



The Atkins Family

Jason, Emily, Savannah,
Nathaniel, and Miriam

Serving in Guinea-Bissau,
West Africa

December 2019

The shipping container is in Spain waiting to board a new ship to arrive in Bissau in early February!

Back To The Sun by Jason

Our trip back to Canchungo was fairly uneventful, thankfully. After goodbyes (which never get easier) we spent a few days decompressing and time adjusting with our friends in Germany, and then arrived in Canchungo late on the night of December 17th. (Thankfully, our luggage all arrived!) Emily put on a staff training event at the vocational school for the next three days while I got us unpacked and the kids settled in. We're glad to be back in our own house, to settle back

New Base Fundraising Progress



Emily and Miriam enjoy some hot chocolate at the Frankfurt Christmas market!

into a more regular daily routine. We hope your family had a wonderful Christmas celebration!

Right: Emily leads a staff team-building exercise at the vocational school.



Arriving by Jason

We never know exactly what we'll find when we return to Guinea-Bissau. Six months is enough time for a lot to have changed. I spent my first several work days in the shop; testing and repowering equipment. Fortunately, despite the school's solar power system suffering daily outages because of the worn-out batteries, and thanks to the care of the two guys tasked with watching over the shop, most of the equipment seems to have weathered the rainy season with little damage. I'm still hunting for a few hand tools that appear to have walked off in my absence, but I'm delighted to find only minor issues with any of the big equipment!

It's encouraging to look forward to a day when the shop will be housed in a more suitable building that will protect the equipment even better from the elements! The fundraising campaign for the new base including that shop is still moving forward. \$11,678 of the \$72,500 goal for the current phase (to pay for half of the base) has already been received! All donations made toward phase 2 continue to be



Six months of grit and grime to clean up, a few small repairs to make, and it's time to get back to making things!

Arriving (cont'd) *by Jason*

(...) doubled by a matching grant. Thanks to all who have contributed! Donations can be made online at JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/BuildTheShop, by designating the "Atkins Special Project Fund" in the "Apply my gift to:" field, or by check to Hope Remembered / P.O. Box 5 / Fosters, AL 35463, with "Atkins Special Project" in the memo.

Home *by Emily*

Roosters crowing at all hours, fresh fish caught by our neighbors showing up at our door, cold showers, tropical sunshine, and a parade of friends stopping by to visit after our long absence—yup, it feels like home! Settling back in has been a little overwhelming and fairly exhausting, but the reunions with the people that we love have made it worth it.

I asked everyone what their highlight has been from our first month back in Canchungo:

Jason: Fresh, giant shrimp at our back door.

Emily: Visits from my friends from women's group.

Savannah: Learning how to play the Guinean version of checkers.

Nathaniel: Our new puppy.

Miriam: Wearing sundresses every day.



To Give Online:

At JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/give you can make a one-time donation or set up an automatic monthly donation by EFT or credit card.

To Give By Check:

Please make checks payable to:
Hope Remembered / P.O. Box 5 / Fosters, AL 35463
with "Atkins" in the memo.