

## Editorial



Das Virus bestimmt unser aller Leben – weltweit. Anfang April haben wir in einer Sonderausgabe des Chulo-Boten über die damals noch neue Situation in den Projektgebieten berichtet. Drei Monate später sehen wir klarer, welche Auswirkungen die Maßnahmen haben, die die verschiedenen Länder zur Eindämmung der Pandemie unternommen haben.

In den reichen Industrienationen beklagen wir einen Rückgang der Wirtschaftsleistung und müssen die eine oder andere Einschränkung hinnehmen. Das ist für viele unangenehm und bedrohlich für diejenigen, die z. B. Angst um ihren Arbeitsplatz haben müssen. In Ländern, in denen Systeme für die soziale Absicherung fehlen, bedroht der Verlust der Arbeit sofort die eigene Existenz und die der Familie.

Die meisten Menschen, für die wir Öfen bauen, sind, ebenso wie unsere OfenbauerInnen, Tagelöhner oder Bauern. Und damit darauf angewiesen, ihre Erzeugnisse auf den lokalen Märkten zu verkaufen. Wir hören aus den Interviews, dass sie um ihr Überleben fürchten, weil Lockdowns Jobs vernichten und die Märkte schließen. Diese Angst übersteigt sogar die Furcht vor einer Ansteckung, weil die Bedrohung unmittelbarer erlebt wird als eine Infektionswelle, die noch fern vom eigenen Dorf durchs Land rollt.

Der Ofenbau ist in fast allen Gebieten zum Erliegen gekommen. In Nepal und Kenia sind im April und Mai praktisch keine Öfen mehr entstanden. Nur in und um Alem Ketema in Äthiopien wird nahezu unvermindert gebaut. Die Ofenbauerinnen, die wir dort ausgebildet haben, wohnen in den weit verstreuten Dörfern und betreiben ihren Beruf auf eigene Initiative in der direkten Nachbarschaft. Sie betonen, dass die Einkünfte aus dem Ofenbau ihnen helfen, über die Runden zu kommen und sind sehr motiviert, nach Möglichkeit weiterzumachen.

Alle anderen OfenbauerInnen, die wir befragt haben, äußern die Hoffnung, dass sie bald wieder ihre Tätigkeit aufnehmen und trotz der Krise Einkommen haben können. Wir hoffen gemeinsam mit ihnen auf eine baldige Rückkehr zur Normalität und dass alle diese schwierige Zeit gut überstehen.

Ich wünsche Ihnen eine interessante Lektüre.

Dr. Frank Dengler, Erster Vorsitzender

**Ofenbau-Zähler Mai 2020**

**92009** rauchfreie Öfen in Nepal  
**944** in Kenia  
**4033** in Äthiopien

## Corona-Report Nepal

Berichte von Rajendra Bista und Anita Badal



Anita Badal und Rajendra Bista

*Rajendra Bista und Anita Badal haben Berichte aus ihrer persönlichen Sicht geschickt, die uns einen unverstellten Eindruck vom Leben in Nepal ermöglichen. Um diesen Eindruck nicht zu verfälschen, haben wir die Texte weitgehend in der Originalform belassen.*

*Vorab einige offizielle Daten:  
Nepals Bevölkerung: 30,2 Mio.<sup>1</sup>  
Zahl der bestätigten COVID-19-Fälle<sup>2</sup>:  
15.784, neu: 293, Todesfälle: 34, neu: 0*

*Rajendra Bista war bereits 2014, als wir das Projekt in Gulmi begannen, unser Koordinator vor Ort. Er kennt daher alle Ofenbauer in dieser Gegend. Heute be-*

*treut er die Maintenance-Experten, die für uns in den Distrikten Gulmi und Pyuthan tätig sind. Er berichtet von seinen Erfahrungen in der Krise, hat aber auch einige seiner Leute befragt:*

I am resident of the west part of Gulmi called Aglung lying in Madane sub-municipality. It is connected to two neighbouring district called Pyuthan and Baglung on western and northern part respectively. Unfortunately, the third death in Nepal due to corona virus was from my sub-municipality. He was very close friend of mine. So, his death made me tragic and more aware as well. Our district was sealed after two cases were found. Now, there are a lot of cases. More than 250 cases have been found till date.

Nowadays, it's spreading more rapidly in Gulmi and Pyuthan. Some people are scared though they are aware but a lot of people are more worried and scared as well because of unawareness.

