



We trust the new year got off to a good start for you. As for us, we started the year full of AMPO energy and we were invited to report on AMPO at an art exhibition on Burkina Fas during the first week of January in Berlin. At the same time, the new project initiated by our Board Member Thomas Pfeiffer, "Hand in hand against a shortage of skilled labour", was officially launched in a newsletter mid January and we were so pleased to receive the very positive feedback from many of our members.

Katrin Rohde is still in Ouagadougou, sending us a constant stream of new photos and videos from the various AMPO facilities. This provides us with a good insight into the work currently underway at AMPO which we can pass on in our newsletter, on our homepage or on social media.

**Your AMPO International team**

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### **Eric Sawadogo - New AMPO fundraiser**

AMPO took on a new member of staff this month, Eric Sawadogo. He will work as a fundraiser for AMPO. His main job will be to raise funds for the AMPO facilities in Ouagadougou. He will be based at the AMPO office. We are pleased to welcome Eric to the AMPO family and we look forward to what he has in store.



## Art exhibition on Burkina Faso in Berlin

Dr. Bernhard Geiselmann has been to Burkina Faso many times and during his travels he came into contact with AMPO. He is a great fan of the country and its people and his art expresses his experience there. His paintings are unique and portray some interesting aspects of life in Burkina Faso. On January 6th we had the opportunity to talk about the AMPO facilities to a lively audience. Such occasions are always so important to create awareness among other people. This enables us to establish contacts in support of our work.

Click [here](#) for further information about Dr. Geiselmann's painting.



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## Hand in hand against a shortage of skilled labour



Thomas Pfeiffer, one of our Board Members, initiated the project entitled “Hand in hand against a shortage of skilled labour”. Basically, the project is to encourage German or other European companies looking for skilled workers and trainees to offer apprenticeships in Europe to young people from the AMPO environment who have done well at school. These young people can later be taken on as skilled workers in the respective companies. Together with the German Embassy and the Goethe Institute in Ouagadougou, we have started preparing some of the young people in terms of culture by offering German lessons and an introduction to the job market.

If you are interested in this project or if you have contact to companies who may be interested, please get in touch. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

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## AMPO monthly report

The tutors have set up new learning groups in the orphanages. The intention is to encourage the children to learn more. Recently some of the children were not doing so well at school. The tutors spoke to the children and set up these learning groups to support them.

Children at AMPO are always encouraged to do well at school. Education is important and will make a huge difference to their lives. It is absolutely normal however for them to do better at some subjects than at others. Not every child can achieve top marks in every subject. Not every child enjoys learning. Their interests are so diverse, which means they are better in some subjects than in others. But all of the tutors are convinced of the great potential in every child, which will come to the fore given the necessary support.

We hope all of the AMPO children will enjoy learning this school year and of course we wish them all excellent marks.



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## **World shop in Kuppenheim donates 4,000 euros**

Weltladen St. Sebastian is a world shop organised by the Catholic community in Vorderes Murgtal in Kuppenheim and at the new year they transferred a generous donation of 4,000 euros to AMPO. The volunteer staff at the world shop, Alexandra Kahles and Angelika Decker handed over a symbolic cheque to Helmut Timper of the AMPO-Freundeskreis-Gaggenau Selbach.

Weltladen St. Sebastian is a non-profit organisation operated mainly by volunteer staff since it started. They offer products made in developing countries, purchased locally at fair prices. Owing to their non-profit-making status they are not allowed to earn profits and so any money they make is re-invested in the upkeep of the shop and the remainder is donated to social projects. We are delighted they thought of AMPO this time.



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## Rest Cent Initiative collects donations for AMPO

Have you heard of Rest Cent Initiative? Employees of a company volunteer to donate cents of their net monthly salary. In our case [BRL BOEGE ROHRE LUEBBEHUESEN](#) a law office in Hamburg, even tripled the amount raised and donated it to AMPO. It's a very easy way to help and it doesn't hurt. Our thanks go to the law firm for this innovative idea and for the initiative and for their loyal support over the years.

Do you think you could persuade your colleagues in the company to take such a wonderful initiative? We will gladly present our work at AMPO to your company. Please contact us.



## Have you already subscribed to our new AMPO International WhatsApp channel?

Our charity set up a WhatsApp channel in November last year. Have you already subscribed? A WhatsApp channel is like a group chat on which where only the originator can write. It is similar to a blog. The subscribers to the group can react to news with emojis. You cannot see who has subscribed to which channels and the channel originator does not see the subscriber's number (unless it already appears in her/his telephone list). The channels are not displayed in the chats but are shown in a separate tab «Aktuelles».



This will help us keep you up to date on the ongoing work. If you are a regular WhatsApp user, but do not follow us on other channels, this is a good opportunity to keep abreast of AMPO and AMPO International.

Jetzt unseren Social Media Kanälen folgen und AMPO unterstützen



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