

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

# »Working towards a just society in Choma, Zambia«

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Emmanuel Mudenda



Megan Duddek

# **Foreword Annual Report 2019**

Dear Friends of Mmabana, I recently talked to Emmanuel Mudenda, the Director in Zambia, about the development of the organisation and we both could hardly believe it: 10 years after its foundation Mmabana has grown incredibly and has continued to develop strongly. In the course of time many lives in Zambia, Germany and South Africa have been touched, as well as in France, Great Britain, Belgium, Norway and so on through numerous contacts. Many of the young people, who were part of the computer course, are already working and have achieved a degree or training. And we have built a house! In 2019 our common project of a media and learning centre for children and young people in Choma was started and the construction of the house for Mmabana could (almost) be completed. When this annual report is published, hopefully the first computer courses will already take place in the new walls! 2019 we have also been able to create a fulltime job to support the leader in Choma. All in all, I can look back on a very enriching cooperation. I don't want to anticipate everything, but one thing shall already be mentioned here: We have also made the cooperation with other associations in Germany. This means that the general meeting of Friends of Mmabana in spring and especially the event Kirchentag 2019 in cooperation with St. Peter's Child Care e.V. was a complete success. We are looking forward to further cooperation!

Now just a small outlook: 2020 will be a special year for our association! Under the motto #10for10mmabana we want to celebrate our 10th anniversary. You are all warmly invited to participate in one of our events or to join us in planning your own event.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the last years on the board! Thank you for your trust and your tireless work for the association. As my studies unfortunately demand more and more of my time, I will slowly withdraw from the board in Germany in 2020. But my heart will remain connected to the association and I look full of hope into the coming year! Best regards and God's blessing.

10 years Friends of Mmabana Deutschland. This must be celebrated!

#### Megan Duddek

1. Chairperson Friends of Mmabana Deutschland e.V.

### What's new from Choma?

#### Orphans and Vulnerable Children - OVC Programs

Some of the 48 children we were able to support in 2019 are already in school since the beginning of the Education Support in 2013. These "old hands" are now (almost all) in secondary school. Last year a total of 13 Mmabana Kids attended class 8 or higher.

The After School Club, as well as the Reading & Writing Club were extended by a valuable position in 2019. In order to provide the children with structured tutoring and to adapt the contents to the school curriculum, Mme Bronska started at Mmabana in September. She is a trained special education teacher and takes over the guidance of the children and the young tutors.

An afternoon at the Kids Club is still very popular with the children in Zambia Compound and Shampande Compound. In Zambia, however, the rain seasons have been rather short in the last two years. This has led to particularly long hot periods, which means that fewer children have visited the Kids Club.

The drought has also affected maize cultivation and the water and electricity supply - Zambia obtains most of its electricity from hydropower. We therefore hope that we will be able to establish a permanent Nutrition Support in the children's programs again in 2020.



ids Club



Staff, Choma



**Youth Programs** 

The planned move of the computer class to the new Mmabana House could not take place in 2019. Nevertheless, there were again numerous graduates last year. Besides attending classes and volunteering in the children's programs, the young people also participated in the youth programs. Every week they met in smaller groups to do sports (football, netball), sing in the choir or prepare drama or cultural dance performances for public celebrations or youth camps. For the intercultural exchange two international volunteers were on site throughout the year through the Lutheran Mission in Lower Saxony. The two young women of the current year arrived in August and since then have been contributing to the project with a lot of energy, joy and good ideas and feel at home in Zambia. Mmabana 2019 was also visited by friends and acquaintances of the Friends of Mmabana and was supported by volunteers from Germany and Norway, some of them for several months.



