

11 augustus 2014

Dear Friends,

We had a great time on the mountain at Kirinda, visiting the market and the school, then to Rubengera to the Presbyterian nun, who took us all over the hills to find stones with a design in them and the mushroom cultures they make to sell to local mushroom growers. We also visited another vocational school and met Katya, a German lady, who showed us around, what a wonderful place and amazing how they have included the students' learning program and used this to make fixtures, doors, cupboards and even a library for the local community with them.

We managed to get back from the country, by this time Colette is a natural driver and can drive up and down all kinds of roads, with rocks and bendy! A friend joined us, Immaculee, and she drove us up such a steep road, big holes and rocks, sand! She wanted us to visit this hotel built from wood on the side of the hill. It was wonderful indeed! The lady has taken all the wood from a forest to make these chalets on stilts. I hope she replanted the trees!

Alfons our driver, has disappeared from the face of the earth. Later we heard his phone had been stolen and he was in Uganda with some guests he is driving around. Since we were only paying him 10 euro's per day, it was understandable that he took the other work, while it was going.

Trying to find out information is tricky, internet often does not work so well (MTN - Airtel is working fine now), the phone lines are unclear and even when in front of someone, communication can be difficult if you are not sure what questions you need to ask. People are supposed to speak English, but often do not speak much, or none at all; luckily I speak French. A bitconcerting if you are on the phone and the person on the other side is not answering you, because they don't speak the language you happen to be speaking.

Colette has been busy with all the things going on with the house (visitors/ building the garage/ arranging 3 case electricity etc) and I have been working hard on the application for funds. Luckily we have an advisor Ben Rutten, who made us aware that applying was a possibility. So we managed to write

most of the application for the high tea parlor (possibly will also sell ice cream) and for the farm that CARSA is working on. We both sent in a concept for these project and received a positive result, meaning that we were allowed to submit a full proposal. Those are now almost ready, just the last few bits that need to be reviewed. If we both get funding, we will really have a party - bring out the champagne! We should hear this by the 1st of September.

Yesterday I visited Sylvestre and Natasha, and their daughter Orio (2.5 yrs). They have a nice house and showed us around. We were allowed to see the kitchen, which is a separate little house in the yard, where they cook on charcoal. I asked where they did the dishes and there was no particular place, just in the back yard. I shared with them that we would do the same while camping and my dad would bring a little table to do the dishes on. Sylvestre thought it was a good idea. So I hope he will find a table, in stead of doing the (dish) washing on the floor.

Yesterday evening we were be with Christophe and Dianne and their family. This week will be another busy week, visiting places, find out out information and hopefully registering the company which will be the vehicle for our high tea/ice cream venture.

Friday afternoon I touch down in Schiphol.

See you soon!

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