



AFIT Nuusbrief

AFIT Newsletter

June 2015

AFIT's last year? and some sad farewells

We have been talking a lot lately about funding for AFIT and it is getting harder and harder to ignore the fact that if we are not able to find a solid long term funding partner by our October AGM we are going to have to use the AGM to discuss closing the organisation.

We are already beginning to feel the impact of not having long term funding as we are very sad to announce that Denile will be leaving AFIT and EMG at the end of June. She has been offered another job and because we have not been able to guarantee her employment after October she has decided that she has to leave.

This is very bad news as Denile has played a very important role as the AFIT Coordinator since she joined us in January 2012. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her dedication to her work and to the small scale farmers and farm workers of AFIT. We will miss her terribly. See inside for her farewell greeting.

There is more sad news as Nelie Kok one of our longest standing AFIT Management Committee has resigned due to ill health. Please see the article inside on Nelie and his contribution to our organisation. We wish Nelie a speedy recovery and hope to see him back in our meetings soon.

Dates for Workshops for the rest of the year are on the last page our Spring School and AFIT AGM will be in October

AFIT se laaste jaar en hartseer afskeide

Ons het die afgelope tyd baie gepraat oor befondsing vir AFIT en dit word moeiliker en moeiliker om die feit te ignoreer dat ons nie in staat is om 'n vaste langtermyn befondsing venoot te vind nie. Ons Oktober AJV sal ons moet gebruik om die sluiting van die organisasie te bespreek.

Ons is reeds besig om die impak van die gebrek aan langtermyn befondsing te voel byvoorbeeld ons is baie hartseer om aan te kondig dat Denile AFIT en EMG aan die einde van Junie gaan verlaat. Sy is ander werk aangebied en omdat ons nie in staat was om vir haar werk na Oktober te waarborg nie het sy het besluit om ons te verlaat.

Dit is baie slegte nuus omdat Denile 'n baie belangrike rol gespeel het as die AFIT koördineerder sedert sy by ons in Januarie 2012 begin het. Ons wil graag hierdie geleentheid gebruik om haar te bedank vir haar toewyding aan haar werk en aan die kleinboere en plaaswerkers van AFIT. Ons sal haar verskriklik mis. Sien binne vir haar afskeidsgroet. Nog hartseer nuus is dat Nelie Kok een van ons langstaande AFIT bestuurskomitee het bedank weens swak gesondheid. Sien die artikel binne oor Nelie en sy bydrae tot ons organisasie. Ons wens Nelie 'n spoedige herstel en hoop om hom binnekort te sien in ons vergaderings.

Datums vir Werkwinkels vir die res van die jaar op die laaste bladsy die Lente Skool en AJV gaan in Oktober wees.

Visit the NEW
AFIT website:
www.afit.co.za



The crocodile jumping castle was a hot favorite!

Sports Day Sponsors



FAIRTRADE
GERMANY

A very big thank you to our sponsors who's contributions went to supporting the Spring school as well as contributing to the beautiful trophies and prizes. Fairtrade Germany



FAIRTRADE
AFRICA

donated EUR500 or R 6 637.64. Fairtrade Africa donated R 2000.00 and Fairtrade Labeling South Africa donated R 500.00. A very BIG thank you for your support!



FAIRTRADE
SOUTH AFRICA

So far workers raised **R5318** from gate fees and some of the sales from the stands— there are a few farms who still have to deposit the sales profits into the AFIT Account.

Each farm ran their own fundraising stand

A very big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this day as big a success!



Saamstaan sold pancakes sweets, chips under their tent.



Rooidraai sold burgers droewors next to their truck.



Bosman Adama sold wors rolls.



Little Nadine Oerson—from Fairhills—the smallest netball player!



Fairhills sold cool-drinks out of their truck.



Koopmanskloof sold chicken lunches and ginger beer, they



also had a nice message on their takeaway pack—above.

The Committee/Die Kommittee



Very special thanks to : Abraham Oersoen and Ivan Marang who were the main Coordinators of the event. Special



thanks also goes to Roseline (Secretary/ Sekretaesse), Jim Van Heerden, William (Vice Chairperson/ Onder voor-

sitter), Beira Morkel, John Barings (Treasurer/ Kassier), Jacob Marang, Leon Booysen (Chairperson/ Voorsitter)



Kids having fun on the jumping castles.

