

Edition No. 1/19

Twenty

The magazine of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation





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EDITORIAL

This year, our foundation celebrates its 20th anniversary. This is an amazing milestone for us, which we're marking with this, our latest foundation magazine. We are particularly pleased to welcome the professional football player Mario Götze and his wife Ann-Kathrin to the foundation family – just in time for our big celebration! As ambassadors of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, the couple are now working with us in creating a better future for children all over the world. We have plenty of plans in the pipeline. Interested in hearing more? Turn to our interview with Mario and Ann-Kathrin on page 4, where they reveal the first details of our future partnership.

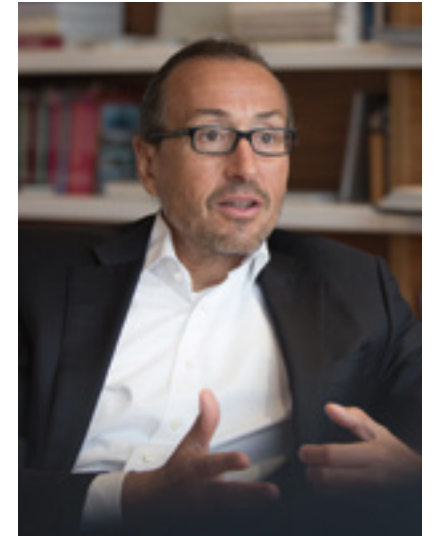
The past year had a number of highly rewarding innovative developments in store for the foundation. With the Sponsor Circle we have created a consortium to offer regular donors a variety of new benefits (page 34) that allows us to plan with a lot more certainty. We also responded to the increasingly international nature of the foundation with a relaunch of the brand, a new logo and a completely revised website www.patrizia.foundation. The aim is to lay the cornerstone for the next 20 successful years.

We're also using this issue to take you on a journey around the globe. Our starting point is the first Foundation Talk, during which we announced a new project in Bhutan. We continue with stories on our facilities in Nepal (page 36) and Zimbabwe (page 38) before turning to India, where we are currently planning a girls' home (page 28). For the first time, we take a look behind the scenes with a video shoot in Kenya (page 24), where we recently celebrated the inauguration of our facility with Barack Obama. And of course, we also go to where it all started. To Tanzania. Not only did we open our first PATRIZIA Children Foundation Center, a children's hospital there, the whole idea of setting up a foundation was born here and, thus, I will always have a very special connection to this beautiful African country – but more about all that on the following pages (page 15).

For me and many PATRIZIAns, working at and on behalf of the foundation is a labour of love. Our goal is to give all children throughout the world the same opportunities to enjoy a solid education and a life of self-determination. We are pleased and extremely grateful to count you among our companions on our journey to fulfilling this high goal.

We hope you enjoy reading our magazine.

Wolfgang Egger, Founder of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation





Mario Götze (26, born in Ronsberg, Germany)

- Has been playing football since the age of three, currently plays for Borussia Dortmund.
- Scored the winning goal for Germany in the 2014 World Cup Final against Argentina (1:0).



Ann-Kathrin Götze (29, born in Emmerich, Germany)

- Has been modelling since she was 16.
- Participated in the TV show Germany's Next Topmodel.
- Works (amongst others) for PETA, Axe, Lambertz, Lancôme and Calzedonia.
- Provided the German voiceover for Francine the Sloth in the 2014 film Ice Age – Collision Course.

Children are our future

An interview with the two new ambassadors for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, Mario and Ann-Kathrin Götze

Great news: on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, the PATRIZIA Children Foundation was able to win over two new ambassadors – the professional football player Mario Götze (26) and his wife, model Ann-Kathrin Götze (29), will represent the foundation from now on.

Why are you supporting the PATRIZIA Children Foundation as a foundation ambassador?

Mario: I have been incredibly lucky in life so far and my profession opens many doors for me. I want to give something back and support those who are not so fortunate – those who live in poverty and need, with perhaps few opportunities to build a better future.

We talked to several charitable organisations and decided in favour of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. It gives children access to education and a better chance in life. This is the only way for them to break the vicious circle of poverty in the long run.

Ann-Kathrin: I visited the PATRIZIA Children Center in Hamburg this January and I saw that the foundation is doing a lot of good and takes good care of the children. I like the philosophy and concept of the foundation. What also impressed me is that every euro that's donated goes 100 per cent to where it belongs.

Mario, what things are important to you as a member of the foundation family and what will you do to help?

Mario: Well, this probably won't come as a surprise – sport, of course [laughs]. A good education involves exercise, play and sport. Sport is an integral part of child development and makes an important contribution to personal growth, especially when you play football. It's a team sport, so you realise quickly that you can only be really successful if you do things together. This also involves social skills, which are also important for children.

Ann-Kathrin, what will you focus on?

Ann-Kathrin: I think that particularly as a woman you have to stand on your own two feet. The best way to do this is through education. Unfortunately, in many countries this isn't a given for girls. So it's important that they get the chance to go to school! Mario and I were able to get a good feel for the spirit of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation through conversations with them and locals. It's like a big family – everyone takes on a specific task. I see my role as working for the interests and rights of girls and young women.

Mario, what role does sport play in education?

Mario: Sport connects people. It boosts your confidence, physical awareness and self-esteem. When you play in a team, you accept and respect each other without reservation. It's scientifically proven that exercise has a positive impact not only on the body but also on the mind. Like when you have an emotional high after sport, exercise allows you to let off steam and get back on your feet again after a setback. This is a point that also means a lot to me on a personal level.

What are your plans for this year? Any news to share?

Mario: There's a lot in the pipeline, but nothing that I'd like to reveal at this point in time. Basically, we'll help wherever we can and use our high profile to draw attention to issues. Our aim is to win over as many supporters as possible for the foundation. It does incredibly important work and helps a lot of children.

Ann-Kathrin: Some of the facilities run by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation specifically support girls and young women. I'll mainly be active as an ambassador in this area. Equal rights for men and women shouldn't be restricted by national borders.

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation primarily focuses on children. Why are children so important to you?

