



Annual Report and accounts 2021  
Foundation "Climbing the right tree"



## Introduction

For our foundation, as for the entire world, the year 2021 has again been significantly colored by the course of the Corona pandemic. Our office with workshop and warehouse has been closed during several periods, money and computer donations have been put on hold for months, and important network meetings, where we wanted to present ourselves, were cancelled.

Despite these difficult circumstances, we are very happy with the results that we have achieved.

### Highlights:

- In August, as a young volunteer organization, we received the CBF quality mark for charities!
- We were able to ship sufficient hardware and furniture to Maxim Nyansa's new locations in Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Nigeria and Burkina Faso.
- We opened two new computer collection points and welcomed several new major hardware donors.
- We have welcomed several new donors for educational projects in Africa. As a result of this and other factors, the Software Development bootcamp of Maxim Nyansa in Accra received the go-ahead and the new countries have made a good start with their school projects.
- The new online digital library for schools and IT professionals in Africa has been launched since the beginning of 2021. This innovation started during the period that the schools in Africa were closed for 10 months, and plays a vital part in the further growth of our activities.
- We have designed a new governance structure whereby "Maxim Nyansa International" as the central office will offer services to all country offices as a "franchise model".
- We continue to strive for great impact at minimal cost and we are "agile" – we stand firm regardless the new circumstances in the world!

The number of passionate professionals from all over the world, who show interest and join us, is still growing every month, and as a result our name recognition as well. Including in the United States, where "Kente-Connect" has started as our partner organization this year.

We are therefore optimistic about the future of our organization – with many thanks and appreciation to all our amazing volunteers.

Klaas Brongers,

Chairman of the Foundation "Climbing the right tree"



## Results 2021

Our goal for 2021 was to further develop and expand Climbing The Right Tree as a reliable foundation in the Netherlands with the support of an established group of individuals and organizations that create a sound basis for the viability of the foundation for the next five years. This is a continuation of the target set in 2020. In 2021 we have achieved the following results:

### 1. Expansion to other countries

Despite the Corona pandemic, our partner Maxim Nyansa has successfully opened new branches in the Gambia, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone and Nigeria, alongside the branch in [Ghana](#). An office has been opened in each country, the foundations are formally registered in Nigeria and The Gambia, the registrations in Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso are under review by the authorities.

Our support from the Netherlands in 2021 consisted of:

- Assist with international fundraising for at least 3 schools per country. The funds to start the first school projects are now available for the Gambia, Sierra Leone (already implemented) and Burkina Faso. For Nigeria, we did not recruit through our own channels, but helped the new Country Director with her fundraising. Unfortunately, this has not led to a concrete result in Nigeria in 2021.
- Support each country in start-up costs, office inventory and hardware donations for the first three school projects. For this purpose, a container with hardware, office inventory and school furniture was sent to each country.

### Maxim Nyansa Sierra Leone



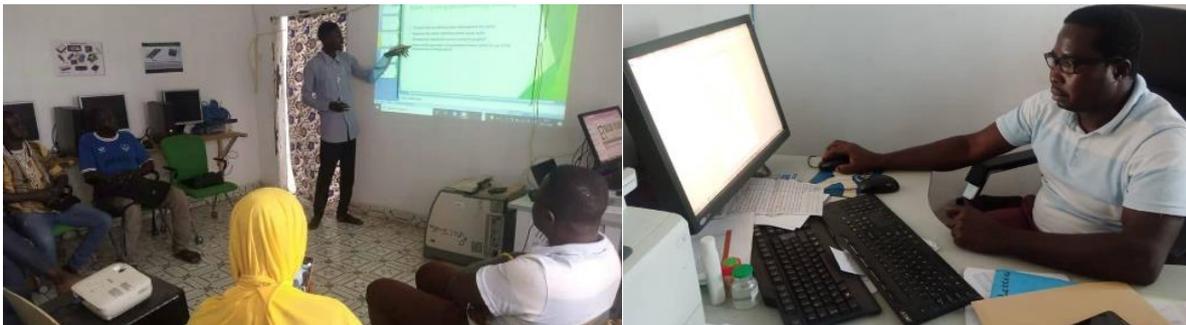
### Maxim Nyansa Nigeria



## Maxim Nyansa Burkina Faso



## Maxim Nyansa Gambia



## **2. Organic growth in the Netherlands**

For the first time, we have received a subsidy from the municipality of Veenendaal of 10,000 euros to pay our execution costs for the office/workshop. We also received a steady stream of new volunteers from “VEENS” and “Network for you” volunteer organizations. Using the temporary workplace at our Climbing The Right Tree foundation as a steppingstone, a number of volunteers have also left after successful reintegration into the labor market.

