



Meeting Minutes

Vocational Training Center (V.T.C.)

Kilema/Tanzania November 2013

Location: Kilema, Tanzania

Date: 25th to 27th November 2013

Participants from Tanzania:

Entire project team with Dr. Aidan Msafiri, Thobias Makundi, Sr. Innocentia, Father Damian, etc.

Participants from Austria:

Walter Koch / Chairman from P.A.P.A.-Bridge

Heinz Sackl – Head of water project

Franz Klein – Development worker and joiner

What happened since our last visit?

Since our last visit in the spring of 2013, there was really great progress. Mainly, because our architect and builder Thobias Makundi has temporarily taken over the management of the vocational school together with Sr. Innocentia. I will now go into the details in order to give a good overview.

V.T.C. building

The main building and the workshop are in very good condition and everyone feels comfortable in it. So these two buildings can be defined as finished. What we still need is a place for the carpentry. For this purpose, the existing workshop can be expanded. The foundations were already provided in the first construction phase, as you can see it on the photo.



Current running of the school

As already mentioned before, our help now focuses on the current running of the school where we can already see first successes.

On November 25th, 2013 during our stay, there was an official examination of the VETA (Vocational Education and Training Authority of Tanzania), where students have to put their knowledge to a test. In this way we got good feedback about the quality of teaching to help and change in the right places. Below we would like to briefly mention the individual training areas of the vocational school:

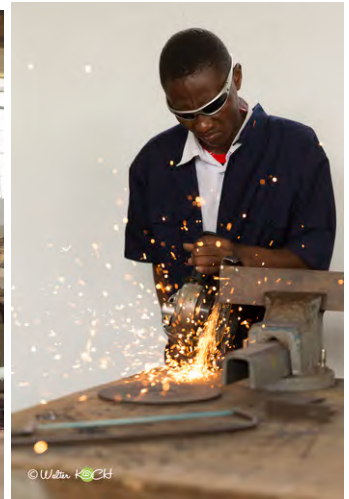
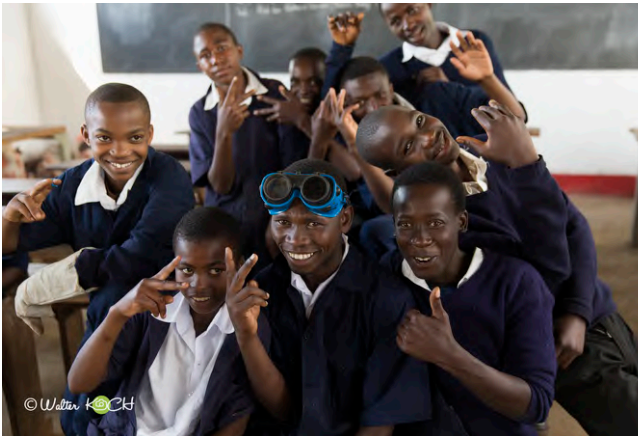
Masonry & Bricklaying:

Our masons are already pretty good but our principal Makundi would like to increase the student's performance. As he is in the trade, he has very specific plans here. In any case, the masons already contributed a lot in Kilema, eg. they helped building the new police station.



Welding & metal fabrication:

This course could help building the police station in the village as well, where they have done windows, doors and general metalwork. In general, the course suffers under the lack of machinery or the not yet existing infrastructure. Therefore not everything can be implemented as desired yet. Especially for this course we are urgently looking for used machinery and tools.



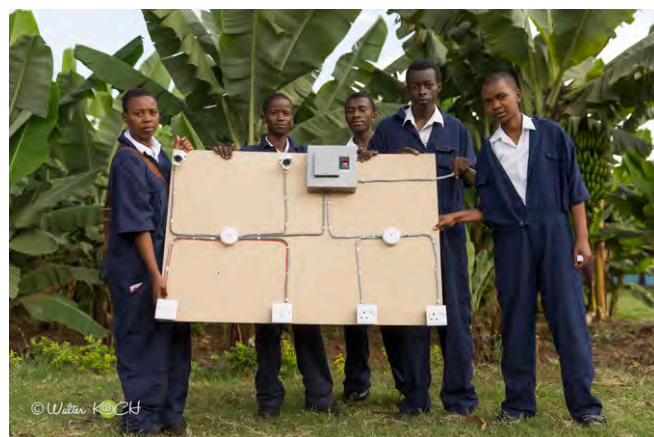
Tailoring:

Our tailoring is guided by the vocational teacher. The auditors of the VETA have given us very positive feedback. This course is very well on track in all aspects.



