



JugendPartnerschaft Ghana e.V.

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Dear Members and Friends of JPG and YHFG,

before the year ends, we would like to take the opportunity to provide you with the latest news from Ghana. The last months have brought as again a number of challenges and new developments, so our work stays exciting and interesting. However, also good news have been waiting for us and we are looking forward to the year to come.

Sunuga Peanut (and Shea?) Project

The organic certification of the peanut cultivation and the shea-nut wild collection has been successfully completed.

Many women in Northern Ghana, as well as several women groups at EPEFA, use sheanuts traditionally to produce sheabutter which is used in natural cosmetics, also in Europe. For the coming year, we plan to promote sheabutter production at EPEFA and find a partner for a shea-project. Since shea-butter is exclusively produced by women, such a project would in particular benefit women in the EPEFA cooperative.



Drying of Sheanuts.

The peanut harvest of 2009 is going to yield only 1.5-2T (15-20% of the expected amount) due to floodings and resulting viral diseases of the plants on numerous EPEFA fields.

As a pilot project, several farmers will cultivate peanuts in the dry season on fields close to the Volta river in January. With this, we hope to secure part of the peanut harvest from weather influences. Furthermore, we aim to produce our own organic seeds for the planting season 2010.

On the initiative of our project partner Weleda, the sunuga project was selected as one of three charitable projects, that will receive a share of the profit made at the international summit for sustainable cosmetics in Frankfurt on the 16th/17th of November 2009 (<http://www.sustainablecosmeticssummit.com/>).

Project proposal approved: Apotdabogo Junior High School (JHS)

The Italian Monte di Paschi Foundation has approved 30'000 Euro funding support on a proposal for the construction of a Junior High school in Zongoire in 2010. JPG and YHFG had handed in this proposal in April 2009 together with Il Fuoco del Futuro.

The community, the district and the local chiefs in Zongoire have already assured their support for the project. This means, we will have a building site at our disposition and the Ghanaian Educational Board will hire teachers for this school. The overall project budget comprises 64'000 Euro. We are currently looking for additional partners who will help us in the financing, so we will be able to realize the project as planned.



Finally! A JHS in Zongoire!

So far the next Junior High School is about 15km from Zongoire, which means out of walking distance for the students. With this new school, many children at EPEFA and the surrounding communities will have the chance to continue their education beyond primary school and go for a training.



Youth Parliament

On December 5th the annual youth parliament took place with great success. As a debate contest among the harvest clubs of Senior High Schools and Apprentices, the following statements were discussed:

- Comprehensive sexuality education should be made a requirement in the school curriculum for students from the age of 12.
- The music industry is the main cause of promiscuity among youth.
- The dowry system where you pay cows/goods for marriage should be abolished.
- It's ok to have sex before marriage.
- Parents are to be blamed for teenage pregnancy.



The team of Bolga Senior High (BOGISS) won the annual youth parliament 2009

Exhibition Junior Achievers

The promotion of entrepreneurial skills of students and apprentices during their education and training is one of the major goals of the youth center. Since May 2009 students and apprentices can learn in a playful way the start up and management of a business through the network Junior Achievement (JA, <http://www.ja.org/>) in the framework of the Junior Achievement Company Program.



Presentation(l), Tasting and (m), Sale of the products(r).

On October 23d the first series of the Junior Achievers seminars culminated in an exhibition. The eight participating groups (JA Companies) presented their dyed materials, ties, bags made from colourful local fabrics or with the school emblem, as well as several food produce to their colleagues and the public. The exhibition was appreciated by several speakers and accompanied by dance performances of the choreography group of the harvest academy.

International Registration - Transnational Giving Europe

The registration of JPG with the European Network *Transnationalgiving Europe* (TGE) in Italy, Great Britain and the Netherlands has been completed. From now on donations from these countries can be accounted for in a tax-effective way, if they are transferred to JPG via the respective national partner organisation. However, TGE charges 5% of each donation as administrative fee. The respective account information can be requested at *Oranje Fonds* (NL), *Charity Aid Foundation* (GB) and *Vita Giving Europe Onlus* (IT).

Thank you very much for your interest for our work and all your support. We wish you a merry and peaceful christmas and a Happy New Year 2010.

Julia Leimkugel, Gero Frisch and Veronika Schlicker; Board of JPG