

# **OUTPOST 2007 BF**

## **[ AVAMPOSTO 2007 BF ]**

One of the poorest place in the world is Burkina Faso, where every year hunger, malaria and AIDS hit thousands of children.

We have decided to be there, concentrating our resources in a great project able to help the population but, above all, it has to be turn to give life expectancy to the most helpless part of the people: the children.

### ***Journal***

#### ***Year 2004***

It is not an idea, but it is a duty: we have to intervene where the suffering shows itself in a so cruel way that it can wipe entire population out. The primary aim of the Malagutti Foundation onlus is to lend a hand to the children: they are the first to feel the inequality of life, the social contradictions and the privations of the habitat.

The Administration Council has deliberated to search a country disposable to welcome our will to aid its children.

#### ***June 2004***

First contacts with the bishop of Guinea Bissau who takes our project into consideration but underlines complications with the Embassy. We carry on the dialogue but without the expected upshots.

#### ***May 2005***

Meeting here, in Curtatone (Mantua), in the seat of the Foundation together with the Papal Nuncio for the country of Camerun. It shows great interest in the project and grants a delegation for a visit in our Foundation.

#### ***August 2005***

In the seat of the Foundation, formal visit of the polish bishop, the delegate of the diocese of Doumé- Camerun. Thanks to the translation of a Sister, a secretary of the bishop, it can be outline the needs of the country and of the crucial crux.

#### ***Autumn 2005***

After several contacts with the Papal Nuncio and after having underline the existing obstacles, we decide to not carry on with this country.

#### ***5<sup>th</sup> July 2006***

I have met Mr R. Rouamba, member of the delegation of the Italian Embassy in Burkina Faso. He come here, in Curtatone; we have an important talk. He has been in Italy for years and he has the matter of his country at hearth.

We decide several meeting to study in detail the topic.

#### ***22<sup>nd</sup> July 2006***

New meetings where we can check reciprocal aviabilities. Mr Rouamba shows a great interest in the aims of the Foundation; he visits the structure and asks for a new meeting in his house in Vicenza.

#### ***5<sup>th</sup> August 2006***

Vicenza, meeting with Mr Rouamba and his family.

Every day the hypothesis of a visit in the Embassy of Burkina Faso in Italy is more and more concrete.

### **8<sup>th</sup> August 2006**

New meeting to define the journey to Rome, he will speak with the Ambassador to fix a date.

### **13<sup>th</sup> September 2006**

The Ambassador of Burkina Faso receives the president and vice-president of the Malagutti Foundation. Meeting very intense and profitable; we are greeted with great warmth.

We have proposed the aims of the foundation and the draft of the project which is referred to the creation of the **OUTPOST 2007 BF**. The aim will consist into the carrying out of an hospital and a school. We have granted the necessary steps to let our delegation to reach Burkina Faso checking the possibility of the realisation of the project.

### **1<sup>st</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

Several phone calls with Mr Rouamba to make plans for the journey.

Summon the Foundation Administration Council in order to inform and explain the necessary strategies to make concrete the undertakings which we are going to take.

Outline the collaboration with the Malagutti Foundation and Alfaomega Voluntaries Association.

### **25<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

Today is the 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Alfaomega Voluntaries Association. 16 years spent helping adults and children with HIV-AIDS. Between Alfaomega and the Foundation there is a deep relationship; together they will lead the project in Burkina.

During the banquet, offered by the "Locanda delle Grazie" in Curtatone, tell to every friends the last progresses of the project: **OUTPOST 2007 BF**.

Mr. Mozzanega, member of the Rotary Club Mantova Postumia Distrect 2050, throws out the idea of a partnership to increase the resources and the collaborations; the project of the hospital and the school is ambitious but not impossible. Decide to speak about the project with the both representatives.

### **31<sup>st</sup> October 2006**

The president of Alfaomega, Anna Zacchè and the president of the Foundation, Giovanni Malagutti define and decide who are going to travel in Burkina Faso. The two choices are Anna Gorgatti for Alfaomega and Giovanni Malagutti for the Foundation.

### **1<sup>st</sup> November 2006**

I receive the task of drawing up a journal; I'm Giovanni Malagutti and I'm a psychologist. The experience will be very demanding and exciting. The principal aim of our first mission will be focusing on the study of the territory related to the fundamental needs. We will look for a poor area where we can bring a little bit of relief to the population and above all, to the children. I've started to gather information surfing the internet.

### **5<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

Preparations start, soon will put our ideas into effect.

Together with Anna Gorgatti we define the major strategies: we have to start relationships with the local authorities. Mr Rouamba, who will be our guide and cultural intermediary, says that the most important aspect is the acceptance of the local people. He thinks it will be better have a previous contact with the members of the tribes in order to meet them and to acquaint them with our ideas.

