



## Dear friends of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation

There are two birthdays to celebrate this year. The THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation has now been in existence for 15 years and I, Ernst Engel, founder and Chairman of the Foundation, will be 80 years old by the time this issue of the newsletter is distributed. I am grateful for the latter, as I am still in relatively good health. I am a little proud of the Foundation's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary, because during this time an organization has been created that has alleviated the plight of many thousands of very needy children and adults.

However, we would like to draw your attention to the 8-minute film to which there is a link on the website: [thomasengel-stiftung.org](http://thomasengel-stiftung.org). The film shows the origins of the foundation and its work in Eswatini. Impressions from Tanzania and Ecuador will follow. This film is well worth seeing!

"Seriously, what will happen to the foundation if you are no longer able to cope with all the work?" I am often asked this question or something similar. That's why I'm glad to see that we're on the right track when it comes to reducing the workload and finding a successor. The foundation's bodies are:

- the Executive Board consisting of Bettina Haubner, Jaime Garcia and Ernst Engel, and
- the five-member Advisory Board with Ingrid Britz-Averkamp, Stephanie Müller-Trost, Dr. Barbara Jörg, Jan Menzel and Rüdiger Gries.

Rather unusual for foundations, but very important and helpful, are the three support associations with more than 200 members. The associations are:

- Friends of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation Fulda e. V.,
- Friends of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation Nastätten e. V. and
- Amigos de la Fundación THOMAS ENGEL in Ecuador.

The THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation is therefore broadly based and the work is therefore spread over many shoulders.

Best regards

**Ernst Engel**  
*Chairman of the Board*

**Bettina Haubner und Jaime Garcia**  
*Deputy Chairs of the Board*

### The members of the advisory board of the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation

#### The board members of the three sponsoring associations

*Freunde der THOMAS ENGEL-Stiftung Fulda e. V.*  
*Freunde der THOMAS ENGEL-Stiftung Nastätten e. V.*  
*Amigos de la Fundación THOMAS ENGEL in Ecuador*

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[www.thomasengel-stiftung.org](http://www.thomasengel-stiftung.org)

#### A note on gendering

The German Spelling Council recommends that all people should be treated as gender-neutral as possible, but that special characters such as asterisks, colons or underscores should be avoided. We will follow this recommendation with immediate effect and ask for your understanding.

# Tanzania



Take a Malaika e.V. and its subsidiary organization **Home of Malaika** in Tanzania have been active in Arusha at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro since 2019 and have made it their mission to support women and their families from socially and economically disadvantaged

backgrounds. The following aid measures enable them to take a step towards a self-determined life:

- The **sewing and creative project**, in which a variety of hand-made products are produced and sold. The women receive a monthly wage from the proceeds
- **Protection for young women:** At public schools, schoolgirls learn how to make reusable menstrual hygiene products and are educated accordingly.
- The **sponsorship program** helps women to become self-employed through micro-loans and regular business training.
- **Family and Friends** enables families to lead a stable and independent life by taking on a sponsorship.



*Sewing project at a public school for young woman*

- The **daycare concept** offers afternoon care and additional school lessons for children in the project house of Home of Malaika.
- As of 03/2024, twelve orphaned children or children from impoverished families are accommodated in the **Grace Orphanage and Children Center**. School attendance and health insurance are financed through sponsorships.



*of the Grace Orphanage and Children Center*



*Activities together within the Daycare-Concept*

# Eswatini



The district of Shiselweni in the south of Eswatini is the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation's area of activity. 55 % of the people there live below the poverty line, i.e. on less than 2 euros per day. 26 % of people over the age of 15 have HIV and many children have lost their parents to AIDS.

The country is also suffering from a tuberculosis epidemic. Life expectancy is 53 years for men and 61 years for women. Children suffer particular hardship, many of whom are orphans or half-orphans and often live in "child headed families", with strong partners such as the **Möwenweg Foundation**, **Kindernothilfe e. V.**, the **Rotary Club Wörthsee** and a reliable local implementation partner, the **Young Heroes**, we are involved in the **Litsemba Hope** project in the following ways:

- **NCPs (Neighborhood Care Points)** are currently 104 daycare centers that are the focus of our activities



- **ECCD (Early Childhood Care and Development)** includes pre-school education, which is crucial for early childhood development and thus access to subsequent school attendance. 500 trained women (*caregivers*) currently look after around 3,200 children between the ages of 2 and 6 on a voluntary basis. In addition to pre-school lessons, the children receive a hot meal every day if possible. A new focus is on children's and women's rights

- **IGA (Income Generating Activities)** enable the volunteer caregivers and their families to generate their own income. Support is provided for growing vegetables, raising pigs or chickens and sewing for self-sufficiency or for sale.



