

United help for CHILDREN

Dear Friends and Supporters of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation,

We realize that in this newsletter we provide you with a lot of numbers; however, our intent is not to confuse you. Instead, we just want to provide you with better and accurate information.

Since founded in 2009, the work of the *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation* has increased considerably and our commitment has become even bigger. The more we get involved, the more we realize how important the work that we do is, and how much sense it makes. As a result, we just can't walk away from it! In light of the current refugee disaster, it should be clear to everyone, that these people leave their homeland in search of a better life. At the present time, there are more than 10 million Africans trying to go to Europe/Germany. In our opinion, it makes more sense to help people in their homeland so that they can help themselves in the future.

In general, people from Swaziland are not the typical refugees. Swazi people tend to go to South Africa instead of Europe or they just stay in their own country and resign themselves to a life at home without prospects; either way, it amounts to the same.

The *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation* wants to continue their work in Swaziland on a long term basis so that children and adults see a better perspective within their familiar surroundings.

Dear supporters and donors, we thank you for all your help in the past and ask you to please continue to support us in the future as well. It would be great if you could spread the word about the foundation to your family and friends. To find out how much we need your help, please read the *Abbreviated Annual Report*.

We wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes

Ernst Engel
Chairman

Bettina Haubner
Deputy Chairwoman



Ambulatory Vehicle Donated by the Rotary Clubs

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www.thomasengel-stiftung.org

Abbreviated Annual Report

The smaller assistance projects in Ecuador and Tanzania are running as planned.

As you know, our main focus is in the south of Africa, in the small kingdom of Swaziland. Together with our partner organization *Hand in Hand Swaziland*, we take care of over **3,000 children**, mainly orphans and now almost as many adults. Taking care of adults is a relatively new task to us and we must rise to the challenge of mastering this task, since it helps the children, indirectly. Paraphrasing the *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation's* motto "**Helping people help themselves**", we also feel the need to give adequate support to the adults in these communities. When we invest in the health and education of the children, we can expect long-term positive changes in the country. However, assistance can be achieved faster by funding income-generating activities, which at the present time is increasing in numbers. These activities are for sewing and agricultural projects. In order for the adults to be able to do these projects and while taking care of the children at the same time; the adults have to be healthy. To achieve this, we must not only take care of their health now and in the future, but also ensure the nutrition and education of children and adults.

By the end of 2015, we will have provided at least 190,000 Euro to our partner *Hand in Hand Swaziland* essentially for the following:

Operating costs including *MobiDiK*

Personnel (10 Employees)	52,000 Euro
Office, Telephone, Utilities, etc.	10,000 Euro
Vehicles (5), Fuel	27,000 Euro
Medicine, Hygiene	11,000 Euro
Total	100,000 Euro

Other projects (excluding *MobiDiK*)

Rainwater Collection	50,000 Euro
Sponsorship of NCPs	5,000 Euro
Warm children's cloths for the winter	2,350 Euro
6 One-Room houses for needy families	9,700 Euro
Construction costs for the Magele NCP	4,300 Euro
3 Workshops "Pre-school Education"	10,000 Euro
Total	81,350 Euro

Other Expenditures

Various purchases for <i>MobiDiK</i>	5.000 Euro
Other Workshops and Meetings	3.500 Euro
Total	8.500 Euro

Notwithstanding the very conscious handling of the limited resources, together with the smaller projects in Ecuador and Tanzania the total expenditures for the *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation* for this year will be approximately 200,000 Euro.

Where does the money come from? Here is a rough estimate for 2015:

Income

Income from the foundations endowment	9,500 Euro
Donations from the founder	25,000 Euro
Other donations	60,000 Euro
Earmarked donations for projects excl. <i>MobiDiK</i>	43,850 Euro
Public funds	37,500 Euro
Allocations from booster clubs	5,000 Euro
Total Income	180,850 Euro

In 2015, we will spend significantly more money than we have collected. Therefore, in order to execute our projects, we will have to tap into our reserves. In spite of this financial situation at the moment, we are not afraid to continue our important work in the future. Our work is being increasingly recognized, especially the fact that 100% of the donations go to the supervised help projects.

Both booster clubs, Fulda and Nastätten with their more than 100 members help make the *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation* be known and generate additional revenue.

Swaziland – *MobiDiK* by the Numbers

The very rural and minimally infrastructure developed Shiselweni is the poorest of the four districts of Swaziland.

