



FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AID GAMBIA  
DUTCH DEPARTMENT  
**NEWSLETTER 2008**



**DEAR GAMBIA FRIENDS,**

By popular demand this newsletter is being sent out immediately after most of us have returned from the summer holidays.

We have again had quite an eventful year.

**ORGANISATION**



The organisation in The Gambia has undergone a thorough change. The old Committee has been replaced by a completely new Committee comprising of five Gambian and two Dutch persons. The new Committee has been very busy and has generated lots of activities.

The **NGO** (Non-Governmental Organisation) status has been extended for a further two years and the cooperation with the NGO Office in Banjul has been defined. As a result, our Foundation has been able to strengthen its position in The Gambia. Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) have been signed with the Ministries of Education and Health. Those agreements ensure that in the near future a number of projects can be further developed.

A start has been made with setting up SHHG-Belgium. A few years ago we parted company with the then Belgian branch, but the initiative has now been taken up by a new and enthusiastic team.

We have also obtained an ANBI (Algemene Nul Beogende Instelling) declaration from the Dutch Tax Office. This means that SHHG has been recognized as an official charitable Foundation. Sponsorship and donations are therefore deductible from income tax. A copy of this ANBI declaration can be downloaded from our website.

**FUNDRAISING**

General

Again we wish to thank all our sponsors for their contributions which have been well spent.

We especially wish to mention that we were able to present our Foundation at the Africa Week held at the Saint Vitus College in Bussum and that they donated part of their revenue to our work in The Gambia.





FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AID GAMBIA  
DUTCH DEPARTMENT  
**NEWSLETTER 2008**



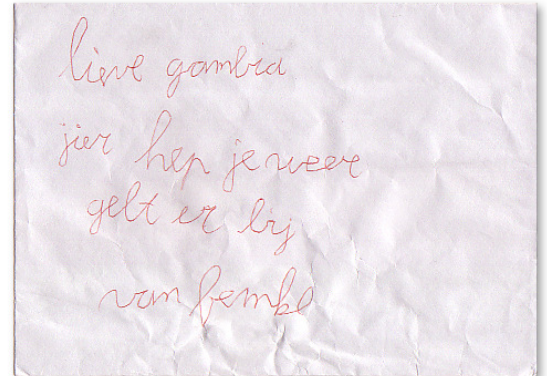
In addition, the Foundation has received from some of the proceeds of the Amsterdam Dakar Challenge.

In the spotlights ...

We would like to thank our youngest sponsors of the Saint Willebrodus School of Millingen aan de Rijn for the annual lent incentives in which also the teachers and the vicar of the church participated with great enthusiasm.

The note we received from Femke is a warming example (dear gambia, hear you hafe some more monny from Femke)

Lastly, we hope you will understand that although we would like to put every sponsor into the spotlight, it is not practically possible in this newsletter.



**PROJECT NEWS**

General

Influenced by the new Committee in The Gambia the Foundation is planning to grant loans (micro-credit) to persons or small groups for setting up a small business or cooperation. We expect more involvement and self-management from the local population in these projects. This, however, involves more than just the mere lending of a sum of money. It will require quite a bit of monitoring from our local people.

Schools

Change can lead to new initiatives. The Head Master of Nafugan has been transferred and the cooperation with the new Head Master has resulted in the final completion of the fencing around the school. The Rotary of Roosendaal has assisted in buying a new water pump for the school.

The Head Master of the Bakadaji School was sent on a sabbatical year to the university of the capital for a course in education management. The interim Head Master has proved to be a hard working, creative person who is easy to work with.

The food programme of both schools is an issue of concern. Because of the worldwide explosion of food prices and the resulting diminished WFO subsidies there has been increased pressure on our resources.





FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AID GAMBIA  
DUTCH DEPARTMENT  
**NEWSLETTER 2008**



Saint Vitus Health Centre

Although initially the completion of the works was delayed, the new FHAG (Foundation Humanitarian Aid Gambia) Committee was able to hand over the Centre at an official opening in May of this year.



Presently negotiations with the Government for the staffing of the Centre are nearing finality. Primary interviews with possible candidates for the nursing, driver/security and caretaker staff have been held.

Women's garden project

In our last newsletter we reported that the development of this project was positive, but a year on we are back to square one. A disagreement with the owner of the available plot of land has resulted that we decided to look for another garden project. At the instigation of the local authorities we were directed to the very poor village of Kanubeh where we intend to start up a new garden project.



Somita Health Centre

The number of patients treated here has taken on such proportions that it was decided with the local authorities to charge certain categories of the population for the medication they receive.



The result will be that the funding from the Foundation will not have to be raised every year. A very generous donation from America has been used to alleviate the pressure on this part of our budget.



FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AID GAMBIA  
DUTCH DEPARTMENT  
**NEWSLETTER 2008**



We would like to invite you to look at our renewed website on <http://www.shhg.nl>. De NGO in The Gambia has its own website which can be viewed on <http://www.fhag.gm>.

*To be able to continue the work of the Foundation we would like to ask you, as in previous years, for your financial support as sponsor. The amount has remained the same at € 75.00. We would also like to enlist your assistance in recruiting new sponsors.*

On behalf of the Foundation

***The Dutch Board.***

Jan Thijssenstraat 45  
1403 TD Bussum

Tel: 035-6917863 / Fax: 035-6920983 / Mobiel 06-10882439

e-mail: [a.aalst@stichtinghumanitairehulpgambia.nl](mailto:a.aalst@stichtinghumanitairehulpgambia.nl)

<http://www.stichtinghumanitairehulpgambia.nl> of <http://www.shhg.nl>

K. v. K. . Amsterdam 41226966 Bank: 50 66 45 320