

Dar es Salaam-Dodoma January 31st, 2006

Tuesday January 31st, 2006

This is the day we are heading for Dodoma which we really are looking forward to after two weeks of extensive training, first week in Rome and second here in Dar. As usual when entering the restaurant, we are welcomed by this charming girl, dressed in a traditional "Masai sheet". The last few days she insists speaking Swahili to us as she knows that we are attending a Swahili course. This is of course very good as we need all the practice we can get before start working in the fields.

A driver from WFP is picking us up and we thought that he was the one to take us to Dodoma, this was wrong, we were taken to WFP Country Office as we are to change both car (we need a 4 wheel drive) and driver. We are in total 5 people and need there two cars, ours is fully loaded with equipment from the roof to top.

It is not only our own bags; there is also equipment which we shall deliver to the Dodoma sub-office. We leave the office and the distance about 600 kilometers and expected to take approximately 8 hours.

After some hours going west the landscape is becoming browner due to lack of rain. We passes several small villages and now we can see houses not only made of Bantu bricks or cement, many houses are built of clay and the roofing is tin sheets, to avoid the sheets blowing away, they have put big stones on top to keep them still if windy. It is soon to stop somewhere to have lunch and we do this at a village.

Not so fancy though, but this little restaurant is located amongst palm trees and other kind of trees and gives us good protection from the sun. The food is tasty and cheap, what about lunch for 5 people including soft drinks for the price of 9000 shilling equal to USD 7.80 or SEK 64.

In this village, we have the supplier of pots to the fuel-efficient stoves we are building. This supplier has this year increased his prices with 36% compared to last year, complaining that all prices going up, such as the fuel which has increased by 40%. The NGO (Non-Government Operator) which are traveling together with us, want us to meet the Director and try to negotiate. We are doing so and after some negotiation we lower the increase with 20% so the total increase will be 16%. We leave the supplier satisfied with the negotiation.

Along the road you can see women and children carrying containers of water, the women usually wearing the container on their head, while children uses a bicycle, if they have one.

We arrive to Dodoma at 18.45 and have a nice dinner before going to bed as tomorrow will be another day of meetings.



Girl in Masai sheet



Houses made of clay



New Dodoma Hotel



Links of interest regarding The School Feeding Project

<http://storiesworthtelling.org>

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