



YEAR REPORT 2020



“Challenge day” open your heart with happiness, your past and your challenging future.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Watoto Foundation (WF) centres “Child in the Stars” and “Child in the Sky” are community-based boarding schools whereas Kiboko lodge is a training centre for former disadvantaged hard-core street children. The main Watoto Foundation centre, Child in the Sky, started in 2003.

The age of the students ranges between 13 and 18 years. Before coming to the Makumira Child in the Sky centre, the students stay at the Arusha drop-in centre (Child in the Stars) for at least 3 months. When they have passed the entrance examination, they start their 3–4-year education at the Makumira Child in the Sky centre. WF will make sure that before leaving the centre the students either have a paid job or go to private secondary boarding school. Watoto Foundation Tanzania has three projects which are registered under charitable organisations under Int. NGO Act No.24 of 2002 with Registration No.1-NGO/R/1596 on January, 2021.

The centre is under the Ministry of Social Welfare, licence number 5218. About 80-100 students are permanently supported by WF. The centres have already served over 1,100 street children from all over the country. We believe in the fundamental right to education for all children. Childrens’ rights should always be respected. The students who come to our centres belong to one of the most vulnerable groups in society.



Drop-in centre students making Land Rover toys

WATOTO FOUNDATION DROP-IN CENTRE 'CHILD IN THE STARS' ARUSHA

The Watoto Foundation Drop-In centre has laid down clear written regulations to determine which hard-core street children (13-15 years of age) can be accepted to join the drop-in centre. The social worker is operating with the help of local authorities and other centres in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Karatu, Moshi, Babati, Mwanza and Arusha. He also goes into the streets to find boys and attract them to leave the streets by showing pictures of our centres and talking about our programs. The main reasons to run away from home are poverty (90%), death of a parent and broken families.

All the children we take in have to promise to respect the rules of the centre in order to change their behavior. The centre program is designed to keep the children busy through several activities such as studying, reading and writing, gardening, cooking, general cleaning, playing football, basketball, acrobatics, dance, yoga, making toys and also Land Rover car toys from recycled tins, and watching TV and movies. By working in our vegetable garden, taking care of rabbits and chickens our students learn about livestock and gardening. Apart from these activities the students are being counseled by the social worker/manager, care taker and teacher of the centre. Through counseling we help them to leave their traumatic past behind and focus on the future with hope, confidence and love.

In 2020 a total of 34 boys came to the drop-in centre, 14 of them successfully joined the centre in Makumira and 12 remained in the centre, 2 were reunified with their family and 8 went back to the streets. Also, in 2020 we reached our target of below 25% to reduce the number of children running back to the streets: the outcome was 23%.

Events	Enrolled to drop in	Joined Makumira	Remained in the centre	Re-unified with family	Run away from centre
Jan - Dec 2020	34	14	12	2	8
Percentage	100%	38%	33%	6%	23%

Our drop-in centre is run by 3 staff members: the manager/social worker, the care taker and teacher (a former Watoto Foundation student) who finished the University of Dodoma and teaches the students Mathematics, Kiswahili, English and basic life sciences. Once per week one of the teachers of the centre in Makumira goes to teach carpentry. Several volunteer part-time teachers support the centre.

Also, in 2020 we don't have a full donor because of Corona and other reasons. We are still looking for a new partner to help us run this very important centre financially. Asante Sana.

WATOTO FOUNDATION 'CHILD IN THE SKY' MAKUMIRA

2020 was the fifth complete year for the manager Aminiel Teete to act as overall General Manager of Watoto Foundation. In total there were 15 teachers working at the centre in Makumira.

The centre operates as a residential primary school and vocational training centre which includes horticulture and livestock. The following subjects are being taught:

Primary school (Memkwa)	Vocational training
English, Mathematics, Kiswahili, Science, Social Studies, Civics + moral, Computer Skills, Wildlife	Carpentry, metal work and welding, electrical installation, car and bicycle repair, masonry, tailoring, agriculture, cooking and housekeeping, livestock and horticulture

On a daily basis our students can practise their skills in several sports activities and games such as football, rugby, volleyball, badminton, table tennis, acrobatics, singing, pool table, table football, guitar, traditional dance, modern dance, drama and boxing.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN YEAR 2020 (MEMKWA)

Our 7 students in the last class of the Memkwa system all passed the national examination for standard 7, the last class of primary school in 2020. 6 Of them were even in the top 10 out of 82 children who did the national examination at Uraki Primary School, our neighbouring school. Our study results are good because of the small classes, discipline, motivation of teachers and education based on the Montessori system (teaching by playing). Our classes take place 11 months per year and only in the morning from 8am to 12:30pm.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

During 2020 the following academic initiatives were undertaken:

- 7 WF students participated in the standard 7 primary school national examinations.
- The outreach coordinator visited the secondary school students several times to see how they were proceeding.
- In order to teach the students more about agriculture, horticulture and livestock they visited the yearly Farmers Day (Nane Nane) and several outside companies and farms, together with staff.
- Wild life education has been conducted by our former head teacher through bird watching, tree planting and gardening
- 7 Students started the 18 month program. One dropped out and 6 remain.
- Students and staff visited Arusha National Park for a safari as a way of motivating the students.

