



News from the DLN

This is the last Newsletter from DLN in 2020. Hope you will enjoy reading it.

Both the AGM and the following Board meeting were held as a Zoom meeting according to the Corona situation. You can still see the AGM by the DLN web-page www.lumela.dk



The new board elected at the AGM 30th August 2020. Names are on the screen, but are repeated here from the top left: Nis Kloppenborg Skau, Anne Andersen, Karina Ruby. Bottom Arne Pedersen, Daniel Weldeasilasie, Lisbet Kristensen, Bodil Mathiasen, Karsten Lund. Carsten Brønden was absent.

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



News from the Board Nov. 2020

By: Karina Ruby

DLN had its Annual General Meeting on August 30th. We had planned to have a physical meeting as usual as the Covid-19 situation in Denmark had improved during

Nyt fra bestyrelsen nov. 2020

Af Karina Ruby

DLN har afholdt sin årlige generalforsamling d. 30. august. Vi havde forestillet os, at vi kunne holde et fysisk møde, som vi plejer, eftersom covid19-situationen i Danmark var



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June-July. But the infection rate started to increase again by mid- August, so one week before the AGM the Board decided to hold the meeting online. Eighteen members participated and given the circumstances we think the meeting was successful. This was the first time that we held our AGM as a video conference, and we concluded that it is possible. The financial report and the chairman's annual report were approved, a new Board was elected and the strategic plan for the next four years was approved.



Minutes from the AGM can be found at our website under 'View Reports'. At the website you will also be able to watch a recording of the AGM, a video of 2.5 hours' duration. After introductions we had a direct online update about the Covid-19 situation in Lesotho by late August. 'Me' Thulo from our partner RSDA briefed us on the current status in the country. It can be recommended to watch this part of the video.

At the moment the Board is busy writing and updating various documents that have not so far been quite adequate. When CISU made their review of DLN they pointed out that some of our procedures and policies are not described sufficiently. When we apply for funds from CISU's pools, which is actually money from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there are high demands to our procedures and policies regarding financial management and codes of conduct. In DLN we have not quite been up to the mark here, but we are tightening up now. This also applies to our cooperation

blevet bedre i løbet af juni-juli. Midt i august steg smittetallet igen, så en uge før generalforsamlingen besluttede bestyrelsen, at den skulle afholdes virtuelt som et online møde.



Der var 18 deltagere, og det forløb efter omstændighederne godt, synes vi. Det er første gang, vi har afholdt generalforsamling som videomøde, og konklusionen er, at det godt kan lade sig gøre. Vi fik godkendt regnskab og årsberetning, vi fik valgt en ny bestyrelse, og en strategiplan for de næste 4 år blev vedtaget. Referat fra generalforsamlingen kan ses på hjemmesiden under 'View Reports'. På hjemmesiden kan man også se optagelsen af generalforsamlingen, en video på 2½ time. Efter ca. 5 minutters indledning er der en direkte opdatering fra Lesotho om Corona-situationen der sidst i august. Det er me Thulo fra vores partner RSDA, som er med online fra Lesotho og fortæller om den aktuelle status i Lesotho. Den del af videoen kan det anbefales at se og høre.

For tiden arbejder bestyrelsen på at udarbejde og forbedre forskellige dokumenter, som indtil nu har været utilstrækkelige. Ved CISUs tilsyn af DLN er vi blevet gjort opmærksom på, at flere af DLNs procedurer og politikker ikke er godt nok beskrevet. Når man søger penge fra CISUs puljer, som består af penge fra Udenrigsministeriet, er der høje krav til organisationens procedurer og politikker i forhold til styring af økonomi og adfærdsmæssige kodeks. Det har vi taget lidt for løst på i DLN, så nu strammer vi op. Det



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with partners in Lesotho.

In September CISU celebrated their 25th anniversary. Along with three other member organisations DLN participated in a panel discussion about what motivates us for voluntary development work. We agreed that it is mainly the relationship to partners in the South and tangible results that motivate us to put hours of effort into this work. Karina showed a small video clip where 'Me' Thulo and 'Ntate Shale explain about the cooperation and partnership between the North and the South. The entire CISU celebration and AGM was virtual, including ca. 90 participants as the restrictions did not allow physical meetings. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 situation in Denmark has worsened during Sept-Oct. This means more restrictions again after a period of a slightly more open society. Gatherings of more than 10 people are again banned, many people work from home, use of masks is mandatory in all public transport and in public places like shops, libraries, restaurants, bars, educational institutions etc. Everything closes at 22 o'clock and sales of alcohol is also not allowed after 22.00. Some schools are closed and teach online instead. All non-important travels abroad are not recommended. The restrictions may differ from one area to another in Denmark.



The latest serious action hits the northern part of Denmark. This is an area with many mink farms. Denmark has the world's biggest production of mink, which are bred to be used for fur coats. It has been known for several months that Corona virus can infect mink and that it will spread very fast from one animal to

gælder også i forhold til vores samarbejde med partnere i Lesotho.

