



Activity report 2020

Our projects in Africa

Human Rights' education and promotion in the slum of Korogocho

Objective : A self-sustainable Human Rights network is up and running in Korogocho. Its members are committed to and have all necessary skills for the promotion of human rights and social transformation in Korogocho.

Direct beneficiaries: 524 students (5 schools and a group of young adults)

January – April:

- 472 school books are distributed to the Emmaus Educational Centre Primary School in the Lucky Summer / Korogocho slum (Nairobi). This school saves many children from the Dandora dump.
- We grow from 3 to 5 schools that want to participate in the project. Launch of Human Rights Clubs in the 5 partner schools. The teachers in charge of these clubs get together to develop the programme for these clubs.



- 12 March: return of our coopérant to Europe due to the Covid-19 situation.
- In the first year of our human rights project, we provided 110 sets of lockers and chairs, coloured desks and chairs for 30 kindergarten children to Emmaus Educational Centre. The kindergarten desks were made by the students of the Comboni Vocational School, thus achieving important synergies between our past and present projects.

- Meeting with the human rights project manager to adapt the project activities to the pandemic situation. It is agreed to undertake some emergency activities to address the loss of income for many families in the slum.
- Students from our human rights programme have been trained in soap production. They produce 120 litres of soap to be distributed to the slum population.
- The students of the DCDE course (Diploma in Civic and Development Education) distribute soap, rice, flour, cooking oil, sugar, salt and information posters on personal hygiene to 150 families in the slums of Nairobi.



May - November:

- University Mtaani (University in the Slum) is moving to online courses. Students have been given tablets and internet credits that will allow them to attend their first virtual classes.
- Students of the Diploma in Civic and Development Education were able to take their first online course: "Constitution and Development in Kenya". The tablets allow the future human rights defenders to continue their training even during the lockdown.
- Early June: submission of the annual report of the human rights project to the Ministry (MAEE).
- The board decides to grant extraordinary aid to the poorer population of the slum.
- Emmaus Educational Centre distributes food to their teachers and some of the most disadvantaged families in their students' communities: packets of flour, sugar, rice, oil and salt. A little help to support some of the people most affected by the current Covid emergency.
- The 3rd term of DCDE courses is also online. Students are grateful to have tablets and to continue the courses.

December:

- Baraza becomes the new project manager. Now there is a small local team handling the human rights project activities in Nairobi.

Everything is being prepared for the resumption of schools (which have been closed since March 2020) in early January 2021.

Empowering women in Karamoja (Uganda)

Eliminating extreme poverty through a multi-sectoral strategy:

- 1) Literacy
- 2) Food security
- 3) Community savings and loans programme
- 4) Mentoring programme

4 villages - 513 direct beneficiaries

January:

- From 25 January to 1 February we organised a field visit to Uganda. This is also the start date of Pedro's volunteer mission who will stay in Kangole until mid-March.
- Meeting with the local management committee in Kangole (Karamoja). The local team consists of eight people with the director, the coordinator as well as three trainers, who will work in the four components of the project, and finally a representative of the beneficiaries.

Meeting with the first group of women in Naowe Korot. The first contact is great! Many women came to the meeting. The group welcomes us with singing and dancing. Then the leader of the group takes the floor to welcome us.

Then the NSC delegation introduces itself to the group. Oliver, Roberto and Father Kennedy explain the reasons why North-South Cooperation decided to carry out this project together with these women's groups. The beneficiaries express their opinions and expectations regarding the positive effects that this new project will have on them and their families.

- We visit the project's agricultural land that will be used to build the greenhouse and irrigation system. We go to meet the second group of women in Kalokengel. Also here, the beneficiaries give us a warm welcome! As the weather is good, the women decide to hold the meeting under a tree that provides a shade. The women's opinions are very positive and they appreciate the start of this project. One beneficiary gave the example of the importance of being able to read for her and her family (all illiterate). Many of the participants emphasised the importance of setting up community savings and loans groups to pay for their children's school fees.

