

### News from the DLN

58 issues of Lumela.dk have been published so far.  
In the current issue you will find interesting news from Danes  
visiting the projects in Lesotho.

The following in Danish is about the AGM in March 2019

Kære **alle** medlemmer. DLN har besluttet at holde en visionsdag i forbindelse med DLNs generalforsamling i 2019.

**Sæt straks kryds ved lørdag og søndag den 30. og 31 marts** og reserver den til at komme og være med til at forme DLNs fremtid. Der er overnatning og forplejning til dem, der ønsker at deltage i begge dage.

Program, indkaldelse, mm. vil blive sendt i god tid før GF/visionsdage.

**The first run** of the film produced in Lesotho is at Dokk1 in Aarhus 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019. Come have the very first look. Keep an eye on DLN homepage to see other places and dates.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to every reader of this Newsletter.



*This is not the Kingdom in the sky, but the Kingdom in the Clouds*

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**Membership of DLN**

## News from the Board

Several volunteers from DLN have visited Lesotho during October. Two members of the RSDA project group visited in connection with start-up of the new project. Three members of the DPE project group went on a monitoring visit and participated in the opening of the first community library with Internet connection. Two members of the film group have been to Lesotho to make recordings. We expect the film to be launched on February 1<sup>st</sup> at Dokk1 in Aarhus. We expect the film to be launched at the 'Folkemøde' in Bornholm in June 2019, where DLN will participate.

The Board is working to prepare a weekend with a vision day and Annual General Meeting, similar to the event we had nearly three years ago. We have decided on Nyborg, March 30-31 2019, and all members are welcome. Please enter the dates in your calendars if you want to participate. More about registration and the programme after New Year.



*Teaching at a college for the disabled*

## Nyt fra Bestyrelsen

Adskillige folk fra DLN har været i Lesotho i oktober. To personer fra RSDA-projektgruppen har været på besøg i forbindelse med opstart af nyt projekt.



*Uformel snak mellem RSDA ledere og bøndernes repræsentanter fra Phamong*

Tre personer fra DPE-projektgruppen har været på monitoreringsbesøg og deltaget i åbningen af det første lokale bibliotek med internetadgang. To personer fra filmgruppen har været i Lesotho og for at lave filmoptagelser. Vi forventer at have premiere på filmen i Aarhus på Dokk1 i februar 2019. Desuden forventer vi at kunne vise filmen på Folkemødet på Bornholm i juni 2019, hvor DLN vil være repræsenteret.

Bestyrelsen arbejder med planlægningen af en weekend med visionsdag og generalforsamling, ligesom den vi havde for snart 3 år siden. Det bliver d. 30.-31. marts 2019 i Nyborg. Alle medlemmer er velkomne til at deltage, så sæt X i kalenderen, hvis du gerne vil med. Mere om



The Working Kids pilot project has been completed and the new project for recycling of PCs to Lesotho schools has started. A couple of Board members have participated in courses at CISU, who continue to provide good advice in relation to the projects in Lesotho. All in all a high level of DLN activities in various fields.

*Karina Ruby, chairman*

tilmelding og program efter nytår.

Der er også blevet afsluttet et projekt, nemlig pilotprojektet kaldet Working Kids, og det nye projekt omkring genbrug af pc'ere til skoler i Lesotho er i gang. Et par bestyrelsesmedlemmer har været på kursus i CISU, som vi får god rådgivning fra i forhold til projekterne i Lesotho. Alt i alt er der stor aktivitet på mange områder i DLN.

*Karina Ruby, formand*



*Very interested users of the new Community Library*

## Attending the opening of the first DPE Community Library

*By: Andreas Kristensen*

There is an amazing thing going on in Lesotho if you have the right eyes to see it. It can be easy to miss if you are busy being annoyed with potholes, delays or whatever

## Åbningen af det første DPE Community Library (fælles it-bibliotek)

*Af Andreas Kristensen*

Der er en fantastisk ting i gang i Lesotho, hvis du har øje for det. Det kan være let at gå glip af, hvis du er

problem the day offers. Put simply it is progress - real and tangible developments of new skills that will begin to unlock the vast potential of the internet to people who often don't have electricity in their community.