I september kunne CISU fejre sit 25 års jubilæum. DLN og tre andre medlemsorganisationer deltog i en paneldebat om, hvad der motiverer os til frivilligt foreningsarbejde inden for international udvikling. Der var enighed om, at det i høj grad er relationer til partnere i Syd og synlige resultater, der motiverer os til at lægge tidsvis i dette arbejde. Karina havde et lille videoklip med, hvor me Thulo og ntate Shale fortæller om samarbejde og partnerskab mellem Nord og Syd. Hele CISUs generalforsamling og jubilæumsfejring foregik virtuelt med ca. 90 deltagere, da forsamlingsforbuddet ikke tillod et fysisk møde.

Covid19-situationen er desværre blevet forværret i Danmark i løbet af september-oktober. Det har betydet flere restriktioner igen, efter vi har haft en periode med et lidt mere åbent samfund. Nu må vi igen kun forsamles 10 personer, mange mennesker arbejder igen hjemmefra, vi skal bruge mundbind i alle offentlige transportmidler og offentligt tilgængelige steder som butikker, biblioteker, restauranter, barer, uddannelsesinstitutioner m.m. Alt lukker kl. 22, og der må ikke sælges alkohol efter kl. 22. En del skoler er lukkede, og der gives online undervisning i stedet. Alle unødvendige rejser til udlandet frarådes. Det er ikke lige slemt i hele Danmark, så der er ind i mellem forskelle på, hvordan restriktionerne er. Det sidste nye alvorlige tiltag rammer den nordlige del af Danmark.

Det er et område med mange minkfarme. Danmark har verdens største produktion af mink, som avles for at bruge pelsen til frakker. I flere måneder har det været kendt, at corona-virus kan smitte til mink, og at smitten meget hurtigt breder sig fra dyr til dyr, når den først er kommet ind på en farm. Der er allerede slæbt mange tusinde mink ihjel i de farme, hvor nogle dyr har været syge.



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another- once it has entered a farm. Several thousands of mink have already been put down at farms where sick animals have been found. The latest discovery is that the virus mutates fast in mink and that a new mutation has been found, which is more dangerous than the previous mutations of Corona virus. If this new variety of the virus is spreading it may be more difficult to develop a new vaccine. It has been proved that the infection can travel from mink to humans and back. So far 12 persons in northern Denmark have been found infected by this new type of virus, 'Cluster 5'. Covid-19 infection has been found in 216 mink farms in Denmark, so to avoid that the new type of virus is spreading to the rest of Denmark and the world, it has been decided to put down all minks in Denmark- including the non-infected, healthy ones. This means putting down about 16 million minks.



The sales of mink fur are an important part of Danish export, so the loss is great, both for individual farmers as well as our national economy. Farmers will be compensated to some extent by the government, which is currently trying to establish a suitable scheme. The farmers are of course very alarmed by losing their life's work, their jobs, and economic foundation for their families' livelihood. They are worried that they will not be compensated sufficiently by the government. It is very uncertain that there will ever be production of mink in Denmark again after this complete closing down of the business. Only time will show.

Den sidste nye opdagelse er, at virus muterer hurtigere i mink, og der nu er fundet en mutation, som er mere alvorlig end de hidtidige mutationer af corona-virus. Hvis den nye variant af coronavirus spredes, kan det gøre det vanskeligere at udvikle en effektiv vaccine. Der er indtil nu fundet 12 smittede personer i den nordlige del af Danmark med den nye type virus, Cluster 5. Det er konstateret, at smitten



kan spredes fra mink til menneske. Der er konstateret Covid19-smitte på 216 farme i Danmark. For at undgå, at den nye type virus spredes til resten af Danmark og hele verden, har man besluttet at aflive alle mink i hele Danmark, også de raske dyr. Det betyder aflivning af ca. 16 mio. mink. Salg af minkpelse udgør en betydelig del af dansk eksport, så det er et stort tab for både den enkelte farmer og den nationale økonomi. Den enkelte farmer vil blive kompenseret fra staten i et eller andet omfang, som der nu arbejdes på at finde den rette løsning på. Farmerne er meget oprørte over fuldstændig at miste deres livsværk, deres job, deres økonomiske grundlag for at forsørge familien. De er bange for, at de ikke vil få en tilstrækkelig kompensation fra staten.





However, it also turned out a few days later that the Government did not have the legal basis for ordering the killing of all minks. The Government succeeded in urging a bill through Parliament, but the situation caused great confusion and has developed into a major political scandal. The opposition does no longer back the Government, but has demanded its resignation. So far, the Minister for Food & Agriculture has been forced to resign. However, a majority of the Parliament wants the entire process to be examined thoroughly before further consequences are implemented. So even though the consensus and broad support that characterized the first wave of the Covid 19 pandemic in Denmark has partly crumbled, it still seems the situation is under control.

