

## QUATERLY REPORT OF LUCKY MAISANYE

After 80 days in Germany, I am more motivated to stay here the next coming 285 days though is such a long time. It is better than it was on my first week or two. Most people I met during my stay so far, are more interested to know where I come from, why I am here, what was my first impression, how do I feel being away from home and what is different here in Germany in comparison to South Africa. And also ask me what kind of work I am doing in South Africa and my the work I do here in Germany with KOSA. The interest of people I met towards me changed most of the expectations I had before I came to Germany. Encouragement and support I get from members of my organisation back home reminds me that I am here in Germany to represent them and everything is not all about me even if it is hard or easy all I do I do it for them as well. The support I get within the organisation I work with here in Germany give me skills and experience I require to strengthen our activism work back home. The love and advises I get from my mentor **SARAH KLODE** plays a huge role in time of distress and is what I need the most and also is a very good idea to have mentors, people we can trust and relate to. Is really great or luckily for me to find a mentor with such good humanity and who really cares about my feeling and who is able to help me with all kind of challenges I face and always be there for me. I truly appreciate everything she has done to me and what she is still going to do for me because is not over yet.



**Me with my host parents and my mentor**

I came here in Germany too ambitious without much knowledge how difficult it could at first to adjust to German way of living. So my arrival was full ambitions and great expectations and it was disappointing at first.

Within my host family the feeling really fantastic, on my first week there were some misunderstandings between me and my host family. Because of our way different cultural and tradition it took us time to understand each other. After a month and some weeks things work quit okay and our relationship was great and fantastic, and after we talked about how I am feeling and what are my difficulties staying with them helped a lot and now I feel more at home. I had some difficulties with getting used to the different food or different way of preparing food, as in South Africa we eat different food and some are the same though we prepare or cook them way differently in compared to here in Germany. Language sometimes is our barrier of communication and it encourage me to learn Deutsch much more quicker.

## Me with my host sister and brother in Netherlands



Now I have adjusted very well to my host family and we do most of the things together, I had gone out with my host sister few times and meet with her friends as well and that showed me she appreciate that I am part of her family for a year. My host father always ask me everyday how my day was and how was work and that make me realise he is keen to know how I spend my days and if I am okay just like how my father does back home. And my host mother treat me as her own child and not different to her children more the same and equal and she always tries to make sure I am okay with everything like food and my stay.

In my environment I feel lost sometimes and it is like I am where I do not belong, most people are not helpful and not open when you do not speak Deutsch and when you never met them before. Most people here in Bielefeld are too into themselves and they do not give space to people they never met before and that makes it very difficult to approach them or maybe ask simple things like directions. We arrived here in Bielefeld during the so-called Europe refugee crisis and that made most people not to be open to foreigners. And the society is not that accommodative and I am on my own. In my accompaniment is fantastic and wonderful, the people I met from the Welthaus Bielefeld they are really nice and open minded people and they give me best moments here in Bielefeld. I met some really friendly people from within Welthaus and the make sure we have good times and moments together. And that made me realise Germans can be hard outside but very soft inside.



At my work place in the beginning it was not very clear what is my role and what is being expected from me, because I did not had a list of my task with activities I had to do everything came spontaneously without proper planning and explanation. I did know what I have to do and how and I think it was also more difficulty for Martina Schwikowski director of KOSA to give me clear tasks as she is still new at KOSA. After a month and some weeks everything started to change and there was an understanding of what I have to do and how. We started to have people who have interest in KOSA and the work I have to do. On 15 October I was invited by MÖWE a partner Organisation of KOSA, to take part in the climate pilgrimage walk for climate justice. I joined the climate pilgrimage walk from Onsnabrück to Dortmund and we walked between 20-25 kilometers a day, we also had different workshops related to climate change as the climate pilgrimage walk aim is raise more awareness about the Conference Of Parties summit taking place in Paris end of November 2015 and also about why people should be involved.



During the climate walk I also did a presentation of KOSA Coal Exhibition about the relationship between South Africa and Germany in terms of Coal exportation from South Africa to Germany and a power\_point presentation about Coal mining in South Africa and the dependence on coal. My presentation was also about the state of ambient air quality in Highveld region a coal reach region in South Africa and also about the current effects of climate change in Africa, and what we are doing in South Africa concerning coal mining and reliance on fossil fuels as civil society organisations.

