



News from the DLN

Welcome to the first newsletter this year and welcome to the new DLN-logo that forms part of the Lumela.dk new look.

The first article bellow is about DLN's AGM. The next section is advertising our trip to Lesotho.

Kom og vær med til generalforsamling kl. 13.00 med efterfølgende hyggeligt samvær lørdag den 18. marts. Ny adresse:

Frederiksgade 78C, 8000 Aarhus. Tilmelding senest 11. marts på aan@nrdn.dk

Der er stadig ledige pladser på Kulturrejsen til Lesotho 2. – 16. november. Hvis du er interesseret, eller kender nogen, du tror, der er, så vil rejsegruppen gerne vide det. Send en mail til aan@nrdn.dk eller l@askw.dk

Se programmet et andet sted i nyhedsbrevet.

You can read all about the big 25-year anniversary celebrations of Rural Self-help Development Association.

I dette nyhedsbrev kan du læse om jubilæumsfesten hos Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) i anledning af, at de har eksisteret i 25 år. Denne lækkre lagkage var i blandt indslagene ved festen. Læs om den store dag et andet sted i dette nyhedsbrev.



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News from the Board

By Marie Villumsen

The Development of Peace Education (DPE) project group is working on an application to Civil Society in Development (CISU) for a new project to start when the current project ends in July 2017. The new project will have a strong focus on support at grass-root level in terms of establishing libraries where local community animators can strengthen information, communication and knowledge sharing in the communities. Access to computers and the Internet would mean that local citizens can communicate much better and gain knowledge and information about national political processes.

Board member Karina travelled to Lesotho together with Nis and Solveig from the Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) group. She participated in the celebrations of RSDA's 25th anniversary and handed over DLN's present: A calendar illustrating our long-standing cooperation along with 10,000 Maloti to be spent towards a social event for RSDA staff. (Read more about the visit elsewhere in this newsletter).



Partying at the big celebration

The Ministry of Culture has granted DKK 1,230 for the Berea Agriculture Group's pig-raising project, and the Board has granted

Nyt fra bestyrelsen

Af: Marie Villumsen

Development of Peace Education (DPE) gruppen arbejder på en ansøgning til Civilsamfund I Udvikling (CISU) om et nyt projekt, når det nuværende projekt udløber i sommeren 2017. Det nye projekt vil have et stærkt fokus på at styrke græsrødsniveauet ved at etablere lokale biblioteker, hvor de lokale 'community animators' kan styrke information, kommunikation og vidensdeling i lokalsamfundene. Adgang til computer og internet vil betyde, at de lokale borgere i langt højere grad kan kommunikere og få viden og information om nationale politiske processer.



Karina udenfor festteltet

Bestyrelsesmedlem Karina rejste i december i



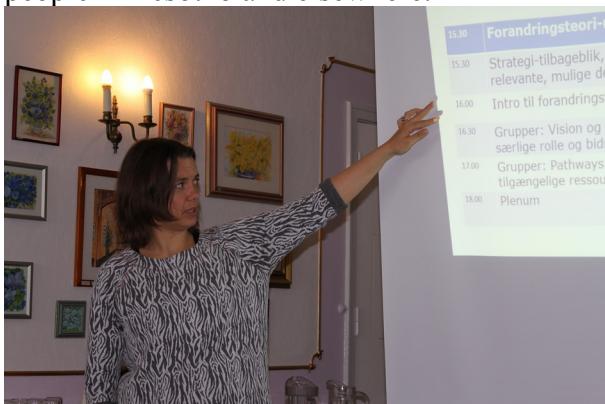
another DKK 3,800 from DLN's own funds, bringing the total to 10,000 Maloti.

The Working Kids project has established good contact with Lesotho National Council of Women who wants to cooperate with DLN. The project group is exploring the possibilities of funding a travel to Lesotho to discuss ideas and possibilities for a joint project.



The travel group has decided the date for this year's culture travel, which will be 2nd -16th November and will cost DKK 16.500.

The communication group has almost finished a folder in English that we can share with partners and other interested English speaking people in Lesotho and elsewhere.



