

SASOL FOUNDATION CHAIR

UNESCO/UNITWIN

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To Whom It May Concern

Re: Letter of Reference for Project in Kitui, Kenya

Two years ago, the Technical University of Delft of the Netherlands, the University of Nairobi in Kenya, Westerveld Foundation of The Netherlands and SASOL Foundation of Kenya, created a two-way student exchange programme. This year, two sets of civil engineering students will take part in it. The first is composed of G. A. J. Frima, N. v. d. Sluijs, J. J. Schouten and T. E. Wiersma. The second is composed of E. Arnold, J. F. Joose and C. A. van den Dool. Their participation is part of the "vierdejaars project and vierdejaars stage", two mandatory parts of Netherlands university curriculum, and will be awarded with six study credits each.

These two sets of students are the second year's group to come to Kenya in the ongoing exchange program. Two sets of Kenyan students have gone to the Netherlands over the past two years in the same programme. The UNESCO Chair of the University of Nairobi and SASOL Foundation will be responsible for jointly supervising the student's fieldwork at the SASOL project area in Kitui District.

During their stay in Kitui the first set of students will undertake construction and research related to water provision by using sand dams project. The objective specific objectives of their activities will be to: a. develop an optimized design for sand storage dams constructed in clay and soft soils, b. research on the flow patterns around the clay- and rock sand dams and their influence on the dam performance, and, c. to map the aquifers in the clay- and rock sand dam areas. This research is important in establishing how sand dams can be used in poverty alleviation programmes in Kitui and other areas and semi arid regions of Africa. Later this year, the second set of civil engineering students will continue the hydrological work initiated by this set of students. Next year, another team of civil engineering students, from the same university, will carry out further hydrological studies of the more than 200 dams already constructed by SASOL. Subsequent sets of civil engineering students will identify detailed fieldwork in the future.

It is our hope that you and your organization will assist the students to achieve their plans. We welcome enquiries on the programme if it assists you and your organization to make decisions about supporting the student's endeavors.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Mbula Bahemuka
UNESCO Chair
University of Nairobi

Prof. G -C. M. Mutiso
Chair
SASOL Foundation