

News from the DLN

Hereby the newsletter Lumela.dk no 57.
Hopefully you will enjoy to read about the activities in DLN and its partners in Lesotho.
The first text in Danish is about DLN trying to get another travel come through over Easter 2020.

Nyhed, nyhed, nyhed

Ny kulturrejse til Lesotho hen over påsken 2020.
Rejsen er endnu ikke planlagt i detaljer. DLN håber på, at der igen vil være interesse for at få denne unikke oplevelse af den oprindelige afrikanske kultur, af mødet med befolkningen og af Lesothos fantastiske natur. Ved du allerede nu, at du gerne vil deltage, skal du ikke holde dig tilbage for at skrive til dln@lumela.dk.



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News from the Board

In Denmark summer is coming to an end while it is about to start in Lesotho. It has been the warmest and driest summer for many years in Denmark. Farmers are suffering because of the drought; several farmers are going bankrupt

Nyt fra bestyrelsen

I Danmark går sommeren på hæld, mens den snart starter i Lesotho. Det har været den varmeste og tørreste sommer i mange år i Danmark. Landmænd lider under tørken, adskillige landmænd går konkurs pga. det ringe

because of the poor harvest yield. Livestock lack grass on the fields and must be given feed and some animals slaughtered.



A beach in Denmark July 2018

Most of other people, non-farmers, are very happy about the nice warm summer weather. People enjoy outdoor life, swimming in the ocean and sun bathing on the many wonderful beaches along the long coastline of Denmark.



Surfing and enjoying the beach

In DLN there is no drought. We just had success in getting a new grant from CISU for another 3 years project with RSDA, going from 2018 to 2021. This substantiates our cooperation with RSDA to be a very long and stable one, which is the kind of development work we believe in.

The DPE project is doing well; they are working on the establishment of community libraries.

The LNCW (Working Kids) project is also doing well at their work on improving teaching methods in vocational training.

The project on reuse of school computers from schools in Denmark in Lesotho is still seeking clarification on funding and sustainability. Read more at another place in the newsletter. Also the new initiative of making a movie about democracy and the connections between Denmark and Lesotho seems to be moving

høstudbytte. Husdyr mangler mad på markerne, de må gives ekstra foder og nogle dyr må slagtes. De fleste andre mennesker, ikke landmænd, er glade for det varme sommervejr.



Strand ved København

Folk nyder livet udendørs, at bade i havet og solbade på de mange skønne strande langs Danmarks kystlinje.

I DLN er der ikke tørke. Vi har lige fået bevilget penge fra CISU til et nyt projekt med RSDA, et 3-års projekt fra 2018 til 2021. Det underbygger vores samarbejde med RSDA til at være et langt og stabilt et, som netop er den type udviklingsarbejde, vi tror på.

DPE-projektet går godt, de arbejder på etableringen af små lokale biblioteker rundt om i Lesotho.

LNCW-projektet (Working Kids) kører også godt med deres kapacitetsopbygning på skoler, som laver faglig uddannelse for sårbare unge i Lesotho.

Det lille projekt omkring genbrug af brugte skolecomputere fra danske skoler til skoler i Lesotho er stadig under afklaring i fht. økonomi og bæredygtighed. Læs mere et andet sted i nyhedsbrevet.

Også det nye initiativ omkring fremstilling af en film om demokrati og forbindelserne mellem Danmark og Lesotho ser ud til at skride fremad. Vi forventer at bruge filmen i forbindelse med noget oplysningsarbejde næste

forward. We expect to use the movie in some information work in Denmark next year; we have some new ideas in the pipeline. DLN is looking forward to work on the new initiatives in the near future.

Karina Ruby, Chair

år i Danmark. Der er nye ideer i støbeskeen. DLN ser frem til at arbejde med alle de nye initiativer i den nærmeste fremtid.

Karina Ruby, formand

Film telling about Lesotho

DLN has made an arrangement with two very competent filmmakers to make an information film. Read about the two and about the purpose of the film here.

Presentation of Janus and Mie Wejdling

Janus Wejdling has been working with production of documentaries since 1988 in Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Bolivia, Nepal and Denmark for MS, Dialogos (NGO) and Danida.

Janus has as a teacher been using films as a tool and has been teaching video production. He has produced films for various NGO's and local TV stations in Denmark.

Janus has focus on civic society, climate challenges, ecology and pedagogy.

Mie Wejdling has through her work with MS, Red Cross, Danish Refugee Council and



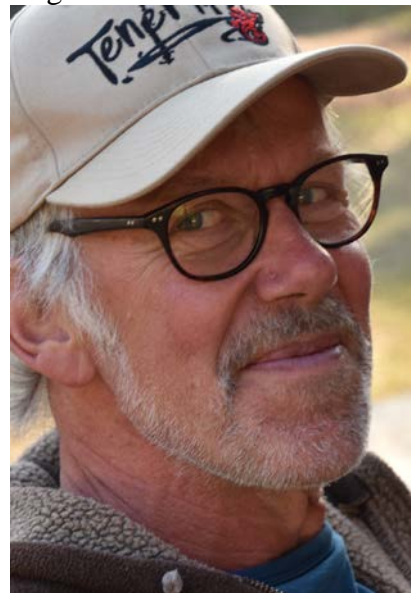
Mie Wejdling

Film, der fortæller om Lesotho

DLN har lavet en aftale med to meget kompetente filmskabere om at lave en informationsfilm. Læs om de to og om formålet med filmen herunder.