The Events and prizes



There was athletics for everyone. There was Rugby and



soccer and Ana from Fairtrade Southern Africa Network

Farms had Athletics, Dancing, Rugby, Soccer and Netball Teams— everyone had a brilliant time!



judged the dance competition. The women played brilliant



netball and trophies medals, Fairtrade badges and choco-



late 'Tjokolat' were the rewards!



Bosman Adama Karate group did an amazing Karate demonstration for us all.



Nelie Kok at one of the many AFIT Management Committee meetings held over the years.

AFIT bids fond farewell to Nelie Kok

After many years of service, Nelie Kok resigned from AFIT's Management Committee due to ill health. There are not many AFIT members who have not met Nelie, but perhaps some of you are not aware of how the significant role he played in the formation and growth of AFIT.

Nelie's co-op, Eksteenskuil was one of the first to be awarded FLO certification. He was also one of the small group of fair trade producers who encouraged EMG to host a meeting for farm-workers and small-farmers to discuss the need for a voice to represent them in the fair trade system. That was way back in 2005. From this small beginning, Nelie was consistently active on the Steering Committee, overseeing the growth and development of AFIT.

In the early days, and even now, some farm-owners see AFIT as a threat. Nevertheless, Nelie was never shy to express his views and was often critical of fair trade not playing a strong enough role in the positive transformation of South Africa's agricultural sector.

Nelie was also instrumental in raising the first funds for AFIT. At a Fairtrade meeting in Tanzania in 2006, he gave a forceful presentation on the newly-formed AFIT and its objectives. After the presentation, a representative of Comic Relief, a British funding organisation, introduced himself and encouraged us to apply for funds. A few months later, EMG, as the AFIT Secretariat, signed the first funding contract with Comic Relief.

We wish Nelie lots of rest and a speedy recovery.

SAAMSTAAN Play in Citrusdal, Ceres and De Doorns

Thanks to the French Embassy's Civil 'Society Development Fund' we have been very busy running plays across the western Cape.

We are doing the final preparations for our last performance in Robertson. The performances in Wellington, Citrusdal, Ceres and De Doorns have been very well received by workers. From the evaluation forms, we found that the workers like the scene where the owner of the farm attends a meeting with the workers and that workers learned more about their rights and how important it is to work together. Workers, who attended the show, really enjoyed it.



Ceres Performance of our play SAAMSTAAN



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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

**AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
EN AFRIQUE DU SUD**

**THE EMBASSY OF FRANCE
IN SOUTH AFRICA**



The play Saamstaan and initial project was originally funded by the Foundation for Human Rights. The Foundation has just recently given us funding to run 3 more Forum Theatre workshops linked to the project—these workshops will take place in September.

AFIT se faarwel aan Nelie Kok

Na vele jare diens het Nelie Kok bedank uit AFIT se bestuurskomitee, weens swak gesondheid. Daar is nie baie AFIT lede wat nog nie vir Nelie ontmoet het, maar miskien is sommige van julle is nie bewus van die belangrike rol wat hy gespeel het in die vorming en groei van AFIT nie.

Nelie se kooperasie, Eksteenskuil was een van die eerste om 'n FLO sertifisering te kry. Hy was ook een van die klein groepie van fair trade produsente wat EMG aangemoedig het om 'n vergadering vir plaaswerkers en kleinboere aan te bied om die behoefte aan 'n stem om hulle te verteenwoordig in die billike handel stelsel te bespreek. Dit was die pad terug in 2005. Van hierdie klein begin, was Nelie deurgaans aktief op die loodskomitee en het toesig gedoen oor die groei en ontwikkeling van AFIT.

In die vroeë dae, en selfs nou, is daar 'n paar plaaseienaars wat AFIT as 'n bedreiging sien. Nietemin, Nelie was nooit skaam om sy mening uit te spreek en was dikwels krities oor fair trade 'n nie sterk genoeg rol in die positiewe transformasie van die landbou in Suid-Afrika speel nie.

Nelie was ook instrumenteel in die verkryging van die eerste fondse vir AFIT. Op 'n Fairtrade vergadering in Tanzanië in 2006, het hy 'n kragtige aanbieding oor die nuutgestigte AFIT en sy doelwitte gedoen. Na afloop van die aanbieding, het 'n verteenwoordiger van Comic Relief, 'n Britse befondsing organisasie, himself aan ons bekend gestel en ons aangemoedig om aansoek te doen vir fondse. 'N Paar maande later, het EMG, as die AFIT sekretariaat, die eerste befondsing kontrak met Comic Relief



Nelie representing AFIT at the Fairtrade Africa Network meeting in Moshi Tanzania in 2006.

