



## ACTIVITIES REPORT 2016





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# 1 Introduction

Nosy Komba is a small volcanic island of Madagascar located on the North West coast of the main island. **Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world** with 85% of the population living with less than 2€ per day.



**Nosy Komba has 25 km<sup>2</sup> of area and about 4500 people concentrated in six main villages** along the coast. The population of this remote island used to live in life-threatening

underdevelopment conditions, without access to healthcare or education, no drinkable water or electricity networks and no sanitation. Since 1993, the village of Antintorona, today with more than 700 inhabitants, has become **the focus of a comprehensive program of assistance to development led by the NGO “We Work It Works”**.

“We Work It Works” gathers a broad group of associations sharing **a common philosophy and development model, where all the components of a dignifying life are taken into considered**. All of the projects implement by this NGO aim at the **sustainable empowerment of the local population**, working together to identify the needs and create accessible solutions rather than imposing them. “We Work It Works” follows the principle that underdevelopment cannot become a job, being based entirely on volunteer work. **All funds raised revert directly to the local population**.

**Sunshine in Nosy Komba** is an association operating in full coordination with the development program and philosophy of “We Work It Works”. It stems from the idea that **a comprehensive and long term approach is the only way to carry out a sustainable humanitarian project**. This association, based in the Netherlands, was created in 2011 by an international group of volunteers coming from many different backgrounds.

In the last few years Sunshine in Nosy Komba has implemented numerous projects aimed to improve **Education**, and **Health care and to promote Sustainable development**.

## 2 Education projects

### 2.1 Keep the schools running

#### 2.1.1 Context

Schools in Madagascar are not fully functional. The teachers are badly paid and not well followed, being often. On the other hand, private schools are either inexistent or not affordable to the vast majority of the population. **The school campus in Antintorona is crucial for the development of the island. It was built by “We Work It Works” along the years includes a kindergarten, a primary school and the only secondary school of the island. It hosts about 360 kids** and it is autonomously managed by a pedagogic team of 11 local teachers, committed to provide the highest education standards to their pupils. There has been, in the past few years a **growing contribution from local businesses to the school finances, nonetheless**, the school still **needs external financial support to pay the teachers’ salaries** and other expenses, such as the canteen’s food.

#### 2.1.2 Past and current actions

In 2013, through yearly fundraising events, such as a **football tournament in Noordwijk (Netherlands)**, Sunshine in Nosy Komba has had a key role in keeping the schools running. Sunshine in Nosy Komba has been the **main contributor to the salaries of 11 teachers and other functionaries** and has covered the expenses of the canteen, the dormitories and of the didactic material. By supporting local schools Sunshine in Nosy Komba is providing 360 kids with a high-level education.





### 2.1.3 Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016*
Salaries Y2016-2017	ESTEC Football Tournament (incl. Rhea and Vitrociset)	13,200	12,600	600
<i>*Used for 2016 Library refurbishment/ Mediatheque</i>				
<u>Actual expenses</u>				
<b>Library</b>				
1 Teacher part time (30%)		360		
<b>Rise &amp; Shine programme coordinator</b>				
1 Teacher part time (30%)		360		
<b>School</b>				
Kindergarden				
2 Teachers full time		2,160		
Primary school				
4 Teachers full time		4,320		
Secondary school				
5 Teachers full time		5,400		
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>12,600</b>		

### 2.1.4 Future actions

Carrying on the education project is the cornerstone of our initiative. In order to do so we are planning several fundraising activities and events to collect the funds needed. More and more families from different villages around the island enrol their kids in our schools resulting on a growth of the number of students of around 15% per year. This implies an increase in the number of teachers that are expected to become 12 in 2017.

## 2.2 Mediathèque

### 2.2.1 Context

Given the scarcity of didactic material, classes in Madagascar usually end up being, **very theoretical and too little hands on**. Often times in class, the students copy from the blackboard texts in French, which is not even completely mastered by most of them. Hence, **the understanding of the subjects is quite limited**. In Nosy Komba after school time, there the used to be no place where children and teenagers could study, read and play. **This significantly impacted their performance**, as it was perceived that their level would drop significantly during vacation periods.

## 2.2.2 Past and current actions

In 2013 we created a library that with time has been equipped to be a mediathèque and since then we worked to increment the activities offered by it and to build an environment where **children have access to almost 1000 books for all ages, dozens of didactic games, scientific experiments and ten laptops**. This equipment can be **used both**



**during classes and during extra-school time in the mediathèque**. It is coordinated by one of the secondary school teachers with the assistance from older students, selected for the “Rise & Shine” scholarship (see 2.4). Their mission is to support the education of younger kids.