Præsentation af Janus og Mie Wejdling

Janus Wejdling har arbejdet med produktion af dokumentarfilm siden 1988 blandt andet i Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Bolivia, Nepal og Danmark for MS, U-landsorganisationen Dialogos og Danida.



Janus Wejdling

Han har som underviser både brugt film som redskab samt undervist i at lave videofilm.

Han har som selvstændig filmproducent produceret film for diverse foreninger og lokale TV stationer i DK. Janus har især erfaringer med formidling af temaer som samfundsforhold klima, økologi og pædagogik.

municipalities been working with teaching and pedagogy in a multicultural context. As a consultant and leader she has a broad experience in organization, lobbying and networking .

Janus og Mie have both been working for MS Lesotho and MS Zimbabwe for 4 years.

We want to make Lesotho visible to the general Danish public.

At the last DLN-AGM it was decided to produce an information video about living conditions in Lesotho.

Bodil Mathiasen, Lisbet Kristensen, Janus Wejdling and Mie Wejdling formed a working-group DLNVIP(DLN Video Information Project)with the following purpose:

- to spread knowledge about Lesotho in Denmark and to picture the small African nation with a proud and enterprising population.

We can compare Denmark to Lesotho

As Lesotho in many ways is like Denmark in regard to size, constitutional monarchy, a democratically elected parliament, local and district administration it will be interesting to look at differences and similarities.



Opening of the Danish Parliament

Democracy centrally and locally is founded on well known structures, but how is it practiced? We want to find out how the population

Mie Wejdling har gennem arbejde i MS, Røde Kors, Dansk Flygtninge Hjælp samt det kommunale regi arbejdet med undervisning og pædagogik i forskellige kulturelle sammenhænge. Som konsulent og leder har hun erfaringer med organisatoriske og netværksskabende perspektiver. Mie har især erfaringer med projektstyring, organisering og vejledning.

Janus og Mie har begge arbejdet for MS i Lesotho og Zimbabwe i en 4 års periode.

Vi vil gøre Lesotho mere synlig.

På den sidste generalforsamling i DLN blev det besluttet, at der skulle afsættes penge til en informationsvideo om levevilkår i Lesotho.

Bodil Mathiasen, Lisbet Kristensen, Janus Wejdling og Mie Wejdling dannede en arbejdsgruppe DLNVIP (DLN Video Information Project), som formulerede formålet:

- at gøre Lesotho mere kendt i Danmark og nuancere billedet af det lille afrikanske land, der rummer en stolt og foretagsom befolkning.

Vi kan sammenligne os med Lesotho.

Da Lesotho på mange måder minder om Danmark med hensyn til størrelse, konstitutionelt monarki, demokratisk valgt



Parlamentsbygningen i Maseru, Lesotho
parlament og opdeling i kommuner/distrikter, er det interessant at se forskelle og ligheder. Demokratiet centralt og lokalt bygger på

exercises their democratic rights.

Lesotho has a unique democratic phenomena: The Pitso, where the local community has the right to free speech to each other's and the local chief.



Her majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark arrives to the Parliament on the opening day.

We want to find out if The Pitso still has its old function and if the use of cell phones and the digital systems/possibilities has an influence. Basothos on their barren mountains are not less victims of climate change than we are.

Forced by climate challenges and encouraged by NGO's and their own will to survival many creative actions have been taken to avoid and alleviate the consequences.

At the moment we are busy making contact to various institutions and partners in Lesotho who work with these challenges.

On top of this we want to show the beautiful and unique nature of Lesotho that calls for physical challenges. We will show the possibilities for nature/Eco-tourism.

A possible continuation

The video project is supposed to have two phases.

We will make research and produce a short information video on the democratic and climatic challenges.

Next step is to choose a few projects working with these topics and make a more extensive presentation.

We also have a wish to include young people

velkendte strukturer, men hvordan bliver det praktiseret? Vi vil undersøge, hvordan befolkningen bliver uddannet i at bruge de demokratiske virkemidler.

Lesotho har et unikt demokratisk fænomen: Pitsoen, hvor lokalbefolkningen har fri taleret over for hinanden og den stedlige høvding (chief). Vi vil undersøge, hvor vidt fænomenet stadig har sin gang på jord, og om mobiltelefoner og IT-systemers digitale indtog har indflydelse derpå.

Basothoerne på deres golde bjerge er ikke mindre udsat for de globale klimaforandringer end vi er.



En stald og mangel på græs til dyrene

Tvunget af omstændighederne og tilskyndet af NGO'er og egen overlevelsesvilje er der blomstret en mangeartet underskov frem af kreative tiltag til at afbøde og imødegå konsekvenserne af klimabelastningen.

Vi er i gang med at kontakte forskellige institutioner og samarbejdspartnere i Lesotho, som beskæftiger sig med disse udfordringer. Lesotho har sluttelig en mange-facetteret natur, der indbyder til fysiske udfordringer. Vi vil skildre mulighederne for natur/grøn turisme.

Der er plads til fortsættelse

Videoprojektet er tænkt som en todelt raket.

