



SOSSAH Newsletter

August 2022 | Number 9 | 'We face neither east or west, we face forward'

WHEELS FOR LIFE



Most rev. Gabriel Edoe Kordji SVD Bishop of Keta-Akatsi Diocese blesses the pick-up.

In this number

PAGE 1

News from Ghana and St. Anthony's

PAGE 2

Projects: Wheels, Beads en Power save lives, National Lent Action

PAGE 3

SOSSAH news: Volunteers, structure, marketing en self-efficacy in collaboration with ED&E Consulting

GHANA New developments

Motorbikes! Traffic! The roads! The cell phones! You immediately notice the increase. Women with babies on their backs and phone calls on top of their curly heads speed past you on the motorbike. Entire families are transported with it and the last means of transport that the Japanese have introduced is a motorcycle with a cargo box. This motor replaces the donkeys, which used to provide this form of transport. Unfortunately, quite a few accidents happen with this means of transport, but also because of the large number of motorcycles. I was told that on average there is one fatal accident per week.

In terms of infrastructure, a lot of progress has been made, especially in the area of communication. Everyone seems to have a cell phone and that in all walks of life. The wired telephone, I think, is hardly used anymore and for many the era of it is simply skipped. The Chinese are building broad roads, but traffic is increasing to such an extent that cities such as Accra and Kumasi are severely congested!

Ghana was the only African country to experience economic growth of more than 12% in 2011. But who will benefit the most?! Everywhere I saw women walking with large buckets of water on their heads. And not only in the remote villages, but also in Accra and other large cities. I sometimes thought: When will the time come when everyone in Ghana will have running water at home?

Source: *brothers of Maastricht, F.I.C.*



Inflation in Ghana rises to 31.7% in July, highest since 2003

The Ghanaian cabinet authorized the IMF bailout on Thursday.

The money quickly lost value and the debts grew over the country's head.

Ghana was one of the best performing economies in West Africa thanks to the production of gold, oil and cocoa.

The pandemic, screeching inflation and devaluation of the local currency pushed the country ever closer to the abyss.

Source: *Volkskrant*

AKPE Medical Director Dr. Sam Forster

Dr. Sam Forster has represented St. Anthony's hospital fantastically last year with a Toyota Pick-Up DLX as a farewell. We are very grateful for the pleasant cooperation. AKPE, Dr. Sam, good luck! SOSSAH has now become acquainted with the new management. We hope for a good cooperation that will last a long time and we are happy that we can now pick up the thread again.

The new management of SAH

The new management of St Anthony's Hospital:

- Dr Stephen Aboagye - Chief health services administrator
- Mr Eric Oduro - Deputy health services administrator
- Dr Foster Samuel - Outgoing medical Director
- Anku Daniel - Human resources manager
- Dr Dwamena Williams - Current Medical Director
- Linda Hayford - Nurse manager

And: Justine Quist, local ambassador for SOSSAH.



Drive safely

After more than 5 years of efforts for an ambulance for the hospital and a pick-up for the preventive health care team, project 'Wheels for Life' has recently been successfully completed.

- * The demand for an ambulance has been fulfilled by the bishop of the Keta-Akatsi Diocese.
- * The prevention team's request for safe transport over the dirt roads was granted thanks to a generous legacy of 100k of a former tropical doctor.

The vehicles are blessed by the bishop: many safe kilometers and take good care of the vehicles!
Many lives are saved thanks to safe cars.

Electricity saves lives

Recently, the new management confirmed to continue with the Power Supply Rehabilitation Project. The Ghanaian Swiss Hospital Technician led by Ruedi Eggenberger will carry out this project, together with the hospital and the local population.

- * The emergency generator will be connected as soon as possible.
- * The next step is the housing of the new generator. Funded by the same generous legacy. Inflation demands decisiveness!
- * After this, the entire project will be carried out in smaller steps. This will make fundraising more 'feasible'.



Beads for Life on the Exotic Market

SOSSAH looks back with gratitude on its first exotic market on a 'Ghanaian' sun-drenched day, Sunday 17 July. Many happy visitors with genuine interest in our jewelry and our project 'Beads for Life'. Thanks to the buyers, we can again help many Ghanaians with a birth certificate with which you contribute to good care, education and nutrition in the pursuit of a future without poverty in Ghana.

Organization response:

We were so impressed with your booth with the beautiful, colorful articles and the matching explanation that you were able to give to the visitors. It has contributed fully to the atmospheric Exotic Market.

We would very much like to contact you again for next year.

With thanks and regards, Mariska and Cobi,
OLT Nispen.



SOSSAH News: we are now working with students from ED&E Consulting on 3 projects: organizational structure, marketing and self-reliance.



National Lent Action 2022: The hospital sends in the new budget before September and then receives from L.V. the proceeds: € 2,433.00 (2,258,935.43 GHC).



FUNDRAISING: St. Anthony's Hospital and SOSSAH will have to look for funds. The estate already has a good purpose.



VISITING GHANA: This fall, Annemieke will visit St. Anthony's.