The exact situation in Lesotho is hard to ascertain. According to WHO, 44 deaths caused by Covid 19 have been registered. But how many have actually been tested is not known. For comparison, 811 persons have died in Denmark, and ca. 3 mill. people have been tested since March. Many have been tested more than once, so a total of more than 7 mill tests have been made. The population of Denmark is 5.8 mill. against 2.1 mill. in Lesotho.

Det er ikke sikkert, at der igen bliver produktion af mink i Danmark, når man lukker helt ned for erhvervet, som man gør nu. Det må tiden vise. Det viste sig desuden, at regeringen ikke havde lovhemmel til at beordre alle mink aflivet. Det lykkedes dog regeringen at få hastet en lov igennem folketingset nogle få dage senere. Men der opstod stor forvirring, og situationen har udviklet sig til en større politisk skandale, hvor oppositionen ikke længere bakker regeringen op, men har krævet dens afgang. Indtil videre er Fødevareministeren blevet presset til at trække sig. Der er flertal i Folketinget for, at hele sagsforløbet skal undersøges grundigt inden eventuelle yderlige konsekvenser skal effektueres. Men selvom den enighed og brede opbakning, der kendtegnede første bølge af Covid 19 pandemien i Danmark er delvis smuldret, ser det dog ud til, at situationen er under nogenlunde kontrol.

Hvordan situationen er i Lesotho, er igen svært at finde ud af. Der er i alt registreret 44 døde med Covid19 ifølge WHO. Det er uvist, hvor mange der er blevet testet. Til sammenligning er der i Danmark 811 døde, og godt 3 mio. personer er blevet testet siden marts. Mange er testet flere gange, så der i alt er lavet godt 7 mio. tests. Der er 5,8 mio. indbyggere i Danmark mod 2,1 mio. i Lesotho.

The pandemic and Climate changes.

By: 'Me' Mampo Thulo

RSDA on the current situation with the challenges from the pandemic and the climate changes.

How is RSDA managing these fields?

The advent of Covid-19, occurred when Lesotho and the rest of sub-Saharan Africa was faced with drought due to climate change. Lesotho in particular has been experiencing

Pandemien og klimaforandringerne.

Af 'Me' Mampo Thulo

RSDA om de aktuelle udfordringer fra pandemien og klimaforandringerne.

Hvad gør RSDA i lyset af disse udfordringer?

Covid-19 ramte på et tidspunkt hvor Lesotho og resten af Afrika syd for Sahara oplevede tørke på grund af klimaforandringer. Specielt



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extreme temperatures and rain which arrives very late in the season making planting of staple food-maize in Lesotho almost impossible. In 2019/2020 in particular, Lesotho received summer rain very late in January 2020. Lesotho like other countries is affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lesotho imposed its first total lockdown which lasted from the 30th March 2020 and which ended on the 05th May 2020. Thereafter change of Government Lesotho lockdown restrictions were reduced. Now covid-19 restrictions are still imposed through disaster emergency which extends to April 2021. Lesotho is being careful since we have one neighbour (South Africa), already has high number of positive covid-19 cases. Lesotho's latest communication in October 2020, shows 1963 covid-19 positive cases, 44 deaths and 931 recoveries recorded as at the 16th October 2020 update by NACOSEC.



Meantime the Government of Lesotho has imposed Legal restrictions which regulates travel and introduces testing as a precondition for travel between Lesotho and South Africa. For a person to travel between the two countries one has to produce a medical certificate which shows that he/she is covid-19 negative at least for the last 72 hours. The certificate is valid for 14 days after which one has to test again. Meantime the testing capacity for Lesotho government is so low. Which means normal travel is still restricted between the two countries.

Lesotho har oplevet ekstreme temperaturer og regn, der kom alt for sent i sæsonen, hvilket gjorde plantning af basisfødevaren majs næsten umulig. Sommerregnen 2019/20 kom først meget sent i januar 2020. Lesotho er ligesom andre lande påvirket af Covid-19 pandemien. Den første totale nedlukning varede fra 30. marts til 5. maj 2020. Lesotho fik da en ny regering som lempede restriktionerne. Men vi er stadig underlagt restriktioner gennem katastrofe undtagelsestilstanden, som er forlænget indtil april 2021. Lesotho er forsigtig, for vor nabo Sydafrika har allerede et højt antal positive Covid-19 tilfælde. Den seneste optælling NACOSEC her i Lesotho er fra 16. oktober og viste 1963 positive Covid-19 tilfælde, 44 døde og 931 helbredte. I mellem tiden har Lesothos regering indført restriktioner for rejser, som gør testning obligatorisk for rejser mellem Lesotho og Sydafrika. Hvis en person vil rejse mellem de to lande, skal vedkommende fremvise medicinsk bevis for, at han/hun har været smitfri i minimum de sidste 72 timer. Beviset er gyldigt i 14 dage, hvorefter man skal testes igen.

Men test kapaciteten er lav i Lesotho, så den normalt store rejseaktivitet mellem landene er begrænset.

