



25 YEARS WORLD SERVANTS!

THIS ISSUE...



INTERIM DIRECTORS

Mrs. Riek Lock and Mr. Jan Bosman replaced Els Nijman.

PROJECTS IN 2012

Impressive stories, thousands of memories, photos and videos. Visa problems for India.



PROJECTS IN 2013

29 projects, first team (Haiti) returned home safely already

PARTNER NEWSLETTER: FIRST ISSUE

MANAGEMENT

As you know, our former director Els Nijman has left. To replace her, the WSN board has appointed two former board members, Mr. Jan Bosman and Mrs. Riek Lock as interim directors. Assisted by the management team they are now directing the organization. Both of them work for World Servants one day per week. The management team is made up of Elise Elzinga, Willem-Jan van der Ven and Jan van der Leest. It is expected that this interim period will end in June.

CHANGE

During the interim period, all WSN departments will look at how they function to see where they can become more effective. Change is necessary because the situation in The Netherlands is changing, not only due to the economical crisis but also as a result of the crisis in Development Cooperation and the support for it. It has become more difficult to recruit participants and to raise funds. It would be very helpful if you can connect us with churches, companies, organizations or persons that could help us with possibilities for recruiting participants or raising funds.

STAFF

There have been a few changes in our staff; Jan Jacob Hoefnagel, our private fundraiser has left the organization and Arie Boven, who already worked for the Project management Department, is now appointed as Institutional Fundraiser. Brenda de Graaff and Linda Augustinus went on pregnancy leave. Brenda and her husband received a son, whom they call Seb. Linda is expecting to give birth in early March and will be on pregnancy leave till June.

Dear partners,

As a result of the consultations held during the partner conference in 2011, we have decided to send out a newsletter twice a year, with information about the different departments of World Servants Netherlands. This is our first issue.

On behalf of the World Servants team,
Jan van der Leest

PROJECTS IN 2012

Almost all projects in 2012 went well. There are a lot of impressive stories of communities and participants. Over ten thousand beautiful pictures and many nice movies were put on You-tube and uploaded to Facebook. With our new website under construction we will soon be able to make even better use of these valuable sources of information.

However, we were confronted again with the problem to obtain visa for our three projects in India. With the great help of our partners in Zambia; MCC and CCAP Synod of Zambia, two extra projects were organized in a very short time, enabling the two biggest teams to travel to Zambia instead of India. The participants of the third India team, the Indepth project which was much smaller, joined other projects. Only a few participants decided not to go. Both projects in India, a school in Vittal and a hostel for girls in Balkunje have been built without a World Servants team, so the beneficiaries have not suffering from this situation.

PROJECT EVALUATIONS

From the evaluations of this year's projects, a few general points of attention came up. This means they are not applicable to all partners.

- Means of transport in case of emergency; this measure is required because an emergency can happen any time. If something happens both the leadership of the team and the partner organization need to be able to act. Good mobility is part of this, especially in rural areas and areas that are difficult to reach. Therefore a vehicle (e.g. preferably a jeep in good condition) in case of emergency is required to be available 24hrs a day. If such a vehicle is available by only one phone call, everybody should know who to reach and this person must be available. There has to be a procedure in case the preconditions are not met (e.g. if a coordinator is not within reach of a network, who can be contacted instead?). In some cases this was not guaranteed.
- Medical information not correct; in a number of cases the medical information was not complete or not correct.
- Coordinator not present during entire project; another item which is also part of the contract requirements is that there must be one person from the partner organization present with the team 24 hours a day. This doesn't necessarily have to be the same person, as long as there is at least one person there. This is required so that the team can turn to this person in case of questions, but also in case of an emergency. Sometimes teams expect the director of the partner organization to be there, but that is based on wrong expectations.
- Evaluation of the project. At the end of the project (and preferably during the project also), we recommend a (mid-term) evaluation of the project conducted by both the team leader and the project manager/coordinator. Based on our experience, such a joint evaluation helps to improve the cooperation during the project and provides a combined point of view (instead of only the point of view of the team leader).

COUNTRIES

Due to the recurring visa problems with India, which had quite an impact on our finances, World Servants decided to stop her activities in this country. It is very sad that we

are not able to continue our cooperation with YuvaLok and especially with Sam Rajshekhar and Shobha Louis who both have a longstanding relation with World Servants Netherlands.

After mutual consultation Servidores Mundiales and World Servants Netherlands took the decision that World Servants Netherlands will phase out the activities in the Dominican Republic. In 2013 the last project will take place in the Dominican Republic.

PARTNERS

Daniel Rodriguez, the director of our partner Servidores Mundiales, left the organization in September 2012. During the farewell party for Els Nijman, we also said farewell to Daniel, who has been involved in World Servants from 1987. The Dominican Republic was the first country where World Servants activities started. A lot has been achieved since then under the leadership of Daniel. Daniel was succeeded by Melanie Spence.

In Ethiopia, we cooperated with the Development Department of the Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church (EKHC) for the first time. Both our organizations have learned from this pilot project, constructing classrooms and community latrines, and we are looking forward to the next one in 2013. After this project an evaluation will take place on the continuation of our cooperation.

PROJECTS IN 2013

For 2013, we have 29 projects planned, including a few projects organized with Dutch partners like Dorcas, Woord en Daad and Tear. In total, we will need 776 participants to make these projects happen. At this moment, we have recruited 650 participants, so a few more participants are welcome, especially for the adult projects. World Servants project officers have already been out to prepare the projects for this year. Each year in February and March, the major part of these visits are planned so we are able to inform the leadership of the projects well during their training at the end of March.

GRANTS

Our department was already involved in the management of large grants. Project management will now become more active in raising funds from institutional donors. Our target for 2013 is to raise € 50.000 from new donors. It is a big challenge for us and it would be a great help if we can work together to find leads to possible donors, for example in the USA, UK or other donor countries.

TRAINING

The training department is in the last phase of preparation for the training season of 2013. The first trainings for staff members has already taken place, as well as some fund raising trainings for local groups. At the end of March all staff members will have been trained for their task.

STAFF RECRUITMENT

The recruitment of staff members for 2013 is almost done. We are still looking for two trip leaders and four medical staff members. Beside these vacancies we have some optional places for other staff roles, especially in the adult projects in October and November.