

AKANY AVOKO Newsletter

APRIL 2007

**SINCERE
THANKS TO
ALL OUR
DONORS
FOR
MAKING
THIS A
HAPPY YEAR
FOR ALL
THE
CHILDREN
AT AKANY
AVOKO!**

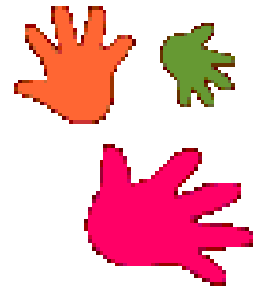
IN THIS ISSUE:

**Photo exhibition I
and fashion
show**

Celestine 2

End rainy season 3

European Union 4



I. PHOTO EXHIBITION AND FASHION SHOW



One of Akany Avoko's volunteers took the "bull by the horns" and taught the children how to use the digital camera.

A photo competition was organised for the children: "who can take the most beautiful picture". The photo's were displayed and sold.

The jury rewarded the most beautiful pictures with a small prize. Below you see the winning picture in the category "flowers and plants", made by Francine, ten years old.

The photo exhibition was combined with a fashion show (see adjoining picture). The older girls made handbags and the children also embellished Akany Avoko tee shirts with glitters and embroidery. The "models" walked on a catwalk, marked by yellow tape.



There was Malagasy popmusic and all spectators had a great time. Afterwards visitors bought photos prints, and screen printed T-shirts. The best painting was auctioned to the highest bidder.



"I can hear clearly now ..."

When Celestine was 11 she was sent to work as a maid for a Malagasy family. She was mistreated and when she was 13 she became ill and was admitted to hospital. There she was diagnosed to have diabetes.

Nobody came to visit her when she was in hospital. The doctors decided that she needed to live somewhere more homely and that's why she came to live

2. CELESTINE

at Akany Avoko in 2002.

Last year it was discovered that Celestine was hard of hearing. A volunteer working at Akany Avoko raised money to buy her a hearing aid.

Celestine is doing very well now, she is delighted to be able to hear and understand everything.

She is now 20, and preparing for independent living.

She has just secured a job embroidering tablecloths for export. In her spare time she still enjoys making crafts like this banana bark picture frame.

All she needs is a house and she will be ready to move on from akany Avoko.

We hope that you continue supporting Akany Avoko. We need all the help we can get to help us care for 140 Children.

For more information:

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Bank account details

Account name:

"Akany Avoko, Centre de Reeducation FAFFIP"

Bank address:

Bank Of Africa,
3 Ave de L'Independence,
Soarano, Antananarivo 101,
Madagascar.
Bank Code 00009
Branch Code 05500
Account Number
11318800007
RIB 61
SWIFT Code AFRIMGMG
IBAN:MGMG0000905500113
1880000761

3. RAINY SEASON

Madagascar is situated in the Southern Hemisphere. When it is cold and winter in the Europe it is warm and summer in Madagascar.

Almost all the rain in Madagascar falls during summertime (from November till May).

Sometimes Cyclones bring high winds and torrential rain.

In the beginning of this year there were several cyclones and we had a lot of rain! Houses got flooded and many people had to live in tents for weeks.

Also rice fields were flooded and the rice crops were destroyed. This will make rice very expensive, which is a big problem for Malagasy people who eat rice 3 times a day.

This photo was taken after a storm. At least the flooded fields were good for fishing!



4. EUROPEAN UNION

The authorities of Madagascar place children in Akany Avoko if they are at risk or if they are orphaned.

Some children are brought to Akany Avoko if they have been accused of a petty crime like stealing a chicken or a radio.

In principle the Malagasy government should pay for the care of all the children of Akany Avoko. Unfortun-

nately Madagascar is a poor country, and the government has not paid reliably for many years.

That's why Akany Avoko asked the European Union for a subsidy.

The European Union committed themselves to help Akany Avoko for one and a half years. They are giving money for a new second-hand bus, to replace old mattresses, improve the

children's health and education and also to buy milk and fruit for the children.

This is not long-term funding, but we are very grateful for it while it lasts.