There, as part of the *MobiDiK* project, two teams attend to the basic medical needs of thousands of children and now an increasing number of adults. Here are some numbers:

Medical Care	2014	as of 09/2015
Number of treated children	5,141	4,408
Immunization against:		
-- Polio	596	354
-- DPT* + Hepatitis B	60	34
-- Measles	390	212
-- DT*	389	24
Medicine Dispensed		
-- Vitamin A	1,964	1,807
-- Albendazole against pinworms	1,786	1,720
Number of adults treated	848	3,260
Number of children tested for HIV	2,203	2,211
-- Tested positive	11	6
Number of adults tested for HIV	2,680	3,291
-- Tested positive	130	80

*DPT: Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus

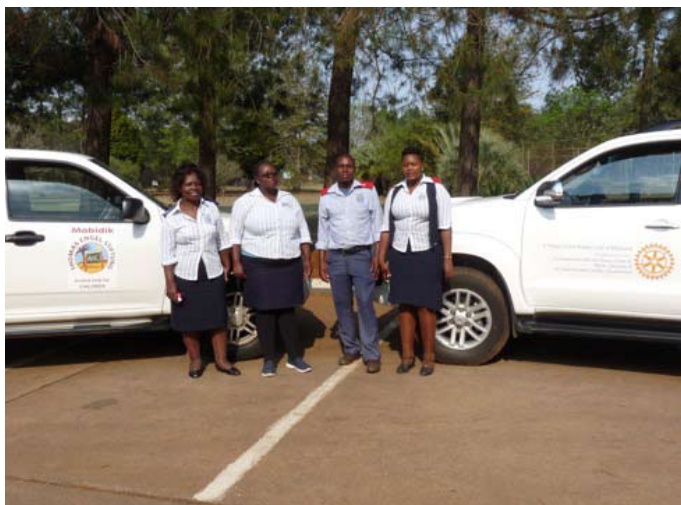
*DT: Diphtheria, Tetanus

Vitamin A:

The German Newspaper wrote on 26.08.2011 analogously as follows:

"According to estimates from the WHO, worldwide, 190 Million children under the age of 5 years could suffer from Vitamin A deficiency. This can lead to night blindness, growth disorders, and anaemia. These children are also more vulnerable to infections such as diarrhoea and measles. According to extensive studies at the University Hospital in Karachi, Pakistan, 24% or an estimated 600,000 children's lives could be saved in developing and emerging countries with the use of Vitamin A."

HIV-testing is done by our partners in Swaziland, the American foundation, *Aids Healthcare Foundation (AHF)* (Formerly know as *Nhlanguano AIDS Training Information and Counselling Centre (NATICC)*). One specially trained AHF employee accompanies each of our two *MobiDik-teams* to the the *Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs)* locations.



Ambulances with crew

At this point, it makes little sense to comment on the above figures. We just want to give you, our dear reader, a brief overview of the preventive medical care that is done as part of the *MobiDik* project.

Ambulatory Vehicle Donated by the Rotary Clubs

“Important step towards better care – St. Goarshausen-Loreley Rotary Club allows use of an additional ambulatory vehicle”– this was the headline in the local newspaper *Rhein-Zeitung* on 09.22.15

And it continues to say: *“The Rotary Club not only helps local projects, it also is involved in solving international problems. A great example in this area of responsibility is the help to the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation. The focus of this foundation is Swaziland, a small kingdom in the south of Africa with 1.2 million inhabitants. Sadly, this country holds the worldwide record of the highest HIV-infections and consequently the lowest life expectancy. Almost half of the children are orphans or have only one parent. In order to take care of these children, as part of a mobile medical service, (MobiDik) nurses drive to the Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs), located in the rural areas where children ages 6 months to 6 years receive preschool education and one warm meal a day given by local women (volunteers – caregivers). These medical teams give immunizations, treatment for worms and conduct HIV testing, which is the most important of all. If a child is diagnosed early, he/she can be treated with medicine in the form of pills. The goal of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation is to have 3 ambulatory vehicles in order to take care of all the children in the 100 NCPs spread out through the Shiselweni district. Thanks to the Rotary Club St. Goarshausen-Loreley (Germany), the Rotary Club in Martin (Slovakia) and Rotary Club Mbabane (Swaziland) a second vehicle was purchased.”*

The *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation* and its partner organization *Hand in Hand Swaziland* are very thankful to the Rotary Clubs mentioned above. You can see how important this work is in the article titled *“MobiDik by the numbers”* in this newsletter.

Swaziland – More Water for the Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs)

In June 2015, we reported that we had already passed the first hurdle with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany) for them to pay 75% of the cost and installation of 100 new water tanks (5000 litres each). We can now report that our application was approved and **37,500 Euro** were deposited into the *THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation's* bank account.

Since then, most water tanks have been installed on a cement foundation and have been connected to the existing water tanks. That means that by the end of this year, all NCPs will have a rainwater collection capacity of 10,000 litres each.

Therefore, a significant improvement of the water supply has been achieved for the more than **3,000 children**. This water is used for cooking, drinking, washing hands and watering the existing vegetable gardens and the ones that still have to be established. In the past, the collected rain water was not sufficient, wells are non-existent and rivers or streams usually are far away and water quality is undesirable.

