



Chipunga Development Committee
c/o the Chairman Mr. Daniel Mthuti
P.O. Box 611 / Mzuzu

July 20, 2014

Reply to the CDC report of June 23, 2014

Dear CDC members

Thank you for your comprehensive news report. Please find our answers in brief:

- 1/ Kelvin Msiska:** the fee for his 2nd semester at Dayang was paid end of June. Nevertheless, Kelvin knows that everything will be stopped instantly if there is no improvement at his home place. According to Kelvin a deadline was set in your last meeting Saturday two weeks ago. So lets wait what kind of action we are going to see by early of August.
- 2/ Chigwere project:** we expect an inauguration at time the GRACE group is in Chipunga. I can't believe why even the Chigwere community is not able to follow the STA Nyaluwanga's deadline!
- 3/ 25% self-contribution outstandings of the community:** a real pity - however, as said: the deadline has been set. Other than, there will be consequences in our engagement; definitely.
- 4/ Primary School:** you did right not to pay the teacher who left to Lilongwe. Concerning your request about remaining money: in reality, there is no money left over. Bernhard got reimbursed by us as the salaries are paid. My question would be about the cost for the journey to Nkhataba (headmaster and two teachers). The amount of MK 36.300 is more than a montly teacher salary contribution. Who paid that money? There must be invoices around. If yes, please provide them to us and let us know who paid the money for reimbursement purpose.
- 5/ Lignthing for Chipunga:** As mentioned in my previous letters. This special activity is intended to everybody (workers and community people), but due to the problems with the community on hold at the moment. You were asking for a total budget and whether there are limitations? Well, as we are expecting a cost proposal including a scheme from your side, the budget has not been set yet. We need your ideas ahead of coming to decisions (quantity, cost, to whom, why to whom, limitations, no loan scheme, method of a loan scheme, prepayment scheme, etc.).
- 6/ Chipunga borehole:** seems a difficult matter. Drinkwell has deposited a refund to us (around MK 640'000) which is very fair I guess. However, it doesn't look like we will have success in the area. An alternative could be to install a solar pump system to get water from one of the ponds in the valleys. But I fear about the maintenance of such a system. But, if you think this is a valid option I could ask Drinkwell for a quotation (at a range of MK 4 Million or so). But we have to get back into business with the community first. Wondering why the people don't see what immense potential is behind GRACE as a partner.
- 7/ Renovation of headmaster's house:** when the issue of community self-contribution has been solved, we can start doing this renovation project. Not before - why should we? Guess CDC can understand and will agree. Need actions and movement by the community first, than we'll move.

GRACE Charity (Förderverein Chipunga e.V.)

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Managing committee: Dr. Jens Diedrich (president), Barbara Schwarz (vice president), Margarete Baeza (treasurer), Christoph Schwarz (secretary)



8/ Porridge system: got informations that the system is not running on a daily basis. If this is a true fact, I would say another failure by the community. Must be solved by them together with the other outstanding things, and we expect to get it solved fast. Otherwise they can't require anything from our side. Please support us on that by continuously mentioning the consequences.

9/ Visitors from Germany: thanks for your brainstorming. Please do not hesitate to sending the proposals to Barbara Schwarz - she is eagerly awaiting your ideas on the intercultural exchange within such a big group. Hope both parties can profit from such an opportunity.

We are very much looking forward to receiving your report about the meeting with VDC and community people as well as your meeting with Kelvin. To see actions would be of help. You can be in quick touch with me when you communicate with Kelvin or Fishani. Both have direct contact to my via Facebook. Another option would be to ask Hannah or Mona to arrange a skype telephone one Saturday or Sunday from Bernhards restaurant in Mzuzu.

With best regards on behalf of the German managing committee,


Dr. Jens Diedrich
President GRACE charity

PS: got a request by Stuart Thindwa to support him studying accountancy (at a college in Mzuzu). If I get his application documents - any time from now (intended to start by September) -, I'll forward them to CDC for approval. The deal could be: Stuart could (beside paying his 25% self-contribution - in money) help CDC in doing their annual accounting and bookkeeping. One can fix the deal in a MOU. But I have to get the documents from Stuart first.....