

Some background for our engagement in Kenya, and dreams for the future work:

The first time I was in Kenya, in February 2010, I came into contact with many people and organizations, and especially two pastors, which I since have had a lot of cooperation. They operate both churches and schools. One, Joel Atamu Ojondo, located in a poor area outside Kitale town north in Rift Valley of Kenya. The second, Fred Abungu, located in the slums outside Nairobi. I have since supported school projects to both pastors. Fred has in 2012 also established a school in a poor area outside Mombasa.

Later my wife Anastasia came into this. She is born and has grown up in Kenya. She also had her dreams and visions in the same direction.

Late 2011, Fred, Joel, Anastasia and I had a meeting where we discussed the future. Since we have a lot of common interests, we wanted to formalize cooperation. Church policy can be very challenging and difficult in Kenya. Therefore, we decided to separate church and school all in this context, and let our relationship only apply schools.

Now we have three schools (preschool + primary school) and we want to establish a new secondary school. The new will be a boarding school. We also want to establish some work to take care of orphans in private homes. Furthermore, we also want to establish vocational training center.

We plan for an operational organization and a supporting organization:

- Operational organization will be registered in Kenya as an NGO (non-government organization). We are working on this now. There are many types of organizations, and formal things must be done properly. Anastasia and some in Kenya are trying to figure this out. We will probably also have to seek advice of a lawyer who specializes in this.
- Support organization will be registered in Norway. Formally, this will be in the form of an association. This will be registered in the official registers: Enhetsregister and Frivillighetsregister.

For a long time and with the help of many friends and other contacts, we have been looking for land for the new school. We believe we have found a suitable location for an affordable price. I was in Kenya in December 2012 to see this land. We have now entered into an agreement to purchase land for the new project. This has the size of 14 acres. It is located near Nairobi, approx. 55 km south-west along the road to the mining town of Magadi. The money to pay this plot, we have risen by voluntary work by Torunn (my sister) in summer 2012. We are four friends who worked on a project by Torunn, where she has contributed to Kenya project instead of hiring other contractors.

All our properties in Kenya are today registered on private individuals and organizations. School in Kitale is registered on Joel A. Ojondo. In Nairobi and Mombasa are schools registered by Faith Church, where Fred Abungu is supreme leader. The new property will be registered on Anastasia Venheim (since she is a Kenyan citizen). When our new organization in Kenya is registered, all the properties will be transferred to this.

Once we have the formalities of registration of the organizations in Kenya and Norway, we will try to get support from Norad, a support-organization under the Norwegian government.

Birger Venheim