



News from the DLN

This newsletter tells a lot about the Folkemode on the Ireland of Bornholm where three Basotho attended together with Danes from DLN.

Spring in Lesotho means autumn in Denmark. Both are a change in colors. In Lesotho they are getting brighter, more colorful. In Denmark colors are fading red, yellow and soon leaves will be falling. The landscape then will be more black and white. Now in the end of August and start September the fields are harvested while fruit and berries of many different kind still can be found.



A reminder on the next cultural trip to Lesotho during Easter follows here. Please contact DLN dln@lumela.dk if you are interested in participating. Three people are already on the list. A realistic number of travelers are ten. Too few interested means DLN has to postpone or cancel the very interesting trip where Danes can come close to Basotho, daily life and to the very fantastic scenery the landscape provides. Keep an eye on DLN homepage www.lumela.dk

Supporting initiatives for improved living conditions and development in Lesotho

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Membership of DLN



News from the Board, September 2019

By Karina Ruby

Our participation in the ‘Folkemode’ (People’s summit) on the island of Bornholm was a great and positive experience for DLN. We had our own stand, a small tent, where we showed the video films about Lesotho and met and discussed with many people. Our three visitors from Lesotho saw an example of our Danish democracy, where people can meet politicians and engage in debates about all possible issues relevant to society. The Basotho-guests from Development of Peace Education (DPE) and Lesotho Council of NGOs (LCN) also experienced a boat trip and got seasick on the way to Bornholm, and they saw a large part of Denmark on the journey to Aarhus afterwards.

What did DLN gain from the participation

We provided information about development work (which, amongst others, is a priority to CISU).



DLN tent at Folkemødet

We met several people and told about the country, our work and the travels that we organise. It was also a good experience to work together as a board in organising an event like this. We reached out to people that we don’t normally reach and hopefully sowed some seeds about international development work and its importance. A lot of kids and young people stopped at our stand to learn about

Nyt fra bestyrelsen, september 2019

Af Karina Ruby

Deltagelse i Folkemødet på Bornholm var en stor og positiv oplevelse for DLN. Vi havde en stand, et lille telt, hvor vi viste videofortællinger om Lesotho, og hvor vi fik en snak med mange forskellige mennesker.



Grethe Mygind og DLNs tre Basotho-gæster Me Makuape Kuape, Ntate Sefonea Shale and Ntate Seabata Motsamai

Vores tre gæster fra Lesotho fik set et eksempel på det danske demokrati, hvor befolkningen kan møde politikere og deltage i debatter om alle tænkelige samfundsrelevante emner. Basotho-gæsterne fra Development of Peace Education (DPE) fik både prøvet at sejle og blive søsyge på vej til Bornholm, og de fik set en stor del af Danmark på vej til Århus bagetter.

Hvad fik DLN ud af deltagelsen?

Vi fik lavet oplysningsarbejde i Danmark (som bl.a. CISU lægger vægt på). Vi snakkede med mange, både om landet, om vort arbejde og om de rejser, vi arrangerer. Det var også en god oplevelse at arbejde sammen som bestyrelse om en sådan event. Vi nåede folk, som vi normalt ikke når ud til og fik formentlig fået nogle frø om betydningen af internationalt udviklingsarbejde. Mange børn og unge stoppede ved vores stand og ville lidt om



What did DPE gain from the participation?



Two times Natape Shale

They found it very exiting but probably also a bit overwhelming. Unfortunately, not a lot of events were conducted in English, but towards the end they seemed to ride the wave. It will be interesting to see if they can use some of the experience at home in Lesotho.

Looking forward, how can DLN use the experience?

We may not necessarily participate every year, as it is quite an expensive event for DLN. For example we can consider participating in similar events.

On the CISU website there is a small article about DLN and the 'Folkemode'

https://www.cisu.dk/aktuelt/cisunyheder/folke_m%c3%b8de-medlemsorganisationer-inspirerer-hinanden-p%c3%a5-folkemode-?Action=1&PID=99620

Moreover, a kind person noticed DLN at the 'Folkemode' and nominated DLN for the community award. See

https://faellesskabsprisen.dk/indstillede/fllessk_ab-pa-tvrs-af-lande_denmark-lesotho-network

If we end up being one of the 10 winners, we will be invited for a party on board the boat to Oslo, Norway on August 29th. We have great hopes, but the competition is tough. However it would be great PR work for us.

