

-English Version-

Protocol

10. April 2024

III. Global Think Tank – Shaping the future together | City partnerships as an opportunity in the fight against the climate crisis?

14:00 – 16:30 via Zoom

Participants: 24

-14:05-

- 1. Introduction:** Greeting and reference to Kenako 2024 from the 23rd of August until the 1st of September 2024, at the Alexanderplatz, in Berlin.
- 2. Participants presentations** (you can find the list & contact of the participants at the end of the document).
- 3. Presentation from Silvia and Louis Zulu: Hannover-Blantyre**
 - 2024 Malawi celebrates 60 years of independence;
 - Geo-political-social context of the country;
 - a. Background story of partnership:**
 - i) Started with Freundeskreis Malawi und Städtepartnerschaft Hannover-Blantyre e.V., then the twinning was reaffirmed when the mayors signed a document;
 - ii) goal: spirit of friendship;
 - b. International Declarations and Commitments** (Agenda 21, Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals, Aware & Faire) are promoters for networking and partnership:
 - e.g.: Aware & Faire: sustainable agriculture, agroforestry, school gardening, talking about climate change, fair trade and gender justice;
 - Projects in different regions;
 - c. Different focuses and projects:**
 - i) Aware and Fair: Focus on sustainable consumption → permaculture in Malawi, food security, fair trade products → in which ways can one help producers in Malawi;
 - ii) Education & Sustainability: Partner school near Mozambique → climate change impacts → Sustainable School Gardening and including water supply for drinking & irrigation for the green house and the school gardening; Training about the

design and management of the agro-forest → included teachers and students;

iii) Blantyre, Hannover & Chingalire - actors from different areas and schools → reforestation;

iv) Climate Cycle Tour → sustainable green ways of transporting citizens → it is possible to adopt bikes for moving;

v) Theater group → promotes cultural exchange between Malawi and Germany.

d. Objectives: share challenges, understand differences, exchange world views, appreciate similarities, promote artistic exchange, promote education;

e. Successes: foundation of smaller organizations within the framework of Blantyre-Hannover; joined projects between Germany and Malawi on climate change; creation and printing of the Aware and Fair toolkit; tree planting at the Mudi Dam;

f. Motto: Learning together for a more sustainable future; & Education never ends, we are continuously learning.

4. Q&A

Question: Have young people from Malawi visited Germany or is it possible? For us it is not possible for the young people of Marokko to come here, and I would like that to happen.

Answers:

→ Emphasizes the complicated process from receiving a visa, to finding financial support for the trip, it is theoretically possible, although difficult;

→ Idea on how to find financial support: Programme for young people and School partnerships; and also financial support from the ministry and city for such an exchange; another possibility is Franco-German Youth Office;

Question: In which way can city partnerships promote mutual learning while offering a chance in the fight against climate change?

→ Climate Cycle Tour project in 2018; Educational work about climate change among schools and young people during the tour;

→ Accentuates the need to try to understand what Malawian people understand through climate change and spread it, alongside their ways of fighting against it (local solutions have to be implemented with local people).

Question/ Remark: Since there are different financing formats in the EU, how will they finance the right project? I think there is an imbalance between the northern

countries who cause climate change and the southern who suffer from it.

Additional information regarding the Fair & Away project from Hannover-Blantyre
→ The project shares more of the problems in Malawi with the world and tries to understand how to improve the situation there and therefore bring climate justice; Awareness rising & advice.

5. Results of the discussions in the breakout rooms

How can City Partnerships promote mutual learning and implement solutions for local and global challenges, like climate change? Which structures should be changed to allow this?

French working group:

1. Raise awareness towards climate change;
2. Raise awareness of the difference between impacts of climate change in the southern and the northern hemisphere and highlight the alternatives to said “climate-damaging practices”;
3. Promote environmental education in the younger generation and make sure to learn from mistakes;
4. Exchange research and also educational materials;
5. When implementing projects abroad, try to use local resources and ideas;
6. Raise awareness of cultural differences and financial possibilities;

English working group:

1. Importance of listening before doing;
2. Mediating role between the Global North and South. Finding solutions for collaboration without being completely dependent on external help;
3. Importance of promoting and financing small projects and not just focus on big ones;
4. Responsibility must be taken → The Global North has to fight climate change, not the Global South → City partnerships’ fight against climate change will mean that partners from the South must provide information about the effects of climate change in their lives, and to present that in the communities in the North → from there, solutions must be implemented;
→ Project between universities in Potsdam and Zanzibar: making measures on how climate is changing in both cities to compare what can be done in each city →

what are the consequences? What can we do at the local level? & collecting information how temperature, rain, etc. is changing (a more scientific approach); + School projects → solar panels implementation; botanical garden activation which is now used by the people and also for medicine purposes;
→ best solution: always involve local people to see what really makes sense and how they can work together.

