



2020

EMBASSY OF THE EARTH

YEAR REPORT

# ACTIONS

- v1. WATER - Boreholes, wells, dams, storing tanks 36
- v2. TREE PLANTING 39
- v3. Roads 27
- v4. MARKET ← Beading, planting of crops, milk 23
- v5. SOCIAL AMENITIES ← Schools 27, hospitals
- v6. Good Breeding 24
- v7. Permaculture 29
- v8. ~~Agri~~ Apiculture - beekeeping 0
- v9. Kitchen gardening 9
- v10. Poultry Farming 17
- v11. Biogas 21
- v12. Employment 7
- v13. Holistic Management 10
- v14. Food security ← vegetables, maize 10
- v15. HAY STORAGE 13 ← factors
- v16. FAMILY / ~~livestock~~ planning 0
- v17. Livestock Planning 0

## ANNUAL REPORT EMBASSY OF THE EARTH 2020

2020 was a year of unprecedented challenges for the whole world with the COVID-19 epidemic hitting different people at different times and scales, but in the end affecting everybody everywhere.

The Embassy of the Earth continued its work of setting up communities of problem owners, stakeholders to solve challenges on landscape and livelihood levels simultaneously, faster and on a continuing basis. Multiplying the problem solving capacity of communities exponentially. With common ground, possible futures, clear strategies, attainable objectives and far enough horizons, communities and regions are radically transforming their current collective realities of threat, stagnation and destruction.

To together plan activities, brainstorm and inspire each other the Embassy of the Earth board met, together with Leo van der Vlist and Frank Heckman xx times ( 9 okt; ) either physically or through Zoom. The board consists of Maryn Klomp, Gine Zwart, Peter de Koning and Theun Karelse.

More specifically the following activities took place in 2020:

### ACTION PLANNING

At the tail-end of the White Mountain Future Search Conference(\*) of 2019, Embassy of the Earth joined the White Mountain Community in January 2020 for an action planning gathering in Amboseli. Preceded by workshops on permaculture, livestock breeding and livestock business strategies, stretching traditions in Maasai culture, where livestock is not necessarily a business.

Action planning in: Amoseli, Namelok and Oloshaiki (see image on the left)

### FUTURE SEARCH TANZANIA

We then travelled to Tanzania spending 3 days with Maasai leadership from 4 districts, discussing the preconditions and setting the scene for the Tanzanian White Mountain Future Search Conference to be held the first quarter of 2022 (as permitted by the Covid regulations). This is a joint effort with Maasai communities on the Kenyan side of Mt. Kilimanjaro and has strong connections with the Future Search in Kenya which was attended by 4 Maasai leaders from Tanzania.

### FOOTHILL REFORESTATION

Before returning to Europe we met with people at the Kenyan Environment and Forest Research Institute (KEFRI), discussing with the director the situation surrounding Mount Kilimanjaro, climate disruption and drought, leading to a discussion about reforestation of the foothills of Mt Kilimanjaro. It was agreed that the first step towards this effort would be to establish a Central White Mountain Community Based Organization (CBO) which could then be the party concluding a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with KEFRI.

### DHAN FOUNDATION AND POINT CALIMERE

As it was still feasible, we travelled to Tamil Nadu, South India in March for a recap with our partner Dhan Foundation, and worked with village leadership to list key indicators for Covid-19 intervention, which then seemed premature but would soon be vital. Indicators such as awareness building & education, protective gear and first line healthcare and more.

The Embassy supported a Future Search for 27 communities around Point Calimere Wetlands at the very southern point of Tamil Nadu. People are dealing with ecological and livelihood challenges. Natural disasters have been impacting the coastal areas and mangroves.

But then the Covid-19 pandemic arrived on planet Earth, international travel ended and we had to shift priorities.



## **FOOD RELIEF**

Total lockdown was enacted in Kenya, which included the closing of markets, hitting Maasai communities hard. Embassy of the Earth supported the Maasai in their initiative to write a letter of outcry to their government, also offering help as the country's main meat suppliers and the White Mountain Community as a network of action. Government did not respond to this outreach, but pressures on Maasai communities mounted so Embassy of the Earth supported twofood drives with financial support from our Dutch network and friends, for food relief in Amboseli and Namelok. Making sure even the most fragile were reached by food relief. In all over 8000 people were reached. The Embassy also supported food relief for Maasai school children in Tanzania.

## **COMMUNITY FOOD GARDENS AND TREE NURSERY**

The Covid outbreak brought into focus the immediate fragility of food security for the White Mountain Community. To address this more structurally villages decided - based on chemical-free permaculture principles -, to start community food gardens. This concept is quite foreign to Maasai pastoralist culture. Some villages succeeded to set up a flourishing food garden, some failed due to lack of water. The resulting crops have been distributed amongst villagers. The Namelok action group has started a food garden including a half acre plot sown with maize. Forty big bags of maize kernels, from which flour is ground, have been distributed among the community. Besides food crops an increasing demand to grow trees for shade has surfaced. From Europe we continued to be in dialogue with the White Mountain coordinating council to see how they are handling their action-planning during this pandemic. Such as their plans for continuing permaculture education. At the moment there is one functioning tree nursery in Namelok, a more protected area.