During such situation where the economy of the country has fallen, the rural areas have been most affected. Good treatment facility is far. There are unmanaged quarantines all around the district. So, in spite of being safer place, people in quarantines are at high risk of virus transmission. Around 405 people of my locality have returned safe to their houses from neighbouring country, India. Some neighbours who were abroad for employee are in difficult situation from last three month with no job.

More than 90% families of my locality who were dependent on foreign employment are now unable to feed them well. They are starving, also the lockdown for a long duration has taken the local level employment like in fields and small industries. Families with their members stucked abroad are both economically and emotionally weak. Since our neighbouring country is also at high risk and is fighting against COVID-19 it is difficult for us to stop it from spreading.

Last month, I was at Pyuthan and there I met Tulsa K.C, Tilak Gharti Magar and Yamuna Devi Khadka who were carrying their normal activities. Also I visited Hum Bahadur Budha Magar and Purna Bahadur Pulami's locality in Gulmi district. The monsoon has already started in the country that has severely affected the cultivation of crops in the village. This time the crops are not much good as they used to be in last few years. While in the other hand, Fall Army Worm

<sup>1</sup> Quelle: [www.countrymeters.info](http://www.countrymeters.info)

<sup>2</sup> Quelle: WHO, 6.7. 2020, [www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports)

(Spodoptera frugiperda) have entered Nepal which has been a headache to the farmers. Hum Bahadur Budha Magar, one of the local resident has been recently discharged from mission hospital who had fallen sick due to the side effects of pesticides he used to control the raid of Fall Army Worm.

*Auszüge aus den Interviews, die Rajendra Bista geführt hat:*



Tilak Gharti Magar; Gaumukhi municipality, Pyuthan; family members: 7

cultivable land: 4 ropani (ca. 0,2 Hektar); total corona cases in his municipality: 3

I asked him about the expectations and the opinions regarding Swastha Chulo Nepal and he told me that he is happy that Swastha Chulo Nepal provided employment opportunity to him but it's quite tough to work on stove building during such harsh condition. By working hard for six hours from 11 am to 5 pm, we can build only 3 to 4 stoves. Also the house owners delay in paying us. They feel uneasy to pay us our money. Also we feel uneasy whenever we have to ask then more for our money. (Anm.: Die Hausbesitzer zahlen einen Eigenbeitrag von 200 Rupien, das sind ca. 1,5 Euro)



Kalika Khatri; Ishma municipality, Gulmi; family members: 4  
cultivable land: 2 ropani; corona cases in her municipality: 14

She told me that it's more difficult in matricentric family when there is no work from where they can earn for their livelihood. Her son had just left to India for employment but unfortunately, lockdown began and now he has got stucked in the border area. So, there is financial and economical pressure along with social problems.



Hum Bahadur Budha Magar; Malika municipality, Gulmi; family members: 7

cultivable land: 7 ropani; corona cases in his municipality: 9

He has completed stove building in his locality and now he has to go to the other village but because of the pandemic outbreak of corona virus he has a lot of problems like lack of transportation, restrictions to enter the village, etc.. He believes that the corona will be controlled soon and he can go back to his work.



Yamuna Devi Khadka; Sworgadwari municipality, Pyuthan; family members: 4

cultivable land: 4 ropani; corona cases in her municipality: 4

She has lost her job because of COVID-19 and she is in economic crisis. It has been hard for her to run her family. What she expects from Swastha Chulo Nepal is that Swastha Chulo Nepal can provide some alternative measures to work with safety.

They all said that they had never had such kind of changes in such a short period of time. There are a lot of restrictions and problems in their society. The problems are unemployment,

lack of transportation, social problems, emotional torture and financial crisis, etc. They said that there could be crisis of food sooner and there could be starvation.

Almost they were in similar kind of problems. Maintaining social distance and staying in their own houses for a long time was boring for them. They were quite negative and depressed because of economic crisis and this uncertain lockdown.

In most of the cases, their family members and relatives were stucked abroad because of lockdown in some places and high transportation charges in other places. They were frightened of corona virus because of it's easy transmission, deadly nature of virus and poor policies of government.

*Soweit Rajendras Bericht. Anita Badal ist die Geschäftsführerin unserer Partnerorganisation Swastha Chulo Nepal und steuert alle unserer Aktivitäten vor Ort in Nepal. Die Einschränkungen durch die Maßnahmen betreffen sie sowohl in ihrer beruflichen Tätigkeit als auch als Mutter von zwei schulpflichtigen Kindern. Sie berichtet:*

Fear and uncertainty rose when lockdown was announced. It was hard to believe why government announced lock down though there were not any cases in Nepal on 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. Scheduled exams were cancelled, office were closed. This kind of lock down happened for the first time though there had been many strikes, curfews and revolutionary movement experienced by the present generation. In other hand importance of daily worked and view towards it changed. It is wondering us that people and society can survive without transport and official interaction, social interaction.

