

## Update from the Bussard Family

December 2011

The older I am, the younger everyone around me seems to get.

In the last couple of months I have been impressed by the numbers of young people in Eastern Europe who are interested and engaged in mission, particularly in Africa.

Last week I was in Bulgaria spending 2 days with 45 High School students teaching about poverty in Africa and how they can respond.

A young women in Poland is engaged in raising money for our school bus project in Central Kenya <http://www.malaika.sk/en/how-to-support/christmas-shop>.

In the past 3 months I have been asked to advise 4 Slovak students who are writing their Master's thesis on topics such as poverty alleviation in Africa, Fair Trade, sustainable development or the charity vs. enterprise solutions to development. The level of their questions and alertness is very high.

At least once per week I get a job application from a young Slovak graduate or professional who would like to work in international development.

Last week at the premiere of our new film about coffee and coffee farmers in Ethiopia the audience was almost entirely made up of people under 30 years old.

Such a level of interest, engagement and commitment is something new. As is their growing concern...even anger at the state of the world. Most encouraging.

Our prayer as we go into 2012 is that God would use us to help mobilise a new generation of committed, skilled and godly young people to engage in sustainable ways to bring shalom to a world in pain.

May you recall Jesus and all he was, is and will be this season.

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