VOCATIONAL SKILLS ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2020, 1 of the graduates went to a private secondary school, for the other 6 we found field work in different companies. Unfortunately, some students dropped out for different reasons such as COVID-19 (corona), low salary or unacceptable behaviour. In order to make them experience the consequence of having dropped out, our policy is to help them again but only after a few months and on request. But because of this pandemic we found temporary work in different restaurants and workshops.



One of the three horticulture gardens at Watoto Foundation, all with drip-pipe systems

VOCATIONAL TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

In 2020 we received just a few orders for carpentry, welding, livestock and horticulture from Kiboko lodge, neighbouring schools, companies and also private persons.

1. **Carpentry**: The students and teachers made a few orders for our own use but also orders from outside clients especially private schools' furniture.
2. **Metal works and welding**: We also made a big order of desks for a private school (CCIS), Cherith Junior School and SPPG Secondary School.
3. **Livestock**: A number of 10 cows provided milk for our own needs; we sold the surplus to the local village, the lodge and other schools. The pig project, which was started in 2009, provided us in 2020 with around 12 pigs and 25 piglets for our own needs and business. This is low production, after changing the older ones and buying 11 new pigs, we improved.
4. **Poultry, rabbits and guinea pigs**: We had over 400 Dutch chickens (Barnevelders): layers and broilers. We sold 4,000 eggs per month and also some chickens to the local community, commercial businesses and Kiboko lodge. We sold rabbits.
5. **Horticulture**: Our drip pipe irrigated "slow food" gardens to provide vegetables for staff and students; some are sold to our drop-in centre, Kiboko lodge and the local community. We doubled the horticulture garden.
6. **Car repair**: We did many car repairs: our own cars and from outside, including one old Land Rover which was donated to Kiboko lodge by a Dutch young business man. Theory and practical are ongoing. We started to teach our students how to repair bicycles; the complete department is installed in the last classroom at the VTC.

The income generated by our carpentry, welding and car repair departments is limited. The students produce the orders thus learning how to use tools and machines. In this way they obtain a lot of practical experience. Also, the sale of livestock and vegetables is a small contribution to the financial means of the foundation.



ACHIEVEMENTS SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

The main task of the social workers in Makumira is to be involved in the personal issues of the students and to try to solve any problem they face. Individual and group counseling form a considerable part of his task, making the students to open up and talk about all feelings.

The social work department welcomed 14 students who came from the drop-in centre, aged 13-15. This number was less than normal because of the pandemic restrictions.

After the yearly holiday in December all students who were in the centre before going on holiday returned to the centre, except for those who started a job or secondary school. The total number of students who started in 2020 was 52.

Unfortunately, a number of 4 students (which is unusually high compared to previous years) decided to go or run away in 2020 for reasons such as theft of Watoto Foundation properties and fear of the consequences, promises of their family during the holiday such as money, and lack of motivation.. After having counselled and given him warning letters we decided to send 1 student away because of unacceptable behaviour such as fighting.

In 2020 we continue with a system that makes every student to choose a teacher to be his big father/mother and a fellow student to be his big brother. These are persons they trust and can confide in when facing challenges. They involve the social worker in order to counsel the students.



MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

Until May 2020 we had Dr. Peter who had been volunteering since 2019 at Watoto Foundation in Makumira. He taught first aid care and mental health for children. He also provided knowledge and skills at the working place through capacity building training for our staff. We continue to use the knowledge we have gained from him.

Special program 18 month boys

The students who are in the last phase of their stay at Watoto Foundation (last 18 months) are being prepared by the social worker, the assistant social workers and field coordinator for life after Watoto Foundation. They counsel the students on several subjects such as discipline, family life, behaviour, money management, job interviews etc. They meet once per week. Former students are invited on a regular basis to motivate the students in the centre who in this way the chance to learn from them.

