## **North-South Cooperation**

Non-governmental organisation (NGO) accredited by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs



# Activity report 2023

## **Our projects in Africa**

Empowerment of Maasai women (Longido District, Tanzania)

(November 2022 - October 2024)

### 1) Economic empowerment of Maasai women:

- Establishment of women's cooperatives;
- Provision of business training;
- Facilitating market access.





2) Social empowerment of Maasai women through awareness-raising activities.

## 3) Quality secondary school and girls' empowerment:

- Construction of dormitories;
- Establishment of girls' clubs to encourage empowerment;
- Provision of durable sanitary towels.

## 3,923 beneficiaries

Local partner: Legal Services Facility (LSF)

With the support of MAEE (Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs), Actions sans frontières, Fondation NIF and the Commune of Differdange.

11 women's groups received official registrations from the district authorities to operate businesses. To enhance the business acumen of women, a management manual tailored to the Maasai women's context was created. The women underwent training in financial literacy, business management, and entrepreneurship. Each group received initial capital support and launched a small business.



The 11 groups received sewing machines. Some of the women participated in a one-month technical training programme in professional sewing and received a sewing certificate. One member of each group took part in a 7-day training programme on the production of sanitary towels.

Seven men were nominated by traditional chiefs to become male champions responsible for advocating women's rights to other men and boys in their villages. Their training was conducted by paralegals, the district welfare office, and the project manager. The Longido district is one of the districts most affected by climate change, as it is prone to drought, which causes famine and the death of animals. Livestock is the main source of livelihood for community members in the project area. A campaign to plant 600 trees therefore took place in two of the project's secondary schools.

Four teachers underwent training focused on girls' health, specifically addressing menstrual hygiene management and gender-based violence. They have gained comprehensive knowledge and are now equipped to report instances of abuse. Each school hosts an active girls' club comprising a total of 40 members, and the teachers assist these girls in understanding the concept of gender-based violence and how to safeguard themselves.







## (June 2022-May 2025)

Project objective: Increasing the resilience and furthering the community engagement of women and girls from Napak District (Karamoja), by supporting their livelihood and building up their skills through quality training and education.





The programme has 4 components:

- **Economic empowerment** through community-based food production and savings schemes.

- **Social empowerment** through participation in womens' cooperatives and mentoring programmes.

- **Literacy** (in English and the local language) and numeracy training.

- **Improving girls' education** by providing quality education facilities and sufficient teachers for a safe and effective learning environment.

6 villages - 1,488 direct beneficiaries

Local partner : Comboni Missionaries

With the support of: MAEE, Fondation NIF, City of Luxembourg and the Commune of Differdange



The women in the Karamoja region face significant challenges such as drought, illiteracy, and hunger, making survival a daily struggle. Visiting women's groups across six villages in 2023 left a lasting impression. These women expressed unprecedented progress both individually and collectively. They spoke of learning to interact not only amongst themselves but also with men, and took pride in their ability to welcome visitors, signalling a shift in mindset. They attributed their newfound unity, strength, and sense of empowerment to the project's activities.

One of the women remarked, "Our eyes are open now, we can read. We will not get lost any more as we can read the signposts." Many of them expressed joy in greeting us in English.

They express gratitude for the transformative impact of the project on their lives. The produce from the irrigated fields and

greenhouse is consistently distributed among the beneficiaries, enabling them to enjoy a varied diet and generate income by selling surplus items at the market.

Additionally, one woman acquired skills in basket weaving, which she then imparted to others, leading to the establishment of a successful basket-making enterprise.

This project incorporates an additional educational aspect aimed at enhancing the quality of primary education in Napak district. We facilitated Kangole Girls' Primary School to hire three extra teachers and provide full boarding sponsorship for 10 girls, selected from the most impoverished backgrounds. Furthermore, we renovated a dormitory accommodating 140 students and built staff houses for the teachers.



Improving maternal and infant health services in Napak District, Uganda

(September 2021 - August 2024)

#### **Project objectives:**

- Improved access to maternal and child health services in the district through **free ambulance services and mobile clinics**.

- **Emergency obstetric services and maternity ward** at Matany Hospital have improved accessibility and guaranteed 24-hour power coverage.