In other words, the Community Library project is taking shape and in October I had the opportunity to participate in the opening of the first of a series of Community Libraries that DLN's partner Development for Peace Education - DPE is planning to establish in the rural areas of Lesotho.



The central goal of the Community Library project is to provide isolated communities with access to free and unbiased information online as well as give them the possibilities to participate in the democratic processes by facilitating online discussions. In the remote areas targeted, people rely on passed along newspapers, state radio and rumor to inform their world view leading to a long list of problems broadly involving trust in the political process and knowledge about current affairs.

optaget af at blive irriteret over potholes, forsinkelser eller, hvad det næste problem, dagen byder på, er.

Helt enkelt sagt er det fremskridt - ægte og håndgribelig udvikling af nye færdigheder, der vil bringe internettets fantastiske potentiale til folk, der ofte ikke engang har elektricitet, hvor de bor.

Med andre ord begynder vores Community Library projekt at tage form, og i oktober fik jeg en unik mulighed for at deltage i åbningen af den første af en række Community Libraries, som DLNs partner Development for Peace Education - DPE, planlægger at etablere i Lesothos udkantsområder.

Et af målene med Community Library projektet er at give isolerede lokalsamfund adgang til gratis og upartisk information online, samt give dem mulighed for at deltage i de demokratiske processer ved at give mulighed for online diskussioner. I de afsidesliggende samfund, der er projektets målgruppe, er folk afhængige af nyheder fra de aviser, de kan skaffe, den statslige radiostation og rygter for at kunne følge med i den aktuelle politik. Dette fører til en lang række problemer bl.a. i form af manglende tillid og kendskab til den politiske proces samt viden om aktuelle begivenheder.

I hvert af de områder, der er udset til projektet, bliver en bygning - ofte på en skole - indrettet til brug som Community Library og udstyret med en computer, satellit-internet og solceller til elektricitet. Når lokalsamfundet er blevet bragt fysisk online, skifter fokus til vejledning om, hvordan man bruger internet-værktøjerne med emner som:

- Grundlæggende computerbrug (tastatur, mus osv.)
- Indsamling af information (politisk, aktuelle begivenheder osv.)
- Online diskussionsfora inden for og på



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## NEWSLETTER

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In each community the use of a room or building is arranged for use as the “Community Library” and equipped with a solar powered pc and satellite internet. Once the community has been brought physically online, focus shifts to guidance on how to use the tools of the internet with topics along the lines of

- Basic computer usage (keyboard, mouse, desktop etc.)
- Information gathering (politics, current events, hobbies etc.)
- Online discussion forums within and across communities - such as Twitter, Facebook and Reddit
- Media production - for example Live-streaming of local meetings

Getting there involved some fairly thrilling mountain driving followed by a snaking roller-coaster ride of a final dirt road stretch complete with 30 degree hill climbs. Mohsen driving our car, made it look easy as always though and we arrived safely at the location - a local school. There we were introduced to the staff and local representatives, with much chatting and selfie-taking as we waited for everybody to arrive.



As the meeting got underway lead by Ntate Lemohang Molibeli naturally nearly all speaking was in Sesotho and while the coordinator of DPE, Ntate Sofonea Shale did an admirable job translating for us this naturally made it a bit harder to focus during

tværs af lokalsamfund - så som Twitter, Facebook og Reddit

- Medieproduktion - for eksempel Live-streaming af lokale møder



Turen ud til indvielsen i Seforong involverede noget ret spændende bjergkørsel efterfulgt af en bumetur på en grusvej komplet med 30 graders stigninger. Mohsen, der kørte vores bil, klarede det dog let som altid, og vi ankom sikkert til stedet - en lokal skole. Der blev vi introduceret til medarbejderne og lokale repræsentanter, med megen snak og masser af selfies blev taget, mens vi ventede på, at alle skulle ankomme.

