

October 2024

ESUUBI News

– Climbing out of poverty –

Dear friends of *ESUUBI*,

first of all, as usual, some information on the general situation in Uganda since the last newsletter: the taxes payable by citizens continue to rise. One main reason is that the World Bank no longer providing loans to the country. This because of Uganda does not accept the LBGTQ scheme and has therefore not signed it – as previously reported. Thus, the state is trying to raise additional income, for which a census was conducted at the beginning of May.

The tragedy is that, in turn, it particularly affects the poor, because the prices of the necessities of everyday life have risen again. Another form of government tax revenue is now taking effect: about two years ago, the government intervened. It provides for taxes to be levied on money transferred to Uganda. This means that a certain amount is deducted first and afterwards the remain amount is then transferred to the recipient's account.

- Strongford - ... the agriculture project

Presumably out of envy, there have been some incidents in recent months that have hindered work on the farm. In May, one of the dogs was stolen and all the chickens were poisoned. Also, recently, someone (as yet unknown) rendered the entire tomato crop unusable overnight. One morning, the plants looked withered and yellowish, which had not been the case the night before. Apparently, they were sprayed with a pesticide. Too bad that this complicates each other's already arduous lives.

The employee, who has been at the farm since the beginning of this year (see last newsletter), has decided after 7 months of practical training to start farming himself. He has been able to rent a piece of land and is now going his own way. We wish him all the best for this!



- FASUC -

... the metal workshop

As reported last time, *FASUC* was planning to purchase another 20-foot container in the near future. *FASUC* has now acquired this additional container, which will serve as a material warehouse. This concept with the two containers was already in place at the very beginning of the project in 2018. *FASUC* was even able to pay half of the purchase price itself, partly from the largest order to date from the beginning of this year, which involved the supply of windows and doors for a large building. The container was extended by a kind of "office" – a bit longer. The first material was finally delivered. *FASUC* can now also trade in steel sections or always has enough material for its own orders on site.



The need to have an institution like *FASUC* remains great in society still. Almost every day, young people come alone or with their parents to ask for an opportunity to join *FASUC*, which is why the “waiting list” has become very long. Like all of us, young people in particular need a task and a perspective.

There are currently 18 students at *FASUC*. Consultation has been held between them to set up an internal fund. Every Friday, a small amount is paid into this fund. Once a student has completed his education and wants to leave *FASUC*, the money is used as start-up capital for independent living, as well as for other needs or unplanned events of the students. In doing so, they learn to be there for each other and thus support each other.



The stand alone electric power-generator procured in 2021 had already reached its "end of life" in July. The electrical system is still fine, but the motor has a mechanical damage, so it has to be replaced. The cost of purchasing a new motor is around 700,- CHF/EUR. Until then, the device had done a good job. On the one hand, it helped to bridge the almost daily power outages. On the other hand, it was ideally suited for applications where windows or doors were installed on site.

... the schoolproject

The school, which *Esuubi* is supporting for more than two years, has hitherto been housed on an old school site. The agreement with the owner was that students and teachers could stay there as long as the owner wanted them to be able to use the premises. Now at the end of July the owner requested the eviction, so another place had to be found.

It was possible to lease a new plot of land with two buildings. Land prices in this region are very high, so it is not possible to buy one's own land at the moment. Due to the longer commute to school, not all children who had previously attended school moved – but most of them did.



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donation account:

Friends` association ESUUBI

IBAN: CH59 0078 0000 3602 7911 4

BIC: OBWKCH22; Obwaldner Kantonalbank

(for the intended purpose projects like *FASUC* or *Strongford* can be specified, otherwise we use the money there if it is needed, donation receipts can't be made out)

Many thanks for the support!

(for further information see also at: esuubi.info)

Lovely greetings from Silvio & Sibylle Stender

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