



# Koka Children Project



~ Social and Environmental Development Organization ~

Dear reader,

After publishing the first newsletter in December 2016 we have received many gifts for which we have been able to find nice and useful projects. We are very happy with every gift, either small or big. Together with the support of the three companies (Dümmen Orange, Florensis and Syngenta) we can make a difference for the children and their guardians in the Koka project.

There are regular meetings between the three companies and the project leader to discuss the process and future plans. Through the Koka project we are making a next step in order to improve education and healthcare in the direct surroundings. In this way the surrounding areas get direct benefits of the companies' presence. In this newsletter we would like to share with you the projects in process and plans for the near future.

## Renovation houses



Currently two houses are being renovated in Koka. Flexibility is necessary as plans can change in the process of renovation. Renovation was started for one of the houses. However, the walls collapsed at the moment the roof was taken off, therefore the whole house has to be built up from scratch.

In Koka there is a girl living with her grandmother. They do not have a house and sleep in different places in town. With donations a new house could be build. Unfortunately, a constraint is the difficulty in getting land on a short term. Meanwhile SAEDO is renting a little house in the town to ensure them a place to stay. With your received donations we finance the rental and interior of this house.

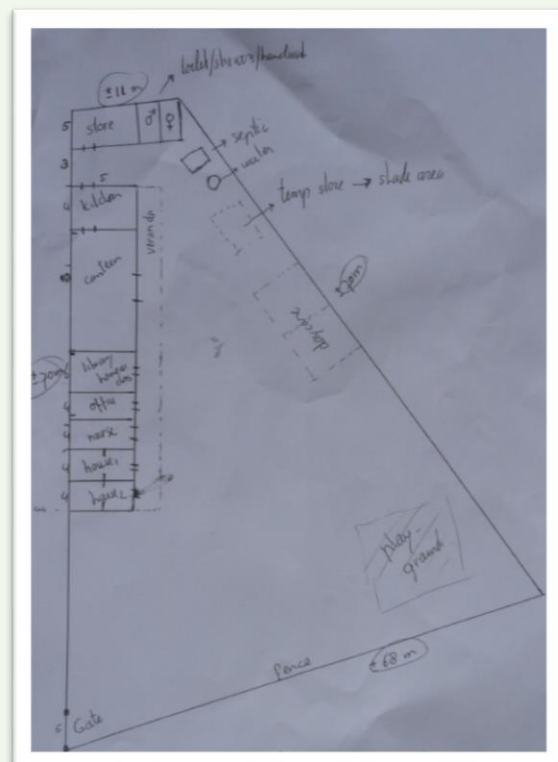


## Construction of the Child Centre

Our goal is to construct a large and permanent building for different functions. This can be seen in the drawing plan on the right. At this moment SAEDO is using a temporary building at the Koka primary school to serve the children breakfast and lunch.

The new building will have a kitchen, canteen, library and a homework room where children can get support with their homework. In addition, two small houses will be built for children and their guardians with housing problems. In this way there is a temporary place until a permanent solution will be found. Also, toilets and washing facilities and small offices for the project team and nurses will be built.

The land for the Child Centre has been made available by the Koka Town community and the first building activities have been started. The first foundations are being constructed like the water tank and foundation of the sanitary facilities. We





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hope that before the end of this year we will be able to use all these new facilities. We will keep you updated about the process in the upcoming newsletters.

As a result of the installation of a water tank at the school, all children have now access to drinking water. Besides this, a sponsor has been found for a yearly supply of soap for personal hygiene and clothes for the children and their guardians.



## Medical care for children

Regular medical care for children is necessary. Dümme Orange has taken responsibility for the sponsoring of this part of the project. At their company there is a clinic with a Clinical Officer, nurses, a laboratory and a pharmacy. Dümme Orange has agreed to start with offering free medical care for a period of 6 months.

On Wednesday afternoon they pick up five sick children from their school/homes, together with their caretakers. In the clinic they will be checked and if necessary medicines are given. There are special child medicines in the clinic. In accordance with the project team every month a decision is made about the (financing) of possible follow up research.

All children have been tested on HIV/AIDS over the last few months. About ten of the 106 project children are infected with HIV. It is important to know who is infected, so children can get the right medication and treatment.

## Easter and the Florensis Chickenproject

Sunday April 16th we celebrated Fasika, the Ethiopian Orthodox Easter. After 55-days of fasting, a day full of food (goat meat, chicken and eggs in hot sauce) and local drinks was prepared. Fasika is in Ethiopia a more important festival than Christmas, since the Death and Resurrection of Jesus is more significant in Orthodox theology than His birth.

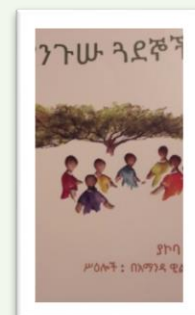


Florensis Ethiopia started in the beginning of this year with the production of fresh table eggs for the canteens of Florensis Ethiopia and Florensis Abyssinia. Also, the children of the project receive eggs for breakfast or lunch, prepared by the canteen on special holidays. The profit of this small farm will be donated to the project.

## Books for the library

Both the library of the high-school and elementary school are poor equipped. A start is made with the provision of twenty children books in Amharic. Nice books to motivate children to read are scarce in Ethiopia and with these we hope to stimulate the children in upgrading their reading skills.

Every child in the world has the right to education, medical support and food and should be able to grow up in a safe environment. Many children in Ethiopia are missing these basic needs. With your support we can give the children of the project a chance to go to school, a healthier future and protect their childhood.





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## Plans for 2017

- Opening of the Child Centre
- Books for the school and project libraries
- Support in learning and making homework (tutorial classes)
- Summer classes for the children in July and August
- Social worker will join the SAEDO team
- Maintenance of the family houses
- Provide sanitation materials (soap for body and clothes)

If you want to sponsor the Koka project, please contact Hilde or Marijke. Together we will discuss the options and your preferences so we can make a concrete plan with your support.

Contact information for international sponsors:

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