

06.04.2021

Dear members, dear friends of the DTP,

We mourn for Andrea Karsten, Mama Anna, Initiator, Co-Founder-in and honorary chairperson of the German-Tanzanian Partnership. She died after a short and severe disease surrounded by her children on the 13th of February 2021. We are infinitely thankful for the time with her and her work of a lifetime. She was and is the soul of this exchange between Tanzania and Germany.

Out of her connection to Tanzania and her circle of friends in Hamburg the DTP was founded in 1998.

Since the foundation she was general secretary till 2009 and shaped the DTP as part of the board till 2014. By traveling to Tanzania one or two times every year till 2018 she created and cultivated a lot of firm personal relationships despite the huge distance.

We all, as current members of the board and management, joined the DTP after her. In this context we got to know her and were included by her power of persuasion. Her sense for human beings and her open mind for ideas, especially from young people, kept us motivated to stay on board.

Andrea always had a good perception for requirements and opportunities and has created a lot of projects and cooperations based on this. Both for her and for us, the direct impact of projects, the personal contribution of the involved parties and the readiness to question and improve existing projects became the central pillars of the DTP's work.

The projects Mama Anna Nursery School, the student-partnerships, the volunteer programs North-South, South-Nord and global learning, REN volunteers and the development of the women group TUFAHAMIANE were essentially shaped by her. The cooperation with the University in Dar es Salaam and the development of TAREA and REZA could not have taken place in such a way without her contribution.

Until lately the work with renewable energies and the connected hope and perspective for development was a central motivation for her while facts and science were always the base for her firm conviction.

Her work has created a huge impact and her conviction and power of persuasion has shaped her environment. We will miss her and her agility.

We wish that we can continue to develop this lifework further in her spirit.

Asante sana Mama Anna!

