

The Swedish-Zambian Association

Newsletter

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Dear members,

While editing this newsletter, thousands of people are running the Stockholm marathon outside my window. Spring has arrived and summer is on its way.

This spring, Swezam has arranged two After Work sessions. First we welcomed two midwife students from the University of Zambia. It was very interesting to hear John and Judith share their experiences, read more on page 17. At the second After Work session, representatives from Save the Children provided information about their activities in Zambia, read about this on page 19.

At the Annual General Meeting, we discussed among other things how to showcase Swezam to a wider public. One idea was to use Facebook as a channel to make us more visible. There is now a special group on Facebook which you can join and also a "like button" on the website. All you have to do, is to click the "like button", and our website will soon grow and Swezam can improve its work.

This I like!

Hanna Eckeskog
Editor of the Newsletter
hannaeckeskog@hotmail.com



AGM at Villa Brevik, March 2011

Årets årsmöte - AGM - infann sig på Lidingö på kursgården Villa Brevik. Dagen började med att alla föreningar, Sydafrikanska, Namibiska och Svenskzambiska föreningen gemensamt tittade på en sydafrikansk film "White Wedding". Därefter hade alla föreningar årsmöte tillsammans med sina medlemmar. På Swezams årsmöte diskuterades bland annat hur vi ska försöka hitta fler forum för att fånga nya medlemmar. Utifrån detta har vi nu utökat Swezam med en facebook-group samt en ikon på hemsidan som man kan trycka på, den sk "like-knappen". Efter det givande mötet fortsatte kvällen tillsammans med de övriga föreningarna, där vi ordnade ett lotteri med fina priser. Vi åt sedan maten som var wallenbergare med potatismos och lingonsylt.



Mingel innan dagen satte igång.



Sydafrikanska föreningen satte kvällen i rörelse genom lite dans innan filmen startade.



Flitigt arbete på årsmötet.



Mingel med personal från zambiska ambassaden.



Swezams lotteri och prisutdelning.



Wallenbergare med potatismos

SWEDISH-ZAMBIAN ASSOCIATION
Annual report to the AGM 2011 for the year 2010

The Mindolo youth project, which focuses on human rights for youths, continued 2010 with the start of a new project period 2010 - 2012. The budget for the whole period is 424,000 SEK of which 384,000 SEK is a grant from Sida and 40,000 SEK is our own contribution. This project is the biggest undertaking the SweZam Association has embarked upon, and requires extra effort from the people involved as well as our members giving financial and spiritual support. However, there are great payoffs such as the rewarding feedback from the participating Zambian youth.

The vision of the project is to reach out to Zambian youth, educate and empower them about real life issues, inspiring them to become good and productive citizens in society by providing them with information regarding Human Rights, HIV/AIDS and Gender. The means to achieve the vision are:

- to strengthen the established Youth's Rights Information Centre, which is used for capacity building and organizational development within the targeted area. Members of the first three youth clubs are engaged as mentors and peer educators.
- to build strong networks with secondary schools in the surrounding community, where new clubs will be established. Presently there are youth clubs in seven secondary schools (High schools).
- to involve other youth and adults (parents, teachers) through outreach activities.
- to network with other organizations that run or conduct youth programmes such as YAN (Youth against AIDS Network), and PPAZ (Planned Parenthood Association Zambia).

In our opinion, the project is still successful which was again confirmed during my last follow-up visit in November 2010, and can to a large part be credited to the youth co-ordinator Bruce Mubanga and the youth club leaders and members. The organization and focus of the project has evolved over time and the influence from the youth has increased continuously. The direction of the project has changed from establishing youth clubs at Mindolo campus, to forming youth clubs in schools and to conduct outreach activities in schools and the surrounding community in order to reach more people at the same cost (less money spent on bus tickets) with the message of human rights. The Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation (MEF) management now regards the project as an integral part of their activities and it has received commendations, from outside observers, as a modern institution introducing workshops on Human Rights, HIV/AIDS and Gender where both parents and children participate and have a dialogue on equal terms. Furthermore, the Youth Centre has been requested to educate the staff at the District Ministry of Education office on gender issues.

As stated above our own contribution is 40,000 SEK for the project plus an extra 6,000 SEK for audit costs. During 2010 we paid 15,000 SEK as our own contribution. We managed to raise 13,082 SEK through donations, sales of pins and a reduced number of printed Newsletters. The incoming balance from 2009 was 9,813 SEK thus the outgoing balance is 7,885 SEK. We would like to thank several of our members for their valuable contributions. However we need more donations and fund-raising activities for the years to come to secure the continuation of the project.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 20 March 2010 at Etnografiska Museet, Stockholm together with the friendship societies for Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The AGM elected the following Board for 2010/2011:

Rolf Svanström	Chairman	Re-election 2 years
Karin Johansson	Vice chairman	1 year left
Elisabeth Persson	Treasurer	1 year left
Lennart Simonsson	Secretary	Re-election 2 years
Eva Dalekant P	Permanent	New election 2 year
Åsa Knutsson	Permanent	New election 1 year
Magnus Halling	Permanent	Re-election 2 years
Hanna Eckeskog	Alternate	New election 1 year
Staffan Uddeholt	Alternate	New election 1 year

Tommy Hemmingsson and Karl-Johan Sonnegård were re-elected as auditors, and Tell Åke Dahlöf was re-elected as an alternate auditor, all three for 1 year. No Nominating Committee was elected due to lack of candidates.

The board met on January 18, February 22, April 7, May 31, September 4 (at the Sonnegård family's home with an exquisite lunch buffet), October 6, and December 8. At the end of the year the number of paying members was 94, a decrease from last year by about 10.