SAAMSTAAN Opvoering in Citrusdal, Ceres en De Doorns

Te danke aan die Franse Ambassade 'Civil Society Development Fund' was ons baie besig met die opvoerings van die toneelspel regoor die Wes Kaap.

Ons is besig om die laaste voorbereidings te doen vir ons laaste opvoering in Robertson. Die opvoerings in Wellington, Citrusdal, Ceres en De Doorns was baie goed ontvang deur die werkers. Uit die evaluasie het ons vasgestel dat die werkers hou van die toneel waar die eienaar van die plaas 'n vergadering met die werkers bywoon en dat werkers het meer oor hulle regte geleer en die belangrikheid oor samewerking. Werkers wat die opvoering bygewoon het, het dit baie geniet.



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Ceres Audience at our play SAAMSTAAN

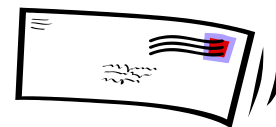


Die toneelspel Saamstaan en projek was oorspronklik befonds deur die Foundation for Human Rights (FHR). Die FHR het onlangs vir ons befondsing gegee om 3 exte Forum Teater werkwinkels gekoppel aan die projek—hierdie werkwinkels sal plasvind in September.



Everyone is very busy at the workshop in Citrusdal

Dear AFIT



We are two families on a farm and that are unhappy about our housing. There is little or no privacy given to us as parents, because the two houses we live in are too small.

Other families living on the farm have bigger houses. We are therefore compelled as parents to share our bedroom with some of our children.

What can we do to change the situation?

Regards

Unhappy

Dear Unhappy,

We are sorry to hear about your situation. We have recently heard of other workers who complained about leaking roofs and windows not closing properly. Workers complain that they are getting cold and wet.

Together with the union / worker's you can write a letter to the owner and ask for an extra room explaining your situation and use the Fairtrade Standard 3.5.28. as an example of why this should be done. The standards states: "If your company provides housing for permanent, migrant, seasonal/temporary or former workers, it must be such as to ensure structural safety and reasonable levels of decency, privacy, security and hygiene, and includes regular upkeep and improvement of housing and related communal facilities".

This provision also applies to workers who are struggling with leaking roofs and windows that do not close properly.

If the problem is not resolved you should let your Fairtrade Liaison Officer and the FLO Cert Auditor know about the issue at their next visit and if it remains unresolved after this you should report the infringement to the Fairtrade Quality Management Unit who will follow it up.

Greetings

AFIT

Worcester Workshop—Workers Rights 26-27 May

What a wonderful experience? This was largest attendance at any of our workshops so far. The group was enthusiastic, asking questions, debating issues. I was unaccustomed to having such a large group of 36 people. Everyone had a positive contribution to the discussions and devised good solutions to their problems.

We worked hard, but also made time to share jokes. Everybody agreed that it was a successful workshop. As the facilitator, it brought a tear to my eye knowing it was my last workshop with AFIT . I will carry this experience with me.

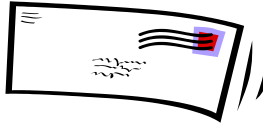
Denile's farewell

I would like to say goodbye to everyone with whom I collaborated and thank you all for the pleasant time. It was a very good experience and learning process. I extremely enjoy the work and I hope that we will meet again in the future. Thank you once again.

Denile en Abraham deel 'n grappie.



Beste AFIT



Ons is twee huisgesinne wat op 'n plaas woon wat ongelukkig voel oor ons behuising wat nie privaatheid verleen aan ons as ouers nie, omdat die twee huise waarin ons woon te klein is.

Die res van die families op die plaas woon in grooter huise. Ons is dus genoodsaak as ouers om ons slaapkamer met van ons kinders te deel.

Wat kan ons doen om die situasie te verander?

Groete

Diep ongelukkig



Workers busy learning at the workshop in Wellington

Beste Ongelukkig

Ons is jammer om van jou situasie te verneem. Ons het onlangs van ander werkers gehoor wat kla oor dakke wat lek en vensters wat nie reg toemaak nie. Werkers kla dat hul nat raak en koud kry.

