

Welcome

Welcome to another edition of our newsletter. The team of the AfroEuro foundation introduces the update on the world situation and the changes COVID-19 has brought in our activities. We had to either postpone, adjust or cancel some of our activities regarding education, trade missions and fair, the development conference for the youth and parents as well as agricultural activities. In order to maintain the social distancing regulations, we have to undertake homework support program online. We will be able to support the students with their school homework. Offer them additional support when they need it.

The Netherlands-Ghana midterm trade mission is now postponed till end of the year, most likely until November 2020. In this event we bring together business minded people from both countries to exchange ideas and experience as well as explore potential partnerships and investment opportunities. We will keep the momentum with our partners to hit the road as soon as the doors are open again. Businesses need to continue. Furthermore, diaspora and transnational projects have been affected by the pandemic. The import-export market has been hit hard by the travel restrictions. In general, fruits and vegetables exporters have lost nearly 1 million dollars during the COVID-19 crisis. We hope this pandemic will end soon

TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S INSIDE

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and that we will be able to continue our activities. Keep on reading to get more news and updates of what is going on in the world now.

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AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT WORLD SITUATION

People have been facing challenges all over the world due to the COVID-19 crisis. Countries such as the United States are facing the biggest challenge since more than 1 million people with coronavirus have now died. The outbreak in the country which now has the highest number of known cases in the world has exploded over the last two months. In Africa, there are now more than 20,000 confirmed cases of coronavirus across the continent, with a number of African countries imposing a range of prevention and containment measures against the spread of the pandemic

UPDATES AND POSITIVE NEWS

However, the good news according to World Health Organization is that 44 countries in the African region can now test for COVID-19 while at the beginning of the outbreak only 2 could do so. Ghana is sub-Saharan Africa's third most impacted country with the current tally behind South Africa and Cameroon. However, Ghana became the first African nation to lift the partial coronavirus lockdown on its two biggest cities, Accra and Kumasi. However, despite the measures we are still trying to keep our community active, online this time, as we did in the past.

In Nigeria, the Red Cross in Lagos distributed packages with essential food products to vulnerable families to relieve them from the pressure of the lockdown. In addition, Nigeria followed Ghana in the lifting of coronavirus measures as Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari announced on Monday 27th of April a gradual easing of the confinement measures starting on the 4th of May while night curfew will be imposed and the wearing of masks will be mandatory.

STAY STRONG AND SAFE





Ghanaian businessmen and businesswomen visited the Wageningen University

CURRENT WORLD SITUATION

Update and positive news!

Some positive news regarding Cameroon and COVID-19. Cameroonian former professional football player Samuel Eto'o announced his plans to support the country's efforts to fight coronavirus. His foundation offered to 100,000 people supplies such as soap, hand sanitizers, and food items. Kenyan laboratories are on the front line in the fight against coronavirus and are stepping up their preparedness efforts.

In Nairobi, researchers at the Kemri Medical Research Institute are fighting the virus with new equipment as well as prepare samples for testing thousands of people per day. In Burundi, the World Bank approved a 5\$ million grant from the International Development Association to respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in Burundi. Although Rwanda

has more than 200 cases, it counts only 0 deaths. Rwanda was the first sub-Saharan nation to enforce a strict lockdown in the fight against coronavirus pandemic.

On the 7th of April, the World Bank Group approved \$14.25 million International Development Association credit in immediate funding to support Rwanda's response to the global COVID-19 pandemic under a new operation, the Rwanda COVID-19 Emergency Response project. The Rwanda COVID-19 Emergency project is part of the World Bank Group \$14 billion fast-track package to strengthen the COVID-19 response in developing countries and shorten the time to recovery.

STAY STRONG AND SAFE





Photo taken during our visit to the Dutch Parliament where Ghanaian business people met and discussed with members of the Parliament.

Update and Positive News!

Lastly, we are in the sad position to announce the cancelation of our Youth Conference. The measures imposed in the Netherlands do not allow the realization of events until September. However, we remain optimistic and we are sure that the Youth Conference will be realized in the future again!