### **8<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

Meeting with Anna Gorgatti; we decide to organize ourselves, during the journey, to collect a wide quantity of visual documents so that we can show materials when we are coming back.

Anna has got the task to contact a travel agency to book the flight while I'm going to working on the reportage. I don't know but, at the moment, we are not able to play the role of explorers. Even the name of the project **OUTPOST 2007 BF** has an effect on us: we play the role of directors not of actors.

### **16<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

I've bought a camera; a Canon EOS 400 D. A professional reporter from San Benedetto Po has said it is the right choice. He's a companion of my childhood and when he has heard about this journey he has shown his support. It is my first digital experience; I'm keen on films and I was not so sure about digital camera. But Carlo has insisted for its functional capacity and its high quality definition.

### **19<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

Universal Children's Day.

The Malagutti Foundation has organised its 5<sup>th</sup> national drawing competition. Today is Sunday and we are making a party to give the prizes to the winners of the competition. I'm going to tell the project of Burkina Faso.

I realised that people were enthusiastic! We are going on the right way.

### **25<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

Anna brings news.

The departure is expected on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2007 from Milan Malpensa, at 1 p.m.

First stop in Casablanca at 3.05 p.m.

New departure from Ouagadougou at 11 pm.

We should arrive in Burkina on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at 2.35 a.m.

Coming back on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

Leaving from Ouagadougou at 3.20 a.m.

Stop in Casablanca at 6.50 a.m.

Leaving from there at 8.10 a.m. and arrival in Milan at 12.10.

Estimated expenditure 565 € each.

Every day we can add new information and we are emotionally involved.

### **28<sup>th</sup> November 2006**

It is a great moment: we are going to buy our flight tickets.

At 3 p.m., in San Benedetto met Rouamba to speak about the letter to send to the Ambassador of Burkina Faso. My sister Francesca translates into French.

### **1<sup>st</sup> December 2006**

World AIDS Day.

The first thought is for all the children and people died for AIDS. During this day we have reflected on our health promotion in Burkina Faso where, every years, 20.000 children pass away for malaria, Aids and hunger.

We must do something! Our principles are becoming reality thanks to the **OUTPOST 2007 BF** project.

### **5<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

Boards of Directors Alfaomega.

The association reconfirms the project of Burkina.

All the counsellors approve the developments that Anna Gorgatti and I have exposed.

### **6<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

Health Aspects.

Anna and I went to ASL ( Local Health Authority) in the international journey department

- Phone 0039-0376.334924/25 Fax 0039-0376.334928-, to receive information about the medical aspects of our journey in Burkina.

They tell us the compulsory immunizations: yellow fever and malaria. We have done blood exams.

The appointment is Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006.

### **11<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

Medical examination at ASL –medical prevention office –international journey department. Doctor Susanna Lombardi decides to go deeper and deeper with our medical past, gets together our case histories and postpones the vaccinations in date 15<sup>th</sup> December. We are a little bit disappointed because the time goes by and because these obstacles. But they give the impression to be necessary for travelling in safety.

A hint is to declare every little sanitary problems, old and new; not telling something could prevent the right evaluation of the health status, promoting the risks of contraindications.

Meet Rouamba, reach an agreement for the departure in Burkina Faso, give the flight ticket to him.

### **13<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

It has been necessary buying a map of the state of Burkina Faso.

After some researches in Mantua, I've heard that there is a very good bookstore in Verona.

"Gulliver – Libri per viaggiare" in via Stella, 16/b, 37121 Verona Italia

tel. 045/8007234 - fax 045/8038441

web: [www.gullivertravelbooks.it](http://www.gullivertravelbooks.it) e-mail: [info@gullivertravelbooks.it](mailto:info@gullivertravelbooks.it)

I've found the best map: Carte Turistique 1:1.000.000, published by ING (Istitut Geographique National) last edition 1994. The price is 9,30€.

### **15<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

ASL- medical prevention office- international journey department- Vaccinations for yellow fever and malaria; postpones again, blood exam are not ready yet. Next appointment 20<sup>th</sup> December.

### **20<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

ASL- Medical prevention office- international journey department. Finally vaccinations done! I add the A hepatitis vaccine.

### **24<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

Anna Zacchè, president of Alfaomega , and I participate to the Christmas Eve dinner with all the guests of the Foundation and of the Alfaomega Association. It's in this particular event we communicate our project: **OUTPOST 2007 BF**.

They are really interested and, showing their curiosity, agree with our ideas.

### **4<sup>th</sup> January 2007**

Christmas has not stopped our interest in collecting information and data for the journey.

I've found several projects of others NGO (Non Governmental Organization), while Anna has spent her time searching details for the journey.

Other meeting in Vicenza with Rouamba to define:

Economic aspects and money spending (Euros are better than Dollars in Burkina),

letters to send to the Health and Education Ministers and to the hospitals' directors.

But where is Burkina Faso?