From the vision day

During Nov-Dec. the Board has been busy to follow up on the AGM and the strategic plan that was developed during the 'vision day' in

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Lesotho sammen med Nis og Solveig fra Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) gruppen. Hun deltog i RSDA's 25-års jubilæum og overrakte DLN's gave, som var en kalender med billeder fra det lange samarbejde og en pengegave på 10.000 Maloti, der skal bruges til at afholde et socialt arrangement for RSDA's medarbejdere. Du kan læse mere om besøget i Lesotho i dette nyhedsbrev.

Kulturministeriet har bevilget 1.230 kr. til griseprojektet med Berea Agricultur Group (BAG) og bestyrelsen har besluttet at bevillige 3.800 kr. af foreningens midler, så projektet samlet får 10.000 Maloti.

'Working kids' projektet har etableret en god kontakt med Lesotho National Council of Women, der gerne vil samarbejde med DLN. Arbejdsgruppen er ved at undersøge mulighederne for at finde finansiering til en rejse til Lesotho for at drøfte ideer og muligheder for et projektsamarbejde.



Rejsegruppen har fastsat datoer for den næste kulturrejse, der finder sted d. 2.-16. november og kommer til at koste 16.500 kr. Du kan læse mere om rejsen et andet sted i nyhedsbrevet og på hjemmesiden www.lumela.dk. Vi opfordrer alle til at dele materialet om rejsen, så vi kan få flere tilmeldinger. Der er plads til 20 rejsende.

Kommunikationsgruppen er næsten færdig med at udarbejde en folder på engelsk, som vi kan dele ud til partnere og interesserter i



Lesotho eller andre engelsktalende.

2016. Implementation is progressing very well. DLN now has a new website, and pens with our new logo have been purchased. The initiative to establish student exchange programmes between education institutes in Lesotho and Denmark has come off to a good start. Regarding fund raising new volunteers have joined to assist this work, which will continue to have specific project ideas as its point of departure.

Bestyrelsen har i november og december fulgt op på generalforsamlingen og strategiplanen, der blev udviklet på visionsdagen i 2016. Der er fin fremdrift på implementering af planen. DLN har fået ny hjemmeside, og der er indkøbt kuglepenne med DLNs nye logo. Arbejdet med at etablere udvekslingsprogrammer mellem uddannelsesinstitutioner i Lesotho og Danmark er kommet godt i gang. På fundraising området er der kommet nye frivillige kræfter til, og fundraisingarbejdet vil fortsat tage udgangspunkt i de konkrete projektideer.

An exciting project visit

By Solveig Kappel and Nis K. Skau

Vi visited the Rural Development Self-help Development Association (RSDA) in Lesotho in December 2016. RSDA celebrated its 25th anniversary on Dec 9th and Karina Ruby and Claus Bo Jensen also participated in the celebrations.



Celebrating the 25-years jubilee

In addition to participating in the festivities we also conducted a formal project visit and financial audit at RSDA. DLN has assisted RSDA in implementing the three year CISU funded project: "Improving living conditions and position of the Lesotho smallholder

Spændende at være på projektbesøg

Af: Solveig Kappel og Nis K. Skau

Vi var på projektbesøg hos Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) i Lesotho december 2016.



Stemning fra jubilæet

9. december 2016 blev RSDA's 25 års jubilæum fejret. Karina Ruby og Claus Bo Jensen deltog ligeledes i jubilæumsfesten

Udover at medvirke i jubilæumsfestighederne gennemførte vi projektbesøg og finansielt tilsyn hos RSDA, der med DLN's medvirken har fået finansieret et 3-årigt projekt af CISU



farmers in society through lobbying, advocacy and capacity building”.

On the first day of the project visit we attended a farmers meeting for five farmers in Maseru District. It was a very interesting and beneficial meeting that gave insight into the local conditions under which farmers must produce and sell their products.

The farmers are challenged not only by drought and political instability, but also by political incompetence. The latter implies poor organisation and coordination of the government’s support to farmers, which in turn leads to missing demand for and distribution of locally produced goods.

The farmers questioned us about Danish experiences. We explained that the current trend in Denmark is an increasing consumer demand for local, sustainably produced food. A win-win situation that adds value for both farmers and consumers. But in Denmark too, it is necessary to cooperate on joint forces in marketing and selling in order to make an impact. Local food is gaining high status in Denmark, and many supermarkets now have shelves with local products procured outside the normal wholesale channels. Quality, sustainability, taste and origin are important parameters for consumers.

