

News from the DLN

Pitso

Gå ikke glip af en eftermiddag med mad, hygge med hinanden og vore gæster fra Lesotho, billeder fra den seneste Kulturrejse til Lesotho og fremvisning af filmen The Forgotten Kingdom. Af hensyn til forplejning, vil vi gerne have din tilmelding senest fredag den 26. august til Karina Ruby: rubykarina@gmail.com eller tlf: 6179 9887.

Tid og sted: **Lørdag den 3. september kl. 13.00 på**

Frederiksgade 78b, 8000 Århus C.

Vi glæder os rigtigt meget til at se dig.



Pitso

Don't miss out on this afternoon with food and cosy socialising with our guests from Lesotho, photos from the latest culture tour to Lesotho and watching the film 'The Forgotten Kingdom'. For catering purposes you are kindly requested to register before Friday August 26th with Karina Ruby: rubykarina@gmail.com or phone: 6179 9887.

Time and Place: **Saturday, September 3rd, at 13 hours,**

Frederiksgade 78b, 8000 Aarhus C.

We look forward to seeing you.

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Membership of DLN

Interesting presentation at the World Mirror Festival in Aarhus – Come and Listen

DLN would like to invite all interested persons to come and hear and discuss an interesting presentation about citizen involvement and participation in Lesotho. The event is part of the World Mirror Festival during the Aarhus Festival week.

During this autumn, DLN will welcome two visitors from our partner organisation in Lesotho, Development of Peace Education (DPE). They are National Coordinator, Sofonea Shale, and Peace Education Reseracher, 'Mabataung Secker, who will tell us about the work they do to engage and involve the people and civil society in decisions that concern the governance and economy of the country.- An important effort towards establishing a democratic society of concerned citizens, who can hold decision makers accountable for promises and obligations. DPE is working determinedly to develop the capacity, knowledge and courage of citizens to make demands on their elected politicians. Come and learn about their work, and how DPE ensures that wishes and demands of the citizens are communicated so loud and clearly that the government listens.

The event will take place Thursday September 1st, 4-6 pm at 'Ridehuset', Vester Alle 1, 8000 Aarhus C.

World Mirror is a festival to celebrate the colourful diversity of the world that offers global experiences and enriching meetings of cultures.

Read more about World Mirror at <http://verdensspejl.dk/>

Spændende oplæg til Verdensspejl Festival i Aarhus – kom og hør

Som en del af festivallen Verdensspejl under Aarhus festuge, inviterer DLN alle interesserede til oplæg og debat om borgerdeltagelse og -inddragelse i Lesotho.

DLN har i efteråret besøg af partnerorganisationen Development of Peace Education (DPE) fra Lesotho. National Coordinator, Sofonea Shale, og Peace Education Reseracher, 'Mabataung Secker kommer og fortæller om deres arbejde med borgerinddragelse i politiske processer og beslutninger om landets ledelse og økonomi - et vigtigt arbejde mod et demokratisk funderet samfund med engagerede og kritiske borgere, der stiller beslutningstagerne til ansvar for deres løfter og forpligtelser.



DPE arbejder målrettet mod at give landets borgere kapacitet, viden og mod til at stille krav til deres folkevalgte politikere. Kom og hør om deres arbejde, og hvordan DPE sikrer at



borgernes ønsker og krav bliver kommunikeret så højt og tydeligt, at regeringen lytter.

Arrangementet foregår **torsdag den 1. september kl. 16:00-18:00 i Ridehuset, Vester Alle 1, 8000 Aarhus C.**

Verdensspejl er en festival, der fejrer verdens farverige mangfoldighed og byder på globale oplevelser og berigende kulturmøder.

Læs mere om Verdensspejl her (LINK: <http://verdensspejl.dk/>)

News from the Board

By: Louise Bau Jensen

Summer in Denmark is coming to an end. Over the summer DLN has been working hard to organise the upcoming visit from our Partner organisation, Lesotho Development for Peace Education (DPE) and to organise a Pitso. The communication group has put the final touch to our new website.

Visit from Lesotho- The kingdom in the Sky.

