

## Nieuwsbrief 27

Verslag van de 2025 Challenge.

De Challenge ging zaterdag 4 oktober van start op camping Aldenparks Tolderheyde in Poppel.

De startplaats wederom in Poppel vanwege de emissienormen in Antwerpen waardoor uitgeweken moest worden naar een nieuwe startlocatie.

Er hadden zich 16 teams ingeschreven voor deze rit. Maar team Dekkers (2702) moest wegens familiale redenen afhaken.

De eerste dagen van deze reis verliep vlot evenals alle grensovergangen op deze reis.

In de Marokkaanse plaats Zagora moest *Team Opdedrynck* (2704) hun Landrover achterlaten wegens technische problemen met de versnellingsbak waarvoor onderdelen besteld werden.

De teamleden konden hun weg vervolgen door bij *Team Pajotters* (2703) in te stappen. De Landrover zal in maart opgehaald worden.

Dan wordt bekeken hoe de auto alsnog naar Gambia gebracht zal worden.

De Volvo van *Team Lekker steggelen* (2711) gaf al snel problemen na aankomst in Marokko.

Maar dit kon uiteindelijk bij garage Ali Nasser in Zagora opgelost worden door in de computer van het motormanagement een aanpassing te doen.

De enthousiaste groep reisde verder met veel plezier en zonder grote technische problemen.

Ze bereikten Gambia 20 dagen na de start zoals gepland op donderdag 23 oktober.

Daar werden zondag 26 oktober de auto's openbaar geveild bij het Independent Football Stadium in Bakau.

Er werden goede prijzen geboden ondanks de lage opkomst van potentiële kopers.

De Subaru van *Team Ben&Co* (2701) werd niet geveild maar direct gedoneerd aan het **Department of Community Development**.

Voor de projectmanager van Helping Hands vzw de heer Ousman Sonko. Hij gebruikt deze om de verschillende projecten te bezoeken en verdere hand en spandiensten te verrichten voor het Department of Community Development (DCD) de samenwerkingspartner voor de organisatie van de Antwerpen Banjul Challenge organisatie. Ousman doneerde 900,- Euro (75.000 GMD) uit dankbaarheid voor de ontvangst van de Subaru. Dit bedrag gaat naar het waterproject in Kerr Mama omdat *Team Water is Life* (2704) in panne gevallen was. Hierdoor kon er toch een mooie donatie aan dit project gedaan worden. *Helping hands* vzw doneerde ook 2910,- Euro (220.394 GMD) aan dit project met sponsorgelden. Het **project Water is Life in Kerr Mama** dreigde uit de boot te vallen door de autopech van team (2704) en is hiermee toch geholpen met in totaal 295.394 GMD.

*Team Water is Life* (2704) doneerde een heel groot pakket met voetbalspullen aan de **KGH Football Academy in Lamin Village, West Coast Region**.

De Subaru van *Team No Stress* (2716) werd ook niet geveild en in overleg, rechtstreeks gedoneerd aan het **Ambulance project in Sika Village**. Deze stationwagen zal ingezet te worden als ambulance. Voordat de auto overgedragen werd moest er eerst nog een mankement aan de transmissie gerepareerd worden zodat deze pas drie weken na aankomst aan dit project overgedragen kon worden.

Het project in **Somita Village** kon bruto 2142,-Euro (180.000 GMD) tegemoet zien uit de veilingopbrengst van de Landrover van *Team Pajotters* (2703) Met deze auto kwamen de teamleden van *Team Water is Life* (2704) ook veilig aan in Gambia.

Het project in **Kitty, Herbouw kliniek na brand**, ontving 1369,- Euro bruto (330.000 GMD) van de auto van *Team de Venixjes* (2705) De Renault van *team Zeeuwse Babbelaars* (2709) bracht bruto 2083,- Euro (175.000 GMD) op voor dit project. De Volkswagen van *Team Buurman & Buurman* (2710) bracht 2142,- Euro op (180.000 GMD) ook voor dit project was de opbrengst van de Volvo van *Team Lekker Steggelen* (2711) 2559,- euro (215.000 GMD) En de Citroën van *Team Drietakt* (2712) bracht op 2083,- (175.000GMD) Dit project ontving ook nog eens cash 2460, euro (206.640 GMD) van de teams die voor dit project reden.

