

Draft for an interview with Alten for publication in the community letter:

Alten Ntulo from Maliwa as a guest in the service on September 12th

Sabine: A warm welcome to Alten in Rissen! Your father was here 33 years ago. He was a pastor in Maliwa and visited Rissen as part of the parish partnership. You are now a six-month scholarship holder at the Mission Academy in Blankenese. How come?

Alten: Thanks a lot for the warm well come. It is wonderfully. God is great. I was 12-years-old like the age of my first son, and now the age of Mama Regina Regenhardt of that time. That is an evidence that the seed these two partner parishes saw is growing sustainably. This gives us great hope that our partnership will sustainably prevail to all generations that GOD will bless the globe.

Sabine: What do you associate with Rissen and the partnership with Maliwa?

Alten: I'm told that the partnership is 40 years old 4 years less than my age. I was in Sunday School when the partnership started. I know all the people who visited here after my father, I can remember the faces of those who visited Maliwa all the time. I do not know what does it mean to me. I think God through you has made me to tell the tell that all projects, Education, water, agroforestry and environment at large etc. are growing sustainably and benefiting the larger community of Maliwa.

Sabine: Our Tanzania group unfortunately had to cancel its planned visit last year due to the corona pandemic. What news did you bring from Maliwa and how are the people there?

Alten: It was so sad. We missed you a lot. We also canceled the trip to Dodoma (our partners in Tanzania). I convey to you happily very warm greetings from your relatives in Jesus Christ at Maliwa. God is great they believe you can meet again very soon at Maliwa.

Sabine: we know each other from the workshop I attended during our visit to Maliwa in 2017. Back then we talked a lot about the importance of sustainable development. To what extent can your knowledge and ideas from your PhD in Maliwa contribute to this?

Alten: I remember. We sat near the first parish Christian grave. It was a very nice debate. God has also answered your curious questions about self-sponsoring in my PhD. My life at Mission Academy has reduced research costs at the University of Dar es Salaam. I also thank my dear wife for her lovely assistance in this long Journey. My research is on enhancing schools as laboratories for Environmental Management. That is everything at school to be practiced according to sustainable development laws and ethics to enable learning through experience. Therefore, my immediate plan is to work with schools and churches and communities through creating sustainable environment using the local resources. Also sensitizing the government through public debate and personal opinion on what is right to be done in schools and communities for enhancing sustainable behavior for the people. The long term plan depends on the objective (formulating a model for a school as practicing field for SD) I was advised to drop for approval of my proposal because it required testing that requires much time. 75% of Tanzanians are farmers. In Ukinga almost all of them are peasants. Only 200 out of more than 5000 secondary schools in a country have Agriculture subject and is taught unsustainably. No Agricultural secondary school no agricultural college in Ukinga. Our parents registered Lupila Secondary School to specialize in Agriculture the government stopped long time ago to escape from running costs. I dream to construct a private secondary school in Maliwa as a model for sustainable Agriculture in the whole Ukinga. I believe the dream can come true regardless of the time. I'm even flexible to partner investment or joint-investment. I was so sad when I heard no one from Maliwa went for PhD since Maliwa Primary School was established in 1955. God is great I will make it. Hopefully the almighty can also bless my second big dream. Amen

Sabine: Community partnership means that we feel connected in faith even over 10,000km and understand that we live in "one world". What is important to the people in Maliwa and what can we do about it in Rissen?

Alten: With improved telecommunication and electrical network at Maliwa we can start thinking about E-joint meeting of church councils, E-worshiping particularly during special occasions, E-learning to share experience. We can also start thinking about computer labs for the kindergarten and primary and even E-singing, drama and other important things for children for the sustainable partnership from the grassroots. This is sustainable even when there is pandemic hindering physical contact.

Sabine: Rissen has currently supported an agricultural project since 2017. The aim is to improve the nutritional situation and create income opportunities. So far, the project with the planting of avocado and fruit trees as well as the rearing of chickens, pigs and bees has been successful. What is further planned?

Alten: We planned milk cow as the new project. There is very scarce milk in the village, and there is huge demand of manure for avocado and other agricultural projects. I'm told the water project (for about 490M Tsh) and electricity project will be done by the government this year. I know, electricity means the parish is to change the milling machine technology from diesel. Also the government is constructing a very big telecommunication tower in the village to improve telecommunication network.

Sabine: Of course we want to support you. I was very moved when Pastor Ndelwa wrote that only a sufficient supply of food and education are the way out of poverty for the people in Maliwa. I am happy that you are celebrating the 10 a.m. service with us on September 12th. Then you will also be able to show pictures from Maliwa and report to us directly. Thank you very much for the conversation!

Amen.