Hvordan klarer almindelige mennesker i Lesotho situationen? Og hvordan bliver landmændene påvirket?

Almindelige mennesker, der opholder sig i Sydafrika eller som søger beskæftigelse der, er begyndt at krydse grænsen illegalt. For dem, der bliver hjemme, er deres livsgrundlag stadig landbrugsrelaterede aktiviteter, som bliver negativt påvirket af både klimaforandringerne og Covid-19 nedlukningen. Lesotho er fuldstændig omsluttet af Sydafrika og hele fødevare systemet er totalt afhængig af Sydafrika – fødevareforsyning, jobs, alle kommercielle aktiviteter såvel som vores sundheds- og skole systemer. Det er normalt for Basotho'ere at krydse frem og tilbage til



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How do common people handle the situation in Lesotho? How are the farmers affected?

The common people resident in South Africa and or seeking employment have resorted to illegal border crossing. For those remaining at home, their source of livelihood is still agriculture-related activities which are negatively affected by both the impact of climate change and covid-19 lockdown.

Lesotho is totally surrounded by South Africa and entirely dependent on South Africa for the entire food system – food supplies, jobs, the entire commercial activities as well health and school system. It is normal for Basotho to cross in to South on a basis. For a common Mosotho, missing a growing season, results in more people falling into the category of vulnerable households and the Lesotho Government has no unemployment benefit scheme and nor the budget to support a spontaneous increase of vulnerable households. Although street vendors are given the opportunity to resume their businesses again, they are struggling to bring up capital for stock again. The other existing impact due to this pandemic is that companies had to reschedule their normal work activities, thus reduction of working hours and/or work in shifts, retrenchment of people and some salaries cut off. The impact of increased food prices is already felt and has affected the struggling households. Most rural communities also live on remittances, which are also to be affected as most people have lost their jobs and governments are struggling to meet the needs of all the vulnerable households.

Are they still able to be on the markets selling their products?

Covid-19 lockdown restrictions do not allow farmers to hold farmers markets. The market for farm produce is affected mostly due to closing of schools. School feeding scheme is a very big market for farmers who are supplying a reticulation of schools spread throughout Lesotho's landscape.

Sydafrika. For almindelige mennesker betyder det at miste en vækstsæson, at mange flere vil falde ned i kategorien 'sårbare familier', og Lesothos regering har intet system for understøttelse af arbejdsløse – og heller intet budget til at håndtere en pludselig stigning i antallet af sårbare familier.



Selvom gadehandlerne har fået mulighed for at genoptage deres forretninger, kæmper de med at fremskaffe midler til at genopbygge deres lagre. Pandemien har også betydet, at firmaerne har måttet omlægge deres normale aktiviteter, for eksempel reducering af arbejdstiden og/eller skiftehold, fyring af ansatte og lønnedgang. Stigningerne i fødevarepriserne kan allerede mærkes og har påvirket de husholdninger, der kæmper. For de fleste mindre samfund på landet er



What is the Government doing to ease the challenges?

The Government of Lesotho established the NACOSEC for coordination and the National Climate Change Committee to coordinate Climate change actions. Special funds and entities have been selected to boost local businesses. Indeed, Lesotho Government has selected agriculture support as one of the key response to COVID-19 impact. Ministry of Social Development has been boosted to support vulnerable households.

What are you able to do right now?

RSDA as a livelihood supporting organisation is very much concerned with the rapid food requirements due to double tragedy of climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic. RSDA in partnership with Ministry of Agriculture undertook a "Climate change risk Assessment and economic feasibility for sorghum in 2019 funded by GIZ.



The recommended action is that Basotho should practice Mixed farming (crops and livestock), sustain fodder production, rain water harvesting for irrigation and livestock and investment in post-harvest and marketing infrastructure.

RSDA with Assistance from Denmark Lesotho Network has made a big contribution through supporting children from vulnerable households in 5 selected primary schools

pengeoverførslor vigtige, men disse er også påvirket, da de fleste har mistet deres job, alt imens regeringen kæmper med at tilgodehøje alle de sårbarer familier.

Kan de stadig komme på markedet og sælge deres produkter?

Covid-19 restriktionerne betyder, at bønderne ikke kan afholde deres farmers markeder. Det er især skolelukningerne, der påvirker markedet for landbrugsvarene. Skolebespisning er normalt et stort marked for bønderne, der leverer til et netværk af skoler over hele Lesotho.

Hvad gør regeringen for at mildne problemerne?

Regeringen har etableret NACOSEC for at koordinere Covid-19 indsatsen og National Climate Change Committee for at koordinere klimaindsatserne. Specielle puljer og enheder er etableret for at understøtte lokale firmaer. Lesothos regering har faktisk valgt at støtte landbruget som en af sine nøgleindsatser imod Covid-19's effekter. Og Ministeriet for Social Udvikling har fået et løft for bedre at kunne støtte udsatte familier.

Hvad kan der gøres her og nu?