#### Het project **Farato, Bouw en uitbreiding basisschool**

De Volkswagenbus van *Team Vossey* (2706) leverde 3928,- Euro op (330.000GMD) De Range Rover van *Team Get Ready 1* (2707) leverde 3630,- (305.000GMD) op en de Landrover van *Team Get Ready 2.0* (2708) Bracht 2023,- Euro op (170.000GMD) De Ssang Yong van *Team Adventures for Hope* (2713) leverde het mooie bedrag op van 3452,-Euro (290.000GMD) voor dit project.

Na een valse start vorig jaar kwam het team met de toepasselijke naam: *Komt het toch nog goed* (2714) Op de veiling met hun Toyota. Deze leverde 3809,- Euro (320.000) op voor hun gekozen waterproject: **Bintang, Boorgat met kranen**. Daardoor kon het hele project totaal gefinancierd worden.

*Team Peper & Zout* (2715) zorgde voor een boost aan het **Bondali Jola, Health Project** met de veilingopbrengst van hun Mercedes. Deze bracht 3809,-Euro (320.000GMD) op.

De totale veiling opbrengst de 12 auto's die verkocht werden op de veiling van deze Challenge was 32.619 euro (2.740.000.00GMD)

Een mooie opsteker voor de projecten in Gambia.

Het was voor de deelnemende teams een heel geslaagde Challenge een onvergetelijk avontuur en een onvergetelijke ervaring.

Reden om ook dit jaar weer een Challenge naar Gambia te organiseren.

De inschrijving voor deelname is geopend. Er hebben zich 13 teams aangemeld.

Deze Challenge zal op zaterdag 3 oktober van start gaan.

Zie verslag DCD hieronder en de Engelse versie van de Nieuwsbrief



**THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
**MINISTRY OF LANDS AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT**  
**13 MARINA PARADE**  
**BANJUL**

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20<sup>th</sup> January, 2026

President  
Helping Hands Foundation-VZW  
Kingdom of Belgium  
Antwerp

**OVERVIEW OF 2025 ANTWERP-BANJUL CHALLENGE**

Subject to the above, the 2025 edition of the Antwerp-Banjul Challenge ended in the Gambia on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2025 with the auction of vehicles on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, 2025 at the Independent Stadium. Twelve (12) cars were auctioned with total amount realized from the auction sales is D2, 740,000.00 (Two Million Seven Hundred and Forty Thousand Dalasis Only). The 15% administrative cost is D411, 000.00 (Four Hundred and Eleven Thousand Dalasis Only). The total payable to groups is D2, 329,000 (Two million Three and Twenty-Nine Thousand Dalasis Only) and payments to the groups have already been made. Please see attached the list of cars and their auction prices.

Furthermore, an additional amount of D220, 394.00 (Two-hundred and twenty thousand, three hundred and ninety-four Dalasis) was raised for the community of Kerr Mama by Cor (President of Helping hands Foundation) from the Municipality of Poppel. In addition, a counterpart contribution of D75,000 (seventy-five thousand dalasi) was paid by Ousman Sonko to the amount raised by Corr making a total of D295,394.00 (two hundred and ninety-five thousand, three hundred and ninety four dalasi). This total sum have been received and deposited in the designated account and will be used to support water supply provision for Kerr Mama in the North Bank after the car of team 2704 had a breakdown and could not complete the challenge.

Despite the limited number of vehicles, the prices were competitive and substantial amount has been raised which will go a long way in complementing government efforts in terms of addressing basic social services concerns for the beneficiary communities.

Overall, the 2025 edition of the challenge was very smooth and less challenging in terms of coordination as compared to 2024 edition. We commend both the organisers and participants for this while hoping that similar experience in the future.

We wish to reassure you of our continued commitment to this partnership while at the same time thank you for your effort in complementing the government's effort in supporting our communities based on their priority needs.



**Fatou Gibba**  
**Director**  
**Cc: File**

**LIST OF CARS AND THEIR AUCTION PRICES**

<b>NO</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>VEHCILE NUMBER</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1	10/26/2025	MAMADOU BAASIRO DIALLOW	2703	180,000.00
2	10/26/2025	PETER LARDEN	2705	115,000.00
3	10/26/2025	SAINEY COLLEY	2706	330,000.00
4	10/26/2025	MUSTPHA JARJU	2707	305,000.00
5	10/26/2025	OUSAINOU CEESAY	2708	170,000.00
6	10/26/2025	OUSMAN CHAM	2709	175,000.00
7	10/26/2025	ANSUMANA MANSALLY	2710	180,000.00
8	10/26/2025	BINTA FS CAMARA	2711	215,000.00
9	10/26/2025	LAMIN JOBE	2712	175,000.00
10	10/26/2025	OUMIE BATCHILLY	2713	290,000.00
11	10/26/2025	FATOU BITTAYE	2714	285,000.00
12	10/26/2025	AMADOU F BOJANG	2715	320,000.00
<b>13</b>	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>			<b>2,740,000.00</b>

## Newsletter 27

### Report of the 2025 Challenge

The Challenge started on Saturday, October 4, at the Aldenparks Tulderheyde campsite in Poppel.