Mario: Children are our future. But many children in this world have little chance of a good life. They need help, people who care, education, better prospects so that they can tap into their full potential. I want to help give them all those things. This is a cause that's very close to my heart. I don't think many people know this, but I wrote a children's book in 2017: Mario's Big Dream. I'd also like to make a couple of dreams come true for the children of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. **Ann-Kathrin:** Your childhood determines what happens in life. This applies to girls and boys all over the world. Our involvement with the foundation allows us to ensure that as many children as possible enjoy the same advantages as we do – a nurturing environment and a solid foundation for the future.

Thank you very much for the interview. We look forward to the first of many years' working together!

Both: Thank you very much – we're looking forward to it, too!



Children need warmth, strength
and, above all, a perspective.

20 years of wonderful Foundation moments

An interview with Wolfgang Egger, founder of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation

Hello Mr Egger. 20 years – that’s a bit of a milestone.

It certainly is. We’re delighted with how things have gone for our foundation and with the things that have been achieved. We’ve now reached out to and helped over 200,000 children – with schools, a roof over their head, or support in medical, social or education terms. It really is a milestone.

Looking back, what has been your most memorable moment with the foundation and why?

The first and most important moment with the foundation was the time I first met Sister Barbara from the Benedictine mission. In those days, there was no foundation – we hadn’t even thought of the idea yet. Before this first meeting face to face in Tanzania we’d only exchanged letters. I’d donated money a number of times already and two things left a lasting impression. The first was her palpable passion. As a donor, it immediately made me feel good. The second was her sheer tenacity. Put the two together, and that’s why we have the PATRIZIA Children Foundation today.

Oh, tell us more about that.

Well, the letters we’d been exchanging began to intrigue me, so 20 years ago I travelled all the way to Tanzania just to get to know Barbara, the missionary, myself. In those days she was in charge of the hospital in a town called Peramiho. During my journey I saw lots of children with injuries that couldn’t be treated properly by medics. I was deeply moved by this. We had a long conversation and I realised the sort of problems children face in lots of African countries – and that PATRIZIA had the knowledge and strengths in terms of property experience to give proper and meaningful help. So in 1999, I set up the PATRIZIA Children Foundation and our first project was to build a children’s ward at the PATRIZIA children’s hospital in Peramiho.

Do you have a philosophy that’s central to foundation work?

We see the work we give to others as an enabler – so it helps others to help themselves. As well as trying to offer children and adolescents shelter, safety and strength, our aim in the long term

is to use our facilities to open the door to better prospects in the future. The prospect of better things tends to motivate people – to educate themselves, to strive for a career, to not just give up. Even children enduring the most appalling conditions can grow into adults who think in terms of taking responsibility and doing something. They learn to take life by the horns – for themselves. And we already see the outcome of this work – many of our ‘children’ are now grown-ups and lead a happy, healthy life. Contributing a little bit to this is a feeling that can hardly be described. It fills me with great pride.

But not everything goes to plan. What kinds of things have you learned during 20 years of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation?

We’re trying to make a difference, but not everything works overnight. So, we try to think in terms of generations. We’re a family-owned business and we work with partners for many years and invest in the long term. It’s a bit like our core business at PATRIZIA with property investment: the work of the foundation is about investing in social impact – for the children and the whole world.

You’ve changed the name of the foundation to coincide with the 20th anniversary. Why?

The new name fits in with the international focus of PATRIZIA and the foundation. The number of foreign partners we work with has been growing continuously and most of the facilities we’ve set up are now outside Germany. Our work is becoming increasingly international in nature, so the new name takes that into account: the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. To mark the move we’ve also overhauled our website. The new website address is www.patrizia.foundation and the idea is that it should act as a hub of information for friends of the foundation, its sponsors and anyone interested in becoming one.

Some people say that when you’re celebrating a round number you can make a special wish.

I look back on 20 years of incredibly wonderful foundation moments – and I hope it will go on like that. Our goal is that through education, children everywhere can find their own way to enjoy a future of

self-determination. We are pursuing this aim with everything we have.

... which is what?