Of course this is quite different to the supermarkets in Maseru. However in Maseru there are street vendors that are not unlike the market days in Denmark. One of the farmers, Tseene, who grew seven sorts of vegetables, had established contacts to good vendors at local markets and schools. In order to sell well it is necessary to deliver fresh products every day to make yourself different from the supermarkets’ vegetable sections. Another farmer produced cuttings and vegetable seeds for the market and as well as for selling to other farmers. Two farmers grew maize, beans, sorghum and potatoes. Particularly potatoes are becoming more important in Lesotho. We discussed storing and distribution of potatoes. We proposed a concept of selling baked

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med titlen ”Improving living conditions and position of the Lesotho smallholder farmers in society through lobbying and advocacy and capacity building”

Projektbesøget omfattede på dag 1 et landmandsmøde hos RSDA med 5 farmere fra Maseru Distrikt. Det var et spændende og givtigt møde, hvor vi fik pulsen på de lokale forhold og vilkår for bøndernes produktions- og afsætningsforhold.

Bønderne er udfordret af både tørke og politisk uro, men også politisk uduelighed. Dette bevirker dårlig organisering og koordinering af regeringens support til bønderne og heraf manglende efterspørgsel og distribution af de lokalt producerede varer.



Landmandsmøde på RSDAs kontor.

Landmændene spurte os om erfaringer fra Danmark. Vi kunne fortælle, at trenden i Danmark er, at forbrugerne efterspørger lokalt producerede fødevarer, der produceres bæredygtigt. Dette er win win, da det giver merværdi til både farmer og forbruger. Men også i Danmark er samarbejde om fælles markedsføring og afsætning nødvendig for at få gennemslagskraft. De lokale fødevare har meget høj status i Danmark, og mange supermarkeder har nu lokale hylder med lokale varer uden om centrale indkøb. Kvalitet, bæredygtighed, smag og oprindelse er vigtige for forbrugerne.

Der er selvfølgelig en stor forskel til supermarkederne i Maseru, men i Maseru er





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potatoes in the street during winter. The fifth farmer was MaMaria, who produces broilers based on the newly hacked chickens that she buys at RSDA's chicken project in Mafeteng. During the afternoon we drove to Mafeteng and visited RSDA's chairman, Mr Leutloileng Matsepe, and RSDA's chicken project mentioned above (more about this in the next issue of Lumela).

The entire day two was spent at RSDA's office. The financial audit included budgetary follow-up, financial check, random checks of vouchers and voucher control as well as check of cash flow. Both project management, accounting and handling of vouchers was impeccable.



On day three we reviewed the remaining project period. The project has completed the first seven out of twelve quarters (i.e. three years). Almost all planned activities have been implemented and the project accounts including staff salaries tallies very well with the budget. The project has made large savings in Danish kroner as the value of the Maloti/ZAR has decreased by 25% since we applied for funds. These savings has enabled us to extend the activities in the remaining project period. In addition we also looked at the possibilities available within the projects budget margin. We also managed to prepare a draft application for a project audit to CISU, which has been forwarded at the moment of

der gadesælgere på udendørs markeder, som torvedage i Danmark. En af landmændene, Tseene, der dyrkede 7 slags grønsager, havde netop kontakt til gode sælgere på de lokale markeder og skoler. For at have et godt salg, skal du leve friske varer hver dag for at kunne differentiere dig fra supermarkedernes grønsagsafdelinger. En anden af de lokale landmænd producerede stiklinger og grønsagsfrø både til marked og salg direkte til andre landmænd. 2 af landmændene dyrkede majs, bønner, sorghum og kartofler. Specielt kartofler kom der mere og mere af i Lesotho. Vi fik en diskussion om lagring og distribution af kartofler. Vores forslag var, at de måske skulle lave et koncept med bagekartofler serveret på gaderne i vinterhalvåret. Den 5. landmand var MaMaria, der producerede slagtekyllinger, de ny udklækkede kyllinger købte hun ved RSDA's kyllingeprojekt i Mafeteng.

Om eftermiddagen kørte vi til Mafeteng og besøgte RSDA's formand Mr Leutloileng Matsepe og RSDA's kyllingeprojekt., mere om det i næste nr. af Lumela.

Dag 2 var vi på RSDA's kontor hele dagen.

Det finansielle tilsyn bestod af Budgetopfølgning og finanstjek, stikprøvegennemgang af projektbilag med bilagskontrol og tilhørende tjek af cashflow. Der var rigtig god orden i projektstyring, regnskab og bilagshåndtering.