Som en organisation, der støtter menneskers levebrød, er RSDA stærkt bekymret over fødevaresituationen på grund af den dobbelte tragedie, klimaforandringerne og Covid-19 pandemien. Sammen med landbrugsministeriet, og finansieret af GIZ, gennemførte RSDA i 2019 et studium 'Klimaforandringer og risiko- og økonomisk bæredygtighedsanalyse af sorghum'. Studiets anbefalinger var, at bønderne bør praktisere blandet landbrug, (dvs. både afgrøder og husdyr), opretholde foderproduktionen, opsamle regnvand til kunstvanding og husdyr, samt investere i efterhøst og markedsførings infrastruktur. Med støtte fra Denmark Lesotho Network har RSDA ydet en stor indsats ved at støtte børn fra sårbare familier i fem udvalgte skoler i fem



especially in five Districts. 5 more schools in the Mountain Districts will further benefit from the same. The food items given to children were bought from smallholder farmers. The food parcels given to vulnerable children are composed of beans, vegetable seeds, maize meal and provision of face mask to the vulnerable children in chosen schools. The beans purchased from Basotho farmer are rich in protein, bio-fortified for iron and zinc. RSDA bought beans from smallholder farmers as a way of mitigating against lack of markets due to covid-19 restrictions.

Recycling for Lesotho

By: Arne Pedersen

For the last two years our association has worked with recycling for Lesotho. The early steps were taken in the spring of 2018 when Egtved school offered us some used, yet functional, computers after they had purchased new ones. After a long haul we succeeded in delivering 26 computers to Mosoang High School in the mountains south east of Morija. We have ascertained first hand this year that 25 of the computers are still functional. The approximately 140 students as well as adults and shepherd boys from the area are now receiving computer training for the first time. The next delivery was a 20 feet container with primarily hospital equipment for Scott Hospital in Morija.



The container also held some football

distrikter. Yderligere fem skoler i bjergdistrikter vil nyde gavn af samme initiativ. Fødevarerne, som børnene modtager, er købt fra småbønder. Madpakkerne, som de sårbare børn får, indeholder bønner, grøntsags frø, majs mel, og en ansigtsmaske. De bønner, som Bosotho farmere producerer, er rige på protein, bio-forstærket med jern og zink. RSDA købte bønnerne fra småbønder som en måde at imødegå manglen på markeder på grund af Covid-19 restriktionerne.

Genbrug til Lesotho

Af Arne Pedersen

I vores forening har vi nu i 2 år arbejdet med *Genbrug til Lesotho*. Det tog sin spæde start i foråret 2018, hvor Egtved Skole tilbød os brugte brugbare computere i forbindelse med indkøb af nye til skolen. Efter et langt sejt træk lykkedes det at levere 26 computere til Mosoang High School. Skolen er beliggende i bjergene sydøst for Morija. Vi har ved selvsyn i år konstateret, at 25 af computerne stadig er velfungerende. De ca. 140 elever samt voksne og hyrdedrenge i området får nu for første gang IT-undervisning.



Næste levering blev en 20 fods container med fortrinsvis hospitalsudstyr til Scott Hospital i Morija. I containeren var der også fodboldudstyr fra St. Restrup IF. Transporten gav store udfordringer. Dels på grund af omladning i Port Elizabeth til et andet skib til



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equipment from St. Restrup sports club. The transport involved big challenges. Partly due to the reloading on to another vessel bound for Durban, where the container was stuck for about one month at the harbor awaiting rail transport to Maseru.

We have now learned that containers must be sent by the same ship from Europe to its final harbor in South Africa (port Elisabeth or Durban) and then by truck to its final destination in Lesotho. However fortunately the container reached Scott Hospital safely in February this year. The recipient is Lesotho Evangelical Church of Southern Africa with whom we cooperate, and the final beneficiary was Scott Hospital and a local football club.



Hospital equipment was our main priority. We had received a wish list from the hospital. In February this year Grete Mygind, my wife Ursula and I arrived at the hospital a few hours after the equipment. Grete and Ursula inspected the equipment together with doctors and nurses and instructed in the correct use if there was any doubt.

This equipment is a great benefit for Scott Hospital who doesn't have economic resources to purchase such equipment. It improves health and creates development for staff. The leader of Lesotho Evangelical Church used big words when he addressed us: Your equipment helps save lives.

In December this year the next container will be shipped off – this time a 40 feet container. We always need a cooperating organisation in the South and it will also be Lesotho

Durban, og efterfølgende stod containeren på havnen i Durban i ca. 1 måned og ventede på transport via jernbane til Maseru. Vi har nu lært, at containere skal sendes med samme skib fra europæisk havn til endelig havn i Sydafrika (Port Elizabeth eller Durban) og derefter med truck til endelig destination i Lesotho.



