



**The Friendly Haven
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2018 annual and financial reports

THE FRIENDLY HAVEN humanitarian NGO



Children celebrating Christmas (above)
and festive event for the widows we are supporting (below)



2018 was for us a year of reconstruction, fortitude and optimism.

In Togo, we managed to rekindle our activities close to the children who had so far been sheltered in the orphanage, by bringing them a regular support and personalized monitoring, and organizing meetings and festive events. And we also **resumed our activities to support widows with dependants**. It is thanks to **your unfailing generosity and your trust** that we were able to restart smoothly. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to you.

In Rwanda, the great event for us was the release of Mr. Kizito Mihigo, the well-known human rights advocate whom we have been supporting for many years. This is wonderful news. Regarding our activities in the **DR Congo**, we continue to partner with the Swiss association Vivere to **provide legal support to women who have suffered from sexual abuse**, in the new context of these barbarian acts now being publicly denounced to the international community by the new Peace Nobel Prize laureate, Doctor Robert Mukwege.

1. In Togo

As you know, 2017 had been an extremely difficult year for our activities in Togo. Because of the nefarious actions of our former local partner, the RAGC association, we were obliged to close our orphanage temporarily and to undertake two different legal proceedings, one for harassment, the other for embezzlement attempts.

What matters most is that we never gave up fighting to help the children. We could do it thanks to you, as you have ceaselessly trusted and backed us. In 2018, before being able to recover our orphanage following legal proceedings, we could with your support rent a house. It allows us **each month, on the occasion of festive events that we organize, to welcome all the children that we have managed to place in foster families**. In this way we can keep regular contact with the children and continue to support them at all levels, including psychologically. Thanks to you we can also give foster families a **financial support** for the children every month. In particular, we could be with the children at the time of the **start of the school year as well as Christmas celebrations** when we organized a beautiful festive event for them.



Children meeting every month ...



... and also for festive events at the beginning of the school year, Christmas and Easter.

During the spring period, **massive floods** affected the country and caused damages to the houses of some of the foster families. We were able to cope with such emergency situations by providing an exceptional support.



The house of one of our foster families after the floods. It was promptly repaired thanks to your support.

Additionally, let us mention that we could organize **training sessions on educative non-violence** designed for the foster families and also the children. It was a great time for the sense of sharing and dialogue. We are grateful to the **Non Violence 21 Foundation** which made it possible to organize it.



A memorable training for the children, the families and the instructors.

Additionally, thanks to the support of our donors, **we could resume our action in favour of income-generating activities for the widows with dependants.** At the end of 2017, Mrs. Séraphine, the flag bearer of this project, passed away because of AIDS, shortly after giving her testimony in court to support us in the litigation against our former local partner. We are happy and proud to have honoured her memory through the resumption of this activity which brings back hope and momentum to some 30 women.



Gayakpa Yawa
Couturière

Gadeva Ablavi
Vente de Sodavi/vin de palm

Bringing financial support to the widows with dependants for developing income-generating activities.

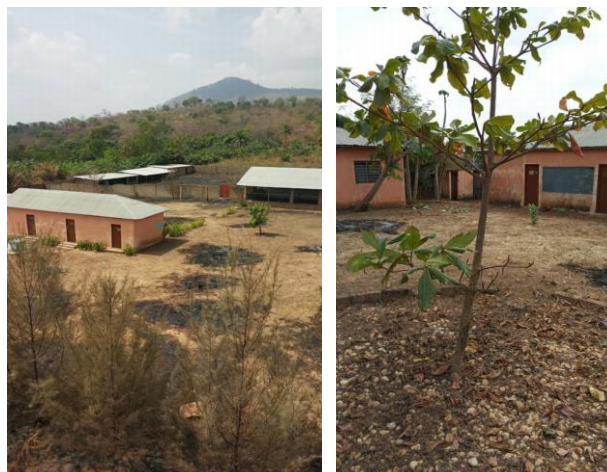
As part of the litigations against the RAGC, there are in fact three distinct legal proceedings:

