

NEWSLETTER



Children of Kilimanjaro
Foundation

Visit to Mdawi - Jan 2016



After a bit of a silence, we would like to update you again about our activities in Mdawi in 2015 and beginning of this year. Although you did not hear much from us, a lot has happened over the past couple of months. For one, as you can see in above picture, Mirna, Peter and the boys visited Mdawi again. Then there is lots to share about the school, health and water projects. Marion has a specific request to make, so please hear her out. And much more...

To start with Mirna's visit. Early 2016, the four of us travelled to Tanzania, two years after our last stay in 2014. One of the flight legs was a trip in a tiny Cessna plane, sitting right behind the pilots. An adventure, I can tell you. We played an active role during the flight, given that the alarm "TRAFFIC TRAFFIC" went off three (!) times announcing other aircraft in close proximity of ours; this required active searching from our end. Sighs of relief, once the approaching plane was spotted in safe distance.

Upon arrival, Lekey was awaiting us with his 4x4 car. Fantastic to have such dear friends in this relatively remote place. We met 13 years ago and have seen each other on many occasions, including at our wedding in the Netherlands in 2007 where he gave a fabulous speech. It was really great to see him again.

More about our visit on the next page ►

April 2016

Inside this issue:



Visit to Mdawi 1-2



Marion's climb of Mt. Meru Ujumbe project 3



School donations 2016 4



Other activities
Thank you to our Sponsors 4

How can you help? Donate!

IBAN NL36INGB0005132127
Children of Kilimanjaro Foundation
BIC code INGBNL2A

Chamber of Commerce: 34251375
Merwe Donk 38
4207 XB Gorinchem

Don't forget to visit our website:
www.childrenofkilimanjaro.nl



Visit continued...

One of the main reasons for our visit was the re-opening of Kisaseni primary school. Our foundation funded the renovation of one of Kisaseni's class rooms. As you can see on the before and after photos below, it was about time that the building got a new roof, window frames, paint in- and outside, floor, solid entrance door, etc.

The opening was a huge celebration with music, speeches by the school director, village chief, district education officer, Lekey and myself. Everything under the cheering enthusiasm of village inhabitants and, of course, the students. I had attended such joyful events before, but for Peter and our boys this was the first time. You can imagine that this made a long-lasting impression!



We made a video of the event. Please check out our website www.childrenofkilimanjaro.nl to hear some of the speeches and music that was played. Enjoy!

More funding is needed to renovate additional class rooms at Kisaseni, but also other schools in the region need your help! Please donate.

During our stay, I also spoke with the nurse at Mdawi dispensary. She explained about the lack of medication and showed me the empty cabinets. Please donate for the dispensary as well, so they can fill their supplies again!

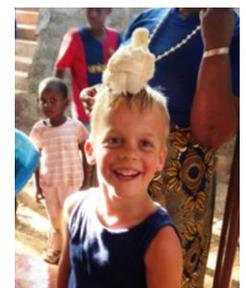


Other activities during our stay included visiting orphans at home to bring donations like schoolbags, mosquito nets, clothes, shoes, soap, tooth brush and towels. We had visited Alex (above) also in 2014 and the three boys enjoyed seeing each other again.

It was good to hear that Alex is doing well in school. He had fallen out of a tree the week before, trying to grasp a mango, and had suffered a bad cut on his nose. Despite that, he was in excellent health thanks to the great care of his grandmother. Although she can hardly walk, she always makes sure that he attends his monthly check-ups and receives his HIV-medication. Quite an accomplishment for this elderly woman! We made sure Alex and his grandmother received the necessary funds to continue his caretaking.

Another ongoing project is about water supply in Mdawi region. Lekey provided us with a plan and budget for Mbokochini pipeline that should connect Mdawi village to a better water source higher on Mt. Kilimanjaro. We hope to share more information about this new project soon.

So many more stories to tell... Our visit was too short and we look forward to a next one!





Marion's climb of Mt. Meru

Obstetric/midwifery care in Tanzania

In North-Tanzania one in seventeen babies dies during pregnancy or delivery. In comparison, in the Netherlands about one per hundred babies dies. Women in Tanzania are also much at risk, during pregnancy or delivery 1% dies. Several causes exist but for the large part this has to do with lack of knowledge about a healthy life style and risks during pregnancy. Women barely seek medical care during pregnancy and therefore do not receive sufficient medical advice. For instance, they are not aware of the dangers of high blood pressure and that fact that frequent measurements are required.

