



## Dear friends and donors of AllKidsShouldPlay

**2018** was an exciting year for AllKidsShouldPlay, with a new start and a continuation of what was worthwhile.

The **three main activities** in 2018 were: a circus for children and youngsters aged 10 to 20 years old, street games for children aged 4 to 8 years old and mountain biking for youngsters aged 15 to 25 years old.

In 2018 the **circus** grew into a group of 60 children, half of them aged 13 and older, the other half is younger than 13 years old. Every Saturday and Sunday afternoon there are trainings in Mambo for the younger children from 14.00 to 16.00 and for the older children from 16.00 to 18.00 o'clock. Ten of these older children teach the younger children and they teach themselves as well. Noel, Omari and Gijs, the project leaders, have individual talks and motivating talks with the group about the possibilities they have as a group and as individuals. Every circus training day we start with a meal for everybody, which is prepared by two girls that are part of the circus group and are now specialized in organizing cooking.

The **street games** (called Barabarani) take place in ten different wards and in these places some 10 to 50 children turn up. Each week we have three days in five places, the Tuesdays and Wednesdays are held in fixed places, the Thursdays we alternate between one and the other. The objective is to teach children to play together, to sing songs, to draw and specially to teach Kiswahili. Kisamba is the local language that is mainly spoken at home, but Kiswahili is the language at the primary school. So when children don't speak that language by the time they go to school it is hard to keep up with the rest. By helping them to understand Kiswahili they improve their chances at school.

**Bicycling** was a rapid hit. A few children began cycling accompanying Gijs. Soon other children joined in. The tours pass through Mambo and the neighboring villages. And sometimes all the way to Lushoto, 60 km further on. One half of the group cycles the way up, the other half rides the way back.

**Three children** are the leaders of the large group of children. They are in charge of the activities, they learn how to do the administration, to do finances, to report and to find solutions. They regularly sit down to discuss matters, to point out shortcomings and challenges and they plan all the work that has to be done.

We are in close contact with the **primary school** and several activities have been set up, like clubs with fragile children,

- English for primary school leavers (for that is the main language at the secondary school),
- doing sports during the holidays carried out by a large group of circus children in different parts of the village.
- Two circus children are sponsored to go to a special private school, if they are admitted.
- Four other children are already being sponsored to go to a boarding school.
- And we help a school with a number of extra desks and chairs for the teachers' room.
- We assist another school in changing one classroom into a library
- and we assist one school by paying to build their library.

*"If we want to empower children and create a better world for them, we should give them all chances to develop their talents, make mistakes, try again, over and over again and finally succeed. We should step back wherever we can and let the young ones show their skills and be confident about them", Gijs says*



In order to be able to create all these opportunities for child empowerment and development, we had to make some **changes in our organization**. At the end of 2017 we contacted Makini, a NGO in Dar es Salaam, that works with street children in the slums of the city. Their objective is to get children off the streets back to their communities, back to school and to give them opportunities for a beautiful future. We on the other hand try to keep the children off the streets, to remain with their families and to create opportunities for themselves for a bright future. A very interesting cooperation lay before us. After all if we would do our work with good results and we could extend that to other parts of the country, Makini's work would ideally gradually disappear if children no longer ran away from home. A dream, a situation which is still far away, but still a dream we can keep in our heads, a goal that we would love to see realized.

We visit **families** on a daily basis to talk about our objectives and to hear of their challenges as families in a financially poor community like Mambo. We hear lots of problems and try to get involved some way or another if this is useful.

So we have **lots of plans for the future**. We bought land on the slope of a mountain and we have dug out the ground at three different levels, on one of which we are going to build an office, a classroom, storerooms and accommodation for volunteers. An internationally renowned architect is willing to make drawings for the buildings and possibly also to survey the building activities. The ideal

the newest building techniques, electricity and water collection. This is supposed to take place somewhere halfway 2019.

In 2019 we will make a **journey with 30 circus children to Dar es Salaam**. A tour on which they can perform for different audiences, can experience a big city and experience differences between life in the village and city. And they can expand their capabilities in taking responsibilities, in cooperating and in coping with new challenges.

2019 will also see the start of the creation of new **reading material** for the children at the primary school. There are only very few storybooks for children. The idea is that we collect stories from older people in the village in cooperation with the Sekomu University, combine them to make storybooks and make these available to school and families.

In 2019 we will hopefully integrate **English lessons** in the primary school curriculum by means of computer programs.

In 2019 we will hopefully **return some school leavers to school and vocational training**. We have children doing the program for adult education, we have an offer from a car mechanic at 30 kilometers from Mambo to train a few children to become car mechanics.

From May 2018 we worked with a **budget** of 15.000 euros. For 2019, with the proposed projects we aim at 40.000 euros in the next few years. 2/3 of that amount has already been promised by several people and organizations. The rest has still to be found. We like small

scenario is that we can use the construction of the community centre to train young people in

contributions at a regular basis, because many small contributions form a strong basis to keep on doing our work.

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In order to support realising all these activities we founded AllKidsShouldPlay Netherlands. It's name already existed, now it has become an official foundation. The foundation has an ANBI status (concerning Dutch taxes).

For those who have already sent a contribution: thank you so much! You can be sure all money is spent on the activities in Mambo and surroundings. We keep overhead costs to a minimum.

With a fixed amount a month we can assure young people of a good future. Will you support us?

You can transfer your contribution to our bank account:

IBAN: NL44 INGB 0009 0496 19 in the name of AllKidsShouldPlay

BIC: INGBNL2A are welcome.

Find more about us at: <http://www.AllKidsShouldPlay.nl>

*Greetings and best wishes for you in 2019,  
Gijs de Wit, and all people of AllKidsShouldPlay*