6. Conclusion

This edition of the Think Tank explored the benefits of City Partnerships in fighting the climate crisis, while highlighting the importance of dialog between the actors and looking for solutions to mitigate the climate inequality.

List of Participants

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| Jannis Bahnmüller | University of applied sciences in Rottenburg Schadenweilerhof; works in a project from the partnership between Baden-Württemberg & Burundi (Development of coffee agroforestry systems in Burundi). | Bahnmueller@hs-rottenburg.de |
| Jahsa Wiles | VENROB (Verbund Entwicklungspolitischer Nichtregierungsorganisationen Brandenburgs e.V.), part of the One World Promotive Programm; does not engage in city partnership. | |
| Ingrid Macht | Responsible for cooperation between Lisch-Tata (Marokko) | ingrid.macht@gmx.de |
| Christoph Lammen | Intercultural relations organization, city partnership between Namibia and Germany | christoph.lammen@gmail.com |
| Hesse | Professor at the Waldorf School, connected with another school in Zanzibar; | s.hesse@waldorfschule-potsdam.de |

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| Andreas Konietschke | Manager of the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Namibia in Hannover; German Namibian Network in Hannover; | info@namibia-hannover.de |
| Heiner Naumann | Member of the German Namibian Network in Hannover; | Heiner.Naumann@gmx.de |
| Silvia Hesse | Friend Circle of Malawi, city partnership Hannover and Blantyre (Malawi); | silvia.hesse@gmx.de silvi.hesse@freundeskreis-malawi.de |
| Emilie Nikiema | Mayor von Koudougou City Partnership between Koudougou and Melsungen | nikiemaemile14@gmail.com |
| Luisa Sperrer | Viva Con Agua NGO; works with Uganda, Ethiopia, and most of East African countries as well as Nepal, India; | l.sperrer@vivaconagua.org |
| Claudia Dombrowsky | BBAG; City partnership between Potsdam and Zanzibar; | dombrowsky@bbag-ev.de |
| Frank Jungheim | Manager of climate protection, city partnership between Melsungen and Koudougou (Burkina Faso); | frank.jungheim@melsungen.de |
| Herbert Höfer | City partnership Kernen im Remstal and Masvingo (Simbabwe); | Herbert.Hoefer@online.de |
| Louis Zulu | City partnership of Hannover and Blantyre (Malawi); Secondary School Teacher; | macleelouis@yahoo.com |
| Sakina Ramharak | City partnership between Stuttgart and Menzel Bourguiba (Tunis) | najemsaleck@gmail.com |
| Najem Saleck | Mayor of Teveragh Zeina, Nouakchott, Mauritania; | najemsaleck@gmail.com |
| | Responsible for the partnership of Schwabach and Gossas (Senegal) | julesdiedhiou4@gmail.com |

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| Jules Antoine Diedhiou | | |
| Alex M. | Based in Freiburg, intercultural promoter in for the Dachverband Entwicklungspolitik in Baden-Württemberg, no city partnership; | |
| Philipp Keil | Foundation for Development Cooperation (SEZ), partnership Burundi and Baden-Württemberg; | keil@sez.de |
| Daniela Richter | District Office Mitte Berlin; partnership with Addis-Ababa (Ethiopia) and Douala (Cameroon). | Daniela.Richter2@ba-mitte.berlin.de |
| Mona Pursey | Eine Welt Forum e.V. Aachen; Cape Town (Südafrika) and Aachen; | mp@1wf.de |
| Ronald Bogaschewsky | Prof. Dr. at the Forum Africa Center University of Würzburg; | boga@uni-wuerzburg.de |

- End around 16:40 -