

KID Annual Report 2016

Renate's report

I would like to report on my work in 2016, on the long-term projects of school kitchens, school bus and sports, a one-time training project, as well as various, slightly different projects. In these cases, I was asked to participate not so much due to financial considerations, but to help with conceptual and organizational matters. This is interesting work. It is time-consuming and, of course, unpaid. But for me this means a lot of recognition for my work and confirms that I am respected and taken seriously in Dominica.

Long-term projects

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School kitchens

At present, I manage and finance 7 school kitchens. The Secondary School in Castel Bruce has a new school management that has not asked for help so far. The school in Colihaut, which was badly affected by hurricane Erica, has been accommodated on a half-day basis in the school of the neighboring village of Dublanc until further notice. This means there is no need for lunch. In the school kitchens, together with the 4 cooks paid by KID, there are 7 other people who are paid by the government as part of the national employment program. In the "National Employment Program" NEP, the government gives 1700 mostly young people the opportunity to do paid work in various sectors.

I have always made sure in my schools that school gardens are laid out and planted. It is also important for me to have a healthy and balanced lunch. All my schools have therefore been supplied with fresh fish once per trimester. I am pleased that both concerns have now been taken up by the government in a workshop for all persons dealing with school lunches, including the state coordinator, as a requirement for the state school kitchens as well.

Kitchens (including compensation for 4 cooks)

ECD 24`200 (*pro memoria: ECD 100 = approx. CHF 35*)

Christmas bonus for the cooks

ECD 800

Fish

ECD 3`240

Facilities (freezer, refrigerators, cooker, steam cooker, dishes and cutlery, plywood panels for building shelves)

ECD 9`824

Total cost

ECD 38'064

School bus

Financially and organizationally, the government is responsible for school transport. With the primary school in Bells the agreement is that KID finances the replacement bus in case the normal school bus breaks down. Last year, this was the case for 9 days.

Total cost for 9 days at ECD 200

ECD 1`800

Sports

My table tennis children in St. Joseph meet every week for training. I was especially proud of them this year because the under 12-year-olds won a bronze medal at the National Table Tennis Championships and the 12-16 year-olds finished 4th.

Registration of the table tennis group of St. Joseph with the National Table Tennis Association

Bus trips to the special training in Roseau

Substitute trainer and training assistance

Participation in the National Table Tennis Championship

Total cost

ECD 890

I have always wanted to have free, open to all, weatherproof table-tennis tables on playgrounds and sports grounds. For KID, this would have been too expensive to finance. Fortunately, the Swiss honorary consul, and a sports instructor by profession, Andi Burkhard, was able to get CHF 50'000 for this project from the Swiss government

Short-term project

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Apprenticeships

After the success of the apprenticeships for young people, which KID had funded in the areas affected by hurricane Erica, I took on the cost of a further training course for shipbuilding and repair of outboard motors in Castel Bruce. 2 participants then found employment on the Caribbean island of St. Croix (B.V.I).

Even if these apprenticeships do not comply with Swiss standards, I find them extremely important. They equip the young people with a certificate which is recognized in the surrounding Caribbean States. In addition, I read with satisfaction in a recent paper issued by the SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) that in developing and newly industrialized countries, emphasis is increasingly being placed on the vocational training of young people as well.

Total cost

ECD 20`500

Various other projects

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Marine Science Education Awareness Programs

Unfortunately, due to illness, I could not accompany this project. So Robi Siegenthaler took over for me. (See his report below).

Total cost

ECD 150

Mlle. Francophonie

In the primary schools there is a day of Francophonie and every school presents a country. Subsequently, Mlle. Francophonie is chosen. Castel Bruce had selected Switzerland as its country and asked me for financial and advisory assistance. I organized the decorations, made sure we had some appropriate Swiss music, and took care of the candidate's costume in which she was to perform. In French, she was supposed to tell people about Switzerland and, if possible, with intelligible pronunciation. I prepared the text for her, and I practiced speaking with her. Before her appearance, however, she was so nervous that she could not even go onto the stage and the audience unfortunately did not find out anything about our beautiful country.

costs

ECD 300

Whale Watching

The German whale welfare association, Pottwale e.V. finances guided excursions for children to the sea, which last for several hours. KID pays the transport for the children to the marine center and their snacks. Children from schools in the communities affected by hurricane Erica, as well as from poor communities and a mixed group from various schools, have been able to benefit from the offer.