Lesotho.

Hvad fik DPE ud af deltagelsen?

De syntes, det var virkelig spændende, men vist også overvældende. Desværre var der ikke så meget, der foregik på engelsk, men mod slut var de helt med på bølgen. Det bliver spændende at se, om der er noget, de kan bruge hjemme i Lesotho.

Hvad kan vi bruge erfaringen til fremadrettet?

Vi skal ikke nødvendigvis deltage hvert år, for det er et dyrt arrangement for foreningen. Vi kan evt. overveje at deltage i et andet lignende arrangement. På CISU's hjemmeside er der en lille artikel om DLN på Folkemødet:

https://www.cisu.dk/aktuelt/cisunyheder/folke_m%c3%b8de-medlemsorganisationer-inspirerer-hinanden-p%c3%a5-folkemode-?Action=1&PID=99620



Deltagerne ved aftensbordet

En venlig person lagde mærke til DLN på Folkemødet og indstillede DLN til Fællesskabsprisen. Se

https://faellesskabsprisen.dk/indstillede/fllessk_ab-pa-tvrs-af-lande_denmark-lesotho-network

Hvis vi bliver en af de 10 nominerede, bliver vi inviteret til festen på Oslobåden den 29. august. Vi har ikke de store forhåbninger, konkurrencen er hård, men det ville i givet fald være fint PR arbejde.



Folkemødet seen through Basotho eyes

By Sofonea Shale

More fascinating than seeing people freely mingling, enjoying and sharing ideas in a lively and jubilant mood was for one to join the march holding a flag for Sustainable Development goal on peace and taking time to tell the story about Lesotho's democracy.

The *folkemode* was a great experience for the delegation of Development for Peace Education (DPE) mostly for its ability to generate a mood of peace, celebration and interaction. The two big sides of the event namely deliberations and engagement on various topical issues in Denmark and the world on the one side and the festive nature on the other make it a unique event.



Seabata Motsamai at the Sustainable Development Goals dialogue march

The Sustainable Development Goals dialogue march was a very good ground breaker as it allowed *people to talk to people* about their preferred goals. DPE-DLN choice was on peace and strong institutions. During the walk people interested in the SDG our choice engaged and that gave opportunity to say who I am and what DPE strives to achieve. Having talked to more than ten people on the walk, I realised that the world outlook for the people in the North is not so different from some in the South. There are those who believe that

Folkemødet set med Basotho-øjne

Af Sofonea Shale

Det var fascinerende at se folk blande sig frit, nyde og dele ideer i højt humør, men det bedste var at være med i åbningseventet - en 'walk and talk' for verdensmålene - jeg holdt en fane og havde tid til at fortælle historien om Lesothos demokrati.



Åbningseventet med Ntate Shale i front

Folkemødet var en stor oplevelse for Development of Peace Education (DPE) delegationen - især mødets stemning af fred, fest og interaktion. Mødets to store temaer, nemlig engagement i diverse emner og udfordringer i Danmark og globale udfordringer, gjorde det til et unikt event.

Den globale dialogmarch var en rigtig god isbryder, der gav folk mulighed for at tale med hinanden om deres foretrukne verdensmål. DPE-DLN havde valgt at diskutere fred og stærke institutioner, og det gav mig mulighed for at tale med interesserede og fortælle min historie, og hvad DPE arbejder med. Efter at have talt med mere end ti personer på turen, gik det op for mig, at folk i Nord og Syd ser ret ens på tingene. Der er mange, der mener, at fred er muligt, og at aktivister og teoretikere skal fortsætte deres arbejde for fred. Andre mener, at verden er skaevvredet til de riges og magtfuldes fordel, og at det ikke vil



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peace is possible, and activists and theorists should persist. On the other hand, there are those who think that the world order is skewed towards the rich and the powerful and that may not be changed.



Dialogue is important in a democracy

Therefore, for them the SDG 17 is an illusion. In the contrary I believe that peace is possible and the commitments like SDG 17 are a very great inspiration. The work that DPE is doing has potential to change Lesotho and the world. Teachers speak wonders about DPE Peaceful school model they have given testimonies that it has changed culture of students.

