



SONOP NEWSLETTER

JUNE & JULY 2022

NEWS FROM SONOP'S BLANKET PROJECT

It was a privilege to be able to be a blessing to others and to serve people and to be part of God's creation. Sonop approached businesses and individuals to be part of a community project - namely the blanket project "a Gift of warmth".

Sonop's goal— The goal was to help less privileged people with something more than just a plate of food.

We prayed for this project for a long time. A blanket was given as a gift of warmth and a symbol to show the Lord's love, care, and warmth. We sincerely hoped that they will experience it every day as they cover themselves with the blanket. Our wish for everyone who received a blanket, is to remind them that God had chosen them to be part of this project.



Sonop's target market- Orphans, hostel kids, the elderly and the disabled people were identified. The demand was far above expected, we realized we would unfortunately not be able to reach everyone with this project. Although the demand is far more than expected we continue to make a difference in the life's of the people we were able to reach with in our ability.

We are excited to share our experience with you. We served the different groups on different days and in different ways. With the children involved, we told a short story to visualize the purpose of the blanket and to help them understand and remember what the symbol of the blanket is. We sang and prayed together for the sick, those in need and in distress. We served them with a nice plate of curry and rice and handed out a blanket as a gift of warmth. Our hope was that they will experience the Lord's presence and blessings every moment they use this blanket.

Sonop would like to thank all our sponsors who made it possible to have such an incredible and blessed event. We would also like to thank those who were involved, whether by attending the days or assisting with the arrangements, donations, serving food, prayers, and support. It was an amazing experience and hope to have you all and even more organizations and people involved in the future.

Sonop's long-term aim is to continue with this project on an annual base. We hope to get as much organizations involved as possible, so that we can reach more and more people and in more communities in Namibia and South Africa.

We as a Noordoewer and Aussenkehr community were able to make a difference to a total of 600 people in Noordoewer, Aussenkehr, Karasburg and Keetmanshoop area. Grünau as a community also participated in the project by raising funds and buying their own fleece blankets, making food and had their own outreach to 200 children.



Our purpose here on earth is to be a blessing to other people around us. The Lord blessed us to be a blessing to others. In the different communities we were able to reach 800 people.

All the glory to our Heavenly Father for His mercy and blessing throughout this project.



TEAM BUILDING @ Sonop

Team building is the process of turning a group of individual contributing employees into a cohesive team. The individual members respect each other and their differences and share common goals and expectations. Team building also creates a stronger bond amongst the members of a group.



For this reason, the office personnel, production managers, junior managers and assistant managers met on Saturday, the 4th of June at the Sonop office for a team building session. The team building focused on effective teamwork, communication internally and externally as well as conflict management. The first session kicked off with Sonop's new marketing video. Albert reminded the Sonop Team what Sonop's Inspiration, strategy and values are. We are all part of Sonop's ecosystem, and we all are necessary to complete it.

Albert further reminded the team that we are all ambassadors for Sonop. The way we communicate and interact with people outside

the organization reflects on Sonop. Albert explained to the team that Sonop's vision started with one man, Nico van der Merwe (Snr). Although the team has grown incredible, we still share his vision for Sonop. Sonop's vision is strengthened through our values, strategy, and inspiration.

Dominee Dirk then took over for the rest of the session. He explained that Sonop must act like a team because we form part of the Sonop family. We need each other, and a team accomplishes more than an individual.

He further focused on communication, respect, character, attitude, and uniqueness of each person. We all have different personalities and skills, and these should be always respected. Know your strengths and weaknesses and work on one's weaknesses. One should display self-control and be open to other opinions as this forms part of Sonop's values.

All then proceeded to the grass, and this is where the fun began with various team building activities. First activity was to choose a sweetie from a bag. There were green, red, and blue sweeties which divided the team in three different groups. We learned from each other by sharing our greatest moments, our favorite food, or our strong points.

The three teams then each received various objects to transfer water from one bucket to another. Dominee Dirk explained that every object should be used to transfer the water. With a lot of planning and strategizing filled with laughter and fun the teams got the job done.

For the final team building activity the three teams joined as one to form a long pipeline to transport the water from one bucket to another. This required a lot of teamwork to ensure that the pipeline didn't leak and that all the water was safely transported from one bucket to another.

After all the fun, brainstorming and teamwork, the team building session ended with a hamburger and chips.

May we help build and maintain Sonop's vision by following Sonop's values, strategy and inspiration in everything we do.



Sonop Farm, P O Box 58, Noordoewer, Namibia, 23012 / Email: admin@sonop.com.na

Upcoming	
WILLIE VAN DEN HEEVER	03 AUG
JIMMY ISAAKS	06 AUG
JOHANDRE VAN NIEKERK	09 AUG
LEATITIA HOLTZHAUSEN	16 AUG
AJ DE REBEIRA	20 AUG
THESME VAN ZYL	22 AUG
HAIMAT HAINONGO	25 AUG
MORNE VAN ZYL	26 AUG
GIDEON CORNELISSEN	28 AUG
JACO OOSTHUIZEN	30 AUG
ROELOFINA VAN NIEKERK	04 SEPT
NIEKIE VAN DER MERWE	05 SEPT
KLEMENT NGOMA	06 SEPT
NATALIA JOHANNES	20 SEPT
WIAN VAN ZYL	21 SEPT
CAYLIN HOLTZHAUSEN	22 SEPT

CONGRATULATIONS EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



JOHANNES FUFINO
General Worker
Grapes Team



XAVIER JOAO
Truck Driver

Congratulations and thank you for your hard work.
We are very proud of you.

Get to Know

Name & Surname: Johannes Isakka
Date of birth: 06.09.1989
Favourite colour: Green
When did you start working at Sonop? 30.08.2011
Position at Sonop? Junior Manager
Your Favourite Sonop produce?
 Green Pepper
Who is your role model in the Sonop team? Mr. Willie vd Heever
Your wish for Sonop Farms: For Sonop to become a successfully company that will provide for future generations



Namibian Training Authority student tour at Sonop



The Namibia Training Authority, supported by GIZ ProVET, held the first Apprenticeship Week at NUST Hotel School In November 2021. The event culminated in an Apprentice of the Year Award. The reward included a GIZ funded study tour of Southern Namibia's agricultural businesses and practices.

This reward was won by Victoria Nakwafila and Hilivali Penexupifo from the Rundu Vocational Training Centre. These two ladies are currently studying Level 3 Horticulture at Rundu VTC and are employed by Agribusdev as apprentices.

On Monday the 6th of June 2022 these two ladies accompanied by Mr Martin Wilkinson a Senior Technical Expert of GIZ visited Sonop Farming to observe our crops and operations as part of the reward.

During the morning Willie van den Heever accompanied them on a farm tour to familiarize them with the farming operations. After lunch, with our packhouse in production, they were given a packhouse tour. This tour took them through the whole process from where the product is received at the packhouse until it is dispatched. They were delighted and very impressed with Sonop's operations.

Sonop Remember—Oom Nico

Sonop lighted candles for a week in loving memory of our Founder, Mentor, Husband, Father, Grandfather and friend, **Nico van der Merwe**, you will always be forever in our hearts.

There is not a single day that we do not miss you.

The big legacy that you left behind became our responsibility and we want to thank you for the opportunity granted by your big intrapreneurial skills.

We salute you for your kindness, your leadership and the loving person and your big heart for people. Your tracks and presence lie deep on earth and in our hearts.



17/07/2021 on this day, one year ago, our lives changed forever

