10th Anniversary Issue- October 2017

Anniversary celebrations as they happened

In this issue we bring you details of how various Programs have celebrated our 10th Anniversary.

The celebrations started as early as July when the Chad Program held its celebrations in N’Djamena; this was followed by DRC, Cameroon, Tanzania, CAR, and Republic of Congo with the latest celebrations being Head Office which had its celebrations from the 26-27 September 2017. The celebrations took place in Bidibidi Settlement, Yumbe district in the Northern part of Uganda.

Donations

Most important to note about the anniversary celebrations throughout the Programs was the element of giving back to the communities of operation. From the gallery on the website, check out how various Programs gave donations to selected groups of vulnerable people and other activities meant to improve the welfare of people.

In this issue we also bring to you updates on the progress of activities being implemented by Programs this year.

Head Office celebrations, 26th-27th September in Bidibidi settlement, Yumbe

The HQ team together with Members of the Board of Directors were accompanied by the Country Management Team of Uganda Program to the West Nile where AIRD has ongoing activities. The team visited Imvepi and Rhino Settlements in Arua District and Bidibidi in Yumbe district. AIRD’s head office organized a tree planting ceremony at Romogi Seed SS where they piloted a tree planting project set to be rolled out in Yumbe district. AIRD donated over 5000 tree seedlings, both fruit and non-fruit trees to the district to be planted at various institutions such as hospitals, schools, food distribution points and police posts. Thereafter AIRD staff and invited guests such as officials from districts of Arua and Yumbe, UNHCR Arua, Office of the Prime Minister and implementing partners were treated to a dinner and drinks at White Castle Hotel in Arua town.

Engineer Bateyehun Haile, a member of AIRD Board Of Directors with pupils of Longamere P/S in Imvepi settlement.

CEO Mr. Mathias T Daniel (blue hat) shaking hands with Arua district officials. This was during a visit to the RDC’s Office
The Program organized anniversary celebration events in July. This involved inter-Office football games that were played at the Field Office in Bertoua with staff from Meiganga, Bertoua and Batouri. The CPD Israel Nzeyimana refereed the game which was won by Bertoua staff. In Maroua, a branded banner was hung up at the office showcasing 10th anniversary celebrations. The staff also organized a football match against UNHCR staff. The Program donated food items and sanitary materials to Fondation Marie France in Bertoua. The institution receives and takes care of orphaned, abandoned and malnourished children below five years.

The Program organized a city cleaning drive in Bangui on 8th of September. The staff led by the CPD Mr. Pierre Simon, cleaned trenches and areas surrounding Independence Avenue in Bangui. This included clearing over grown bushes around the pavements and in the trenches to improve the city drainage system. The cleaning was a way of giving back to the community where the Program operates. Through this activity, the team also set an example and inspired locals to follow suit in keeping Bangui clean and free of garbage on the streets. They also donated, wheel barrows, cleaning items and trash bins. The trashbins were to be placed in different parts of the town so that people can have where to throw rubbish and reduce the vice of littering the city. The team also held a function at the country Office in Bangui on 12th September where they invited officials from UNHCR and Government. They had dinner and an after party where staff danced and enjoyed music.
CHAD

The Program held an event in N’djamena in July where they invited all partners and other humanitarian organizations to celebrate AIRD’s anniversary. This included Government officials, UNHCR, Director of the ADES, representative of CNARRR (Host National Commission, Rehabilitation of Refugees and Returnees), Director of DONG, representative of the African Union in Chad and other dignitaries. The staff visited Goui camp in N’Djamena, where they donated baby kits and food items to refugees. In Iriba, the Program donated trashbins and baby kits to the local community.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Anniversary celebrations were held by different offices throughout DRC in July. In Kalemie, Tanganyika the staff had a function where various guests were invited to the celebrate AIRD’s milestone. The Program used the opportunity to showcase AIRD activities in DRC. Among invited guests were the Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action representative Mrs. Nkulu Nemba Virginie and UNHCR officials. The guests were received by Mr. Joseph Dossen Togar the Sub Office Manager. In Zongo, the anniversary celebrations were held on 8th July 2017 in the conference room of Saint Philippe de Néri de Zongo church. There was merry making by staff in Mboko and Bukavu offices. Plenty of food and drinks were shared amongst staff and guests. The various offices also held exhibitions showcasing AIRD activities to guests and locals. In Kinshasa the celebrations were very colourful. The staff wore bright orange t-shirts to reflect the cheerfulness and joy they had in celebrating AIRD achievements. The team also donated 15 dustbins to Academie de Beaux Arts in Kinshasa.
REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Program celebrated the anniversary at their offices in Brazaville and Betou in August. The Program staff in Betou held an exhibition at the garage where they showcased some of the activities implemented by the Program. The exhibition was for partners such as UNHCR, Local authorities and communities to understand what AIRD does. The Program donated food and sanitary items to vulnerable people in Betou.

In August 2017, the Program donated branded bed sheets and dustbins to local hospitals where AIRD operates. Kasulu General Hospital received 75 pairs of bed sheets, 50 pairs to Kibondo district Hospital, 25 pairs to Kakonko General Hospital and 25 pairs to Mpanda General Hospital. Each of the hospitals also received 5 dustbins. The hospital officials were delighted by the donations and appreciative of AIRD’s contribution not only to hospitals but also to the Persons of Concern. They added that the donations would cater for the critical needs of the hospital as they didn’t have enough beddings and lacked dustbins.

The Program also organised games such as football, marathon and tug of war. The participants involved both AIRD staff and locals from Old Settlements (OS) and North Western (NW) Districts of Tanzania. The winners were all awarded prizes presented by AIRD’s Board Patron Mr. Charles Kirenda. Also in attendance were UNHCR officials and local leadership representation. The Program held a dinner afterwards where staff and guests were entertained by a local cultural group.

TANZANIA

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Tanzania Program staff in Kibondo set for anniversary celebrations

Chad Program staff with some of the donations they gave refugees in Goui camp

The CPD of Cameroon Program Mr. Israel Nzyimana chatting with one of caretakers at Nazareth Fondation in Bertoua

DRC Program staff in Kalemie, raising hands showcasing the anniversary celebratory mood

Mr. Alemayehu Fisseha one of AIRD BOD members planting a tree at Romogi Seed SS (Uganda Program)

Uganda Program staff serving dinner at White Castle Hotel in Arua. The dinner was organised by AIRD Head Office to mark the 10th anniversary

Our social Media sites

Facebook: African Initiatives for Relief and Development - AIRD

Twitter: @AIRD_World

CPD of Central African Republic Program Mr. Pierre Simon welcoming the Mayor of Bangui for the city cleaning drive of Independence Avenue
These are the women and men who make up the Communication Team. It is because of their drive, hard work and commitment that the 10th Anniversary Newsletter is out. If you have interesting stories and pictures taken while in the field, please share on this email address: brenda.a@airdinternational.org

Remember to follow us on Twitter: @AIRD_World and like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/AIRD.10

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