**A comprehensive educational program for the mediathèque has been developed** together with the teachers, following the national program. The teachers organise **thematic weekends, where they address topics and issues such as** hygiene, languages, geography. Their goal is to **teach the children in an environment more relaxed than the classroom but in a nevertheless structured atmosphere**, using games, books and other didactic materials.

## 2.2.3 Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016
Library refurbishment Y2016	ESTEC Football Tournament	740	740	-
<u>Actual expenses</u>				
<b>List of Items</b>				
Books			375	
Didactic games, pencils etc.			365	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>740</b>	

## 2.2.4 Future actions

In 2017 the library will be move inside the School Campus. We plan to separate the mediathèque in two distinct spaces, one for children up to 10 year-old and another for teenagers and adults, each one with dedicated books, games and didactic equipment.

The médiathèque will continue to expand by increasing the variety of books and didactic games available both to children and adults. There will be a reinforcement of the multimedia equipment and didactic material (e.g. a projector and a supply of documentaries and movies). As off next year we also aim to have internet available at the médiathèque for the students.

Furthermore, this year we created a theatre club lead by the médiathèque team. In the long term the goal is to turn the médiathèque in a cultural centre, promoting local associations, sport clubs and cultural initiatives.

## 2.3 School Campus improvement

### 2.3.1 Context

The Antintorona school campus has been growing and it hosts each year an increasing number of children and teenagers. The school project's aim is to guarantee its students a **complete education, good health, a sleeping environment with good hygiene conditions, proper meals and a balanced sportive activity**. Moreover, with the increasing number of students there is a need to expand and improve the existing facilities.

### 2.3.2 Past and current actions

#### *Sports field*

In 2014 we began the construction of the school sports field. It is a **multi-purpose facility** that will be not only used **for sport classes**, but also **for the organisation of cultural and sport events that engage the**



**whole community**. The project has been continued in 2015 with the construction of two dressing rooms, benches around the field and the guardian's house.

#### *School dorms*

In 2016 we have refurbished the two dorms that today host more than **40 kids from far away villages or that are orphans and stay in the school the whole year**. The dorms were **requiring an urgent intervention as most of the mattresses and bed-frames needed to be replaced or at least maintained**. We wanted to make sure that the **kids live comfortably and in good hygiene conditions**: the rooms were



cleaned in depth and the necessary works done, the existing bed frames were fixed, and new mosquito nets were bought and installed on each beds. All the damaged mattresses were replaced and washable mattress covers were made in the recently created sewing cooperative (see .

#### *A new school building*

With the increasing number of students, new class rooms became necessary. In particular, the recent closure of the only other secondary school in the island due to the lack of maintenance has increased even more the current need for extra classes and teachers. A new **school building with two floors and six classrooms has been built and 2016**.



### 2.3.3 Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016
Dormitories	French Kermesse	1,134	1,134	-
Contribution to new school building	French Kermesse	986	986	-
	ESTEC Football Tournament	1,800	1,800	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,920</b>	<b>3,920</b>	<b>-</b>

  

Actual expenses	
<b>Dormitories</b>	
30 mattresses	900
21 mosquito nets	189
Others	45
<b>Contribution to new school building</b>	
124 woods boards	620
Manpower	366
Construction of the roof	1800
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,920</b>

### 2.3.4 Future actions

The sports field will be completed in 2017 with the **installation of goals, basketball frames and volleyball nets**. Then it will become also a tool for the school management to support its services through the hosting of sports and cultural events. The maintenance and **improvement of the dorms must be continued** to avoid returning to the previous degraded conditions. The new school building will allow the expansion of the primary and secondary classes. To **cope with the overloaded kindergarten classes**, we will expand the current building or build a second one.

## 2.4 Rise & Shine scholarship programme

### 2.4.1 Context

After completion of the secondary school, **students need perspectives for the future**. This is essential. Since no high-school or university exists in the island and families **cannot afford** accommodations and transport to other locations, along with the school fees, most of the kids will not continue their education.

## 2.4.2 Past and current actions

Starting from 2015, every year the **five best students of the last year of secondary school are granted a scholarship** to attend high school and university, **provided that they keep their grades high and do not skip any year**. The high school is located in the neighbour island of Nosy Be. Therefore, besides the school costs (enrolment, books, etc.) the scholarships cover transport, board and lodging. The programme is coordinated locally by the secondary school director, who reports monthly on the students' progress. Furthermore, **these students are engaged in other projects** in Antintorona (e.g. library, maternity, etc.) in order to **get professional experience and to actively support the younger kids' education**. All the five students awarded in 2015 passed the first year of high-school, and one of them was even the best one of his class, proving that **if given the chance they thrive and succeed**.