The starting point was once again in Poppel due to emission standards in Antwerp, which required moving to a new starting location.

Sixteen teams registered for this trip, but Team Dekkers (2702) had to withdraw for family reasons.

The first days of the Journey went smoothly, as we did all border crossings.

In the Moroccan town of Zagora, Team Opdedrynck (2704) had to leave their Land Rover behind due to gearbox problems. Spare parts were ordered, and the team members continued their journey by joining Team Pajotters (2703). The Land Rover will be collected in March, after which arrangements will be made to bring the car to Gambia.

The Volvo of Team Lekker Steggelen (2711) quickly developed problems upon arrival in Morocco. Fortunately, these were resolved at Ali Nasser's garage in Zagora by adjusting the engine management computer.

The enthusiastic group continued their journey with great joy and without major technical issues. They reached Gambia 20 days after departure, as planned, on Thursday, October 23.

On Sunday, October 26, the cars were publicly auctioned at the Independent Stadium in Bakau.

Despite the low turnout of potential buyers, good prices were offered.

The Subaru of Team Ben&Co (2701) was not auctioned but directly donated to the Department of Community Development for project manager Mr. Ousman Sonko of Helping Hands vzw. He uses it to visit various projects and provide support services for the Department of Community Development (DCD), the partner organization of the Antwerp–Banjul Challenge. Out of gratitude for receiving the Subaru, Ousman donated €900 (75,000 GMD) to the water project in Kerr Mama, since Team Water is Life (2704) had broken down. This ensured a valuable contribution to the project. Helping Hands vzw also donated €2,910 (220,394 GMD) from sponsorship funds. The Water is Life project in Kerr Mama, which was at risk due to the breakdown of Team 2704, was ultimately supported with a total of 295,394 GMD.

Team Water is Life (2704) also donated a large package of football equipment to the KGH Football Academy in Lamin Village, West Coast Region.

The Subaru of Team No Stress (2716) was also not auctioned but directly donated to the Ambulance Project in Sika Village. This station wagon will be used as an ambulance. Before the car could be handed over, a transmission defect had to be repaired, so the vehicle was only transferred three weeks after arrival.

The project in Somita Village received €2,142 (180,000 GMD) from the auction proceeds of Team Pajotters' Land Rover (2703). This vehicle also safely transported Team Water is Life (2704) to Gambia.

The project in Kitty, rebuilding a clinic after a fire, received €1,369 (330,000 GMD) from Team de Venixjes' car (2705). The Renault of Team Zeeuwse Babbelaars (2709) raised €2,083 (175,000 GMD) for this project. The Volkswagen of Team Buurman & Buurman (2710) brought in €2,142 (180,000 GMD), while the Volvo of Team Lekker Steggelen (2711) raised €2,559 (215,000 GMD). The Citroën of Team Drietakt (2712) raised €2,083 (175,000 GMD). This project also received €2,460 (206,640 GMD) in cash donations from teams driving for it.

The project in Farato, construction and expansion of a primary school, benefited from several vehicles:

- Team Vossey's Volkswagen bus (2706) raised €3,928 (330,000 GMD).
- Team Get Ready 1's Range Rover (2707) raised €3,630 (305,000 GMD).
- Team Get Ready 2.0's Land Rover (2708) raised €2,023 (170,000 GMD).
- Team Adventures for Hope's Ssang Yong (2713) raised €3,452 (290,000 GMD).

After a false start last year, Team "Komt het toch nog goed" (2714) came to the auction with their Toyota. It raised €3,809 (320,000 GMD) for their chosen water project in Bintang (drilling boreholes with taps). This fully financed the project.

The total auction proceeds from the 12 cars sold during this Challenge amounted to €32,619 (2,740,000 GMD).

A wonderful boost for projects in Gambia.

For the participating teams, it was a very successful Challenge—an unforgettable adventure and experience.

This is reason enough to organize another Challenge to Gambia this year.

Registration for participation is open, and 13 teams have already signed up.

This Challenge will start on Saturday, October 3