Men heldigvis nåede containeren sikkert frem til Scott Hospital i februar i år. Modtageren er Lesotho Evangelical Church of Southern Africa, som vi samarbejder med, og den endelig modtager var Scott Hospital og en lokal fodboldklub. Hospitalsudstyret var det primære. Vi havde modtaget en ønskeliste fra hospitalet. I februar i år ankom vi (Grete Mygind, min kone Urszula og jeg) til hospitalet få timer efter leveringen.



Sammen med læger og sygeplejersker kontrollerede Grete og Urszula udstyret og instruerede i brugen af det udstyr, hvor der kunne være tvivl om, hvordan det skulle bruges.

Dette udstyr er til stor gavn for hospitalet –



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Evangelical Church this time. The three recipients of hospital equipment will be Scott Hospital, Mohlanapeng Health Centre (Thaba Tseka) and Tebellong Hospital (Qacha's Nek). We have received wish lists from the two hospitals and the clinic. Afterwards they have also requested protective equipment (Covid 19).

Recycling for Development in Aalborg are making tremendous efforts to provide the equipment from Danish hospitals and other suppliers. During the winter many containers with primarily hospital equipment will be shipped off to developing countries – luckily Lesotho will also benefit.

The container will also include 40 computers for Thabeng High School at Morija, which has app. 1000 students enrolled but only 10 computers at the moment. Everything including set-up, installation, power supply and training and the teachers has been agreed.



Game suits in immaculate condition from the football clubs FB-fodbold and Give Fremad

Scott Hospital har ikke selv økonomisk formåen til indkøb af dette udstyr. Det skaber sundhedsmæssige forbedringer og udvikling for de ansatte. Lederen for Lesotho Evangelical Church brugte store ord til os og sagde: Jeres hjælp redder liv.

I december i år afskibes næste container fra Aalborg – denne gang en 40 fods container. Der skal altid være en samarbejdsorganisation i syd og det er igen Lesotho Evangelical Church. Der er tre modtagere af hospitalsudstyr: Scott Hospital, Mohlanapeng Health Center (Thaba Tseka) og Tebellong Hospital (Qacha's Nek). Vi har fået ønskelister fra de 2 hospitaler og klinikken. Der er efterfølgende også ønsker om væremidler (Covid 19)

På Genbrug til Syds lager i Aalborg bliver der gjort en kæmpeindsats for at skaffe udstyret fra danske hospitaler og leverandører af dette udstyr. Hen over vinteren afskibes mange containere med især hospitalsudstyr til udviklingslande – heldigvis kommer det også Lesotho til gavn.

Containeren pakkes også med 40 computere til Thabeng High School ved Morija. Skolen har ca. 1000 elever. Disse elever har 10 computere til rådighed. Alt vedr. opsætning, installation, strømforsyning, uddannelse af lærere er aftalt.



Fra FB-fodbold og Give Fremad vil der være spillerdragter i absolut god stand. Vi aftaler med Lesotho Evangelical Church, hvem der skal modtage dette udstyr. De to klubber har vist stor interesse i at donere til Lesotho. Klubberne har også deltaget i Genbrug til Syd's webseminar, som blev afholdt den 28.



will also be included. We will agree with Lesotho Evangelical Church who should receive the suits. The two Danish clubs have shown great interest in donating to Lesotho and even participated in Recycling for Development's web seminar on October 28th. Our Recycling for Lesotho project has excellent cooperation with Lesotho Evangelic Church of Southern Africa. In future we can perhaps extend the cooperation to also include for example climatic change mitigation in terms of solar panels for schools in Lesotho. The church in Lesotho is also very interested in proving study placement for Danish health sector students. Recycling for Development encourages extension of the cooperation to include more aspects than recycling alone and that the cooperation is sustained for several years.

On the home front we have made agreements with the three football clubs, St. Restrups IF, FB-Fodbold and Give Fremad, that we will make a presentation in connection with their annual start up meetings in March 2021. Recycling for Development appreciates our information activities with Danish football clubs and points out the importance of reaching out to target groups, which are usually not expected to have great interest in developing countries.



New on the DLN board

Karsten Lund is new on the board; however, he used to take a seat on the board in the

oktober.

I Genbrug til Lesotho har vi et fortrinligt godt samarbejde med Lesotho Evangelical Church of Southern Africa. Fremadrettet kan vi måske udbygge dette samarbejde til fx klimatiltag (solpaneler) på skoler i Lesotho. Kirken i Lesotho er også meget interesseret i praktikophold af studerende i sundhedssektoren.



Genbrug til Syd ser gerne, at samarbejdet udbygges på flere fronter end genbrug, og at samarbejdet er vedvarende i mange år. På hjemmefronten har vi aftaler med St. Restrups IF, FB-Fodbold og Give Fremad om at afholde foredrag i marts 2021 i forbindelse med opstartsmøder i de 3 foreninger. Genbrug til Syd værdsætter vores oplysningsvirksomhed til danske fodboldklubber og påpeger det væsentlige i, at oplysningsvirksomheden når ud til en målgruppe, som måske ikke har den store interesse i udviklingslande.