Father Kennedy, the local team director, organised a dinner with the local management committee. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our partners for the next two years!

- After visiting the local market in Kangole we return to Matany to visit the Comboni sisters. The conversations are interesting and enriching! The theme of education is one of them. Many children only have a primary education, as access to secondary school is limited and more expensive. Girls are the most affected by the barriers to attending secondary schools. The region suffers from a large number of children who do not even complete primary education.
- Visit to the Kautakou beneficiary group. This group is new and the beneficiaries, for the most part, have never been to school. The reality is different from village to village. Sister Elizabeth, the project

coordinator, visits this group regularly and knows the beneficiaries very well. The women see a local woman in her. This is important, because the women listen to her, discuss and respect Sister Elizabeth's opinion. She was the one who proposed to include this group in the project because of the precarious situation of the beneficiaries, who live far away from Kangole and therefore from the local market. The beneficiaries are very positive towards the project and are willing to learn (agriculture and literacy). One woman explained the importance of the community savings groups.

We finally visit the fourth and last group of women in Kangole. When we arrive, we are surprised by the large number of women present! This is probably the largest group of the four as it is in the 'big' village of Kangole. The women express their appreciation for this self-centred project.

- 31 January: It's our last day in Kangole! Father Kennedy has organised a job interview session for the position of local project manager. The aim is to choose the local project manager together.

February - April:

- Visits to different women's groups. This is the Naowe Korot group:



- In order to ensure the quality of the literacy courses, first of all the trainers were given a capacity building course.
- Women clear the field in Kangole and prepare it for the irrigation system. At Kangole, the drainage system, solar pumping system and drip irrigation field are installed. Two water tanks of 10,000 litres each are built and the fence to protect the crop is completed. Nursery beds for sukuma wiki, carrots, spinach, onions, cabbage and tomatoes are set up and the plants are transplanted to the community field with the drip irrigation system.



- Literacy classes for women start in the 4 villages: Kangole, Kalokengel, Kautakou and Naowe Korot.



- 19 March: due to the pandemic, early return of Pedro from Uganda in agreement with SNJ.
- Beneficiaries in Naowe Korot, Kalokengel and Kangole villages were trained in group dynamics, leadership, conflict resolution and management. The aim was to equip the beneficiaries with the necessary skills to deal with group and family issues. Participation in the training was high: in Naowe Korot, 34 women attended; in Kalokengel, 74; and 102 in Kangole.
- End of March, meeting with the project team in Uganda to adapt activities to the pandemic:

- Basic trainings on revolving fund governance and business plan management were interrupted following COVID-19. However, trainings on Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) for group leaders were organised by the finance trainer during the lockdown. The aim was to equip group leaders with the tools to apply the rules and procedures that govern their group's activities and to learn how to manage their social fund.
 - Due to health measures, the agricultural trainers have not been able to provide theoretical training. However, they provide practical training for beneficiaries during agricultural activities in the community's fields.
 - During the lockdown, the workshops were interrupted. As a result of the pandemic experience, women are also trained in skills development such as liquid soap making for hygiene promotion.
- Agricultural tools and resources (520 hoes, 20 rakes, 60 pangas, 50 axes and 4 reels) were purchased. Beneficiaries in the four villages are actively participating in activities in their community fields.

May - August:

- 8 solar-powered radios (2 per village) enable beneficiaries to access information about the pandemic. Hand washing soap is distributed to 324 beneficiaries to promote hygiene in their respective households. Materials for making face masks have been purchased and people are hired to make the masks. At the resumption of the course all participants received masks. For all the trainings, jerry cans of water and soap are available for the participants to wash their hands.



- The leaders of the four women's groups were trained in soap production in Kangole. The women can now make the soap themselves and distribute it to all the beneficiaries.

➤ Women in the 4 villages plant the seeds in their community field.

In Kangole the beneficiaries have started planting seeds in the small beds of the nursery. The seeds are transplanted to the irrigation field once they are large enough.

The various agricultural activities continue.