Travel restriction forced me to walk for hours to complete the payment work of staffs and stove masters. There were even queue in the bank where I have to stand 2 hours to deposit money. I walked a lot to complete the work; it reminds me of time when there was no possibility of transportation. I could visualize the saying of my grandparents.

It was strange not to accept or offer tea when someone came to house or I have to pass by someone's house. The belief that guest should never return from door without offering them something to drink, food or fruit was not anymore in practice.

People are skeptic, not willing to even speak with one another, it is hard to make them understand that maintaining distance doesn't mean to avoid neighbor. In other hand some are gathering in group among well trusted circle. One of the neighbors is arranging marriage ceremony in gathering of smallest circle, which (small group) might have been impossible if lockdown were not in place.

The irritation and anger was observed in kids as well. They are now habituated in passivity. They are used to have one hour class and whole day free. I am not sure how they will come when normal hour of school starts. I felt often tired though the physical work was not that much.

Until now, I have not met any Covid-19 patient in my surroundings. One family was infected (London returned) that I knew. I came to know that they were suffering from fever and having weakness. They did not go to hospital; they tried traditional way like drinking soup of 9 different beans. There was one 81 year old woman in this family. Her daughter in law took good care of her and after around 3 weeks she could stand on her feet again. Somehow local government as well got information that London returned people are there, the family got chance to get tested. Then they found three corona patients, they all were tested positive. It was said they had no any symptoms.

At the beginning of the lock down period, life in village was not much affected. Stove masters were continuing their work. As second week started, all were reluctant and stove masters of Pyuthan and Nuwakot were trapped in Hotel in Arghakhanchi. On 5th of April they returned

home. Pyuthan stove masters by walking, Nuwakot and Kavre stove masters with the possibility of ambulance. Hospital could prescribe emergency as Rekha Lama was suffering from constipation and related health problem.

*Rajendra Bista, Anita Badal, Frank Dengler*

## Corona-Report Kenia

Bericht von Hillary Mutuma



Hillary Mutuma

*Hillary Mutuma, unser Koordinator für den Ofenbau in Kenia, hat sich bei den Ofenbauern umgehört, die er betreut, und einige Nachbarn und Bekannte befragt. Wir haben seine Ergebnisse zusammengefasst und auch hier zu Gunsten der Authentizität auf eine Übersetzung verzichtet.*

*Die offiziellen Daten:*

*Kenias Bevölkerung: 52,5 Mio.<sup>3</sup>*

*Zahl der bestätigten COVID-19-Fälle<sup>4</sup>: 7886, neu: 309, Todesfälle: 160, neu: 1*

*Natürlich hat Hillary auch sich selbst „befragt“. Hier sind seine Ergebnisse:*

My name is Hillary Mutuma, improved cooking stoves liaison officer at OI Pejeta conservancy which is also a partner of Die Ofenmacher. Having worked at the conservancy for the last one year, my main objective at the conservancy entail, monitoring and coordinating construction of improved cooking stoves in community households. This is to ensure the communities living around the conservancy have access to the improved cooking stoves that reduce the deforestation pressures.

The current Covid 19 situation is new and very hard, most of the projects have been affected and the improved cooking stove project has not been an exception. A lot of the activities have been put on hold and we fear now most of our objectives this year won't be met.

The ban of social gathering and restriction of movement are some of the restrictions that I would point out, most of my work is cultivated around interaction with members of the community cutting across training and household visits. Covid 19 has forced me to seek alternative ways to keep in touch with the stove builders, community representatives and even the households by use of mobile phones for communication.

I am not holding any training and ICS meetings due to restrictions of social gatherings. The building activities have slowed down as well since a lot of requests have been put on hold and household members have no money right now (*Anm.: In Kenia erheben wir einen Eigenbeitrag von 200 KES, umgerechnet etwa 1,65 Euro*).

All the stove builders are instructed to mind their health first and whenever they are called upon to service any particular household, they have to ensure they have the protective masks first and avoid interaction with the household when building the stove.