Først foretager vi research på stedet og producerer en kort informationsvideo om landets demokratiske og klimamæssige udfordringer.

Derefter udvælger vi projekter, der beskæftiger

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in our productions - Danish students meeting Basotho students to work together with digital tools (Peace and Democracy Ambassadors).

In future we very much want to work on an international production about rites of passage

-
"how to become an adult" in different cultures
- for example in Denmark, Lesotho and Nepal.

How to spread the news

The information videos must be exposed in various platforms. We have access to several publishers that produce material for civic education in Denmark: Clio Online, Gyldendal, GeGe Editions ect.

We will show the films and lecture in Danish High schools/ Adult education, participate in "Folkemødet" (a yearly Danish democracy festival), TV Aarhus, Lumela.dk, You-Tube, Vimeo and other social media.

We are aware that videos alone will not make a change. But if we cooperate, help each other and create a network we believe that Lesotho and Denmark - two nations of almost same size but with very different living conditions - can create a mutual interest in how we tackle the challenges of our time.

Recycled computers for Lesotho schools – an uphill struggle

By: Arne Pedersen

In November 2017, my daughter in law, Melanie, asked me if Denmark Lesotho Network would perhaps be interested in second hand, yet operational computers. Malanie said that Egtved school had just discarded 50 computers and additional 40 were

sig med disse udfordringer, og som kræver mere uddybning.

Derudover har vi visioner om at inddrage unge til unge videoprojekter, hvor danske skoleelever møder unge basothoelever omkring et samarbejde om digitale redskaber (Peace and Democracy Ambassadors).

Helt længere fremme vil vi arbejde på et internationalt videoprojekt om overgangsritualer – "hvordan bliver man voksen" i forskellige kulturer eksempelvis Danmark, Lesotho og Nepal.

Det skal udbredes

De færdige informationsvideoer skal eksponeres på diverse platforme. Umiddelbart har eller søger vi adgang til diverse undervisningsforlag med samfunds-fag i skolerne: Clio online, Gyldendals Fagportaler, GeGe Forlag m.m. Foredrag på højskoler, DOKK1 i Aarhus, Folkemødet på Bornholm næste år (vi har søgt om bod), TV-Aarhus, Lumela.dk, YouTube, Vimeo og diverse sociale medier.

Knytte bånd til den anden ende

Vi ved godt at videoer ikke gør det alene. Men ved fælles hjælp og dyrkelse af netværk mener vi, at Lesotho og Danmark med omtrent samme størrelse men med så forskellige forudsætninger, kan vække gensidig interesse for hvordan, vi tackler tidens udfordringer.

Brugte PC'er til skoler i Lesotho – op ad bakke

Af: Arne Pedersen

I november 2017 spurgte min svigerdatter Melanie mig, om vi i Denmark Lesotho Network kunne være interesserede i brugte, men brugbare bærbare computere. Melanie fortalte, at på Egtved Skole havde de lige skrottet 50 stk. og de havde 40 stk. yderligere,

about to be trashed too. We talked about it and decided that if we were to ship computers to Lesotho it should be in hundreds, or rather thousands.

I presented the idea at the next DLN Board meeting. It was well received and I started the work, which turned out to be quite comprehensive.

The following parties have been involved:
Lesotho's consulate in Denmark, Lesotho's embassy in Ireland, The Ministry of Education in Lesotho, FAIR Denmark, CAMARA (our partner in Lesotho), Schools in Aalborg municipality, 25 schools in Vejle Municipality, the 15 biggest companies in Denmark, three companies that renovate used IT equipment, two transport companies, 'Recycling for Development' and their two workshops in Holbæk and Rødekro.

I was convinced that when Egtved municipality could donate 40 used yet functioning computers the market for second-hand computers that we could ship to Lesotho would be enormous.

FAIR Denmark has several years of good experience from sending computers to Malawi, and I received good advice from them.

The procedure has been:

- With the assistance of Lesotho's Consulate in Denmark and the Embassy in Ireland we established contact to high ranking officials in the Ministry of Education, which in turn put us in contact with CAMARA, i.e. an Irish aid organisation specialising in procedures related to IT in developing countries. CAMARA also has employees in Lesotho.

In February 2018, Carsten Brønden visited Lesotho in connection with the Working Kids project and agreed with CAMARA that they would be our 'Southern Partner'.

During February/March I contacted IT responsible officers and leaders in 25

som skulle skrottes. Det snakkede vi lidt om og kom frem til, at hvis vi skulle sende computere til Lesotho skulle det være flere hundrede ja helst i tusindvis.

Ideen fremlagde jeg på næste bestyrelsesmøde i DLN. Ideen blev godt modtaget og jeg gik i gang med et arbejde, som viste sig at være enormt.

Følgende har været involveret: ***Lesotho's Konsulat i Danmark, Lesotho's Ambassade i Irland, Undervisningsministeriet i Lesotho, Fair Danmark, vores partner i Lesotho - CAMARA, skoler i Ålborg Kommune, 25 skoler i Vejle Kommune, Danmarks 15 største firmaer, 3 firmaer som renoverer brugt IT udstyr, 2 speditionsfirmaer, Genbrug til Syd samt GTS's renoverings værksteder i Holbæk og Røde Kro.***

Jeg var overbevist om, at når Egtved Skole kunne donere 40 velfungerende computere måtte markedet med brugte computere, som vi kunne sende til Lesotho være enorm.