På dag 3 gennemgik vi forløbet af den resterende del af projektforløbet. Projektet har nu overstået de første 7 kvartaler af projektperiodens 12 kvartaler (3 år). Stort set alle planlagte aktiviteter er afviklet og sammen med lønudgifter balancerer projektregnskabet med det budgetterede. Projektet har i perioden haft stor besparelse på projektomkostninger i danske kroner, da kurserne på Maloti/Zar er faldet med ca. 25 % siden projektansøgningen. Denne besparelse har RSDA mulighed for at søge om til at udvide aktiviteterne i den resterende del af projektperioden. Derudover fik vi også gennemgået mulighederne i



writing.

Unfortunately there seems to be a general 'donor flight' from Lesotho. The latest to cease its support for RSDA is Action Aid. Given the complicated political situation in Lesotho, the work carried out by RSDA staff is really demanding and laudable.

We had the latter confirmed during an informal talk with Simon K. Phafane, Denmark's Honorary Consul in Lesotho, whom we meet at Lancer's Inn, where he acknowledged the great efforts made. There is still a need for long-term sustained partnership with donors.

RSDA's (and DLN's) success is dependent on the individual farmer's experience of progress and practical success. In that way the awareness of the need for organisation, advocacy and lobbyism will grow. Farmer groups are strong platforms. Sharing of knowledge and experience is essential for development and growth. This is the core of the solid work that RSDA has been carrying out for the last 25 years and will continue to do.

projektets budgetmargin. Vi nåede således også at få lavet et udkast til en ansøgning om projekt revision til CISU, der nu i skrivende stund er indsendt.

Generelt er der desværre "donor flugt" fra Lesotho. De seneste, der stopper med bidrag til RSDA er Action Aid. Med den komplikerede politiske situation i Lesotho, er det virkelig en krævende og prisværdig indsats de ansatte hos RSDA udfører. Dette fik vi også bekraeftet i en uformel samtale med Simon K. Phafane, Danmarks Honorary Consul i Lesotho, der under vores møde med ham på Lancers Inn kvitterede for den store indsats. Der er fortsat stort behov for langsigtede og vedholdne partnerskaber med donorer.

RSDA's (og DLN projektets) succes er betinget af at hver enkelt farmer oplever fremgang og lykkedes med sit praktiske landbrug, og herigenom befordrer bevidsthed for nødvendighed af organisering, advocacy og lobbyvirksomhed.

Landmænds grupper fungerer som stærke platforme. Erfarings og vidensdeling er afgørende for udvikling og vækst. Det er dette solide arbejde RSDA har bygget på gennem 25 år og som de fortsat arbejder på.

RSDA's 25th anniversary celebration

By: Karina Ruby, DLN Board member

On December 25th we got up very early in Maseru. We were among the 45 specially chosen ones, who had been invited to participate in the breakfast meeting at 6.30. The main event for 2-300 farmers from all over the country was to start at 10.00. Basothos are known to be early risers, but 6.30 seemed to be quite early for them too, as many only dropped in little by little. This morning meeting was a 'lobbying event'.

The purpose was to make members of government aware of farmers' need for improved market access that will enable them to maintain themselves and their families.

RSDA's 25-års jubilæum

Af: Karina Ruby, DLN-bestyrelsesmedlem

Den 9. dec. 2016 stod vi meget tidligt op i Maseru. Vi var blandt de 45 særligt udvalgte, som var inviteret til at deltage i morgenmadsmødet kl. 6:30. Selve hovedarrangementet med 2-300 bønder fra hele landet skulle starte kl. 10:00. Basotho er ganske vist morgenmennesker, men kl. 6:30 var nu også tidligt for mange af de øvrige deltagere, som kom dryssende lidt efter lidt. Dette morgenmøde var en lobby aktivitet. Det handlede om at gøre regeringsmedlemmer opmærksom på landmænds behov for bedre muligheder for at komme af med deres produkter og dermed forsørge sig selv og deres familier. Ifølge den oprindelige plan skulle



Breakfast meeting

According to the original plan, the Minister for Agriculture and Food Security was supposed to be present. At the main event later in the day, the Minister of Development Planning was scheduled to participate.



