



Annual general report 2021 FRED'S FARM - People 4 People

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY on and around FRED'S FARM

Primary beneficiaries: 1422 individuals. Employees, participants in training, recipients of plants, recipients of farm produce, school pupils, recipients of medical treatment, Twa and others who cultivate on FRED'S FARM land, recipients of emergency aid and more.
There are many secondary beneficiaries, primarily the closest family.

COVID-19: in accordance with national guidelines in Rwanda, FRED'S FARM continues with preventative measures throughout the year; hand washing facility, social distancing is promoted on the farm, and visitors are restricted. Food production is a priority, so teaching activities for farmers continued but with restricted numbers at each session.

National restrictions on movement for several long periods during the year left those with minimal income, no income. FRED'S FARM provided employment for more people in these periods.

Employment

Altogether 14 people have permanent employment all year round.

Five to 10 field workers were employed for 10 months of the year. Fifteen day workers from the Twa village were employed for 7 weeks to harvest and transport mulching materials for 7 weeks. In addition, worm tea and coffee husk pulp was transported to the farm by day workers from the Twa village.

Bamboo planting and follow up provided work for 10 workers for two weeks. Transplanting of macadamia trees provided employment for 60 people.

Animals on FRED'S FARM

Cows: three animals 01.01.21, two calves were born. Pr. 31.12.21 five animals.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the cows have not been sold. The animals have been healthy all year. Milk between 7 - 14 litres pr week. This is shared with the most vulnerable children in the area.

Goats: eleven animals 01.01.21, 7 kids were born, one died. Pr 31.12.21, seventeen animals.

All animals are healthy. Milk is shared between children with the highest grade of malnutrition, 7-17 litres pr week.

Four families with altogether 6 children who suffered from severe and moderate malnutrition have received goat milk all year. All the children have improved nutritional status; 4 are now defined as "healthy"(green), one has improved from severe malnutrition (red) to a continued need for extra nourishment (yellow), whilst one has an underlying condition and is still in the red range.

The planned interbreeding programme with local goats is a step closer to being rolled out. All animals were given ID (identity) markers, and one of our young males has been chosen for the interbreeding programme. One competent local farmer is motivated to try interbreeding with local goats, and FRED'S FARM has lent him a mature buck.

Hens: six hens produced eggs regularly. Eggs are shared with the vulnerable and staff..

Farmer training

One hundred and ninety three farmers attended training to learn to make organic compost without animal dung. Each farmer attended once. Training was carried out on FRED'S FARM over a 5 week period. Jacques led the training. Many of these farmers have now implemented this method.

Fifty farmers, including 30 from the Twa village, attended training about moringa, and received 2 moringa seedlings each.

Collaboration with Kizi school

School closed: due to COVID-19, the school was closed from the end of July until mid October.

Twa children: the 6 children from the Twa village who started school in 2020, continued in 2021. FRED'S FARM supported the total cost of their school uniforms, sandals, exercise books and pens.

Solar lamp library: all 47 lamps have been in use. 120 pupils have benefitted from these lamps.

Plant moringa: 50 saplings were planted in February in the kitchen garden at the school. Unfortunately these did not survive the period the school was closed due to COVID-19.

Internship program: two groups of 3 pupils have successfully completed a 12 week internship program on FRED'S FARM. The third group will complete their program in January. All pupils are chosen by the school principal from vulnerable families. The programme consists of taking part in all activities on the farm, but they have a prime responsibility for helping to establish and maintain our "DEMO PLOT" (see under **Plants**). Each pupil received a weekly sum to attend, and another "savings sum" when they successfully completed the programme. All bought young animals with their savings. They intend to make a small sustainable business with the animals, by rearing and selling them with profit. Then buying another and so on.

The pupils wrote a report where they described gaining knowledge and skills they can use at home. Both the principal and individual teachers applaud the programme.

Twa initiatives

Acute humanitarian aid in the form of sorghum and maize meal was given to all 60 families in the Twa village in October and again in December.

32 families were given bean seeds and planted these on FRED'S FARM land. This was 20 more families than in 2020.