Fair Danmark har i flere år haft gode erfaringer med at sende computere til Malawi – fra Fair Danmark fik jeg gode råd.

Proceduren har været:

- Ved hjælp af Lesotho's Konsulat i Danmark og Ambassade i Irland fik vi kontakt til højtstående folk i Undervisningsministeriet i Lesotho, som etablerede kontakt med CAMARA. Camara er en irsk hjælpeorganisation, som har specialiseret sig i hele proceduren med IT i u-lande. Camara har også ansatte i Lesotho. I forbindelse med Working Kids projektet var Carsten Brønden i februar 2018 i Lesotho og indgik aftale med Camara om, at de ville være vores "Sydpartner".
- I løbet af februar / marts i år har jeg haft telefonisk kontakt med IT-ansvarlige og ledere på 25 skoler i Vejle Kommune. Alle skoler viste positiv

schools in Vejle municipality. All schools showed positive interest in our project. However the schools use different makes of computers and when changing them, the used computers are mainly sold internally to staff.

Nonetheless, we have been offered ca. 60 computers of various makes in 2019. This is however not interesting for our purpose as a school class in Lesotho needs 40 identical computers.

I then talked to the IT responsible officers from the 15 biggest Danish companies, i.e those with the highest turnover. *I started with the biggest Danish corporation, Mærsk. Quite surprising, English was used as the main language at the switchboard. Already at this level the idea was clearly rejected. No computers leave the company. They scarp and destroy all computers themselves. Some readers may recall that Mærsk was hacked earlier and that it cost them billions of DKK.*

The other companies I talked to were positive, but hesitant. Reference was made to the new General Data Protection Regulation in the EU. At Arla (a milk product company) I nonetheless made a breakthrough. They referred to the company '3-step-it' where they lease all their computers. '3-step-it' is interested in cooperating with us. They have donated second hand computers to Eastern Europe for many years. If they are to donate computers to us, they will clean them themselves. However this is done in England, so the costs of freight and the procedure are too much. They hope to establish facilities to do it in Denmark. In addition, Lego (a toy block production company) has showed positive interest and may be willing to cooperate with us.

As mentioned above I had hoped and believed that I could collect 500 computers. The MoE in Lesotho had

interesse for vores projekt. Men det viste sig at skolerne brugte forskellige fabrikater af computere og at de ved udskiftning hovedsageligt brugte computerne internt – f. eks solgte disse til ansatte. Dog har vi i 2019 fået tilbudt ca. 60 stk. fra forskellige skoler og forskellige slags computere. Dette er ikke interessant, idet der til en skoleklasse i Lesotho skal bruges 40 ens computere.

- Derefter har jeg talt med IT-ansvarlige i Danmarks 15 største virksomheder målt efter omsætning. *Jeg begyndte med Danmarks største virksomhed. Noget overraskende blev engelsk brugt som hovedsprog i omstillingen. Allerede her blev ideen meget klart afvist, idet ingen computere forlader firmaet og de skrotter selv samtlige computere. --- nogle husker vel nok, at Mærsk blev hacket og dette kostede milliarder.*

De øvrige firmaer jeg har talt med var meget positive, men tilbageholdende – især blev der henvist til den nye **persondatalov**. Hos Arla kom der et gennembrud. De henviste til firmaet 3-step-it, hvor de leaser alle deres computere. 3-step-it vil gerne arbejde sammen med os. Firmaet har i en årrække doneret brugt it-udstyr til Østeuropa. Hvis firmaet skal donere computere til os, vil de selv afinstallere / rense computerne. Pt gør de dette i England. Omkostningerne ved at fragte til England og retur samt proceduren i England er for store. De håber, at få faciliteter til dette i Danmark. Endvidere har Lego vist positiv interesse og måske vil Lego arbejde sammen med os.

- Som nævnt ovenfor havde jeg troet og håbet på at vi kunne skaffe 500 computere. I Lesotho havde Undervisningsministeriet derfor valgt 10 modtager skoler. Desværre må vi nu konstatere, at vi kun har 40 stk. fra Egtved Skole --- dvs. til én skole i Lesotho. CAMARA og Undervisningsministeriet har valgt

therefore chosen 10 benefitting schools. Unfortunately, we now have to ascertain that we only have the 40 computers from Egtved school, i.e. for one school in Lesotho. Accordingly, CAMARA and the MoE have chosen Mosoang High School close to Morija. It has been quite a challenge to obtain the necessary documents from CAMARA that are needed to apply for funding of the transport costs.

However, we now have the most important documents and will apply before the deadline 13 August 2018. So it will now be interesting to see if the 40 well-functioning computers from Egtved school will land at Mosoang High School. For the time being the computers are stored at 'Meritten' in Rødekro - awaiting the long journey.

It has been interesting and educational for me to work with this project. However, I have to acknowledge that the outcome has not been satisfactory as compared to the many hours of work I have put in.

The greatest challenge will be the new General Data Protection Regulation, which makes companies hesitate from donating used computers to developing countries. I have now decided to spend time in the coming autumn on the project – particularly on collecting computers from companies. We will have to see if we succeed – if not we have to ascertain that we cannot go further.

