

Newsletter 9, August 2014

Onone é tiyabou é tiéedou de Mali

In Peul, the native language of the farmers in Mali:

„Summer greetings from Mali“



www.promilchmali.ch
info@promilchmali.ch

- Pro Milk Mali provided professional medical support to over 300 farmers and their family members in February 2014.
- The association supports DJOM KOSSAM, a small-scale dairy in Mali, to construct an own farm to guarantee a more stable supply of milk: We count on your support!

Medical care of farmers

Many people in rural Africa cannot afford professional medical assistance, so the traditional medicine man is still the first point of contact for health problems. Pro Milk Mali initiated a medical care program that offers healthcare to the milk farmers and their families. Farmers who supply milk to DJOM KOSSAM are offered access to a professional medical team and received medical treatment whenever necessary. It is our objective to educate farmers to reach out to professional medical assistance in case of any health issues. In long-term we aim to reduce health-related absence of work and therefore to improve standards of living of local farmers.

In this campaign, 70% of the participants were diagnosed with multiple health symptoms, such as infectious diseases, malaria or anemia. The patients were given relevant medications and treatments under the sponsorship of Pro Milk Mali.



Picture 1: Farmers and their families are waiting for the medical assistance through professional doctors.

Building a farm

One of our objectives is to strengthen the value of local milk. Local milk is produced in rural villages and strongest demand is in the capital Bamako. The small-scale dairy DJOM KOSSAM¹ bridges the production of milk and the sales of locally produced milk in Bamako. We therefore support the small-scale dairy to improve its business activities. DJOM KOSSAM employs currently over 10 people and it gives job opportunities to young



Picture 2: A cow with its calf that will soon stay in the new farm.

¹ DJOM KOSSAM is in the language of Peul and stands for „Woman can I please get some milk?“. You need to know that in Mali men are taking care of the livestock and women are in charge of the processing and sales of milk. Women carry milk in traditional buckets on their head and sell milk on the local markets.

Malians, who sometimes do not even have finished basic education. The small-scale dairy runs a successful operational business but needs still some support for its investment activities.

In a next project we help DJOM KOSSAM to build an own small farm. In this way, cows can be kept in improved and controlled conditions and we expect the production of milk to increase substantially².

We would very much appreciate your support to build this farm. We plan to build a silo and a larger draw well (CHF 2,000 and CHF 1,000), to buy a machine to make hay bales (CHF 500), to artificially inseminate cows (CHF 80/cow) and to buy more cows of good genetic crossing (CHF 1,500).

Thanks to your support we will reach our objectives!

The objective of our association is to develop the local Malian dairy sector (farmers, processors, sales organizations) and thus to improve the standards of living of local people. This objective can only be realized with your generous support. We would therefore very much appreciate your contribution to the activities of the association Pro Milk Mali.



Picture 3: A newborn calf that hasn't yet a name. You can name the calf and will get an official naming certificate for CHF 250.

Become a member of the association pro milk Mali (annual membership fees: individual fee CHF 100, student fee CHF 40, company fee CHF 1.000) or donate a smaller or larger amount.

We appreciate your interest and support.

Kind regards



Dr. Stephan Wullschleger,
President, Association Pro Milk Mali.

P.S.: The cantonal tax office of the canton of St. Gallen excluded the association Pro Milk Mali from its liability for taxation. The exclusion for taxation was declared on harmonized national taxation law and is valid in each canton of Switzerland. The deductibility of donations is regulated on cantonal taxation law.

² Extensive farming is generally practiced in Mali. This means that according to nomadic traditions livestock is walked for long distances to feed. The long walking distances and limited availability (during the dry season) of feed and water sources keep the production of milk low. This will not be the case if the cows are kept in an own farm.