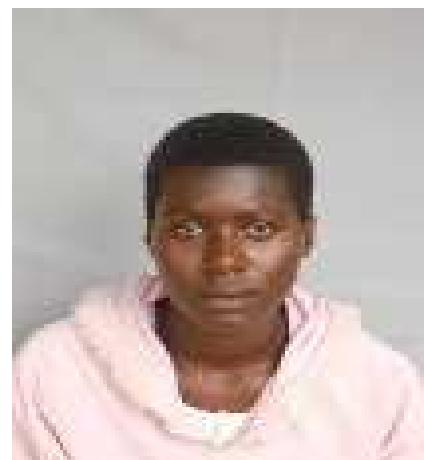


Today we briefly report on the state of our projects in Kenya and Tanzania. We are currently making travel preparations for January and February 2017 and have received some news from interim reports that we would like to pass on to you. Please visit the homepage of our foundation for additional information: www.childdevelopmentfund.com.

Last year 11 children we sponsor successfully finished secondary school in Kenya; one girl will be further supported until she receives her diploma as a preschool teacher. Nine new children have been awarded scholarships so that in total 30 children are currently supported: 20 children in Kendu Bay (15 girls and 5 boys); 10 children in Mutonga (6 girls and 4 boys). At both places all supported students got additional education on general social issues affecting young people like sexual behavior, health, reproduction and nutrition. In Kendu Bay a meeting of all students together with their parents took place in August of this year. A former CDF scholar, *Silas Omondi Ouma*, who successfully completed well last year's National Examinations and now studies business at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology (Taita Taveta Campus), encouraged the current scholarship recipients and gave them tips on how to prepare best for the national examinations.

We received handwritten letters from almost all scholarship recipients. Even if most students followed a kind of standard format in these letters, we got here and there some interesting personal impressions. Some reported that school fees were paid too late or not properly registered so that some children were at risk of being sent back home. Our project managers have learned from this experience to also send a copy of the bank transfer statements to the parents or guardians, which should resolve this problem once and for all.

Furthermore, another scholarship holder *Jane Karambu* (a 20-year-old woman attending Form 3 at Kajuki Mixed Secondary School) wrote: „The only challenge I encounter in school is that there is inadequate provision of books and we are struggling to keep up with or be a step ahead of teachers.” She proudly tells of playing her favorite game handball in a team which advanced to the national level; she



also participated in music festivals „which went up to regional levels“. Jane’s case also illustrates that some of the scholarship holders are relatively old for secondary school pupils. The reason is they had to interrupt school either due to lack of money for school fees or for having to help at home. Coping with menstruation problems may be another reason why girls interrupt school, a problem that we addressed by supporting the regular distribution of sanitary towels.

We can also report some success stories from the two projects in Jambiani (Zanzibar/Tansania): Our former scholarship holder *Busara* (22 years old) completed her Diploma with good or very good grades at ‘Kizimbani Agricultural Training Institute’. She is now looking for a job, with good prospects according our project manager. We keep contact with her and will certainly report about her further development.



Since the CDF budget situation allows replacing the scholarship, we asked in the village for applications with the result that 18 girls and 6 boys were interested. The committee of the village (including the two mayors of South and North Jambiani) proceeded with the selection according to our criteria. From five candidates proposed by the committee we chose *Sharifa Kassid Ali*. *Sharifa* is 19 years old, has one brother, who is unfortunately deceased, and three sisters, one of which is blind and needs special support. Her school performance is excellent, she already speaks quite good English, and she seems to have an overwhelming self-confidence. Her role models are Angela Merkel, Dilma Rouseff und Hillary Clinton; further information will soon be available on our homepage. *Sharifa* wants to study medicine at the State University of Zanzibar, which is of course very expensive and takes a long time (5 years). We intend to support her in any case, yet we also see the possibility that in her case further fund raising might be necessary. During our next visit in Jambiani we certainly will get acquainted with her personally. By that time it should be clear whether she has been admitted to the university.

The second project, the qualification of 25 children (who failed national examinations to Form 2) up to the advanced level of secondary school (Form 4), is well on the way, and we expect that the majority of these scholarship holders will pass the respective National Examination after three years (therefore end of 2017). In the meantime, however, 10 children had to be replaced for poor performance or lack of motivation. In Newsletter 11 we already reported on our visit to the South Regional Commissioner of Zanzibar, and now we can chalk

up at least a small success: The High Commissioner visited our project, donated two computers and promised to keep a favourable eye on the project.

We thank you again for your support, encouragement and faith in our project; we are also grateful for every suggestion you may have after reading this newsletter. Finally, we would like to request anew your continued support of our project.¹

Barbara und Günther Schmid²

Berlin, November 2016

¹Contributions should be sent to: Child Development Fund (CDF) (Barbara and Günther Schmid), Bank für Sozialwirtschaft, Stuttgart, Swift Code/BIC: BFSWDE33STG; IBAN: DE98 6012 0500 0007 7818 26. **Important!** Please give your private address with the donation and ChildFund Deutschland (Nürtingen) will send you a receipt for contributions to a recognised charity.

² Email-Adressen: schmidhdb@aol.com; gues@guentherschmid.de; Homepages: www.childdevelopmentfund.com; www.editionpamoja.de; www.guentherschmid.eu