## 2.4.3 Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016*
5 scholarships renewal (2nd year)	HE Space	2,500	2,500	-
5 new scholarships	HE Space	2,500	2,500	-
new scholarship 2017*	Private donations	420	-	420
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,420</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>420</b>

  

Actual expenses	
1 year High School scholarship x 10	4,200
Bonus for kids collaboration in library activities over the weekend	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>

## 2.4.4 Future actions

We'll keep to assign scholarships to the best five students of the year to allow them continuing their studies. Because we want them to attend not only high school but also university, and because of the increasing number of total students receiving funds, we will have to provide **an increasing amount of resources every year**. However, we



consider education a fundamental investment for the local kids, their families and the local community. One that will make the local development sustainable. Therefore, we plan to implement **new fundraising structures** to make this project affordable in the long run.

## 3 Health Care projects

### 3.1 Sanitation programme

#### 3.1.1 Context

Except for the constructions built by the 'We Work It Works' projects, the **households in Nosy Komba do not have toilets nor bathrooms**. Local people normally bath in the river and defecate either in the sea or in the river, which is the source of their everyday water. Besides the lack of privacy, this raises **serious health issues** such as the spread of diseases such as cholera.

#### 3.1.2 Past and current actions



The goal of this project is to **develop, produce and install bathrooms (including a toilet, a sink and a septic tank) at low cost in the local households of the interested families**. The design was conceived in 2013 to minimise cost and production complexity, allowing to increase the local know-how and **create a local company** in charge of the bathroom production and installation.

By the end of **2014, ten bathrooms were built in Antintorona and three in other villages, following a co-funding approach**, making them affordable to all the local families. The bathrooms are built in concrete and sized to allow personal hygiene (shower) and the installation of running water. Moreover, the project is stimulating the expansion of the households and local families are showing great interest. In **2015, after the pilot phase, the project entered the full production phase** with the development of **three new moulds** allowing for **parallel production and installation, hence increasing the export capability**.

#### 3.1.3 Future actions

The project is now in the production phase with the **aim of building about 50 new bathrooms and toilets by 2018**. Depending on the demand from the local population, more resources may have to be made available and eventually we'll need to train another production team.

## 3.2 Maternity/ Health centre

### 3.2.1 Context

Madagascar has **extremely high child mortality rates as well as maternal mortality rates**<sup>1</sup>. The population of **Nosy Komba is particularly exposed** to this because of the distance from any medical centre and the total lack of trained personnel to support the families throughout pregnancy and during birth. As a result, not only there is a high risk that the child or the mother die during the birth but there is also a **high number of disabled children** due to the poor follow up of the pregnancy.

### 3.2.2 Past and current actions

In 2016 we opened a maternity centre and built two delivery rooms, one in Nosy Komba and



one in the neighbour island of Nosy Fali. The initial plan was to only have a large maternity centre in Nosy Komba, but the interest and commitment of the local authorities in Nosy Fali created a unique opportunity to expand the project in a configuration that will allow to reach more people.

The maternity team will **follow the pregnancies, support the simple births and make sure the newborns grow up healthy. Complicated cases will be identified and redirected to larger medical facilities** in other islands. The delivery rooms are equipped with delivery chairs, resting beds and consultation rooms. The project employs three nurses/midwives, including the first woman of the village who made it to the university and has finished her studies in 2016.

Due to the absence of any medical support on the island, the nurses also provide primary medical care to the local population and they also manage a small pharmacy. Last but not least, the midwives also support the education program organising health and hygiene classes

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<sup>1</sup> According to the World Bank, in 2014: 37 children die per each 1000 live-births, about 20 times more than in Europe, and 369 mothers per 100,000 live-births, about 50 times more than in Europe.

in the school. All these services shall be made available to the whole population independently of their age, origin or income.

Medical supplies, such as equipment and consumable materials, have been brought to Nosy Komba from the Netherlands, guaranteeing the maternity centre operation for the first year.