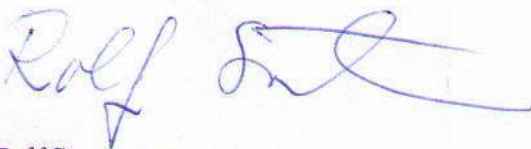
The web site (www.swedish-zambian.org) is updated on a regular basis and members who have submitted their e-mail addresses, approx 90%, receive information about the updates. The web site has been modernised to facilitate simplified content updates and also giving readers the possibility to give feedback. The cost for printing and distributing the paper-based Newsletter has been reduced significantly since a majority of members download the Newsletter from the web site instead of getting a paper copy. There has been positive feedback from several members and others. People, e.g. high school pupils and students planning to travel to Zambia, who have searched the web for information about Zambia, have also contacted us for tips and advice.

Our excellent relationship with the Zambian Embassy continues. The ambassador Joyce Musenge transferred to China in the beginning of 2010. Ms Anne Luzongo Mtamboh is the new ambassador. We wish them both good luck and success in their new duties. The board meets on the premises of the embassy. Representatives from the embassy are invited to share information at the meetings. Independence festivities were held at the residence of the Zambian Ambassador on October 23. As a prelude, a workshop on AIDS/HIV was organised by Noachs Ark and the Pamodzi Association, and attended by several of our members. Representatives from the Swezam board participated in the festivities together with many Zambian and Swedish friends. As usual it was a very pleasant and interesting event.

We organized two informal After work meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to offer members and others interested in Zambia, a possibility to meet and talk about Zambia, development issues and other matters. At one of the meetings, two Zambian young women participated. They were in Sweden as participants in the cultural exchange project headed by Centrum för Internationellt Utbyte.

The Association has been a member of Forum Syd during 2010.

The Financial Report indicates that the Association's finances are in good order and that there will be a surplus for 2010.



Rolf Svanström
Chairman Swedish-Zambian Association

Parent Gender Peer Education Workshop:

Date of Activity: 8th February, 2011 to 10th February, 2011.

Number of people reached: 13 Parents and three Youth club one members

Budget Allocation: K 5,916,500

A Parents Gender Peer Education Workshop was held on the above mentioned dates. The targeted parents were the parents that have their children as project members. This activity was a pending activity from the 2010 work plan. It was brought forward to 2011 due to time limitation. The projected number of parents that were supposed to attend was 14 parents but 13 attended instead. The workshop's gender desegregation was; 8 female parents and 5 male parents. The other parent had excused himself due to work commitment.

This was the first ever Parents Peer Education workshop to be organized by the SWEZAM project that aimed at training the parents in peer Education approaches. Therefore, there was a great expectation from the parents as they were eager to learn what peer education was all about. These were some the expectations that parents had before the meeting;



- ✓ I expect to become a good peer Educator after this workshop
- ✓ I expect to learn more about gender and peer Education
- ✓ I want to get a certificate after this workshop;
- ✓ I expect to go into the communities and talk to my fellow parents about the issues of gender
- ✓ I expect that each of us will know that gender is an important issue that must be well understood



I expect Workshop handouts and good presentations from the facilitators

The workshop was officially opened by the then acting Director Mr. Michael Mwanachongo who welcomed all the parents to Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation and stressed the importance of the Parent Gender Peer Education Workshop. He informed the Parents that the issues of Gender has taken centre role at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation as it has partnered with Norwegian Church Aid to train The Church Clergy, The Church leaders and the Church Youth leaders in Trainer of Trainers Gender Based Violence training. Furthermore Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation has introduced Gender Training Course. He encouraged the parents to utilize the rare moment presented to them to learn as much as possible and ensure that they go back to their respective communities and influence change of attitudes in their fellow parents as regards to gender issues. He wished the two facilitators all the best of blessings as they lead the workshop.



The workshop covered a number of topics and there was a lot of group work, interactions and presentations. These were the topics covered;

- ✓ **Gender Concepts**
- ✓ **Gender Stereotypes**
- ✓ **Power and Masculinity**
- ✓ **Harmful cultural practices**
- ✓ **Leadership and Public Speaking**
- ✓ **Strategies for change**
- ✓ **Advocacy**

The Parents Gender Peer Education had two Facilitators; Linda M. Simbeye and Bruce Mubanga. The two had three resource persons Jeff Kashimu, Annette Musonda and Don Mwindilia from Youth One club.



At the end of the workshop the parents were made to fill in the evaluation form in order to get feedback on the content of the workshop and how in general the workshop was organized. Upon getting back the evaluation forms. There was a vote of thanks given by one of the participants- Mr. Steven Chisha who thanked the SWEZAM project for the wonderful and timely workshop it had organized for parents. He mentioned that it would now be easy for the trained parents to engage in gender discussions with their children and more importantly with their fellow parents. Thereafter, the parents were all handed certificates of attendance!

SWEZAM INTER SCHOOL DEBATE COMPETITION

Date(s) of Activity: 28th September 2010 to 9th October, 2010

Number of people reached: 1,230 school pupils

Budget Allocation: K 2,470,000 \$ 549

For the second time running, the SWEZAM project has been conducting one of the most popular and ever demanded activity amongst school pupils, the inter-schools debate competition.

This year's competition was wholly based on Human Rights. Additionally, we had two more schools coming on board instead of the usual six schools.

This activity is not just popular amongst the schools and pupils, but it is unique as it exposes pupils to research and reading materials relating to the given thematic line. In this



case, it was Human Rights. Two different parties are developed, one in affirmative and the other in contrast, and the two come together to educate the audience on their understanding and depth of knowledge on the given topic via public speaking. The audience participates through asking questions to respective participants and giving their own understanding of the subject.

