

m • sterd zaadje



Foundation mustard seed (stichting mosterdzaadje)

Annual report 2014-2016

December 2015

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Foreword

Chairman Henk-Jan Seesink about mosterdzaadje (mustard seed)



mosterdzaadje is based on the frank hope on a biblical principle. It must be possible for an average citizen to make a difference for the poor who live around us, right? For instance in Africa?

In 2010 I saw organisations in Kenia fail. Large sums of money were wasted, resulting in an incorrectly placed wall around a Children's Home. The money was an inheritance from a Canadian woman who wanted to make a difference after her death. But everyone involved in building the wall, including the construction workers, guards and architects, secretly profited. In the end, the money was wasted and the Children's Home was never built. Feeling angry and frustrated about Development Aid I concluded my first journey. The castle in the air was crashed.

Back home in the Netherlands, I received an e-mail. George, a 'fundi' and pastor, who I one day helped in building a home for teenage mothers, invites me to visit him and his friends in Bungoma-County. Two years later I'm in his cabin with four friends. No sanitary facilities, no electricity, and because we are here, his kids have to sleep in the small kitchen. We can sleep on newly-bought mattresses in their living room. His wife washes our hands before we join them on an abundant meal. Despite their poverty, we are welcomed as kings.

In the summer of 2014, mosterdzaadje funded the largest chicken coop in Bungoma-County. It helps our friends in Kenia generating income to found their own local social projects. Together with our Kenyan friends we built a home for a widow and bought sheep which were bred under George's supervision. In the meantime, the widow has sold a few sheep to be able to buy a cow and produce milk. George told me people often ask him why he invest so much effort in helping others, while he is so poor himself. He always explains that it is his vision to help a many people as he can in escaping from poverty. Because money alone is never enough! With more people helping, local poverty can be better dealt with.

Working on the projects, I see the efforts of local people. It is overwhelming to see everyone literally sitting in the mud, building the project's walls. Man and woman, young and old, believers and unbelievers, Dutch and Kenyan: together we fight poverty. Slowly, my castle in the air rebuilds.

mosterdzaadje

"Foundation mosterdzaadje (mustard seed) wants, based on Christian values and with modesty and transparency, to help and give hope to people who live in poverty, by inspiring others and being a mustard seed."

No matter how small, your effort can make a difference in Kenya. When you travel with us, you'll see that any amount of compassion, in giving some money or cooperating in our projects, changes your life and the lives of others.

We are inspired by simply sharing the lives of our friends from Kenya. The dream we share at Foundation mosterdzaadje connecting with them in standing next to them. In getting to know each other and working together on projects, precious relationships blossom.

Inspired by *Matthew 13:31-32*, we believe that being small and fragile, gives the power to change things. No matter how small, your effort in travelling to the slums of Kenya, the one euro you have to share or the frailty of a child living on the streets can grow into perspective for the whole local community.

Foundation mosterdzaadje is 100% committed to the general interest. All funds are fully spent on projects. Additional costs are paid by board members or donors who explicitly contribute to these costs. This way the Foundation invests even more than 100% of contributions in projects, because the board invests private money. The foundation therefore is a not-for-profit organization, but committed to the general interest, trying to empower people in changing their own situation.

The foundation wants to work in other countries by:

1. Giving means of production and shelter;
2. Visiting local projects with stakeholders;
3. Organizing activities which improve contact with the local community and vulnerable individuals, giving them hope.

The foundation wants to work in the Netherlands by:

1. Organizing various activities such as fund raising, publicity, etc;
2. Establishing and maintaining an information platform on the Internet;
3. Sending newsletters and prayer letters to people who are interested;
4. Transparant and actual bookkeeping.

Project travel 2014

Thank you very much for your prayers and/or financial contributions! The project journey 2014 was a big success, thanks in part to you. We got into contact with children who live on the street in Kitale (Kenia), and with social workers. We're looking for sustainable solutions to be able to help them in the future. In addition, we encouraged the local community and churches by, together with them, building a home for a widow and her children. We also gave the widow sheep which she could breed under the supervision of others. With the future revenues, she will be able to buy a cow and become self supporting (see also 2015). It was nice to see many people showing their appreciation of these projects. For many of them it is a miracle to see people from the Netherlands and Germany coming to them to help.



Eventually, together with the local church, we built the largest chicken coop of Bungoma-County. Now they are able to start their own social projects.

Activities 2015

We used the year 2015 to prepare for future projects. Thanks to our new treasurer, mosterzaadje now has its own bank account. Now we can be independent and transparent about our money flows. In addition, the 'ANBI-status' is being requested, making donations tax deductible. The website www.stichtingmosterdzaadje.nl and our logo were renewed by a friend and participant of the 2014 project journey.

The projects started during the project journey 2014, were able to grow. In the meantime, our Kenyan friends have bought their own chicken food machine. Thanks to this, they are able to obtain their chicken food much cheaper. The widow we helped has sold the sheep in order to buy a cow. Finally, we were invited to join the think tank 'justice' at the student association NSN. There, we got the chance to talk about our motivation to help our African friends.



