

Dear friends of MEDEA e.V.

In Germany the autumn is near - In Swaziland the summer is here

After returning from her annual stay in Germany, Gertrud will have to work off a long list of items to be attended to. On top of the list is the drinking water supply of Sikhhandza Bantfu School, which we have already briefly introduced in our last newsletter.



Driving heavy drill machine

The drilling activities were already carried out during Gertrud's stay in Germany. It followed the sealing of the wall .

However, since a sealed waterhole does not help anyone, it was Gertrud's most urgent try to get the water pump installed. After extensive discussions with all people concerned it was decided to forget about a hand pump for various reasons. To pump water from 120 meters underground to the two water tanks of 5000 liters each would require enormous pressure too much for a hand pump to handle. Furthermore, 120 meters of piping were installed and connected to 4 taps on the entire School grounds. The whole School can thus be supplied with clean drinking water. The community and the School will take over the running costs for the water pump.

The MEDEA team is very grateful for all previous donations for this project.



Precious points to the closed borehole

Access to clean drinking water is the basic right for human beings. In Swaziland only the privileged part of the population can enjoy this right. In Germany we are currently working at full speed on the completion of an application form addressed to Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and

Development (BMZ) with the request to support our project. In renewed cooperation with Tatort Verein e.V. Cologne we want to expand the educational project of the Sikhandza Bantfu Primary School by adding the urgently needed classes 5 to 7. Furthermore a much needed kitchen is to be built with a covered dining room area and a School's own vegetable garden is to be created as part of the project. We all hope that we succeed in implementing our planned projects 2016.

All students of the Nikolaus Ehlen Gymnasium, Velbert, again have participated in September in the nationwide action day competition "your day for Africa": 50 % of the cash takings will go to MEDEA e.V. to help finance their Sikhandza Bantfu School borehole project.

Although the wearing of a School Uniform is normal in Swaziland, all the children shown in our last newsletter were cummerbund dressed, simply because the School did not have their own School Uniform. MEDEA brought together the School management, the teachers and the students to create a private School logo. In future the children will have a visible sign of identity and it will be giving them the feeling they are now part of the community.

The School uniforms for currently 132 pupils have been completed. They were sewn by Swazi women and then embroidered with a machine, the School Logo in gold on the green uniform. The official handing over ceremony took place and all participants were there. All the parents, the community representative - the chief (mayor) the elected member of parliament (MP) representing the area (in Germany it is the Bundestagsabgeordneter in his constituency

The daily newspaper Observer did send a reporter who reported about the work of MEDEA and praised MEDEA. The 5 hour ceremony was well received. There were on going payers, singing, clapping and lots of laughers. At the end of the ceremony everybody received an orange and thanking the MP for his appearance and involvement.



The new school uniforms

It never ends - more School Uniforms are needed and we kindly ask for further donations. It is for a good cause.

Please talk to friends and relations.

For more information please look upon our web site: <https://www.betterplace.org/de/projects/30253-schuluniformen-fur-die-sikhandza-bantfu-grundschule-im-swasiland>

We already say: Siyabonga Kakhulu - thank you very much - herzlichen Dank.

From Gertrud we received the good news: the container with Swaziland candles has left the port of Durban and is now on its way to Germany. Its time now to look forward to Christmas. What about a Swazi candle as a gift? Further info is on our website under the heading events. It is giving you all the particulars regarding MEDEA stalls, markets, addresses, dates and times etc. If you can't stop by at one of our stands, please feel free to contact and call us by phone under our landline 02053 3302. If we are occupied or not available we will definitely call you back.

We look forward to you!

In October

Gisela Romhányi