



Newsletter 59
Hilden, März 2024

Dear friends and supporters of Yaoui e.V.,

With this short newsletter we greet you at the beginning of the new year and send you the latest information about the club and Yaoui.

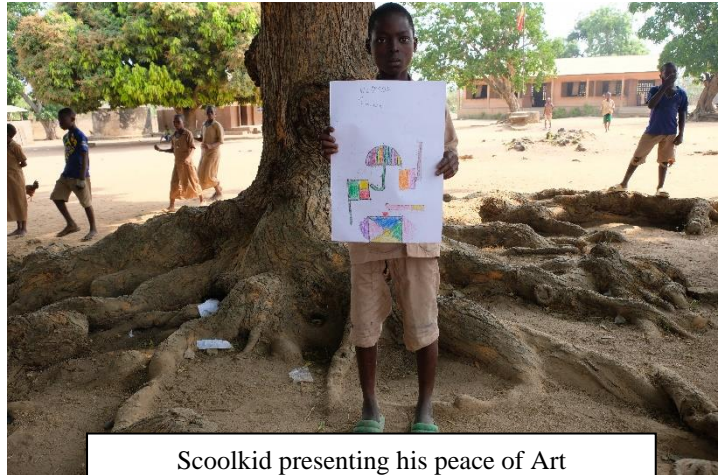
1. report on the 2024 general Meeting
2. report of the journey Benin
3. upcoming projekts

1. Report on the 2024 general Meeting

Our annual general meeting took place in February 2024. Unfortunately, the protocol has not yet been completed, we will send it to you as an attachment to the next newsletter. There were many members present in person, as well as two who participated online. First it was about the trip to Benin, which took place in January. Matthias Sorsoli and Markus Brinkmann reported on projects that have already been implemented and the new project opportunities. You can find a complete trip report in the appendix. Following this, the board elections in 2024 took place. We welcome Yanic Sorsoli as a new member of the board. At the same time, we say goodbye to Juliane Steinmann from the board and thank her for her outstanding work over the last few years and wish her all the best for the future. Matthias Sorsoli was re-elected as first chairman, as well as Martina Noske as third chairman and Markus Brinkmann as treasurer. Future projects would then be voted on, more on this in Section 3. The minutes with all the information will follow in the next newsletter.

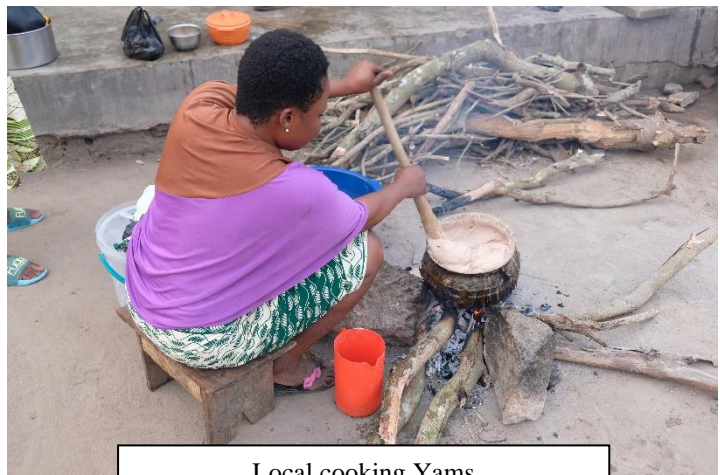
2. Report of the journey Benin

In January, Matthias and Markus set off to visit the village of Yaoui in Benin. With them they had a long list of tasks that needed to be completed. The most important points were documenting existing projects, exchanging ideas to prioritize new projects, making new contacts to ensure future communication and taking pictures to create a Yaoui calendar. A special highlight was painting pictures for the calendar. As previously planned, we brought colored pencils and A3 sheets of paper and asked the children to draw something. We took the painted pictures with us to Germany to scan them and create a calendar with them. A corresponding working group was formed at the general meeting. Pictures of the landscape and everyday life in Benin were also taken for the calendar, as we want to try to present everyday life as naturally as possible.



Schoolkid presenting his peace of Art

We also looked at the projects we have implemented so far in order to evaluate them retrospectively and check for any deficiencies. The toilet houses we co-financed are in good condition, only one toilet lid is broken. The bookshelf in the recreation center is there, but it seems unstable and is not yet full enough.



Local cooking Yams

The tables we procured in fundraisers are all present and in a used but stable condition. Despite the school having two teachers funded by us, grades 5 and 6 are currently taught together, as a total of 21 teachers are employed for the 18 classes.

Finally, we come to one of the most important questions of the trip, as we want to maintain and improve our contacts in Benin. We want to continue to ensure secure communication and safe transfer of money. You can find out more about this in the detailed travel report, which is also attached to the email.

2. upcoming projects

Based on the travel report, we then discussed possible new projects at the general meeting and decided on the following upcoming projects. Our focus will continue to be on financing teachers. As before, two teachers will continue to be financed, and we also decided to finance two more teachers in the future.

Another project is the expansion of the recreation center. It was decided to support the school in strengthening the construction of the roof in order to install a solar system there in the future. Support for the solar system is another project that the general meeting has voted for. In this context, funds were also released to purchase computers, which can then be operated by using the solar system.

As a third project, we are planning a fundraising campaign to fill the bookshelves that have not yet been so well stocked. Further information on this will follow.

We wish you a happy Easter, a nice spring and a good start to the summer.

Matthias Sorsoli, Yanic Sorsoli, Martina Noske and Markus Brinkmann
the board

The mind retains illusions and the heart retains memories.

(saying from Dschibuti)