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## Letter from the Editor

November comes along with big changes and promises of a better day.

The change starts in our care centres with the Care Project, the Microfinance Project and the Human Rights Project located in different places.

Our volunteers always work hard no matter the conditions, the climate or their age. Jeannine Hardy, a Microfinance volunteer, is a great example of that ever growing strength and commitment from the volunteers. Discover the good recipes she taught to the talibes (street children in Senegal) that have benefited from loans thanks to the Microfinance Project. Those recipes that you will soon find on the menus of the talibes' small restaurants run in Saint-Louis.

Unfortunately, change comes with some beginnings and endings. Indeed, Joke, the desk officer of Senegal has finished her contract with us. It was sad; but we live every day with a smile, so have a look at the photos of her last day at the office.

And last but not least, the volunteer story of an Utrecht University student who spent three months at a Microfinance Project in Senegal.





Have a good read!

Arame



We would like to invite you to find our Official Facebook Group by searching Projects-Abroad Senegal – The Official Group. Also, if you would like, add us as a friend so that we can be in touch before, during and after your trip to Senegal.

My Facebook name is Arame Projects Abroad. Or if you are a Twitter fan, you can also follow the latest news here, our name is Proj\_AbroadSN.

Best wishes from Senegal.



## Centres' Updates

We used to have two Care centres; the first one is the ASF Care centre that is in Corniche, in the area called Diawlingue. The second one is the Projects Abroad Care centre located in the area HLM.

Before; in the centre HLM, we had the Microfinance Office and one part of the Care volunteers. The Human Rights Office and the Care Project was at the ASF Care centre.

Now some changes have been made. Indeed all the Care volunteers willing to work in a Care centre will be placed in the ASF Care centre and in the Projects Abroad Care centre are now located the Human Rights Office and the Microfinance Office.

When volunteers are willing to do Care at the Care centre, they have the choice between healthcare and education. Healthcare is basically about giving first aid to street children (also referred to as talibes); cleaning the wounds of the talibes at the centre as well as the daaras (place where the talibes live and learn the Koran). As for education, it consists of teaching a language and mathematics to the talibes. All the Care volunteers will be involved in the hygienic activities at the centre.

The staff there consists of:

-Atou Kane Seck who is not only a nurse but also the coordinator of the centre;



-Amina Niang the responsible for the Health care section;

-Lamine, responsible for the Education section;

-Général Diallo, their assistant.

And at the Projects-Abroad talibe centre which is in the area called HLM, we have the Human Rights Office and the Microfinance Office.

Mrs Naty Faye Sarr is the coordinator of the Human Right Office and Ousmane Ndiaye is that of the Microfinance office! Oumar Balde is their assistant!

They are all awaiting to welcome you for your projects in Senegal!

## Microfinance Update: Teaching new products to the talibes



At the Microfinance Project, the talibes(street children) get a loan after having received mathematics and business lessons. With their loan they start a small business that they run with the advice and assistance from the

Microfinance volunteers.





Jeannine Hardy, Microfinance volunteer has decided to show some new products to the talibes that have small restaurants usually called Tangana. She was inspired by

former Microfinance volunteers that taught the beneficiaries how to make pizzas. One of the beneficiaries then included pizza to his menu and it proved to be really profitable.



Jeannine handled a workshop with the recipes and explained every product in front of the talibes and made them taste each product. They spent a morning at the Projects Abroad centre (located in the area called

HLM)

to attend the workshop.

She taught them some recipes easy to make and that are not really expensive. Ousmane- the Microfinance coordinator-explained that the second step after the workshop would be to study the demand and choose the best product to start with for each beneficiary.



Here are the recipes if you are thinking of trying one of them at your house.

### **Vegetable dip**

Prepare your sauce made up with mayonnaise, an onion that you will cut in fine slices and some spices. Cut your vegetables, carrots in sticks and then put the carrot in the sauce and then eat! MMM...tasty

### **Fruit dipped in chocolate**

First prepare your chocolate by adding hot water to the chocolate in powder and sugar. Cut the fruits (apple, bananas, pineapple and oranges) in cubes. Put two or three cubes on one stick and then dive the stick and the chocolate!