- An increase in the number of professionally trained nurses and midwives in the district.

58,115 beneficiaries

Local partner : Matany Hospital (MH)

With the support of: MAEE, Fondation NIF, Rotary Club Esch-sur-Alzette, City of Luxembourg, Making a Difference from ESM and Diddeleng Hëlleft.



During the first two years of the project :

1) 1,854 mothers, 15,563 infants (0-12 months) and 16,173 general patients were visited and treated by mobile clinics in hard-to-reach areas.

2) 1,756 mothers benefited from the ambulance services.

3) 1,457 mothers benefited from emergency obstetric interventions and 7,023 women received obstetric ultrasounds.

4) 21 young girls from poor families were trained as nurses and midwives.

The Matany Hospital team conducts outreach missions monthly, with vital support from Village Health Teams (VHTs) and local leaders who assist in mobilizing the population. Residents in these isolated regions express deep appreciation for this assistance.





Providing medical care to children under the age of 5 in villages holds paramount importance due to their heightened vulnerability. Community members acknowledge that the quality of services provided during these outreach visits surpasses that of local health centers.



Health education sessions are conducted during outreach visits. The topics covered are preparation for the coming baby, nutrition and danger signs in pregnancy, proper use of a mosquito net, prevention of tuberculosis, prevention of home accidents, components of an ideal home, proper management of home generated waste, importance of having a well-balanced diet, prevention of non-communicable diseases.



The local team observed significant improvements in personal hygiene, nutrition, and household cleanliness within the community as a direct outcome of the health education delivered during each outreach visit. Moreover, there has been a notable rise in the attendance of pregnant women seeking antenatal care services.



Obstetric emergencies are dealt with quickly in the maternity unit by skilled gynaecologists and well-trained midwives, ensuring that no mother or baby dies because of negligence. The maternal mortality rate at the hospital over the course of the project is 0.06% (initial target was 0.5%).

All 21 nurses and midwives students receiving support from the project successfully passed their examinations administered by the Ministry of Education and Sports, particularly by the Uganda Nurses and Midwives Examination Board (UNMEB), achieving commendable scores.



As a result of our project, thousands of patients residing far from healthcare facilities have received treatment:

Mobile clinics:	
Children's vaccination	3,421
Children's deworming	11,840
Children screened for malnutrition	10,434
Children who received vitamin A	8,973
Girls' vaccination (Human papilloma vaccine)	3,692
Women's Tetanus vaccination	6,502
Pregnant women (Comprehensive Antenatal Care)	2,344
Eye care	334
HIV counseling and testing	1,895
Patients treated for different diseases	8,534
Patients with complications referred to Hospital	146
Total	58,115





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

(January 2021 - February 2023)

**Project objectives:** 

- Provide access to hygiene and sanitation.
- Carry out awareness-raising activities in local communities.
- Train local health staff.

24,000 beneficiaries





## Local partner: Matany Hospital (MH)

With the support of: MAEE, Fondation NIF, City of Luxembourg, Rotary Club Esch-sur-Alzette, Käl-Téiteng a.s.b.l., ICMSA, Clearstream Charity Committee.



The Hygiene & Sanitation project underwent an external evaluation. We summarize some quotations:

#### "Conclusions on Relevance

To a large extent, the process of sanitation and hygiene promotion was highly active, interactive, meaningful and relevant to the needs and priorities of the people. All interventions by the Matany Hospital Project were undoubtedly important, interventions such as sanitary pads, pit latrines, home improvement awareness, and awareness on the prevention and treatment of communicable and sanitary-related diseases really met the health needs of the people of Napak district.

#### **Conclusions on Effectiveness**

[...] Capacity building at the community level has been effective in increasing knowledge and awareness of health and hygiene practices and in creating a tangible commitment to maintain proper use of latrines.

#### Conclusions on Impact

The project has made a tremendous contribution to sanitation and hygiene practices for community members in Matany subcounty and surrounding areas, especially the most vulnerable.

#### **Conclusions on Sustainability**

People in villages visited were convinced by the benefits of better health and determined to continue the changes in practices. Evaluation findings have shown substantial evidence of an increase in the number of latrines in villages and increase in proper use of latrines which signifies a reduction in open defecation cases. [...]

