



Dear all,

Once a year we also inform you by newsletter about the developments in our focus on Selela area. More info? See the [website](#), [facebook](#) or [mail us](#)!

### Second dormitory Mbaash

The construction of a second dormitory at the Mbaash primary school was the largest project in 2016. In 2015 the first dormitory, for girls, was built with both financial and physical support through a so called *construction expedition* by ATOS foundation (allied to ATOS ICT and Business Consultancy).

One of the participating volunteers of that expedition (partner of an Atos employee) said that the project was in fact not finished without a boys' dormitory. Maaïke Lensink works at the Hanze University of Applied Sciences in Groningen (NL) and started the initiative for a first Hanze 'construction expedition'.

27 volunteers collected money in a variety of ways: a classic concert, a bakery in Bedum sold 'Tanzania bread', the children of the Aquamarijn primary school did a sponsor run, the Rotary clubs of Groningen Noord and Coevorden made large donations, there was a very successful wine sales etc. etc. Besides that, TSF received a large sum from a religious capital fund and a considerable amount remained from the Atos budget of 2015. All and all this meant GREEN LIGHT for a construction expedition during autumn holidays!



at the start of the construction



construction of the roof was done in cooperation with the local people



festive welcoming ceremony for the Hanze volunteers

Johan went ahead to prepare things, then the 'Hanzers' came and did the structural work together with some local *fundi* (construction workers) in almost two weeks time. The fundi finished the building afterwards.

Last January, the official inauguration of both dormitories took place. In Tanzania that's very important for the future support by the government (payment of teachers' salaries). However, meal supply for the children

is still a concern, because increasing drought causes loss of livestock, so the parents have less to spend. The new boarding school facility brings an end to the years of daily long walks full of dangers. Without



the dormitory on the day the Hanze group left ....



.... and nearly fully finished



exaggeration: some children have to walk 10 hours (!!!) each day for six hours of class, or they don't come to school at all. Now the children can have free education in a safe environment, without being exhausted. And they are under the supervision of a *matron* and *patron* per dormitory, get their meals (which is never sure at home) and medical care in the nearby new dispensary.



Nice fact: the dormitories have now also literally been 'put on the map', as the recent picture above shows (copied from Google Earth).

### **Light and electricity**

Bate Boschma, one of the Hanze volunteers, made an extra effort to collect money for a solar powered electrical installation. By organising, for example, a sponsored bike tour with the church community Westereen, € 8,000 was collected.

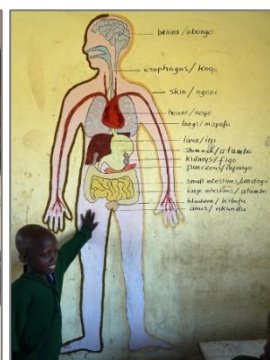


Because of this, both dormitories are now provided with several light bulbs and sockets. This is also the case in the sanitary blocks, two classrooms, the head teachers' office and the verandas.

The sockets are for charging mobile phones and laptops, or e.g. using a radio. The whole system has been supplied and installed by Ageco Energy from Dar es Salaam.

### **Wall paintings**

Among the Hanze volunteers there appeared to be quite some creativity. The walls of several classrooms were thus decorated with paintings, most of them with an educational added value; among which a cross section of the human body, a wall full of contours of children in various postures or the outline of the hands of all