Ny i bestyrelsen

Karsten Lund er ny i bestyrelsen, dog ikke nyere end han tidligere har været i bestyrelsen i begyndelsen af årtusindet. Karsten var udsendt til Transformation Resource Centre (TRC) i Maseru med Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke (MS) i årene 2000-2003 sammen med Inge, hans kone og deres tre døtre. "At opretholde en relation til Lesotho har en stor plads i hjertet, som for de fleste, der har været udsendte, og i den relation er DLN en vigtig brik i at pleje.



beginning of the millennium. Karsten was stationed with Transformation Resource Centre (TRC) in Maseru sent by Danish Cooperation for international Cooperation (MS) during the years from 2000 to 2003. He was in Lesotho with his wife Inge and their three daughters. "To maintain a relation to Lesotho is of great importance to me, as it is to most people who lived there. A good way to maintain that relation is through DLN. Development work is a passion, after working for MS and DLN, I also worked seven years for An organisation called Danmission, doing development work in the Middle East, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar, Tanzania and Madagascar" Karsten says. "I am looking forward to taking one more turn on the board of DLN", he finalizes.

Udviklingsarbejde er en passion. Ud over mit engagement i MS og DLN, har jeg været ansat i syv år i Danmission, hvor jeg har arbejdet med udvikling i Mellemøsten, Pakistan, Indien, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar, Tanzania og Madagaskar", fortæller Karsten. "Jeg glæder mig til at give en hånd med i DLNs bestyrelse", slutter han.

New substitute

My name is Daniel Weldesilasie, 34 years old. I learned about DLN about two years ago, when Arne Pedersen and I were colleagues in Vejle municipality. In DLN I work with Arne on our Recycling for Lesotho project. It was Arne who recommended that I stand for election as an alternate to the DLN board.

Experience:

Worked as an interpreter in the Danish Refugee Council' interpreter service.
Member of the steering committee of International men's club in Esbjerg (a cross-cultural cooperation in Ribe diocese – Kvaglund church in Esbjerg) from 2013-2018.
Worked as a social and health assistant in Esbjerg and Vejle municipalities and currently in Kolding municipality.

Ny suppléant

Mit navn er Daniel Weldesilasie, 34 år. Jeg har lært DLN at kende gennem Arne Pedersen for ca. 2 år siden, da vi var kolleger i Vejle kommune.

DLN: Jeg arbejder sammen med Arne i projektet Genbrug til Lesotho. Det er Arne, der har anbefalet mig at stille op som suppléant til DLNs bestyrelse.

Erfaring;

Jeg har arbejdet som tolk i Dansk Flygtningehjælps Tolkeservice.
Har været medlem og styregruppemedlem af International mandeklub i Esbjerg (en del af tværkulturel samarbejde i Ribe Stift - Kvaglund kirke Esbjerg) fra 2013 til 2018.
Jeg har arbejdet i Esbjerg kommune og Vejle kommune som social- og sundhedshjælper (SSH). Lige nu arbejder jeg i Kolding kommune som SSH.



Thank you from the editor

By: Anne Andersen

This is the last issue of the newsletter for which I am the editor. After New Year 2021 Karsten Lund will take over. In fact, I took over Lumela.dk from Karsten back in 2008, so he knows the field he is entering. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed with articles and photos throughout the 12 years. It has been exciting and rewarding to read it all and to work with both texts and photos. As the old saying goes: A picture tells more than a thousand words. I believe that text and pictures that supplement each other are important for enjoyable reading of the articles, when you can visually see the context behind the words. I would like to thank all who have contributed along the way with translations, proofreading and also otherwise enabled DLN to publish a good and proper Lumela.dk newsletter.



Redaktør takker af.

Af Anne Andersen

Dette er det sidste nyhedsbrev, jeg er redaktør for. Efter nytår 2021 tager Karsten Lund over. Jeg overtog Lumela.dk fra Karsten i 2008, så han ved, hvad han går ind til. Jeg vil gerne takke alle, der har bidraget med artikler og billeder i samtlige 12 år.

Det har været spændende og givende at læse det hele og arbejde med både tekst og billeder. Der er et ordsprog, der hedder: Et billede siger mere end tusind ord. Jeg mener, at tekst og billeder, der understøtter hinanden, er væsentligt for at gøre det godt at læse de forskellige indlæg og visuelt se den kontekst, der ligger til grund for ordene.

Jeg vil også takke dem, der under vejs har oversat tekster, læst korrektur og ellers bidraget til at DLN kunne levere et godt og ordentligt Lumela.dk.

News from Lesotho:

Coronavirus in Africa: Five reasons why Covid-19 has been less deadly than elsewhere - BBC News

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-54418613>



Parliament passes diamond amnesty law

Lesotho Times

By Lesotho Times On Nov 25, 2020

Bereng Mpaki

THE National Assembly on Tuesday adopted a subordinate law which gives persons currently in illegal possession of rough diamonds until 31 January 2021 to declare them to the government.