It has long been planned that our partner organisation, Development of Peace Education (DPE), should visit Denmark, and we are happy welcome two representatives from DPE at the end of August. The purpose of the visit is that DPE should get a first-hand impression of how NGOs and democracy work in Denmark, and also show how an organisation like DLN operate without employees and offices. The visitors are Sofonea Shale, National Coordinator, and Rethabile Jullinah Mohloki, National Animator who will visit DLN from August 31st to September 8th.

The programme will start with a visit to Aarhus, including a presentation at the 'World Mirror' as part of the Aarhus Festival Week,

Nyt fra bestyrelsen

Af: Louise Bau Jensen

Sommeren i Danmark er ved at gå på hæld. Over sommeren har DLN arbejdet ihærdigt med at arrangere det kommende besøg fra vores partnerorganisation fra Lesotho Development for Peace Education (DPE) og arrangere Pitso. Kommunikationsgruppen har lagt sidste hånd på vores nye hjemmeside.

Besøg fra Lesotho – The Kingdom in the Sky.

Der har længe været planer om et besøg fra vores partnerorganisation Development of Peace Education (DPE) i Danmark, og i slutningen af august kan vi med glæde tage imod to repræsentanter for DPE. Formålet med besøget er for DPE at se, hvordan foreningsliv og demokrati fungerer i praksis i Danmark, og at vise, hvordan DLN, en organisation, uden ansatte eller lokaler, fungerer. Det er National Coordinator Sofonea Shale og National Animator Rethabile Jullinah Mohloki, der kommer på besøg i DLN fra den 31. august til den 8. september.

Programmet indledes med besøg i Århus, hvor det bl.a. står på oplæg på festivalen Verdensspejl under Århus Festuge, møde med

meeting with CISU, sightseeing, visit to private homes and Pitso.

Second part of the programme will be in Copenhagen and include, amongst others, meeting with MS Action Aid, Danmission, Global Focus, the Danish Parliament, Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Ombudsman institution. In addition, DLN's and DPE's current joint project will be discussed.

If you want to meet our guests your most welcome at Word Mirror in 'Ridehuset', Vester Alle 1, 8000 Aarhus C, Thursday September 1st between 4 and 6 pm (see elsewhere in this newsletter), and also at the Pitso, Saturday September 3rd (see below).

New website

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we can finally present the new DLN website to you. We are quite happy and proud of it ourselves, and we hope that it will be well-received by all. The address is the same as always:

www.lumela.dk

Rural Selfhelp Development Association (RSDA)

In RSDA the planning of their 25-year anniversary is well underway. It is quite an achievement for an organisation like RSDA to have survived for so long. That is another good reason for celebrating the anniversary with pomp and circumstance. RSDA has made an entry in Lumela.dk explaining the project that DLN and RSDA are jointly working on. RSDA have positive expectations for the coming planting season as snowfall has been plentiful this winter. So contrary to the strong drought and heat last season there should be sufficient water for crops, animals and people.

Working Kids

Carsten Brønden is still trying hard to identify

CISU, sightseeing, på besøg i private hjem og til Pitso.

Anden halvdel af besøget foregår i København, hvor de bl.a. skal møde MS Action Aid, Danmission, Globalt Fokus, Folketinget, Danish Institute for Human Rights og Ombusmandsinstitutionen. Oven i dette vil DLNs og DPEs aktuelle fællesprojekt blive diskuteret.

Har du lyst til at møde vores gæster, er du meget velkommen på Verdensspejl i Ridehuset, Vester Alle 1, 8000 Århus C, torsdag den 1. september mellem kl.16.00 og 18.00 (se andet sted i Nyhedsbrevet) samt til Pitso lørdag den 3. september (se lige nedenfor).

Ny hjemmeside

Det er med glæde og spænding, at vi endelig kan præsentere dig for DLNs nye hjemmeside. Vi er selv meget glade for og stolte af den og håber, at alle vil tage godt imod den. Adressen er den samme som altid - www.lumela.dk.

Rural Selfhelp Development Assosiation (RSDA)

I RSDA er der fuld gang i planlægningen af deres 25-års jubilæum. Det er noget af en præstation for en organisation som RSDA at overleve så længe. Derfor er der ekstra god grund til at fejre jubilæet med pomt og pragt. RSDA har skrevet et indlæg til Lumela.dk, hvor de forklarer, hvad det er, de arbejder på med det projekt, DLN og RSDA har sammen. I RSDA er der gode forhåbninger for den kommende plantesæson, da der er faldet meget sne i denne vinter. Så i modsætning til den voldsomme tørke og varme sidste sæson bør der være vand nok til afgrøderne, dyrene og menneskene.

