



Date: July 20, 2021

NEWSLETTER Q2-21

Friends of the Beter Malawi Foundation,

We have started this quarter well, because we have a new board member! Again, it is someone who has been in 'our' Zomba and turned out not to be resistant to the harmless Malawi virus. In this newsletter Bas would like to introduce himself to you. Furthermore, an update of the new classrooms for Namajoka Primary School cannot be missed in this newsletter.

Finally, Hasante introduces himself to you. He has ambition and has already had a lot of support from sponsoring through Stichting Beter Malawi.

Bas Bosma

My name is Bas Bosma, I am 26 years old and I have completed various courses such as chemical laboratory technician, biomedical life sciences and a broadening in financial management. At the moment I work as a financial/purchasing assistant at the Biotechnology company Genmab in Utrecht. My hobbies are playing games with others (board games/computer games), playing guitar, movies and reading books.

After my education, I went to Malawi for two and a half months last March 2020 and I spent that time in the community "Mawa" (Namadidi). I did this because from an early age I had the will to see how the people in the poorest areas of Africa lived and whether I could offer help.



Once in Malawi you immediately see a great contrast between the rich west and the poorest countries in the world. The goals of my trip were: "Do I feel a connection with the local Malawians?"; "are the Malawians willing to develop?"; "Are there entrepreneurs who want to develop and build up?". All these questions were answered very positively during my time in the community, as I wanted to provide sustainable help for a long time. During my stay, the local people told me that Beter Malawi, a Dutch foundation, offered them a lot of help with various projects. The help that Beter Malawi offered was completely in line with how I look at what you can do for the people there in a sustainable way.

With the help of the children in the village "Songolo" where I stayed, I came into contact with Marleen from Beter Malawi. Last January/February I asked her if Beter Malawi could help me support a young entrepreneur named "Hasante Aufi" with his training as an electrician. From that moment on, the ball started rolling and I was able to join Beter Malawi.

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Classrooms Namajoka Primary School

Despite the COVID circumstances, on May 6th, the construction of the 2 new classrooms started. As you can see below, the construction of the new classrooms is going very smoothly. With this speed we can be sure that for the next rainy season the school will have 2 more classrooms.



Leading Farmer Project (LFP)

Within our LFP, a few farmers have now started using compost instead of fertilizer. Another step closer to independence, because in this way no fertilizer has to be bought. Joseph uses compost instead of fertilizer and says the following:

I am a farmer at the MAWA project. I grow corn using compost. It's a very good farming system and profitable because on a small piece of land I harvest a lot of maize with less work. I only use compost on the land. With the help of the Better Malawi Foundation I learned how to make the compost during the dry season, it benefits me a lot.



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The short story of Hasante Aufi (electrician in training)

Hello, my name is Hasante Aufi. When I was in elementary school, life got harder because I lost my father. Before high school I had to work hard to pay school fees. Because I had to work a lot and hard, I did not do well in the classes. In my third year of high school, Lewis Gama chose me to be sponsored by Better Malawi.



After high school, I helped my mother in the corn garden and sold second-hand clothes. I grew my own Cassava in partnership with my cousin to earn money. I tried to get out of poverty.

In 2021 Bas Bosma connected me with Beter Malawi to be sponsored. I started the fast track of electrical installation by studying to become an electrician at Sakata Development College. I chose to become an electrician because it is a tradeable profession. In the first year of this study I learned about electricity, capacitors, circuits and design, just to name a few topics. I went to Blantyre at Pollytechnic and Soehe, where students shared skills. I did my practice at Silicon Company in Mulanje and Mobile Technician Company in Zomba.

My plan is to start a business after my studies while looking for an job at a construction company. I have the motivation to start my own business and do great things for the people in my community. To conclude, I thank Bas Bosma for connecting me with Better Malawi for sponsoring me in my further education

The Better Malawi Team
Erik, Dick, Bas, Marleen and Manon

We can now also be found on Instagram!

<https://www.instagram.com/stichtingbetermalawi/?igshid=1sibrj4h6bzkv>