This will give the government an opportunity to clear illegal diamonds off the black market. The Precious Stones (Prevention of Illicit and Theft of Diamonds) Regulations, 2020, was tabled



before the house by Mining minister Serialong Qoo in October this year. It paves way for the re-introduction of artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) by the government.

Kimetsi Mathaba, the acting chairperson of the Natural Resources, Tourism and Land Cluster Committee, which recommended the adoption of the subordinate law after scrutinising it, said under the regulation, dealers would not be arrested but would instead be assisted to securely sell their inventory of diamonds to the open market.

Mr Mathaba, who is the leader of the National Independent Party (NIP), said holders of such diamonds would be required to fill in forms on declaring the diamonds. The diamonds will eventually be sold locally through an auction.

“The main purpose of the regulation is to grant amnesty to all persons in illegal possession of diamonds, meaning those without dealers’ licenses,” Mr Mathaba said.

“The regulation is also meant to ensure traceability and source of our diamonds to prepare for the upcoming artisanal and small-scale mining.”

The government will eventually introduce a new law to regulate small-scale mining after clearing all the diamonds that are currently floating on the black market.

Re-opening small-scale mining is in line with the minerals and mining policy of 2015, which says the government would work towards recognising and repositioning ASM to alleviate poverty.

“The regulation facilitates secure collection of all floating diamonds through registration for secure safe keeping and selling them through open and competitive processes where their owners will earn from their sale.

“This issue will also address the problem of illegal trading of diamonds..., which often leads to killings and fraud. The amnesty is meant to continue until 31 January 2021, so we appeal to those with the diamonds to come forward and submit their diamonds as soon as possible.”

For his part, All Basotho Convention (ABC) legislator for Hololo constituency legislator, Tlokotsi Manyoko, welcomed the law saying it would facilitate better participation of locals in the diamond industry.



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“This regulation leads to the opening of small-scale mining, which will be critical for improving local participation in the diamond industry for development of the country’s economy,” Mr Manyoko said.

Small scale diamond digging by licensed Basotho diggers was first introduced in 1961 at Letšeng-la-Terai. This later extended to Hololo, Kao and Liqhobong under Basutoland Diamonds Ltd until 1967.

However, in 2004 the government stopped issuing licences for small-scale mining due to the apparent safety concerns since the sector was largely informal and unregulated.

Covid-19 shock at Leribe Craft Centre

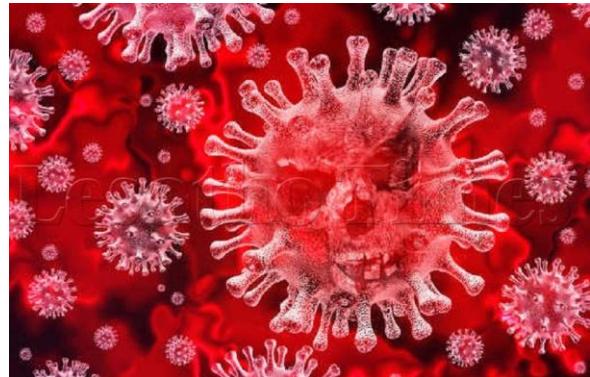


By Lesotho Times Last updated Nov 25, 2020

Limpho Sello

IN a shocking development, the Leribe Craft Centre has recorded 43 cases of Covid-19, the National Covid-19 Secretariat (NACOSEC) has said.

NACOSEC risk and communication expert Baroane Phenethi told the *Lesotho Times* yesterday that the 43 cases were discovered after 63 students presented with influenza-like symptoms at Motebang Hospital in Leribe.



This was after a member of staff had tested positive for Covid-19 on 3 November 2020.

Mr Phenethi said the 63 students were then taken to hospital with what they had initially thought was a common cough.

“At Motebang, 47 of the 63 students were then tested and it was found that 43 of them were all positive for Covid-19,” Mr Phenethi said.

“The 47 specimens were collected on 3 November and taken to the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) where they were tested on 5 November 2020 and the results were sent back to the district where the school collected them on 9 November.

“Out of the 47 specimens, 43 of them were positive, two remain probable cases while one has been cleared.”

During their investigations, Mr Phenethi said they found that the students caught a cold while cleaning a flooded classroom after a pipe burst on 15 October and they all believed it was a common flue from the cold they caught on the day.

All the students who tested positive for Covid-19 are admitted at Motebang Hospital where they are recovering.

“While cases have only been recorded at Leribe Craft Centre, we however, held awareness campaigns conscientising the communities about Covid-19 and its dangers.”

NACOSEC is collaborating with the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation in the awareness campaigns that are covering the rest of the district.



DENMARK
LESOTHO
NETWORK

Supporting initiatives for improved living
conditions and development in Lesotho

LUMELA.dk

NEWSLETTER

No: 66, December 2020

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:

E-mail: dln@lumela.dk

Homepage: www.lumela.dk

KHOTSO – PULA – NALA

Responsible Editor: Anne Andersen

(submission of articles to
dln@lumela.dk or any board member)