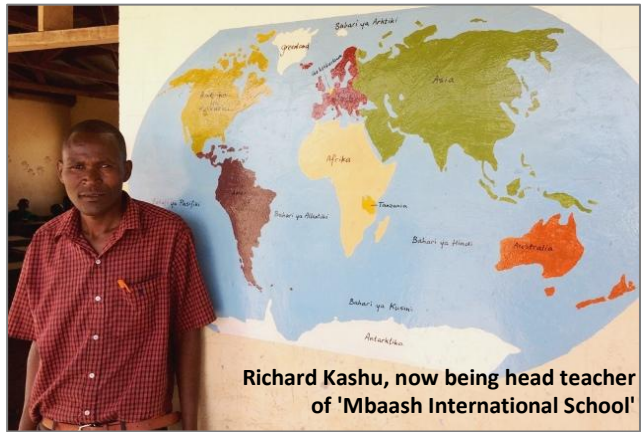




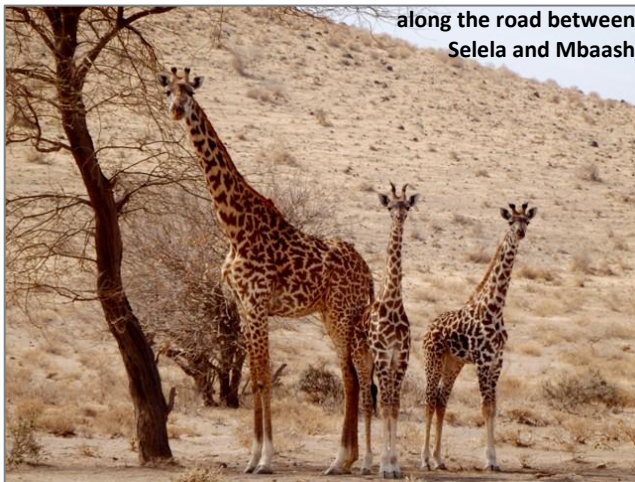
children of a class. In his gratitude speech, Richard Kashu made the joke that, thanks to the world map, the school is now an *'INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL'*!

### Greenhouse

Vegetables and fruit have to be transported from Selela or Mto wa Mbu. Self plantations are being eaten by chicken or passing donkeys and goats. Even a fence made of acacia branches with their sharp thorns doesn't keep all animals out (especially giraffes). Some volunteers now made a centrally located small greenhouse, made of timber and wire mesh, with e.g. a banana and mango tree and tomato plants. It will take a clever giraffe or elephant to enter that ☺.



Richard Kashu, now being head teacher of 'Mbaash International School'



along the road between Selela and Mbaash



Gert, Ildi and Alex in front of 'Naomi's Greenhouse'

### Respiratory devices, spectacles and medicines

In the baggage of 27 people was, besides construction tools, room for a lot more, like toys and items for sports and games. The amount of joy this brought to the children is hard to describe!

Fortunately, the University Medical Centre Groningen could fulfil a big need by donating 5 small respiratory devices. Normally these devices are for home use, but they are also very useful for the medical dispensaries of Mbaash and Selela. While waiting for transport to a hospital, which may take many hours, a patient can now receive respiratory support.



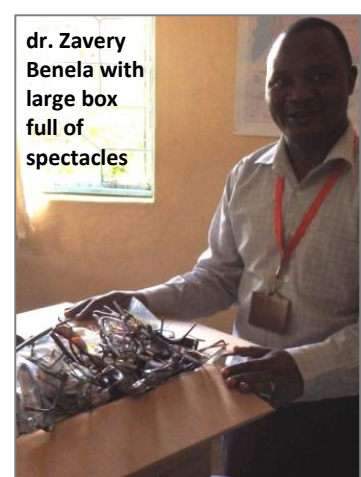
Mbaash children, wearing shirts of Groningen Football Club, jumping rope for the first time in their life



dr. Israel Lekundayo inspects a respiratory device

Pearle Opticians in Putten (NL) donated 270 second hand pairs of spectacles, which were handed over to Dr. Benela, the District Medical Officer of Monduli district. They will be checked on their optometric focus at the hospital and will be given to those people with bad eye sight, mainly in Selela and Mbaash.

In the baggage of the Hanze group there was also space for medical supplies; very common items in the Netherlands, but a real gift for the pioneer doctor Lekundayo at Mbaash.



dr. Zavery Benela with large box full of spectacles



### ***Ultrasound machine, operating gowns and bed sheets***

In 2016, TSF donated a large amount of medical supplies by ship transport, among which an ultrasound machine (thanks! midwifery practice 'Dora' from Hengelo, NL) that they gratefully use since the end of last year.

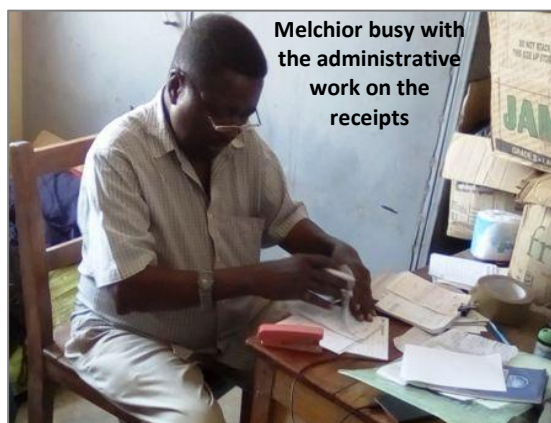
In the same container also 200 hospital bed sheets and 150 pieces of operating gowns were transported; see the photo by Dr. Zavery Benela of Monduli hospital. In October, the newly built building for the patients has been opened, now using this fine material, thanks to industrial laundry service Newasco from Amersfoort (NL).