Speech from Minister of Agriculture and Food Security

But shortly before the day of the celebration the two ministers swapped places in the programme, because a recent split in the ruling party, Democratic Congress meant that only half of the party was left with Prime Minister P. Mosisili.

The minister of Development Planning was no longer minister since he belonged to the fraction of the party that had broken out together with the deputy chairman. It was important to have a minister present at the main event, so the Minister for Agriculture participated here. Presumably, no new minister for development planning had yet been appointed, so the Ministry sent another representative. She read aloud a speech that she

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landbrugsministeren have været der (Minister of Agriculture and Food Security). Ved hovedarrangementet senere på dagen skulle udviklingsministeren (Minister of Development Planning) have deltaget. Kort før jubilæumsdagen byttede de to ministre plads i dagsprogrammet, da en nylig splittelse af regeringspartiet Democratic Congress betød, at kun halvdelen af partiet var tilbage i regeringen sammen med Prime Minister P. Mosisili.



Morgenmøde

Udviklingsministeren var nu ikke længere minister, da han hørte til den del af partiet, som rev sig løs sammen med næstformanden. Det var vigtigt at have en minister med til hovedarrangementet, så her skulle landbrugsministeren deltage.



Fra morgenmødet

Der var vist endnu ikke udnævnt en ny udviklingsminister, så ministeriet sendte en anden repræsentant. På vegne af



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had been given on her way to the meeting.



M'e Thulo and one of the morning speakers

Selected members of RSDA presented their stories about the assistance and support they had received from RSDA. They had gained knowledge about new crops and new methods of cultivation that had helped them to increase production. There was also a very remarkable story from a farmer, who had sold his milk to schools until a change in the government's school nutrition programme had made that practice impossible. He had to sell his cows with a big loss as the basis of his business had disappeared. The dairy had also closed as a consequence of the government policy. In general, a lot of good reasons were presented as to why continued support for agricultural development in Lesotho is needed.

At the lawn outside the Cooperative College Hall the RSDA had put up a large tent for the main event where hundreds of people attended.

udviklingsministeren oplæste hun en tale, som hun havde fået udleveret på vej til mødet. Udvalgte bønder blandt RSDAs medlemmer var til stede med hver deres historie, om hvordan de var blevet hjulpet af RSDA. De har fået viden om nye afgrøder, nye dyrkningsmetoder og dermed øget produktion.



The moderator of the breakfast meeting wearing t-shirt with old DLN logo

Der var også en meget sigende historie fra en mælkebonde, som havde haft en god indtægt fra salg af mælk til skoler, indtil en ny politik for skoleernæring gjorde det umuligt for ham at sælge sin mælk. Han måtte sælge sine køer med stort tab, da hans forretningsgrundlag forsvandt. Mejeriet blev også lukket som konsekvens af regeringens politik. Generelt blev der argumenteret for et fortsat stort behov for udvikling af landbruget i Lesotho. På græsplænen udenfor Cooperative College





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Basotho know how to dance

This included representatives from the various districts where RSDA is active, so many had travelled far in their finest clothes. In a smaller VIP tent, opposite the main tent, the table was set for the minister, the RSDA board, former board members and employees, prominent guests like ourselves from DLN, and both rostrum and microphone were ready. There were four DLN representatives: Nis Skau, Solveig Kappel, Claus Bo Jensen and Karina Ruby. The morning programme included speeches by the people representing various interests, i.e. the RSDA chair, a founding board member, a former staff member, a farmer representative, Action Aid International, Lesotho, DLN, Lesotho Council of NGOs and the Minister of Agriculture.



One of the dances

In between, a lively, vigorous DJ provided music so that people could stretch their legs and dance for five minutes before the next speaker entered the platform. Nis Skau from

Hall havde RSDA rejst et stort telt til hoveddelen af jubilæumsfesten med de flere hundrede deltagere. Der var repræsentanter fra de forskellige distrikter, som RSDA arbejder i, så mange havde rejst langt i deres fine festtøj. I et mindre telt, et VIP-telt, overfor det store telt var der dækket op til ministeren, RSDA-bestyrelsen, tidligere bestyrelsesmedlemmer og ansatte, særlige gæster, som f.eks. os fra DLN, og talerstol og mikrofon var klar. DLN var repræsenteret med fire personer: Nis Skau, Solveig Kappel, Claus Bo Jensen og Karina Ruby. Formiddagen gik med taler af forskellige interesser som RSDA-formanden, et stiftende bestyrelsesmedlem, en tidligere ansat, en landmandsrepræsentant, Action Aid International Lesotho, DLN, Lesotho Council of NGOs og landbrugsministeren. Ind i mellem sørgete en frisk og veloplagt DJ for at spille noget musik, så folk lige kunne komme op ogstå i 5 minutter og danse, inden næste taler kom på podiet.