### 3.2.3 Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016*
Maternity buildings	ETWA	3,500	2,150	1,350
Furniture	ETWA	1,630	1,560	70
Local manpower & transport	ETWA	870	660	210
Consumables and Equipment (with transport)	HRF	3,704	3,577	127
<b>Total</b>		<b>9,704</b>	<b>7,947</b>	<b>1,757</b>

*\* left over will be used to complete the works next year and purchase more supplies*

Actual expenses	
<b>Buildings</b>	
Building materials for Nosy Komba	1400
Building Nosy Faly	750
<b>Furniture</b>	
Beds	360
Tables	120
Chairs	260
Delivery chairs	500
Cupboards	320
<b>Local manpower &amp; transport</b>	
Manpower	480
Local transport	180
<b>Consumables and Equipment (with transport)</b>	
Consumables and equipment	3,307
Transport	270
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7,947</b>

### 3.2.4 Future actions

For the first two years the Sunshine in Nosy Komba team will monitor the operations of the maternity centre and support it through its fundraising activities, as needed. This will allow to evaluate the expenses and analyse mechanisms for the maternity centre that will gradually switch towards a self-sustained activity.



It is also envisaged to enlarge the centre in the future, involving health care specialists from other areas. This will mainly depend on the outcomes of the first years and the sustainability of the maternity centre. Thus the project might someday grow into a health centre covering the basic medical needs of the island.

## 4 Sustainable development

### 4.1 Renewable Energy

#### 4.1.1 Context

The **efficient production and use of energy** is one of the main concerns for a small isolated community like the one in Nosy Komba. The high cost of fossil fuels with respect to the income of a local family makes them inaccessible to most of the population. **Renewable sources of energy are available but shall be used in a responsible and sustainable way.**

A hydro-turbine has been installed by the We Work It Works project producing 5 kW. During most of the year it generates enough power for the whole village, but in the dry season it becomes rather limited and irregular with important some important impacts on the local economy. Moreover, the **electricity network does not reach places such as the community farm.**

For cooking, the local population normally uses **wood that is easily accessible and widely used. This leads both** to a significant loss of resources and to the generation a lot of smoke, which makes it impossible to cook indoor. Furthermore, **several children get injured every year** due to the lack of safety of the currently used metal coal stoves and “campfires”.

#### 4.1.2 Past and current actions

##### *Photovoltaic power*



Being close to the Equator and having a clear sky for most of the year, Nosy Komba is the perfect place for power generation with solar panels. So, in 2011, we mounted **two photovoltaic installations with four solar panels of 220 W, providing electrical power to the school campus and the community farm.** The electricity generated by these installations is mostly used for lighting and allows evening classes.

### *Prototype biogas plant*

The community farm at Antintorona started raising Zebus in 2011. **Anaerobic digestion of the Zebus' dung can produce methane gas and increase the fertilizing content of the dung**, increasing the return of raising the cattle. In 2014 the project has developed a **small prototype plant able to extract biogas and fertilizer from zebu faecal matter**. The prototype was sized to **produce enough cooking gas for the three families of farm workers**. Currently, the infrastructure is implemented and production viability is being evaluated.



### *Prototype wood gas stoves*

In 2015 this project has developed the design of **rocket stoves done in light concrete. This design aims at a very high efficiency and nearly smoke free wood burning stoves for cooking**. Different prototypes have been developed, based on locally available materials, and the most promising solution is being subject to long term tests by a local family.

### **4.1.3 Future actions**

With the increase of the turbine capacity and the building of barriers along the river allowing for a more stable operation in the dry season, the solar panels energy may now also be used for other projects. **We are currently studying several options (e.g. public light bulbs) to keep using efficiently this energetic resource**. Regarding the prototype biogas plant, if the **production rates are satisfactory, options for cost reduction will be studied**, stimulating also the investment on cattle farming. Also the wood stove **design will be optimised for production** in the coming years with the feedback from the continuous tests. The long term plan is to set up a sustainable production (as for the septic tanks) **making these safe and efficient systems affordable and developing new business areas**.

## 4.2 Support to local companies

### 4.2.1 Context

The long term sustainability of the project requires the promotion, in the coming years, of the development of the **local economy**. **This can be achieved both by bringing new ideas and by supporting local initiatives. In this context, the groups from the “We Work It Works” community work as a sort of “business incubator”** where consumables like chocolate, tooth paste, disinfectant soap and other articles are starting to be produced locally and also exported to other villages and islands. We always work to create new competences and give ownership to the local community. In 2015 a group of women from the village asked for **support to start a local sewing cooperative in the village.**

### 4.2.2 Past and current actions

To support the creation of the sewing cooperative we have submitted a **large order of 360 uniforms for students from kindergarten to secondary school**. In this way we ensured at the same time that each student can have **clean and proper clothing for school, independently of their social status**. In 2016, based on the good results, we decided to increase the support to the cooperative by providing them with a facility and access to electric sewing machines.