Ujumbe Project

The Women & Youth Careline Foundation, in collaboration with Children of Kilimanjaro, joined forces for the Ujumbe Project (ujumbe=message). Sms text messages will be sent to pregnant women to educate them about healthy life styles and risks during pregnancy. Also, reminder-messages to visit the health clinic will be sent.

An example text could be: *"It is recommended to not drink alcohol during pregnancy, because this may lead to low birth weight or more severe disease of the baby"*.

We would also like to improve the obstetrics department of Mdawi dispensary. Clean water is often lacking. So we would like to put a rain tank in place, providing a stock of water that is always available. Imagine having to deliver a baby without water to wash hands or clean the room and equipment.

Also, we would like to make sure the dispensary gets basic equipment such as glucose and blood pressure meters, and a digital Doppler machine.

All these measures will have a direct effect on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, i.e. on health and clean water (icons on the left).

For these three components, (1) sms text messages, (2) clean water and (3) medical equipment, funds are needed.

Sponsorship together with Wilde Ganzen

On 9 May 2016, Bernard Sumari, Joop de Boer and Marion Sumari-de Boer will climb Mount Meru to raise money for project Ujumbe. With an altitude of 4,500 meters, Meru is Kilimanjaro's little sister. From Meru, one has beautiful views of Kilimanjaro, where our village Mdawi is situated.

By supporting their climb, you will help the Children of Kilimanjaro Foundation to raise money for Ujumbe. The kind and very generous support of Wilde Ganzen will even add 50% to your donation! So your € 1 will become € 1.50. As example: your € 45 will support 5 women through their pregnancy and delivery.

Join us and improve the obstetric care in Mdawi and surrounding regions. PLEASE DONATE!!

Donations can be transferred to IBAN: NL36INGB0005132127, refer to project 2016.0626. Fundraising will occur until 1 July 2016, and the project starts immediately after.

You can follow the project on www.facebook.com/ujumbeproject





PharmAccess
FOUNDATION

Health Insurance

As part of our continuous efforts to bring health insurance coverage to the children of Mdawi, we have initiated talks with PharmAccess in order to use their current health insurance program (which at the moment only covers coffee farmers). PharmAccess has expanded their private health insurance scheme into a public scheme (subsidized by the local government) that will cover Moshi rural area, in which Mdawi village is situated.

The Children of Kilimanjaro Foundation is exploring how we can provide the kids in Mdawi of this health insurance.

How Can you Help?

DONATE

IBAN: NL36INGB0005132127



Contact Us

Email: childrenofkilimanjaro@gmail.com
Website: www.childrenofkilimanjaro.nl



School year 2016: big changes coming up

In January 2016, the students started the new academic year in Mdawi and neighbouring villages! I am sure you have noticed that there was no announcement for sponsorship from our end yet.

Reason is following: since Nov 2015, Tanzania has a new president, John Magufuli, son of a peasant farmer, a former university lecturer, nicknamed "Bulldozer" as he was involved in road development. Besides major reforms to fight corruption, he promised children free education from kindergarten to secondary school.

These changes started early 2016 and obviously have consequences for our school project, both our primary and secondary school fees (now being resp. € 50 and € 280).

Some of you have already donated, for which we cannot thank you enough! In the coming weeks, we will assess the new situation and make sure to inform you as to what this means for past and/or future donations. To be continued asap.



Mdawi Guest House

Hidden amongst banana trees, our Guest House can offer visitors a comfortable stay and allows them to interact directly with Mdawi villagers. The fees paid by the guests (\$10-20 pppn) support Lekey and kids living there.

We look forward to receiving requests via: childrenofkilimanjaro@gmail.com.

Please check out Ben and Marion's [Caracal Tours & Safaris](#) to book safaris!

Asante sana (Thank you!)

On behalf of our board and the kids of Mdawi we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you who made a small or big donation to our foundation.



Children of Kilimanjaro
Foundation

You enable our work in Mdawi!