This year's 2010 SWEZAM Inter Schools Debate Competition had a total number of eight (8) Participating Schools and these being;

- 1. Mindolo High School**
- 2. Chibote Girls High School**
- 3. Mukuba High School**
- 4. Helen Kaunda High School**
- 5. Kitwe Boys High School**
- 6. Sacred Heart High School**
- 7. Ndeke High School**
- 8. Chamboli High School**

In the first round, was a knock-out round, all the schools in their respective pairs competing using one motion, ***“the school cut-off point for girls should remain lower than that of boys.”***

For some time now in Zambia, this has been the trend, girls at Grade seven and nine have been qualifying to Grade eight and ten respectively with favor from the government that is, qualifying with low points than the boys.

The following were the fixtures:

Motion: *“The school cut-off point for Girls should remain lower than that of Boys”*

Date: Tuesday, 28th September, 2010

Chamboli (Proposing) vs. Chibote girls (Opposing)

Venue: Chamboli High School

- ü Chamboli high school emerged winner against one of the last year’s three finalists Chibote Girls

Date: 29th September, 2010

Helen Kaunda Girls (Proposing) vs. Sacred Heart Private school (Opposing)

- ü The girls’ schools came to the challenge and showed their composure by eliminating the first timers in the competition, sacred heart school.

Date: Thursday 30th September, 2010

Mukuba Boys (Proposing) vs. Ndeke High school (Opposing)



ü Mukuba Boys the defending champions eliminated Ndeke high school

Date: Friday, 1st October, 2010

**Mindolo High School
(Proposing) vs. Kitwe Boys
High School (Opposing)**

ü Kitwe boys participating for the first time were without effort winners as Mindolo did no preparations for the event. The administration was unfair to the most ever willing pupils of Mindolo High School not to give them support of any kind towards the event. Thus, Kitwe Boys High School automatically won. It was indeed disappointing from last year's second best winners, Mindolo high school. It should be noted that all the schools proposing to the motion were as well hosting the event.



The second round which was the semi-finals had seen the four remaining schools battling out for the finals that were to be held at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation, MEF.

However, all the semi-finalists schools qualified to the finals. The two winners met in the finals to fight for 1st and 2nd positions, whereas the two runners-up were to fight for the 3rd and 4th positions. It was from these four schools that the best three participants were to be chosen and rewarded accordingly.



Semi-final fixtures

Date: 6th October, 2010

Mukuba Boys (Proposing) vs. Chamboli high school (Opposing)

Motion: “Beating a child increases their being stubborn”

- ü The ever tough to meet Mukuba boys proved it again and qualified to the finals. They bit Chamboli.

**Date: 7th October, 2010
Kitwe Boys (Proposing) vs.
Helen Kaunda Girls
(Opposing)**

Motion: “Child labor cannot be eradicated until poverty is eliminated”



- ü Kitwe Boys High School coming from a walk over victory in the first round proved that they were not just pushovers as they defeat their neighboring revivals Helen Kaunda High school to setup a date in the finals with their arch revivals and defending champions the “Copper boys” Mukuba boys high school.

The Finals.....!!!

The finals were held on the 9th of October, 2010 at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation in the Charles Fisher hall.

Helen Kaunda High school set up a meeting against a co-education (boys and Girls School) Chamboli High School to fight for 3rd and 4th positions under the motion: ***“Introduction of Human Rights has contributed To the Decadence in the Pupils’ Behaviors”*** Helen Kaunda High School proposed and Chamboli High School opposed the motion.



Mukuba Boys High School vs. Kitwe Boys High School fought for the 1st and 2nd positions with the motion: ***“should a democratic nation promote corporal punishment?”***

Mukuba Boys High School was crowned the SWEZAM 2010 Inter Schools Debate Competition Champions for the second time running. They managed to defend their title by defeating Kitwe Boys High School.

Chamboli High School also managed to be the 3rd best school in the competition as they defeated Helen Kaunda High School.

These were the overall Standings;

Best School: Mukuba Boys
2nd Best : Kitwe boys
3rd position : Chamboli high school
4th position : Helen Kaunda girls

Prize awarding

Best speaker : Eddie Kalaso from Mukuba Boys High School
2nd best speaker : Josephine from Chamboli High school.
3rd best speaker : Mwape from Kitwe Boys High School

Zambia: Days of Male Domination Numbered

18 March 2011

Lusaka — Elizabeth Phiri was so incensed when she was overlooked as a parliamentary candidate for the Patriotic Front in a 2008 by-election on the basis of her gender that she quit the party. Four years on, she has rejoined the party but remains pessimistic - but other women politicians see reasons to hope the 2011 elections will be different.

Edith Nakawi is the leader of the opposition Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD), and she acknowledges a common tendency by men to "bring women contenders down".

"The men always find ways of bringing women contenders down but their [men's] days are numbered," warned Nakawi, who has led her party since 2005. Nakawi made history by becoming Zambia's first elected female president of a political party. Prior to that, she had broken another record of becoming Zambia and Southern Africa's first female finance minister in 1998. She also served in various ministerial portfolios between 1992 and 2001.

Male dominance over?

The days when only men contested for the position of president in Zambia are over. When the dates for this year's tripartite elections are announced, Nakawi will throw her name in the hat, along with others who want to preside over the affairs of Zambia for the next five years.

After the last tripartite elections in 2006, there was an outcry mostly from civil society over the low levels of women's representation. "But not this year," says Nakawi. She believes this year more women will make it into elected offices.

Currently, there are just 24 members of parliament (MPs) out of a total 150. In cabinet there are five female ministers out of a total of 21. There are only six female deputy ministers out of a total of 20.