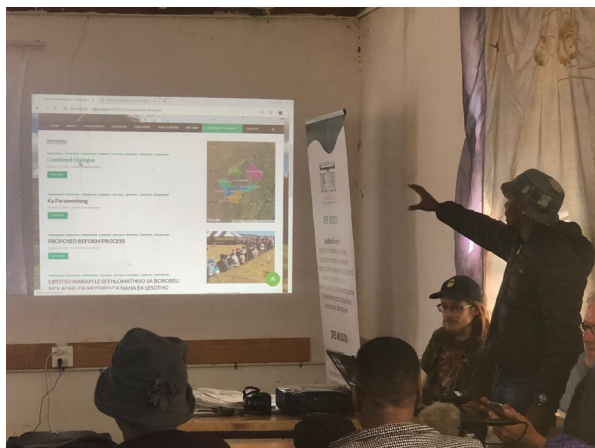
Da mødet kom i gang under ledelse af Ntate Lemohang Molibeli, foregik næsten al tale naturligvis på Sesotho, og selvom DPE koordinator Ntate Sofonea Shale gjorde et beundringsværdigt job med at oversætte for os, var det naturligvis lidt svært at fokusere under det omkring fire timers lange møde i et klasseværelse uden nok udluftning og en stor

the about four hour long meeting held inside a classroom-sized building with negligible air conditioning and a large part of the local community stuffed inside it on a sunny day.

Ultimately though, the hours of minor discomforts and annoyances meant nothing compared to the satisfaction of seeing the first iteration of a Community Library being demonstrated to its intended users.

Both the stakeholder meeting we attended earlier in the visit and the Q&A session of today's meeting had confirmed the need for the project - now we got to see it being implemented at the base level.

In a presentation/demonstration that mirrored the massive scale of DPE's overall goals, webmaster Ts'epo Ambrose Marasi started out by showing basics like how to click using the mouse and finished with a full tour of the DPE website including how printed documents can instead be accessed online.



At some point there was a technical issue that I was able to help with and I joined the presentation, showing off some websites and social platforms - even trying my hand at some public speaking to wrap up things in the end.

Even after the long meeting, as soon as we got out of the building DPE's video team that followed us for the occasion was doing

del af lokalsamfundet stuvet sammen derinde på en varm solskinsdag.

I sidste ende betød timerne med mindre ubehag og irritationer dog ikke noget i forhold til tilfredsheden ved at se den første inter-ation af et Community Library blive demonstreret til sine tilsigtede brugere.



Både stakeholder-mødet vi allerede tidligere havde deltaget i og feedback på dagens møde, havde bekræftet behovet for projektet - nu fik vi set det implementeret på grundniveau.

I en præsentation / demonstration, der afspejlede den massive skala af DPEs overordnede mål, startede webmaster Ts'epo Ambrose Marasi med at vise grundlæggende ting som, hvordan man klikker ved hjælp af musen og endte op med en komplet rundvisning på DPE-webstedet, blandt andet med eksempel på, hvordan trykte dokumenter i stedet kan findes online.

På et tidspunkt var der et teknisk problem, som



interviews and Peace Education Researcher Mosala Mokutlulu was excitedly talking about another DPE program - Food sovereignty - showing a part of it in the form of a garden growing in the field opposite the community library building.



Clearly the appetite for progress still endures, as it does in such an inspiring way in so many aspects of life in Lesotho - be it after a day of constant challenges or in the face of a world of them. The will to not only carry your own weight but also lighten the burden of others.

### In Lesotho the sun is shining – Reflections after a project start-up visit.

*By: Anders and Signe Hedegaard*

How happy we are that the CISU committee has approved the description for our three-year project, 'Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum. Really a great relief that all our efforts of meticulously describing a three-year project and preparing a realistic budget have borne fruit.

And all of a sudden it is October 1<sup>st</sup>, project start, and we have to launch the first of the many activities on the road towards 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2021. True to established practice we do it through a project start-up visit.

What is the purpose of a project start-up visit, and how do we reach to that stage? And what

jeg var i stand til at hjælpe med, og jeg sluttede mig til præsentationen og viste nogle hjemmesider og sociale platforme - det blev endda til en lille tale til sidst for at runde tingene af.