Domestic electrical installation:

The electricians could really convince us with their test works. During the VETA test they solved the demanded tasks easily. The auditors have issued only the best testimonials to our electricians.



Motor vehicle mechanics & driving course:

In this course we also have missing equipment or not enough existing infrastructure. The enthusiasm is great, but the progress is still modest. Again, we hope for a speedy equipment with the necessary tools.



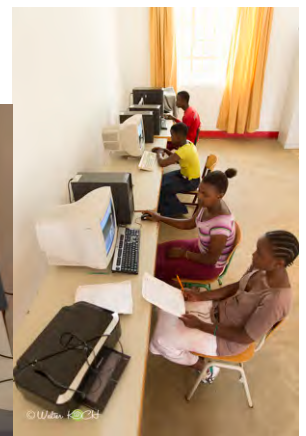
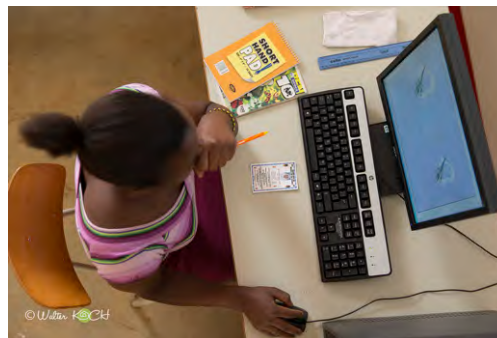
Catering & Hotel Management:

This course is conducted as great as tailoring and perfectly organized. The auditor of the VETA gave us very good feedback, but had also asked to provide modern equipment in order to score points in the labor market (eg wood coal stove replaced in the future with electric stove, etc..)



Computer Technology:

The computer course is a great success. Especially because short courses are also offered, and good money can be earned for the vocational school with that. Again, there was throughout very good feedback from the auditors.



Budget

Construction budget: The work on the main building has been completed. As already mentioned, an extension of the workshop would be necessary. The costs for this are not defined yet.

School Budget 2014:

The running costs for 2014 are now planned with EUR 90,000,--. This is significantly more than in 2012 and 2013, but the school is now in full operation. P.A.P.A.-Bridge takes around 25% of these costs. Another 50% of the costs are collected from tuition of the students. The rest is generated from productions for the environment and smaller donors. A good part from P.A.P.A.-Bridge's contribution consists of the contributions from the school sponsorship program.

The school staff

School management:

At this point, we should congratulate the two main actors, Mr. Makundi as director and Sr. Innocentia as CFO. With their passion the school has so well developed. Therefore, Mr. Thobias Makundi has now been elected as a permanent director and he will stay the head the school in the future.



Teachers

The teaching staff is at a level on which you can work but Mr. Makundi intends significant changes. There are a few courses where he wants to see more performance and professionalism. Therefore there will be some changes in the next few months.

School council:

The school council meets three times a year and does a very good job. Through the confirmation of Mr. Makundi an important step was taken.

Current Challenges

As I said, much has been achieved, especially if we consider that we had deep bush with banana trees at this place four years ago.

However, we have some challenges for which we ask for your urgent help:

- a) The current biggest problem is the lack of tools and equipment. It simply lacks on a good and professional infrastructure. Especially in the third year courses, which now begin in 2014 for the first time. In order for the equipment of the school with good infrastructure, this has top priority. Therefore, we will start donations in the near future and possibly also send a container to Tanzania with used tools in 2014.
- b) Another bottleneck is the quality of the teaching contents to send a really professional training to the students. As previously described, many courses run very well, but in some there is a lack of good teachers. That means, finding good teachers is a top priority.
- c) The school has to focus on the courses which the vocational school itself can make money again with. With that, the vocational school on its own can improve or open up further courses. This is the long-term goal.



The water project

As we told before, we also had a look on the water project which runs very well. There will be an extra report in about two weeks from now!

The Sponsorship Program

The sponsorship program runs as planned and is an extremely important portion of our project. The poorest of the poor children in Kilema, who just can not afford the tuition. For these we continue to ask urgently for more sponsorships!

Further project plan

- January: Water project report
- January/February: Board meeting of P.A.P.A.-Bridge
- April: Next visit in Kilema/Tanzania

Best wishes and God's blessing,

Walter Koch - Chairman

and the Board of P.A.P.A. Bridge