Another new project

By Anders Hedegaard Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) and Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) have succeeded in obtaining another grant for development of farmers associations, this time throughout the whole of Lesotho. The project will start on October 1st 2018 and run for three

Mosoang High School. Skolen ligger i nærheden af Morija. Det har været en stor udfordring, at få nødvendige dokumenter fra Camara for at kunne søge om transportdækning af disse computere ---- men nu har vi de vigtigste dokumenter og sendt ansøgningen inden fristens udløb den 13. august 2018. *Så nu er det spændende om de 40 velfungerende computere fra Egtved Skole lander hos Mosoang High School.* Computerne står på lager hos Meritten i Røde Kro og venter kun på den lange rejse.

Det har været spændende og lærerigt at arbejde med dette projekt. Dog må jeg erkende at udbyttet ikke er tilfredsstillende i forhold til de mange timers arbejde. Den største udfordring er helt sikkert den nye **Persondatalov**, som tilbageholder firmaer fra at donere brugte computere til u-lande. Nu har jeg besluttet at bruge en del tid i det kommende efterår på projektet – især med at skaffe computere fra firmaer. *Så må vi se om det lykkes – i modsat fald konstatere, at det var det!*

Endnu et nyt projekt

Af Anders Hedegaard Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) og Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) har endnu en gang fået en bevilling til arbejdet med at skabe landboforeninger, denne gang i hele Lesotho. Projektet starter 1. oktober 2018 og løber over tre år. De godt 4 mill. DKK fordeles ud over alle tre år. Herunder kan du



years. The grant of 4 mill DKK will be dispersed over all three years. Below you can read more about the project.

LESOTHO AGRICULTURE AND FOOD FORUM

The intervention

The overall vision of this project is smallholder farmers having political influence and ability to do viable agri-business in Lesotho. The outcome of the project will be a Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum (LAFF) building smallholder farmers' social capital alongside doing incisive lobbying and advocacy towards the Government of Lesotho for them to provide the necessary infrastructure and enabling environments in the rural areas of Lesotho.



One of the smallholder farmers.

The lessons learned from previous DLN-RSDA-projects (Denmark Lesotho Network–Rural Self-help Development Association–projects) have led to the development of the project at hand, where the focus will be on partnerships at all levels. Working together with likeminded organisations, building social capital and providing the necessary infrastructure will allow smallholder farmers' organisations and forums to both speak with one strong voice and at the same time together aggregate the volumes and the quality produce required by commercial buyers. The proposed project will maximize the outcome of previous projects by synchronising with other interventions across rural areas all over Lesotho so that RSDA and likeminded stakeholders will reach more beneficiaries

læse mere detaljeret om projektet.

LESOTHO LANDBRUG OG FØDEVAREFORUM

Projektet

Det overordnede mål med dette projekt er at give småbønderne i Lesotho større politisk indflydelse og bedre muligheder for at drive rentabel landbrugsvirksomhed. Udbyttet af projektet vil være et Lesotho Landbrug og Fødevarerforum (LAFF), som skal styrke småbøndernes sociale kapital og dermed styrke dem i at udføre lobbyarbejde og fortalervirksomhed over for regeringen i Lesotho for at få udviklet den nødvendige infrastruktur og bedret leveforholdene i udkantsområderne i landet.

Erfaringer fra tidligere DLN-RSDA-projekter har ledt til udarbejdelsen af dette projekt, hvor det overordnede fokus er på partnerskab på alle niveauer. At skabe et netværk af ligestillede landboforeninger, at højne den sociale kapital og at udbygge den nødvendige infrastruktur vil gøre de små landboforeninger og -fora i stand til at "tale med en stemme" og dermed at opgradere både omfang og kvalitet af deres fødevarerproduktion, så den lever op til de kommercielle krav. Det aktuelle projekt skal videreudvikle udbyttet af de tidligere projekter ved at koordinere indsatsen med lignende initiativer i udkantsområderne landet over, så RSDA og lignende aktører vil nå ud til en endnu større del af målgruppen.



RSDAs kontorbygning i Maseru. På bjerget bagved, skimtes parlamentsbygningen.

within the target group.

This project will be decentralising and at the same time identifying the role of RSDA as a leading initiator, coordinator, and facilitator of joint efforts. The joint effort between RSDA and likeminded organisations will be assisting smallholder farmers across all of Lesotho to organise and carry out own advocacy initiatives and lobbying duty bearers at all levels and contexts.



Studying an article from the paper

Most of all, this project will organise smallholder farmers from all 10 districts of Lesotho and the number of smallholder farmers organised will increase from 5.000 to 10.000.

Relevance of the intervention

The application summarises the main achievements of two earlier projects by the same partners, and how the proposed project aims to spread, alleviate and consolidate these. The application therefore includes a thorough and well-informed context analysis and is on this basis seen as highly relevant in the given context. The project's overall development

Dette projekt har til hensigt på en gang at decentralisere og intensivere RSDAs rolle som en ledende initiator, koordinator og facilitator af den fælles indsats. Denne fælles indsats udført af RSDA og lignende organisationer skal støtte småbønder på tværs af hele landet i at organisere sig og udføre fortalervirksomhed og lobbyvirksomhed over for beslutningstagere på alle niveauer.

Først og fremmest vil dette projekt dog sikre organiseringen af småbønder fra alle 10 distrikter i landet, således at antallet af organiserede landmænd vil øges fra 5.000 til 10.000.

