

November 2019



Dear supporters of *Friends of Madurai Seed (FMS)*

2019 has been another busy year at *Madurai Seed*, and in this newsletter I'll give you an overview of the main developments. I've also included the current balance sheet prepared by Martin, our Treasurer, as an appendix.

In March, I sent out a letter with facts and figures for 2018, which also gave an outline of plans for 2019. One of those concerned classroom premises, and I'm very pleased to report that *Madurai Seed* has been able to finance the renovation of another floor in one of its leased buildings, with the result that it now has an extra classroom. It was able to do this from its own financial resources, which is a very positive sign of its development.

Another point in the March letter related to supporting young people who want to go on to college to study for a BA or BSc, or indeed a BEd (that is, a teacher training degree). As you know, we created a sponsorship brochure outlining the various options for sponsorship, plus a page on the FMS web site. The response has been excellent: we have received very generous donations totaling some CHF 10,000 that have enabled us to cover the tuition fees for 15 undergraduate students, and two post-graduate BEd students. Thank you again to those individual donors for their tremendous support and generosity.

During 2019, the children and young people have continued to participate in both cultural and educational activities at the weekends and during the school holidays. Some highlights: in April, *Madurai Seed* youngsters took part in a three-day theatre festival held in Chennai, to great acclaim, and in August they performed two plays at the Children's Literary Festival held in Madurai. In April, *Madurai Seed* ran workshops on experiential teaching with an NGO from Chennai, and an intern from Paris helped for a month in the summer. Plus, there have been numerous workshops and educational events for the youngsters over the year.

Last but not least, the pass rate for both the 10th and 12th standard classes in the annual government school exams in April 2019 was 100%. You can read and download *Madurai Seed's* very detailed and illustrated annual report for 2018-19 from the **Downloads** page on the FMS web site.

Once again, the Committee of *Friends of Madurai Seed* joins me in thanking you for your support and donations over the past year, and we hope that we can continue to count on your support in 2020. *Madurai Seed* celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2019 – with your help, we can all look forward to a silver jubilee in 2024! I've enclosed a copy of our brochure should you wish to pass it on to friends and acquaintances.

Finally, I wish you a very happy and peaceful holiday period over Christmas and the New Year, and a good start to 2020.

With best wishes

John Potts, President, *Friends of Madurai Seed*
www.friendsofmaduraiseed.org

Appendix: **end-of-October 2019** balance for *Friends of Madurai Seed*

Buchhaltung 2019

Vermögen	
Eröffnung 1.1.19	229'572.32
Abschluss 31.10.19	217'209.11
<i>Reinverlust per 31.10.19</i>	12'313.21

1 Ertrag	
Total Gutschriften 2019	17'030.00
- Beiträge und private Spenden	15'030.00
- Beiträge von Stiftungen	1,000.00
- KFR/KmS	1'000.00
- Zinsabschluss	0.00

2 Aufwand	
Total Lastschriften 2019	29'343.21
- Administration (Internet, Porti etc)	392.50
- Druck/Werbung	325.60
- Postkontoverwaltung	129.80
- Banküberweisung an Madurai Seed	27'235.31
- Überweisung in Bar an Madurai Seed	0.00
- Ausgabe vor Ort (Madurai)	0.00
- Reisespesen Indien	1'260.00