Saam met die vakbond / werkerskomitee kan jy'n brief aan die eienaar skryf die en vra vir 'n ekstra kamer verduidelik jou situasie en gebruik die Fairtrade Standaard as 'n voorbeeld oor waarom dit gedoen moet word. Die standaard bepaal: 3.5.28 "Indien jou maatskappy behuising verskaf vir permanente, migrerende, seisoenale / tydelike of voormalige werknemers, moet dit van so 'n aard wees dat dit strukturele veiligheid en redelike vlakke van ordentlikheid, privaatheid, sekuriteit en higiëne verseker, en sluit in die gereelde instandhouding en verbetering van behuising en verwante gemeenskaplike fasiliteite"

Hierdie bepaling geld ook vir werkers wat sukkel met lekkende dakke en vensters wat nie behoorlik toemaak.

Indien die probleem nie opgelos word nie moet jy die Fairtrade Skakelbeampte en ook die FLO Sert Ouditeur laat weet oor die kwessie by hul volgende besoek en as dit steeds onopgelos is moet jy die oortreding op die Fairtrade Kwaliteit Bestuurseenheid rapporteer wat dit sal opvolg.

Groete

AFIT

Worcester Werkswinkel-Werkersregte 26-27 Mei

Wat 'n wonderlike ervaring? Die grootste deelname wat werksinkels betref. Die groep was entoesiasies, vroe gevra, kwessies gedebateer. Dit was ongewoond om met so 'n groot groep van 36 mense te werk. Elkeen het 'n positiewe bydrae gelewer tot die besprekings en het goeie oplossings vir hul probleme bedink.

Ons het hard gewerk, maar ook tyd gemaak om grappies te deel. Almal was dit eens dat dit 'n vrugtevolle werksinkel was. Vir my as fasiliteerder het dit 'n traan in die oog gebring wetende dat dit my laaste werksinkel was met AFIT. Ek sal die ervaring met my saamdra.

Denile se Vaarwel

Ek wil aan almal met wie ek saamgewerk het totsiens se en baie dankie vir die aangename tyd. Dit was 'n baie goeie ervaring en leerproses. Ek het die werk ontsettend geniet. Ek hoop dat ons wel in die toekoms mekaar sal raakloop. Baie dankie weereens.



Denile luister na iemand se aanbieding



Solidarity
through fair trade

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AFIT's 2015 Programme / Program

Forum Theatre Workshops:

These workshops will focus in basic rights and build workers communication, conflict resolution (including sexual harassment) and negotiations skills.

Stellenbosch 7 August
Piketberg 14 August
Worcester 21 August

Forum Theatre Workshops:

Hierdie werksinkels fokus op basiese regte en die bou van werkers kommunikasie, konfliktoplossing (insluitende seksuele teistering) en onderhandelingsvaardighede .

Stellenbosch 7 Augustus
Piketberg 14 Augustus
Worcester 21 Augustus

We have received funding from the Foundation for Human Rights (FHR) to run more of these one day workshops in **September**— dates and venues to be confirmed.

Ons het befondsing van FHR ontvang om meer van hierdie een dag werksinkels in **September** te hou - datums en plekke sal bevestig word.

Spring School and AFIT AGM :

Cape Town 19th—23 October

Lente Skool en AFIT AJV:

Kaapstad 19th—23 Oktober

AFIT is a network of small-farmer and farm-worker organisations

OBJECTIVES

AFIT aims to help small-farmers and farm-workers ensure that the fair trade system works for them – through building capacity, sharing information and providing a platform for members to engage in fair trade debates and discussions.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all representative bodies of small-farmers and farm-workers in South Africa, producing for (or intending to produce for) the international fair trade system.

AFIT is 'n netwerk van kleinboere en plaaswerker organisasies

DOELSTELLINGS

AFIT poog om kleinboere en plaaswerkers te help verseker dat die Fair Trade stelsel vir hulle werk deur bevoegdheid uit te brei, deur inligting te verskaf en deur 'n ruimte te skep waar lede kan praat en debatteer oor Fair Trade.

LIDMAATSKAP

Alle verteenwoordigers van groepe kleinboere en plaaswerkers in Suid-Afrika, wat produkte lewer (of beoog om te lewer) aan die internasionale Fair Trade stelsel, mag lede word.



Association for
Fairness in Trade