Projektets relevans

Ansøgningen gør rede for hovedudbyttet af to tidligere projekter i samme partnerskab, og det aktuelle projekt har som mål at sprede, øge og konsolidere dette udbytte. Ansøgningen inkluderer derfor en grundig og informativ kontekstanalyse og vurderes på baggrund af denne højt relevante i den givne kontekst.



En hyrde vogter geder

Projektets overordnede udviklingsmål er at videreudvikle og styrke det igangværende arbejde med etableringen af Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum, hvis hovedformål er at støtte småbønder i hele Lesotho i at organisere sig, udøve fortalervirksomhed og lobbyarbejde over for beslutningstagere på forskellige niveauer og i forskellige sammenhænge. Projektet har således stærkt fokus på civilsamfunds-organisering. Projektet forventer at kunne bidrage til mere stabil

objective is to further develop and strengthen into the formation of a Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum, that will have as its main purpose to assist smallholder farmers across Lesotho to organise and carry out own advocacy initiatives and lobby duty bearers at different levels and contexts and is on this basis seen to have a strong civil society organisation focus. The project anticipates that it will be able to contribute to a more stable food production and economic growth – and on the basis of the presented situation of subsistence smallholders, the proposed intervention is seen to have a good probability of leading to lasting improvements for poor, marginalised and vulnerable target groups. The project builds on results and experiences from the previous.

The partnership

The new project will build on and further develop the results that were obtained during the previous project. The prospects of developing and strengthening the cooperation further seem promising. The project focus is on creating an LAFF partnership, which will strengthen the involvement and cooperation with a number of important stakeholders and actors in order to reach the project goals. The partnership has the needed experience and has previously succeeded in making relevant improvements and results for civil society. The project will use existing networks in the advocacy processes and in the endeavours to influence political decision making processes.

fødevarereproduktion og økonomisk vækst, og med udgangspunkt i den beskrevne situation blandt selvforsynende småbønder vurderes sandsynligheden for, at projektet kan medføre varige forbedringer for fattige, marginaliserede og sårbare målgrupper som høj. Projektet bygger på resultater og erfaringer fra det foregående projekt.

Partnerskabet

Det nye projekt bygger på og skal udvikle de resultater, der blev opnået gennem det forrige projekt, og potentialet for en videreudvikling af samarbejdet synes at være godt. Projektets fokus på at skabe et LAFF partnerskab vil styrke involveringen af og samarbejdet med en række vigtige interessenter og aktører om at opnå projektets mål. Partnerskabet har den nødvendige erfaring og har tidligere haft succes med at skabe relevante forbedringer og resultater for civilsamfundet. Projektet vil benytte eksisterende netværk i processen omkring fortalervirksomhed og i sit arbejde med at påvirke politiske beslutningsprocesser.



Møde på RSDAs kontor

News from Lesotho:

From Lesotho Times:

SADC troops to go

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BY [LESOTHO TIMES](#) ON AUGUST 24, 2018 [LOCAL NEWS](#). [NEWS](#)

...Regional leaders turn down govt request for an extension of standby force's tenure

Staff Reporter

REGIONAL leaders reportedly turned down Prime Minister Thomas Thabane's request for an extension of the SADC Preventive Mission in Lesotho's (SAPMIL) tenure in Lesotho by a further three months.

Sources within government and SAPMIL said Dr Thabane asked for the extension during the 38th SADC summit of heads of state and government that was held in Windhoek, Namibia on Friday and Saturday.

The sources said that Dr Thabane had asked for the extension in view of the fast approaching November deadline for the departure of SAPMIL but the regional leaders would have none of it. Instead, they reportedly told him to ensure that his government and other stakeholders fully utilised the remaining months of SAPMIL's tenure to implement the multi-sector reforms.

The sources also said that South African President Cyril Ramaphosa was also taken to task at the weekend summit for allegedly being too soft on the exiled opposition leaders whose refusal to return to Lesotho has stalled the reforms process.

SAPMIL, also known as the SADC Standby Force to Lesotho, was officially unveiled in Lesotho on 2 December 2017 as part of regional efforts to foster a conducive environment for the implementation of constitutional, security sector, public service, media and governance reforms in line with the recommendations of the regional body.

The standby force is comprised of 217 soldiers, 15 intelligence personnel, 24 police officers and 13 civilian experts.

The standby force completed its original six-month mandate in May this year but this was subsequently extended to November this year to enable it to assist Lesotho in the implementation of the reforms which were recommended by SADC in 2016.

The SADC force was essentially deployed to prevent rogue Lesotho Defence Force soldiers from destabilising Dr Thabane's coalition as it went about implementing SADC recommended reforms to curb perennial instability in the Kingdom.

The reforms include holding rogue LDF members accountable for their past atrocities and helping mould the LDF into a professional force via some targeted re-training.

The standby force would also help in the investigation of the 5 September, 2017 assassination of army commander, Lieutenant General Khoantle Motšomotšo, by his subordinates, Brigadier Bulane Sechele and Colonel Tefo Hashatsi as well as the earlier killing of another LDF boss, Maaparankoe Mahao, among other tasks.

The official SADC communique released shortly after the summit stated that the regional bloc was concerned by the delays in the implementation of the reforms.