The Deputy Principal at Mokoallong High School, one of the schools DPE works with said in one of the meetings that his supervisory duty of the morning study has become redundant now that Minister responsible for Education at school has taken over to ensure order, discipline and collaboration among students. Student class monitors and other members of Student Cabinet have taken responsibility to ensure that the study goes on orderly. It is against this reality that the walk was viewed as inspirational, educational and thought provoking. Now the inspiration here has been that DPE-DLN collaboration may be taken further to strengthen people to people solidarity. The Peaceful School model can actually be used to advance student to student solidarity in Lesotho and Denmark to advance peace dialogue, sharing and solidarity.

On the deliberations, this event was viewed as

ændre sig.

For dem er de 17 verdensmål en illusion.

Jeg mener, at fred er muligt, og at de 17 verdensmål er en fantastisk inspiration.

Det arbejde, som DPE udfører, har potentiale til at forandre Lesotho og verden.

Lærere i Lesotho er begejstrede for DPEs Peaceful School model. De har givet os beviser på, at modellen har ændret elevernes opførsel og attitude.

Viceinspektøren på Mokoallong High School (en af de skoler, som DPE samarbejder med) fortæller, at hans tilsynsjab med eleverne nu er overflødigjort, idet en elevrådsrepræsentant nu har overtaget opgaven med at sikre orden, disciplin og samarbejde mellem eleverne.

Klasserepræsentanter og andre medlemmer af elevrådet tager ansvar for, at undervisningen foregår i god ro og orden (red): ”der har længe været mange problemer i skolesystemet i Lesotho - vold mod lærere, vandalismus mod bygninger og elevstrijker”.

Det var med dette i tankerne, at marchen på folkemødet gav inspiration og var tankevækkende.



Ntate Shale med skiltet.

Jeg blev inspireret til, at DPE- DLN samarbejdet i fremtiden kan styrke relationer mellem folk. Peaceful School modellen kan måske bruges til at skabe solidaritet mellem skoleelever i Lesotho og Danmark for at fremme dialog og fred.

Folkemødet var en festival af ideer, hvor forskellige emner og ideer offentligt blev



a festival of ideas where different issues and ideas are put in the public space for engagement.



The ship Anton created platform on debates

This kind of dialogue is important in a democracy and this is where Lesotho is lacking behind. The opening ceremony that brought the outgoing Prime Minister talking to people casually demonstrated the closeness of rulers to the people. Besides, the speech was so real that one could see the peace and friendliness on the multitudes who gathered. Other political parties had their tents to share their ideas.



Talks at DLN tent

Different institutions created platforms on debates on climate change, global campaigns, global challenges of democracy, exhibition of agricultural products marking diversity of social and economic challenges not only in Denmark or Europe but globally. Different institutions brought different speakers and exchange was enormous.

Special among these was the DLN tent where

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diskuteret og med mulighed for at engagere sig.

Den slags dialog er vigtig i et demokratisk samfund, og det er her Lesotho sakker bagud. Åbningsceremonien, hvor den afgående statsminister talte afslappet til folkemaengden, viste nærheden mellem magthaverne og folket. Man kunne under talen mærke freden og venskabet mellem alle de forsamlede.

Alle politiske partier havde deres egne telte eller boder med politiske budskaber, som de delte.

Forskellige institutioner lagde hus til debatter om klima, globale kampagner, globale demokratiske udfordringer og udstilling af landbrugsprodukter. Det markerede diversiteten af sociale og økonomiske udfordringer, ikke alene i Danmark og Europa, men også globalt.



Debat og filmfremvisning i DLNs telt

De forskellige institutioner præsenterede masser af oplægsholdere, og der var en rig udveksling af synspunkter. Blandt disse stande var også DLNs telt, hvor de to film om Lesotho blev vist: den ene om demokrati og DPEs arbejde, og den anden om klimaforandringer og landbrug baseret på Rural Self-Help Development Association (RSDA)s arbejde. Teltet var ikke bare mørkt og ydmygt i størrelse, det var også placeret ude i periferien. Naboteltene var meget større med store navne på. Til DLNs og DPEs store overraskelse var vores telt velbesøgt både under filmvisning og i hele åbningstiden.



