



YEAR REPORT 2017



Boys near one of the big trees that fell down

INTRODUCTION

The Watoto Foundation centres “Child in the Stars” and “Child in the Sky” are community based boarding schools whereas Kiboko Lodge is a training centre for former disadvantaged hard-core street children. The main Watoto Foundation centre, Child in the Sky, started in 2003.

The age of the students ranges from 13 to 18 years. Before coming to the Makumira Child in the Sky centre, the students stay at the Arusha drop-in centre for at least 3 months. When they have passed the entrance examination, they start the 3-4 year education at the Makumira Child in the Sky centre. WF will make sure that either the students have a paid job before leaving the centre or go to private secondary boarding school. Watoto Foundation has three projects which are registered under charitable organisations under Cap 212 no 48500. The centre is under the Ministry of Social Welfare, licence number 5218. About 100 students are permanently supported by WF. The centres have already served nearly 900 street children from all over the country. We believe in the fundamental right to education for all children. Children’s rights should always be respected. The students who come to our centres belong to one of the most vulnerable groups in society.

DROP IN CENTRE 'CHILD IN THE STARS' ARUSHA

Watoto Foundation Tanzania has laid down clear written regulations to determine which hard-core street children (13-15 years of age) can be accepted to join the drop-in centre. The social worker is operating with the help of local authorities in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Karatu, Moshi, Babati, Mwanza and Arusha. He also goes into the streets to find boys and attract them to leave the streets. The main reasons to run away from home are poverty (90%), death of parent(s) and abuse.

All the children we take have to promise to respect the rules of the centre in order to change their behavior. The centre's program is designed to keep the children busy through several activities such as studying, reading and writing, gardening, cooking, general cleaning, playing football, basketball, acrobatics, dance, yoga, making toys and also Landrover cars from recycled tins, and watching TV and movies. By working in our vegetable garden, taking care of rabbits and chickens our students learn about livestock and gardening. Apart from these activities the students are being counseled by the social worker/manager, care taker and teacher of the centre. Through counseling we help them to leave their traumatic past behind and to focus on the future with hope, confidence and love.



In 2017 a total of 39 students came to the drop-in centre, 19 of them successfully joined the centre in Makumira and 9 remained in the centre, 1 reunified and 10 went back to the streets. Also in 2017 we reached our target to reduce the number of children running back to the streets under 25%.

Welcome of Dutch board members in drop-in centre

| Events | Enrolled to drop in | Joined to Makumira | Remained in the centre | Re unified with family | Run away from centre |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Jan - Dec 2017 | 39 | 19 | 9 | 1 | 10 |
| Percentage | 100% | 49% | 23% | 2% | 26% |

Our drop-in centre is run by 3 staff members: the manager/social worker, the care taker and a part time teacher who teaches the children mathematics, Swahili, English and basic life sciences. Once per week one of the teachers of the centre in Makumira goes to teach carpentry. Several volunteers who support the centre on a part-time basis.

Also in 2017 our donor "United Children" from the Netherlands financed the main part of all the costs incurred in the Child in the Stars centre. Asante sana for their help all these years! The contract will come to an end as per end 2018 and we are looking for a new partner to help us run this very important centre.

WATOTO FOUNDATION ‘CHILD IN THE SKY’ MAKUMIRA

2017 was the second complete year for the manager Aminiel Teete to act as overall manager of Watoto Foundation and the first year for our volunteer supervisor/advisor, Ilse de Jong. Overall supervision was done by the founder. In total there were approximately 15 teachers working at the centre in Makumira.



The centre operates as a residential primary school and vocational training centre. The following subjects are being taught:

| Primary school (Memkwa) | Vocational training |
|---|---|
| English, Mathematics, Kiswahili, Science, Social Science, Geography, History, Civics, Computer Skills, Wildlife | Carpentry, Metal work and welding, Electrical Installation, Car and bicycle repair, Masonry, Plumbing, Tailoring, Cooking and housekeeping, Livestock, Horticulture |

On a daily basis our students can practise their skills in several sports activities and games such as football, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, running, acrobatics, singing, drama and boxing.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN YEAR 2017 (MEMKWA)



Our 11 students all passed the national examination in 2017. 5 Of them were even in the top ten out of 84 children who did the national examination at Uraki Primary School. Our study results are good because of the small classes, discipline and education based on Montessori system (teaching by playing).