According to the Zambia National Women's Lobby (ZNWL), women constitute half of the voting population, and yet, they accounted for less than 15 percent of candidates and elected officials in parliament and local government institutions, according to their analysis of the last elections in 2006.

Zambia holds tripartite elections for president, national assembly representatives and local councillors every five years. Nakawi believes it is possible for women to make a bigger mark in the forthcoming elections.

"I am going to stand for election as president this year," said Nakawi. "In the past women were not standing because of intolerance from men who are scared of women and want to stop them from participating in politics.

According to research undertaken by the Electoral Institute of Southern Africa, EISA, "[Zambia's] political parties have no quotas to ensure the representation of women in leadership positions within party structures but they note that there are some exceptions. The United Party for National Development, the leading member of the 2006 United Democratic Alliance electoral coalition, had provisions that ensured that at least 30 percent of its national management committee members were women".

Stereotypes persist

However, Phiri, who was in December 2007 dropped from representing her party in a by-election in February 2008, believes there are deep-rooted stereotypes that will continue to work against women. She says some people in political structures still believe that the best place for women is to dance at rallies.

"As women we have taken ourselves into the political arena but the challenge is the adoption process. On adoption, most political parties don't pick women because we do not have financial muscle. Women are just taken as dancers for male politicians but we want to contribute as well, as MPs or councillors."

Phiri said women were more than willing to stand for election as members of parliament and councilors, but the political parties were not giving them that opportunity.

More financial muscle needed

"As you know, men are usually the ones picking candidates, hence women are usually disadvantaged," she said. "Because of the greediness of the men, we are not attaining the 50-50 gender representation. It will take long for women and men

to have equal representation in parliament because of this greediness among our men."

According to Phiri, women need a lot of moral and financial support to stand as candidates.

"Our morale has to be boosted and we need to be given opportunities. We need more women to be adopted this year. Actually once a female is adopted, they would receive a lot of support from their fellow women and the Zambia National Women's Lobby."

The ZNWL has embarked on a programme to encourage and support women to contest in the next elections. And with women like Nakawi contesting the number one position, it sure will be an interesting contest.

Text: Ephraim Nsingo



Barnmorska i Zambia

John and Judith, two midwife students from University of Zambia, sharing their experiences on their studies within their exchange program.

Den 27 april arrangerades ett after work på Ethio Star, där de zambiska barnmorskestudenterna John och Judith berättade om hur det är att studera till, för att senare arbeta som, barnmorska i Zambia. John och Judith är under tre månader på Karolinska Institutet som utbytesstudenter genom det Sidafinansierade utbytesprogrammet Linnaeus-Palme, där de får ta del av hur den svenska barnmorskeutbildningen är upplagd. I Zambia, liksom i Sverige, utbildar man sig först till sjuksköterska under tre år. Därefter måste man arbeta i minst två år innan man kan specialisera sig.

Har man som John och Judith redan en anställning vid en statlig vårdinrättning bekostar staten vidareutbildningen. Då är man också förbunden att efter att utbildningen är klar, arbeta kvar hos sin arbetsgivare i minst två år. Det är en lång ansökningsprocess för att få bli antagen till barnmorskeutbildningen, som är 1.5 år lång. Ansökande genomgår både intervju och "aptitude test", innan man blir antagen. Varje år tar utbildar man på UNZA ca 30 barnmorskestudenter, där majoriteten är kvinnliga studenter. Utbildningen startar med tre månaders intensiv teori, därefter följer praktik på 4 olika praktikplatser bl.a. MVC, förlossning och neonatalavdelningen.



I städerna är det mycket vanligt att mödrar väljer att föda på sjukhus. Där får man stanna i 6 timmar efter förlossningen, innan man får åka hem igen.

På landsbygden är det vanligast att föda hemma, med hjälp av släkt och/eller grannar. Zambiska fäder får inte vara med på själva förlossningen framförallt för att förlossningsrummen är stora, tar emot flera blivande mödrar samtidigt och man bara har gardiner som skynken, men John upplever det inte som ett hinder att han är manlig barnmorskestudent.



Ett problem man som barnmorska i Zambia brottas med just nu, förutom den relativt stora andel HIV-positiva mödrar man tar emot, är tonårsgraviditeter.

John berättar att han har förlöst flera trettonåriga tjejer, men många är 15-20 år gamla. Han har sett en hel del nya sätt att arbeta som han tar med sig i sitt framtida yrke i Zambia. I Sverige tycker han att man ägnar mer tid åt varje blivande mor, pratar mer med dem, och det vill han ta med sig. Han ser också positivt på att involvera fäderna mer. John inser att det kommer att bli svårt och ta tid, men försöker ha det i åtanke. Trots att högre löner och bättre arbetsvillkor lockar många zambiska barnmorskor till Botswana, Sydafrika och Australien, planerar både John och Judith att stanna i Zambia och fortsätta sitt viktiga arbete där.



Text: Karin Johansson

Engagerade från Rädda Barnens Zambia aktiviteter

Den 18maj hölls en afterwork på Ethio Star, där Ing-Britt Östlund och Lisa Lundgren berättade om sina erfarenheter kring att jobba med barns rättigheter i Zambia.

Ing-Britt som är regionhandläggare för södra Afrika berättade grundläggande information kring barns situation och om Rädda Barnens arbete i Zambia.

Av Zambias 13 miljoner invånare är 42% barn i åldrarna 8-14 år, varav hälften räknas som undernärda.

Rädda Barnen kämpar för barns rätt till trygghet och skydd i samarbete med lokala organisationer som finns på plats och genom att försöka påverka de nationella lagarna.