Neighbourhood Care Point

- **OVC houses (Orphan Vulnerable Children)**. Massive 2- or 3-room houses are built by members of the community for particularly needy families with many children. Funding is mainly provided by **Hunde helfen Kindern e.V. (Dogs helping children)**

- The **Mobile Clinic** with two vehicles takes on the important task of providing basic healthcare. Equipped with medicines, vitamin preparations and medical equipment, they travel to the NCPs at regular intervals. Two nurses and a laboratory assistant carry out vaccinations, help with acute complaints and injuries and test for HIV and TB. Fortunately, more and more adults are attending the consultations. Training courses on self-help measures for common illnesses and vision testing are new

- **SSP (Self Sufficiency Project)**. The self-sufficiency project was launched in October 2022. Together with competent partners such as the UN World Food Program, communities are enabled to grow crops on areas of 2 hectares each. Training and concrete help and support are provided throughout the year. As of 2024, 32 communities are on their way to an independent and secure food supply.



So-called "child headed families"  
force teenagers to take on the  
role of the missing parents



1. Preschool lessons by Caregivers
2. Newly build two-room house for a needy family
3. Mobile clinic visit an NCP
4. IGA – growing vegetable in their own field
5. Revitalized NCP due to medical offer
6. NCP with pre-school children



The THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation and the Amigos de la Fundación THOMAS ENGEL support families in need in the coastal region of Santa Elena in the following projects:

• **El Centro de Educación Integral Melvin Jones** provides therapy for

physically and/or mentally disabled children and young people. The latter are qualified to such an extent that integration into the labor market is possible. This successful institution is unique in the region, but receives only meagre state funding and is dependent on donations despite its own income.

• **Helping Kids in Ecuador** is an American organization. HKIE and its network of local doctors in cooperation with local clinics provide surgical treatment for children from poor families who suffer from deformities, disabilities or serious illnesses. The doctors and clinics in the network only charge a minimal fee for their services.



Medication for 8-year old Mayckel, who suffers from "butterfly skin"

- **Micro-credits** make it possible to set up independent livelihoods as part of "helping people to help themselves" and thus ensure a better future for hundreds of needy families.
- **School materials** distributed to particularly poor children in schools are a great help for them and their families.
- **Scholarships** enable talented and motivated young people to attend a private school that their families would otherwise not be able to afford.



- 1+2. Distribution of school materials to needy children
3. El Centro de Educación Integral Melvin School
4. mini-loans are used in many ways to sustainably improve the economic situation of families



The foundation's sustainable aid projects have already helped more than 10,000 needy children in a variety of ways since 2009, giving them a future.

#### What speaks for the THOMAS ENGEL-Foundation ?

- ⊕ Aid projects precisely tailored to the needs of local people
- ⊕ Constant contact with the people and organizations involved in Eswatini, Tanzania and Ecuador
- ⊕ Efficient action and rapid response thanks to short communication channels
- ⊕ Transparency and control through close cooperation with reliable implementation partners at eye level
- ⊕ Experienced, strong cooperation partners in Germany
- ⊕ Project trips with the opportunity to see for yourself
- ⊕ 100 % of donations go to the aid projects



[thomasengel-stiftung.org](http://thomasengel-stiftung.org)

## TERMINE

Freunde der THOMAS ENGEL-Stiftung Fulda e. V.

- 26.10.2024 19:00 Uhr, "ovationen 2024" im Fürstensaal des Stadtschlusses Fulda
- 07.12.2024 Weihnachtsbaumverkauf zusammen mit dem Haimbacher SV auf dem Sportgelände des HSV in Fulda-Haimbach

Freunde der THOMAS ENGEL-Stiftung Nastätten e. V.

- 29.06.2024 ab 19:00 Uhr OpenAir-Konzert in Buch
- 01.09.2024 ab 14:00 Uhr "Offener Garten" in Nastätten, Am Rosengarten 10 + 12
- 30.11. und 01.12.24 "Weihnachtsstraße" in Nastätten
- 11.01.2025 Neujahrskonzert im Bürgerhaus Miehlen

Weitere Termine siehe [www.thomasengel-stiftung.org](http://www.thomasengel-stiftung.org)



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### Donation Account

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Paypal for Ecuador: brook1904@icloud.com

Your donation is tax deductible and will be used 100 % for our aid projects.

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