### ***Laptops***

The volunteers also brought 15 laptops as hand luggage, which had been economically depreciated, all updated with English software. Each of the teachers was pleased to get one, as well as the Tanzanian volunteers of TSF, Melchior Nguma and Amani Sekino, and the first medical doctor that is working at Mbaash since last year: Israel Lekundayo.

### ***People in the spotlights***

During the construction works it was hot (average 33 °C) and very dry, the cause of many dust storms and sweat drops. THANKS to all the Hanze volunteers, their home front, sponsors and the members of the organising committee for their enormous effort! But a successful project would have been impossible without the support and good care by our local people. First of all 'know-everyone/anywhere' Melchior Nguma, involved with TSF from the start in 2009. Melchior took care of transport and a perfect stay, with fresh and healthy food and beverages.

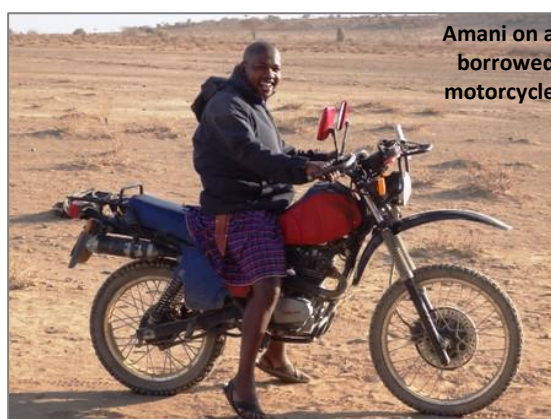


Melchior busy with the administrative work on the receipts



chef-cook Kelvin (right) and assistant-cook Samuel

The kitchen crew Kelvin, Maulid, Lawrence and Samuel did an amazing job. During two weeks, they prepared three times per day a varied three-course meal for about 30 hungry construction workers, using only three gas-burners and a charcoal fire. If then at the end of a very unusual stay, nobody turned out to have fallen ill, which asks for a big compliment to these improvising men.



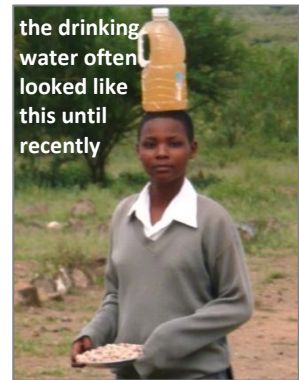
Amani on a borrowed motorcycle

Finally there is Amani Sekino, originally from Selela and since some years active for Tanzania Support. In the preparation process, together with Melchior, he was responsible for consultation with the government (Mbaash is a government school) and buying the construction materials. After the Hanze group had left, Amani ("peace" in Swahili) further monitored the construction process.



### **Water tanks Oltinga secondary school**

This school has a water pipeline, coming from a source some kilometres away. The water storage capacity was far from sufficient. During the raining season (around 3 months per year) the water often gets muddy and as a result polluted. As a consequence a large part of the students and teachers fall ill because of intestinal problems. The pipeline is also vulnerable: occasionally leakages occur by landslides or the pipe is damaged by elephants. With a more serious storage capacity of 50,000 litres, the school can always make sure they have sufficient clean water. For large tanks a concrete foundation is needed and a system of pipes for the connection to the existing water supply system to the water taps. All together an estimated investment of € 9,000, pfew .....



the drinking water often looked like this until recently



teacher John Massoy posing between the new storage tanks

Tanzania Support applied for a donation to SHARE4MORE – the personnel foundation of Rabobank, which sponsors projects concerning clean drinking water – and they granted the maximum sum of € 5,000.

A second good amount of € 1,500 was collected by a group of students from the MONTESSORI LYCEUM FLEVOLAND in Almere (NL). Unfortunately their planned visit to Oltinga couldn't take place due to internal reasons, where they paid two successful visits in earlier years.

The other costs have been financed by regular and other small donations. In September 2016 everything was installed and the tanks were filled. Because of this mutual sponsorship this project could thus be realised; at the official commencement ceremony one of the girl students wore a T-shirt with the very much applicable text: "2GETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE"!



Jeannet and her husband in Selela

### **Board member change**

We conclude this newsletter with a in change in the TSF board: Cynthia de Beer resigned by June 1, 2016 and is succeeded by Jeannet Celosse, who has been one of the regular supporters of the foundation for many years. In 2014 she made a roundtrip through Tanzania, during which she also visited the schools in Selela.