Evangelischer Kirchentag 2019



Evangelischer Kirchentag 2019

# What Happened in Germany?

From March 8th to 10th the 1st general meeting of the year took place in Göttingen. The special thing this time was that it was a joint meeting of members of Friends of Mmabana and the Freundeskreis St. Peters Child Care. Each association had its own agenda for the weekend and then there was an additional common unit to plan the event Kirchentag in Dortmund. Practical considerations and creative ideas were exchanged and friendships were made. At the general meeting in March, the new board was elected. Julia Wrogemann and Jean-Christophe Dalka resigned from the board - a heartfelt thank you at this point for their commitment and their big heart for Mmabana. The new board was composed as follows: 1st hairwoman Megan Duddek, 2nd chairman Louis Hesse, treasurer Sonja Knüdel and secretary Benjamin Schoppe. We are very happy to have such a committed board again.

From 19th to 23rd June the time had come... Friends of Mmabana and Freundeskreis St. Peters Child Care had their joint engagement at Evangelischer Kirchentag in Dortmund. We had a stand in the youth centre and offered delicious African food and refreshing iced tea. In addition, there were self-made bags (Mmabana Bags), jewellery and also T-shirts of the associations for sale. Creativity was not neglected either and the visitors could have themselves painted with henna tattoos, make music and decorate the car for the Carbage Run. Furthermore, there was a massage chair



Mmabana Bags



Carbage Run, Markus Lange and Andreas Knüdel

where visitors could relax. There was a lot going on at our stand, there was a great atmosphere and also financially, it was a great success for both associations. Many thanks to all helpers! We are very grateful for the newly established cooperation and friendship between the two associations and look forward to a possible repetition at the Ecumenical Church Congress in 2021.

After the Kirchentag is before the Carbage Run. Two committed members had a particularly crazy idea how to make Mmabana better known, namely by participating in the Carbage Run. This is a race with almost scrap cars, which this year led over 4000 km to Scandinavia. Andreas Knüdel and Markus Lange spent months working on their car, repairing it, and we decorated it together at the Kirchentag. In June they finally started off. During the tour across Scandinavia with different tasks like "Find a Swedish woman who pulls your car", "Dye your hair blonde" and similar actions they reached a very good fourth place out of 350 participants. Congratulations and thank you very much for your commitment!

The Christmas Bazaar of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Zurich took place on 15th November. Our member Lena Kawele had done a 4-week internship there and was so enthusiastic about the work of Mmabana that the congregation decided that this year's proceeds of the bazaar should go to our association. What a blessing! We had the opportunity to set up a stand there and inform about the project and our work. Monique Dalka, who has known Mmabana since its childhood and has always accompanied us closely,

took over this task. At the bazaar there were different stands, food from all over the world and performances. Monique reported on warm encounters and great commitment of the community. At her stand she sold many of her self-made Mmabana bags and scarves. Many thanks to the congregation for their generosity and hospitality!

Towards the end of the year, the 2nd general meeting of the year took place in Karlsruhe from 22nd to 24th November. This time there was even a visitor from South Africa, as Monique Dalka was present, who was also able to report from the bazaar in Zurich. In a nice atmosphere, various topics were discussed, including the anniversary of Friends of Mmabana in 2020.

At the end of the year there was another event that we have been working towards for quite some time: our new website went online. The new design of Mmabana is colourful and cheerful and should make you want to get more information about the project and the association. A big thank you to everyone, Benjamin Schoppe in particular, who helped with creativity, ideas and technical know-how! We invite you to have a look at www.mmabana.org and to give us feedback on kontakt@mmabana.org.

#### **Our Finances 2019**

An exciting year lies behind us, also from a financial point of view: On the one hand, the construction project and the associated funding from the state of Baden-Württemberg has almost doubled our annual turnover compared to the past 5 years. On the other hand, our members have been incredibly active and have activated many new sources of income for Mmabana, so that we were also able to close the year 2019 with a surplus of  $\in$  4,872.45.

Particularly worth mentioning is certainly the commitment of about 30 members of the Freundeskreis St. Peter's Child Care e.V. and the Friends of Mmabana e.V. at the Kirchentag in Dortmund, where after deduction of all costs (and the share of SPCC) € 1,938.18 was generated for Mmabana. The Mmabana bags also turned out to be a huge success. The bags are sewn by a member and donated completely to Mmabana; at various events during the year almost 500 (!) bags were sold and fantastic € 4,529.00 were collected.