Nis Skau holder jubilæumstalen fra DLN

Nis Skau fra projektgruppen fremførte en tale fra DLN til RSDA, se Lumela.dk fra dec. 2016. Karina Ruby fra DLN-bestyrelsen overrakte gaver fra DLN til RSDA. De fik en kalender med fotos fra de sidste 10-15 års samarbejde og en pengegave på 10.000 Maloti til et personalearrangement. RSDAs direktør 'Mampho Thulo modtog tale og gaver med tak og nævnte igen, at DLN er en rigtig og vigtig partner for RSDA.



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the project group made a speech from DLN to RSDA (See Lumela Dec. 2016). Karina Ruby handed over presents from DLN on behalf of the Board: A calendar with photos illustrating our cooperation over the last 10-15 years along with a donation of 10,000 Maloti for a staff event. RSDA director Mampho Thulo received the speech and the gifts with thanks. He emphasized again that DLN is a true and important partner for RSDA.

After the speeches we sang the national anthem, and then it was time for lunch and entertainment. As custom prescribes food was served outside at large tables on the lawn, and beautiful anniversary celebration cakes were served for dessert. A large part of the celebrations was paid by project funds from the DLN-RSDA project, DKK 80,000 in total, i.e. from the various budget lines for ‘information work’, ‘other costs’ etc. Impressive banners, posters, information leaflets, food, tents, etc. It was all organised very professionally.



A really fantastic party

Unfortunately, we had not been too good at introducing our new DLN logo, so our old logo appeared on all the materials and merchandise. We felt very honoured nonetheless. All in all it was a very magnificent anniversary celebration, which RSDA should be proud of. Nis and Solveig stayed in Maseru the following week to conduct a formal project follow up with RSDA (see elsewhere in this newsletter). Claus and I resumed our holidays

Efter talerækken blev nationalsangen sunget, og så var der mad og underholdning. På sædvanlig vis var der udlevering af mad i opstillede borde ude på græsplænen, og der var flotte jubilæumsdagkager til dessert. En stor del af festarrangementet er finansieret via projektmidler i DLN-RSDA-projektet, i alt ca. 80.000 kr. fra puljer til informationsarbejde og andre udgifter (information work, other costs). Der var flotte bannere, plakater, informationshæfter, mad, telte osv. Det hele var meget professionelt lavet.



Entertainment after the speeches

Desværre har vi fra DLNs side ikke været gode nok til at kommunikere vores nye logo ud. Det var det gamle DLN-logo på alle materialer og merchandise. Vi var dog alligevel meget beærede. Det var alt i alt et meget flot jubilæumsarrangement, som RSDA kan være stolte af.



I kø for mad

Nis og Solveig blev i Maseru den efterfølgende



uge, og lavede opfølgning på projektet med RSDA. Claus og jeg fortsatte vores ferie i Lesotho og Sydafrika.

The text below in Danish is about the cultural trip to Lesotho. DLN are arranging it. The idea is to promote it to Danish people. The trip is planned to take place in November this year.

Lesotho, stedet, hvor de andre turister ikke er (endnu)



Tag med til et sted, hvor du med garanti ikke vil drukne i turister – tag med til Lesotho i det sydlige Afrika. Det bliver en oplevelse for livet! Se mere om Lesotho på www.lumela.dk
Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) inviterer dig på en kulturrundrejserejse, der byder både på flot natur og spændende kultur. Du vil komme til at møde de lokale, som du kommer helt tæt på.
Rejsen foregår fra torsdag den 2. til torsdag den 16. november 2017.