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the two Lesotho films were featured; one on democracy reflecting on the work done by DPE and the other on climate change and agriculture based on the work done by Rural Self-help Development Association. Not only was the tent topically obscure and modest in size but even location ally it was bit in the periphery and was neighbored more glaring and more spacious tents of big names. To the total astonishment of DLN and DPE the tent was very busy both on screening and off hours.



Questions and answers after the film

The democracy film featured Lesotho's democracy as work in progress and the role of DPE in promoting public participation to create peaceful societies. This film which featured His Majesty the King Letsie III gave DPE opportunity to explain how critical peace education is in seeking to make Lesotho's democracy vibrant. *Peace Education* is regarded by many as simply meaning teaching people about peace. This may not be denied but it is *creation of critical awareness about one's environment*. The wide range of DPE was explained in this context.

The climate change film demonstrated how conservation farming in particular keyholes and horseshoes promoted by Rural Self-Help Development Association (RSDA) help the poor and the elderly to produce own fresh veggies organically.

Many Danes who have been to Lesotho visited the tent and regarded the films as helping them to reconnect. Another exposure was the CISU organised event where nature of democracy



DLNs telt på Folkemødet

Demokratifilmen handlede om DPEs rolle i arbejdet med borgerdeltagelse for at opnå et fredeligt samfund. Filmen viste også en samtale med Hans Majestæt Kong Letsie III og gav DPE lejlighed til at forklare, hvor vigtig fredsundervisning er for at skabe et kraftfuldt og levedygtigt demokrati i Lesotho.

Fredsundervisning anses af mange for kun at handle om at fortælle folk om fred. Dette kan måske ikke nægtes, men det er også at skabe kritisk bevidsthed om ens omgivelser og miljø. Bredden af DPEs arbejde blev belyst i denne sammenhæng.



Klimafilmen spilles

Klimafilmen viste, hvordan landbrug med 'nøglehuls- og hesteskobede', som RSDA promoverer, kan hjælpe fattige og ældre borgere til at dyrke egne friske og økologiske produkter.

Mange danskere, der i tidens løb har været i Lesotho, besøgte vores telt og fandt, at filmene var en kærlommen lejlighed til et gensyn. Et andet møde fandt sted på CISUs eventskib,



where I shared platform with Claus and Bjorn. It was quite rewarding to realize that for those in the North but had opportunity to broaden their horizon globally democracy is not universalisation of one experience or culture over others as the North would generally treat the South.



People are listening intensively

Both Klaus and Bjorn agree that while democracy has universal character in giving people a right to rule supreme, it is different on how each area, people of culture adopts and adapts. For me, Basotho may not exercise their freedom in the manner that Danes do hence the challenges to democracy do differ and therefore should the solutions.

My impression about folkemødet is that it is a reflection of the culture of bringing people together to share ideas, dialogue and enjoy unity in diversity which is a defining feature of Danish society. This is the feature in Danish democracy and political history that makes Denmark unique in my view. When I came to Denmark for the first time in 1999, my impression has been that Denmark is an organised society and open for sharing ideas. Such impressions are contained the *End of Democracy by Bus Impressions Video* Twenty years down the line, I maintain the view and folkemødet has confirmed that Danes have a rich culture of Dialogue which is what Lesotho needs most and that is exactly what DPE is promoting.

The Danish Institute for Political Dialogue

hvor temaet var 'Demokratiets natur' og hvor jeg delte scene med Klaus Wulf og Bjørn Førde. Det var meget berigende, Det var meget berigende at opdage at for dem i Nord, der her havde mulighed for at få udvidet deres horisont, var det en øjenåbner at opdage at demokrati forståelsen, ikke var den samme i Syd som i Nord. Som man generelt har forståelsen af, er det mest fremherskende synspunkt i Nord. Både Klaus og Bjørn var enige om, at selvom demokrati har universel karakter, så er der forskel på, hvordan demokratiet udfolder sig afhængig af kultur og sted. Som jeg ser det, så bruger Basothoer ikke deres frihedsrettigheder på samme måde, som danskere gør. Demokratiets udfordringer er forskellige og skal derfor løses forskelligt. Mit indtryk af folkemødet er, at det reflekterer en kultur, der bringer folk sammen for at dele ideer, tale sammen og nyde den enighed i forskelligheden, som definerer det danske samfund. Det er det træk i dansk demokrati og Danmarks politiske historie, der gør Danmark unikt i mine øjne.