20 Twa took part in the training programme for moringa, and received seedlings.

"JIGGERS" treatment: in February, 17 people (both children and adults) from the Twa village received medical treatment for "jiggers" (Tunga penetrans), guidance in prevention, and received soap.

The Microsavings initiative has not been re-established as the Twa villagers have fought for survival, so saving is at present not an option.

Plants

Moringa trees: we sourced high quality seeds in May. Our neighbour propagated seedlings for us twice in 2021, and we also propagated successfully on FRED'S FARM. Enough seedlings were produced to supply farmers, the school and for the DEMO plot on FRED'S FARM. In addition we have planted more in the established "moringa area" on FRED'S FARM.

Food production for people (daily workers and permanent staff who live on the farm) and fodder for the animals has increased markedly in 2021.

DEMO plot: the first phase to establish a demonstration plot on the farm has been completed. Saplings of shade trees, fruit trees, moringa trees and napier grass were planted around the perimeter of the plot. Altogether approx. 140 saplings. In addition an area is planted with lemongrass.

14 local farmers with little land were invited to cultivate on FRED'S FARM.

Coffee and macadamia are 2 cash crops on FRED'S FARM. In the future these will provide income towards running FRED'S FARM.

Coffee

The coffee harvest in 2021 was very poor. After 4 years of intense work on the coffee, we now accept that most of the coffee bushes damaged by hail several years ago, cannot recover. All non- or little productive bushes were removed, and in October we replaced some. Now there are 1392 healthy coffee bushes.

Altogether 260 shade trees, calliandra and grevillea, were planted. In addition, after a successful trial in 2020, approximately 100 banana trees were planted as shade trees.

Organic compost is produced on the farm and used as fertilizer. 25 compost heaps were made in 2021. Worm tea from the coffee washing station was used as a "strengthenener" and pesticide. The three beehives established in 2020 to improve pollination are alive and well.

Macadamia

To consolidate our macadamia trees, many macadamia trees planted in 2020 were transplanted in September. This is to reduce the amount of work to nurture them. More trees than in 2020 have started to produce nuts.

Due to COVID-19, there is no market for the nuts.

Water

Harvesting and storage of water functioned well all year. Piped water supply was broken at the start of the dry season for 3 weeks in May/June, for 5 weeks in August and again for several weeks in November/December. In each case water pipes were damaged in the village close to the farm. Pipes are superficial and easily damaged.

Maintenance

General maintenance has been carried out including painting of windows and doors, new fencing for the hens and the goat shed was improved.

Health, safety and environment (HSE)

Five hundred bamboo plants were planted along a 2 km stretch of river in the valley close to FRED'S FARM. This area is seriously affected by erosion and farmland flooding in the rainy seasons.

Health insurance is paid for all permanent staff. Malaria nets are provided for the staff who live on the farm. Health and safety equipment is in place and in use when spraying the cows against ticks. Rubber boots are provided for all permanent staff. Jacques heightens awareness in everyday duties on the farm regarding hygiene and risk assessment. Measures to prevent COVID-19 were followed up all year. Jacques feels confident to use the first aid kit as required.

Collaboration

Jacques collaborates with the village and sector leaders, the district veterinary surgeon, the sector agriculturalist, Kizi school principal and a local farmer who propagates seedlings "on order".

Jacques received training in making organic compost from AGRITERRA, funded by CBI (Centre for Promotion of imports from developing countries, funded by the Ministry of foreign affairs in the Netherlands).

We kept contact with the English NGO, Rwanda Action. They plan to start a goat interbreeding program in 2022. This collaboration provides us with ideas, knowledge and a professional support network.

Information to sponsors, and others

FRED'S FARM homepage www.fredsfarm-rwanda.com was edited regularly throughout the year.

Five updates were published on the homepage, 2 in Norwegian and the remainder in English. All sponsors are informed about these by email. No information meetings were arranged for sponsors.

Skjetlein senior high school received one update in June to post on the school's information screen and one article was written and published in the school magazine in December.

Committee i 2021

Fred Kasigwa, Einar Stordahl, Bente Denstad.

4 committee meetings were held in 2021.

Arne Ivar Denstad, Sten and Hanne Paltiel participated in all the committee meetings.

Trondheim, JANUARY 2022

Bente Denstad, styreleder