Outreach program

One of our teachers makes a follow-up on the students doing field work and students in secondary school and further academic studies. He visits the work places and schools regularly. He looks, together with other staff members and the founder, for field work places and work places for our (former) students.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Challenge Day "Cross the Line"

In 2020 the Challenge Day was organized in June. Teachers showed their love to all the students, who were encouraged to be very open, to tell their life stories to each other in small groups and to show respect for their background and difficult traumatized past. All students and staff members participated. As guest of honor, we had invited Dr. Nembris from the Department of Mental Health Arusha. The weeks following Challenge Day we gave attention to the students who still needed extra mental health support and counseling. Only very few students need to be taken to the mental health department Arusha for further treatment.



Teachers Team building

Like every year we started the new year with a two day staff seminar at Kiboko lodge. This year the main topic was Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), by Mental Health Arusha, The main topic was PTSD, other topics were communication, team work, radical openness and appreciation by board member Anne Boisafi.

Bird watching

Every month the former head teacher of the Makumira centre conducts the bird watching group in the wild life program for the students in different sites in our district. Last year 10 students were member of the bird watching club. All of them took part in both field and class bird watching education.

GRADUATION / FOUNDER'S DAY AND 17 YEARS CELEBRATION 2003 - 2020

During this year's graduation/Founder's Day 20 October, a total of 17 students graduated and received the certificate of WF vocational training and the standard seven National Exam Certificate. The 17 years celebration was a fantastic event attended by many visitors, also from Holland. The total number of visitors was round 400, but less compared to other years due to COVID-19.

MONTHLY DREAM SCHEME AND STAFF MEETING

In 2020 the set-up of the dream scheme session was like previous years: teachers award points to the students on a daily basis looking at their behaviour, discipline, academic and VTC performance. These points are added up monthly and result in a ranking. The boy with the highest ranking is called on stage first and may choose from a table with useful presents such as nail cutters, keyrings, caps, brushes, footballs, t-shirts, small torches, tape measures etc. Even the student who finishes last is rewarded with a pencil and a package of biscuits. The main purpose of this monthly dream scheme session is to stimulate the students in a way of competition to work hard and improve their behaviour and discipline. Teachers show their love and appreciation to the students by complimenting and encouraging them through a firm hand shake. Each dream scheme session is followed by a workers' meeting in which teachers can bring forward points to discuss and improve the centres. Every one group of students performs at the start of the event with boxing, drama, acrobatic or drum, singing etc.

HEALTH OF THE WATOTO FOUNDATION STUDENTS

In general, the health of the students was fine. We have had a reduced number of malaria, common cold and typhoid cases. Also minor accidents happened during the sports activities. We have had one serious accident of a boy who got hit by a stone thrown by his friend and he was immediately admitted in a hospital where he stayed for a week, he is now back to normal and healthy. The good news is that we tested all students and we didn't have any HIV positive cases. We are also happy to report to you that the student Kasile, who had a serious heart condition, graduated in a normal health condition after his big operation and treatment in Israel assisted by the "Save a Child's heart" Organisation.



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

From 11 December 2020 onwards teachers and management took all students home, the last one leaving on 12 December, for their annual holiday. This year the holiday was 4 weeks, boys returning on 11 January 2021. During these bringing home visits we inform the relatives or parents about the academic and behavioural progress of their son. Seeing the poor circumstances the families live in and their daily struggle to survive is every year heart-breaking and it makes us understand why these children run away from home.

WF KIBOKO LODGE TRAINING CENTRE

Where the nature and the beauty meet!

Kiboko lodge, a small bird's paradise in the open air with a splendid isolation, offers excellent relaxing moments to our guests with beautiful views on mount Meru.

Most of the staff, except for the managers, has been trained at the Child in the Sky centre to work in future time in the tourism industry. They have gained practical experience in lodges for at least 6 months prior to their employment at Kiboko lodge.

The lodge was built by our students and teachers in an eco-friendly, authentic African style. It has open camp fires, palm leaf roofs and an open kitchen where our top cooks provide excellent meals. We are located at Ngurdoto village, built at the slopes of Mt. Meru (4,561 m) and only 4 km away from the Arusha National Park gate. The eco-lodge has 19 self-contained cottages, including family cottages.

We are very proud and happy that Joyce and Frank (who has been the lodge manager for 9 years) have taken over the lodge from 1 January 2018. They agreed to keep the concept as it has been from the beginning by getting also 100% support where necessary from Watoto Foundation. The invested donor money will be paid back in 10 years to Watoto Foundation. Due to the pandemic, they were not able to pay back the monthly installments. WF Holland was given monthly loans to survive.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON TANZANIA

Since the (late) president of Tanzania came into power in 2015 the socio-economic and political situation in Tanzania has changed considerably. Besides eradicating corruption, his government strived to improve public provisions such as infrastructure, education and health care. The laws on taxes are therefore being followed much more strictly than before. All businesses and also charitable organizations are being scrutinized. The exemptions granted in the past to Watoto Foundation are judged as insufficient and for that reason government is of the opinion that Watoto Foundation has not complied with the tax legislation. The tax report for 2020 has been sent to the tax authorities by the end of June 2021. Tanzania is very happy with the new president her Excellency Mama Samia Suluhu Hassan after our late president John Pombe Magufuli died on March 17, 2020.