Working Kids

Carsten Brønden arbejder stadig hårdt på at finde den helt rigtige samarbejdspartner i

the right partner organisation in Lesotho for the project he is planning together with the project group. Sitting in Denmark it is difficult to get in contact with the right people, but Carsten has not given up and the project will succeed eventually.

Introducing the District Farmers Forums

Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) with the objective of supporting smallholder farmers' to improve *their living conditions and their influence through mobilising their social capital and dialogue with private sector and the Government of Lesotho*, is collaborating with farmers in the districts of Leribe, Berea, Maseru, Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek through district farmers forums. The initiative is financially supported by the Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN).

The objective of the district farmers' forums is to transform the mind set of smallholder about commercial agriculture in their respective districts through building on their social capital (trust, confidence) which will enable farmers to have honest communication and work with private sector and Government of Lesotho to follow through commitments pledged in the CAADP Compact. The District Farmers' Forum has a potential and may be a breakthrough towards active dialogue among farmers and their stakeholders. The farming community in the 5 Districts have recognized the opportunities associated with re-energizing smallholder commercial agriculture in their respective districts.

This collaboration with farmers is to support the National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) draft document of the Kingdom of Lesotho program of which its objective is to

Lesotho til det projekt, han sammen med projektgruppen har i støbeskeen. Det er svært at sidde i Danmark og få fat på de rigtige personer, men Carsten giver dog ikke op så let, så det skal nok lykkes.

Introduktion til bøndernes distrikts fora

RSDA (Forening til udvikling af selvhjælp i landområder) har til formål *at forbedre småbøndernes levevilkår og indflydelse gennem mobilisering af deres sociale kapital og dialog med den private sektor og Lesothos regering*.

RSDA samarbejder med bønder i distrikterne Leribe, Berea, Maseru, Mafeteng og Mohale's Hoek gennem 'Bøndernes Distrikts Fora'. Initiativet støttes økonomisk af Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN).



Maseru Agricultural District Unity Association

Målet med Bøndernes Distrikt Fora er at transformere småbøndernes opfattelser og tankegang omkring kommercielt landbrug i deres distrikter gennem styrkelse af deres sociale kapital (tillid, selvtillid). Det skal bringe dem i stand til at indgå i ærlig kommunikation og samarbejde med den private sektor og med regeringen, således at

help farmers to increase production and productivity and to graduate from subsistence farming to semi-commercial status.

This would be achieved through the use of appropriate technologies and strengthening agriculture as a business while at the same time helping other actors in the agricultural value chain to increase their incomes. The program would improve the enabling environment, contribute to reducing poverty and ensure sustainable food security for the Basotho both at household and national levels by improving production, productivity, diversification and commercializing food production and developing high potential value chains and good functioning markets, improved access to rural finance and infrastructure.



Leribe District Farmers Forum

Over the years farmers have been challenged by a number of bottlenecks that has restricted them to produce maximally, these include;

- Low productivity and poor quality agricultural production,
- Government policies that not inclusive and are not farmer friendly,
- Weak farmer networks and associations that cannot demand and monitor Government programs and

sidstnævnte lever op til de forpligtelser, der blev nedfældet i CAAADP Compact. Bøndernes Distrikts Fora har potentiale og kan blive et gennembrud for dialog blandt bønder og deres interesser. Bondesamfundene i de fem distrikter har forstået de muligheder, der er forbundet med genaktivering af kommercielt landbrug blandt småbønder.

Samarbejdet med bønderne skal støtte udkastet til NAIP (i.e. den national landbrugs investerings plan), som har til formål at hjælpe bønderne med at øge produktionen, forbedre produktiviteten og bevæge sig bort fra subsistens-landbrug over imod semi-kommercielt brug.

