

SPEECH JAN LOCK CREDO 25 YEARS

Thank you very very much.

For being here and it is a real honor to stay here and to say some words.

As the very good singer was singing, 25 years is much more than 25 days.

It is exactly 365 times more than 25 days.

How many? 365, because one year has 365 days.

And I was very happy with the sermon of the preacher about explaining the relation between word and deed.

In our language, like Dutch and English and French, we need two, three words.

It is word and deed, three words.

But it is taken from the Bible.

And in the Bible, Hebrew language uses one word.

And that word is Dabar.

And Dabar means your word should be the same as your deed.

And your deed should speak your words.

And in Colosse the apostel Paul says let your deed speak.

Let your word speak.

And let your deed speak.

I was very happy that we heard the explanation about the position of CREDO in relation to the Evangelical churches.

Because sometimes the speaking of the words is valued much more than the doing of the deeds.

As Biblically spoken it is one level, deed and word and word and deed are one level.

I am very happy to be here with my brother and friend Dr. Rev. Moise Napon.

I was hearing a lot about his vision.

And I can tell you, we were talking in the past 25 years, I am 24,5 year with Woord en Daad, so it is more or less the period of CREDO.

I can tell you Dr. Rev. Moise Napon, he really does not like to look back.

He always is looking forward.

And dreaming his dreams.

And I can tell you, we are really inspiring each other.

He took his vision to Woord en Daad.

And Woord en Daad took it to the globe.

And we could bring our vision to Burkina and it was here implemented.

And sometimes I can tell you Dr. Rev. Moise Napon can be a little bit tricky as well.

One day we were sitting in Ouagadougou.

And we were developing about TVET.

Which is vocational training.

And he said it would be good when we implement vocational training in Burkina Faso as well.

And then we sat together and I told you we made a plan and we assess it and then we will approve the funding.

And the other day we visited Kayero to CREN and to the agricultural project.

And then he took me to Léo.

To a very big terrain, a very big area.

And there were some buildings, and then he said, this is our TVET.

So he was talking about the dream and it already existed in Léo.

And that is exactly how I know CREDO.

Not just dreaming, but also doing.

And challenging us as Woord en Daad.

And on the occasion of the 25th anniversary I will give a book of our work to the chairman of CREDO.

It is this book.

And it is about cooperation in development.

From a Christian perspective.
 And it has an African title.
 And the title is: For the twig to blossom.
 And then it goes on: It has to honor the root.
 For the twig to blossom, it has to honor the root.
 And that is why I like to give this book.
 Because the blossom will give the fruit.
 But we cannot get blossom and we cannot get fruit without the root.
 And if we honor the root.
 We will be fruitful.
 And in the root, as explained this morning, and which is linked to Dr. Rev. Moise Napon.
 We have the Bible.
 And we have the Christian values.
 Like love and hope and faith.
 And CREDO was part of a big evaluation, done by the University of Amsterdam.
 And they were not evaluating technical outputs, like how many boreholes, how many children, no numbers.
 And that secular research.
 Found out with the people, served by CREDO.
 They very highly valued CREDO.
 Because of love and hope and integrity, and trust and accountability, responsibility, respect, passion, compassion, all this type of Biblical values.
 Okay, that is too much to translate.
 Laughter.
 Integrity, trust, commitment, accountability, passion, compassion, respect, and those are all values that are a testimony, a Christian testimony, to a secular world.
 And those values are the root.
 And then about the blossom.
 When I see the schools and the water programs and the boreholes.
 The TVET, the training.
 Job placement, microfinance.
 Those are the blossoms.
 You know when the bees come on the blossom.
 The blossom will be fertile.
 And they will bear fruit.
 If you honor the root, the twig will blossom.
 And all those blossoms only can be fruitful when they honor the values of the root.
 And then, when the blossom is fertilized by the bees.
 In the schools, in the job placement, etcetera, etcetera.
 Then in the future CREDO is and will be remain fruitful.
 And then people bear fruit and we have heard the testimonies this morning.
 And I can tell you, CREDO together with Woord en Daad, is not just bearing fruit in the life of people.
 It is also bearing fruit in many other initiatives.
 Like WARA, like INCE, like JobBooster.
 Different networks that are much bigger than CREDO is.
 And that is what I really really like in CREDO.
 Not just keeping the fruit for themselves.
 But to multiply it in others, in networks and to make it happen, happen and happen again.
 What they got as a benefit from God.
 CREDO multiplies in the life of people and in the networks.
 Not for themselves.
 But in the perspective of the coming Kingdom of God.

Because for the twig to blossom, it has to honor its roots.

So, congratulations to all of you.

This is a special word to Dr. Rev. Moise Napon.

Thank you and congratulations.

Not just on my behalf.

Clapping.

But, also on behalf of the whole organization of Woord en Daad.

And the thousands of Dutch supporters who through CREDO feel a link to Burkina Faso.

From your roots I wish you a bright, and fruitful and blessed future.

Merci.

Clapping.

Handshake and handing over the book to the Chairman of the Board of CREDO: Monsieur Gustave Diasso.