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

During 2017 the following academic initiatives were undertaken:

- 11 students of Watoto Foundation participated in the standard 7 primary school national examinations.
- The outreach coordinator visited the secondary school students to see how they proceed.
- In order to teach the students more about agriculture, horticulture and livestock they visited the yearly Farmers Day (Nane Nane) and several outside companies and farms, together with staff.
- Environmental conservation education has been conducted by our head teacher for the students through bird watching, trees planting and gardening.



VOCATIONAL SKILLS ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2017, the graduates were 11: 4 of them went to private secondary school, for the other 7 we found a paid job in different companies. Unfortunately some students dropped out for different reasons such as low salary or unacceptable behaviour. In order to make them experience the consequence of having dropped out, our policy is to help them again but only after a few months.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

In 2017 we received orders for carpentry, welding, livestock and horticulture from Kiboko Lodge, neighbour schools, companies and also private people.

1. **Carpentry**: the students and teachers make many orders for own use but also many from outside clients; this way the students learn a lot.
2. **Metal works and welding**: our students make orders from outside customers with the help from our teachers.
3. **Livestock**: A number of 15 cows are providing milk for our own needs; we sell the surplus to the local village, the lodge and other schools. The pig project which was started in 2009 provided us in 2017 with around 15 pigs and 70 piglets for our own needs and business.
4. **Poultry, rabbits and guinea pigs**: We had over 850 Dutch chickens (Barnevelders). We sold 3500 eggs per month and also some chickens to the local community, commercial businesses and our lodge. We sold 3 rabbits.
5. **Horticulture** – Our drip pipe irrigated, “slow food” gardens provide vegetables for staff and students; some are sold to our drop-in centre, Kiboko Lodge and the local community.
6. **Car repair** – We do many repairs of our own cars and sometimes from outside customers. Mechanics classes very much appreciated by our students.

The income generated by our carpentry, welding and car repair departments is essential. These departments realise orders from outside customers. Under supervision of the teachers the students produce the orders thus learning how to use tools and machines. In this way they obtain a lot of practical experience. Several experienced volunteers can to support our carpentry department and to teach many new items to the students and teachers.

Also the sale of livestock and vegetables is a major contribution to the financial means of the foundation. Unfortunately the cheese department had to be closed because of lack of enough milk and problems with the tax authorities.



ACHIEVEMENTS SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

The main task of the social worker in Makumira is to be involved in the personal issues of the students and try to solve any problem they face. Individual and group counseling form a considerable part of his tasks, making the boys to open up and talk about all feelings.

The social work department welcomed 19 boys who came from the drop-in centre, aged 13-15.

After the yearly holiday all boys who were in the centre before the holiday returned to the centre, except for those who started a job or secondary school. The total number of boys who started in 2017 was 43.

Unfortunately a total number of 7 boys (which is very unusual) decided to go or run away for reasons such as theft of Watoto Foundation properties and fear of the consequences, promises of their family during the holiday such as money, cow and lack of motivation.

After having given several warnings and warning letters we decided to send away 2 boys for the following reasons: unacceptable behaviour towards the other, mainly younger, boys, theft and smoking marijuana.

In 2017 we started a system that makes every boy to choose a big brother and big father/mother. These are persons they trust and can confide in when facing challenges. They involve the social worker in order to counsel the boys.

Special program 18 month boys

The boys who are in the last phase (last 18 months) of their stay at Watoto Foundation are being prepared by the social worker and the assistant social workers for life after Watoto Foundation. They counsel the boys on several subjects such as discipline, behavior, money management, job interviews etc. They meet once per week.



Outreach program

One of our teachers makes follow-up on the boys in field work and boys in secondary school. He visits the work places and schools regularly. He looks, together with other staff members and the founder, for field work places and work places for our (former) students.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Challenge Day "Cross the Line"

In 2017 the Challenge Day was organized in June. Teachers showed their love to all the students, who were encouraged to be very open, to tell their life stories to each other in small groups and to show respect for their background and difficult past. All students and staff members participated. As guests of honor we had invited the district social welfare officer.

Teachers Team building



With a new management team in place the first two days of this year's staff seminar were dedicated to team building. The last day all staff participated and they were inspired to make some steps forward in communication and making learning fun (teaching by playing).

Teachers training

Our teachers attended two seminars which were performed by the social workers coordinator at Amani Children's Home. The first session took place in our centre in Makumira, the second one at Amani in Moshi. It was a mutually well appreciated opportunity to share experiences on how to help our students in the best way and build up more knowledge and confidence. One of the main topics discussed was to ban corporal punishment.