Dette kan opnås gennem anvendelse af de rette teknologier og styrkelse af de forretningsmæssige aspekter, samtidig med at man hjælper andre aktører i landbrugets værdikæde med at forøge indkomsterne. Programmet kan fremme gunstige vilkår, bidrage til reduktion af fattigdom og sikre bæredygtig fødevarer sikkerhed for Basothoerne, både på husholdnings- og nationalt niveau, ved at forbedre produktionen, produktiviteten, diversificering og kommercialisering af fødevarerproduktionen, samt udvikling af værdikæder med stort potentiale, velfungerende markeder, forbedret adgang til finansiering og infrastruktur.

Igennem årene er bønderne blevet udfordret af en række 'flaskehalse', som har forhindret dem i at producere maksimalt, blandt andet:

- Lav produktivitet og ringe kvalitet på produkterne.
- Regerings politikker, der ikke er gunstige for bønderne.
- Svage netværk og bondeforeninger, som ikke er i stand til at stille krav eller monitorere regeringens programmer.
- Ringe forståelse og viden om

- Poor understanding and knowledge of market and market linkages.

Therefore farmers in these districts have taken a huge responsibility of communicating, raising awareness and understanding among fellow farmers to unite for peer to peer support, to increase productivity of agriculture commodities and coordinate marketing of their produce.

A Farmers' Forum is a meeting place for likeminded farmers' associations; each district coming together to share challenges, experiences and lessons; for synergies, collective action and one voice for the farmers to explore opportunities which the Lesotho's smallholder agriculture can play a much greater role in creating jobs to increase disposable income and sustain household food security.

These forums exist for;

- Peer to peer support, exchanges to share skills and technologies, collective action-bulk buying and marketing of products.
- Collective voice and action in engaging with government for policy, laws and capital
- Collective voice and action in engaging with business for inputs, finance and output market.
- Organizational support to farmers groups/associations for creating sustainable entities for good governance – membership drive, accountability and transparency

The farmers' forum is represented by various farmers groups and associations based on commodities produced in the district e.g. poultry, grain, piggyery, horticulture, wool and mohair, forestry etc. This has been facilitated with assistance from the District Agricultural Offices of the districts mentioned.

markedet og markedsforbindelser.



Mohale's Hoek Districk Farmers Forum

Bønderne i disse distrikter har derfor påtaget sig et kæmpeansvar med at kommunikere, højne bevidstheden og forståelsen blandt ligemænd for nytten af at organisere sig til gensidig støtte, til at forøge produktiviteten af landbrugsvarer og koordinere markedsføringen af deres produkter.

Et Bonde Forum er et mødested for ligesindede bondeorganisationer, hvor hvert distrikt mødes for at dele og diskutere udfordringer, erfaringer og indsigter, synergi, kollektiv handling og hvordan bønderne kan tale med en stemme i udforskningen af de muligheder, der findes, for at Lesothos småbønder kan spille en meget større rolle i jobskabelse, så disponible indkomster og fødevarer sikkerheden kan forøges.

Disse fora eksisterer altså for:

- Gensidig støtte mellem ligemænd, udveksling og deling af færdigheder og teknologier, kollektiv handling, fælles indkøb og markedsføring af produkter.
- Fælles stemme og aktion i forhold til regeringens politik, lovgivning og kapital.
- Fælles stemme og handling in interaktionen med forretningsverdenens inputs, finansiering og salgsmarkeder.
- Organisatorisk støtte til bondegrupper og foreninger med henblik på at



Mafeteng District Farmers Forum

The theory of change underpinning this engagement is that government as a primary duty bearer has a significant role it plays in increasing agriculture production through infrastructure development, proper planning, policy formulation and execution, but particularly through resource allocations for the agricultural development targeting the Lesotho farmers where over 80% are small holder farmers! Therefore, for the smallholder farmers there is need to have their voices to positively engage and influence the government for changes in the lives of small holders' farmers.



Berea Business Forum

To have a unified voice for policy change and effective resource allocation and utilization, there is a need for farmers need to come together to have a platform that facilitates the engagement so to amplify their united voices

opbygge varige, medlemsdrevne enheder præget af god ledelse, ansvarlighed og gennemsigtighed.

Bøndernes Forum er repræsenteret af forskellige bondegrupper og foreninger, som igen baseres på de varer, der produceres i distriktet, for eksempel fjerkræ, korn, svin, grøntsager, uld, mohair, skovbrug osv. Dette er blevet faciliteret med assistance fra distrikt landbrugs kontorerne i de nævnte distrikter.