- Early July, first harvest for women in Kangole (Karamoja): spinach and cabbage to improve their family diet.
- Women in the village of Naowe Korot have formed savings groups to make weekly contributions. This aims to provide access to savings and loans for disadvantaged communities and to encourage entrepreneurship.
- Late August: The village of Naowe Korot has just finished its first peanut harvest.

September – December:

- 11 September: the leaders of the Kalokengel group undergo the same training in revolving finance as the other villages before the lockdown. In addition, the group of beneficiaries received the boxes to keep the group's funds safe.
- A few days later, the group of beneficiaries in Kangole received not only the savings boxes, but also colourful protective masks! The same material was distributed in Naowe Korot.



- The implementation of the VSLA programme is underway. Some women's savings groups that did not have savings boxes have received them. Training on internal group rules, written record keeping, meeting procedures and conflict resolution has been conducted. Beneficiaries attend weekly meetings and contribute regularly to the community savings capital. Group leaders play a major role in ensuring that all group members participate in the VSLA programme.
- In order to prepare for the resumption of adult literacy training, all trainers were invited to the preparatory meeting.
- Literacy classes resumed on 21 September. All trainers and learners were given face masks to wear when attending classes. Beneficiaries from Kautakou village were finally able to attend the group dynamics training that had been postponed due to the lockdown.
- Workshops are now held to help women know their rights and they are supported in their family problems. During the trainings, participants create discussion groups to openly share their problems and how they overcome them. These small groups also intervene in some social issues, working with local leaders in the respective villages on issues of human rights, women's participation in leadership and access to financial services.

Improving hygiene and sanitation in Matany villages (Karamoja, Uganda)

- 1) Providing access to hygiene and sanitation
- 2) Carrying out awareness-raising activities for local communities
- 3) Training of local health personnel

⇒ **24 000 bénéficiaires**

January:

- During the field visit to Karamoja, Fr Kennedy takes us to Matany Hospital: a very good quality clinic, which is considered the referral hospital for the Karamoja area. We meet Br. Günther (a Comboni missionary), General Manager and Administrative Director of the hospital.

April – September:

- Meetings with Matany Hospital for the new project to be developed.
- End of September: submission of a beautiful project to the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE).

December:

- 1 December: Acceptance of our project “Improving Access to Hygiene and Sanitation in Matany Sub-County (Uganda)” by MAEE!

Our projects in Luxembourg

“North-South: Reciprocity for sustainable development”, an awareness-raising project

- 1) Raising awareness among children and young people about the opportunities and challenges of cooperation
- 2) Training *student leaders*
- 3) Develop and launch an awareness-raising component on migration

⇒ **469 beneficiaries**

January – April:

- Final report of the previous year’s awareness-raising project “Commitment to sustainable development”. This project co-funded by MAEE had 1,080 beneficiaries.
- The new project begins, and it also includes the development of a migration component.
- Beginning of a series of activities with the students from the International School of Luxembourg.

- In early April, Pedro begins his volunteer work in Luxembourg. We organize a brainstorming on communication. Pedro supports us with social media posts and in contacting high school youth, developing presentations.
- Through a series of meetings on Zoom with the students of the Lycée Technique du Centre, we involved them in the development of the migration component. With great enthusiasm they developed a questionnaire that serves as an introduction to a workshop and a Kahoot quiz that was very successful with the classes that played it.

May – August:

- Development of an educational kit, tutorials and the "Migration" component.
- Participation in the MAEE / NGO SENS exchange meeting on the issue of project adaptation following Covid-19 restrictions.
- First online workshops with the European School of Mamer are a success.
- Pedro conducted an exhibition and workshop at the Berdorf halfway house. He was also able to share with the children his experience of volunteering in Uganda.