WATOTO FOUNDATION COOPERATION WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES AND NGOS

The founder/director continued to be engaged in 38 development projects up to this year 2020 in many primary schools and some secondary and vocational training schools. We also were engaged in water projects, churches, orphanages, hospitals all projects were organized with different outside NGO's.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

In 2020 we didn't receive visitors and volunteers to show their interest in our organisation and our two centres, Child in the Stars, and Child in the Sky. Since we consider our centres not to be a tourist attraction, we limit the number of visitors and we only allow donors and guests from WF Kiboko lodge to visit the centres. Only Kiswahili students from TCDC are allowed to visit but due to the COVID-19 pandemic they didn't come.

STUDY FUND

We wholeheartedly wish to thank the donors of our study fund. The students who are doing very well at the standard 7 national examinations, who are very motivated and have very good discipline can go to outside private secondary boarding schools, high school and even university after Watoto Foundation. Nowadays, we are very strict in choosing the students for further studies due to disappointments in the past and their too old age.

SOURCE OF INCOME FOR THE CENTRES

To generate income for the centres we produce what the market demands and therefore we also gain valuable training in market orientation. Training becomes sustainable through the manufacturing and sales of many products made by the carpentry, welding, livestock and horticulture departments. After the problems with the tax authorities and COVID-19, we have had to abandon our dream of being independent from donors. We kindly but urgently request our donors to continue to help us to pursue the work we are doing for these former hard-core street children.

WISH LIST

Our wish list for 2021:

- To run the study fund for students going to secondary school, high school and university
- To do maintenance at our drop-in centre
- To paint and do maintenance on our school
- To find a new full donor for our drop-in centre
- To start our fish pond project
- To buy music boxes and panel for our events
- 50 mattresses with canvas cover to replace very old ones.

ALUMNI GROUP

A group of 5 former WF student took the initiative to start an alumni group with the main challenge to support and advise former students from Watoto Foundation in their goals and where possible to help them also in future time with loans.

INDEPENDENCE OF WATOTO FOUNDATION

The dream of the founder/director and board members is to be independent from people from abroad. The first step was Watoto Foundation Kiboko lodge which is since 2018 fully run by a Tanzania couple. Step by step we are working on realising this challenge of being “future proof” also for the two other centres. Our wish is to have completed this process by the year 2022. Supervision by the founder/director and the boards will continue to be there, but more and more from a distance. The Dutch board will always have the financial responsibility to provide the necessary budget.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM DONORS

The 2 centres wish to express their gratitude for the help and generous support shown by board members, donors and all staff members of Watoto Foundation. We have been able to achieve considerable progress in assisting nearly 1,100 underprivileged children living and sleeping on the streets since the start of our foundation in 2003.

APPRECIATIONS TO MANY FRIENDS AND SUPPORT FROM DONORS

These comprise the main contributors who donated in surplus of euro 1000.

FAMILIES:

Reijnders, van Wetten, Swinkels, van Hout, Schoneveld, Schripsema, Van der Vegt, Bosch&Speerstra, Lips-Verlaan, Houweling, van Oord, van Hulst, de Goede-Udding, Boom-Moons, van Tilburg v.d.lee, van Zon, van Donzel, Gerritsen, Molhoek, v.d.Heijden, Schull, Families niet nader te noemen.

FOUNDATION:

Johannes Stichting, St. Welgelegen, Stichtingen niet nader te noemen, St. Uden Wereldwijd, Trap-In Uden, Hedifonds, Stichting, Solidariteits werkplaats, Globewise, Fred Foundation

COMPANIES:

I-Wink, Escheha Qua, Kroese Wevers, FFG-properties, Popma

BOARD MEMBERS WATOTO FOUNDATION THE NETHERLANDS

Pierre van Hedel (chairman since 01.01.2020), Hans Schripsema (vice chairman), Peter van Zon (treasurer), Noud van Hout (member), Jan van den Berg (member) and Ilse de Jong (secretary)

BOARD MEMBERS WATOTO FOUNDATION TANZANIA:

Noud van Hout (chairman), Br. Valerian Mchome (member), Wilfred Mawalla (member) Frank Massawe (member) and Dutch board members, Anne Boisafi.

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