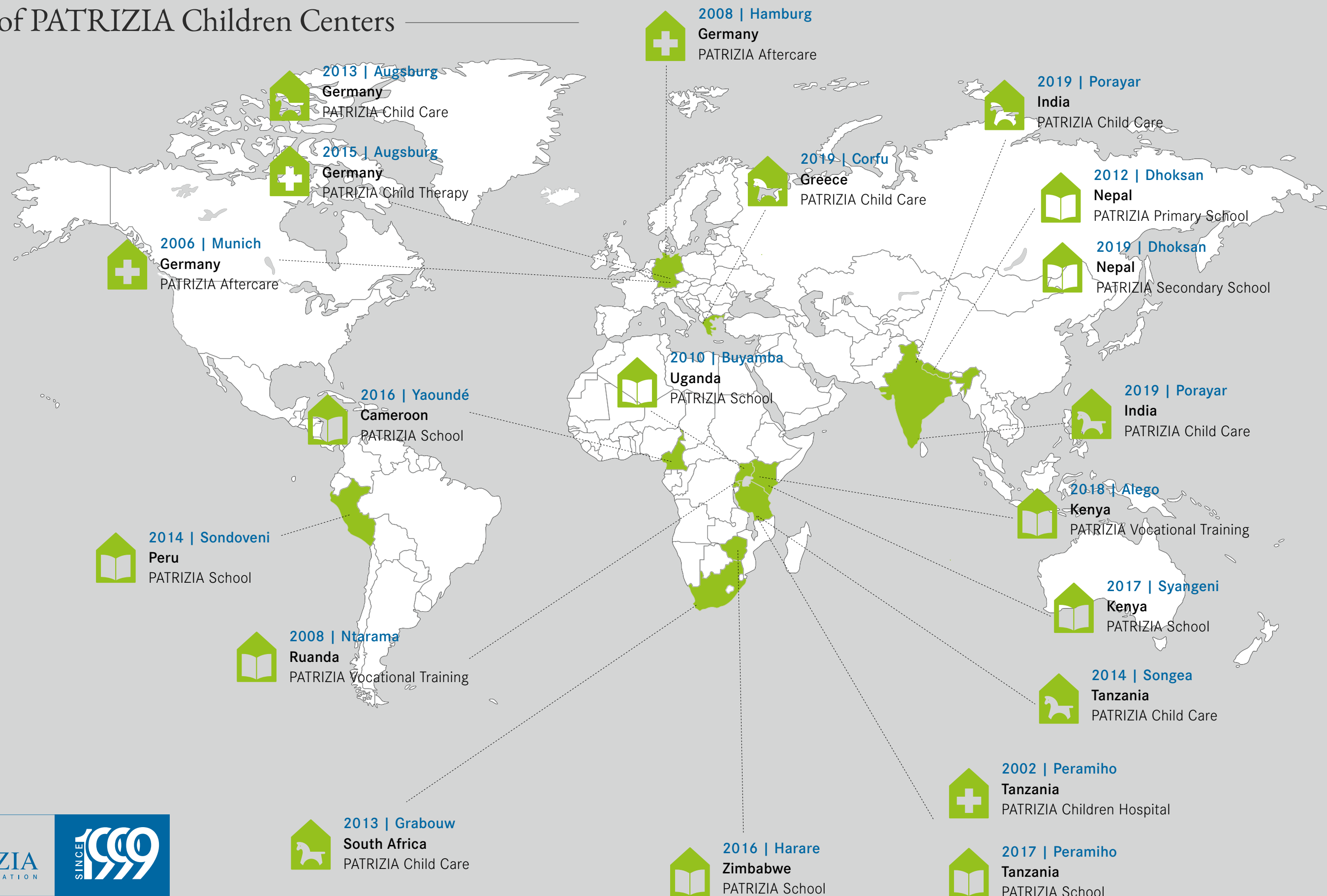
30 years of experience with property and the know-how of our 900 investment experts. We’re property investors, so we think in the long term, and this is something we transfer to the foundation. We manage it like an enterprise: agile and economical. We have highly professional quality management. We only get involved in projects if they’re signed off by our risk managers. We make sure that 100 per cent of donations are used as they should be with maximum impact. The people who represent the foundation regularly visit each site and check things like the condition of buildings or how the facilities are being run. This approach has already enabled us to achieve quite a lot, and we’re extremely proud of this.

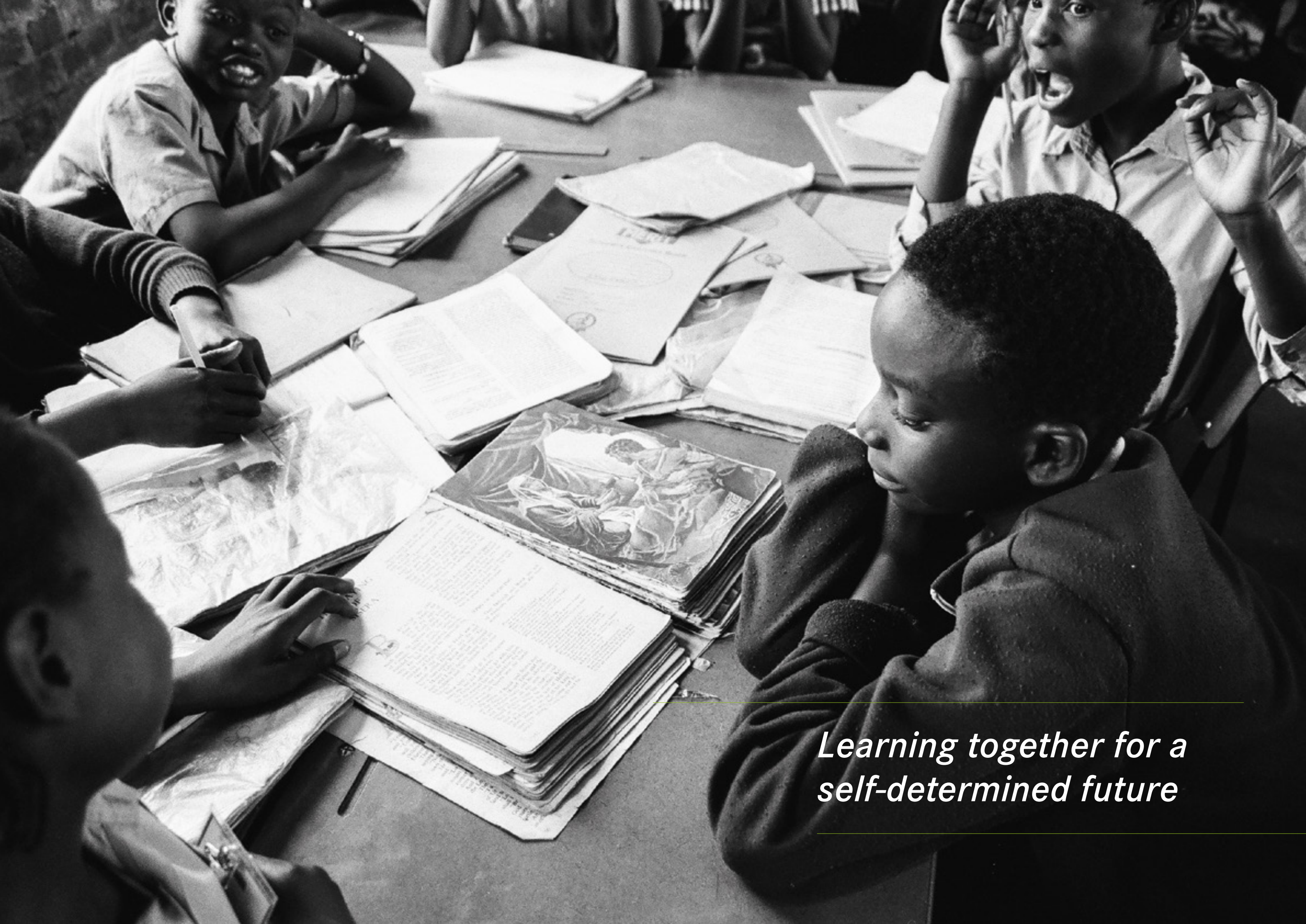
Looking to the future, what are your plans for the next 20 years?