Program:

2. nov. Fly fra Kbh. til Maseru, som er hovedstaden i Lesotho.
3. - 4. nov. Malealea www.malealea.com - en lodge i bjergene. Besøg på et dansk støttet projekt. Mulighed for ridning.
5. – 6. nov. Quthing. Se dinosauerfodspor og hulemalerier. Se Lesothos første skole og missionærernes første bolig i en klippehule. Oplev et uspoleret afrikansk bymiljø og et gammelt engelsk administrationssted. Evt. besøge børnehave eller teknisk skole.
7. – 8. nov. Semonkong Lodge www.semonkonglogde.com inde midt i bjergene med mulighed for rappelling ned langs det sydlige Afrikas højeste vandfald, vandring og besøg hos en god fortæller. Lokalt orkester underholder en aften.
9. nov. Blue Mountain Hotel, Teyateyaneng www.bmilesotho.com Besøge Berea Agriculture Group (BAG), en forening, der med dansk støtte bl.a. bygger vandtanke til skolehaver.
10. - 11. nov. Tseshlanyane National Park, Maliba Lodge www.maliba-lodge.com Smukt bjerglandskab. Besøge autentisk landsby. Mulighed for ridning.
12. nov. Maseru. Vi bor centralt på Lancers Inn www.lancersinn.co.ls Udflygt til Thaba Bosiu, bjerget, hvor de kongelige og gejstlige ligger begravet.
13. nov. Maseru - Besøge børnehave. Besøg i privat hjem.
14. nov. Maseru på egen hånd
15. nov. Fly til København
16. nov. Hjemkomst



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Synes du det kunne være spændende, så sæt kryds i kalenderen og begynd opsparingen. For kun 16.500 kr. i delt værelse får du denne unikke oplevelse. Der er stadig ledige pladser, men det er en rigtig god ide at melde sig til hurtigst muligt, så du er sikker på at komme med.

Vi forsøger at sætte folk samme til værelsесdeling, hvis man er alene og ikke har bedt om enkeltværelse. Enkeltværelse mod merpris på 1000,00 kr. Enkelte måltider og drikkevarerne er ikke inkluderet i prisen. Send en melding til os på l@askw.dk eller aan@nrdn.dk om din interesse. Så er du sikret en plads på forhånd. Kender du nogen, du tror, vil være interesseret, fortæl endelig om rejsen og giv detaljerne videre.

Som gave, er der et års medlemskab af DLN med i prisen til en værdi af 100,00 kr.

Ret til ændringer forbeholdes.

News from Lesotho:

From SABC News:

Lesotho National Assembly reconvenes on Friday

Tuesday 21 February 2017 21:21

Nthakoana Ngatane



Opposition parties want the National Assembly to carry a vote of no confidence in the Prime Minister before any other business in its first sitting. (DIRCO)

Fireworks are expected when the [Lesotho](#) National Assembly reconvenes on Friday.

Opposition parties want the National Assembly to carry a vote of no confidence in the Prime Minister before any other business in its first sitting.

However, Deputy Prime Minister [Mothetjoa Metsing](#) says that can't happen as the motion will only be filed after the House reconvenes.



Just over a week since three of these opposition leaders returned home and they stand by their intentions to change the government now.

All these MPs say they will support the motion. The MPs say they have control of 74 out of 120 seats; therefore, they have a substantial majority.

And they want their government of national unity to be led first by Moleleki for 18 months then former Prime Minister Tom Thabane for the following 18 months.

However, Metsing, leader of the House in the National Assembly has a different take.

"The business committee can only meet after the house reconvenes to accept the motion, it cannot be discussed on Friday," says Metsing.

Metsing maintains even if the opposition wins the vote of no confidence, the government will not step down.

Metsing states: "Because all of us must get a fresh mandate to cross the floor, so elections are the only way."

The government plans to advise the King to dissolve parliament and call fresh elections.

The opposition says the country cannot afford elections now, and the Prime Minister must step down to save the country millions.

Friday 24th is the most anticipated reopening of parliament in Lesotho.

The government says it has the constitution on its side, the opposition says it has numbers.

Only the floor of parliament will decide who prevails after Friday.

Rethabile Masilo awarded with Glenna Luschei Prize

Tuesday 21 February 2017 09:29

SABC



Poet Rethabile Masilo says 'Waslap' is his second book of poems.(SABC)

Rethabile Masilo's name might not ring a bell to some, but in international arts, it speaks volumes.

The already award winning poet from Lesotho has just won the 2016 Glenna Luschei Prize for African poetry.

His book entitled 'Waslap' has been awarded the accolade.

Speaking on *Morning Live*, Masilo says Waslap is his second book of poems.



