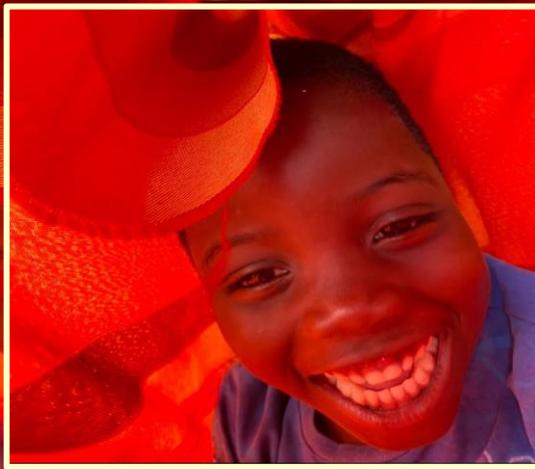




Newsletter November 2021



Hello dear friends,

In October I paid a working visit to Togo. Besides making teenagers happy with all the letters, we had meetings with leaders of local partners, with students from the school for the deaf, with children from the orphanage, with old and new students whom we (will) support, we went on a home visit to an intensely poor family and played with the little ones of the orphanage.

As for Friendshifts: we continue to grow. Hendrike Eerkens (French teacher) is a volunteer and came along to Togo. 2 interns from the Christelijk Lyceum Zeist help us. We have started with new schools: "Het Vlier" in Deventer and Lycée Francais de Chicago. And... we have received funding from the Takatuka Foundation and from our new partner: Amorph Systems.



Amorph Systems: our new partner

We are delighted to be able to involve Amorph Systems in our activities since the 1st of July. Amorph helps their customers to shape their future with software solutions. With Friendshifts Amorph helps underprivileged young people to shape their future with IT courses. At Amorph, the team understands better than anyone that computer skills are key these days. Thanks to Amorph Systems we have been able to buy 4 computers, improve the internet connection and pay the salary of a trainer.

First computer cursus started

Thanks to funding of Amorph Systems, the course "L'informatique pour tous" ("IT for everyone") was launched by mid-October. In the computer center of our partner Cast in Togo, 10 young people learn word processing, communicate via the internet (mail, Skype) and discover where they can find relevant information such as Wikipedia, online dictionaries, tutorials on Youtube, etc. Listen here what participant Salam thinks about it:

<https://youtu.be/8ALCmbjCRK0>



Hendrike gives a workshop to teachers.



We had an article in the Drachtster Courant.



American sign language for "cup"



New exchanges

In September we gave introductory lessons about the exchange project in 12 classes. The students have once again written beautiful letters. It is very cool to see how happy and inspired the young people in Togo are when receiving the letters. We are now handing out their answers in The Netherlands.

We support...

..... two new talented youngsters: Dimitrine (18, photo) will start training as a medical secretary in November. Etienne will start at the agricultural college to learn how to breed turkeys and chickens. Agriculture and care are sectors with a lot of employment, in Togo.

Meanwhile in Myanmar..

.. the 4th corona wave is ebbing. We are still eagerly waiting for an opportunity to visit our partner in Myanmar. An accelerated Bridging Program course with 30 participants (instead of 150) has just been completed. We supported the program with 1000 €.



Exchanges with French International School Chicago

With group 7 and third graders from Lycée Français de Chicago, we started 1-on-1 contacts. We have taken and viewed photos, videos. The children heard many new things: What is Halloween? What does a violin sound like? What is a donut? The students in America can think about why children in Togo sweep the classroom and their room themselves, why so many twins need to be supported, why the favorite food is just "rice" or "lettuce"....

**Thank you for your support and interest !!
Without you we can not make impact.**