We’re currently working on a series of new projects, including in India and Bhutan, although we’re also looking into a project in Europe. We’re looking for new people to come on board – companies that are living up to their social responsibilities and would like to be involved in a good cause without having to bear the full burden of a foundation. We want to make it possible for these partners to get involved in projects without investing the resources of their own organisations – as a one-off or ongoing, in financial or tangible terms. This would inject even more meaning into our concept of ‘building the future together’.

Thanks for the interview.

A World of PATRIZIA Children Centers





*Learning together for a
self-determined future*



Be involved and stay involved

Volunteers fill the foundation's vision with life

The work of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation revolves around the volunteers who provide valuable help both inside and outside PATRIZIA. This section provides an overview of the people who are the driving force behind the foundation: risk managers, architecture students, fund managers, members of the advisory board and fundraisers. They tell their story about the time they have spent on site, what motivates them and how they breathe life into the foundation's vision.

I travelled to Alego with Anna Warkentin from our Frankfurt office and James Rodge from London (more on this PATRIZIA facility on page 23). It was not long after the opening. We got to meet Dr Auma Obama, whose foundation Sauti Kuu is our local partner. She is a very driven and hands-on person – an essential quality if you're responsible for a facility of this magnitude – and she's taken on a responsibility for so many young lives. This is the kind of quality we always look for when partnering up with local organisations for new projects. You can see immediately with Dr Obama that we've found a partner who shares our values and is the embodiment of a philosophy that drives success.

More than just erecting buildings

The role of Anna, James and myself was to keep PATRIZIA involved after the opening of the home we had helped build for the project. The house is one of seven buildings at the Vocational Training Centre, and the foundation takes great pride in the fact that it doesn't just erect buildings. It gets involved and stays involved, not just thanks to its full-time staff but also to people like us – three people with an interest in development aid and making a contribution. Our company supports this cause financially and by giving volunteers time off. I consider myself very lucky to be allowed to be a part of this.

The core objective of the training centre is to improve children's future prospects, to show them their true potential and boost their self-confidence. We witnessed several examples of how well this pans out, including a little girl standing confidently in front of a big crowd during a debate and a boy reciting a fascinating poem he had written about AIDS. The scenes we witnessed were unbelievably moving.

Image on the right: Jan-Hendrik Jessen, head of fund management for operated properties at PATRIZIA, visited the PATRIZIA Vocational Training Centre in Alego (Kenya) after its opening in 2018.

Spending time with these children allowed me to understand how attending the Vocational Training Centre has a positive impact on their lives, their personalities and subsequently on their futures. These children don't really have much in the way of possessions, many have no support infrastructure to speak of, and two things they are all too familiar with are hunger and despair. The centre provides them with a sense of personal strength and empowers them to take responsibility for themselves and their community. Here, they are taught important lessons about life.

One day as a volunteer

As volunteers, we were subject to the same strict daily routine as the children. 5.45am: mandatory morning gymnastics. Shower, breakfast, courses and studies (in our case meetings), lunch, courses and studies (work time for us again), dinner. At one point, we couldn't wait for the children to be sent to bed at 9.30pm so we could go and have a lie down ourselves. We were exhausted.

We had a chance to talk to many of them – with hands and feet, or with the help of an interpreter. I got to know children with tremendous potential, plus a will to take their lives into their own hands and shape a better future for themselves and their families. These are the important qualities that are taught at the centre, along with the basic principles of peaceful and constructive communities: no stealing, no bad-mouthing people, no insults, and respect, helping and being kind to one another. All in all, I really got the impression that the children seize the opportunity offered to them by Sauti Kuu. And I feel a very deep appreciation of all the donors.

The fenced complex at the training centre is a safe haven for the children and adolescents. A place for them to learn, grow as a person, expand their knowledge, form a community of their own through play, sport and gardening, and take the future into their own hands. I would come back here anytime. I also hope I'll get to see the same children here again – only grown up, maybe even teaching the younger ones all the things they once learned here.



The PCF – Facts & Figures

200,000 More than 200,000 children and adolescents worldwide have gained access to a proper education, offering them every chance to enjoy a better future

Each year, around 20,000 children worldwide receive essential long-term medical treatment through our hospitals

20,000

2,000 Every year, more than 2000 children are given the life-changing opportunity to attend one of our schools

Our children's homes offer a secure and comfortable place to live to 200 children in need

200

20 We have been committed to the welfare of children and adolescents worldwide for 20 years

To date, we have built 20 facilities worldwide, including schools, hospitals and orphanages

20

10 We currently operate in ten countries: Cameroon, Germany, Kenya, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Three countries are also in the planning: Bhutan, Greece and India.

From its founding to today

How the PATRIZIA Children Foundation came to life

Everyone should be entitled to an education. It is a chance to enjoy a better future. This is the core belief and motivation of everyone at the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. For the past 20 years, the foundation has been working continuously towards the goal of helping as many children as possible. Thanks to many years of expertise and a high level of personal commitment, it creates places worldwide that give children and young people a sense of security, strength and perspective.

How it all began

In 1999 Wolfgang Egger, CEO of PATRIZIA Immobilien AG, travelled to Tanzania to meet Benedictine missionaries originally from Tutzing, a rural community not far from his home town of Augsburg. He had already been donating various sums of money to their cause for some time – not least thanks to the rather persistent nature of one of the sisters there, with whom he had exchanged warm letters over several months.

Once in Peramiho, he met Sister Barbara and heard about the nuns' work at the children's hospital. By the end of his remarkable journey, he became acutely aware that his company's know-how and in-depth understanding of housing and property could be put to such a good use in charitable pursuits. He called upon the support of fellow PATRIZIA stakeholders and established a foundation to support the nuns' project in Tanzania. The name of his foundation: the PATRIZIA KinderHaus-Stiftung. The project became a huge success and has proved extremely popular within the company. Encouraged by how well things went, the foundation looked out for other opportunities and partners, not just in Germany but also in other countries.