Furthermore, we started a **training program, helping with the design of new items and teaching new techniques**. Sunshine in Nosy Komba started also transferring to the island the production of its merchandise. This initiative has also been followed by other groups of the “We Work It Works” community, becoming an important source of income for the cooperative.



### 4.2.3 Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016
Sewing cooperative incubation	ESTEC Football Tournament	740	740	-

  

<u>Actual expenses</u>	
<b>Material</b>	
Fabric	490
Sewing equipment	50
<b>Manpower</b>	200
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>740</b>

### 4.2.4 Future actions

Given the good results and the stable evolution of this sewing cooperative, which currently employs four women, we will keep supporting it. We will continue the **training program and we will provide new machines** (e.g. a cut and sew machine) to allow the cooperative to produce new items, such as t-shirts. The goal is also to help them **develop and produce items that target the internal market at a competitive price** in order to make the cooperative self-sustainable in the long run.



## 5 Overall Budget (Eur)

Activity	Sponsor	Y2016		
		Available Budget	Actual Expenses	Left over 2016
School Salaries Y2016-2017	ESTEC Football Tournament (incl. Rhea and Vitrociset)	12,600	12,600	-
Library refurbishment Y2016	ESTEC Football Tournament	740	740	-
School campus improvement	French Kermesse	2,120	2,120	-
School campus improvement	ESTEC Football Tournament	1,800	1,800	-
Rise & Shine Programme	HE Space	5,000	5,000	-
Rise & Shine Programme	Private donations	420	-	420
Maternity Health Centre	ETWA	6,000	4,370	1,630
Maternity Health Centre	HRF	3,704	3,577	127
Support to local companies	ESTEC Football Tournament	740	740	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>33,124</b>	<b>30,947</b>	<b>2,177</b>



## 6 Future projects

### 6.1 Support to local companies

#### 6.1.1 Context

Sunshine in Nosy Komba will keep supporting the economic development of the village by building up the know-how and the necessary facilities to produce items that are needed locally and but that can also be exported to other villages and islands nearby.

#### 6.1.2 Future actions

During our last visit, we have notice that there is a **need for a carpenter workshop**. Initially, it would allow the local community to acquire simple items such as **tables, chairs, windows and other pieces of furniture**. Then, such products will stimulate the local market and have a high potential to increase the exportation capabilities of the village. A structured project must be set up **making sure that the forest is also exploited in a sustainable way**.

### 6.2 Reforestation

#### 6.2.1 Context

In September 2016, **a fire has consumed an important area of forest close to the village**. It could have caused serious damage to the community, but thanks to the help of the other villages, it did not reach any household or public building.

#### 6.2.2 Future actions

Sunshine in Nosy Komba now aims to **turn what could have been a tragedy into an opportunity**. An organised reforestation with indigenous plants will prevent these events to happen again in the next future and will ensure the **conservation of an extremely important renewable resource for the village**. Furthermore, it will **avoid the propagation of exogenous species**, like bamboo, that are now invading most of the island, not allowing the indigenous plants the time to grow. Together local gardener we will plant the trees in an organised way. **The goal is to plant 10.000 new trees in the coming three years**.



## 7 How can you help?

There are many ways in which you can help us:

- **Join in.** We are a small team of volunteers and we can always use some extra **help with our projects, organising our events and trips.** You can start by **sharing with us your thoughts, ideas.** You can find out about our activities at our Facebook page and contact us for more information.
- **Contribute.** Our volunteers pay their own expenses and there are no administrative costs, **every single € that you donate will be invested in Nosy Komba,** You can even chose the project you wish to support, **with 35€ per month you can bring a student up to the university.**

*Bank account details:*

*Sunshine in Nosy Komba*

*NL 31 ABNA 04069 538 99*

- **Share.** Help us creating awareness and increasing the visibility of our activities. **Follow us on Facebook, share our posts and events, tell your friends** about us. Invite them as well be a part of it!

We heartily appreciate your support and thank you for your generosity!

Tack                      Vielen Dank  
Obrigado  
Merci                      ありがとうございます  
Bedankt                      感謝您  
Takk                      謝謝  
Grazie  
Спасибо                      Thank You  
Kiitos                      Tak  
Gracias                      감사합니다  
Dziękujemy                      Σας ευχαριστούμε