September – December:

- September and October were characterized by planning activities: migrant testimonies, high school exhibitions, lectures... that had to be adapted to the health situation. Workshops for 142 students had to be cancelled at the last minute.
- During the workshop at the Ettelbruck youth center we were able to meet two young migrants who told us part of their story.
- In order to collect testimonies to enrich the migration section, we met a Syrian family in Luxembourg. The welcome was fabulous, the meal delicious, the testimonies amazing... On our Youtube channel we shared a small glimpse of our experience.
- In October we organized our exhibition and workshops for 211 students and 6 teachers of the European School of Kirchberg. With some classes we had already done the two sessions (2 times 2 hours) and the experience was extraordinary. Each session had different characteristics thanks to the contribution of the students. Unfortunately, the health situation got worse, more and more cases of Covid were counted.



- At the end of October, we were able to strengthen our skills with two trainings on online tools and successfully created an interactive online workshop on the topic of migration. The Mentimeter program allows us to bring together different functions such as a presentation, questions to the audience, displaying on the screen the answers of the youth and their reactions, explanatory videos and testimonies. At each session we took a Kahoot quiz to review the knowledge we had acquired. Afterwards we were able to realize this workshop with classes from the European School, the International School of Luxembourg, the Fieldgen Private School, the Lycée Technique du Centre and the Schengen Lyzeum. Each time we adapted our workshop to the target audience and to the language spoken by the young people.

The students from the International School worked in small groups to research the path of the asylum seekers and their presentations were very interesting. These students expressed in their feedback their willingness to raise awareness about the difficulties faced by asylum seekers.

- We developed the new project "North-South: A right for me, a right for you", a development education project for 2021.
- On December 11 we were finally able to carry out two online conferences with Francesca Mannocchi, an Italian journalist specialized in migration. In the morning the Zoom conference "Migration: risk or opportunity for host countries?" brought together young people from 5 high schools. The young people asked many questions to Francesca.
- In the evening 90 adults were gathered for the conference "Migrations: myth versus reality... about migrants who dare to face the journey" with Francesca Mannocchi.



Jouer la Connexion

Integration journey between young refugees, migrants and residents through sport and art.

- 1) Establish a network of school-aged young people (12-19) from different countries (refugees, residents, migrants) who support each other by exchanging information and sharing experiences
- 2) Raising awareness on the issue of integration among the inhabitants of the communities where the youth live

About 80 beneficiaries (30% refugees, 70% school students)

January - September:

- At the beginning of January, we presented the project “Jouer la connexion” (JLC) to the Ministry of Family, Integration and the Greater Region. In March it was approved and was to start in April.

In agreement with the Ministry, we decided to postpone the start of the project to mid-September due to the restrictions caused by Covid.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have worked to adapt the activities we wanted to offer young people to the new health situation.

- On 15 September the project started in Luxembourg with a team composed of Simona Palladino as project manager, Elisabetta Lano as responsible for educational activities and Tiziana Tamborrini as responsible for research and project evaluation activities.
- From mid-September to mid-October, the project team presented the project activities in some high schools (Lux 1 European School and Lycée technique du Centre), some refugee hostels (Saint Antoine hostel managed by Caritas) and some Youth Centres (Soleuvre, Mamer and Ettelbruck).

The activities offered by the project are football, running, photography and video, music, creative writing. All the groups of young people who participate in our activities are young students and young refugees.

- From 14 October to 25 November, our photography and video-making workshop took place, with our photographer Alfonso Salgueiro and our video-maker Fabio Bottani. 8 young people participated in this group, including 3 refugees. During the first 6 months of 2021, the group of students from the course will participate in visits to photographic exhibitions on the theme of migration and in photo and video outings. The aim of the group will be to tell the different life stories of the participants in the activities through the images that will be part of the final reportage of the project.



- Our autobiographical and creative writing workshop took place from 15 October to 5 December, with our pedagogue Elisabetta Lano. 6 young people participated in the group, including 1 refugee and 5 students (3 from LTC and 2 from the European School).

