fair handeln aktuell 1. Ausgabe

First Steps

The foundation of our association in 2003 was our first step to support social projects locally and worldwide in christian tradition. The taking over of the pupil's job fair and the first fairReisen tour in cooperation with one-world-engagement (owe) in Düren were further steps in that direction.

From the beginning, fair trade was one of our main aims. Through the opening of our fair trade shop at Mariadorf, we could organize fair trade in our parishes more professionally. The shop allows us to offer a wide range of fair trade products in an attractive way. Now we do the first step towards regular information about our association "fair handeln". With our newsletter we want to inform you about our activities every quarter of a year.

We ask you also to risk a first step, too: please visit our fair trade shop at Mariadorf or contact us.

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Chikuni Oil - Oil for Zambia

During the first fairReisen tour, Mr Barten was asked to realize an oil mill. As a member of the association "P.R.O. e. V.", the aim of which is the promotion of the use of regional oil plants, he is the right man to discuss this matter. In Chikuni (Zambia) young man are trained in sustained agriculture. At that time, the training farm used a press with which oil could only be produced in small amounts by exhausting manual work. Through the support of one-world-engagement (Düren) and fair handeln (Alsdorf) P.R.O. e. V. could install a modern oil mill in 2004 and bishop Emilio put it into operation.

There was the choice of several oil plants to be used, but at last the African sun flower was chosen, because this is cultivated by regional farmer, and so they can reach regular earnings through the oil press. The rejects of the oil press can be used as deer fodder. The major part of edible oil in Zambia must be imported from abroad and is of bad quality. The installation of the oil mill allows the local population in the diocese of Monze to find a better life.

During an "oil evening" in our one-world-shop, Mr Barten informed the audience about the beginnings of the oil mill and about further steps which allowed the optimization of the oil production in 2006. Measuring equipment had been installed, so that the humidity of the oil plants could be measured. Therefore the drying time of the oil plants could be reduced from 3 days to 6 or 7 hours (of sunshine).

Through the use of a big bag it is possible to fill the mill with oil plants only once a day and then it can work for the whole day. Moreover, the use of a candlefilter reduces the maximum size of the particles from 50 mm to 1 mm which is important for technical use. The general suitability of the oil to be used as diesel oil was demonstrated. A car filled with a mixture of diesel and plant oil was available for test tours.

To reduce the dependency of expensive importations it makes sense to use fuel made of plant oil. A nut called Jatropha curcas can be used for this purpose. This oil plant is not good for nutrition, but is very good for oil production, is resistant to dry periods and even helps to improve the ground quality.

The new future at Charles Lwanga Basic School

All the pupils and teachers at Charles Lwanga Basic School were very excited when the team of the Rural Engineering Centre of Monze arrived with the two white persons from owe. The pick-up transported the materials which were still missing for the final installation of the solar water pump. The Monze team had already fulfilled some preparations like the equipment for the 5.000-litres-tank and the necessary pipelines and cables. Now the pump should sink into the borehole and the stearing equipment should be installed. Mr Alfred Göbel was surrounded by the children who were very interested in what he was doing.

All work was done hand-by-hand with the Zambian collegues. This practical co-operation also was an exchange of different practical experiences. Smaller challenges like how to shrink an isolation tube of electrical units ended successfull by using hot charcoal. Necessity is the mother of invention. Another challenge was the pump going down to 45 metres. A lot of pupils were needed to hand out an endless length of cables and pipes. At the end of the day, water arrived from 40 metres depth, and Sr. Euphemia, head of the school and promoter of the project, could drink the cold and clear water out of the water tap.

The fluent water is the highlight of the project which has been financed by fair handeln. The pupils at Charles Lwanga Basic School often live 10 to 20 kilometres away from Chikuni. After a long walk in the morning, they follow their lessons and then they march back home in the afternoon. And only in the evening, at home, they get a warm meal. To improve this situation, Sr. Euphemia, Solomon Phiri (Developement Office Monze), fair handeln and owe worked out a conception to install a big school garden. With the help of the guaranteed water supply, the pupils now can cultivate mais and vegetables for their own needs and to sell it on the local market. Also the chicken farm, the house for it has already been built, is needed for school meals as well as for raising income for the school.

Besides that, one of the main problems of the school for years has been the fact, that sanitary equipment did not work because of the lack of water. A situation which is extremly uncomfortable with 680 pupils and teachers.

The ceremony at the school in the afternoon of 9th, february 2007, when the pump started working, was very emotional and impressing. Speeches of the officials and dances and songs from the pupils alternated. The responsible school inspector in her speech asked the pupils and teachers, but also the local population, to protect and care for this gift, so that the every day life of the children will experience a sustain relief. She was so grateful aganist fair handeln and owe that it was nearly embarassing to the white quests.

Our special gratitude goes to Mr Alfred Göbel: the realization of this project was mainly possible because of his personal engagement and his specialized knowledge.

Jobs for pupils - help for all

You have to cultivate a garden. Although you like it, some work is hard and you don't have much time.

In this case, the pupil's job fair can help you.

You sprained your ankle. Walking is hard and hurts. Nevertheless you have to do some shopping.

Also in this case, the pupil's job fair can help you.

These were only two examples where the pupil's job fair can be useful for you. We match clients and pupils. Besides that, the pupil's job fair guarantees a fair and trouble-free course.

The pupils who work for pocket-money are no skilled and specialized workers. But they get lessons in garden working, e.g.

Probably you heard about neighbours who already experienced the work of the pupil's job fair. We meet with a very good response and we ask ourselves why it has not been invented earlier. We even get demands of other cities that now also want to install a pupil's job fair. So we feel positive and we are sure that the pupil's job fair will do good work also in the future.

If you are interested in our work please contact us.