

FINAL REPORT – VAVROUŠEK SCHOLARSHIP

NAME: Renáta Matová

YEAR OF STUDY: III.

TOPIC OF THE INTERNSHIP: Monitoring of projects NGO Maendeleo and plan of sustainable tourism in district Utengule/Usangu

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: 15 000 CZK

COUNTRY OF IMPLEMENTATION: Tanzania

PERIOD: 14.6.2016 – 28.7.2016

- **Brief description of the internship:**

For application of my internship I have chosen volunteering in non-profit organisation Maendeleo. Maendeleo have worked in the South-western Tanzania, in the villages Mahango, Malawatu, Utengule and Iduya for more than 5 years. They are situated in a very poor region in Tanzania and it became “home“ for me for 6 weeks from June to July. Maendeleo’s main aim is to provide microloans and education to poor small-scale farmers and so contribute to the growth of living standards of farmers and their families through its biggest project called Supporting Farmers. Other projects of the organisation are: Grant Competition, Microloans for Entrepreneurs and Library in Mahango. Aim of my internship was monitoring of the biggest project and expansion of a new, potentially created project of Community tourism.

- **Description of the activities:**

I can divide my activities in two main goals. My first task was monitoring of the project. It means controlling of the provided microloans for farmers by doing interviews with them and visiting their fields. During my stay I and my colleague Adela visited 37 farmers (next 3 we could not visit because of their sudden illness or staying in a hospital). We interviewed them about their expected harvest, comparison with the last years of their involvement in the project, conditions in this farming year, used seeds, fertilizers or composting and we asked about farmer’s ideas how to improve the project for the upcoming season. All this information will help us better see the effectiveness of provided microloans to the farmers. Based on the outcomes we may suggest some improvements of the project. Basic information about the farmers is also useful for searching for new donors and supporters in the Czech Republic, who financially cover the microloans. Very important was negotiation with the Agriculture Institute in Igurusi, which provides education for farmers. We contracted 10 seminars to improve farming and more ecological agricultural techniques, such as composting. For the PR activities of Maendeleo we also took photos and short videos of work in the project. Last but not least, our task was to observe storage of rice, visiting the library in Mahango, check the Tanzanian accountancy, and organize a family day with us cooking Czech food for farmers. We have also started to search for new groups of farmers who want to join the project. We announced to the farmers supported by Maendeleo

two calls for proposals: Grant Competition and Microloans for Entrepreneurs. Next volunteers from Czech Maendeleo will continue with these tasks.

The second aim was sustainable tourism. I was using the theoretical information from Veronika Ambrozyová, who did the research of tourism in Tanzania in the year 2013 with help of Maendeleo. In the first step, I visited the chief of Sangu tribe and their sacred "White house". I found out a lot of interesting information about their people, stories and how their traditions and culture looked like in the past. I also talked to local people and local government about the possibility of sustainable tourism. I prepared a plan for few days trip to the district and its surroundings. It includes accommodation, discovering native culture and customs, trying their usual daily life and work of farmers and visit to near interesting historical, natural and cultural attractions. All this acquired information together with the guidelines for the tourist I have negotiated with one Tanzanian travel agency called Hekima Safaris and we agreed on the conditions of our cooperation. In next years, I will try to start a new cooperation of Maendeleo and Hekima Safaris in sustainable tourism.

- **Benefit of the internship for student and partner organization:**

I have been working for Maendeleo in the Czech Republic for 2 years. During that time, I have been solving many issues, but from my point of view I could not imagine the real situation in Tanzania. The best thing I carry from my internship is gained know-how. I could use my theoretical skills from the subjects taught in the programme in Mezinárodní rozvojová studia and information from my work for the non-profit sector here in the Czech Republic and turn them into practise. As it was my first journey to a developing country, I have learned how to work in difficult conditions, sometimes without water or electricity and how to solve any situation immediately. Working on this development project will be helpful for my future studies, next internships, jobs in the sector and better work for Maendeleo (new ideas, knowledge of local people and environment...). There are also advantages for my personal life, improvement of my English and learning the basics of Swahili. I have met a lot of nice and interesting people, who I will remember for the rest of my life.

I hope that I helped Maendeleo in all aims I have demarcated: collecting information and photos for next fundraising time period, contacting new farmers and monitoring and discussions with farmers already cooperating with us. My biggest contribution is the project of sustainable tourism, which should be a self-going project, with the best possible effects for the community.

- **Presentation of the outcomes of the internship:**

I have planed to organize 3 presentations of my internship. The first talk was realised in the Tearoom Kratochvile in Olomouc accompanied by a photo exposition taken by volunteers of Maendeleo in Tanzania in half of September. In October, I am going to organise another one at my former High School in Nové Mesto nad Váhom and the third one in the Sport club in Bánovce nad Bebravou (both in Slovakia). I and my colleague, we were writing posts in an internet blog, where we were describing our first experiences during our stay in Tanzania, see <http://pesa-hakuna.blogspot.cz/> Unfortunately, because of lack of time and bad internet connection, we published just a few articles.

FINAL BUDGET:

	My own expenditures	Contribution from Vavroušek Scholarship
Vaccination (hepatitis A, typhus, yellow fever, rabies, cholera) + medicine	6 000	2 000
Transportation costs	5 000	10 000
Local expenditures (food, accommodation, transport...)	7 000	3 000
Visa	1350	
Total	19 350	15 000
Total sum		34 350