Selv efter det lange møde var DPEs videogruppe, der fulgte os til lejligheden, hurtigt i gang med interviews så snart vi kom ud af bygningen, mens Peace Education Researcher Mosala Mokutlulu ivrigt fortalte om et andet DPE-program - Food sovereignty - som blev demonstreret med en skolehave lige over for Community Library.

Viljen til fremskridt holder tydeligvis ved, som den gør på en så inspirerende måde i så mange aspekter af livet i Lesotho - være det sig efter en dag med konstante udfordringer eller i en verden af dem. Viljen til ikke kun at bære sin egen vægt, men også lette andres.

### I Lesotho skinner solen – refleksioner efter et projektopstartsbesøg

*Af Anders og Signe Hedegaard*

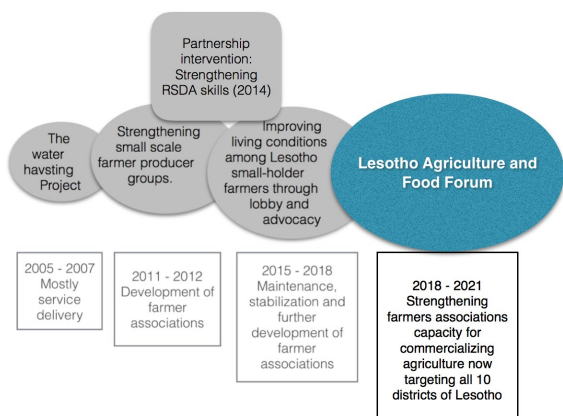
Hvor var vi dog glade da CISU bevillingsudvalget godkendte den treårige projektbeskrivelse "Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum". Virkelig en lettelse, når det store arbejde med minutiøst at beskrive et treårigt projekt og få lagt et realistisk budget, bærer frugt.

Og så står vi pludselig ved projektstart 1. oktober 2018 og skal søsætte de første af projektets mange aktiviteter på vejen mod 30. september 2021. Vanen tro gør vi det med et projektopstartsbesøg.

Hvad er målet med et opstartsbesøg og hvordan når vi dertil? Og hvad sker der på et

happens during a project start-up visit?

First and foremost the DLN project group wants to give optimum support and back-up to our partner during the start-up phase that is always difficult. But what do we do? Where is the need for support most outspoken? And what is it that we, the partner, can offer?



DLN and RSDA have now worked together for 14 years. Together we have implemented three large and one small project. 'Lesotho



*The World Food Day*

Agriculture and Food Forum' is in other words the fifth project – and also the most ambitious so far in the DLN-RSDA partnership. It would probably seem that a project start up in the DLN-RSDA partnership should be a matter of routine by now. But it never is! Firstly and luckily, we are better informed at the start of implementation than when the project was described.

projektopstartsbesøg?



*Strategisk refleksion efter godkendelsen af ansøgningen*

Umiddelbart har vi som DLN projektgruppe et ønske om at yde størst mulig støtte og opbakning til vores partner i den altid svære opstartsfase. Men hvordan gør vi det? Hvor er behovet for støtte og opbakning størst? Hvordan er det, vi som partner kan byde ind? DLN og RSDA har efterhånden arbejdet sammen i 14 år. Sammen har vi gennem årene afviklet 3 større og 1 mindre projekt. Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum – projektet er således det femte og også det mest ambitiøse projekt i DLN-RSDA partnerskabet.



*Morgenmøde LAFF-Partnere*

Umiddelbart skulle man tro, at en projektopstart i DLN-RSDA partnerskabet efterhånden ville være en rutinesag. Det bliver det dog aldrig.





*RSDA Staff welcomes the new RSDA Toyota Fortuner*

For example, RSDA's relations with partners develop and change from day to day. That includes all levels: From relations to individual farmers in the field, farmer leaders, regional agriculture consultants and extension workers, via partners and co-operators amongst other NGOs in Lesotho and all the way up to Department Heads and Ministers.