And, thus, it embarked on a journey and started shaping – or building – the future with others.

With success and an increasingly wide scope of projects came the need for staff, formal processes and donors. The biggest asset of the foundation is its initiator, PATRIZIA Immobilien AG, which meets all administrative costs for the organisation. This ensures that all donations are channelled 100 per cent into projects. Based on a strong sense of integrity and trust, the foundation succeeded in attracting donors from the very beginning.

One decade later ...

... in 2009. By now, the foundation had already realised five projects with facilities in Tanzania, Germany, Ruanda and Uganda. It had also formed long-lasting relationships with local partners in countries earmarked for additional facilities. It was at this point, as the foundation entered its second decade, that things really gathered pace. In quick succession, twelve new facilities were built and several existing facilities were reconstructed.

Building the future together: the approach taken by the foundation is to work with selected local partners and focus on empowerment.

In the long term, this entails 'helping people to help themselves' – also by providing access to schools, support centres, children's homes and hospitals. The foundation relies on an ever-growing team of volunteers at PATRIZIA, plus a network of loyal partners and donors.

And next?

The Queen Mother of Bhutan choosing to work with the PATRIZIA Children Foundation for the first international project in her country is yet more evidence of the foundation's professional approach and authentic standing. To find out more about our upcoming projects, read on.



PCF founder Wolfgang Egger in Tanzania in 1999, with the Benedictine sisters Elisabeth (left) and Barbara (right) and children from the surrounding villages.

Where it all began...



The first cut is the deepest

20 years of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation in Tanzania

A conversation between PATRIZIA CEO Wolfgang Egger and the Benedictine nuns who run the hospital in Peramiho, Tanzania, marked the birth of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation – the beginning of a long-term commitment to the people of Tanzania. A look back.

During a trip to Tanzania in 1999, Wolfgang Egger gained an impression of the work of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing in the hospital of Peramiho. The hospital urgently needed an isolation ward to prevent infections among children with life-threatening diseases such as meningitis or severe burns. Egger decided to help. Within months, he had mobilised resources, found supporters and raised €250,000. This was the first project of what at the time was named the PATRIZIA Kinder-Haus-Stiftung – or ‘PATRIZIA Children’s Home Foundation’.

Peramiho is a town of about 15,000 inhabitants located in the region of Ruvuma in the southwest of Tanzania. Home to many arable farmers, it was founded in 1898 by Benedictine missionaries from St Ottilien, who built a monastery there. The abbey of 70 monks still exists today and now runs over 20 businesses including a print shop, a carpentry, a bookstore, a bakery and brickworks.

St Joseph’s Hospital

The children’s ward at the hospital (355

beds overall) extends over 800 square metres and offers 64 beds. The rooms provide sufficient space for relatives, because it is common for at least one family member to stay at the hospital to care for sick relatives, cook meals for them and wash their clothes. Hospital services are limited solely to the treatment of the patients.

Long-term commitment – and that’s not just an empty promise

The children’s ward in Peramiho has been used intensively for many years. A good 400,000 people live in the catchment area of the hospital, which actually encompasses two units, but both suffered from a number of functional and structural shortcomings. As a result, the hospital operators had little choice: the facilities would need urgent refurbishment and reconstruction. In 2016, the PATRIZIA Children Foundation decided to continue supporting the project and turned to the technical support of Augsburg University of Applied Sciences. Within months, a team of architecture students joined forces with the foundation and started planning the reconstruction of the buildings.

The Benedictine missionaries also contributed to the project, drawing on their local know-how to line up materials and components. With the exception of cement, everything was produced on site, mainly in the monastic workshops. The wood for the building was supplied by a tree nursery affiliated with the monastery. The nursery also supplies seedlings to farmers in the surrounding area to ensure that forestry stocks are replenished. The quality of the buildings meets Western standards.

The children’s ward reopened in 2017, and it now marks the fourth project backed by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation in Tanzania. The foundation has also backed a child care facility in Songea in 2014 and a girls’ accommodation unit at the secondary school in Peramiho in 2017.

Ostakia’s story of glee

Ostakia is eleven years old and lives with her older brother and grandmother. She never knew her father, and her mother works on a farm many miles away in order to provide for the small family. Ostakia is an energetic child who likes playing netball and cards, and loves to sing. Of course, she also helps her grandmother with the household chores.

Everything was going well until several months ago, when Ostakia fell sick with malaria. Her health deteriorated rapidly. Fearing for her granddaughter’s life, her grandmother turned to the PATRIZIA Children’s Hospital in Peramiho for help. St Joseph’s Hospital took Ostakia under its wing, and its doctors and nurses gave her immediate treatment. One nurse became a particular inspiration for Ostakia, who was so fascinated by the nurse’s kindness and care that she wants to be just like her when she grows up. She also wants to be a teacher and a good mother.





Yes, together we can!



Education is the key

Celebrating the 16th inauguration of a PATRIZIA Children Center with Barack Obama

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation has opened a new training centre for children in need in Alego, Kenya, in collaboration with Sauti Kuu. The founder of the Sauti Kuu foundation, Dr Auma Obama, supports children and teenagers by providing a variety of training courses, professional qualifications and personal development options. Her brother, former US President Barack Obama, also joined the opening ceremony. The new and spacious training centre was financed by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. This is now its 16th facility.

The name of the partner organisation, Sauti Kuu, is Swahili for 'strong voice'. As the founder of the charity, Dr Auma Obama often uses her strong voice in her home country of Kenya. For example, for the 17-year-old grammar school pupil Beryl. She recently lost her father. Traumatized by his death, she subsequently failed to finish school. To turn her life around, Beryl came to Alego. Here she received the support her mother was unable to give her. Her dream is to become a journalist, a goal she has been pursuing ever since seeing a well-known Kenyan reporter on television. Thanks to the support of Sauti Kuu, she is now closer to achieving her goal.

The ingredients of a strong voice: education, training and personal development

The partner organisation of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation explicitly targets its message at children and young people aged ten to 17 years – just like Beryl. They come from difficult family backgrounds, are half or fully orphaned, and simply need care and support. Sauti Kuu's new training centre is a huge complex in the village of Alego Nyang'oma in the county of Siaya. The facility built by the foundation spans three large buildings, providing a safe haven for the youngsters to develop soft skills and strengthen their personality.