Den forandringsteori, der understøtter dette engagement, er at regeringen som hovedansvarlig må spille en betydelig rolle i øgningen af fødevarerproduktionen gennem udvikling af infrastruktur, god planlægning, politik udformning og gennemførelse, men ikke mindst gennem allokering af resurser til landbrugs udvikling som målrettes Lesothos bønder, hvoraf 80% er småbønder! Det er derfor nødvendigt for småbønderne at have en stemme, så de kan engagere sig positivt og influere regeringens politik i retning af forbedringer i småbøndernes liv. For at tale med een enig stemme i forhold til politiske forandringer og effektiv resurse allokering og anvendelse, må bønderne mødes på en platform, som muliggør engagement, så at den fælles stemme kan forstærkes angående en række emner, der påvirker landbrugs værdikæden fra produktion, forarbejdning og markedsføring. Det effektive engagement kan kun realiseres i det øjeblik bønderne forstår hvordan regeringsapparatet fungerer. Det gælder specielt forståelsen af politik udformning og gennemførelse (tildeling af resurser). Det gælder specielt deres evne til at engagere sig i budgetterings processen og overvågningen af denne. Men det kræver noget at opbygge bøndernes kapacitet til meningsfuldt at interagere med regeringen og andre interessenter. RSDA har derfor gennemført 3-dags kurser for at træne alle fora i regeringsførelse og samfundsmæssig ansvarlighed.

on a range of issues affecting agriculture value chain from production, processing and marketing. The effective engagement can only be realized once farmers understand how government operate especially understanding the policy formulation and execution (resource allocation), particularly their ability to engage and track the budgeting process and monitoring it. This takes efforts to capacitate farmers to be able to engage the government and other stakeholders meaningfully hence why RSDA had organized the 3 day workshops to train each forum on governance and social accountability.

The process of farmers' engagement with the duty bearers is expected to be participatory in nature where issues are taken up right from grass root to the district then to the national level to inform the CAADP processes.

From the Kingdom in the sky to the Kingdom by the sea

By: Marie Villumsen

In September, two representatives from Development for Peace Education (DPE) will travel to the Kingdom of Denmark to visit the Danish partner, Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN). During the visit DPE will engage with civil society stakeholders, learn about the Danish democracy and engage with the Danish population.

The Danish NGO, Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) has a longstanding relationship with the NGO Development for Peace Education (DPE) in Lesotho. It dates back to the 1980's when Danish development workers worked with DPE in various projects in Lesotho. We entered into our first formal partnership in 2010, and since then we have carried out joint projects aiming at strengthening a people-driven democracy in Lesotho. The projects are financed via the NGO-network, Civil Society for Development (CISU), which administers the Danish civil society fund.

Processen, hvor bønderne interagerer med de ansvarlige aktører forventes at være deltagerorienteret i sin natur, hvor emner tages op helt fra græsrodsniveau til distriktet og videre til national niveau, så de kan indgå i CAADP processen.



RSDAs kontor i Maseru

Fra Lesothos bjerge til Danmarks kyster

Af: Marie Villumsen

I september får DLN besøg af to repræsentanter fra Development for Peace Education (DPE). De skal mødes med danske civilsamfundsorganisationer, lære om det danske demokrati og møde danskere. Danmark har været i kontakt med DPE i årtier. Vores relation startede i 1980'erne, hvor danske udviklingsarbejdere arbejdede sammen med DPE om forskellige projekter i Lesotho. Vi indgik det første formelle partnerskab i 2010, og siden da har vi gennemført fælles projekter med fokus på at styrke et borgerdrevet demokrati i Lesotho. Projekterne er finansieret af NGO-netværket Civilsamfund i Udvikling (CISU), der forvalter den danske Civilsamfundspulje. DLN og DPEs partnerskab bygger på en fælles vision om et stærkt civilsamfund og et borgerdrevet demokrati, hvor borgere kan tage kontrol over deres egen skæbne og fremtid.

