

Live is beautiful in Egypt, ... thanks to you!



In 2003 Lydie, her husband Kris and his sister An started with a Belgian charity organisation called **www.liveisbeautiful.be** after a trip they took to Egypt. They then started to collect schoolmaterial and clothes for some of the poorest children in Luxor.



With the support of **Thomas Cook Airlines**, Neckermann and thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, who collected some hundreds of pounds in weight of materials, the first suitcases arrived soon after in Egypt and the material was personally given to the most needy and poorest people.



One of the most successful achievements since the birth of

www.liveisbeautiful.be was the gift of a Belgian fire engine to the city of Luxor, ...

Although we hope that it is not needed too many times!



Local Egyptian football teams received through our charity the necessary equipment for their teams, including footballs and professional football outfits from Belgian Premier League teams. By this way the Egyptian teams compete in real competitions, which is great for their moral, confidence and sense of achievement.



In 2006 we started work, together with the local council, on a school in the town named El-Tod, about 12 miles from Luxor. Together with the Youth Association of El Tod and a group of youngsters who volunteer to give help to the poor people from their own town. They all helped with offering educational lessons to the children, donating food packages during Ramadan, organising a Special 'parentlessday' on a cruiseship and many more activities.



But because of the huge success, the little school became too small for all the children. So we started thinking about a much larger multifunctional centre, which is now build, named **Rababah** with several class rooms, a training and employment centre, sport- and health care facilities.



Also a very important part will be the realisation of a Fairtrade business in which a European group teach poor woman to learn handcraft skills, where they will make traditional Egyptian craftwork, in which they will be paid a fair price and the items made will be sold in local shops.



The governor of Luxor, Dr Samir Farag, donated a plot of land to us in the new area of El-Tod. A few professors and five students in their last year of studying architecture at the Belgian College Hogeschool in Antwerp, made a successful study-trip to Luxor and came up with a design for the new multi-functional community-centre **Rababah**.

Together with Dr Samir Farag, the Governor of Luxor and Abd El Hamed Yahya, Minister of State, we hope to open **Rababah** for the public on the 1st of September 2010.



At this moment we are building the ground floor of the school (as you can see in the pictures). To finish our planned project we still need some financial help and we are hoping you can help us see the realisation of this important centre, which will offer education, sport and health care facilities for some of the poorest people in Egypt. Every penny is important!

Rababah is a humanitarian centre that supplies FREE health care, offers FREE education and sport facilities to all Egyptians. Moreover the centre wants specifically to offer training to adults and starts with an employment project.

A - health care:

- optimise the accessibility of health care, especially for women : for example in the case of pregnancy, etc..
- 24/7 on-call doctor present, which will host living arrangements in the centre for them.
- First Aid is administered here to patients before he/she can be transferred to Luxor Hospital, which is approximately 12 miles away.
- rehabilitation and recovery.
- a place where overseas doctors looking to offer their experience and humanitarian support for underprivileged people.

B - education, training and employment:

- Training and employment of adults with a focus on women working together with the local retail shops.
- Fairtrade workshop for women to create and repair cushions trained by European women.
- day-care centres for children run by mothers.
- First Aid training courses to be offered to the local population by European medical students.
- free lessons for children.
- English classes.
- computer classess.
- function room for theatre, dance, singing, music and art.
- mechanical workshop for men to make and repair bikes.
- vetenarian training.

C - sport facilities:

- football facilities offered.
- gymnastics, and dance lessons and events for the elderly.

D - <u>exchange</u>, <u>knowledge</u>, <u>culture</u> and <u>happiness</u>!

It is our explicit wish and hope that each European visitor who comes to Luxor should take this exceptional chance to come and see what we do and even offer-a-helping-hand, no matter how small or big, in our humanitarian centre **Rababah**. We believe by doing this, you will have a fantastic time where you will gain an individual, fun and different

experience. Students can also gain experiences and knowledge of the Arabic language, Ancient Egyptian Culture and even nursing.

You can see that the success of the charity www.liveisbeautiful.be is NOT just our personal achievement, but also the achievement of many people who have wanted to help the poorest of people in need.

If you still have questions, please send us an e-mail on kris@liveisbeautiful.be!

If you want to make a donation : <u>IBAN</u>: BE09979649711257, <u>BIC</u>: ARSPBE22 (Argenta Belgium)

We will happily reply and help you with any questions or information you require.

If you are travelling to Luxor in the future and you want meet us or you want to visit the project, please feel free to mail us. You are more than Welcome!

Many thanks for your visit to our website and all your support,

An, Lydie and Kris Huybrechts*

* a big 'thank you' to Luke for writing this text!