

## Yiriwaa report 2015

### 1. Introduction

We start the year 2015 with some fundamental changes in the organization of the Yiriwaa Foundation in The Gambia:

- The Gambian chairman resigned
- A new Supervising Committee were installed
- Renewal of the responsibilities of the local coordinators
- Start to give a financial responsibility to the coordinators

In this report we give the overview of the students, the financial overview and the activities we undertook.

### 2. The Yiriwaa students 2014

In January 2011 we started with 15 students and after growing in 2013 to 102, Yiriwaa give support to 99 Gambian students at 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2014. At the end of December 2015 we count 95 Yiriwaa students.

Lower Basic School grade 1-6 : 29 students: 18 boys, 11 girls  
Upper Basic School grade 7-9 : 25 students: 14 boys, 11 girls  
Senior Secondary School grade 10-12: 40 students, 19 boys, 21 girls  
Higher education : 1 male student

Boys, girls and region of The Gambia

	<b>West</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>East</b>
<b>Total</b>	42	31	22
<b>Boy</b>	20	18	14
<b>Girl</b>	22	13	8

### 3. Financial overview

The balance at 31-12-2014 was € 6.343  
In 2015 we received from Yiriwaa Foundation the amount of €10.000  
€16.343  
Expenses made in 2015 € 7.719  
€ 8.624

In 2015 we lost money by the case of the former chairman mr. A.B. Ceesay:

\* Blocked at the bankaccount of Amadou B. Ceesay D 5046,68 €126  
\* Disappeared of the bankaccount of A.B. Ceesay D 5000 €125  
\* Loan of Amadou B. Ceesay (D 35.000) €875  
\* Disappeared money Amadou B. Ceesay (D 35.000) €875  
Total €2.001

**Balance at 31-12-2015**

**€ 6.623**

## Expenses 2015

The Gambian Government decided that for all the students in grade 1 until 12 no school fees are charged. Only book bills, exam- and study fees. This policy is only for the government schools. That is the reason why the expenditures of school fees are less than the previous years. (Funny detail: every company in The Gambia, so also Kairoh Garden Guesthouse, who has a yearly turnover more than €10.000 had to pay €650 as contribution to the education costs of the government)

	<b>west</b>	<b>central</b>	<b>east</b>	<b>Total</b>
School- and exam fees, school fund, book bills	2420	533	552	3505
Schoolmaterials, studyclasses	406	226	722	1354
Transportcosts students	138	42		180
Yiriwaa groupactivities				1485
Emergency costs				0
Supervising committee				1195
<b>Total</b>				<b>7719</b>

In the attached excel sheet you can find the details of the expenses 2015. Next to the general overview we made an overview per student.

## **4. Looking back and forward:**

### **Grade 12 students:**

Looking back: in 2015 we tried to find out what is the reason that the results of the grade 12 students were so poor and what kind of support we can give our Yiriwaa students to have a better performance. The most important reason is the system of “mass promotion”. It is not common that a student had to repeat a grade when his results are poor. It even can happen that somebody in grade 9 hardly can read or write. We decide that when the results of the grade 9 students are poor that they don’t had to continue to grade 10. Or they had to repeat grade 9, or they continue to a skill Centre or they stop the schooling. Next to that we give the grade 12 students the possibility to do extra study classes.

### Looking forward:

We continu with the extra study classes for grade 12 students. Also we had to follow the students in grade 7-8-9 more frequently. Next to that we had to involve the parents in giving support to their children, so we plan to organize parent meetings. We plan to do some research to suitable skill centers to protect the more weak students for a school dropout.

### **Graduated students:**

We decided to follow the former grade 12 students. For some of them we can give the possibility to continue their education.

**Coordinators:**

Looking back: In the beginning of 2015 we decided to reorganize the Gambian organization of the Yiriwaa Foundation and to give more responsibilities to the coordinators, Also their way of working and how they had to report is changed. All of the coordinators agree with the new system. We see that it take time before all the coordinators are working at the level how we want it.

Looking forward: we increase the education of the coordinators. We are giving good communication tools, like a smartphone and laptop so they can more in touch with the board members. Also we give a training to work with the new way of administration.

**Gambian organization of the Yiriwaa Foundation:**

Looking back: In the beginning of 2015 we made fundamental changes in the organization of the Gambian board of Yiriwaa Foundation. We install a new Supervising Committee, change the chairman, took a new board member and gave more responsibilities to the coordinators. Also we start with a new and transparent way of the financial process.

Looking forward: We are thinking to make a fifth region to take care that the span of control of the coordinators is not more than 25 students.

Tanjeh, The Gambia  
28 april 2016