It is delicious!

### **Fresh coffee**

Mix the coffee and the sugar in a cup of hot water. Add some milk in powder or liquid depending on your preferences.

Add ice and drink it all!

### **Fresh mocha coffee**

It is the same process as the previous one except that you have to add some chocolate in powder to have that one!

Don't forget the ice!



### Fresh Ginger tea

Put your tea, ginger and sugar in hot water and let it infuse for 10 minutes. Then filter it and add water and ice! Your fresh ginger tea is ready!

### Fresh lemon tea

Put your tea, lemon and sugar in hot water! Let it infuse during 10 minutes. Then filter it and add water and ice! Refresh your day with your fresh lemon tea!

### Fresh mint tea

Put your tea, mint leaves and sugar in cold water! Let it infuse 10 minutes. Then filter it and add water and ice!

## Staff Update: Thank you Joke



Joke Van Eylen, desk officer for Projects Abroad Senegal for two years has arrived at the end of her contract. On Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> of October we celebrated the special moments we shared with her with

some chocolate and drinks! We expressed our gratitude and respect for the great work she did in Senegal!





Thank you again for your patience and tips, advice that helped the volunteers with the preparation of their trip!

Thank you for your enthusiasm and ever brighter smile (Hope our goodbye gift will help you keep that smile forever)!



Already missing you, Joke! DiaDieuf, yow kou bakh ngue!!!

Have a look at the pictures guys at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.619072741469516&type>

=1



## Utrecht University student spends three months at a Microfinance Project in Senegal

Strongly motivated to help people on a long term basis, Michelle Poirot (21) decided to volunteer through Projects Abroad for a three month stay at a Microfinance Project in Senegal.



The Microfinance Project gives talibes (street children) a way out of poverty with small scale entrepreneurship; after receiving mathematics

and business lessons, a talibe can receive a loan to set up a small business. According to Michelle, the Microfinance Project is a form of really sustainable help. "When you are here, you help, because they obtain a loan thanks to the money you give, and even when you are gone they will still have their business and earn money so your work just continues even when you are long gone."

At her placement, Michelle gave mathematics and business lessons to beneficiaries so that they could learn how to run their businesses and make a profit. She was also involved in accounting; registering every reimbursement and updating financial reports as every beneficiary has to reimburse



5,000CFA Franc every two weeks over 20 months. After receiving a loan, the beneficiaries also benefit from the assistance and advice of the Microfinance office through visits and meetings. “We have a weekly meeting with all the current beneficiaries to talk about the possible problems that they may encounter which is good because the beneficiaries learn from their experiences and give advice to each other,” said Michelle.

She recommends creativeness and perseverance and says that no matter how hard it might look, there is a solution to every problem. Her most rewarding experience was managing to finally find a good business for one of the beneficiaries. “He started with a food store, then tried selling books but it did not work out. With our help he finally started to sell coconuts and it is going well as he has started reimbursing after a long period of non-reimbursement,” said Michelle.

During her volunteer time in Senegal, Michelle stayed with a local host family. “My family was really nice and open.” One of her best experiences with the family was undoubtedly the baptism of a baby born during her stay. “I never experienced such a kind of celebration because we do not have that in Holland.”

**Have a look at our Photos album :**

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/projectsabroad.senegal/photos/>

**Have a look at the videos taken in our projects  
on our YouTube Channel!**



**Sports Football Project :**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtWkkV5HLs4>

**Care Project :**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwlfrOVsEY>

**Music and Culture Project :**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUzWh2eSXmk>

**Microfinance Project :**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaP4GakDTkk>

## Stay In Touch With Us! 😊

Read our monthly newsletter

<http://www.projects-abroad.co.uk/volunteer-destinations/senegal/newsletters-from-senegal/>

Want to contribute in our newsletter?

Each month we will be featuring a photo from Senegal in the newsletter.

If you are a former volunteer your photos are also welcome. Show off your best shots!!

Send your pictures to: [habibdiaw@projects-abroad.org](mailto:habibdiaw@projects-abroad.org), [finasenghor@projects-abroad.org](mailto:finasenghor@projects-abroad.org)

