

November 2024

By Robert Lamers

Activities November 2023 – November 2024 (actueel verslag van de uitgevoerde activiteiten)

Focus and growing numbers!

The activities during the period November 2023 – November 2024 can be earmarked by the words “focus” and “growing numbers”. This is in line with the decision of the Lila Foundation Board to the success of the two key projects of our Foundation: focus on the continuation of the projects. We are proud to present the activities in the period November 2023 – November 2024 in this condensed report.

In Loita, South West Kenya, we continued the SHEEP INITIATIVE. This project supports local families, until now families of single mothers, in setting up farming activities to become self supporting.

The Sheep initiative provides to a family the following:

- 8 pregnant sheep
- A sheep barn
- Vaccinations
- 3 - 6 months sheep feed (depending on the season)
- Availability of the two ram (male sheep) we have in the neighborhood to breed
- Support from our local project manager

Lila Foundation is able to provide this from a donation of € 826,-.

The selected families often do not have any cattle and are depending of trade, delivering small services to other families and charity for their living. Often children are not able to go to secondary school because of the boarding fees this comes with.

By joining the Sheep Initiative the family receives the opportunity to raise a little herd of cattle. As soon as the baby sheep are born two potential streams of revenue start: milk and meat. The third, wool is added later.

Our project manager visits the families and makes sure that our two ram (male sheep) are available, the veterinarian is available and the families know what to do.

Early 2022, Lila Foundation started the Sheep Initiative. At the first family, the first group of 8 pregnant sheep has now grown and became a herd of over 32 sheep.

In the year of this report the number of families grew to 15, with in total more than 250 sheep. Please take into consideration that the 15 families count for about 75 mothers and children.

This year also marked two clear setbacks. The first was the threat of infectious diseases threatening the sheep. This required Lila Foundation to fund additional vaccinations and to pay for this from her own reserves. We are evaluating how to handle this in the future. The second setback was the heavy rains in the area. Fortunately the Sheep Initiative's barns all showed to be strong enough, though some houses of the participating families were literally washed away. In one specific week 16 mothers and children had to spend the night on the premises of the project manager. Lila Foundation supported the rebuilding of some of the houses, in this case with iron roofs.

The extreme rain in the one seasons comes with drought in the other season. Lila Foundation funded the realization of two 5000 liter water tanks and is evaluating if this could be significant enough for the 15 start up sheep farms when the drought is coming.

Looking into the future, Lila Foundation and the team in Kenya is evaluating the opportunity to grow to more families in the project and keeps an eye on an infrastructure to facilitate the growth of the families now actually start up farms in the project.

On the pictures below from left to right: selection of pregnant sheep on the market, introduction meeting to five new families, getting the first water tank to the village, distribution of water with the project motor bike.



With the growth to 15 families, the support to the participants and the water tanks, this was a very busy and successful year for the Lila Foundation Sheep Initiative.

At Ufanisi Centre, Korogocho Nairobi, daily young children and young adults are welcomed to go to school and have a good meal. The young children attend primary school and the young adults attend a series of programs like arts, health and personal empowerment.

In the period November 2023 – November 2024 we continued with the two major programs: the around 122 primary school children and the around 60 young adults.

The young children receive accredited primary school and meanwhile get breakfast and a lunch every day; if available. The young adults are able to follow Ufanisi’s courses and training on several subjects.

Isaiah Luyara is one of the directors of Ufanisi and the main point of contact for Lila Foundation. Isaiah remains the trustful inspirator for Ufanisi and with Robert Jan (Lila Foundation) he is in weekly contact to find ways to strengthen and grow the project.

In the reporting period, we have drafted the budget for our long standing wish to build a new second building on the next door plot we acquired in 2023. The budget is drafted now and Lila Foundation is preparing a fund raising plan.

Meanwhile we have executed smaller support programs in the reporting period, like support to the sustainability program and facilitating hygiene products to the young adult girls.

In addition, also at Ufanisi there was a climate change related set back. In April – May 2024 the very heavy rains resulted in terrible land slides and damage in the Korogocho slum where Ufanisi is located. Fortunately, the Ufanisi building (created with Lila Foundation donation in 2019) was strong enough and safe. But, in the area many families were affected and several people died. Lila Foundation supported an initiative organized by Ufanisi providing new inventory for the families that sometimes lost everything.

On the pictures below, from left to right: new mattresses clothes and first shelter for the families that lost all in the flooding of May 2024, graduation day October 2024



To conclude, it has been a busy period and there is more to come!