De målen som Rädda Barnen arbetar med och försöker uppnå just nu är:

- att förbjuda aga i skolan, vilken ofta är den naturliga vägen till att också nå ut med budskapet till barnens hemmiljö,
- en fungerande hjälptelefon till barn,
- att tidigt få ut information till barn och unga kring Hiv/Aids, sexualitet och könsroller så att det även blir något de kan prata med sina föräldrar om,
- få lokala organisationer att jobba för att stärka barn,
- child rights clubs, där barn lär barn om deras rättigheter, vilket har lyckats i städer, men som nu ska ut på landsbygden,
- rapporter om läget vilka ska göras var 5 år, där staten har sin rapport och organisationer har möjlighet att skicka in sin egna rapport med möjlig kritik. Zambia är i nuläget redan ett år sena med sin rapport och då är det även organisationernas uppgift att trycka på.

Ing-Britt besökte tidigare i år ett av de hälsoprojekt som Rädda Barnen stödjer utanför Ndola i Kopparbältet, nära vårt egna projekt.

Zambia har ett stort problem med dödligheten bland barn, som sker som mest i åldrarna 0-5 år.

I detta distrikt är 20% av befolkningen just under 5 år.

Projektet bygger på hälsocenter i distrikten där anställda från hälsoministeriet arbetar sida vid sida med de som traditionellt förlöser barn ute i byarna. Dessa har ej någon utbildning och jobbar som volontärer, men har ju mer erfarenhet från och påverkan ute i byarna, då många ofta väljer att föda hemma enligt tradition eller fattigdom. Ofta kommer de inte till ett center innan något redan har gått snett och snabb hjälp behövs. Genom att fånga in alla som utför förlösningar till centrerna och dokumentation minskar barndödligheten. Dessa centrerna ser väldigt olika ut med varierande utrustning och tillgång till el.

Med hjälp av Rädda Barnen kan kurser hållas inom nutrition, sjukdomar och en förbättrad situation som allt kan hjälpa ytterligare till att minska barndödligheten.

Som de beskriver är de största problemen att få ut medicin till landsbygden, transport som tar lång tid, då det är att cykla eller gå som gäller och att föra dokumentation då utrustning saknas.

Men det positiva är att fler center får el, fler kvinnor söker sig till centrerna och fler får hantera antibiotika.



Ing-Britt Östlund sharing information about what goals Save the Children has in order to fight for Children's rights.

Read more:

www.savethechildren.se



Ing-Britt visited one of their activities outside Ndola in the Copperbelt province.



Vår andra föreläsare Lisa Lundgren är numera pensionerad från Rädda barnen, där hon var ansvarig för arbetet i sydasiens. Numera är hon med i ett "stand by" team som alltid står beredda för att åka ut i världen då en nödsituation inträffar och barnens rättigheter kommer i skymundan. Hennes Afrika intresse finns sen tidigare då hon bott i Botswana, men det hon kom för var att dela med sig av sina erfarenheter kring hennes tid i Zambia för ca 2år sen. Genom Rädda barnen fick hon uppdraget att tillbringade 3månader med UNHCR för att hjälpa till med frågor kring barns rättigheter.



Lisa Lundgren is retired from Save the Children and is now working as a volunteer in a "stand-by team" that is prepared to leave for emergencies situations that contains action for children's rights. She has been in Zambia to work with children's rights within a refugee camp outside Lusaka.

UNHCR som står för "United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees" vilket är FN:s flyktingkommissarie, vilken grundades av FN:s generalförsamling den 14 december 1950. Organisationens uppgift är att leda och samordna internationella ansträngningar för att ge skydd till flyktingar och att lösa flyktingproblem världen över. Först och främst ska UNHCR försäkra sig om flyktingarnas välbefinnande och att deras rättigheter beaktas. Organisationen arbetar för rätten att söka asyl och att få en fristad i ett annat land, med möjlighet att återvända hem frivilligt, att integreras lokalt i det första asyllandet eller att omplaceras till ett tredje land. Under mer än fem decennier har UNHCR hjälpt ungefär 50 miljoner människor att börja ett nytt liv. För närvarande arbetar drygt 6 235 människor för UNHCR i 115 länder för att hjälpa uppskattningsvis 20,6 miljoner människor.

Zambia är ett land som har varit bra på att ta emot flyktingar och har idag ca 80 000 flyktingar, med majoritet från Angola och Kongo, men även från Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia, Uganda, Etiopien och Sudan. Många har bott där i upp till 40 år, vilket innebär att barnen är födda och uppväxta i Zambia. Men nu vill Zambia skicka hem alla då det inte längre innebär någon risk för att återvända. Men för flyktingarna slits de då upp ännu en gång från deras hem och ska bygga upp en tillvaro på ett ställe som de inte sett på alla dessa åren. UNHCR jobbar för att de ska få stanna kvar i Zambia.

Lisas uppdrag var att anordna ett utbildningsprogram för de ansvariga i barns rättigheter och skydd. Under en tid i Lusaka gjorde hon en handbok i barns rättigheter utifrån befintligt material till handläggare och personal från regeringen.

Barnen glöms bort då det finns väldigt lite kunskap kring barns rättigheter och hur de ska bemötas. Ingen hänsyn tas till barnen då de aldrig tidigare har jobbat med barnkonventionen. (forts. nästa sida)

Lisa åkte ut på landsbygden och besökte UNHCR som är ansvariga för regionens flyktinganläggning, vilket består av en jättestor inhägnad som tar ca 2 timmar att åka igenom, där flyktingarna fått en bostad och eget land att odla på. Poliser vaktar vid infarterna och det krävs tillstånd för att någon ska få lämna området för viktiga möten eller läkarbesök. Här har det byggts upp ett helt samhälle med allt vad det innebär, kyrkor, grundskolor, kliniker mm. Tyvärr är det sämre med utbildningsformer eller jobb att få, vilket har lett till stora problem med våld och sexuella övergrepp på kvinnor och barn och äga ses inte som något problem, men just detta tog utbildningen upp.