Dialogsamtaale i DLNs telt

Siden jeg kom til Danmark første gang i 1999, har mit indtryk været, at Danmark er et velorganiseret samfund med en åbenhed for diskussion. Disse indtryk bliver vist i videoen 'End of Democracy by Bus' (MS video). Nu - tyve år senere - fastholder jeg denne mening. Folkemødet har bekræftet, at danskerne har en rig samtalekultur. Det er det, Lesotho i den grad har brug for, og det er præcist det, som



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which seeks to export Danish Culture of Political Dialogue (DIPD), five years ago did not have Lesotho in the list of targets but this must be an area of advocacy.

So DLN-DPE collaboration, this is an area and because Lesotho is doing its reforms now, the vibrancy of DPE in promotion of dialogue and spaces for ordinary voices to be heard is more needed than ever before.

This folkemode- also rekindled some good memories as it brought together those who once were in the Lesotho's development, 'M'e Bodil, Seabata Motsamai, Claus Løschekohl ... a real reconnect indeed.

DPE står for og arbejder på.

Det danske institut for politisk dialog (DIPD), der støtter demokratisering og udviklingen af demokratisk kultur i udviklingslande, havde for 5 år siden ikke Lesotho som mål, men det må være et område, der kan opdyrkedes.

Så DLN-DPE! Det er et område, der har brug for samarbejde og opmærksomhed, netop fordi Lesotho i øjeblikket er inde i en reformproces. DPE's arbejde med at sikre dialog og plads til almindelige menneskers stemmer er vigtigere end nogensinde før.

Folkemødet vakte også gode minder og bragte folk sammen, der engang var aktører i Lesothos udvikling: Bodil, Seabata Motsamai, Claus Løschekohl... i sandhed et gensyn.

Folkemødet 2019

Claus Løschekohl, DLN-member

Folkemødet (The Peoples Summit). Denmark's Democratic Festival, is a meeting between people and politicians on the island of Bornholm. It was during the days from 13th to 16th of June 2019 held for the 9th successive year. This year 2019, DLN participated with activities for the first time.

More than 300 different private and government organizations and institutions joined the Folkemode and conducted more than 3.000 events during the four days. It is estimated, that approximately 114.000 people participated in activities, with up to 40.000 during the busiest days. It is every year a complain, that the participation is too expensive for the organizations, and thus exclusive in its representation. However, the participation in 2019 was higher than ever before.

The meeting is primarily a platform for a Danish political dialogue. However, for the first time, each and every event was listed accordingly to the UN Global Compact, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the

Folkemødet 2019

Af Claus Løschekohl, DLN-medlem

Allinge på Bornholm lagde i dagene fra den 13. til den 16. juni rum til Folkemødet 2019. Det var niende gang, et sådant møde blev afholdt, og det var første gang, DLN havde valgt at deltage i Folkemødet.

I år deltog flere end 300 forskellige private organisationer, offentlige institutioner og styrelser m.m. Folkemødets program havde mere end 3.000 begivenheder i løbet af de fire dage. Det er skønnet, at ca. 114.000 mennesker har deltaget med op til ca. 40.000 på de mest besøgte dage. Det tilbagevendende brok over, at Folkemødet er blevet for dyrt og elitært, havde bestemt ikke lagt en dæmper på deltagerantallet eller festlighederne i Allinge. Årets besøgstal blev det højeste nogensinde.

Folkemødet handler først og fremmest om dansk politik, men som noget nyt blev aktiviteterne sat ind i FN Verdensmålenes tegn. Ud for hver begivenhed / event var det markeret, hvilke af de 17 verdensmål netop dette event omhandlede. DLN knyttede an til verdensmålene 16. Fred, retfærdighed og stærke institutioner, og 17. Partnerskab for



2030. DLN related its activities primarily to the SDG no. 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and SDG no. 17 Partnership and Action.

The exhibition area offered to DLN was located outside the "Global Compact Square" where only a smaller part of the participants in the meeting naturally passed. However, it was a scenic spot and many found their way to the venue of our tent.

There are at least two reasons for the decisions of DLN, that it was now the time to participate in the Folkemode. It was an opportunity to present to a larger audience, the 4 new videos about Lesotho and DLN, developed by Mie Leth Wejdling og Janus Wejdling At the same time, the videos could be supplemented by comments and elaborations given by some of the DLN partner representatives from Lesotho.