1. **One legal proceeding directly initiated by our representative in Togo, Mr. Moussa Jazi, for harassment and slander. This litigation which took place in 2018 has been 100% won by Mr. Jazi.** In this context, the spouse of the representative of the RAGC, who had uttered insults and death threats to us and Mr. Jazi has been officially blamed and declared guilty. As a matter of principle, Mr. Jazi has only requested to receive symbolic legal damages of only one Euro as the official acknowledgement of the facts was by far the most important point for us.
2. **Another legal proceeding is related to a request for sequestration in order to secure our orphanage from possible intrusions.** This centre, where we have been working since 2013 with our former partner is the subject of litigation between them and us. **We eventually won our case: in December 2018 the two relevant authorities (the Togolese Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture) sent representatives to check with us the condition of the orphanage. Some damage had taken place but overall the buildings remain usable.** After this, we cleared the scrubs around the constructions to avoid the risk of fires. Thanks to the guarantee provided by the sequestration, we will start refurbishing the orphanage so that it can be ready for the beginning of the school year 2019.
3. **There is one additional legal proceeding against the RAGC association regarding embezzlement and misappropriation of funds.** The court decision is still pending. We remain confident as there have been numerous testimonies corroborating what we have said. When this litigation is concluded, we wish to be able to entirely and unconditionally recover our orphanage so that we can resume our work for the children in the best possible conditions.

As you can see, we held in all clarity to our convictions and ethics, standing firm to support with fortitude the cause of the destitute children. In 2019, we will do whatever we can to win this litigation and resume our work in the orphanage as soon as feasible in the best possible conditions.

In this respect, it is necessary that our donors can provide us with an exceptional support to finance the refurbishment of our orphanage which we were obliged to leave for one year during the legal proceedings. It has been exposed to the elements and thieves. This was all along a major concern for us but we were not allowed to enter the premises as long as the sequestration legal proceeding was not concluded.

Anyway, we remain positive as what is essential is that the orphanage buildings are still solid, as you can see on the photographs below. We need your help to restore electricity, plumbing, and decent furnishings. Keeping in mind what has always been our objective, namely to ultimately ensure the orphanage self-sufficiency, we will try to relaunch our agricultural and breeding project, initially on a modest scale. Before the orphanage had to be temporarily closed, our breeding of laying hens had proven quite successful. We will resume this activity with your support. **Together, let us make 2019 a winning year for the children, and also for integrity and perseverance.** And, once again, we would like to thank our representative: Mr. Moussa Jazi.



2. In Rwanda

As you know, we have for many years supported Mr. Kizito Mihigo, the advocate of human rights and reconciliation. He is an organist and a well-known singer. He was jailed for four years. During that time, we undertook many actions in Africa as well as in Europe to try to obtain his release. It is worth noting that while in jail, he was a source of inspiration for his fellow inmates, organizing events on the topic of peace in a biblical perspective.



Our friend Kizito Mihigo during a concert.

He was eventually released in September 2018. It was for us a big celebration and rejoicing.

While he needs to keep a low profile, Kizito will progressively resume some of his activities which he is allowed to exercise in favour of peace. He will for instance **create clubs for peace in schools** to foster harmony between the youngsters. It is our intention to support this activity in 2019 as we are convinced that peace in this country and the Great Lakes region depends on youth to a large extent. We hope that our donors will support this initiative. We will start this year with a modest budget as we are obviously conscious that our top priority is our orphanage in Togo. This of course does not exclude some modest and focused actions which can prove very effective in other countries. **Rwanda plays a key role in the strategic balance and return to peace in the African Great Lakes region. 25 years ago a genocide took place there. Let us contribute at our modest scale to a return to stability in this area.**

3. In the Democratic Republic of Congo

We have been committed to defend the rights of women and girls victims of sexual abuse in the eastern part of Congo since the creation of our Friendly Haven association. For many years this essential fight has been the subject of very little attention from the international community. **Things are now changing thanks to Dr. Robert Mukwege who has been awarded the Peace Nobel Prize at the end of 2018. The world has now become aware of the situation in the eastern part of DR Congo where sexual violence is used as a war weapon** as part of the destructuring and destruction of society. **This year, as part of our continuing partnership with the Swiss Vivere association, we are committed to support some twenty women in Court.** Having the perpetrators brought to justice is essential for the personal reconstruction of these women. **We hope that in 2019, with your backing, we will be able to continue this action and also to support the Tulizeni Centre that we have already helped: it takes care of women, often pregnant following sexual abuse, as well as orphans. The war that continues to prevail in the eastern part of Congo is one of the worst in the world in this 21st century. We must be committed to act. We thank you as you have been supporting us in this cause since the creation of our association.**

IN CONCLUSION, we reiterate our sincere thanks to our donors for their trust and generosity: it had made us stronger and gave us confidence. In this year 2019 which is crucial to achieve the restart of our orphanage in Togo and continue our (modest) undertakings in Congo and Rwanda, we do need your help. **We know that we are asking you to make an exceptional contribution to make the resumption of the activities of our orphanage possible.** We thank you in advance for your support and benevolence. Together let us bring our positive input to the world: if we want to contribute to a change for the better, this begins here and now, acting together!

