

Dear Partners and Friends of River of Hope

....2022 is already over and as the year before very challenging. However, the number of students has grown to over 500. This year was also special because the center is now 10 years old and we celebrated in November during my 12th trip to the Congo. I will not publish films or new pictures, since they can be seen soon in our documentary coming out soon. Stay up to date on our website – if you like to be informed when the movie is out and where it will be shown or rent it, please contact me at: ariverofhope@gmail.com – Info's you can find under: <https://www.epm-global.ch/media/documentary/>.

2022 went by and our two biggest challenges are still not solved.

- The salaries of our secondary school teachers, which are qualified and state approved, are still not paid by the government. The fact that every month we need to break our head on how to keep our teachers and the secondary school open and running, costs a lot of energy and brings us often in financial shortage. We are not the only one with this dilemma, because there are over 80'000 Secondary School teachers nationwide which wait for their salary.

Our primary school teachers are payed since 21.10.2020. Here a short paragraph from the Belgium Online News and Le Monde about this problem

The new Congolese president, Felix Tshisekedi (President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo since 24 January 2019), promised free primary education to his constituents, and immediately honored his promise. However, the financial means were lacking to achieve this. The consequences: parents do not pay school fees, but schools lack the means to operate. One in four teachers is not paid and the new government does not know where to find the rest of the money. The first strikes are already happening. Read the entire article on: <https://www.mo.be/fr/nieuws/felix-tshisekedi-r-ussira-t-il-payer-l-enseignement-gratuit>

At the moment about 80'000 secondary school teachers are still without salary in the Congo. https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2021/10/05/en-rdc-le-calvaire-des-enseignants-non-payes_6097208_3212.html

- The second challenge for us is this the building of the well which was promised by the government. The Solar water pump we have already and is patiently waiting to be installed. We really hope it will be done soon, as we, and the community around us needs this water urgently.

We need those things to be solved, so that we can focus on the operations of the center and other important projects which are in the pipeline. Once more it shows that development needs patience, and the understanding for the way things work here.

This what happened during the year

March: International Women's Day - #Break the Bias

On the 8 March, we participated at the International Women's Day #Break the Bias to set an example. It's all about gender equality, combat bias, discrimination and create inclusive opportunities for women.

On photos: Christoph our project managers with girls who are finishing 12 years of school and have the possibilities to study / Our girls have a football team / Our ladies who work and manage the child care center.

International Womens Day

River of Hope 8 March, 2022 Tala Mosika



#BreakTheBias @ Center "Tala Mosika"
River of Hope - Claudia Doron
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Summer: Opening of the Child Care in Kasangulu:

If working parents in the city wish to send their kids to child care, they need to pay a fee. Tala Mosika, as a registered educational institution is allowed to open such a center. Since it was not an option in our center, due to poverty and lack of rooms, we decided to move it to the city Kasangulu, where we started in summer 2022 with 50 children. During the next summer break, the child care center will be open as an additional service and also as an income source.

November: 12th trip to Congo & 10 Years Tala Mosika

During my 12 trip we celebrated our 10 anniversary you can find impressions under <https://www.ariverofhope.org/12-trip-to-congo/>

In these 10 years we achieved the following in short:

- + We bought 5 acres of land where there was nothing and built an educational center for the region.
- + We made all the bricks for our 8 buildings handmade on campus.
- + We planted over 800 Acacias and 200 fruit trees
- + Our Center is solar powered - the next electric plug is 17km away.
- + We sent 4 - 20' Shipping Containers in the last 10 years.
- + We educate over 500 children from grade 1-12
- + We offer football Training form U12 - U18 and more....

Photo Israel Exhibition: SID Society for International Development exhibited 3 of my pictures.

Interesting connections and experience.

Impressions: <https://www.epm-global.ch/claudia-s-art-1/photos-exhibition/>

Documentary "Look Beyond" empower the observer – coming soon

We also continued to write on our script to produce a documentary

About the film: Claudia Doron is the founder and project manager of the non-profit organization called "River of Hope" which is based in Switzerland. She is also the producer of this documentary. You will find out how development aid looks like for such a project. You might ask yourself why Claudia found a non-profit association with no money and without having a specific project in mind and then ended up in the Congo. Claudia simply wanted to stop thinking, stop talking and start taking acting by empowering others, so they can help themselves. In this documentary Claudia will take you on a journey to the Democratic Republic of Congo, so get ready, buckle up your seatbelts, we are coming in for landing. Boyé Bolamo Nzela Elamu (Its Lingala and means "Welcome and have a good journey) <https://www.epm-global.ch/media/documentary/>

In order to achieve all our goals, we need the support of foundations, private- and business partners alike. We would be delighted to engage in a dialogue with you and discover which areas of your social responsibility vision are close to ours.

**Raiffeisenbank Werdenberg - River of Hope (RoH),
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Wishing you all the best and beyond



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Links

- River of Hope: www.ariverofhope.org
- My 12th trip to Congo & 10 years Tala Mosika (2012 – 2022) - <https://www.ariverofhope.org/12-trip-to-congo/>
- 10 years River of Hope (2010-2020) - <https://www.ariverofhope.org/10-years/>
- Documentary Film – “look beyond - empower the observer” <https://www.epm-global.ch/media/documentary/>
- Exhibition – <https://www.epm-global.ch/claudia-s-art-1/photos-exhibition/>
- Football School – <https://tala-mosika.iimdofree.com/ecole-de-foot/>
- About Claudia Doron – Founder & Project Manager of River of Hope <https://www.epm-global.ch/coach-claudia-doron/>

