



A greenhouse at Streha, Kosovo



Newsletter April 2020

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader

Recently in the Swiss countryside there was again a lot of talk about drinking water contaminated with chemicals. If it were not detectable in the laboratory, hardly anyone would think that our tap water could be harmful to health. In many other countries diseases due to dirty water are almost a daily occurrence. For example in Ethiopia, where although relatively much water is available- but usually only dirty water (see picture). PartnerAid has been working for years with local partners to solve this problem.

The contributions in this newsletter could not be more different: business promotion in Bosnia on the one hand and drug rehabilitation in Kosovo on the other, are witnesses to the wide range of development and project aid from PartnerAid, in places which the world does not usually take a close look at.

Come on, those in charge of the projects deserve our attention.

Thanks for your support.



Johnny Mumenthaler
Co-CEO

Streha, Kosovo

In the past we were able to report on several occasions about drug rehabilitation in Kosovo. Soon the Streha institution will be celebrating its 10th anniversary. On the one hand, Streha enjoys a growing demand for the sought-after therapy places, on the other hand, there is little hope in the country.

Widespread problems

As a young state, Kosovo continues to struggle with major problems such as corruption and nepotism. There is an urgent need to build and develop the economy, to establish stable relations with neighbouring countries, to invest in education and health, etc. In addition to all these challenges, other problems such as arms, human trafficking and drug trafficking have almost receded into the background, but have just the right conditions to flourish and spread.

Streha is unique in the country

Thus, even after 10 years since its opening, Streha is, as before, the

only inpatient therapy centre in the whole country, because the government still shows no interest or has no capacity to solve this problem.

Healthy growth

On 6 June 2010, Streha opened the door for the first therapy participant. In the meantime, 10 years have passed and many things have changed and developed. While there were only two participants in the first months, today the house is more or less fully occupied with six therapy places.

Extended work areas

At the beginning the practical part of the work consisted mainly of ex-

Cultivation in the greenhouse



panding the infrastructure. Today there are practical work areas with a creative workshop, agriculture and a production of cardboard packaging, by means of which companies from the region are supplied.

Increasing product sales

In addition to donations, the therapy is co-financed through the sale of various products. In this way, it is possible to offer therapy free of charge. Thus it is possible to offer therapy to destitute people, who otherwise could not afford it, as there is no financial help from the government.

The post therapeutic challenge

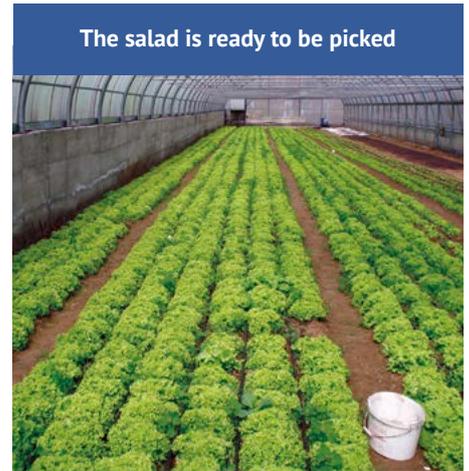
In 10 years Streha has recorded over 140 therapy admissions. As everywhere, there are people who manage to come off drugs, but also those who relapse. A big challenge

is the aftercare therapy of the participants. There is absolutely no offer from the government in this area and Streha itself does not have the personnel nor the financial resources to do it. An expansion of the therapy places could also be considered, as there is often a waiting list of participants.

Help where no one takes a close look

In spite of all challenges, Streha tries to help where nobody wants to look closely and to search for solutions as to how the current challenges could be tackled. At this point, a big thank you to all those who have made the establishment, development and survival of Streha possible through donations over the past years.

*Purpose of donation: **Streha***



Manufacturing of packaging



Promotion of small businesses in Travnik



Against the background of a massive emigration of the young Bosnian generation, it is more urgent than ever to give them a vision and faith in the future of their country. We involve ourselves in various economic sectors. Our latest project: we give computer science talents a chance for a better future.

Vision

Our aim is to promote SMEs in the region. We invest in the areas of education and business development. In this way we make a contribution to a better future with prospects, especially for the young generation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Emigration

According to official figures, about 30,000 people left Bosnia and Herzegovina between January and September 2019. Most of these emigrants are young people who could not find a job in their professions. They lacked perspective and hope for a better future. Those who can, leave the country. Today 3.3 million people still live in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the nineties there were still 4.5 million.

The economy

The country has many problems. The main economic challenge for Bosnia and Herzegovina lies in a non-functioning economic model. The country is struggling to operate necessary changes and is facing the problem of reconstruction, a war-torn country and the implementation of free market reforms. Private investment and companies are not being promoted enough.

Our contribution

Since 2010 we have been committed to improve income and SME promotion. We have carried out various projects in the fields of agriculture, handicrafts, information technology (IT), trade and production of export goods. In May 2015 we started to build up the second-hand business



Company management lesson

Pasija D.O.O. together with local partners.

Handover to locals

In July 2019 we were able to hand over the company to our local partner and complete the project. We have learned a lot. Starting, building and expanding a company in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a complex and often nerve-wracking challenge. Nevertheless, we are glad that we got involved and grateful for the experience we gained. What we have learned will certainly benefit us in our next project.

IT team

With pleasure we now start the next project. We give IT talents a chance for a better future. Our offer in the field of training in computer science and the practical participation in projects takes place in cooperation

with regional partners. At the moment we are dealing with the following topics: social media, online marketing and Customer Relationship Management software. Another project deals with the opportunities and risks of IT outsourcing to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Your help counts

We would be pleased to receive your donation, which will enable young IT talents to further their education and build a future in their home country. With your donation we will further develop our program and improve our offer. Can you imagine supporting our work and help fighting actively poverty and invest in the future of young and talented people from the Balkans?

Purpose of donation: Travnik



The Minch filter eliminates 99,9 per cent of the bacteria in the water

Minch Filter in Ethiopia

Having a lot or enough water is essential for life, but only half the battle. Consuming dirty water usually means illness, often death. The Filters of Minch fight against this problem.

Important observation

Etageyn's neighbours come to her regularly to fetch drinking water. They have noticed that her children are much less ill since she has a Minch filter in her house. In Ethiopia, over 80 million people live without access to clean drinking water.

New filter

Minch has set itself the goal to change this fact. We developed a filter, based on local resources, which

purifies polluted water in a way that people can enjoy germ-free drinking water. The feedback on the over 1000 models already sold is extremely encouraging.

Local filter production

Unfortunately, our local suppliers have taken a different path and make it difficult for us to continue to produce the same model locally. Accordingly, we are working on the development of a new model which can be produced more easily here and thus remains a real blessing for Ethiopia's population.

From development to mass production

In addition to technical development, we are building a whole system of workshops, quality control, marketing and sales to move from a handful of prototypes of the new design to mass production and ultimately to make a difference in people's lives.

Development needs capital

MINCH functions as a social business: we immediately reinvest all profits in new ideas that are inten-

ded to serve society. The development of the workshop and production cannot be financed with the available funds. We are therefore dependent on donations to achieve the goal of mass production of filters. Many thanks for your contribution.

*Purpose of donation: **Minch Filter***



Fetching water in Ethiopia



Minch filter manufacturing

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