



## Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006

Yesterday I mentioned that the president visited the camp where we are staying, to find out the present situation regarding the energy production at Mtera Hydro Plant. The situation is critical as there is no rainfall and the water level of the dam is several metres below normal and the plant can no longer produce and deliver energy to the national network of electricity. As the Hydro Plant and TANESCO only can produce energy based on water, they have now been requested by the president of Tanzania, to look at other possible resources than water, i.e. for instance based on coal. It was interesting to look at the news on television and listen to him and to find that he were sitting in the same sofa we are used to sit in during the evenings at this camp.



## Chinyika Primary School

Chinyika Primary School	Pre-primary	Primary	Cobet	Total
Boys	27	431	27	485
Girls	28	427	20	475
Number of teachers				14
Total	55	858	47	950 (teachers excl.)

### Inventory statistics

Type	Existing	Needed	Discrepancy
Desks / Madawati	219	333	114
Tables / Meza	11	51	40
Chairs / Viti	11	51	40
Cabinets / Kabati	2	30	28
Book cases / Rafu	2	8	6

The school is located 74 kilometres from our base camp at Mtera and this means approximate 1 – 1 1/2 hours drive. This school is one of the biggest in the district of Mpwapwa as you can find of the statistics above. The school is divided into two schools at the same compound and one of the schools has classes for standard 1, 2 and six, while the second school has standard 3-5 and 7.

### The class rooms and teachers buildings

They need more class rooms as they have so many students in this school and them also lacking teachers. When mentioning teachers, it is most common that the teachers who works for the school also living inside the compound, and at this school they need buildings for the teachers to live in as well. When it regards the class rooms, they are not unlike the other schools class rooms, often they need to be re-painted as it looks like this never has been done since the schools were founded.



Stones and rocks as floor



95 children in one room

In this school they also are lacking many desks for the students as you can see in the statistics presented above. The most depressing experience was to find that the standard one class had no roof, full of stones and soil and not a single desk for the small children. And believe it or not, they were 95 children in this class room. A possible donation here would go to cement for the flooring and to buy desks to the standard one class room. Will you take the challenge to raise a fund for this? Please let me know.



Janet trying to sort rice



### Latrines and Hand washing

The toilets are awful; it is not possible to visit the toilets due to the smell unless you are good at holding your breath for a long while, or at least as long as needed. The one who can manage this will find and see the maggots down there swimming around... I can assure you this is a most disgusting experience. No water was available at the toilets which was reported to the Head Master who will arrange this immediately. All children washed their hands before eating their meals so this routine was already in place.



### The stove construction

The construction works perfect and we are lining up as usual to get the bricks and clay inside the kitchen. We are free to do what we want to do, and that is to socialize with children and teachers as well as the community members.



Preparing and delivering clay



Everybody helping

### The children and the teachers

Everybody is so kind and friendly and the teachers guide us around the compound and we visit some of the classes and have a small chat with the children. The Head Master wants me to visit the second school within the compound and that is the school where we had a stove seminar for approximately one week ago.

We take a look at one of the teacher's house which are under construction and it looks nice, it is ready up to the roof, so only the wood and the tin sheets are missing and they are waiting for the community members to finish the building. He thinks that the building will be ready in one month or two. I doubt this, because inside the building without roof you find all sort of garbage lying on the ground and there are grass growing so probably it was a long time ago the building was ready as is today.



Holding lesson



Standard 7

### The orchestra and the march

They were all aware of that the other schools had done a good march and well singing so they had really accept the challenge to do a good performance as well.

Together we walked around the compound playing and singing the school song and the National hymn, they performed really well. After this it was time to play with the balloons, and this we did at the same place were we marched. A perfect place and we had a lot of balloons as there were many children. While the band was playing on their drums and flutes, I marched around followed by the driver and the Head Master giving balloons to some of the children.



The orchestra and all students



Marching



When handing over the balloon I saluted the children and they saluted in return. When this was done I danced through the field accompanied by the music and the laughs and applause from the teachers, school committee and the community members. We used many small TNT balloons and quite a lot of the BIG "Colour the World" balloons as well, and when using the BIG balloons they screamed even more of happiness and joy.

When all the balloons had exploded they all came back to me, can you imagine 950 students standing in front of you screaming and clapping their hands. And when standing there and they were singing, I acted as a cheerleader (have you ever seen a male cheerleader?) instructing them how to clap their hands, wave their arms from right to left, do some dancing steps, etc. Wow, what a show, I felt like a king for a day.



The balloon hunting



Cheerleading

Everybody was so happy and grateful afterwards and expressed their thanks to TNT as donors and that we were welcome back at any time.

This was for sure a day to remember.

**At last**



Do not forget this important event; the walk this year is taking place in May 21<sup>st</sup> in your city or a city nearby. You can register your attendance by visiting <http://www.fighthunger.org/signup06>.



Salama  
"Baba Kjelli" Rosengren