BUSINESSES & THE PANDEMIC

Companies are going digital and are adapting to the crisis. Business leaders are ensuring that employees are as safe as possible, securing financial sustainability and reinforcing crucial systems to support unprecedented levels of remote working and online trading. As the economy falls into ruins, governments are providing financial cheques to households and businesses in order to help them survive the lockdowns. The government of Ghana has enlisted the below businesses in the country's fight against COVID-19: Drone company is fast-tracking the delivery of test samples from rural areas. Women-run factories are producing masks. Some large firms have repur-

manufacturing processes, moving from paints to hand sanitizers or from automobiles to ventilators. Ghanaian businesses play a noteworthy role in the crisis in Ghana. On the one hand, the pandemic is liberating firms to experiment with new radical ideas. On the other hand, the pandemic has negative impact on our business activities since the crisis has forced us to postpone the scheduled Business Fair and all our trade missions. However, we are still reorganizing all our activities and we will keep you informed.

STAY STRONG AND SAFE





Photo taken during our Saturday's homework support programme. Our children learn new things and do their homework in an entertaining and innovative way. In the next weeks, this programme will be offered online.

EDUCATION & THE PANDEMIC

AfroEuro's homework support is going online!

The coronavirus pandemic is reshaping education! An international school in Italy has adapted its education according to COVID-19 measures. Teachers teach via video conferencing every day. Kids participate using Padlet, a virtual post-it note system that lets students share ideas; and Flip-grid, which lets teachers and students create short videos to share. Students do individual work, group work, and confer with teachers when needed.

Teachers are tutoring by using Microsoft Teams and it seems to go well! Universities have also switched to online education! COVID-19 has become a catalyst for educational institutions worldwide to search for innovative solutions in a relatively short period of time. However, most of them have managed to achieve a result able to reach millions of students worldwide

In Hong Kong students are learning at home via interactive apps. In China, 120 million Chinese got access to learning material through live television broadcasts. In one Nigerian school, online learning tools such as reading material via Google Classroom were augmented with synchronous face-to-face video instruction, to help schools function. Students at one school in Lebanon began leveraging online learning, even for subjects such as physical education. Students shot and sent over their own videos of athletic training and sports to their teachers as "homework," pushing students to learn new digital skills. One student's parent remarked, "while the sports exercise took a few minutes, my son spent three hours shooting, editing and sending the video in the right format to his teacher."

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EDUCATION & THE PANDEMIC

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In Ghana, teachers at the Acca-based university's Department of English plan creative solutions by using online social media. More explicitly, a teacher mentions that plans to use WhatsApp and Zoom to make the classes more interactive. She also mentions that she will be having guest artists and guest lecturers to join classes. The artists will use Instagram Live, while the guest lecturers will probably use Zoom.

Learning could become a habit that is integrated into daily routines - a true lifestyle. Last but not least! Regarding our activities, our homework

support programme is going online. In the next weeks we will be providing: **ONLINE HOMEWORK SUPPORT!**

As we already used to do every Saturday, children will have support in their homework, and we will be here to provide them with assistance through our online platform.

STAY STRONG AND SAFE





Photo taken during our organized visits to companies. There we discussed and got new information about the latest know-how and technology.

COVID-19 MYTHBUSTERS

Some mythbusters regarding COVID-19 might be useful to know..

- There are currently no drugs licensed for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19
- Adding pepper to your soup or other meals DOES NOT prevent or cure COVID-19
- COVID-19 is NOT transmitted through houseflies
- Spraying and introducing bleach or another disinfectant into your body WILL NOT protect you against COVID-19 and can be dangerous.
- 5G mobile networks DO NOT spread COVID-19.
- Exposing yourself to the sun or to temperatures higher than 25C degrees DOES NOT prevent the coronavirus disease.
- You can recover from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)
- Catching the new coronavirus DOES NOT mean you will have it for life
- Taking a hot bath does not prevent the new coronavirus disease

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