Debate in the DLN tent

The DLN partnership with Development for Peace Education (DPE) includes a component with a trip to study the Danish democracy. The participants were DPE Director Sofonea Shale and DPC member of staff Me Makuape Kuape. Private funds were found to cover an invitation to Seabata Motsamai, Director for Lesotho Council of NGO's (LCN), to join the study.

Our Basotho guests and DLN members dressed in the traditional blankets and hats, attracted a lot of attention at the Folkemodet. DLN did

handling.



Udsigten bag teltet fejlede ikke noget

Det lille udstillings område, der hed Danmark i Verden, havde ikke plads til DLN, der således var henvist til et område lidt udenfor "Verdensmålenes Plads", men slet ikke et dårligt sted, selvom det kun var en mindre del af Folkemødets mange gæster, der lagde vejen forbi vores lille telt.

Der er et par årsager til, at det nu var rette tidspunkt for DLN at deltage. De 4 videoer om Lesotho, som er udviklet af Mie Leth Wejdling og Janus Wejdling, kunne præsenteres, og samtidigt suppleres og kommenteres af nogle af vore samarbejdspartnere fra Lesotho. Det DLN støttede partnerskab med Development for Peace Education (DPE) inkluderede en aktivitet med studiebesøg i Danmark for DPE Director Sofonea Shale og DPE medarbejder Makuape Kuape. Der blev fundet private midler til at invitere Seabata Motsamai, Director for Lesotho Council of NGO's (LCN) til at deltage i arrangementerne.

Vores gæster og aktivister, iklædt Basotho tæpper og hat, vakte en betydelig opmærksomhed og interesse på Folkemødet. Der blev desværre ikke udarbejdet en statistik over deltagelsen i DLNs video-telt, eller ved te-snak og debat på skibet "Anton". Det er mit indtryk, at der både kom mange, der allerede vidste en hel del om Lesotho. Det var især tidlige frivillige, der ville møde vores



unfortunately not record the number of visitors in the tent, conversations and the debate at the event-boat "Anton".



People around DLN tent

However, it is my impression that many visitors came to meet with the Basotho guests, and they could themselves, as former MS Development Workers, contribute to the history of development in Lesotho. Another group of visitors were young people with knowledge about solidarity work, and a curiosity to know more about Lesotho.

The DLN videos and information materials about Lesotho were well received, and several visitors expressed an appreciation of the meeting and contributions made by our partner representatives from Lesotho. It gave a good feeling of reliable and updated information about the development situation in Lesotho.

With the contribution of Janus' videos, and the partner representatives from Lesotho, the DLN participation in the Folkemode can be characterized as a success.

The two elements could carry and justify the participation in the Folkemode. If DLN at another point in time again can identify a couple of new "hit" to be included in an information programme, DLN could possibly again consider to participate at the Folkemødet, or another debate- and information arrangement.

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Basotho gæster, og selv kunne fortælle historier fra Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke (MS)-programmets mange år i Lesotho. En anden gruppe besøgende var unge, der havde stor viden om solidaritetsarbejde og lande i Afrika, men altså også gerne lige ville vide lidt mere om Lesotho.



Me Makuape Kuape

DLN's videoer og materialer om Lesotho blev godt modtaget, og flere besøgende gav udtryk for, at mødet med vore partnere havde givet dem en god og aktuel førstehåndsviden om situationen og udviklingen i Lesotho.

Med Janus' videoer, og besøgende fra Lesotho, blev DLN-deltagelsen i årets Folkemøde en stor succes. De to programelementer kunne bære igennem og retfærdiggøre deltagelsen i Folkemødet. Hvis DLN på et tidspunkt igen har et par "hit" til et DLN-oplysnings program, bør det måske overvejes, at DLN igen deltager



An appreciation for the huge effort it must have been for the heavily involved organizers and the participating DLN Board members, who have made the arrangement possible. A pleasure that the efforts were successful in its goal of promoting information about Lesotho and the DLN solidarity work. I can afford mentioning it, because I was not directly involved in the arrangement, but had the pleasure of being a visitor, enjoying the DLN and other informative events at the Folkemødet 2019.