The primary reason for being awarded the grant by the German Government is due to the efforts of *Gerhard Grotz*, a volunteer from Barsbüttel (near Hamburg, Germany). He took care of the highly bureaucratic hurdle of the application process. Furthermore, he was also responsible for the procurement of the other 25% missing from the total cost of this project. Our heartfelt thanks to Gerhard.



NCP with 2 tanks

Swaziland – Warm Winter Clothing

Winters in the south of Africa can be cold, especially during the months May, June and July. However, the children rarely have a complete set of clothing for winter. This is the reason why in 2014 we started the project *“Winterhelp”* to alleviate this problem.

This year we purchased warm jackets, pants, gloves and hats for 251 children from 8 NCPs at the price of E 35,132.47 (*Emalangeni* (approximately 2,350 Euro)). All this clothing was purchased in country and was done at the relatively low cost of 9.40 Euro per child; each child was completely clothed.

Table on the next page:

NCP	Number of children	Jackets	Pants	Gloves	Hats	Total
Makhonza	26	26	26	26	26	104
Hhuhhuma	26	26	26	26	26	104
Magengeni	23	23	23	23	23	92
Mabona	19	19	19	19	19	76
Mandlendoda	14	14	14	14	14	56
Mcongo	23	23	23	23	23	92
Mbeka	69	69	69	69	69	276
Mphandzeni	51	51	51	51	51	204
Total	251	251	251	251	251	1,004



of Bayreuth (Germany) where he worked until 2011 as a scientific Assistant. Now, Dr. Urbain N'Dakon lives with his family in Fulda and works as a consultant for Quality Development in the youth services of the Caritas International.



What makes Dr. N'Dakon so interesting for the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation is the fact that he has an understanding of African concerns, needs, opportunities and skills on one hand, and conversely, German expectations on the other hand. This multi layered knowledge will certainly contribute to optimize the relief efforts of the foundation in Africa.

Originally, we got to know Dr. N'Dakon as a musician, singer and composer of deeply profound songs of the African soul. Newspapers, Radio and TV have reported often of his artistic work. He has performed in more than 200 concerts all over Germany and has made 3 CDs.

For further information, please visit www.urbain-ndakon.de.

Personnel Changes

As of July 2015, **Dr. Magdalena Budach** is no longer the medical director of the *MobiDik* project, the mobile medical service for children (and now also for adults). We thank Dr. Budach for her enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer work. Thanks to her work, *MobiDik* became a mainstay of the medical care for the population in Shiselweni district of Swaziland, (one of the 4 districts in Swaziland). She paid for all the travel cost to Swaziland.

We are in the process of finding a solution to this important position and are exploring several options.

Since taking over the entire financial responsibility for our partner organization *Hand in Hand Swaziland* at the beginning of 2015, we do not only finance the *MobiDik* project, but also finance a number of other assistance projects such as income-generating activities, the building of more NCPs and simple houses for very poor families (*Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) houses*), and the improvement of the water situation at the NCPs. In addition to Swaziland, we have small projects in Tanzania and Ecuador.



All these projects must be coordinated, monitored and supported with ideas. As a result, we needed a project coordinator and found one in Jaime Garcia. He will start immediately volunteering his time and work for the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation from his residence in Virginia, USA and travel to the countries where we have projects. He is a 58-year old engineer with years of experience working with infrastructure, speaks English, Spanish and German and at the present time works full time as a project manager. His wife Edith Garcia will assist him with his work for the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation.

Also for the Advisory Board of the Foundation we have a new addition, his name is **Dr. Urbain N'Dakon**.

"We always wanted to have someone in our team that questions and observes our work in Swaziland with the perspective of an African", say Bettina Haubner and Ernst Engel, the administrators of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation.

Born in 1964, **Dr. Urbain N'Dakon** majored in German studies in the Ivory Coast and worked there as a high school teacher and vocational counsellor. He received his doctorate at the University

Calendar of Events

21.11.2015 – Booster Club Fulda:

Booth at the Christmas Market in Fulda at **Antoniusheim** in Fulda

28. + 29.11.2015 – Booster Club Nastätten:

Booth at the "Christmas Street" in Nastätten

April 2016 – Booster Clubs Nastätten and Fulda:

"ovationen 2016" Award winning, young artists present popular melodies from Classic to Pop at a concert.

15.04.2016, 19:30 at Nastätten's Community Centre

16.04.2016, 19:30 in the Auditorium of the Old University in Fulda

25.06.2016 – Booster Club Fulda:

"Experience Africa" – Culinary ride through Africa with live music at Antoniusheim in Fulda



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Dear donors, you can be assured that 100% of your money goes directly to the children in the aid projects and is used effectively and efficiently.

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