At the centre, about 100 young people have access to a variety of secondary education options, for example in the manual trades as carpenters or plumbers. Sauti Kuu also offers tutoring sessions, school sponsorships, training projects and career counselling. It specifically targets its services at young people from the poorest backgrounds in order to offer them a solid education and unlock their full potential. The large centre also encompasses computer rooms, a library, living rooms and sports amenities. At the

same time, the kids are made aware of the importance of sustainable and environmentally friendly development, so they are being shown how to cover their own needs and improve their financial situation by selling fruit and vegetables.

One of the 1000 guests outshines the others

The 16th facility of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation is tailored to the needs of children and young people. After three years of construction, the Sauti Kuu campus has now been officially inaugurated. Among the many dignitaries at the ceremony were government representatives from Kenya and Alexander Busl, Managing Director of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. All clearly enjoyed the programme, which was an eclectic mix of singing, dancing and anecdotes. Of course, the big highlight of the event was the attendance of Barack Obama, who travelled specially to the campus to support his sister's cause. In his speech, Obama stressed how important it is for children and young people in Kenya and all over Africa to have a strong voice.

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation will continue its cooperation with the Sauti Kuu Foundation for the next 25 years. Busl: "Offering children a future bursting with self-confidence and independence is a common goal that unites the two foundations. We are setting the course for this through education, personal development and structure" – for people like Beryl and other children and young people, who can now take the future into their own hands and pursue their long-term goals.



Image on the left: former US President Barack Obama (left) with his sister, Dr Auma Obama, founder of the Sauti Kuu Foundation

Getting ready for a great day

Chronology of a foundation highlight

On the morning of the opening ceremony. The new training centre of the Sauti Kuu Foundation still looks sleepy. But this is about to change...



5.15 am

The 1000 guests will be hungry, so the kitchen begins early with the preparations.



8.00 am

Cameraman Fabian Weigele is ready. His job will be to capture beautiful shots of the event for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation.



9.30 am

Barack Obama is about to arrive and the excitement increases, as does the number of security personnel. Additional security guards protect the entire road in front of the Sauti Kuu site.



11.45 am

The opening ceremony starts with cheerful singing, dancing and a lively atmosphere. Alexander Busl, Manager Director of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, is also present for the festivities.



1.05 pm



It's in the can! After his speech, Barack Obama, the former US president, inaugurates the brand-new sports complex on the Sauti Kuu grounds by sinking a couple of shots. The cameras follow his every move.



*Sleep safe and sound, feel
well embraced. For the girls
in Porayar this will soon no
longer be only a dream.*



Actively building the future

New PATRIZIA Children Center in Porayar, South India

One of the latest projects of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation leads us to India – or Porayar in the south of India to be specific, where a new building for the Gnanapoo Illam children's home is currently under construction. The home already accommodates almost 210 girls, and the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church (TELC) has been running this institution since 1994. However, the extremely dilapidated building failed to pass a state audit in 2015 and many sections now have to be completely rebuilt. The girls who live here come from poor backgrounds or broken families. Some are orphans or half-orphans. For them, the new home is their only hope of a safe upbringing and school education – and thus a better future based on self-determination.

The Gnanapoo Illam children's home is located on the outskirts of the town of Porayar (population roughly 8000) in the state of Tamil Nadu. The region on the Bay of Bengal is characterised by agriculture. Many poor families earn a low income as day labourers, simple craftsmen or fishermen. It is just enough to cover basic needs – but a good school education for the children, especially the girls, is not considered one of those needs. The 210 girls who live in the children's home come from such families. Many of them also come from broken families or have lost one or both parents.

Gnanapoo Illam means House of Wisdom and the name says it all. The girls receive a solid school education here and thus a real chance for the future. They're in very good hands: there's a dedicated team with an honorary manager. There are a total of five trained educators in Gnanapoo Illam, four helpers, five women in the housekeeping sector, a sergeant and an office boy.

Social welfare shuts down buildings

Two buildings at the home were very dilapidated. As a result, the social welfare department imposed an order that the refectory and a house with dormitories have to be demolished and rebuilt. The two buildings were no longer safe due to the acute danger of collapse. The wooden roof beams had been attacked by termites and the tiled roof was in danger of caving in.

Since the children had to eat outdoors and the remaining dormitories were overcrowded, the operating permit of the

home was suddenly at stake. The only way to prevent the home being shut down at short notice was to quickly begin with reconstruction. At the same time, a search for further sponsors and supporters was started in order to help complete the construction. "Our aim is to join forces and erect this building and finish this project as quickly as possible. This is the only way to make sure the home stays open and the girls receive the support they so urgently need," explains Alexander Busl, Managing Director of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. Once the financing is secured, the new building can be completed in 2019 – and the 210 girls from Porayar will have a new and stable roof over their heads.



On the right: Alexander Busl, Managing Director of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, visits the girls from Porayar to get an idea of the situation on site.



A fourfold success story

Four PATRIZIA Children Centers in Germany

In many countries around the world the situation is often desperate regarding healthcare, education, gender equality and child labour. It's easy to forget that in Germany, too, there are many children and young people who need support. The PATRIZIA Children Foundation has made it a point to regularly take on projects that benefit children in its country of origin.

PATRIZIA Aftercare Munich

The Aftercare centre in Munich, established in 2006, helps severely and chronically ill children at the Dritter Orden Clinic in Munich. Its aim is to close the gap between medical support and the care given to children within the family, which is often strained by domestic factors. The aftercare centre provides social therapy support to families regarding the nursing and care of their children. It also helps with everyday family life. In line with the Bunter Kreis concept, teams of experienced therapists (teaching experts, psychologists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and nutritional specialists) work together on an interdisciplinary basis. They support families in drawing on the support of the PATRIZIA Children Center and help at home in the family environment.

