



Visit protocol Vocational Training Center (V.T.C.) Kilema, Tanzania July 2014

Location: Kilema, Tanzania

Date: July 20 to 22, 2014

Participants from Tanzania:

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

Participants from Austria:

Walter Koch / Chairman of PAPA-Bridge

Heinz Sackl / Head of the water project

Günter Stoisser / Donor & Supporter of PAPA-Bridge

What happened since our last visit?

A little more time than usual has passed since the last visit. After eight months we were able to visit the village again. Our joy was great and our enthusiasm as well. The first day, Sunday, we spent at the parish of Kilema and had many interesting conversations. On Monday and Tuesday we focused intensely on our project, the PAPA-Bridge VTC Vocational School, and held our school board meeting on Monday morning. We tried to find the best possible way to strengthen the people and also clearly and directly work out the challenges that have to be mastered.



The current school operation



After the period from June to July - holiday season - school starts again. Therefore during the time we visited it was pretty quiet and less busy in school. In addition, some vocational students are doing outward practice until the end of August. That is why the intensive teaching will not resume until early September. We currently have 191 students who bring us good occupancy rate. The demand is quite high and the number of students is still rising.

What works well

Pleasing are the accuracy and reliability of our principal Tobias Makundi and our Chief Financial Officer Sr. Innocentia and how they are guiding the school with it. Especially all areas that need little tools and practical work are done very well. The controlling of the finances is exemplary. The joy that can be found and the interest of young people is absolutely honest. Furthermore, the long-awaited used truck could be purchased with donations that will help to close some gaps and bring



additional services to the school.

Also great is the agricultural use of the environment that has developed; Currently the school



grows plantains of corn, vegetables and other fruits and runs a little farm of pigs. Thus the majority of the demand of food can be covered for the students.

In addition, so-called “short courses” enjoy great popularity and the vocational school can earn additional revenue. These short-courses are the car driving school, car service school, IT, photovoltaic and sewing and embroidering.

Where are our challenges?

The areas in which we urgently need to develop further, are:

- Tools and infrastructure for the practical work
- The quality of the curriculum and the teacher
- A clear focus on financial independence in the next two years

To these challenges, I hereby would like to go into more detail.

Infrastructure and tools

As before, our biggest need for development is infrastructure in the workshops. It lacks the right devices in many areas. The acquisition in Tanzania is not affordable on a large scale, which is why we collect good tools and equipment already in Austria. The container with this important infrastructure is going to be sent away in September from Austria. In addition, we want to finance the purchase of cheaper tools locally. Fact is that the completion of all the equipment of the vocational school will certainly last another two or three years and thus need patience.



Staff and content of teaching

In general we have too few teachers, because we now have three full courses running. This means that each discipline already needs two teachers. Additionally, it is unfortunately that some of the teachers who were at the school from the start, are now no longer able to keep up with the new challenges. For this reason, our principal has already employed four new



teachers and will bring three more in September for the areas motorvehicle, welding and metal fabrication and masonry with better qualifications to replace existing teachers. Unfortunately, there is no other way if we want to raise the quality of teaching workshops. In general, we have the school administration encouraged to develop the "mindset" of work and teaching culture.

Another aspect is the fact that new teachers also need living space that has to be created. It is planned to build small apartments within the vocational school area.

Graduate Program

Now that we may celebrate the first graduates of the PAPA-Bridge VTC Vocational School in December, the question arises how we can facilitate their entry into professional life. Since most of them want to work "self-employed", they need a small set of tools to start their careers. For this, a starter package for the graduates will be prepared in the fall, which they should get to graduation party and repay the costs within one year after graduation. The money can be paid back and then made available for the next alumni starter-package.



Water Project

With our water project not much has happened since our last visit. The technology works and Kilema has clean water. The new focus is now on planning the bottling and sale of water. For this our principal will prepare a concept.

New Projects / Enhancements

One of the most interesting extensions is the carpentry. It is important to really put a big step and extend the temporary carpentry-room in the parish facilities. The first stage is the extension of the existing workshop building. As this annex has already been planned from the



beginning, the basic foundations are in place and we can set up there. During the school board meeting we decided to implement this plan by the school carrying out the work as part of the practical training for the students and PAPA-bridge takes over the financing of materials (€ 12.000;-). As God is with us, the carpentry could be finished mid next year.

Similarly, there are visionary plans for the vocational school campus. These include the establishment of a library and a boarding school for the students. However, these projects will need some time.

Sponsorship Program

The sponsorship program allows for very poor children to go to school and basically works out very well. Because some students were not in the village, we could only meet a part of this group. Unfortunately, it is also true that in some cases we have situations in which the parents pull off their kids from school to work at home, and the children are forced to do other work. In this point, the sponsorship-“parents” will be notified and possibly considered an adaptation of our sponsorship model. Generally, the need for support for poor but talented children from the village remains high.



Executive Summary

In summary, we can say that we have achieved a lot in the last years, but things have taken longer than planned (just Africa ☺). It is essential that our aid finally works long term.

The site team must now take up the next big challenges and set the right priorities. From our perspective, these are:

- Build the right **INFRASTRUCTURE** with very limited financial resources
- Ensure the **QUALITY** of the content of teaching and the **TEACHERS**
- Find a way to earn money, even with existing infrastructure

In order the vocational school can become a production center in the region, the following possibilities are available:

- Truck transport as a service (with our new truck)
- Brick production (with the new brick machine we will ship from Austria)
- Sale of very good and pure mountain water in bottles (from our water project)
- Production of small ovens in the locksmith

Hereby, the focus for the near future is already defined!

Next steps

- August: Board Meeting of the Association PAPA-Bridge
- Middle / End of August: Aidan visits Austria
- September: Delivery of the 40 foot container with supplies and tools in Kilema
- End of November / Beginning of December: Next trip to Kilema, Tanzania



Best wishes and God's blessing,

Walter Koch - Chairman

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