Africans at the Folkemødet (people's summit) 2019

By: Klavs Wolff

Amongst the thousands of participants in the 'Folkemode' a couple of Basothos drew attention in a picture otherwise dominated by Danes. The men were visible during the entire meeting in their Basotho hats, which not only protected them against the Danish summer sun, but also became small lighthouses as reminders of the main themes of the 'Folkemode', namely the UN's global goals: 'Transforming our World', global equality, and the climate struggle that really concerns the people of the South. From the small DLN tent, the three Basotho spent the day engaging in dialog with Folkemode participants passing by, and on CISUs debate ship 'Anton', they clearly emphasized the importance of supporting the development of democracy in their country. Not as part of global modernisation, but as a necessary prerequisite for the integrity, the right of self-determination and development, and fight against poverty of the Basotho people. Quite symbolically, we were in a small unspectacular tent close to the much larger debate area of 'MS' (i.e. 'Action Aid'), where the major global issues were discussed amongst Danish discussants, however without voices from the South. It was therefore very

ved Folkemødet på Bornholm eller et lignende debat- og informationsarrangement.

En stor tak for den omfattende arbejdsindsats det har været for de mest involverede arrangører og DLN-bestyrelsen at få denne event op at stå. Dejligt at det blev en succes med denne nye måde at udbrede kendskab til Lesotho og foreningens arbejde. Det kan jeg sagtens sige, jeg var en af de heldige, der først og fremmest havde til opgave at kunne glæde mig over DLN og nogle af de mange andre events ved Folkemødet 2019.

Afrikanere på Folkemødet 2019

Af Klavs Wulff

Blandt tusinder af folkemødedeltagere kom et par basothoer til at lyse op i billedet, der ellers var præget af danskere. Mændene var synlige under hele mødet med deres basothohatte, der dels dækkede for den danske sommersol, men også kom til at stå som små fyrtårne med en påmindelse om, at Folkemødets hovedtemaer på FNs globale udviklingsmål, global lighed og klimakampen, i høj grad angår folkene i Syd.



Ntate Shale svarer på spørgsmål

Fra Lesotho-netværkets lille telt førte de tre basothoer dagen igennem dialoger med forbipasserende folkemødedeltagere, og på CISUs debatbåd 'Anton' fik de præciseret vigtigheden af at støtte demokratiseringen af deres land, ikke som del af den globale modernisering, men som en nødvendig



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important that DLN made room for African voices, so that the dialog and solidarity between the North and the South continues to be a clear necessity in a world increasingly dominated by powerful political and economic interests. And that Lesotho, which for many Danish people have been an entry point to engagement in the battle for a more fair and just world, is maintained as part of the public Danish awareness.



Janus is making Folkemode film from the boat Anton

I hope that DLN will also be motivated to participate in the 'Folkemode' next year, and that other Danish organisations will open up the necessary dialog between people from the North and the South. So that we will see more discussants and representatives from the South engaging in these essential issues that mobilize so many Danish people every year.

I really appreciate having been part of your activities and would be happy to participate and contribute in some way also next year.

forudsætning for Basotho-folkets integritet, selvbestemmelsesret, krav på udvikling og kamp imod fattigdom. Helt symbolsk holdt netværket til i et lille uanseeligt telt tæt på MS's langt større debatområde, hvor de store globale temaer drøftedes blandt danske debattører uden stemmer fra Syd.

Derfor var det så vigtigt, at netværket gav plads til afrikanske stemmer, sådan at den folkelige dialog og solidariteten mellem Nord og Syd fortsat står som en nødvendighed i en verden, der mere og mere styres af magtfulde politikere og økonomiske interesser. Og at Lesotho, som for mange danskere står som indgangsportal for et engagement for større retfærdighed i en ulige verden, stadig fastholdes i den danske bevidsthed.

Jeg håber, at netværket har mod på at være med igen på næste års folkemøde, og at andre danske organisationer åbner op for den nødvendige dialog mellem folk fra Nord og Syd, så vi ser flere debattører og repræsentanter fra Syd på de væsentlige temaer, som samler så mange danskere hvert år. Jeg er glad for at have været en del af jeres aktiviteter og deltager gerne under en eller anden form næste år.



Teltet klar til Folkemode



DENMARK
LESOTHO
NETWORK

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Supporting initiatives for improved living
conditions and development in Lesotho

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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 DLN:

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