*Local farmers presenting food products at World Food Day*

Secondly, circumstances are changing continuously. For example climate, weather, wind, prices, supply and demand, the political environment and financial framework is hardly ever as expected.

Thirdly, the reporting requirements for financial accounting as well as text change over time from one project to another.

For det første bliver vi heldigvis klogere fra det tidspunkt, hvor projektet beskrives, til projektet skal implementeres.



*Uformel snak med Minister of Agriculture*

RSDAs samarbejdsrelationer udvikles f.eks. dag for dag. Dette gælder alle niveauer. Lige fra relationer til de individuelle landmænd i marken, til ledere blandt landmænd, til regionale landbrugskonsulenter, over samarbejdspartnere blandt alle de andre NGO'er i Lesotho og helt op til departementschefer og ministre. For det andet ændres såvel de praktiske forhold, f.eks. klima, vejr og vind, prisforhold, udbud og efterspørgsel som det politiske miljø og de finansielle rammer sig sjældent som forventet.



*CEO Me' Mampho Thulo klar til at indlede mødet for Lesotho Agriculture and Food Forum for District Officers*

For det tredje ændres kravene til afrapportering

So, for this project start-up too, there was a lot to talk about. Strategic and organisational considerations as well as more practical issues were allowed to fill half and full days. At the same time, RSDA felt a need this time too to let us meet with their closest collaborators, high as well as low.

såvel finansielt som narrativt over tid og fra projekt til projekt. Så også ved denne projektstart var der rigtig meget at snakke om. Såvel de mere strategiske og organisatoriske overvejelser som drøftelser om mere praktiske forhold fik lov at fylde hele og halve dage. Samtidig var der også denne gang et behov hos RSDA for at lade os mødes med de nærmeste samarbejdspartnere. Såvel høj som lav.

### Working Kids

*By: Carsten Brønden*

The second part of the Working Kids pilot-project went ahead in August, when Carsten Brønden and Erik Lyby from the Danish project group visited Lesotho. The purpose of the mission was to meet the trainers who had participated in the training courses in Feb.-March and conduct a small, informal 'exam' in their own environments, observing them teaching their own trainees.



*Getting the pattern for the dress correct!*

The programme was well organised by the local coordinator, Ms. Mamotseoa, and was implemented as planned.

In addition to Lesotho National Council of Women's own schools, the team also visited the 'special needs' schools/centres who had

### Working Kids

*Af Carsten Brønden*

Anden del af Working Kids pilotprojektet blev gennemført i august, hvor Carsten Brønden og Erik Lyby fra projektgruppen var på den planlagte opfølgings mission.



*Der er meget koldt på tømrerværkstedet om vinteren.*

Formålet var at besøge de trænere, der havde deltaget i kurserne i februar-marts i deres egne institutioner og afholde en lille, praktisk og uformel 'eksamen' med dem i deres egne omgivelser, hvor de underviste egne elever. Programmet var veltilrettelagt af den lokale koordinator, Ms. Mamotseoa, og blev gennemført som planlagt.

Udover Lesotho National Council of Women's egne skoler, deltog der også lærere fra specialskoler, som vi besøgte, blandt andet en



benefitted from the programme. Amongst them a quite big and well managed school for physically and mentally handicapped, and agricultural training centre, a school for the blind, and a Catholic school for teenage mothers.

At this stage, 5-6 months after the pilot courses, there was still great satisfaction with the training. Nearly all trainers mentioned that they are now much more focused on active, participatory training, on meeting the trainees at the right level, and on evaluating the performance and provide appropriate feedback.

The last day of the programme was dedicated to a final workshop for all participants. The purpose was to make a joint review of the experience so far, and on identifying possible further needs that might become the basis of a new and longer joint project.



*Learning to cultivate crops at the agriculture college*  
The Director of Vocational Education and

større veldrevet skole for fysisk og mentalt handicappede elever, en landbrugsskole, en skole for blinde, og et katolsk skole for teenagemødre.



