

Newsletter IV, August 2010



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Dear all

We present news on the different projects of the association pro milk Mali in the following lines, highlighting gained experiences, current challenges and inform about the small-scale dairy DJOM KOSSAM.

Enjoy your reading!

Buy a cow in Mali

We finally informed everyone who supported the project since its initiation in the year 2008 in detail about the situation of the cow financed and marked the cows with earmarks. These tasks were not the easiest ones because no suitable earmarks were available on the market in Mali. We also discovered that some farmers did not comply with our rules and that the herder we engaged was not loyal and faithful. Summarized we purchased until today 78 cows. 56 of them are healthy, one is ill, ten are missed and eleven died. Most of the eleven cows died during the flooding in East Africa in September 2009 (Newsletter III, December 2009), but also due to accidents, illness or because they ate too much plastic waste. 12 calves were born and another 23 cows are pregnant. We plan to purchase another six cows this year but couldn't realize it, because we were not totally convinced on the quality of the offered animals. We are very happy that we could purchase much more cows as initially expected, which is due to your great support. We however have to admit that the organization with its resources available was not ready to perfectly handle the number of cows and we were not very satisfied about our „cow-management“ processes in place. We now believe having initiated the right measures to improve tracking the situation of the cows and are optimizing also the structures of the organisation further. The first return on these efforts is that the cows, which are directly supervised by our herder, are healthy and produce milk.

Donate the name of a calf

You can donate the name of a calf for 250CHF since beginning of 2010 and get a certificate of the calf's name including a picture and also regular updates, as you would support the purchase of a cow. Thanks to these earnings we are able to cover running costs and initiate new projects.

Training of farmers

We are pleased to announce that we can organize the next training for farmers after having trained them in feed production last year. This new training gives continuity to build farmer's

knowledge and supports the establishment of a sustainable rural dairy market. We currently evaluate with selected farmers the topic they should be trained in.

Medical support of Farmers

We organized last year a pilot project with a doctor from Mali supporting medical care of farmers and their families in Bancoumana (Newsletter III). We can leverage the project thanks to a project related donation to two rural villages and two interventions this year with option to expand to project further.

Small-scale dairy DJOM KOSSAM

We invest most of our time into the expansion of the business of the small-scale dairy DJOM KOSSAM. DJOM KOSSAM is the backbone of all our projects, because the local start-up facilitates that farmers can sell their milk every day, which improves their prosperity. Although we currently do three steps forward and two backward we are approaching a sustainable benefit level and improved milk collection during the first half-year compared to the last year's time period on over 40%. Our main challenge is currently how to replace our Renault Express, which breaks soon into its single pieces. The car is vital for the daily milk transport between farmers and customers. Of course a donation to the association pro milk Mali would help us to realize this project.

You can support the activities of the association pro milk Mali by simply donate some money, sponsor the name of a calf, sponsor the purchase of a cow or become a member of the association.

We really appreciate your interests in our activities and of course would be very happy about your support.

Best regards



Dr. Stephan Wullschleger

President association pro milk Mali

P.S.: The cantonal tax office of the canton of St. Gallen withdrew the association Pro Milk Mali from its liability for taxation. The liability for taxation was declared on harmonized taxation law and has therefore its validation in every canton of Switzerland. Deductibility of donations is regulated on cantonal taxation law.