DLN and DPE entered into the partnership, because we share a vision of a strong civil society and a people-driven democracy, where the population is able to take control of its destiny and future. DLN's volunteers are driven by a desire to support people in Lesotho to take active part in society, and the partnership with DPE is rooted in a belief that a people-driven democracy will lead to a safer and more stable society. The partnership and projects are inspired by the Danish tradition for civic organisation. Denmark has a strong civil society rooted in the labour and cooperative movements, which took off in the 19th century. Since then, Danish civil society has been a strong actor that balances the power of political institutions and articulates the opinions and demands of the population. DLN brings this history and experiences into the partnership with DPE. It has been a great inspiration to see DPE gaining strength and voice in the public debate in Lesotho.



Sharing information

The partnership between DLN and DPE is based on a shared vision of a multi-party democracy, where citizens are able to have their voices heard in local and national policy making. Since the beginning of the partnership, there have been many changes in the political environment in Lesotho and Denmark. In 2012 Lesotho celebrated its first coalition government in history, and since then the



DPE-kursus

DLNs frivillige har et stærkt ønske om at støtte Lesothos befolkning i at tage aktiv del i samfundet, og partnerskabet med DPE er forankret i troen på at et folkedrevet demokrati medfører et mere sikkert og stabilt samfund. Partnerskabet og projekterne er inspireret af den danske tradition inden for foreningslivet. Danmark har et stærkt civilsamfund, der er forankret i fag- og andelsbevægelserne, der tog fart i det 19. århundrede. Siden da har civilsamfundet spillet en væsentlig rolle som modvægt til politiske institutioner, og som formidler af befolkningens ønsker og krav til samfundsudviklingen. DLN tager denne historie og disse erfaringer med ind i partnerskabet med DPE. Det har været utrolig inspirerende at se DPEs udvikling frem til at blive en stærk stemme i den offentlige debat i Lesotho.

Partnerskabet mellem DLN og DPE bygger også på en fælles vision om et flerparti demokrati, hvor borgere har mulighed for at blive hørt i lokale og nationale politiske processer. Siden starten af partnerskabet er der sket mange politiske forandringer i både Lesotho og Danmark. I 2012 fejrede Lesotho den første koalitionsregering nogensinde, og siden da har landet gennemgået en række konflikter om de juridiske og politiske problemer, der opstår, når flere partier skal dele

country has grappled with the legal and political implications of power sharing. Denmark has a long history of coalition governments, but in 2015 a one-party government was elected, which has been reluctant to honour Denmark's commitment to international solidarity and cooperation. These changing political environments call for a strong civil society that is independent of party-political interests and remains loyal to community and minority voices. It is important for DLN and DPE to be able to visit, meet and inspire each other. During DLN's visits to Lesotho we have had rich opportunities to engage in dialogue with DPE staff and members as well as community members and local and national policy makers. We have learned the importance of determination, patience and focus when civil society engages in reform processes. And we are inspired by DPEs insistence and dedication to amplify community voices.



Group work

Now, we look forward to welcoming DPE's National Coordinator, Sofonea Shale, and Peace Education Researcher, 'Mabataung Secker, to Denmark from 31 August to 8 September. During their stay, we will visit Danish Parliament and municipalities and civil society organisations and network. We hope that the visit will bring new ideas and inspiration into the partnership.

magten. I Danmark har vi en lang tradition for koalitionsregeringer, men siden valget i 2015 har Venstre stået i spidsen for en et-parti regering, der har været tilbageholdene med at videreføre Danmarks historiske ansvarlighed og solidaritet i det internationale samarbejde. Disse politiske ændringer tydeliggør, at det er vigtigt at have et stærkt civilsamfund, der er uafhængigt af partipolitiske interesser og forbliver loyale overfor borgerne og minoritetsgrupper.



Undervisning i det fri

Det er vigtigt for DLN og DPE at blive inspireret af hinanden gennem besøgene i Danmark og Lesotho. Når DLN har været i Lesotho, har vi haft mulighed for dybdegående dialog med DPEs medarbejdere og medlemmer, samt mulighed for at møde folk fra landsbyerne og lokale og nationale politikere. Vi har erfaret, at civilsamfundets engagement i reformer kræver beslutsomhed, tålmodighed og fokus. Vi er blevet inspireret af DPEs insisteren og dedikation til at sikre, at borgernes stemmer bliver hørt.