## **HOLISTIC GRAZING AND RESILIENT LIVESTOCK**

Another important element of the action planning is the combination of holistic grazing with breeding. Embassy of the Earth supported the White Mountain community in buying bulls to breed back traditional cows that are much more resilient to climatic hardship. The Future Search in 2019 envisioned to focus on quality instead of quantity livestock, and already the first new generation of cows has been born. All of these initiatives are managed by newly established Community Based Organizations, a legal and organizational structure run by the communities themselves.

## **LEARNING CENTER**

Following the Oloshaiki Action Planning the community was donated 10 hectares of ground near the community building to function as a learning center, for permaculture and livelihood improvement. The area has water, but needs a well. Our efforts to support the construction of the well are ongoing.



**EMBASSY FELLOWS IN A SESSION ON SOCIAL DESIGN**

## **ENERGY AND CLIMATE TRANSITIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS**

Commissioned by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate, the Embassy of the Earth is designing and co-organizing a national Search Conference on the question how the energy- and climate transition can find broad support in society and enable a just and sustainable future of the Netherlands.

## **THE EMBASSY AS AN ORGANISATION: GROWTH**

Following the increasing demand for support from Embassy the Earth to ecosystem-based adaptation interventions in Chile, Nepal, India, Tanzania and the Netherlands, the need for institution building within our organization is growing strongly. We aim to be prepared to meet the expected increasing demands and fully participate in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration as a social process design partner to efforts worldwide. During the Covid19 pandemic our capacities to develop were restricted, but the climate crisis continues to escalate and the next decade will be decisive for the wellbeing of life on our planet. Nevertheless, in 2020 the Embassy has doubled its efforts in educating and training young talent in The Netherlands in grounded social action reviving land and livelihood with the Embassy fellowship program.

In 2020 Lian Phoa and Leo van der Vlist resigned from the board, while Gine Zwart, Theun Karelse and Peter de Koning entered the board. By the end of 2020 the board consisted of Gine, Theun, Peter, and Maryan Klomp.

### **NOTES**

\* Future Search Conference: a large group planning method, with its roots in social ecology. By finding common ground, communities and problemholders can develop visions for collective futures, develop clear strategies, and set attainable objectives towards regenerating livelihood for people, animals and land.



**CLICK TO SEE A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO OUR WORK**

## JAARREKENING

### BALANS PER 31 DECEMBER 2020

Balans per 31 december 2020  
(vóór resultaatbestemming)

#### ACTIVA

	31-12-2020	31-12-2019
	€	€
Vlottende activa		
Vorderingen		
Vorderingen op handelsdebiteuren	121	-
Belastingen en premies sociale verzekeringen	313	485
Overige rekening-courant	982	1.332
	<u>1.416</u>	<u>1.817</u>
Liquide middelen	7.964	12.015
	<u>9.380</u>	<u>13.832</u>



#### PASSIVA

	31-12-2020	31-12-2019
	€	€
<b>STICHTINGSVERMOGEN</b>		
Overige reserve	12.251	14.851
Resultaat boekjaar	-7.193	-2.600
	<u>5.058</u>	<u>12.251</u>
<b>KORTLOPENDE SCHULDEN</b>		
Schulden ter zake van belastingen en premies sociale verzekeringen	1.296	660
Overige schulden	3.026	921
	<u>4.322</u>	<u>1.581</u>
	<u>9.380</u>	<u>13.832</u>



## STAAT VAN BATEN EN LASTEN OVER 2020

<b>BATEN</b>	2020	2019
	€	€
Giften en baten uit fondsenwerving	91.358	105.554
Overige baten	1.850	-
	<u>93.208</u>	<u>105.554</u>
Kosten projecten	<u>-76.242</u>	<u>-56.075</u>
	16.966	49.479
<b>LASTEN</b>		
Lonen	9.600	9.600
Sociale lasten en pensioenlasten	636	660
Verkoopkosten	-	20
Kantoorkosten	1.962	2.512
Algemene kosten	<u>10.676</u>	<u>38.758</u>
Totaal van som der kosten	<u>22.874</u>	<u>51.550</u>
Totaal van bedrijfsresultaat	-5.908	-2.071
Financiële baten en lasten	<u>-1.285</u>	<u>-529</u>
<b>Totaal van netto resultaat</b>	<b>-7.193</b>	<b>-2.600</b>
<b>RESULTAAT BESTEMMING</b>		
<b>onverdeeld resultaat</b>	<b>-7.193</b>	<b>-2.600</b>