

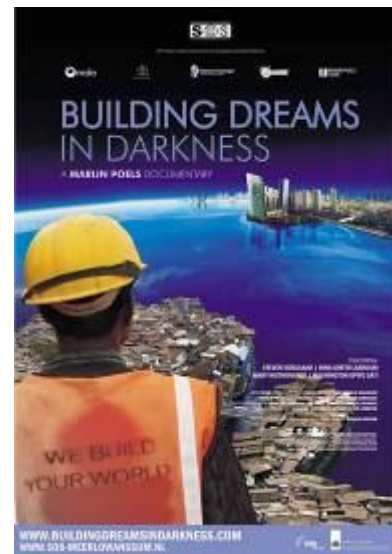
Year Plan 2011

Introduction

SOS Meerlo-Wanssum is a volunteer foundation, which has the purpose to help people in developing countries realise local projects in order to improve their living conditions in a sustainable way. At the same time, SOS organizes awareness projects at schools/groups in our own community. SOS Meerlo-Wanssum is active in the North Limburg communities Venray and Horst aan de Maas. The organization consists of 40 volunteers, including SOS Young.

The year 2011 will be a special year for SOS, because:

- SOS starts in 2011 with society internships for pupils
- SOS will have its film premiere about the new India project
- SOS is an active participant in the Whitsun Art Fair in gallery Keramieke in Geijsteren.
- SOS will participate in the Street Festival, organized by Cambrinus in Horst
- SOS participates in realizing a World Pavilion in North Limburg
- SOS will put its campaign bus everywhere for awareness
- SOS gains awareness via Open (Fair Trade) Coffee at Tante Jet (pub/café)
- SOS will involve the school children of our villages in the project
- SOS will organize a new brainstorm session with the volunteers
- SOS will organize an SOS Friends Meeting on the theme India on Saturday April 2nd
- SOS participates in the global tree project: World Trees
- SOS will again work together with Wild Geese and via this organization our project will generate attention on national TV and radio in February
- SOS will replace the signs at the entrance of the villages with an India sign



Goal

The goal of SOS is to increase the commitment and involvement of the inhabitants of the six villages of the former community Meerlo-Wanssum with people in the developing world. For this purpose, we organize awareness activities within schools, groups and organizations. Through information meetings, local activities, press releases, website, video, brochures and films we share our story. Additionally, every three years we support a project in a developing country, with which inhabitants of Meerlo-Wanssum have a connection. This materialistic project support is a tangible expression of that commitment. The country in which the project is located and the project itself are our central focus in all activities during the project period.

With these activities we want to promote to the inhabitants of Meerlo-Wanssum a positive image about people from different cultures and tolerance. SOS Meerlo-Wanssum gives the stepping stones towards this goal. We hope that the people, schools, groups and companies will become active in a creative way to spread the ideas of SOS. Practically this means that money and means will be collected for our project.

The new project



The year 2011 evolves around the new project: school on wheels for the organization Udavum Karangal in the South Indian city Chennai, formerly known as Madras. This project has been chosen by the board and the volunteers from ten entered projects.

In Chennai, the 56 year old Steven Vidyaakar leads the organization Udavum Karangal. He grew up as a slum child and was working with Mother Theresa as a social worker. He went back to his home town to care for the handicapped and outcasts. Via volunteer Diny van der Heijden-Noij from Meerlo en the relationship with Udavum Karangal the project was entered. Marijn Poels

designed a logo for the new project. The national organization Wild Geese supports the school on wheels project Wings, Mobile School. In March 2011 Vidayaakar wants to start building the bus. He expects the school to be operational around summertime.

Open (Fair Trade) Coffee

In continuation of the successful yearly SOS Friends Meetings, the group Communication & Networking has initiated Open (Fair trade) Coffee meetings for entrepreneurs and professionals. Looking at the success of the first two meetings, this initiative will be prolonged in 2011. During this meeting, there will be three minutes of inspiration and business people can participate in the 'view opener' to discuss current challenges with colleagues. The Open Coffee will be held in the pub/café (Tante Jet) and the fair trade coffee will be served by SOS volunteers. The organization is in hands of two SOS-volunteers Chiel van der Linden and Myrke Stalman.

World Pavilion 2012

In 2011 it will become clear if the plans for a World Pavilion at the location of the Floriade 2012 will be a reality. The idea for a World Pavilion is initiated by SOS. The goal is to realize a permanent educational centre for global development where people can learn about other cultures.

The World Tree Project

SOS participates in the global project World Trees because of the 'Boomfeestdag 2011' on 24th of March in Venlo. At twelve locations in the world, tree circles (fruit trees) will be planted. A special education package has been made to make the children aware of the importance of trees and of healthy eating. There will be a documentary of the project, to be viewed via youtube. At our Indian project, Udavum Karangal, the trees have been planted already in December 2010. Other participating countries are Germany, Indonesia, Ghana, Uganda, Malawi, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Nicaragua en China.

Epilogue

Society is toughening up. People are put against each other, but SOS is not cooperating. We want a society in which everybody, no matter what race, political colour or religion, can participate. We want to contribute to this cause by



giving people in our villages the tools with which they can understand each other; be tolerant of their differences and enjoy their similarities. We want to create world inhabitants who look further than their own border.



As agreed upon during the board meeting of Wednesday 2nd of February 2011

Stichting Ontwikkelingssamenwerking Meerlo-Wanssum

René Poels, chairman
Gertie Mooren, secretary
Peter Lenders, accountant
Désirée Driesenaar, member
Hans Vestjens, member
Julienne van Well, member