Our supervisor attended a training at the TCDC centre: Financial management for non-financial staff in NGOs. This training was not aimed to create accountants but for non-financial managers to understand the basics of accounting.

Bird watching

Every month the head teacher of Makumira centre conducts the bird watching and wild life program for the students in different sites in our district. Last year 9 students were member of the bird watching club. All of them take part in both field and class bird watching education.



GRADUATION / FOUNDER'S DAY

During this year's graduation/founder's day, 20 October 2017, a total of 11 students graduated and received the certificate of completion of the years spent at Watoto Foundation. They were all awarded their certificate of vocational training and the national standard seven certificate.

DREAM SCHEME AND STAFF MEETING

In 2017 the set-up of the dream scheme session was like previous years: teachers award points to the students on a daily basis looking at their behaviour, academic and VTC performance. These points are added up and result in a ranking. The boy with the highest ranking is called on stage first and may choose first from small useful presents such as a football, a t-shirt, small torches, calculators, tape measures etc. Even the student who finishes last is rewarded with a pencil and a package of biscuits. The main purpose of this monthly dream scheme session is to stimulate the students in a way of competition to work hard and improve behaviour. Teachers show their love and appreciation to the students by complimenting and encouraging them through a firm hand shake. Each dream scheme session is followed by a workers' meeting in which teachers can bring forward points to discuss and improve the centres.



HEALTH OF THE WATOTO FOUNDATION STUDENTS

In general the health of the students is fine. We have had some cases of malaria and typhoid. Also small accidents happen during the sports activities. We had a severe case of burning wounds but luckily the boy recovered miraculously well and quick. One student in the centre has a serious heart problem. With the help of medicines he is doing well although he cannot participate in all activities and we have to keep a close eye on him. We found a donor who is willing to pay for his medicines for which we are very grateful. We follow the advice for a check-up every 6 months.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

From 9 December 2017 onwards all teachers and management took all students home, the last one leaving on 12 December, for their annual holiday. This year the holiday was 4 weeks, boys returning on 6 January 2018. During these home visits we inform the parents or relatives about the academic and behavioural progress of their boy. Seeing the poor circumstances the families live in and their daily struggle to survive is every year heart breaking and it makes us understand why students run away from home. After the holiday 100% of the boys came back by public transport, which is unique. However, two boys decided to return home the following day. We allowed, as an exception, one of these two boys to come back to the centre after some time but unfortunately he decided again to leave the centre, this time for good.



WATOTO FOUNDATION KIBOKO LODGE TRAINING CENTRE

A world's paradise surrounded by Arusha National Park

Watoto Foundation Kiboko Lodge is the world's first lodge which is fully run by former street children except for the managers. It was built by our students and teachers in an eco-friendly, authentic African style. It has an open camp fire, palm leaf roof and open kitchen where our top cooks provide excellent meals.

Kiboko Lodge is situated at Ngurdoto village built at the slopes of Mt. Meru (4,561 m) and 4 km from the Arusha National Park gate. The lodge has 17 self-contained rooms and 5 family rooms, all with shower, toilet and fantastic bed; all cottages have comfortable and ambient rooms with verandas and a beautiful view on mount Meru. Sustainability is becoming more and more important for tourism in Africa and we are very proud to have built the first stage in Africa made of recycled plastic bottles.



Welcome at Kiboko Lodge

Kiboko Lodge established a remarkable recognition and appraisal of its job done by the students who were once street boys. The following activities were deployed in 2017:

- the lodge offered theory and practical training for the Watoto Foundation students in cooking, housekeeping, waitering and maintenance.
- The replacement of the wooden stage by a stage made entirely out of recycled plastic and installed by one of our teachers and some students.
- The lodge supplied 500 trees plus a small present during the yearly neighbor meeting.
- Kiboko Lodge hosted nature conservation meetings.