Inside the refugee camp.

Utbildningar hölls för anläggningens ansvariga och de kyrkliga ledarna, som är de som har mest inflytande på invånarna. En del sa ”detta måste vi göra något åt”, medan andra inte såg det som ett problem, utan att det är normalt. Men utbildningen och workshops uppmärksammade problemet och satte igång en diskussion bland deltagarna med frågan ”Vad kan vi göra för att skydda barnen?” Ordförande i samhället tog initiativet och uttalade sig om att ”detta måste sluta - inga mer sexuella utnyttjanden”. Det hela slutade med att alla ledarna satte sig ner med en karta över inhägnaden och markerade de ställen som var farliga för barn att vistas själva på och försökte sen komma på hur de skulle förhindra detta eller se till att barnen inte vistades själva på dessa ställen.

Lisa besökte ”child rights” klubbar som visade just på hur barnen vill ha det och som har volontärer som för ut budskapet om barns rättigheter ut i samhället. Förberedelser och utbildning skedde för att unga själva ska kunna undervisa andra och för att arbetet ska fortsätta även efter att Lisa åkt hem, vilket det har gjort.

Tack Ing-Britt och Lisa för er engagerade och intressanta föreläsning.

Text: Åsa Knutsson

How is Zambia faring with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2010?

The eight millennium development goals were adopted in 2000 and are set to be achieved in 2015. What is the situation for Zambia in relation to these goals? What is needed to achieve them? Here is some information from UNDP.



MDG 1: Eradicating extreme poverty and hunger

Extreme poverty in Zambia declined from 58% in 1991 to 51% in 2006, improving towards the target of 29%. However, extreme poverty is still higher in rural areas at 67% compared to 20% in urban areas. Zambia's economy has for the last decade grown with around 6-7% yearly. This growth is essential but not sufficient for the achievement of this goal. Macro-economic and structural policies that promote employment, empowerment and social investment are essential. Some key measures that can accelerate the progress include:

- competitive food pricing and diversification and marketing of maize and other agricultural produce
- community and women's ownership of arable land
- a social security system to protect the poorest and most vulnerable populations
- further investments in farming services and sustainable cropping patterns
- business skills to support job creation



MDG 2: Achieving universal primary education

Enrollment of children in primary education has increased from 80% in 1990 to almost 100% in 2009. Some reasons for this are:

- increased construction of schools
- the removal of school fees in 2002, and
- Free Basic Education and Re-entry Policies.

The primary education target is thus attainable, as the objective is 100%. The main challenges at present are adult literacy, which declined from 79% in 1990 to 70% in 2004. The percentage of girls completing secondary school is also very low- around 17%. The emphasis needs to be on making education compulsory from grades 1 to 7, achieving higher completion rates for girls in secondary education and improving the quality of education.



MDG 3: Promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women

The number of boys is now almost equal to the number of girls in primary education in Zambia. In the higher grades, the number of girls is considerably lower than boys. The number of women in the parliament of Zambia is now 14% - an increase from the 4% in 1991. As customary law allows for early marriage, young girls are often confronted with teenage pregnancy, HIV and domestic abuse hindering progress towards this MDG. Enforceable civil laws to curb these behaviors are of highest priority, together with investments in female education and representational leadership, access to financing, entrepreneurship and asset ownership. Gender equality and women empowerment are essential to overcome poverty and existing disparities.



MDG 4: Reducing child mortality

The number of children dying before the age of five has declined during the last 20 years and is now at 199 per 1,000 live births. This is however still a very high figure. Infant mortality has also shown a declining trend, falling from 107 per 1,000 live births in 1992 to 70 per 1,000 live births in 2007. This goal will probably not be met. Interventions to improve the situation are for example:

- to increase access to skilled birth attendance during delivery
- ensure that mothers' education and nutrition standards are met.
- continued and effective child immunization
- scaling up interventions for prevention and management of common childhood illness
- promoting and supporting appropriate breast feeding, and infant and young child feeding practices.



MDG 5: Improving maternal health

To achieve this goal Zambia needs to reduce the number of women dying due to complications during pregnancy, which decreased from 649 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1996 to 591 in 2007. The main success factor is the presence of trained midwives at births. Of all births in Zambia in 2007, 46,5%

were assisted by a skilled health worker. Some measures needed are:

- improved training, oversight and incentives for midwives
- improved access to and monitoring of rural health posts, and
- curbing unsafe birthing practices.



MDG 6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

The national HIV prevalence rate among adults (15-49 years) declined from 15.6% in 2001-2002 to 14.3% in 2009. Women still have a higher prevalence rate than men (16.1% in women, 12.3% in men) and the urban population has rates twice as high as the rural population (19.7% vs 10.3%).

Treatment has been scaled up covering 70% of all persons living with HIV or AIDS and who need treatment. However, only 25% of adult Zambians have tested for HIV and condom use is only 44%. Discrimination and stigmatization against people with HIV threaten fundamental principles and rights at work, and undermine efforts for prevention and care. Prevention efforts need to be provided with adequate resources to hold the gains made these past years as well as to tackle the root causes of HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria.



MDG 7: Ensuring environmental sustainability

The percentage of land covered by forests in Zambia decreased from 59.8% in 1992 to 56.4% in 2005 (MDGR). With regards to sustainable access to drinking water and sanitation, the proportion of households that have access to safe water has increased from 47% in 1996 to 60% in 2006. Since the trends exhibited by some of these indicators go in the direction opposite to the MDG targets, this goal remains a challenge.