We have opened new computer collection points in Haarlem with our Ghanaian colleagues from “Stichting Ghana Haarlem” and with a volunteer in Apeldoorn.

As in 2020, our work in 2021 had been seriously hampered by the Corona pandemic. Several times we had to close the office, and from time to time for months no money and hardware had been donated. Fortunately, we have seen a catch-up since the second half of the year.

### **“Charity partnership”**

Our anticipated big display at SRVision and to various Rotary departments has been postponed several times due to the Corona restrictions. In 2021 there were also very limited network meetings where we could be physically present.



We also did not have sufficient time to send a large mailing to ICT companies in response to our CBF status. Yet we see that we are gradually gaining more name recognition, and that various ICT service companies have spontaneously registered as hardware donors. At the same time, the collaboration with our largest hardware donor has virtually been halted to date. Computer suppliers are increasingly offering schools a model in which money is offered for redelivered used equipment. This hardware will then no longer be donated to our Climbing The Right Tree foundation for schools in Africa.

**3. Collaboration with universities and HBOs**

The collaborations with the various educational institutions are fruitful. Two master's students have had a lot of delay during the Corona pandemic. One of these investigations has even been discontinued.

Laura de Bruine has graduated with a master's thesis on ICT and education in Sierra Leone. See the publications [here](#). For the second year there has been collaboration with the PABO (teacher training for primary education) of the Driestar in Gouda, where interactive lessons for mathematics have been made for African schools. These lessons are available to teachers across Africa through our online digital library.

**4. Scenarios, risk inventory and measures**

Due to the Corona pandemic, our work has been slowing down on many fronts in the first half of the year, but has since caught up in terms of finances and hardware collection. Most schools in Africa have opened again since the spring of 2021. As a result, the implementation of projects has slowly started again.

After the rise of the Delta variant of the virus, there are hardly any problems in the five countries in West Africa where we work. Many people have also been vaccinated there and life is almost back to normal.

**Risk table**

Risk	Measure	Situation end of 2021
Fundraising will remain difficult until mid-2021.	<p>We postpone the bootcamps for young IT professionals until September 2021.</p> <p>We focus on implementation of our new vocational training program and schools, which will proceed if the money is available.</p>	<p>Fundraising has been extra difficult in 2021.</p> <p>Only a small bootcamp has been possible.</p>
Hardware collection is slowly growing.	We ship smaller quantities of computers to the new countries to only execute the first pilot school projects, if necessary.	Hardware collection has been halted for months in mid-2021 due to delivery problems of new computers from China.



		Since October 2021 delivery has been catching up and new donors have come.
We will be working work in countries with greater safety risks.	<p>A new and clear security policy to protect our employees and volunteers the best way possible.</p> <p>If needed, a distinction between people of ethnic and religious background.</p>	<p>Security policy has been discussed on the international conference in October for the first time.</p> <p>Trips to the new countries are only planned in 2022.</p>
We will work in poorer countries with little facilities.	<p>Developing a method for affordable IT architecture (TU Twente).</p> <p>Partner with other NGOs to finance projects in poor schools.</p>	<p>Project with TU Twente has failed due to drop-out of the student.</p> <p>It works well to raise funds for the new countries in the very poor regions.</p>
Our growing organisation attracts the wrong people, which means we have to manage incidents in the field of Cyber Security and integrity.	<p>Implement additional checks and balances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CBF quality mark</li> <li>• ISO 27001 certification</li> <li>• International integrity policy</li> </ul>	<p>CBF accreditation is a fact!</p> <p>2 interns will be carrying out risk analysis and measures on Cyber Security in 2022.</p> <p>A concept of the integrity policy has been discussed on the international conference in October.</p>
Larger donors place higher demands on our organisation.	Implementing newly developed impact assessment methodology and accessing with business intelligence via our website.	<p>Tool is being built by a research master student.</p> <p>A large number of governance documents and manuals are being prepared.</p> <p>A Finance, Planning and Control project is being executed by Maxim Nyansa's headquarters in Accra.</p> <p>Products are planned to be ready early 2022.</p>



