



Newsletter October 2014

Who doesn't love a big market?

IOP-workers certainly do, and Oct. 15. IOP opened the doors to its 4x-a-year market.

There was a long line of IOP-workers outside the entrance of the centre. Inside they could find everything from clothes and suitcases to shower gels and teddy-bears – donated from Europe and the US. So when the doors finally opened the workers flowed in like a river in spring.

Some bought a suitcase for the first time in their lives, others bought new clothes and toys for



The market was held in the hall at the centre.

their children. To own a suitcase – preferably a hard one – is a treasure for most, like owning a dresser or a robe cabinet. But also a kitchen knife, lamps, shoes and back packs are popular. It is great to know that we can support our staff by offering what volunteers bring in “an extra suitcase” for a reasonable price, and also support IOP. In total the market gave an income of approximately \$2,500 which will be used for the completion of the Library.



The girls were also excited about the market and watched from the entrance.

Project of the month:

The IOP shop and BITE café

Whether you want a bite to eat or a new pair of shoes, IOP's shop and café are the right places to be.

- These two projects are very important to the rest of IOP. Many of the other IOP-projects, like the school, orphan centre and pre-school come to the shopping centre to buy supplies. The café provides a place for IOP-workers to have lunch close to where they work, so that they don't have to spend time going somewhere else, Liston Kibasa says, current shop manager and IOP-employee since 2011.

- But the shop and the café are also open to the rest of the community, not just IOP- workers, he adds.

Pieces of a big puzzle

The IOP shop was started in 2007, followed by BITE café five years later. Today the shop has three employees and the café two. Liston adds that these projects are also important because the profits are used to pay not only the salaries of the employees of these two projects, but also to contribute to the salaries of people who are employed in the IOP administration. This also constitutes a challenge to running the shop and café:

- Our biggest challenge is competition from other shops and cafés, because their products are cheaper than ours. The difference in price is due to the fact that a lot of the profits of the IOP shop and café are being used to run the IOP-administration, Liston explains.

New services

He has plans for how he can do business with even more people. This year the shop will start to deliver a new service called "m-pesa". M-pesa is a way of transferring money with your phone, and in that way people can pay with their phones instead of cash.

- We are also planning to become an agent of the CRDB-bank. That means that CRDB-customers in Ilula can deposit and withdraw money in the IOP-shop instead of going all the way to Iringa, he concludes.



Liston Kibasa shows some of the products in the IOP shop.

Reaching 2000 people

For three days in October, IOP cooperated with a youth group from The Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) to educate community members about climate change.

IOP is one of the organizations which for a long time has been helping the community through training on climate change. Iringa region is one of the regions which has been experiencing climate change.

Up to this moment IOP is working with different partners to make sure that climate issues are properly addressed, and from 20th to 22nd of October, IOP received a youth group from NCA. Together we managed to reach more than 2000 community members in Ilula, Ilawa and Lyasa villages.

This kind of group is also known as a climate caravan. The initiation of conducting this caravan was to educate the community in different villages about climate change and mitigation measures on climate change issues. IOP always appreciates that NCA collaborate with it to make sure that education and skills are reached on time to manage the upcoming changes.



The youth from the climate caravan teaching the community about climate change through songs.



They also communicated their message through dance.

Bittersweet goodbyes & warm welcomes

During October eight new volunteers were welcomed with songs and dance at the center. Others got their goodbye hugs.

- People are so nice and welcoming here, and playing with the girls at the center is a lot of fun, Sofie Østenbøvik Olsen (19) says.

She is one of four Communication For Change (CFC) participants who arrived earlier this month.

Five new nationalities

The CFC-team consists of Solveig Kildahl (19), who's also from Norway, and Tamari Moto (21) and Mwanaiba Kaywanga (18) from Ilula. Together they have been to schools and churches to talk about subjects such as climate change, gender and economic justice.