*Dem, der lærer hurtigt, hjælper dem, der har det sværere.*

Der var stadig stor tilfredshed med pilotkurserne, her 5-6 måneder senere. Næsten alle lærere gav udtryk for, at de nu var meget mere fokuserede på at lave aktiv, deltagerorienteret undervisning, og at møde eleverne på deres niveau, evaluere og give dem passende feedback.

Den sidste dag af programmet var afsat til en afsluttende workshop for alle deltagere, hvor formålet var samlet at vurdere forløbet, samt at identificere eventuelle yderligere behov, der kunne være basis for et nyt og længerevarende samarbejdsprojekt. Chefen for erhvervsuddannelser fra UV ministeriet, der formelt også har tilsyn med NGO skoler, og chefen for det nationale curriculum center har

Training from the Min. of Educ., who is also formally responsible for monitoring vocational NGO schools, attended the workshop together with the Dir of the National Curriculum Centre. They have both shown great interest in the project from the outset.

The needs that were articulated during the workshop primarily concerned the wish for more knowledge and methods of actively interacting with the target groups, the labor market, and communities and society at large - in order to become more 'demand-driven' and modernizing the training provision accordingly.

As responsible the programme we were of course fully aware that this transformation is difficult and that we only started to address the issues during the short training. However a new and more comprehensive project would require greater involvement of local

begge vist stor interesse for vores projekt lige fra starten og deltog også workshoppen.

De behov, der blev artikuleret på workshoppen, omhandlede især ønsker om mere viden og metoder til at interagere aktivt med målgrupperne, arbejdsmarkedet og samfundet i bredere forstand, så man kunne blive mere 'efterspørgsels-orienterede' og modernisere kursusudbuddet.

Som ansvarlig for kurserne, var vi fra starten naturligvis bevidste om, at netop en sådan omstilling er vanskelig og at vi med de korte kurser kun fik taget hul på problematikken. Et nyt, mere omfattende projekt vil dog kræve større inddragelse af lokale institutioner, partnere og resurser generelt. Vi undersøger stadig mulighederne.

### News from Lesotho:

## Kao Mine, community rift continues

 Lesotho Times

11<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Ntsebeng Motsoeli**

THE long-drawn battle between Storm Mountain Diamonds (SMD) which operates Kao Mine and its host communities recently intensified when the public accused the company of working against its commitment to improve their lives.

SMD is jointly owned by South African company, Namakwa Diamonds Limited (75 percent shareholding) and the government (25 percent shareholding).

During a recent meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Mining, the mine management and the Butha-Buthe police, rowdy community members took turns to lash out at the guests, accusing them of letting foreign investors exploit them.

What was supposed to be a community orientation meeting leading to the election of the community liaison committee with the mine turned into a jeering session as the villagers took turns to scorn the guests for failing to address their grievances.



Some of the community's major grievances are failure by the mine to adequately compensate the family of a man who was shot and killed by Butha-Buthe police officers on 8 February this year during a protest by the villagers to demand that the mine delivers on its promises of improving their lives.

Terene Pitae died and two others, Mokete Mohlomi and Hlopheho Lebona were critically injured on 8 February 2018 at Kao Mine after violent clashes broke out between the police and villagers who were protesting against the alleged failure by the mine to honour its promises to compensate and relocate them from the areas affected by mining operations.

The community said the mine has failed to compensate some villagers whose property they claimed got destroyed during the mining operations.

The community is also disgruntled over what they call a low-standard gravelled road that links their villages with the Ha-Lejone tarred road an hour and half's drive away.

The road, the villagers said, has been nothing short of a nuisance which has caused floods due to its bad construction.

The villagers said two houses have since been flooded beyond repair with the road diverting the course of rain water towards family compounds.

One of the Ha Shishila villagers, 'Maphakiso Khama, claimed that her homestead was submerged after the mine constructed a waterway that busted and directed rain water towards her houses.

In the event, Ms Khama said her houses and property were destroyed, her calf was killed and her plants were buried under the eroded soil.

"The mine dug the waterway despite of the committee's warnings that our houses would be flooded," Ms Khama said.

"The mine owners had the nerve to say that we have built at an awkward place. I have been staying there for over 20 years and none of this has ever happened during rainy seasons."