Pit latrines were constructed in a sustainable way that is to say; they are emptied [...] Their usage is sustainable because they do not require water, which makes them more appropriate for the people of Karamoja, where there is no adequate water supply. They are environmentally friendly, and they avoid contamination of topsoil since, when they are full, the waste can be covered with soil, left to dry, and used as fertilizer."



## Protect children: stop child trafficking in Karamoja

(December 2023 - November 2026)



With our project, we will drastically reduce child trafficking from Karamoja. The project's expected results are:

- A survey on child trafficking is carried out.
- Local schools increase their intake of pupils.
- Social acceptance of child trafficking and exploitation is significantly reduced in Napak district.
- Number of children (especially girls) on the streets in Kampala city from Napak district is reduced by 50%.

Local partner: Women and Equal Opportunities Desk from Moroto Diocese

With the support of: MAEE, ICMSA and the Commune of Beckerich

Every year, in Karamoja, thousands of children are trafficked to urban centres, where they are subjected to various forms of exploitation such as forced labour, domestic servitude, street begging, street hawking, child marriage and sexual exploitation.

In Karamoja, only 5% of children complete primary school.



Rescuing the children off the streets of Kampala



A study will investigate child trafficking and out-of-school children in Napak. The research report will be published and disseminated among key stakeholders.

Over three years, 36,000 children in Napak district will be sensitized in schools and communities. School infrastructure will be built to accommodate additional pupils. Every year, the 5 partner schools enrol 300 out-of-school children on top of their average yearly enrolment. Anti-child trafficking guidelines will be integrated into school management committees, and monitoring systems for school dropouts will be established. Selected schools will receive food and supplies to prevent dropouts. Child rights clubs will be established in five schools, and an annual conference will be held to share experiences and action plans. Additionally, a running event for primary schools and yearly meetings with teachers will be conducted to increase student enrolment and reduce dropouts. To reduce social acceptance of child trafficking and exploitation, the project will train 60 members as change agents, conduct community dialogues educating 3,000 parents and 60 traditional leaders in Napak District, produce a video documentary, host radio talk shows, and distribute a simplified version of the child trafficking-related laws and regulations to key stakeholders and sensitize 70 CSO representatives from the Napak Child Rights Network.

The project will construct a child-friendly transit center in Kampala, with capacity for 100 children; rescue and reintegrate 450 street children; collaborate with government to prosecute traffickers.



# Our projects in Luxembourg

## North-South: a right for me, a right for you

(January 2023 - December 2023)

#### This global citizenship education project includes:

- **Participation** of young and adult beneficiaries in workshops and conferences on human rights.

- **Promoting the role of multiplier teachers** in raising awareness on human rights among their students.

- **Raising awareness** within the school community by a group of student volunteers as part of our refugee integration program.

#### 1,301 beneficiaries

With the support of the MAEE and Oeuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte.



In 2023, we organized workshops in 13 secondary schools. Some secondary schools organize annual solidarity awareness events and invite us to propose our workshops to students. For example, we took part in Fuussendeeg 2023 at Lycée Michel Rodange and at the Solidarity Week at Lycée Vauban.

Thanks to the workshops with young people, 82% of them claim to have improved their knowledge of human rights by answering the evaluation questionnaire, and 80% say they have empathy for marginalized communities.

14 new young people joined our group of volunteers alongside young refugees following our workshops on asylum law and the situation of unaccompanied minors arriving in Luxembourg. The workshops are also evaluated by teachers, with 95% of respondents stating that we succeeded in conveying an important message to their students, and that the workshop was interesting and useful for them as adults. 8 teachers who worked with us said they were planning to incorporate the topics covered into their courses.

We were able to run an in-house training course for teachers with the Institut de Formation de l'Education Nationale (IFEN) at Lycée Michel Rodange.

We had the pleasure of adapting the content of our workshop to 11- and 12-year-olds children from a section of the European School. The children participated very actively and enjoyed the activity.



In November, we received a visit from Esther Aliat, midwife at Matany Hospital. Esther spoke to students from 4 high schools about her work in the mobile clinics that visit the most remote villages in the Napak district, in the Karamoja region of Uganda, bringing vital help to pregnant and postpartum women, their newborn babies and many other sick people in the villages.