Vi ser frem til at byde velkommen til DPEs National Coordinator, Sofonea Shale, og Peace Education Reseracher, 'Mabataung Secker, når de besøger Danmark fra 31. august til 8. september. Mens de er på besøg, vil vi besøge Folketinget, kommuner, civilsamfundsorganisationer og netværk. Der vil også være et offentligt møde under

Development for Peace Education is an NGO that promotes public participation in national and local governance in Lesotho as a means of building peaceful societies. It empowers ordinary citizens to do social analysis of their situation, decide on the ideal they cherish and act towards its attainment. Through Community parliament, People's tribunal, community dialogue, community voting, animation of community based organisations and other enabling community approaches community voices have been heard in various processes of governance. Whether this has yielded fruits, it is a question that communities themselves in their various locations can confidently and competently respond to. Its connection with grassroots has made it a respectable national advocacy organisation with regional recognition.



DPE workshop

Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) is a Danish independent NGO, established in 2002. DLN supports development in Lesotho through partnerships with Basotho NGOs. Activities and projects are financed through the Danish Civil Society Fund, private foundations and membership fees.. DLN also promotes knowledge about Lesotho in Denmark through newsletters, cultural travels to Lesotho and visits by our partners to Denmark. Civil Society for Development (CISU) is an

Verdensspejl d. 1. september og en Pitso d. 3. september. Det kan i læse om andetsteds i nyhedsbrevet. Vi håber, at besøget vil bidrage til, at vi får ny inspiration og nye ideer til videreudviklingen af vores partnerskab.



I kø for at få noget at spise

Development for Peace Education er en NGO, der fremmer borgerdeltagelse i nationale og lokale politiske processer i Lesotho, som et middel til at opbygge fredelige samfund. DPE hjælper almindelige borgere med at analysere deres situation, beslutte hvilke idealer, de stræber efter og arbejde for at opnå dem. DPE har sikret, at borgernes stemmer er blevet hørt i forskellige politiske processer gennem Borgerparlamentet, rollespil om retssager, lokal dialog, borgerafstemninger, coaching af lokale foreninger og andre lokalt forankrede initiativer. DPE's stærke relationer med græsrodderne har bidraget til at styrke DPEs position som en velanset fortalerorganisation, der er anerkendt i det Sydlige Afrika. Civilsamfund i Udvikling er en sammenslutning af mere end 280 danske organisationer, der alle er engagerede i udviklingsarbejde – enten som deres hovedformål eller som en del af deres aktiviteter. CISU forvalter Civilsamfundspuljen, der er en del af den danske udviklingsbistand.

independent association of 280+ small and medium-sized Danish civil society organisations engaged in development work in Asia, Africa or Latin America. CISU administers the Danish Civil Society Fund, which is part of the Danish development assistance. The funding modality is based on a set of guidelines and is administered independently from the Danish Government and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



News from Lesotho:

From: News24

Ramaphosa visits Lesotho ahead of SADC summit

2016-08-20 11:40



Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa (File, YouTube)

Cape Town - Deputy President and Southern African Development Community (SADC) facilitator Cyril Ramaphosa has paid a working visit to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

He was there on Friday to assist the country to consolidate peace and security ahead of the upcoming SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government.

The summit in Mbabane, Swaziland from 29 to 31 August is expected to review the political security situation in the region, said Presidency spokesperson Ronnie Mamoepa in a statement. Ramaphosa was among those mandated at the SADC Double Troika Summit held in June in Gaborone, Botswana, to facilitate the return of opposition political party leaders to Lesotho from South Africa, Mamoepa said.

On Friday's visit, Ramaphosa met with King Letsie III as well as Prime Minister Phakalitha Mosisili and his coalition leaders, who briefed him on efforts to institute constitutional and security sector reforms.

Mamoepa said Ramaphosa also met with representatives of the opposition political parties, the Christian Council of Lesotho, the College of Chiefs and the family of the late Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) commander Maaparankoe Mahao.

"Deputy president Ramaphosa will table his report on consultations with various Lesotho stakeholders to the SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Swaziland at the end of the month," Mamoepa said.