Project travel 2016

In August 2016 a new team will travel to Kenya. Together with our friends in Kenya, we will build a home for a widow and her children. We will also come in contact with children who live on the streets, to talk with them and find ways for our foundation to support them in the future. And we will give them blankets, to help them keep warm during the cold nights. Depending on the amount we receive as donations, we want to realize the following projects:

Euro	Wat
3.000	4 cows & a home for a widow
4.000	6 cows, blankets for children on the streets & a home for a widow
6.000	8 cows, blankets for children on the streets & a home for a widow
10.000	2 cows, blankets for children on the streets, a home for a widow & a farmland
14.000	4 cows, blankets for children on the streets, a farmland & a home for a widow
27.000	8 cows, blankets for children on the streets, 2 farmlands & a home for a widow

We'll come into contact with children who live on the street, people who live in Pokot, Kitale and Bungoma-County. The team will consist of 4 to 6 people. If desirable, it is possible to create a second team. Diverse actions will be conducted to raise the funds for the project journey.

Board

Henk-Jan Seesink (chairman)

The chairman represents the board and leads the activities of Foundation mosterdzaadje.

Wiebe de Jong (finance)

The treasurer manages the capital of Foundation mosterdzaadje.

Jonathan Seesink (secretary)

The secretary supports the chairman in his activities. At Foundation mosterdzaadje, the secretary also plays a significant role in maintaining e-mailaccounts and presentation via the internet.

Remuneration policy

The statutes of Foundation mosterdzaadje do not allow a remuneration policy for the board or personnel. Foundation mosterdzaadje will only work with volunteers. This way it is guaranteed that any effort for the Foundation is voluntary and donations are fully invested in the projects. Satisfaction by helping others should be enough.

Finance

2014

In the year 2014 the board has undertaken a journey to Kenya. The benefits from own sponsoring were not sufficient to build the widow home, the chicken coop and buy the sheep and chickens. The board has paid uncovered costs with own funds. In addition, other costs such as registration at the kvk (chamber of commerce) and the website domain were paid by the board, because the statutes do not allow funding these costs by funds received by fundraising (except when explicitly allowed by sponsors). No costs in relation to estate or employees were accounted for and are not allowed according to the statutes.

2015

In the year 2015 the board created a bank account (IBAN: NL62 KNAB 0726 6340 34) to be used by the Foundation. This gives the board the opportunity to work transparently. In this year, no costs were reported. The gains from own fund raising were reserved for the journey to Kenia in 2016. The board paid additional costs (website domain and bank account costs) with own funds, because the statutes do not allow for these costs to be paid with funds received by fundraising (except when explicitly allowed for by sponsors). No costs in relation to estate or employees were accounted for and are not allowed according to the statutes.

2016

In the year 2016 the board will, together with volunteers, undertake a journey to Kenia. Various projects will be started, depending on the amount of funds raised. In accordance with the budget we can realize one agricultural field, one home for a widow, four cows and blankets for children who live on the street. Our goal is to raise enough funds for this with fundraising activities, so the board will not have to pay for this with own funds. In the year 2016, the board will again pay for additional costs, because the statutes do not allow for these costs to be paid with funds received by fundraising (except when explicitly allowed for by sponsors). No costs in relation to estate or employees will be made, in accordance with the statutes.

Gains

	2014	2015	2016 (Estimated)
From own fundraising	995,00 €	1284,56 €	14.000,00 €
Legacies	0,00 €	0,00 €	0,00 €

Costs

	2014	2015	2016 (Estimated)**
Total costs project journey	2.118,82 € (244.104,00 Ksh)	0,00 €	13.655,00 €
- Widow home	544,37 € (62.715,00 Ksh)	0,00 €	546,20 € (60,000,00 Ksh)
- Chicken coop	1.531,06 € (176.389,00 Ksh)	0,00 €	0,00 €
- Sheep	43,40 € (5.000 Ksh)	0,00 €	0,00 €
- Blankets for children who live on the street	0,00 €	0,00 €	182,07 € (20.000,00 Ksh)
- Agricultural field	0,00 €	0,00 €	10.924,00 € (1.200.000 Ksh)
- Cows (four)	0,00 €	0,00 €	2.002,73 € (220,000 Ksh)
Total additional costs*	0,00 € (71,00 €)*	0,00 € (37,43 €)*	0,00 € (329,43 €)*
- Registraion Chamber of Commerce	0,00 € (50,00 €)*	0,00 € (0,00 €)*	0,00 € (0,00 €)*
- Website domain	0,00 € (21,00 €)*	0,00 € (17,43 €)*	0,00 € (19,43 €)*
- Bank account	0,00 € (0,00 €)*	0,00 € (20,00 €)*	0,00 € (60,00 €)*
- Roll up Banner (two)	0,00 € (0,00 €)*	0,00 € (0,00 €)*	0,00 € (200,00 €)*
- Advertisement (printing costs)	0,00 € (0,00 €)*	0,00 € (0,00 €)*	0,00 € (50,00 €)*

*Paid for by Board's own funds

** Exchange rate November 7, 2015