PATRIZIA Child Care Augsburg

Established in 2013, the PATRIZIA Child Care Augsburg serves as a bilingual day care centre. The team of teaching specialists places emphasis on equal treatment and individual early childhood development. This is independent of the background or social environment the child comes from. The main project partner of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation is a charitable parents' initiative called Internationales Kinderhaus. Currently, 100 children aged between one and three years are prepared for their future lives in a playful and loving way during their most formative years. In keeping with the educational concept, children are given bilingual support, so from an early age they also learn English as a foreign language in addition to their mother tongue.

PATRIZIA Aftercare Hamburg

PATRIZIA Aftercare Hamburg is an after-care centre for severely and chronically ill children. It was set up in 2008. Its aim is to lighten the burden on the Wilhelmstift children's hospital next door. Similar to the Aftercare centre in Munich, this facility bases its work on the approach used at the Bunter Kreis foundation, so it supports families through trained specialists whose role is to assist families through social-therapeutic nursing and childcare. It also adds structure to the challenges of everyday family life.

PATRIZIA Child Therapy Augsburg

In 2015, the Ziegelhof therapy centre was established in the Stadtbergen district of Augsburg. Here, children and adolescents are given curative care or therapy and support is given in the company of families. In addition to conversational, occupational and art therapy, the focus lies in working with animals. The PATRIZIA Children Foundation erected a multi-purpose building for this special form of therapy with animals. The facility, which is also used by the partner organisation Bunter Kreis to offer animal-assisted therapy all year round, includes five fully accessible apartments for young people with disabilities. The youngsters are supported in learning to become more independent, and they can also be looked after and helped to find work in keeping with their needs.





Wolfgang Egger with Her Majesty the Queen Mother of Bhutan (left) and Dr. Auma Obama at the PATRIZIA Foundation Talk



Making a better world – together

Exclusive panel discussion within the Sponsor Circle

The Sponsor Circle is a group of permanent sponsors of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation who are committed to development aid, either financially or through their unique expertise. Members receive priority invitations to our exclusive events – like our first Foundation Talk last September. We take a look back at this exciting event, which featured world-class guests in a very special location.

The exclusive panel discussion in Frankfurt's Kempinski Hotel was an excellent opportunity for our foundation initiator Wolfgang Egger to share some thoughts and ideas with some fascinating people. One was Dr Auma Obama, founder of the Sauti Kuu Foundation and partner of the new PATRIZIA Vocational Training Centre in Alego, Kenya (see pages 20 to 25). Dr Obama praised the way the PATRIZIA Children Foundation works, forming partnerships with local organisations to ensure the long-term success of its projects. The Queen Mother of Bhutan, Sangay Choden Wangchuck, also took part in the talk, presenting her foundation, RENEW, which was established in 2004, and had some excellent news to share.

New project in Bhutan

The Queen Mother's foundation is the only organisation in Bhutan with a focus on providing a safe home for children and women threatened by violence. "We know how important community service is for Bhutan and what a positive impact it has on society," said Her Majesty the Queen Mother Sangay Choden Wangchuck. She announced that her foundation will be working with the PATRIZIA Children Foundation to build a new PATRIZIA house in the Himalayan state.

"It is a great honour for us that the Queen Mother of Bhutan has chosen the PATRIZIA Children Foundation for

the first international collaboration in her country," says Wolfgang Egger, the initiator of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation.

Around 100 guests enjoyed a highly interesting evening, which provided ample opportunity to discover more about the projects and local partners. For many, it was exciting to see how well the philosophies of the different partners work together, laying the ideal foundation for running joint projects and using local expertise in the long term. One thing that remained clear after the evening is that more can be achieved together – which is also why this is the path the PATRIZIA Children Foundation will continue to take in the future.



THE SPONSOR CIRCLE OF THE PATRIZIA CHILDREN FOUNDATION:

The Sponsor Circle is a consortium of permanent sponsors of our foundation. Its members are interested in development aid and can use their commitment for their corporate social responsibility programmes. On request, Sponsor Circle Members can specifically sponsor individual projects. They receive priority invitations to exclusive events such as the Foundation Talk and the PATRIZIA Golf Cup, or are themselves hosts at cooking events organised for them by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation – high-quality unique experiences with like-minded people from the Sponsor Circle and from PATRIZIA for networking and exchange. Become a member, too!

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Expertise, funding and local engagement

Peter Helfrich, board member of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, talks about his visit to Dhoksan, Nepal

This was my first trip to a facility of the foundation. It was also my first time in Nepal. With the busy streets, the rich green countryside and the occasional street dog, my first impressions can be described as largely interchangeable with visits to other Asian countries. A description that does not apply to our taxi journey into the mountains on our way to a village near Dhoksan: the poor quality of the roads combined with steep hills into the dusk were pretty ‘memorable’.

New secondary school for Dhoksan

The next morning, we walked to Dhoksan, which was roughly an hour by foot. The school I wanted to visit is a facility built by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation in 2012 in a village on top of a mountain. Three years later, the primary school withstood a severe earthquake that destroyed most houses in many regions of the country. For one year, the rooms of the school became a home for families whose houses had been destroyed. Our current project involved extending the existing primary school with new buildings for a secondary school.

Spectacular views – inside and out

Walking up towards the school complex takes your breath away – not only because

of the steep path. As the morning awakens, before the clouds form, you have a stunning view of the Himalayan mountains. When I visited, construction was nearly finished so I got a good impression of how the buildings would look when they’re completed. The construction is wonderful, using only wood, clay and stones – most of which was retrieved from the debris of houses destroyed in the 2015 earthquake. The villagers themselves brought the material to the site, investing countless hours of their own time – a huge exertion to climb the hill to the school. This was a major help for us.

Secondary school brings hope and new prospects to the region

The team of architects from Germany were pretty much working night and day with the villagers to get the buildings ready as soon as possible. Their joint achievement is remarkable, considering that there is still so much reconstruction work needed in the area. Not all of the houses destroyed by the quake have been rebuilt. Despite this, so many villagers came to help.