4. Financial report 2018

Expenses	In €	Resources	In €
		Funds remaining available as of Jan. 1, 2018	3 592
<u>TOGO :</u>			
<u>Expenses related to the children :</u>	<u>23 065</u>	<u>Funds from a number of individuals</u>	1 862
of which:			
Regular support to the children and foster families, visits and follow up	17 487	<u>Funds from sponsors (foundations, companies and main individual donors)</u>	
Christmas celebrations for the children	2014		
Emergency help after the floods	300	- <u>Companies and banks</u>	30 000
Training sessions on educative non-violence educative (<i>funds received in 2017</i>)	1 220	- <u>Main individual donors</u>	10 107
Rent and expenses for the house to host the children for festive events	1 730		
Furniture for the house hosting the children	314		
<u>Expenses related to the widows :</u>			
Support programme for income-generating activities for some 30 widows	<u>5 015</u>		
<u>Expenses for the local staff in Togo</u>	<u>12 899</u>		
of which :			
Remuneration of the agricultural engineer (and project manager)	11 413		
Return airfare to Europe for the agricultural engineer	786		
Engineer's trips to Lomé	200		
Exceptional support to the orphanage's former staff	500		
<u>Legal expenses Togo</u>	<u>323</u>		

<u>DRC CONGO :</u>			
Legal support to women victims of sexual abuse	<u>521</u>		
<u>Banking and administration expenses of which :</u>	<u>686</u>		
Banking expenses	342		
Western Union expenses	107		
Website, accountant, mailing	237		
TOTAL EXPENSES 2018	42 509	TOTAL RESOURCES 2018	41 969
Shortfall	- 540		
		Funds remaining available as of Jan. 1, 2019	3052

We have successfully managed to come close to a financial balance in 2018. We are therefore happy to report what we have achieved and to thank you once again for your support.

5. Budget for 2019

Estimated annual expenses	In Euros
CHILDREN IN TOGO	<u>15 200</u>
Follow up with the children and support for foster families <i>(Euro 1403 per month over 8 months)</i>	11 224
Beginning of 2019 school year and festive events	2 500
Rent and expenses of the house for the children (8 months)	1 476
ORPHANAGE IN TOGO	<u>39 584</u>
Orphanage refurbishment <i>(Please see details next page)</i>	8 384
Resumption of the agricultural and breeding programme (starting with 300 laying hens)	4 000
Orphanage operating expenses over 4 months <i>(Euro 2800 per month)</i>	11 200
Remuneration of the agricultural engineer (and project manager) + airfares	16 000
<i>of which:</i>	
<i>Annual paid leave not used in 2018</i>	800
<i>Remuneration :</i>	
<i>Euro 950 per month January to August</i>	7 600
<i>Euro 1200 per month September to December</i>	4 800
<i>Return airfare to Europe for 6 weeks of legal paid annual leave</i>	800
<i>Substitute manager during the annual leave in Europe of the current project manager (including return airfare)</i>	2000
RWANDA	
Support to 15 schools promoting peace	<u>1 500</u>

DRC CONGO	<u>1 000</u>
Legal support to women victims of sexual abuse	500
Support to the Tulizeni orphanage	500
Legal expenses Togo	<u>2 000</u>
Miscellaneous operating expenses	<u>619</u>
of which:	
Banking expenses	300
Website	119
Administrative expenses	200
Unforeseen	<u>500</u>
TOTAL	60 403

ORPHANAGE REFURBISHMENT	In CFA	In EUROS
Repair of the electrical system (1.5 km outside + in the centre + meter)	2 500 000	3 811
Repair of the water drilling system and hydraulic piping	500 000	762
Repair of the beds/ purchase of mattresses	700 000	1 067
Doors and windows	200 000	305
Repair of the shed for the hens	500 000	762
Playground	100 000	152
Painting (inside and outside) of the buildings	700 000	1 067
Unforeseen	300 000	457
Total	5 500 000	8 384

We are conscious that we are asking our donors to increase their donations vs. 2018. This is explained by our priority to resume the operations of the orphanage after refurbishing it. For the children, it is a place of resilience and fulfilment and therefore the pillar of our action and hope. Many thanks for continuing to support us!

Donations

You can support The Friendly Haven (its French name is: "La Maison des Amis") by bank transfer (preferably in Euros) to its bank account in France:

Bank: La Banque Postale
Account holder : La Maison des Amis
Account number: 20041 01008 2153721R029 38
IBAN : FR 17 2004 1010 0821 5372 1R02 938
BIC : PSSTFRPPMAR