Costs

ECD 1`500

Help for individual families

School fees for 6 children for 2 years each, school shoes, bus money, teaching materials, food

ECD 570

Money for school meals for 7 children

ECD 600

costs

ECD 1`170

Miscellaneous expenses

Business cards and stickers for KID

"Fun" day for preschool kindergarten in St. Joseph

Transport costs for fish in the various schools

Photocopies for fish recipe books

Snacks for the graduation ceremony at Dos D'Ane school

Contribution for a child who was injured by a school bus in Atkinson

School material for the school in Colihaut, which was badly hit by hurricane Erica

Children's transportation to the cultural week in the Kalinago district

Costs

ECD 1`245

Total costs of various other projects

ECD 4`365

Annual global amount transferred to Renate for personal expenses and micro-donations

ECD 1`800

I was personally invited to the following two events.

The Sea Turtle Protection Plan, organized by Rosalie Bay Resort. Apart from the staff and the owner of the "Rosalie Bay Resort", various "Sea Turtle" Community Groups, KID, various representatives of the Ministry of the Environment (Fisheries and Forest Division) and Mr. Harris, coordinator of the Dominica Sea Turtle Conservation Organization (DomSeTCO), were present at this event.

Graduation ceremony for the 190 graduates of vocational training, organized by the Youth Development Division. The students gained diplomas in various professions, in computer studies, automobile repair/bodywork, sanitary installations, electrical installations, carpentry / joinery, tailoring and cosmetics. Unexpectedly, the students took me onto the stage and honored me with a big bouquet of flowers. This graduation ceremony is part of the government's great effort to release young people into the labor market with professional qualifications.

Finally, I would like to tell you about Odile. I have known her since she was a little girl. Today, she is a young woman who is striving with great commitment to shape her future. She comes from a poor family with many children. Her mother was a single parent and was the only bread-winner and, if it had to be, she would even resort to less honorable activities to earn a living. In the evenings she often sat in the shade on the stairs from the church to the cemetery and her children played happily and contentedly. This was not typical for Dominica, of course, because most of the children were not allowed to play freely, but were mostly running errands for uncaring adults. For many years, Odile participated in the table tennis sessions every week, later on in the Steelpan group, and she always impressed me through her reliability, her discreet ambition and her team spirit. She was a successful student and will complete her training as a nurse in one year. She looks after her now mother, who has difficulty walking, and is always in the village in the morning and in the evening with her 5 - 6 goats. With these animals she finances her education and sometimes, when she needs to buy something expensive, she might ask me for a loan until she can sell the next goat. Afterwards, she never fails to pay me back the money 100%. Odile does not have a child yet, and I think she fully understands that her professional qualification will be a very important element in shaping her future.

Robi's report

At the beginning of 2016 we worked together with the Fisheries Division, Pottwale e.V, a German whale welfare organization, and Mr. Harris (DomSeTCO), an experienced specialist for the rescue of sea turtles, on a project in four primary schools on the east coast (La Plaine, Delices, Morne Jaune-Riviere Cyrique and Grand Fond). Miss Stout from the state's fisheries division explained the importance of coral reefs to the schoolchildren. A. and W. Steffen presented a short film about sperm whales. Dominica has the largest sperm whale colony in the world, which resides here all year round. Unfortunately, the whales are also increasingly endangered. In a very humorous way, Mr. Harris taught the children that they should not eat the turtles and their eggs, but should protect them instead. At the graduation ceremony in La Plaine, the whole village was invited and the children presented their linen sheets, on which they had painted whales, fish and turtles. The project was received with great interest and enthusiasm. KID participated with a small contribution towards transport costs and volunteer work.

Total cost

ECD 150

KID Annual Statements of Account 2016

Balance sheet at 31.12.2016	
<i>Assets at 31.12.2016</i>	<i>CHF</i>
Petty cash (closed on 2.6.2015)	0.00
Current account of the Förderverein: 60-475732-0	19'098.28
Savings account: 92-647579-0	8'197.95
	27'296.23
<i>Financial statement</i>	
Assets at 1.1.2016	36'752.15
Assets at 31.12.2016	27'296.23
Excess expenditure in 2016	-9'455.52

Profit and loss account 1.1. to 31.12.2016		
<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Expense</i>	<i>Income</i>
Transfers to Dominica	34'000.00	
Renate's compensation for 2016	2'000.00	
Charges Post (PS, Giro int'l, monthly statement on paper)	62.50	
Rent of room Calvinhaus and beame for AGM	180.00	
Office materials	6.80	
Printing of annual report and invitations to AGM	544.30	
Mailing of annual report 2015	255.50	
<i>Income</i>		
Membership fees and donations (as per donation list 2016)		27'586.68
Interest on savings account		6.50
	37'049.10	27'593.18
Excess expenditure in 2016		-9'455.92