I conducted interviews in four communities in twelve households. None of the interviewed had experienced cases of Covid 19 in his neighbourhood, but Corona virus has affected the livelihoods of these households. 70% of their livelihood is disrupted. All of the members view food

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<sup>3</sup> Quelle: [www.countrymeters.info](http://www.countrymeters.info)

<sup>4</sup> Quelle: WHO, 6.7. 2020, [www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports)

security is the main priority to them. The pandemic has led households into financial challenges rendering the access of stoves even more difficult.

*Es folgen Auszüge aus den einzelnen Interviews.*

James Gitonga, Weruini, 36 years:

I am a resident of Weruini community. I am a Husband, father to three children and a small-scale farmer. I own a piece of land where I farm and grow crops for sale.

These are hard times for me and my family because a lot of activities have been disrupted. There are no casual jobs anymore and no money to pay the labourers. The market for our produce is no more and the instances we sell it at a low price or loss. We are facing the possibility of even going hungry in the near future.

All social gatherings have been restricted and this is very unusual to us. As humans, we are social beings by nature and therefore it becomes a problem not even to interact with the neighbours due to the fear of infections. However, we have no option but to adhere to the rules and government guidelines for our own good. The government-imposed curfew runs from 9 pm to 4 am, schools are closed and church gatherings etc. are restricted.



Jane Wambui Gatimu

Jane Wambui Gatimu, Withare, 56 years:

I am a wife and a mother first. I live in Withare community, Laikipia county. I am a small-scale farmer and I own a piece of land where I grow potatoes, beans, peas and maize. As for a side hustle, I sell second-hand clothes and I'm also a stove builder.

The situation is dire, we are experiencing hardship from every end, jobs have been lost e.g. the case of my husband who is a construction worker/builder. My business of selling second-hand clothes is bad, I can barely make a sale right now. In my case where I have a big family, food is not enough for all of us and I can tell we are not okay. Since COVID 19 hit the country, the improved cooking stove project from Die Ofenmacher and OI Pe-

jeta has also been affected. The Community members are not making enquiries due to lack of money, social distancing and less movement order.

Daniel Wambugu, Exrock, 60 years, 7 children:

I am a small-scale farmer. I own a small plot of land where I keep my cows and sheep as well as cultivate crops like maize, beans, and potatoes. Economically it is challenging for me. I highly depend on my small land to farm and sell produce. Right now, the market is bad and we are selling at a loss.

My fear is the health of my family. I have some of my children trapped in the city since it's on lockdown. There is food insecurity especially for the most vulnerable in our communities. I am fearful for our youths who might engage in crime since they are idle with no food or income. In some cases, families might even break down.

I propose that organisations like OI Pejeta partner up with the government and educate the communities and create more awareness on COVID 19. We are even hoping that they will donate food to the less fortunate.



Ramadhan Kaimenyi

Ramadhan Kaimenyi, Mirera, 32 years:

I am a casual labourer, a stove builder, a farmer, a husband and father of 2 children.

The current situation is dire and it gets worse day by day. Currently, we are facing unemployment, loss of income and food insecurity. I can no longer even afford to pay my bills anymore. The improved cooking project is not yielding any results since the members of the community have put all development projects on hold. This has put us out of business.

Before the pandemic, it was better due to the casual jobs that used to come up at least from then Jiko project. I could get roughly KES 7000 which was a huge boost for me. Currently, it's the opposite, there are no jobs but we hope for the best.

*Hillary Mutuma, Frank Dengler*

## Corona-Report Äthiopien

Interviews von Abebaw Birhanu



Abebaw Birhanu Eshete

Abebaw Birhanu Eshete ist Vizepräsident von Ofenmacher Äthiopien und leitet sämtliche Ofenbau-Aktivitäten in Alem Ketema und Merhabete. Auch er ist natürlich stark von den Einschränkungen durch die Vorsichtsmaßnahmen betroffen. Es ist für ihn schwierig, die Ofenbauer in den verstreut liegenden Dörfern zu erreichen, da privater Straßenverkehr nicht erlaubt ist und im öffentlichen Verkehr nur mit halber Besetzung gefahren werden darf. Entsprechend haben sich hier die Preise verdoppelt.

Trotzdem ist der Ofenbau in Merhabete nicht zum Erliegen gekommen, was hauptsächlich daran liegt, dass die Ofenbauerinnen in den Dörfern ansässig sind und in der direkten Nachbarschaft arbeiten können. Schwierig ist aber der Transport von Material auf die Dörfer.

Abebaw hat sechs Personen für uns befragt. Vier von ihnen sind Ofenbauerinnen und wohnen in den Dörfern des Landkreises Merhabete. Die beiden befragten Ofenbesitzer sind der Stadt Alem Ketema ansässig.