Posted by : **Sunday Express** Posted date : 15th August 2016

Heaviest snowfall for decades



THE harsh weather in the highlands had killed some livestock. Pic – Semonkong Lodge

'Marafaele Mohloboli and Bereng Mpaki

BUSINESSES in Lesotho's highland regions have borne the brunt of the heaviest snowfall for decades, with lengthy power cuts spoiling food and the harsh weather killing livestock.

According to businesspeople who spoke to the *Sunday Express*, only time would reveal the extent of their losses as the snow finally begins to thaw.

Lesotho Funeral Services Operations Manager, Benny Molapo, said the heavy snowfall that lasted for two weeks had resulted in the company incurring huge unbudgeted-for costs after a power cut at their Mokhotlong morgue.

"We had to transfer 24 bodies from the morgue, and it was a challenge because of the heavy snowfall," he said.

"Two of our vans broke down before we were able to ferry the bodies to our destinations in Butha-Buthe and Hlotse, so we had find alternative means of transportation at extra cost."

Tebalo Letšoara, who runs a butchery in Mokhotlong, said he was left with no choice but to throw away most of his meat after it had gone bad due to the lengthy power outage.

"I have run a huge loss, and it will take time for me to recuperate. The situation was worsened by the fact that no one was updating us on when power would be restored," said Mr Letšoara.

"In as much as the snow storm was beyond LEC's (Lesotho Electricity Company) control, communication from them would have helped us plan, rather than being in the dark."

Another Mokhotlong businessman, Motlalepula Doslar Mokhethi, said all his meat and dairy products had to be thrown away.

"My customers were reluctant to buy our stock, as they normally do, fearing we would sell them foodstuffs that had gone bad. The power outage has decimated my business," said Mr Mokhethi.

Contacted for comment, LEC Public Relations Officer Phumla Moleko said electricity was restored in the highlands on Wednesday afternoon following frantic efforts by the power utility to rectify the situation.

"Our main challenge in restoring power was the severe weather conditions," said Ms Moleko.

Lesotho National Wool and Mohair Growers Association Chairman, Mokoenihi Thinyane, also many wool and mohair farmers lost some of their livestock due to the heavy snow.

He said some of the farmers rescued their sheep and goats by relocating them to the lower regions of the country through South Africa.

Mr Thinyane said there was a possibility next year's shearing season would see reduced yields.

Lesotho has an estimated 1.2 million sheep and 500 000 goats shorn for their wool and mohair which is mostly exported. The sub sector was in 2015 estimated to contribute about M20 million to the country's economy.

"Although the association is yet to receive a full report on the impact of the snow on our wool and mohair farmers throughout the country, we have been negatively affected as some animals have died," Mr Thinyane said.

"I have been informed one farmer in Leribe lost about 90 sheep due to the snow. We will get a consolidated report on the extent to which our farmers have been affected at the upcoming annual conference scheduled for 23 August 2016."

However, the heavy snowfall has a silver lining of greener rangelands for livestock during the summer.

"As much as the snow has brought many challenges for livestock growers, we anticipate the moisture will make the grass grow faster for the nourishment of our livestock," he said.

Meanwhile, Senqu #78 constituency Member of Parliament Matšelis Tuoane-Sepiriti has taken a swipe at the government for failing to prepare for the heavy snow fall which had been forecasted.

She said more than 350 people between Butha-Buthe and Mokhotlong had been trapped by the snow, as all roads were closed, with nothing to eat and without electricity. Ms Tuoane-Sepiriti said communication lines between the government and communities were broken, with no way of sharing information on when to and when not to travel.

"There was no communication because even the national broadcaster was unavailable from the time the snowing started," she said.

"The government ought to have been ready before this storm started, since the Ministry of Energy warned about heavy snow a while ago."

Ms Tuoane-Sepiriti added: "I am appealing to the Minister in the Prime Minister's Office (Kimetso Mathaba) and his colleagues to prove beyond any reasonable doubt they are competent enough to be in those offices by coming up with solutions for the situation in Mokhotlong."

Commenting on the issue, Mr Mathaba admitted they were caught off-guard by the heavy snow fall.

"In as much as there was a forecast on the snow fall, it was beyond our control. In all honesty, it overwhelmed us. That doesn't mean we are incompetent. It is a natural disaster, and we had no control over it," he said.

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

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