



Chipunga Development Committee
c/o Mr. Daniel Mthuti / Saskia, Mareike, Bastian
P.O. Box 611
Mzuzu
Malawi

May 17, 2009

Status of projects: School, Chicken, HIV-Education, Fertilizer, and Bicycles

Dear Mr. Mthuti,
Dear CDC members,

Let me point out first that I have problems to sending SMS to either Saskia, Bastian, Mareike or Dan Mthuti. Since the prefix has changed (adding 99) SMS move is not possible to me. On the other hand I received a SMS from Saskia on the positive steps forward by the new teachers, but my rapid reply didn't went through.

Nevertheless, since my last two letters many activities at Chipunga occurred:

The first cycle of the pilot chicken group is over and according to a telephone with Bernhard Schwarz last evening the second group is going to commence in parallel to the first group already by next Friday. Hope that the local market has been researched and you found that there are adequate amounts of buyers for the 200 new grown chickens. Further the HIV-VTC education started and in parallel you are working out a workplace policy on the subject of HIV/AIDS. Thanks for the energy you put into these projects. Well done!

But I was really wondering to hear from Bernhard that you decided a high-priced project w/o involving us in any way. Presume something went wrong with the communication. Even though the German volunteers are around, way and frequency of communication has not improved too much. To say it positive, we anticipate and we appreciate that you are working independent, but with an annual budget of MK 500'000,- the bicycle idea should have been mentioned to your partner in Germany somehow. Apart from the initiative itself or its necessity, a buying of 25 bicycles at MK 11'000,- = total cost of MK 275'000,- (minus self-contribution of MK 2'000,- / bike) seems to be a very big element of your annually funds and the next fertilizer need is soon.

May I kindly ask to get additional feedback on: Are the teachers houses finalized? Everything paid and are the total costs kept? What about the toilets? How is the progress with the school-block grant of the German embassy? Who is responsible and driving that? Probably Mr. Ngwira should comment, as it is his and the communities responsibility and they will benefit from such a project. People should know that I put a lot of time and efforts in (and I know you do as well Mr. Mthuti) to set off such important projects and then I am lacking of information or I read that nobody signs responsible to push such unique chances forward. Hope one can understand my slight dissatisfaction of not being frequently in the loop of information.

With best regards,



Dr. Jens Diedrich
President GRACE charity