In the evenings the team spends time with the girls and the other volunteers. The other volunteers who arrived this month are Theresa Gleich (24) from Germany, Laura Moons (24) from Belgium and Jorrick Broeke (28) and Femke de Kam (21) from The Netherlands. Jorrick, who is a pain consultant, and Femke, who's a nurse, volunteered at Ilula hospital for a month before going back to The Netherlands. October was also the month for saying goodbye to Selena Beltman, who was introduced in the last newsletter, and Annelies de Groot (62) who visited IOP for the ninth time.

Tree-planting and Kiswahili-songs



Annelies de Groot (62) says goodbye after her ninth visit at the centre.



Welcome-dance!



Tamari (21) got a big goodbye-hug from Jorrick (28) before he left.

Laura, Theresa and the CFC-team are staying in Ilula till the end of December. Laura is a teacher for children with disabilities and Theresa studies "International Cultural and Business Studies" in Germany. They both help out at the centre with everything from gardening to photography.

- One of the most interesting experiences I've had so far was a trip to a school in a small village in the mountains where we planted trees with the children, Theresa says.

She lives in a host family close to IOP and hopes to learn a lot about life in Tanzania during the two months she is here. Laura agrees.

- We are also learning to sing in Kiswahili, which is a very funny experience, she adds.

A terrifying night in Ilula

On the night of Halloween, Ilula Orphan Centre was visited by ghosts.



The girls had fun dressing up as ghosts.

The 31st of October is the day when children in many parts of the world celebrate Halloween. This year, Ilula was no exception. The girls at the centre made their own masks while laughing at each other and looking both cute and creepy at the same time. They also snuck out into the dark to scare the guards who had been tricked into leaving the gate to check on the cows. When the guards returned, the only sound to be heard was that of a lonely grasshopper nearby. The girls

were hiding in the shadows, holding their breaths and covering their mouths not to giggle. Then, on three, the peaceful darkness exploded. Girls with unnaturally pale faces came running, jumping and screaming towards the two guards who were not sure whether to laugh or cry. They are still recovering from the shock.

Training community volunteers

The Norwegian Church Aid provided training on results reporting for 16 community volunteers in the foster family project.

On October, 25th Oct, 2014, IOP received Dennis Allan, and Moses Kulaba from NCA. Their coming was useful to IOP as they monitored the Integrated HIV project, commenting on its progress and advice for the high result progress. The monitoring team used their time to give training to 16 community volunteers from sixteen villages were IOP reaches with

Integrated HIV/AIDS project. The Integrated HIV project is a project which is supporting orphans and most vulnerable children in the villages, this project is also known as Foster Family project because most of orphans who did not get the chance of been cared at IOP are helped to get a foster family and be supported there. Through this project IOP reaches 236 families caring for 566 children in 16 villages in Kilolo District.

The community volunteers were given this training in order for them to be able to produce successful report. IOP was very grateful for that training and believes that if the community will be given training it will be able to be strong on various reporting activities, but also they will know how to document events about children, and other projects which are implemented in their villages.



The training was given at IOP.

INITIATIVES

... And now we need **YOUR HELP!**

Do you have some **OLD PIECES OF FABRIC**

and you don't know what to do with them?

HERE at **IOP CENTER** they would be very useful for our girls!

Indeed they could be used as covers for our old chairs!

We eagerly await your reply!

IOP still has some projects that we need fundraising for. Some of these projects are:

- ✓ Annual running expenses \$ 25,000 for the IOP Center (Orphanage)!
- ✓ Finishing the new welding house \$9,800
- ✓ Annual running expenses of the IOP pre- school "Kids' Corner" \$10,500.

We have a good number of students waiting for Sponsorship so they can go to school
If you would like more information about projects and/or sponsoring please contact:

IOP TANZANIA	Berit – beritiop@hotmail.com
IOP NORWAY	Ingunn – iop.norge@gmail.com
IOP NETHERLANDS	Annelies – info@iopnederland.nl
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*****GOD BLESS YOU -**

MUNGU AKUBARIKI ***



If you have any questions concerning new projects, please send an email to our IOP managing director
Berit (beritiop@hotmail.com).

Prepared by Kristine and Enicka.