Also, this year we received many single donations, some of them quite high - we would like to thank you very much for this, it is overwhelming and helps to put Mmabana's future on a stable footing.

Expenditure on Mmabana's long-standing offers remained at the level of recent years at  $\in$  18.500. Despite the good financial situation, the program on site in Choma has not been significantly expanded. This is

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because we do not want to take financial leeway ourselves before the completion of the construction project, so that we can fall back on our reserves in case of additional costs. Fortunately, this does not seem to be necessary.

The past year and especially the construction of the project house has taken a lot of energy, for the Friends, and especially for the Management Team in Choma. For 2020 we hope to be able to offer the usual programs from the new location, to fully arrive at the project house and make it Mmabana's home.

#### **House Building Project**

Mmabana's media and learning centre for children and young people in Choma, Zambia has already taken shape over the year 2019. It is not yet possible to report conclusively on the "big" project, as it is currently (beginning of March) still in its final phase.

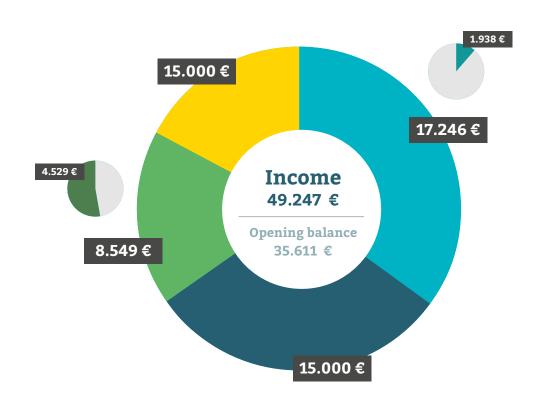
However, the fact is that we were able to erect a bright green Mmabana building. The move in with a big opening ceremony including the 10th anniversary of the Mmabana is planned for the next weeks. The building hosts a large computer classroom and another room which will be used for the Reading & Writing Club, the After School Club and as a children's library. The new building is also much closer to the main operational area, Zambia Compound, making it easier for the target groups - both children and young people - to reach.

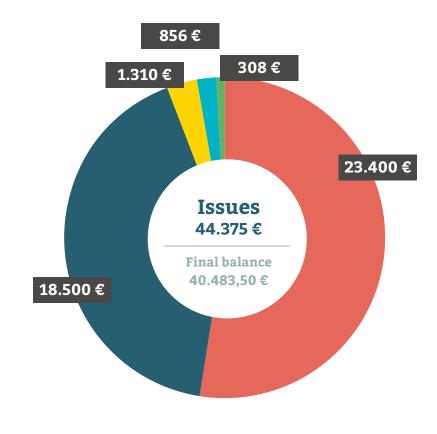
A total of € 20,200 was transferred to Zambia for the project, which was properly used for the construction. Furthermore, the interest-free loan of  $\leqslant$  3,200 could be repaid, which was taken out in 2015 for the purchase of the land. Although additional costs could not be avoided completely (e.g. the contractor had forgotten to include the sewage pit in the offer), these were kept within reasonable limits.

In addition, the house will be additionally equipped with rechargeable batteries, because with the current power cuts of up to 12 hours a day, computer lessons would not be possible.

At this point we would like to thank the state of Baden-Württemberg, the Donamus Foundation (website: www.donamus.de) and numerous (about 50) individual donors, whose support has made the project possible!

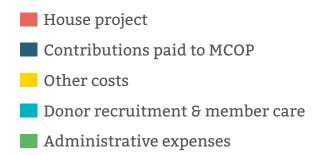
At the end of the project we will provide you with a detailed report via the newsletter and our homepage.