- Kiboko Lodge was the venue for the training seminar for Watoto Foundation management; also many other organisations booked for seminars.
- Kiboko Lodge invited chef cooks and others for an in-house training

Guest reviews put Kiboko Lodge in the top three lodges in the Arusha region out of more than 200 (tripadvisor.com kiboko lodge arusha). Also Lonely Planet gave us the predicate 'Top Choice'. We are very proud and happy that Frank (who has been the lodge manager for 6 years already) and his wife Joyce have taken over the lodge from 1 January 2018. They agreed to keep the concept as it has been from the beginning.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON TANZANIA

Since the current president of Tanzania came into power in 2015 the socio-economic and political situation in Tanzania has changed considerably. Besides eradicating corruption, this government strives to improve public provisions such as infrastructure, education and health systems. The laws on taxes are therefore being followed much more strictly than before. All businesses and also charitable organisations are being scrutinized. The exemptions granted in the past to Watoto Foundation are judged as insufficient and for that reason government is of the opinion that Watoto Foundation has not complied to the tax legislation. We have even been penalized severely (retroactively from 2010). Watoto Foundation Holland has transferred a huge amount of money in order to pay the taxes, fines and penalties (see heading Donation, page 10). The amounts for taxes, fines and penalties are mentioned under the heading Expenditure for Watoto Foundation and WF Kiboko Lodge, page 10) The tax report for 2016 has been submitted to the tax authorities and we expect to pay taxes, penalties and fines again. The year report 2017 will be sent to the tax authorities by the end of June and we expect to pay taxes, penalties and fines again.

WATOTO FOUNDATION COOPERATION WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES

WF continued to be engaged in 38 development projects up to this year 2017 in many primary schools and some secondary schools. WF also was engaged in water projects, churches, orphanages etc.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

We welcomed also in 2017 many visitors and volunteers who show great interest in our organisation and our three centres, Child in the Stars, Child in the Sky and WF Kiboko Lodge. Since we consider our students not to be a tourist attraction we limit the number of visitors and we only allow donors and guests from Kiboko Lodge to visit the centres. Also Kiswahili students from TCDC are allowed to visit: our students help them to improve their knowledge of Kiswahili by talking to them in their mother tongue.

STUDY FUNDS

We wholeheartedly wish to thank the donors of our study fund. The students who are doing very well at the standard 7 National Examinations and who are very motivated and have very good discipline can go to outside private secondary boarding schools, high school and even university after Watoto Foundation. Due to the TRA (tax paying) issues we faced the number of students who can go for further studies will be very limited.

SOURCE OF INCOME FOR THE CENTRES

To generate income for the centres we produce what the market demands and therefore we also gain valuable training in market orientation. Training becomes sustainable: through the manufacturing and sales of many products made by carpentry, welding, livestock, horticulture departments and from the

Lodge. After the tax problems with the tax authorities, we have had to abandon our dream of being independent from donors. We kindly but urgently request our donors to continue to help us the work we are doing for these hard-core street children.

SHORT COMINGS:

Our wishes for 2018:

- To have enough money to run the study fund for students going to secondary school, high school and university (€ 20,000)
- To have some new machines for our carpentry department.
- To renovate the livestock department
- To paint and do maintenance on our school

APPRECIATIONS TO MANY FRIENDS AND SUPPORT FROM DONORS

These comprise the main contributors who donated in surplus of euro 1000.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM DONORS

The 3 centres wish to express their gratitude for the help and generous support shown by board members, donors and all staff members of Watoto Foundation. We have been able to achieve considerable progress in assisting nearly 900 underprivileged children living on the streets since the beginning.

FAMILIES:

Reijnders, Van Oord, Swinkels, Van Hout-Huijs, Schoneveld, Schripsema, niet nader te noemen, Van der Vegt, Van Zon, Bosch & Speerstra, Lips-Verlaan, Hanegraaf, Goldley, Ten Brummelhuis, Van Swaay, Gerritsen, Houweling, Van Leeuwen, Vincent & Walter, Fauth, Rupp, Schnepel, Boom-Moons, Stegers, Baak, Hinfelaar, Veen, Overgaag, Van Urk, Van Raalte, Propst-Yuece, De Moei, Bosch, Van Zutphen, Van Hugten.

FOUNDATION:

St. Vrienden van Tanzania (SVVT), Johannes Stichting, St. Welgelegen, United Children, Heijmerink Reith stichting, Stichtingen niet nader te noemen, Fred Foundation, St. Uden Wereldwijd, Trap – In Uden, Hedi fonds, St. Remigius fonds, Stichting Thuisfront Braem, Stg Caritas St. Petrus, RKSU Udi '19, Heilig Hart Huisvesting, St. Alf,

COMPANIES:

Scheepbouwer & van Zon B.V., i-Wink, bedrijf niet nader te noemen, Esceha Qua N.V., Coppens, Davis associates, TIT Goldberg, Berden Warenhuis B.V., Brasserie De Conversatie B.V., De Voltage B.V., Van der Putt Advocaten

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