



## Project report Swakopmund Mondesa and DRC

The Swakopmunders are far better than their reputation. Especially in these times they show an unprecedented solidarity. Everyone knows that many of the employees are now suffering from hunger in the poorer quarters, that her colleague from the closed hotel or office, the nice woman no longer has work and nothing to eat for her children.



And so they collect and search in Swakopmund what can help these people.

Clothing, warm blankets for the beginning winter, groceries, hygiene articles, soaps, fresh fruit and vegetables and sometimes cash as a donation to us to buy the necessary things.



The group "**Swakop Mamas**", the club "**Mein Ball für Namibia**", which operates in the sports club with financial support from organizations, the tourist information center "**Namib i**" as well as many private individuals carry bags and boxes with their donations to **Konny von Schmettau**, who does everything fairly distributing, in the suburbs of **Mondesa and DRC** ("Democratic Resettlement Community").





However, what sounds like a progressive suburb with “DRC” is actually a large area in the desert where the poorest of the poor live. There is neither running water nor indoor baths and toilets here. Thousands of people live in tiny huts, assembled from rubbish and construction waste.

Few of the people who live here have jobs. They try to keep themselves alive with small stalls and car repairs, tiny barber shops in front of the poor huts, and sometimes prostitution.

"Stay at home" is impossible in this environment.



Finally, if you can travel again throughout the country, visit friends and relatives; but from what money should that go?



What do you buy a large saucepan, spices, fabrics and yarn from after the long lockdown period in which you had to sell the most?





Help is possible, however, and not only in the form of donations, but also by listening carefully, advising on how things can continue after the crisis, what future prospects can be opened up.

Some mother or grandmother has great talents in sewing, crocheting or knitting, some weave baskets or cook delicious dishes.

If you have no capital, you cannot start anything, but for this we are at the side of mothers and children with our aid campaign exactly when everyone is allowed to take a deep breath again.

Almost everything can be implemented into a humble business idea. And this is exactly our next step:

**Accompany women without work into a self-determined future.  
Get out of poverty, get out of the life of garbage and leftovers!**

We are in the starting blocks to build mini projects and small shops together with our power women across the country and the mothers in the poor neighbourhoods - be it a stand on the market, a small shop or sewing work from home - so that the mothers follow instruction and accompanied by our dedicated project managers can build a livelihood.

Most women already have very good ideas and we are certain that it will work!

We don't just want to be free from lockdown, we want to build better perspectives. Now is the time to do it. Here we go!

And this is where our international donors from Germany, Austria and Switzerland come into play, for whose fabulous support we would like to thank you again in this way!

**Without you we would never be able to help all of  
these families in need!  
1001 thanks for that!**



This initiative was founded by  
**Konny von Schmettau** (Swakopmund, Namibia) und **Anja Neuhaus** (Wesel, Germany)