## 5. Organisational development goals

### STATUS:

1. A **professionalization training**: fundraising training for fundraising volunteers in all countries through on-the-job coaching on a few specific files by an experienced professional fundraiser.
2. **CBF quality mark**: preparations are on-going and the purpose is to obtain this quality mark early 2021.
3. **Risk analysis information security**: the internship of a student Cyber Security at the Hague University of Applied Sciences started on 15 November. Project completion is expected 1 May 2022.
4. **International integrity policy**: a concept has been drafted together with our colleagues from Maxim Nyansa International. The policy will be formally adopted after the establishment of the new governance structure, expected date is 1 April 2022.
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DONE

DONE

Expected 1  
May 2022

Expected 1  
April 2022

Expected 1  
April 2022



## 6. KPIs 2021

### STATUS:

- Raising 30.000 euros for training programs:** for young IT professionals. A total of 40 young IT professionals are trained and guided towards the labor market through our 4 specialized bootcamps of 16 weeks in Ghana. DONE
- Raise 25.000 euros for further expansion of our learning school programs.** Part of this amount will be spent on an initial exploration and pilots in two other West-African countries and the scientific foundation of our shared "Learning "Learning Transformation programmes". DONE
- Raising 65.000 euros for the implementation of our logistics centre:** in Veenendaal, with the concrete result of shipping 8 containers with good second-hand computers to West-Africa. Expected 1  
May 2022

*Explanation of status:* Target has been achieved half because of limited recruitment at ICT companies in the Netherlands due to the Corona pandemic. Nevertheless, it has been possible to ship the necessary hardware to make a start in 4 countries.
- 60 volunteers:** at work in the Netherlands. Expected 1  
April 2022

*Explanation of status:* Due to the limited implementation of bootcamps and limited travel opportunities, we have been insufficiently able to solicit our IT professionals. A number of logistics volunteers have also left the foundation for paid work. This has not been a bottleneck in 2021, but it does require constant attention.
- Further expansion of our logistics centre:** in Veenendaal, with a strong embedding in voluntary associations and ICT companies in the region. Expected 1  
April 2022

*Explanation of status:* On track despite the pandemic, but slow expansion since hardware donations have been halted for months.



6. **Further expansion of partnerships with knowledge institutes:** with the Christian University of Applied Sciences (CHE) in Ede, WUR and potential other Universities (of Applied Sciences) which want to partner with us in terms of internships, graduation projects and volunteer work.

*Explanation of status:* These partnerships are going well and are also very beneficial to the students.

DONE

7. **Two important media displays:** on conferences in the Netherlands.

*Explanation of status:* SRVISION Congress 2021 has again been postponed.

POSTPONED

8. **Raising 500.000 euros for Maxim Nyansa International:** Our budget includes the target to raise this amount for Maxim Nyansa International together with our partner organizations in 7 other countries.

*Explanation of status:* This target is far from being achieved. We will also have to show accomplishments in each country before we will be able to receive new support.

PARTLY  
DONE



## Appendix 1: Annual Account and notes

### Stichting "Climbing the Right Tree"

#### Financial Statements 2021

##### Statement of Activities

	2021	2020
<b>Cash contributions</b>		
Contributions from individuals	10,250	16,089
Contributions from companies	27,000	36,340
Contributions from non-profit organisations	125,265	78,256
<b>Total Cash contributions</b>	<b>€ 162,515</b>	<b>€ 130,685</b>
<b>Contributions in kind (note 1)</b>		
Contributions in kind from individuals	12,570	11,087
Contributions in kind from companies	17,995	119,418
Contributions in kind from non-profit organisations	36,760	26,622
<b>Total Contributions in kind</b>	<b>€ 67,325</b>	<b>€ 157,127</b>
<b>Total cash and in kind contributions</b>	<b>€ 229,840</b>	<b>€ 287,812</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Program expenses (note 2)	145,809	266,940
Fundraising expenses	7,329	9,495
Administrative expenses (note 3)	16,016	14,277
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€ 169,154</b>	<b>€ 290,712</b>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>€ 60,686</b>	<b>(€ 2,900)</b>

##### Statement of Financial Position

	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-19
<b>Assets</b>		
Liquidities	87,555	34,568
Short term receivables	150	340
Inventory (note 4)	32,312	8,117
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>€ 120,017</b>	<b>€ 43,025</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Short term liabilities	16,306	-
Restricted net assets (note 5)	42,486	14,890
Unrestricted net assets	61,225	28,135
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>€ 120,017</b>	<b>€ 43,025</b>



## Notes to the 2021 financial statements

### Note 1 - Contributions in kind

	2021	2020
Computer hardware opening balance (*)	n/a	26,225
Computer hardware	53,005	80,402
Training materials	4,500	10,700
Software licences	-	11,000
Professional volunteers	7,320	28,800
Transportation	2,500	-
<b>Contributions in kind</b>	<b>€ 67,325</b>	<b>€ 157,127</b>

(\*) Stichting Climbing the Right Tree began recording contributions in kind in 2020. The opening balance of computer hardware has been recorded as a 2020 contribution.