Zunächst die offiziellen Daten:

Äthiopiens Bevölkerung: 112,7 Mio.<sup>5</sup>

Zahl der bestätigten COVID-19-Fälle<sup>6</sup>: 6386, neu: 0, Todesfälle: 116, neu: 0

<sup>5</sup> Quelle: [www.countrymeters.info](http://www.countrymeters.info)

<sup>6</sup> Quelle: WHO, 6.7. 2020, [www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports)

Dies sind die Teilnehmer der Befragung:



Amezenech Argaw aus Afezez, 42 Jahre, Ofenbauerin



Agod Mengistu aus Yidemeko, 52 Jahre, Ofenbauerin



Getenesh Tilahun aus Kera, 40 Jahre, Ofenbauerin



Adanaech Mamuye aus Fetra, 55 Jahre, Ofenbauerin



Yemisirach Elefachew aus Alem Ketema, 25 Jahre, Regierungsangestellte



Basha Abebe Melesse aus Alem Ketema, 70 Jahre, im Ruhestand

Keine/r der Befragten hat Erfahrung mit Infektionen im direkten Umfeld gemacht. Die Angst vor Ansteckung ist zwar vorhanden, viel direkter werden aber die Bedrohungen durch die wirtschaftlichen Folgen des Lockdown empfunden.

Hier sind die Zusammenfassungen der Antworten:

### Welche Veränderungen sehen Sie in Ihrem Umfeld?

Alle Befragten bedauern die Einschränkungen in den sozialen Beziehungen. Amezenech, die wie viele Bauern ihre Erzeugnisse auf dem Markt in Alem Ketema verkauft, fürchtet, sich dort anzustecken.

### Was sind die Einschränkungen, denen Sie begegnen?

Alle empfinden das Tragen von Masken als Einschränkung. Behindert werden sie auch durch die gestiegenen Preise für den öffentlichen Verkehr. Adanech erwähnt noch die Einschränkungen bei den Gottesdiensten.

### Wie hat sich Ihre ökonomische Situation verändert?

Alle Befragten spüren die starken Preiserhöhungen bei Lebensmitteln und anderen Gütern des täglichen Gebrauchs. Basha sagt, er kann sich inzwischen auch die wichtigen Dinge nicht mehr leisten. So geht es auch den Nachbarn und Bekannten. Alle sitzen im selben Boot. Die Ofenbauer sind sehr daran interessiert, ihre Tätigkeit fortzuführen, weil sie eine der wenigen verbliebenen Einkommensquellen ist.



## Was sind Ihre Befürchtungen? Welche Bedrohungen sehen Sie?

Als Infektionsherde werden die Märkte und der öffentliche Verkehr genannt. Die größte Befürchtung ist aber das Fortschreiten der ökonomischen Krise. Wenn das Virus sich tatsächlich verbreitet, werden noch viel schlimmere wirtschaftliche Folgen für die einfache Bevölkerung erwartet.

## Wie soll es nach Corona weitergehen?

Alle äußern die Hoffnung, dass es bald vorbei sein möge und können es nicht erwarten, zu ihrem alten Leben zurückzukehren.

## Frage an die Ofenbauer: Wie beeinflusst die aktuelle Situation Ihre Ofenbau-Aktivitäten?

Einige potenzielle Kunden zögern, die Ofenbauer ins Haus zu lassen. Das so wichtige amharische Begrüßungsritual ist durch das Verbot von Händeschütteln und Umarmungen stark eingeschränkt. Schwierig ist wegen der gestiegenen Preise mit dem öffentlichen Verkehr zu den Haushalten zu kommen. Die Angst, sich selbst anzustecken, ist immer präsent. Sie ist „a strain on my life“ (Adanech).



Die Ofenmacher haben in Alem Ketema und Umgebung Handwasch-Stationen aufstellen lassen

Frank Dengler

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**Autoren** Anita Badal, Abebaw Birhanu, Rajendra Bista, Hillary Mutuma, Frank Dengler  
**Herausgeber** Die Ofenmacher e. V., Euckenstr. 1 b, 81369 München  
**Internet** <http://www.ofenmacher.org>  
**Email** [info@ofenmacher.org](mailto:info@ofenmacher.org)  
**Facebook** <http://www.facebook.com/ofenmacher>  
**Konto** IBAN: DE88830654080004011740, BIC: GENODEF1SLR, Deutsche Skatbank