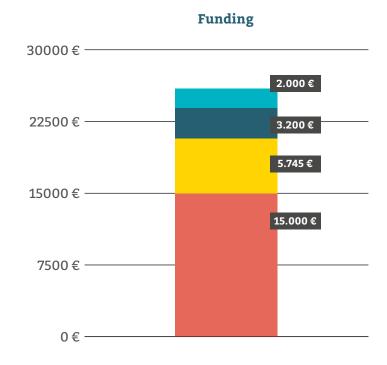


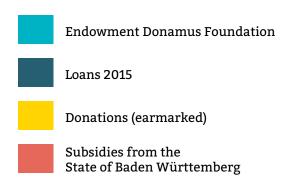


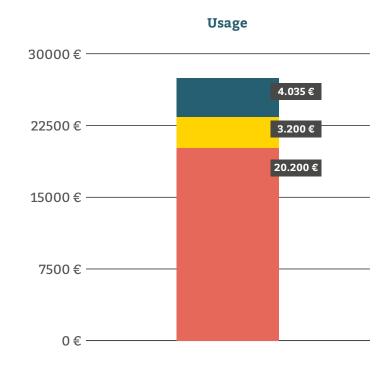


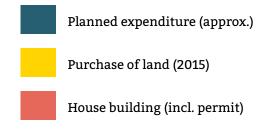
































## Our Plans for 2020

#### Friends of Mmabana e.V. Turns 10 Years Old!

The year 2020 will be especially exciting for us as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of our association. Under the motto "10for10mmabana" events will take place at different places in Germany and other countries. Such an event can be a big party, an information event or even a cosy get-together with friends and family. This is a big celebration of what has been achieved over the last 10 years through our collaboration with Mmabana Community Outreach Project in Choma, Zambia. We are very grateful for this enriching cooperation and its results.

The kick-off of the 10for10mmabana events is the 1st general meeting of the year 2020 from 13th -15th March in Gillersheim. The end will be celebrated with a party at the general assembly in November in Karlsruhe. There, reports and photos of the individual events that took place during the year will be exchanged and shown. We are looking forward to the 10for10mmabana events that are planned and still to be planned and wish all organizers and participants great and eventful Mmabana happenings and look forward to cool pictures and reports.

If you are also interested in organizing or participating in a 10for10mmabana event, please contact us at 10for10@mmabana.org. We will provide the organis-

ers with material (flyers, posters, a PowerPoint presentation), so that they can report about our work at Friends of Mmabana e.V. and the work of the project in Zambia. Maybe we can celebrate a few new members and some donations at the general meeting in the end of this year. Currently we are 70 members - to crack the 100 members on the occasion of the 10th anniversary would be very cool!

#### **How You Can Support Us**

At this point we would like to point out again a simple but worthwhile possibility to support Mmabana financially: Gooding.de.

You can donate a part of the purchase amount to Mmabana through your online purchases in over 1,300 affiliated online shops - including bahn.de, Flixbus, ebay, Zalando, redcoon, Saturn & Media-Markt and many more. The great thing is that there are no additional costs. Simply go to the desired online shop via Gooding. Everything else is the same as always. But after the checkout we will be credited with a few Euros. In addition to this, you have the possibility to order self-made Mmabana bags from Monique Dalka. They can be ordered for € 10 per bag (member price: € 8) at kontakt@mmabana.org. The proceeds go completely to Mmabana. We are looking forward to your inquiries! And by the way, a membership with Friends of Mmabana Deutschland e.V. is also a great and unique gift idea for young and old.





# **Acknowledgement**

Especially in this anniversary year, we will look back on the past years again and again, making ourselves aware of where we started and where we - as an organisation - have taken us. How did we manage all this? Above all, it was through enthusiasm, will-power and energy. For numerous children and young people, Mmabana has become a part of their lives. In the meantime, former children of participants have become employees, German volunteers have become members of the board and even our own house is about to be opened. WOW!

We can be proud of this. MUCH THANKS for being part of this beautiful story and for shaping it with your contribution.

Where will the next ten years take us? Let's turn to the next chapter. Don't be afraid of the white pages, because it's us who are allowed to fill them. Let us give the world another wonderful chapter.

The texts in the annual report are by Lisa Dalka, Lena Kawele, Megan Duddek, Emmanuel Mudenda, Sonja Knüdel and Louis Hesse.

# **Contact**

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#### Donation account

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