



Rutu Foundation Annual Report

2015

RUTU
Foundation
Intercultural
multilingual education

Preface

From our inception in 2011, Rutu has applied a bottom-up approach: developing mother tongue learning materials and teacher training with parents, teachers and the local communities. This resulted in immediate and observable results.

In 2015, we partnered with Rahzeb Chowdhury from Lifelong Inspiration and adopted a new strategy, called the **Rutu Roadmap**.

The strategy is aimed at filling a void by building a platform to advance mother tongue education worldwide.

As a platform, we will seek to connect all the bottom up mother tongue education initiatives globally, to help make a stronger case for mother tongue education, share experiences and best practices, as well as raise morale for what are often shoestring operations.

Teacher training programs would be developed and rolled out with partner organisations on a larger scale than has been the case up to now.

A platform will strengthen the voice of everyone advocating mother tongue education, enable network effects, make it easier to raise funds, and ensure a more sustainable future for the domain.

It was an exciting year for us, with new partnerships and projects as well as our

first international event - the Rutu Roundtable Utrecht where we formally launched our Roadmap, which can be viewed [here](#).

Without our supporters, volunteers and partners who so generously gave their time or money, we could not have accomplished this and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you.

Dr. Ellen-Rose Kambel,
executive director

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Vision and Mission

We envision that Mother Tongue Education is the standard practice globally.

Our immediate mission is to significantly increase the size and significance of the mother tongue education domain within five years, while cultivating the circumstances required for a sustainable future for mother tongue education.

Activities & Results 2015

Suriname:

- *New partnership*
- *Raising awareness*

*Maths, Naturally! Bilingual Math
Materials*

Events:

- *Rutu Roundtable Multilingual
Education*
 - *Lloyd Hotel Negrito Education
in the Philippines*
 - *Workshops & presentations*
-

Suriname: new partnership with teacher training college Paramaribo

Strengthening Teacher Competence in Multilingualism and Diversity in Suriname



Christelijk Pedagogisch
Instituut Paramaribo

A new partnership

In August 2015, Rutu entered into a partnership with the Christian Pedagogic institute of Paramaribo (CPI), a college for training primary school teachers in Suriname and Utrecht University.

Following the success of the [training programme](#) developed by the Rutu Foundation to strengthen the intercultural competence of teachers working in the interior of the country, this new project integrates the training programme into the new curriculum of the teacher training institutes.

All future teachers will be equipped to adapt their teaching to the languages and cultural background of their students, increasing the chances of educational success. The teachers of the institute will design a module themselves, in line with the new trajectories ('leerlijnen') of the Ministry of Education focusing on multilingualism and cultural diversity.

The project is funded by the Twinning Facility, a Dutch fund which finances partnerships between civil society organizations in the Netherlands and Suriname.

The project started in August 2015 and will run for one year.



Above: participants of the Twinning project Strengthening Teacher Competence in Multilingualism and Diversity.



Universiteit Utrecht

Suriname

Raising awareness and building partnerships

In 2015, we continued our programme in Suriname. With Dr Emmanuelle LePichon (Utrecht University and Rutu Advisory Board member), Ellen-Rose Kambel visited schools, interviewed teachers, parents and pupils and organized meetings to deepen our knowledge, raise awareness and build partnerships.



Above: the Golden Rules of the Sint Antonius school Galibi. Developing a language policy with teachers and parents of the indigenous community Galibi by writing down the 'Golden Rules'. One of the Golden Rules the parents and teachers agreed upon was that children are allowed to speak their own language in the classroom and in the school yard.

Below: which languages do you speak? Interviewing pupils. The children are from the same classroom and each one speaks a different language at home. All children are taught in Dutch at school.



Below: Interview with the principal who was a participant of one of the Rutu workshops on multilingual education. She currently allows the children to use their own language in the classroom, especially the little ones.



Suriname

Raising awareness and building partnerships



Above: Meeting of the Platform for Multilingual Education in Suriname. Attended by NGOs, researchers, policy makers and other interested individuals. The Platform is an informal gathering initiated in 2014 to share information and exchange ideas on moving multilingual education forward in Suriname.

Below: Kennedy School for Deaf Children. We kindly accepted an invitation to visit the Kennedy school for deaf children in Paramaribo, where deaf children learn the sign language, along with spoken Dutch. From left to right: Adde Wuest, sign language trainer, Emmannuelle LePichon, Mrs. Wartes, director Kennedy School and Ellen-Rose Kambel.



Bilingual Math Materials now available online



The bilingual math books *Maths, Naturally!* which the Rutu Foundation developed with teachers and parents and our partners in Suriname VIDS, VSG and ITOS are now available online in the languages:

- Dutch-Kari'na
- Dutch-Lokono
- Dutch-Saamaka and
- Zapoteca-Spanish.

The books are an open source production, available to adaption to any local culture or language.

The books can be viewed [here](#).

In November 2015, the books were presented to the Christian Pedagogic Institute Paramaribo (CPI), our new partner. Read more [here](#).