On the day of the celebration, when the school director, the board and all the students were there, I took the opportunity to talk to many of them. The earthquake

had a huge emotional and financial impact on the people here. Designing and building the new school with us – as a joint effort, as an investment in the future of their children – has brought important new prospects to the community. They are grateful for the school and our foundation’s continuing commitment.

The things that make charity work a success

One big thing I learned from this trip is that it takes three things to make a charity project a success: an understanding of the ‘market’ (as we have regarding real estate), funding (which luckily PATRIZIA Immobilien AG and all the foundation’s generous donors provide), and last but not least commitment – i.e. ideas and hard work, including from the local community in the way I experienced in Dhoksan. This school is a great project because it shows how the long-term support that the PATRIZIA Children Foundation is committed to provide really can have a tangible impact on a poverty-stricken country like Nepal.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
After nearly a decade in Sweden, Germany and Italy, Peter Helfrich has now returned to his home town of The Hague. He joined the PATRIZIA Netherlands team as Managing Director in 2014. In 2018, founder of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation Wolfgang Egger invited him to join the Management Board of the foundation, also reflecting the increasingly international outlook and work of this institution.





Hope for Hopley

Alexander Busl, Managing Director of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, visits PATRIZIA School Harare, Zimbabwe

We have been building the PATRIZIA School Harare since 2016. Every year since then we have finished one construction phase. I visited the school in October 2018 for the opening of the third building. This project is unusual in many regards. For one, it is huge – a school of 1000 pupils spanning four blocks built in seven construction phases. Also, we work with a large number of partners on the project: the Stuttgart division of Engineers without Borders, ZimRelief and the local Hopley foundation Vision and Hope. ‘Too many cooks spoil the broth,’ the saying goes. In this case, however, many cooks create something truly exceptional.

Hopley – an urban settlement offering few prospects

The vast settlement known as Hopley is home to an estimated 180,000 people. It was established after the former president dispossessed homeowners and relocated them here against their will. The people have rebuilt their lives as well as they could, building simple houses made of clay – without water supplies, without electricity, in fact without any real infrastructure to speak of.

Kristina Egbers picked us up in the morning. She is an extraordinarily dedicated young woman, who first brought this project to our attention three years ago. At the time, she was an architecture student in Augsburg and she had previously been a member of a construction team working on the PATRIZIA Child Care Grabouw in South Africa. She heard about the school in Hopley when she began volunteering for Engineers without Borders and instantly knew where to find like-minded people who are able to help.

The journey to Hopley involves a 35-minute drive along a dusty track from downtown Harare. We drove to Hopley in a minibus that Kristina had chartered for us. I was glad she set up the minibus for us. I’m not sure I would have been too keen on standing on the rear bumper of a public bus, clinging to a windshield wiper like some of the people I’ve seen. That said, our bus parted company with a window when my travel companion leaned on it. But our driver had some glue to paste the window back in – and so I witnessed another example of the

admirable hands-on approach of Africans to problem-solving.

Vision and Hope – indeed

The tallest wall on the building is 20 feet high, 6 or so metres, forming a landmark between the low buildings of the settlement. Upon arrival, we were warmly welcomed by Lista Makuni, one of the co-founders of the Vision and Hope Foundation. Lista is a member of the board at the foundation and a teacher at the PATRIZIA School Harare. The day she decided to erect a blackboard under a tree and start teaching children herself can be considered the hour of inception of this school. I, for one, believe it is.

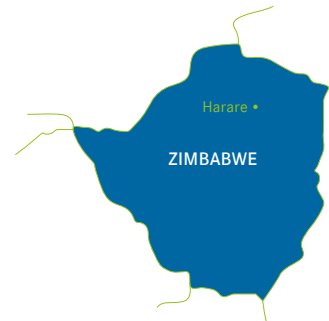
After a welcoming ceremony, I entered a classroom to talk to some children. Although it was only one classroom, there were actually two teachers in the room, teaching different subjects to two classes simultaneously. As a result, there were 80 pupils crammed into a room designed for less than 50 children. Understandably, the youngsters were extremely excited about the prospect of new classrooms. The pupils are amazingly well disciplined, sitting still and studiously taking notes.

Dance like nobody is watching

As a father of three, I’ve been exposed to my fair share of school festivities. But I don’t ever recall spontaneously jumping out of my seat and dancing with teachers and children. I’ll never grow old of African celebrations. The workers, who built the school with their own bare hands, also took part in the festivities – as well as the football and netball tournaments with the pupils and teachers. Nobody seemed to mind the midday heat, which forced me and the rest of the German delegation to seek shelter and hide in the shade.

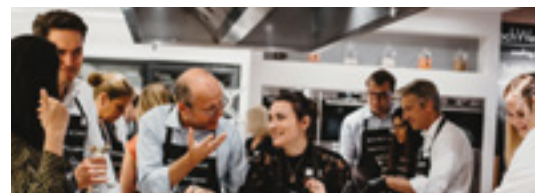
With me on the delegation was Stefan Feuerriegel, whose firm is a sponsoring partner of the foundation. When we parted, he was visibly moved by the boundless energy the locals and volunteers invest in this project. Considering the modest circumstances under which the school was originally planned and built – and the way it is operated today – this is indeed a miracle. For Stefan, seeing this firsthand was extremely motivating, and it

was rewarding to witness how every donated euro really can change lives. We, too, at the PATRIZIA Children Foundation are immensely grateful for the faithful companionship of our partners.




ABOUT THE AUTHOR:
Alexander Busl has been Managing Director of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation since 2015. After working in Munich and Hamburg, it was his enthusiasm for architecture and a heartfelt compassion for children that brought Busl back to his origins and his home town of Augsburg. Busl has been committed to donation-collecting organisations for almost fifteen years. In 2018 alone, he promoted PCF construction projects in Bhutan, India, Kenya, Nepal and Zimbabwe. For Busl, working for the PCF has to be the best job in the world, not only because it is meaningful, but also because it fills him with excitement.


20 Years – moments of charity at the PCF




Access to education should be a human right for everyone. Also, this year the PATRIZIA Children Foundation helps children in need all over the world and opens new perspectives for a better future. Become a part of it and help us! Building a future together.

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