

A prosperous journey with Project Kaokoland.

I'm Handivele Ndesihafela Laimi. A lady at the age of 23. This writing aims to outline how Project Kaokoland have played a significant role in my life. This project have been providing us with lunch since I was 6 years (2006) until when I turned 15 years (2015). During this time we use to receive clothes, cosmetics, hostel fees, school uniforms, cell phones and money was given to the learners that use to score A's and B's symbols, also bicycles were given to learners who perform well in Mathematics) since that was the time I left Okanguati to go and complete my school at Braunfels A H S. At the same time we used to receive words of encouragement and advices on the importance of education.

In 2020 when I was a second year student at the International University of Management (IUM) it was when I received my first cell phone which was a brand new ZTE smart phone with its box from the Kaokoland project. The same year (2020) I use to receive the support of N\$ 1500.00 per month. Also at different times I used to receive different types of cell phones.

Furthermore during the time of my studies the project have made it clear to me that incase I was in need of any other support I should feel free to contact them. So apart from the one thousand five hundred I got financial support of an N\$ 2000.00 (August 2022) to help me carry out my research. I used this N\$ 2000.00 for transport as I had to travel from Ongwendiva to Okanguati where I had to go and conduct the research at the same time I had to go back to Ongwendiva so that I finalize my studies and submit everything that was pending including the research project as 2022 was the fourth year (the final year of my study).

I did my studies at IUM (International University of Management) whereby I was busy with a Bachelor in Education Honors Degree Senior Primary (BHEPS) and I completed last year as it was a four year course (since 2019 to 2022). As I have indicated earlier that I used to receive N\$ 1500.00 monthly, I use to pay rent, buy food, cosmetics and print out assignments using the funds I use to receive monthly.

I can remember last year (2022) when I didn't have a phone and it was a difficult situation for me since I was in need of a smart phone in order to engage with others on job seeking, so I took this problem to Madam Gisela and later on I received two cellphones, a brand new ZTE and an Honor which where both smartphones. With the help of these phones I managed to attend interviews and today I got a permanent teaching post.

Today I'm a professional teacher teaching at Otjituuo Primary School in Otjozondjupa Region (Namibia), Okakarara constituency. I'm thrilled that I found myself teaching learners from the marginalized community as the community where I grew up is of marginalized too. So I would like to work hard by all means so that I educate the Namibian child and become a better version of themselves one day which I will be happy of. I'm quite sure the entire Kaokoland Project will be glad of as well.

In addition our school (Otjituuo Primary School) has received the financial support of N\$ 5 000.00 on the 21st of October 2023. This money was received in response to the request we asked if it's possible for the project to assist us financially toward the ceremony of prize giving which is scheduled to take place on the 3rd of November 2023 and yes the Project Kaokoland has to walk another milestone to assist the school. Otjituuo P S is a school situated 60 km South of Grootfontein, its consist of 400-500 leaners of which 90% are from the marginalized tribes of San and Kavango community. So with help we got from

the project the school will be able to award this learners by giving certificates, medals etc to the best performing learners per class, each subject as well. We appreciate the support.

Standing before my learners gives me so much joy. Why? Simply because I was given enough of the support I needed to complete my level 8 which is a degree and today I'm sharing knowledge with my learners which I believe one of the good days they will become someone in life this is all because of Kaokoland project which never gave up on supporting me and I'm grateful to say. I'm groomed by Kaokoland Project and our journey didn't end here a lot is waiting in the future endeavor.

I wholeheartedly appreciate the support I have been receiving from Project Kaokoland. May your support continue giving courage to the current and the generation to come the same way it has done to us. I'm thankful.