The donated computer hardware is valued at second hand market value.

### Note 2 - Program expenses

	2021	2020
Programma kosten:		
Maxim Nyansa International	14,600	-
Maxim Nyansa Burkina Faso	21,773	650
Maxim Nyansa Ghana	50,639	246,194
Maxim Nyansa Nigeria	17,568	-
Maxim Nyansa Sierra Leone	9,082	-
Maxim Nyansa The Gambia	24,985	2,575
Collection of second hand computer hardware in the Netherlands	7,162	17,521
<b>Program expenses</b>	<b>€ 145,809</b>	<b>€ 266,940</b>

### Note 3 - Administrative costs

	2021	2020
Office costs	12,506	9,884
Volunteer expenses	3,017	4,056
Bank fees	493	336
<b>Administrative costs</b>	<b>€ 16,016</b>	<b>€ 14,277</b>



## Notes to the 2021 financial statements

### Note 4 - Inventory

	2021	2020
Computer hardware opening balance	8,117	26,225
Computer hardware contributions	53,005	80,402
Computer hardware sent to Ghana	(28,810)	(98,510)
<b>Computer hardware closing balance</b>	<b>€ 32,312</b>	<b>€ 8,117</b>

The computer hardware inventory is valued at second hand market value.

### Note 5 - Net assets

	Balance 1-Jan-21	Contributions	Expenditure 2021	Transfer	Balance 31-Dec-21
<b>Maxim Nyansa International</b>					
Schools	-	32,600	(24,103)	-	8,497
Digital library	5,100	11,600	(14,600)	-	2,100
<b>Maxim Nyansa Ghana</b>					
Macina schools 2020	7,000	-	(7,000)	-	-
All Stars Academy Asanco	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Model school	2,546	-	-	454	3,000
Macina Abdul Samed School	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Macina Tafsiliyya School	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Macina Avatime School	-	6,250	-	-	6,250
SOPKO Ashanti School for the De	-	9,215	(9,215)	-	-
IT Bootcamps	244	40,820	(28,424)	-	12,639
<b>Maxim Nyansa Burkina Faso</b>					
Digital library in French	-	12,600	(12,600)	-	-
Turing Foundation schools	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
<b>Restricted net assets</b>	<b>€ 14,890</b>	<b>€ 129,085</b>	<b>(€ 101,942)</b>	<b>€ 454</b>	<b>€ 42,486</b>
<b>Unrestricted net assets</b>	<b>€ 20,018</b>	<b>€ 47,750</b>	<b>(€ 38,401)</b>	<b>(€ 454)</b>	<b>€ 28,913</b>
<b>Unrestricted net assets - inventory</b>	<b>€ 8,117</b>	<b>€ 53,005</b>	<b>(€ 28,810)</b>	<b>€ 0</b>	<b>€ 32,312</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>€ 43,025</b>	<b>€ 229,840</b>	<b>(€ 169,154)</b>	<b>€ 0</b>	<b>€ 103,711</b>



## Appendix 2: Declaration audit committee 2021

### Verklaring kascommissie

De ondergetekenden verklaren hierbij alle stukken en bescheiden, betrekking hebbende op de financiële administratie over de periode van 1 januari 2021 tot en met 31 december 2021 en de balans per 31 december 2021 van Stichting "Climbing the Right Tree", te hebben gecontroleerd en akkoord bevonden.

De kascommissie verzoekt de vergadering om de penningmeester en het bestuur décharge te verlenen voor het gevoerde financiële beleid over de periode van 1 januari 2021 tot en met 31 december 2021.



Naam:

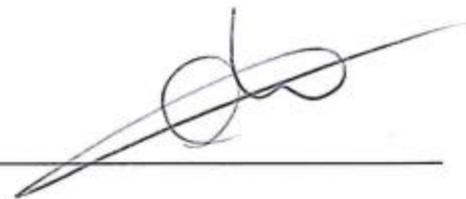
W.J. Meesters

Plaats:

Den Haag

Datum:

20-02-2022



A.K. Moerland

Hoofddorp

1-4-2022

