

Entwicklungshilfegruppe Solarkocher der Staatl. Berufschule Altötting e. V.



Annual Report 2020

Development cooperation in times of corona

At the beginning of the corona pandemic, it was feared that the virus would have catastrophic consequences for people in our partner countries in Africa, Asia and South America due to poor health systems and poor hygiene.

Fortunately, the gloomy predictions did not come true everywhere. In countries where the governments showed responsibility in fighting the virus, the number of severe infections and deaths have so far been limited.

The death rate in Africa is around 40 times lower than in Europe. The main reason lies in the different age structure of both continents e.g., the average age in Uganda is 16 years and 46 years in Germany. Only 2% of Ugandans are older than 65 years whereas 18% are in Germany. According to the Robert Koch Institute, people killed by the virus are on average 81 years old in Germany.

Nevertheless, the virus has seriously impaired the lives of the people of these continents.

In many places public life stood still, busines, schools, etc. were closed. Social security and government aid efforts like ours in Germany do not exist. Those who are out of work have no income, no money for food and fuel for cooking. As a result, nutrition is deteriorating, especially in Central Africa where long periods of drought (worsening due to the global climate change) and armed conflicts have already affected people's living conditions.

UGANDA

In Uganda, the lockdown started simultaneously to the lockdown in Germany. All workshops had to close, and the public transport was completely stopped. A curfew from 7 pm to 6 am was implemented, which was strictly monitored.

Our project partner was able to pick up the 5 boxes with trays for 220 solar cookers from Entebbe Airport to BSPW in Jinja just in time. After that, no further work was possible. Thanks to a fundraising campaign by "Jugendhilfe Ostafrika e.V.", the wages of BSPW employees could continue to be paid during the lockdown phase. After the restrictions had been loosened the workshop was able to resume operations. The frames for 50 cookers have already been assembled. As soon as the transport of the solar cookers by truck to northern Uganda to the Palorinya refugee camp is possible as well as reasonable - considerung the

protection measures - Edwards will implement the cookers in the camp.

BSPW has secured a plot of land on the Gulu-Nimule motorway for the planned production site in northern Uganda in Pabbo, 37 kilometers north of Gulu. The next batch of solar cookers was to be built on these new premises near Palorinya camp. The production site, consisting of 3 large containers, is specially designed for the construction of solar cookers and the assembly of bicycles. We have agreed to participate in equipping the solar cooker workshop.

SENEGAL

Whilst the general "lockdown" was implemented step by step in Germany as of mid-March to slow down the spread of the coronavirus within the population, we still managed to ship two boxes with reflector sheets for 100 solar cookers to our project partner SAPOP in Senegal on March 23rd. SAPOP had planned to start the assembly for a larger upcountry project immediately after receipt and intended to employ its young people, who are well trained in solar and wood-saving stove construction. Due to the coronavirus, the departure of the ship from Hamburg was delayed by a week (April 11), but the boxes arrived at the port of Dakar on April 19, as communicated by SAPOP. There they should have been collected by SAPOP due to the partial closure of the Senegalese capital neither collection nor transport from Dakar to Fimela were still possible. The sheets finally arrived in Fimela at the beginning of October. SAPOP had to fork over the equivalent of more than EUR 1200 for storage and inland transport fees.



With the support of the United Nations and funds from the USA, a SAPOP team went on a major tour during the summer to promote the SK14 solar cooker in almost all regions of Senegal and Gambia.

Sheikh Diaw, Director of SAPOP wrote: "Perfect project ... it was super interesting ... I urgently need reflector sheets to manufacture more solar cookers ..."



Help me find financial partners who will grant me a certain annual budget so that I can introduce solar cooking to the people in Senegal, but also in West Africa. We have the expertise and the commitment ... "



TANZANIA

After UNHCR approved a budget for 100 solar cookers for the Nyarugusu refugee camp, EG-Solar decided to send 150 sets of reflector sheets to Dar Es Salaam. Adolf Yanda and Angelo Barige were to organize the import and transport to the Kigoma region. With our support and the UNHCR's commitment, the establishment of a solar cooker workshop on site should be possible.

Despite the Corona situation, we inquired transport cost and despatched the 3 boxes of reflector sheets on June 29, 2020. On September 1st, the sheets arrived at the Energy Solution workshop in Kasulu / Kigoma, which has now been established.

At the beginning of September, 30 solar cooker frames and the combined warming baskets for delivery to the Nyarugusu refugee camp had already been completed, others were in progress.

In mid-October 2020, 100 solar cookers were delivered.



After on-site tests and the review of the stove sets by REDESO (RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY) and the UNHCR, minor improvements/modifications were made. The next step will be handing the solar cookers over to 50 families from the DR Congo and 50 families from Burundi who live in the Nyarugusu refugee camp as well as holding workshops on the use of solar cooker technology.



Construction courses

Construction courses could not take place in the corona lockdown phase. The only course that we were able to hold (adhering to strict hygiene regulations) was held in July and course length had to be shortened.

Solar Cooker Conference 2021

The conference planned for April 2021 has to be postponed to autumn 2021.

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Hans Michlbauer, Vorsitzender

EG-Solar e.V. 09.12.2020