"The summit resolved not to entertain any further delays in the implementation of reforms and national dialogue and called upon SADC member states to take necessary measures against those with intentions to delay, or threaten to derail the reforms and the national dialogue processes".

In their usual diplomatic manner, the regional leaders further stated that "the summit urged the government of Lesotho to put in place a programme with clear milestones for the implementation of priority activities on the reforms roadmap and national dialogue, while recognising that the SAPMIL and Oversight Committee tenures end in November 2018".

However, the sources said the SADC heads of state were far from diplomatic behind closed doors and they flatly refused to entertain Dr Thabane's plea for an extension to the SAPMIL tenure.



“The regional leaders flatly refused to budge and instead read the riot act to the government and the opposition, telling them to be serious about the reforms process starting with the National Leaders Reform (which starts today).

“They told Dr Thabane to ensure that his government and other stakeholders utilise this period until 20 November when SAPMIL’s tenure ends to cover as much ground as they can in the implementation of the reforms,” one source said.

Another source said that SADC had decided on the hardline stance to force the government and the opposition into implementing the reforms.

“The (regional leaders’) feeling was that the two parties would continue to bicker and procrastinate at a great financial cost to the region if the tenure of SAPMIL was extended.

“But even with this tough stance by the heads of state, it is unlikely that the constitutional and security sector reforms would have been fully implemented by the May 2019 deadline. There is so much ground to be covered to build consensus among stakeholders,” the source said.

The Press Attaché in the Prime Minister’s Office, Thabo Thakalekoala, yesterday said, “I cannot comment on the content of the meeting if at all what you are referring to was discussed in the SADC meeting”.



“I can only refer you to the SADC Communique which is the official record of the decisions taken at the Summit. Anything that is not contained in the communique I cannot comment.”

Another source said that South African President Cyril Ramaphosa was also taken to task at the weekend summit for allegedly being too soft on the exiled opposition leaders whose refusal to return to Lesotho has stalled the reforms process.

“President Ramaphosa was also urged to employ a tough stance on the exiled leaders to ensure that they return to Lesotho for the reforms to proceed. South Africa was told not to offer the opposition leaders political asylum so that they can return home for the reforms.

“That is why the communique of the summit warns of measures against those who seek to delay or derail the reforms.

The SADC leaders are of the view that the exiled leaders are only concerned about evading justice as they have pending criminal cases,” the source said.

The SADC position was communicated just three days after the exiled leader of the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD), Mothetjoa Metsing, said that the opposition would boycott the reforms process including today's National Leaders' Forum. Mr Metsing said this in a 15 August 2018 letter to the head of the SADC facilitation team to Lesotho, Justice Dikgang Moseneke. In addition to the usual opposition demands which include the formation of a government of national unity, the release from remand prison of murder-accused former army commander, Lieutenant Tlali Kamoli and the dropping of criminal charges against him, Mr Metsing issued new conditions for the opposition's participation in the reforms process and these include guarantees for the safety of fraud-accused 'Makarabo Mojakhomo. However, SADC refused to entertain the opposition demands and told Mr Metsing and his colleagues to participate in the reforms processes beginning with today's National Leaders' Forum. According to the government roadmap for the implementation of the reforms, the National Leaders' Forum is aimed at "contributing to trust and confidence building among the country's top political leaders by providing a forum where the leaders can check-in with each other from time to time as necessary in order to promote the reforms".

No going back on reforms: Thabane

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BY LESOTHO TIMES ON AUGUST 24, 2018 LOCAL NEWS, NEWS

Pascalinah Kabi

PRIME Minister Thomas Thabane says the National Leaders Forum will go ahead today as planned with presidents Hage Geingob (Namibia) and Edgar Lungu (Zambia) expected to attend on behalf of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). Dr Geingob and Mr Lungu will attend in their capacities as SADC chairperson and SADC Chairperson of the Organs on Politics, Defense and Security Cooperation respectively.

Dr Thabane also called on the public to shun all politicians who work against the implementation of the multi-sector reforms.

He said this while addressing journalists in Maseru early this week soon after his return from the 38th SADC summit of heads of state and government that was held in Windhoek, Namibia on Friday and Saturday.

His remarks come against the background of last week's decision by the opposition to boycott the much-postponed National Leaders Forum which is one of the critical initiatives aimed at resuscitating the stalled reforms process.

Addressing the media this week, Dr Thabane said the National Leaders Forum will go ahead as planned with "only peace-loving people" who have heeded the call of SADC taking part in the proceedings.

He said presidents were expected to attend or send representatives to the forum.

"The SADC summit urged Lesotho and all stakeholders to ensure that the National Leaders Forum, scheduled for 23 to 24 August 2018 takes place as planned and called upon all stakeholders, including those who reside outside to participate," Dr Thabane said on Monday.



“The forum will take place in the presence of the SADC chairperson and chairperson of the Organs on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation. The two chairpersons will either attend or send their representatives.”

Dr Thabane said the Multi-stakeholder National Forum will take place from 9 to 12 October this year as part of efforts to ensure that the reforms are fully implemented. The premier further said the summit noted and appreciated efforts by the government to implement the SADC recommendations including those calling for the arrest and prosecution of all those who had committed serious offences in violation of human rights.

