



KATUTURA - The name of this suburb comes from the language of the Herero (Otjiherero) and means something like **"The place we don't want to live in"**.



The Katutura district of Windhoek is home to thousands of people from all Namibian tribes and neighboring countries. How many people live here can hardly be estimated; i.a. because of the rural exodus, there are more and more every day. Some areas of Katutura are furnished with simple but solid houses. In others, however, huts made from rubbish hang loosely on mountain slopes as desperately as their inhabitants to this only home they have.



Tin huts stand close to each other in the blazing sun, so that it gets glowing hot inside during the day and icy cold at night due to lack of insulation. Few people have warm blankets or jackets for the coming winter.



People live in poverty and despair.

Countless single mothers try to organize food for their children in their daily struggle to survive. There is little work.

Small hairdressing salons, car repairs, market stalls, many bars and prostitution, violence and crime paint a picture of African poverty.

Love and trust don't fall on healthy ground.

No day is easy for the people of Katutura, but with the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, fears and outrage grow far beyond what is known. But there is also hope, people stand up for others and help those who have even less than they do in their humble environment.

The best example of this are **Laurica Afrikaner**, her family and friends who share the biblical creed *"Love thy neighbor as thyself"* implement in daily life.

They are members of the famous choir *"Bridge Walkers"*, but they organized our aid campaign on their own.



Photo (from left): **Ernst Eiseb, Bridget Afrikaner, Enrico Afrikaner, Laurica Afrikaner**

KATUTURA

Nine families who were particularly hardly hit were supported due to our fundraising. To ensure that the donations from Germany, Austria and Switzerland are used for the right purpose, the young people bought groceries and brought them to the families.



The aid packages included corn flour, sugar, bread flour, rice, canned fish and meat, oil, milk, tea, coffee, soap, pasta, fresh chicken, instant soups, corn snacks and apples and oranges as vitamin suppliers.



The gifted families, who live in the poorest huts, could hardly believe their luck and even had their helpers record videos to testify their thanks.





Laurica Afrikaner reports:

“After buying the groceries, we had a small remaining amount for which we bought soap, which we distributed to the people on 7de Laan Street.



We were deeply concerned by the terrible living conditions of these families and it almost broke our hearts that we could only help a few families. So many people came up to us and asked for food.

If we somehow manage to get more donations, we would love to go back there and distribute food.

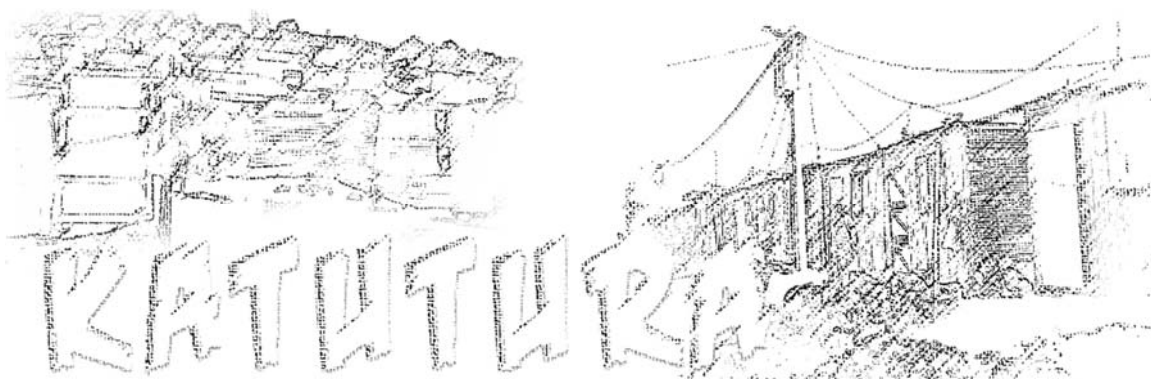
We also thought that we could cook a warm meal, at least for the young children. Even though we have been ordered to stay at home, most of us have no way of doing it.

Many people live in tiny, drafty huts with many family members.

How can you sit there day and night? That simply does not work!”



**Thanks to many donors and active helpers in both countries,
we can assist quickly and unbureaucratically.**



This initiative was founded by
Konny von Schmettau (Swakopmund, Namibia) and **Anja Neuhaus** (Wesel, Deutschland).