Ms Khama said the mine only gave her compensation of M8000 which she claimed does not cover all the goods and infrastructure which she has lost in the flood.

In a different event in 2014, another villager, Paul Sekepe's grocery store was washed away by rain water after the mine built a small culvert that got flooded during heavy rains and water was diverted towards the business.

Mr Sekepe said property and groceries worth M65 000 were destroyed and the mine only paid him M6000.

"I only got M6000 out of the M65 000 worth of loss. The mine operators told me that I was running a "spaza" shop and that there was no way I could have lost that much. I had to take the M6000 because I had nothing else left. They did me injustice," Mr Sekepe said.

Mr Sekepe who is aged 75 said he suffered a lot to get his store back up and running.

"It was very hard for me to get the shop running again. I suffered a lot and would go for days without eating. I survived on food handouts from people," Mr Sekepe said.

The Motete legislator, Tumelo Lerafa, came out strong on the government and the SMD management for failing to intervene in the Kao community disgruntlements with the mine.

Mr Lerafa accused those in government for conniving with mines just so they can "fill up their bellies" while failing to address the public's needs.

"Our governments are so unfortunate. They make decisions in their offices in Maseru and do not engage the communities. They want to fill their bellies without caring about what the people are going through," Mr Lerafa Said.

Mr Lerafa said that the Kao community has become boisterous because no one seems to be willing to addresses their gripe with the mine.



“The community seems to have become unordered because they have long standing grievances. They want the mine to deliver on its commitments that it made when they reach an agreement with the community that they would improve people’s lives. Only a few of such undertakings have been met and the people are growing impatient,” Mr Lerafa said.

Mr Lerafa said the mine has failed the Kao people.

The SMD management has since denied all accusations levelled against its operations, declaring instead that the Transformation Resource Centre (TRC) who have been advocating for the rights of the Kao community, was the one peddling the allegations

## SADC troops leave

 Lesotho Times

11<sup>th</sup> November 2018

*...regional body refuses to extend mandate any further*

### Staff Writers

Southern African Development Community (SADC) troops, seconded to Lesotho to help stabilize the country, will finally leave in less than two weeks after the regional body refused to entertain any further requests to extend their tenure.

Prime Minister Thomas Thabane had pleaded with his regional peers at the last SADC summit in Windhoek, Namibia, in August 2018, to have the tenure of the troops extended by at least another three months to enable them to continue keeping the peace in the country while all those responsible for past atrocities are arraigned to face their comeuppance in courts of law.

However, authoritative sources said SADC had resolved not to extend the tenure of the troops or the SADC Standby Force, which will now leave on 20 November 2018, or exactly 12 days from today. The SADC forces were informed about their pull-out at a recent conference attended by military personnel from the countries that contributed troops to the Standby Force, namely Angola, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

A senior Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) official said the now reformed LDF under the command of Lt Gen Mojalefa Letsoela was “ready and able” to deal with any “malcontents” who may want to take advantage of the void created by the departure of the SADC troops to create mayhem in the country.

“We are ready to thwart any elements who may want to see the departure of the SADC troops as a license to renew their past anarchy....That will not be tolerated...We will deal with any such elements mercilessly,” said the LDF official speaking on condition of anonymity because he had no clearance to speak to the press.

“Even though efforts have been made to cleanse the LDF of (Lt. Gen Tlali) Kamoli’s anarchical followers, this is a process that cannot be completed overnight... However any such elements inside and outside the LDF must be clearly warned that their period of impunity is over and they will be dealt with severely should they try to create chaos in the country....,” the LDF official said.

The Standby Force, also known as the SADC Preventive Mission in Lesotho (SAPMIL), was unveiled in the country on 2 December 2017. It is made of 207 soldiers, 15 intelligence personnel, 24 police officers and 12 civilian experts.



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

## 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](mailto:karen.steffensen@mail.dk)

Contact DLN:

**E-mail: [dln@lumela.dk](mailto:dln@lumela.dk)**

**Homepage: [www.lumela.dk](http://www.lumela.dk)**

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