Better coordination and understanding between national policies and local communities, including community management of forestry resources, would enhance fauna and flora conservation, while policies to curb illegal and unplanned urban settlements, and addressing of under-investments in water and sanitation services through public-private partnerships could foster progress to meet this goal.



MDG 8: Developing a global partnership for development

During the last few years Zambia has regained macroeconomic stability, brought inflation down and consistently had growth rates over 5%. Much of its foreign debt has been cancelled, reducing the external public debt from about 6 billion USD in 1999 to 934 million USD in 2006. However, external public debt since 2006 has increased to \$1,521 million in 2009 (BOZ). The country has attracted significant foreign direct investments (FDI), and the figure is increasing. The level of development aid has also increased from 475 million USD in 1990 to 1,086 million USD in 2008 (OECD).

Business news

Zambia Signs \$1.5 billion Power Plant Deal with China

According to the ZDA Spotlight Issue 17, Zambia and two Chinese companies signed an agreement to build the Kafue Gorge Lower Power Plant at an estimated cost of \$1.5 billion. The Finance and National Planning Minister, Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane disclosed that construction works will commence in April, 2011 with the initial \$1 billion funding expected to come from the Chinese. Further, the Minister disclosed that Zambia together with China Africa Development Fund and Sino-hydro will form a company which will develop the Kafue Gorge Lower project. This project is expected to add 600 MW to the national grid. The ZDA Spotlight reports that the demand for power is expected to continue rising largely due to the opening of new mines.

Zambia Canada to Sign Investment Deal

The ZDA Spotlight Issue 17 reports that Zambia and Canada are about to sign an Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement (IPPA). Currently, Zambia is reviewing the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Canadian Government to pave way for signing the IPPA. According to Zambia's High Commission to Canada, Dr. Nevers Mumba revealed that Canada is ready to sign the IPPA to allow potential investors to invest in various sectors of the economy. Dr. Mumba said this during the Zambia-Canada Business Forum held in Lusaka.

Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) and a Chinese Firm Sign Agricultural Deal

Issue 17 of the ZDA Spotlight has disclosed that ZDA and a Chinese company Yuan Longping High-Tech Agriculture Company have signed an agreement for the development of an agriculture farm bloc and a science high-tech park in Zambia. The signed agreement will advance development of more agricultural land for producing agricultural products for local consumption and export. The agreement will promote value addition to agricultural products through agro-processing. Yuan Longping will support

Zambian out grower schemes that will feed into the major agro processing plants within the farm blocs. The firm is expected to introduce advanced agricultural technology in farming, which will be the first of its kind in Zambia. Longping has pledged to develop high-tech agriculture research and development center at the agro high tech park. Zambia is expected to benefit from this project through job creation and enhanced foreign exchange revenue from increased export of agricultural products.

Sylva Catering Seals a Deal with a US Company

At the just ended African Growth Opportunities Act (AGOA) forum held in Washington DC, Sylva Professional Catering Services entered into an agreement with a United States-based firm, Kanzam International to market Zambian food products to the American market. Sylva Professional Catering was one of the Zambian companies that attended the forum. According to the ZDA Spotlight, Sylva Professional Catering Services executive Chairperson, Hector Banda disclosed in an interview that demand for Zambian food products in the USA was high and hence the need for concrete arrangements for exports through the agreement. Kanzam International will represent Sylva Professional Catering Services in the USA.

<http://www.zambiaembassy.se/More%20business%20and%20economic%20news.pdf>

Praktik på Africa Directions, Mtendere, ZAMBIA.

Elin Johannesson, who has studied to be a recreation youth leader at Värnamo folk high-school, writes about her five-week work practise in Zambia with the non-govermental organization Africa Directions.

Jag heter Elin Johannesson och studerar till Fritidsledare på Värnamo Folkhögskola och tar till sommaren 2011 examen. Här kommer en kort beskrivning om mina upplevelser av min senaste praktik.

Under mitt andra och sista år på Fritidsledarutbildningen fick jag nu i vår möjlighet att göra min sista praktikperiod vart i världen jag ville. Då jag alltid haft en förkärlek till Afrika var detta det första jag tänkte på. En lärare på skolan tipsade mig om Zambia och organisationen Africa Directions då han tidigare arbetat i Zambias huvudstad Lusaka och haft kontakt med organisationen. Hemma i Ljungby, där jag kommer ifrån, har jag länge varit aktiv med att dansa i olika dansgrupper och själv leda dansgrupper. När jag blev tipsad om Africa Directions och tittade närmare på organisationen insåg jag att det skulle passa mig perfekt då de hade många olika aktiviteter som dans/drama, boxning, karate, supportgrupper för HIV positiva barn, ungdomsgrupper med sexual- och livsfrågor med mera. Jag ordnade själv med att kontakta organisationen och boka resa och se till så att jag hade någonstans att bo, och allt visade sig bli jättebra.

Jag blev väl omhändertagen av både organisationen och min "Zambiska familj" och bodde i ett område som hette PHI som staten för några år sedan hade tagit initiativ till att bygga för att skapa ett planerat och organiserat bostadsområde med vatten och elektricitet. Det låg alldeles intill Mtendere som var området jag hade min praktik i. Kontrasterna var väldigt påtagliga då jag endast behövde korsa en asfalterad väg från porten till huset för att sedan komma till sandvägar som snabbt förvandlades till gytjtjiga lervägar när hållregnen kom. Så fort jag kom över vägen och in i Mtendere var dessa sandvägar fyllda med människor och små stånd med popcorn, second hand kläder, skor,



kålhuvuden, klubbor, chitenges, kol och tomater mm. mm. Alla leenden jag möttes av och människor som ropade MUZUNGO och Hiiii Heeeleen (de hade svårt att säga Elin) kommer jag aldrig glömma.

