

## Newsletter Mutanyana Weru, Summer 2013.

### 1. General

Our chairman, Sjef van Zon, wrote the following in April: After a long time of radio silence we got some reaction from Maputo:

“the communication between me and Father André were practically zero in the recent months. It was so minimal that I had serious doubts about the situation with my brother in Maputo.

Through external channels I learnt that problems were unknown over there. Via Skype we finally got some communication; he could hear me but his mike did not work. Father André, however understood my message resulting in new e-mail contact.

Hopefully the communication channel will continue to be up and running. During these e-mail conversations Father André announced to come to Holland for a short holiday in April/May”.

The Foundation’s board had the opportunity to talk to him during their recent board meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup>. of June, where Father André was our guest.

In April there were new Skype discussions with him and he then mentioned that there had been a lot of problems because of an abundance of rain resulting in inundations of large pieces of land, especially close to the river where our land also is situated. Apart from the fact that he caught cold several times due to the changing temperatures, his health is ok.

The above mentioned abundance of rain caused a lot of damage and inconvenience. There was a death toll of more than 100 and the agricultural industry suffered a lot of damage- including our projects. Especially the crops of Manioc, beans and sweet potatoes were lost for the greater part. First because of the extreme dry period in the fall of 2012 (their summer) and later on by the above mentioned rains and inundations, resulting in rotting of roots etc. 3 Months later a lot of people still lived in tent camps and the promised support of the government did not come yet.

The political differences between the government and the opposition (Renamo and Frelimo) are getting bigger resulting in more instability and corruption. This on its turn influences the unemployment, especially under younger people between 15 and 20 years old and women. In a lot of cases only 50% is paid of the official minimum wages.

Foreign investors receive concessions for energy and minerals, very often with help of local friends (corruption).

All together this is declining the social situation of the poor people of the society instead of an improvement.



In our country we seldom hear in the news about the political situation and water problems as explained by Father André. A quick search on the internet gives a quick answer; search in Google on the words water problems, Mozambique and you get a list of articles on this subject.

On the site [www.afrikanieuws.nl](http://www.afrikanieuws.nl) (search on Mozambique) you can read how the land is offered to Chinese and Brazilian companies and how the local farmers suffer from this policy.



Information on the political situation you will find on a.o.

<http://www.pambazuka.org/en/category/comment/86962> where they even talk about a new civil war.

Our farm lands:

The value of the project’s farm land plays an important role in the integration process. Although the direct result of crop sale is important, even more important is the fact that the agricultural situation of these people improves their self-esteem and growth to self-support and also their independence of external support. Despite misfortune by bad weather and sometimes lower prices for their crops, these women stay motivated to go on with the project. Also because good food is now grown for their own consumption. These results are so positive that we have to continue this part of the project and where possible expand.

Priorities:

The financial results of the project over 2012 show that the money has been spent to an increasing number of people (125).

Especially for emergency help and AIDS victims there are more and more people knocking on the door of Father André. However, the money that has been

donated and allocated for specific aims will continue to go to those aims.

## 2. Finances:

Every quarter Father André receives our contribution and he is extremely happy with this because he can count on it and use it in his budgeting system. In 2012 we donated €20 000 as was mutually agreed. He used this money for 125 women and children that year. Despite the worldwide recession, which hurts Mozambique even harder than our country, we kindly request you for some additional effort to make sure that Father André and his volunteers will be able to continue to support the handicapped and sick people of the project. And also to allow the children to continue to go to school to receive their basis education which helps them to get a better future life.

## 3. Donations and Legacies

We are only a relatively small Foundation with the main goal to financially support Father André in his activities with handicapped people in Maputo – Mozambique. We cannot organise large campaigns or spend money on advertising, but be assured that all your donated money comes at the right place. The current recession has led to raised cost for food, fuel, education, etc. not only in our country but these poorest countries, like Mozambique, have been hit most. In order to cope with this situation we need your financial support.

### May we count on an additional gift?

It is good to know that periodic gifts are fiscally most attractive. If necessary our Chairman, Sjef van Zon, can give detailed information.  
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## 4. Family Re-Union

We sometimes wonder what the results are of all the financial support of our sponsors to the Mutanyana Weru project in Mozambique. Below please find one of the reasons why we should allow Father André and Providence time to come to the following result. Father André told use the following:

Martinho: July 3rd. 2005: In the Centre Muntanyana Weru a baby is brought in , 4 days old. Child of a mentally ill mother (20 years old); the father of the baby is unknown, the mother lived with an aunt. After the baby was born the mother was not capable of taking care of it. Mother and child and 3 neighbouring women, came to the Centre in search of help. The baby was entrusted to the good care of Adélia Manjate

(35 years old), mother of 2 children of her own. In the re-integration process in 2009 Adélia moved to Bobole-Marracutene. Her children attend the local school there and so does her foster child Martinho since 2012. In September last year, the grandfather heard that one of his sons should have a son somewhere. After a lot of searching he found his grandson in Bobole. Several visits acquainted Martinho to his grandfather and the other members of the family. So, after 7.5 years and thanks to his grandfather, Martinho was re-united in January of this year with his family. His mother died in 2010.

Father André told another story similar to this one and we will publish this story in the next coming newsletter hopefully with some new photographs.

## 5. Finally

We wish you a very good summer.

Thank you for your support!

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