Picture above (from left to right): Ellen-Rose Kambel (Rutu), Maggie Schmeitz (ITOS) and Marco Ligtoet (director CPI).

Events



Multilingual Education for Migrant Children in Europe: Rutu Roundtable Utrecht

In November, Rutu organized a Roundtable on Multilingual Education for Migrant Children in Europe hosted by the University of Utrecht.

The aim was to bring together policy-makers, researchers, practitioners, donor agencies and other stakeholders from around Europe to share new approaches and discuss the opportunities and barriers to introducing mother tongue based multilingual education for migrant children in Europe.

Speakers included Ana-Maria Stan from the European Commission in Brussels who presented the latest EU report on Multilingual Classrooms.

Representatives from the business community, such as lawyer Akin Alan brought the point home with his personal story and the benefits he reaped by being raised bilingually in Turkish and Dutch.

The overall organization was rated 'excellent' by 72% of the respondents and 'good' by the remaining 23%.

Download the full report [here](#).

Rutu Roundtable Utrecht

Events



Negrito Cultural Revival and Education in the Philippines

- Lloyd Hotel Amsterdam

Lloyd Hotel Evening on Negrito Culture and Education

In April, award winning anthropologist and Rutu Advisory Board member, Jenne de Beer, visited Amsterdam and shared the latest news on the cultural and educational revival of the Negrito indigenous peoples from the Philippines.

The evening was enhanced with the tasting of different kinds of honey from the Asian rainforests and was hosted by the Lloyd Hotel.

Events



Workshops and presentations

In 2015, Rutu was present at several conferences and expert meetings and we were also invited to facilitate a workshop for primary school teachers in Amsterdam:

- **The Costs of Mother Tongue Education** – Presentation at the EU Expert Seminar about language teaching, learning and support in multilingual classrooms (Brussels, 28-29 April)
- **The Introduction of Bilingual Education in Suriname** – Presentation at ANELA conference (Egmond aan Zee, 22-23 May)
- **Above: Math for second language learners** – Workshop by Emmanuelle LePichon and Ellen-Rose Kambel at the Language and Math Conference of the City Council Amsterdam (Amsterdam, 23 September)
- **Plurilingual and Intercultural Teaching Strategies in Suriname** – Presentation at the Three Guianas Conference (Amsterdam 1-3 October)
- **Advancing Mother Tongue Education** – Guest Lecture at the University of Utrecht, 20 October.

Communication

Website:

As part of our new strategy, our website was updated and now includes a [Library](#), an Organization [Directory](#) of mother tongue organizations and an Event [Calendar](#).

Unfortunately we had to give up the Dutch version of the website as this significantly slowed down the website. Where necessary, we will continue to translate articles for a Dutch/Surinamese audience in Dutch.

By the end of 2015, we had twice as many visitors to our website compared to 2014.

E-Newsletter:

We published four e-newsletters in 2015 (March, May, October and December). As of October, in line with our new strategy, the newsletters are published in English to reach a larger audience. In 2015, our newsletters reached around 750 subscribers (an increase of 20%).

Social Media:

Facebook and Twitter are used to share updates around mother tongue education around the world. In 2015 we had an increase of 25% Facebook fans and 75% Twitter followers.



Above: announcing the winners of the lottery at SBK Amsterdam Zuid-Oost. Bart Krieger, author of 'Surinaamse Kunstschatten' generously donated three copies of his new book.

Finances

Financial Statement

Donors

Financial Statement 2015

In 2015, Rutu Foundation continued to be managed largely on a voluntary basis.

The grants received from funders were allocated directly to the projects.

To ensure the highest quality of our activities and continuity, the need continues to secure funding for salaries, travel, fundraising and external communications.

Our annual financial statement 2015 is published as a separate document.

Our Donors 2015

Coopertino
professional presentations

PEREIRA
TAX CONSULTANTS & CIVIL-LAW NOTARY



Lifelong Inspiration

techsoup

LLOYDHOTEL
& CULTURAL EMBASSY



Organization

The Rutu Foundation was established in 2011 and is registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce.

Rutu is recognized as a Dutch charity (a 'stichting' with ANBI status).

Management

Supervisory Board

International Advisors

Partners



Management

Rutu is governed by a supervisory board (Raad van Toezicht) of three members who appoint the board and the executive director. The board/executive director is responsible for the overall management of the organization. An international advisory board gives advice to the executive director and supervisory board.

The salary of the executive director is conform the Good Governance Code for Charities (Commissie Wijffels).

<http://www.vfi.nl/20091123150307/website/branche-informatie/code-goed-bestuur>

At the start of 2015, there are 5 persons working for Rutu on a voluntary or project basis.

Dr. Ellen-Rose Kambel
executive director

Sietske de Haan
business manager

Ralph Schreinemachers, MA
senior trainer

Drs. Astrid van den Berg
text editor

Sylvie Hout
information specialist

Tamara Sijlbing, MA
project officer/communications

Alexandra Luke
Communications/events

Anna-Carolina Alder
student intern

Supervisory Board

The three members of the Supervisory Board are appointed for four years and can be reappointed twice. They may be suspended or dismissed by the Supervisory Board. Members of the Supervisory Board are not employed by the foundation and do not receive any remuneration. A member of the Board/ Executive Director cannot be part of the Supervisory Board.