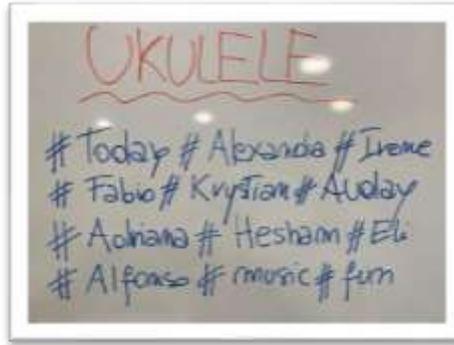


- On 16 October, the first friendly football match between the pupils of the European School and the young refugees of the Saint Antoine hostel took place. Sports teacher Carla Coppola from the European School supported us with the technical aspects of the match.

About 20 young people participated, including several girls. The game was great fun, the young people would have liked to continue playing every week, but due to Covid restrictions we could only organise one more game at the end of November and then we had to suspend the football activity.



The ukulele class started on October 17. The ukulele teacher is Irene, a young volunteer in her final year of high school. The class is attended by 7 young people, 5 of whom are refugees.



- On 31 October and 14 November our running group met. Two boys (a student and a refugee) participated with our volunteers Matteo and Lorenzo.



- On 25 November we participated in the information meeting of the Ministry of Family and Integration. The strategy of NSC is to continue to offer integration activities to young people living in Luxembourg. We realised how important it is for young people to mix and get out of their usual social context. On 30 November we sent the interim report on the progress of the JLC activities to the Ministry of Family and Integration.
- On 8 December we had a follow-up meeting on the JLC project with representatives of the Ministry and the Office National de l'Accueil (ONA).
- On 14 December we had a meeting with Ms Kayser from the Integration and Special Needs Department of the City of Luxembourg to present JLC and our future integration initiatives. For NSC, it is important to work in a coordinated way with the local authorities, in order to better target its initiatives and to intercept the real needs of the people who participate in the proposed activities.
- Within the NSC Teams platform, a dedicated JLC project page has been inserted, which all young participants and people working on the project can access and interact with.
- Photos and videos of our activities can be seen on the project's Instagram profile: **Jouer la Connexion**.

Miscellaneous

January:

- Board meeting.

Pedro Malheiro, who will soon start volunteering in Uganda, is registered as a volunteer with the National Youth Service (SNJ).

Adoption of the Charter against sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse.

February:

- Cheque presentation: Zonta Club Luxembourg supports the Women Empowerment project in Uganda

March:

- Our participation in the Festival of Migrations is an opportunity to meet many friends, to present our projects and to strengthen links with other associations. Also this year we could count on our faithful volunteers.
- Two NSC members attend 'Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse' training
- On-line Board meeting: The main theme is the adaptation of our activities, projects and communication to the Covid-19 situation.

April:

- NSC hires its founder Roberto as projects coordinator.

May:

- The Œuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte decides to support our development education work by co-financing the project "North-South : reciprocity for sustainable development".

June:

- On-line Board meeting : The organisation of the General Assembly, the presentation of the new website and the update on the different projects are on the agenda. The results of the fundraising campaign "Coronavirus in Africa" show that the friends of the association support our projects even in this moment of crisis.
- The cancellation of the Korogocho Run makes way for the Korogocho Zoom. Participants from Kenya, Mexico, Canada, Luxembourg, Italy, Belgium, France and Germany join the event.
- General Assembly online : "a breath of humanity and solidarity" as one of the members defined it; a team work that allowed to highlight the different facets of the path taken this year and to open new paths to follow.
- Participation in the General Assembly of Cercle des ONG.

September:

- Meeting with the NGO CSI: An exchange of experiences between NGOs in Luxembourg that is open to possible future collaborations.
- Launch of the Karamoja Challenge for the population of 4 villages in the Karamoja region.

October:

- The online Board allows us to be updated on the activities of each project and to decide on the next steps to take.

November:

- Participation in the NGDO Awareness Raising Webinar on Terrorist Financing Issues (MAEE)

December:

- Participation in the Lycée Vauban's solidarity week to raise students' awareness on the work of NGOs.
- The students of the International School of Luxembourg express their solidarity by handing over a cheque for the Human Rights Project.
- Fundsquare S.A. decides to support the project "Empowering Women in Uganda".