Esther is a true Karamojong and spoke to 190 secondary school students and a group of young NSC volunteers about the customs and traditions of her native region. It was an encounter full of new knowledge that opened the minds of young people. Some of them shared the experience of meeting Esther with their schoolmates via social media and the school newspaper.



9 vouna volunteers. who take part in the school support group for young refugees as part of the Chrysalis project, answered a few questions in a video interview about their volunteering experience. Young people's words are full of motivation and hope and will be shared in schools as a source of inspiration for other young people.



## Chrysalis

(January 2023 - December 2024)

**Objective:** The well-being of refugees is enhanced through playful, interactive activities that promote resilience to stress and mutual support.

Asylum seekers who arrive in Europe after an extremely difficult and painful journey must rebuild their lives in a new country. This rebuilding of their identity and future takes a great deal of effort. Chrysalis supports people on this complex journey.

## 94 beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the Chrysalis Project are Applicants for International Protection and Beneficiaries of International Protection hosted in 4 reception Bridel. structures: Bourscheid. Heiderscheid, Wecker.

This project is funded by the European Union (AMIF Fund) and Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.





Several volunteers, including high school students, are involved in the Chrysalis project alongside the refugees.

Giving individual support to offer a neutral and serene space for listening and promote wellbeing (stress management, practical advice to make daily life easier).

Activities proposed throughout the year:

- School and language support for unaccompanied minors and young refugees, with the help of high school students.
- Meetings/conversation tables to practice languages and facilitate the integration process.
- Sporting, artistic, and cultural workshops to develop personal skills, local knowledge, creativity, and teamwork.

During this first year of the project, we had the pleasure of setting up conversation tables in French, Luxembourgish and English, 5 days per week at the Bridel facility, with a group of highly motivated volunteers.

At the Wecker facility, we are present once a week for a French conversation table with a group of vulnerable women living in the facility. At the end of this first year, a wonderful bond has developed between our volunteers and the women involved in the program.











For all these groups, we organized parties, picnics, sports activities, children's activities, cultural and visits. Their presence and attentiveness, even in difficult times, created a wonderful relationship between volunteers and beneficiaries.



## APES Project



The refugee integration activities of 2023 have given us momentum and inspiration for APES project our new "Accompagnement Personnalisé pour l'Emploi dans les Structures d'accueil" (2024-2025).

Through our exchanges with refugees, we have come to realize how difficult it is for them to restart their lives without a job. So, we decided to launch this new initiative and support them through a training and mentoring programme.

For APES project we are looking for:

Mentors who can help refugees find a iob.

Companies willing to offer a professional experience to refugees trained by us.

Would you like to become a Mentor?

Would vou like to become a Corporate Partner?

Contact Elisabetta Lano and Roberto Marta: apes@cns-asbl.org

APES is financed by the European Union (AMIF Fund) and the Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and **Reception of Refugees.** 

and a bike ride. A large number of residents took part and were able to reuse their bikes. Our school support group for young refugees, initiated in

At the two northern facilities, we

offered a bike repair workshop

previous initiatives, continues to grow in numbers and with

enthusiasm.





## **Events:**

Thanks to our many volunteers, we were able to organise various awareness and fundraising events: K-Run, Marché du monde in Dudelange, Festival des Migrations, the Christmas market at Lycée Vauban, our annual party...





























Coumba Fall (Chairwoman), Fabrice Bernard (Deputy Chairman), Michele Bernardi (Treasurer), Jacques Scheller (Secretary), Nicola Chiumarulo (Member), Oliver Bornstein (Member),





In 2023, the Annual General Meeting of North-South Cooperation was duly held on June 10th, 2023.

We would like to thank: Our friends for their encouragement, The many volunteers for their concrete help, Our donors for their loyalty, Our institutional donors for their trust, Our partners for their commitment and constructive collaboration.

Special thanks go to: Fedil Employment Services, Niche Asset Management Ltd, ArcelorMittal, Lycée Vauban and Lycée Josy Barthel Mamer How to support our projects? You can show your generosity by making a donation to North-South Cooperation: LU98 0019 3555 9664 7000 BIC: BCEELULL or via Payconiq:





North-South Cooperation

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