Hade jag inte mötts av alla leenden varje dag hade jag haft så mycket svårare att gå på dessa "gator" då detta är ett av Lusakas värst socioekonomiskt drabbade områden. Jag såg små flickor och pojkar som precis lärt sig gå stadigt själva bära på sina småsyskon eller kusiner, förutsatt att de var lite mindre än dem själva. Kvinnor med vattendunkar på huvudet och män med en säck kol på ryggen. Väggmålningar med budskap som "Just spread the seed you know", "One love only", "Use a condom every time", "My friend with HIV is still my friend" och så alkoholförpackningarna som låg utmed vägkanterna.

På min väg till min praktikplats gick jag varje dag förbi den lokala kliniken. De dagar då man såg en pojke putta en skottkärra framför sig på väg till kliniken med en livlös man i, oftast med en duk för ansiktet, gick det kalla kårar utmed ryggraden. Mer som film än verklighet.

Varje dag fick jag vara med om nya saker på denna ändå ganska korta väg jag hade mellan huset jag bodde i och min praktikplats Africa Directions. I början var jag nyfiken på att ta mig in till huvudstaden Lusaka. Efter två besök i staden försökte jag hålla mig borta så mycket som möjligt från detta ställe då det var väldigt frustrerande att vara där. Vissa delar har sin charm, men många gånger handlar det bara om att du ska försöka behålla dina kroppsdelar och andra ägodelar för dig själv.

Många människor jag träffat är engagerade i politiken, särskilt då de inte alls är nöjda med någon utav de ledare som ska delta i valet som sker senare i år. Av de jag pratat politik med har de flesta haft väldigt bra tankar och idéer om hur man måste göra för att utveckla landet, och vill verkligen göra det.

Hade ledarna varit hälften så engagerade och inspirerande som de flesta jag träffat hade Zambia haft goda

förutsättningar för bland annat god sjukvård och skolgång och ett folk som var villiga att samarbeta med staten.



Africa Directions

Africa Directions är en icke statlig organisation som finansieras med projektpengar från flera olika fonder från flera olika länder. Det startade år 2000 och har idag flera hundra barn och ungdomar i åldrar från ca 2 till 25 år. De arbetar för att ge ungdomar i samhället, då främst Mtendere, en chans att göra det de verkligen vill och engagera och aktivera sig med annat än alkohol, droger, slagsmål och sex. Ett utav de största problemen man har i Zambia är HIV/AIDS. Var femte person är smittad och landet uppmärksammar verkligen problemet då du ser kampanjer överallt. Detta gör man även på Africa Directions och jag själv var med och följde Child Support Group som är en barngrupp för HIV positiva och Peer Education som är en ungdomsgrupp som höll i diskussioner och informationsspridning om sex och samlevnadsfrågor.

Den första av mina fem veckor jag hade praktiken observerade jag barnen hur de var klädda, vilken ålder de kunde vara i, hur de agerade med varandra och med personalen mm. Till min stora förvåning satt de still på sina stolar då de tittade på video. Det var knäpptyst i rummet förutom ljudet från tv:en som visade Tom och Jerry 4 av 5 dagar i veckan. Man kunde se hur ögonen flyttades och följde intresserat Tom när han jagade Jerry.



Jag drog jämförelser med Sverige många gånger redan under första veckan, och många fler gånger skulle det bli innan jag skulle åka hem. Personalen på Africa Directions var helt underbara och såg till att jag skulle få ut så mycket som möjligt av min praktik. Ett hundratal barn var på centret varje dag, vissa hela dagarna då de inte hade råd att gå i skolan. Många utav de äldre barnen som kunde lite engelska försökte febrilt att lära mig det inhemska språket

Nyanja och allihop ville att jag skulle visa min kamera och korten där i såklart. I Kids Room satt vi och bläddrade i böcker med mycket bilder och trots att vi talade olika språk satt vi och försökte lära varandra språken genom att peka på bilderna. ”Du vet väl om att de har HIV?” och ”Hon/han har nog inte badat idag” fick jag höra av personalen då jag hade barnen i knät eller kramade dem. Det spelade ingen roll, för tvätta mig själv och kläderna kunde jag göra när jag kom hem.

Jag hade inte hemlängtan en enda gång och jag grät när planet lyfte från Lusaka flygplats. Fem veckor var alldeles för kort tid, men jag har lovat att komma tillbaka. Människorna och gästvänligheten är något av det jag kommer sakna mest. Att inte känna någon men ändå aldrig vara ensam.

Jag har både under praktiken och fritiden träffat så många härliga barn, ungdomar och vuxna. Vissa har fastnat på näthinnan mer än andra. Alla tog de en plats i mitt hjärta. En bit av mig stannade kvar i Mtendere, Zambia. ”Du är född i fel land”...

Text: Elin Johannesson



SVENSK-ZAMBISKA FÖRENINGEN

(SWEZAM) www.swedish-zambian.org

The Swedish-Zambian Association,

was founded in 1974 by a group of Zambians and Swedes.

The Association is non-political and wants to promote understanding and closer contact between Swedes and Zambians as well as social and cultural exchange between the two countries.

As a member of the Association you have the opportunity to keep in touch with old friends and with current developments in Zambia. You will receive the Newsletter. You are welcome to meetings and seminars arranged by the Association.

The Association is a member of Forum Syd.

The Annual General Meeting is held in March. The Association also celebrates Zambia's Independence Day, October 24.

To become a member:

Pay the studentfee of 100 kr, the individual membership fee of 150 kr or the family fee of 200 kr to giro 830595-5.

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