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"Before my first book, I was just writing poems. I hadn't meant to have a book published at all and then suddenly I had a book and a publisher contacted me. With Waslap, I had more confidence in my writing and basically, Waslap talks about my experience in Lesotho just before I left in 1981."

Exiled Lesotho opposition leaders back home

Tuesday 14 February 2017 20:38

Nthakoana Ngatane



SADC will be monitoring the situation in Lesotho following the arrival of opposition leaders after being outside the country for two years. (SABC)

Lesotho opposition leaders who were exiled in South Africa for more than a year and a half have finally arrived home.

Former Prime Minister and ABC Leader Tom Thabane, BNP Leader Thesele Maseribane, and RCL Leader Keketso Rantso entered the Maseru border between the two countries amid tight security and a heavy police presence.

They were welcomed by [SADC](#) Facilitator for Lesotho Deputy President [Cyril Ramaphosa](#) and then by tens of thousands of their supporters.

Motorbike convoys are signature pomp for former Prime Minister Tom Thabane's All Basotho Convention.

He, BNP Leader Thesele Maseribane and RCL Leader Keketso Rantso touched home soil for the first time in nearly two years.

SADC Facilitator for Lesotho, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa travelled to Lesotho to meet them.

"We are here as SADC to welcome the leaders back - Ntate (Sesotho word for Mr) Thabane, Ntate Maseribane le Mme (Sesotho word for Ms) Keke. We welcome them back and this is in fulfilment of a decision that was taken by SADC Troika in June last year that said it would be desirable for the three leaders to come back to Lesotho," says Ramaphosa.

I'm scared, what is happening in Lesotho is scary

However, it is supporters who came in their tens of thousands, who made them decide to come back, despite their doubts about security. " Contrary to what was our expectation we have come back by ourselves, we don't have regional protection and yet the people who want to kill us are still here, we have decided that if we live we will live in our country if we die we will die in our country," says ABC leader Tom Thabane.

This is a promise he also made to his supporters



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"Go and tell them that, that short man from Makhoakhoeng is back. I'll never run away from another man again, ever."

BNP leader Thesele Maseribane thanked South Africa for allowing them to stay in the country.

"We have survived in the last two years; I have just listened to your statement that SADC will be on the ground with the reforms. We thank you for letting us stay in South Africa, I know that some people said we were kicked out it is not true. We are home because we wanted to come home."

Rantso says she fears for her safety.

"I'm happy, I'm excited but I'm scared, what is happening in Lesotho is scary, you have to look back and see that if the government has promised us security they are doing that."

Their absence was not only felt in politics, and their supporters and families are equally jubilant. The returning leaders vow to fast track processes including a motion of no confidence to unseat Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili when parliament reconvenes on 24 February. This could trigger another election, and the SADC Oversight Committee will continue to keep an eye on Lesotho.

The issue of possible fresh elections is a matter that will have to be decided by the people of Lesotho, by government and his majesty the king. SADC can only deal with a given situation once it arises. We can only deal with that to see whether it poses any form of instability in a country that we have been assisting to return to stability," says Ramaphosa.

For now the return of the opposition leaders is cause for jubilation but they are expected to weigh in on the constitutional and security reforms that the country is currently undertaking, closely monitored by SADC.



The NGO Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) was founded in 2002 by former Danish development workers in Lesotho and other good friends of the tiny mountain kingdom in Southern Africa. DLN aims at supporting NGO's in Lesotho in their work to develop civil society. DLN uses its network of people and organisations in Lesotho to pinpoint beneficiaries of DLN's support – and to keep an eye on that funding is used according to agreements made. DLN wishes to enhance knowledge of the living conditions in Lesotho and to seek funding from foundations, business enterprises and organisations for actual projects in Lesotho.

Membership of DLN

Anyone, who can support the aims of DLN, can achieve a membership. Members contribute to support initiatives in Lesotho that develop and better living conditions in the country. Members will receive an electronic newsletter four times a year and be invited to DLN's annual general assembly. The cost of a membership is 100 Danish kroner yearly.





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For membership contact cashier Karen Steffensen, tel.: +45 98677185, cell: +45 23880099, e-mail: karen.steffensen@mail.dk

Contact DLN:

E-mail: dln@lumela.dk

Homepage: www.lumela.dk

KHOTSO – PULA – NALA

News from Lesotho:

Responsible Editor: Anne Andersen

(submission of articles to

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