As of 1 January 2015, Dr. Salim Vally, formerly part of our International Advisory Board, joined the Supervisory Board. Salim replaced Prof. Dr. Sabine Severiens.

Members:

Paul Wolvekamp (Chair)

Paul is co-director of Both Ends. He is vice chair of the NFTP Exchange Programme, chair of the Forest Peoples Programme en coordinator of the Dispute Settlement Facility working group of the Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil. He is also member of the Supervisory Board of IUCN Nederlands Comité and a member of the Commissie Duurzaamheidsvraagstukken Biomassa ('Commissie Corbey').

Dr. Salim Vally

Salim is the director of the Centre for Education Rights and Transformation and an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Education, University of Johannesburg. He is also the coordinator of the Education Rights Project. He has been a visiting lecturer at the Universities of Virginia, Columbia and York. He is a visiting professor at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

Tswi Rodrigues Pereira

Tswi Rodrigues Pereira is a founding partner at Pereira Tax Consultants in The Hague, the Netherlands.

International Advisors

Jenne de Beer, Philippines

Jenne is the founder and former executive director of the Non-Timber Forest Product Exchange Programme for South and South East Asia; a collaborative network of community based organizations and NGOs with the goal to strengthen the capacity of forest communities to sustainably manage and use forest resources.

Carol Benson, USA

Carol is an international consultant on language issues in education currently teaching at Teachers College Columbia University, USA after many years at Stockholm University in Sweden. She has guided the development curriculum by national professionals, trained teachers and researchers in mother tongue-based multilingual education and provided technical assistance to educational reform programs that

emphasize learner-centered pedagogy and democratic participation. Her work experience spans the globe and she has published extensively.

Carol Anne M. Spreen, USA

Carol Anne is Professor of Education at the Curry School of Education, University of Virginia. Her research centers on political and socio-cultural studies of educational change, particularly the influences of globalization on teaching and learning. Internationally, she has worked with many educational development and planning organizations, and assisted numerous schools, districts and educational Ministries with various reform innovations.

Deena Hurwitz, USA

Deena is Professor of Law, International Human Rights Law Clinic at the Washington College of Law, American University, USA. She and her students have prepared training modules on the rights of indigenous peoples to education.

Martha Many Grey Horses, Canada

Martha is member of the Kainai First Nation, Blackfoot Confederacy, Alberta (Canada) and a fluent speaker of the Blackfoot language. Her doctoral thesis focused on the reading performance of American Indian children in secondary public schools in the USA. Martha is currently Director of the First Nations Métis and Inuit Centre, University of Lethbridge, Canada.

Sabine Severiens, the Netherlands

Sabine is Professor of Education at the Erasmus University Rotterdam and at the University of Amsterdam, with a special focus on diversity.

She has devoted most of her research to diversity and inequality in education. She was managing director of the Risbo Institute in Rotterdam, an independent research institute at the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Emmanuelle Le Pichon-Vorstman, the Netherlands

Emmanuelle is assistant professor at the department of Modern languages at Utrecht University. She has been involved in the European Comenius project Transitions and multilingualism. The goal of this project was to provide preschool and primary school teachers with skills that would allow them to better support children with different ethnic backgrounds and mother tongues. She is the author of several scientific papers on plurilingualism and at present divides her time between linguistic research and teaching.

Partners

In 2015, we continued to collaborate with our existing partners in Suriname.

We designed joint projects with new partners in Europe.

Suriname:

Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS)

Association Saamaka Authorities (ASA)

Foundation for Intercultural Bilingual Education in Suriname (ITOS)

Christelijk Pedagogisch Instituut Paramaribo (CPI)

Mexico:

The Autonomous University of Querétaro

Brazil:

Apitikatxi

Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena (Iepé)

Socio Environmental Fund CASA

Panama:

Fundación para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena

Asia:

Keystone Foundation (India)

Non-Timber Forest Product Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP, The Philippines)

Europe:

Black Heritage Tours Amsterdam

Both Ends (Netherlands)

Forest Peoples Programme (UK)

Hogeschool Amsterdam

Lifelong Inspiration (Netherlands)

Risbo/Erasmus University (Netherlands)

Sirius European Policy Network for Education of Migrant Children

Utrecht University

Thank you

Many people have supported our work this year. We are extremely grateful. A special word of thanks goes to:

Alexandra Luke

Anna Carolina Alder

Annet Maarsen

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Carmen Stella

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Greta Pané-Kiba

Heleen van der Helm

Ineke Bendter-Adams

Jewel Filé

Loreen Jubitana

Marco Essed

Maggie Schmeitz

Pamela Mercera

Paula Verstelle

Piet Boogert

Rahzeb Choudhury

Sherwin Aghabeik

Sheila Kort

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