“SADC has called on every Lesotho to take part in discussions of peace-building. Those who want peace will come and take part in this (reforms) process and those who want something other than peace will pursue whatever they want outside Lesotho. We therefore call on the nation to shun whoever is working against this process.

“We invite everyone who feels they have something to say about this process and if anyone does not want to come we are going to apply the principle of majority rule, where we will follow what the majority of the people want. That’s how the world functions and the reforms will be implemented,” Dr Thabane said.

His remarks come against the background of last week’s decision by the opposition to boycott the reforms process.

The exiled leader of the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD), Mothetjoa Metsing, wrote to the head of the SADC facilitation team to Lesotho, Justice Dikgang Moseneke, last Wednesday and stated that the opposition would boycott the reforms process including the National Leaders’ Forum if the government did not meet their demands. But the regional body would have none of it and instead it warned at the weekend summit that it would not tolerate further delays to the reforms process from any quarter. “The summit noted with concern that, despite a number of SADC initiatives in the Kingdom of Lesotho, progress on the implementation of the reforms roadmap, and national dialogue remains very slow,” regional leaders said in a communique that was issued on Saturday.

“The summit urged the Kingdom of Lesotho and all stakeholders to ensure that the National Leaders Forum, scheduled for 23 to 24 August 2018 takes place as planned and called upon all stakeholders, including those who reside outside to participate.”

In a less diplomatic tone, the regional leaders said they had “resolved not to entertain any further delays in the implementation of reforms and national dialogue and called upon SADC member states to take necessary measures against those with intentions to delay, or threaten to derail the Reforms and the National dialogue processes”.

The SADC leaders also called upon the government “to put in place a programme with clear milestones for the implementation of priority activities on the reforms roadmap and national dialogue”.

However, supporters of the opposition parties have come out guns blazing against the SADC heads of state. The opposition supporters on Monday addressed an open letter to the



SADC chairperson, Dr Geingob, accusing the regional body of bias against Mr Metsing and the opposition in general.

“We read with an utter consternation the communique of the 38th SADC Summit which was held in Namibia on 17 to 18 August 2018. Our disappointment emanates from clause 22 of the Communique in which the SADC Summit ‘resolved not to entertain any further delays in the implementation of the reforms and national dialogue and called upon SADC member states to take necessary measures against those with intentions to delay or threaten to derail the reforms and national dialogue processes’.

“Although the clause is amenable to a multiplicity of interpretations, our own interpretation is that its crafters were specifically targeting the Lesotho coalition of opposition parties and more in particular Mr Metsing,” opposition supporters wrote on Monday.

They further stated that the opposition had made a “democratic choice” not to participate in the reforms and their choice “is a not a threat to the reforms process”.

“Our view is that SADC and the government can happily continue with the reforms without issuing unwarranted threats to anyone who is not willing to participate.

“We find it regrettable that the regional organisation of the stature of SADC which prides itself as an advocate of democracy cannot accommodate differing views and use coercive bullying tactics to trample upon people’s conscience. Freedom of conscience is entrenched in the constitution of Lesotho and it is, ipso facto, a democratic right of every citizen whether in government or in the opposition.

“It is our belief that those who are not willing to participate in the reforms because the government does not want to accede to their demands commit no crime and should not be coerced to do so. Hence it would not be fair on the part of SADC to interpret their abstinence as a threat or derailment geared towards reforms and national dialogue processes since these can still continue without their participation. It is our view that SADC should endeavour to assist the government to implement the reforms while at the same time respecting the views of those who have their own reservations,” the opposition supporters further stated.

<http://lestimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/THE-African-Union-Commission-AUC-and-SADC-Secretariat-conducted-a-Joint-Technical-Assessment-Mission-of-SADC-Preventive-Mission-in-the-Kingdom-of-Lesotho-SAPMIL-from-05-to-09-February-2018..jpg>

From Public Eye:

ANGRY FACTORY WORKERS BESIEGE MASERU

August 15 2018.

MASERU – Angry garment factory workers have since Tuesday evening blockaded roads leading into the city centre to press home their demands for increased pay. This is amid unconfirmed reports



that a school child had been shot and injured during the morning fracas and had been taken to hospital.



Police spokesman Superintendent Mpiti Mopeli this afternoon said police had not received the shooting report. This morning the workers – mainly women – poured into central Maseru, disrupting traffic as the rowdy protest moved from its epicenter in Thetsane, Masooe, Ha Tikoe and Station industrial areas.

The protestors had by lunchtime congregated at AME Hall. Government this morning deployed the army to disperse the marauding workers who had blocked roads with boulders, burning tires and all manner of debris they could marshal. The army fought running battles with the workers who scurried in all directions but regrouped to march onto the city centre.

The workers are hopping mad that employers have blocked a government decision to increase their wages M2 000. Employers approached the high court this week thus checking the government move, which would have resulted in implementation of a 2012 experts' recommendation, suggesting a M2 000 minimum wage for the industry which employs nearly 45 000 workers.

May Rathakane, general secretary of IDUL, speaking on behalf of the 10-strong trade unions said today the factory workers would not relent until the government decision was affected.

What is Denmark Lesotho Network?

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



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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. For membership contact DLN:

E-mail: dln@lumela.dk

Homepage: www.lumela.dk

KHOTSO – PULA – NALA

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