

— Edition No. 01/2020 —

HAPPINESS

— The Magazine of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation —





Saltgate provides an outstanding fund administration service that allows our clients to concentrate on and thrive in their core business of delivering returns to their investors. Our focus has always been on the asset classes of private equity, real estate and debt, providing fund administration services in our key jurisdictions of Jersey, Luxembourg and the UK. We are independent and privately owned with a business strategy led by our values.

Saltgate is a leading provider of fund and corporate services



Only with the support of strong partners – like Saltgate – is it possible for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation to provide children with a safe home, health care and access to education.

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Saltgate's Continued Commitment

Hannah Culshaw
Chief Corporate Officer
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Which principles are important for Saltgate?

Our values of engagement, partnership, integrity and commitment are at the heart of everything we do at Saltgate: how we engage and partner with our team and our clients, providing excellent service delivery and putting people first; how we hold ourselves to the highest standards of ethics and integrity; and how we commit to a long-term view for our people, our clients and our communities. Our Saltgate Giving philosophy extends our core values into our communities through financial support and charitable initiatives that are central to our ESG framework.

What significance does corporate social responsibility have for Saltgate?

Saltgate doesn't exist in isolation; it is vital that the impact we have on our employees, our environment and the communities we work within is positive and supportive.

Through our charitable vehicle, Saltgate Giving, we're committed to engaging with and supporting our stakeholders and our communities for the long term. We have pledged £2.5 million of our profits to charities and initiatives that support young people, promote education and enrich our communities.

Why did you decide to support the PATRIZIA Children Foundation as a member of its Sponsor Circle?

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation proposition, offering lasting support to children worldwide, and its belief that everyone should be entitled to an education, drives to the core of Saltgate Giving's objectives to support young people and education. The access to education provided by the foundation is aligned with our aim to help young people to fulfil their potential.



What is your commitment in times of the Covid-19 crisis?

We recognise the strain that the coronavirus crisis is putting on individuals and organisations. We have taken steps within our business and our local communities to try to ease some of that burden through our people first strategy. All of our Covid-19 decisions and planning start and end with consideration of our people, their individual circumstances and their health. All of our teams have been successfully working remotely since early March. They have been given support in terms of physical and mental well-being and home working facilities. Staff have also been given three additional days' paid leave to help at this time. Within our local community we have provided financial support to provide meals, family care and mental health support to those in need, and equipment at home for children with learning difficulties. Our matched funding scheme has also increased the fundraising initiatives for a number of local groups.

The main topic of our current magazine is 'Happiness'. What does happiness mean to you?

For me happiness is finding joy and gratitude in everyday moments and the security of knowing there are many more to come.





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HAPPINESS

Editorial

Dear Friends of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation,

For more than 20 years, our foundation has been working to give children in all parts of the world the chance of enjoying a better future. A key aspect of this is having access to education. Currently, this opportunity to enjoy an education is severely hampered due to the coronavirus pandemic. Schools around the world have had to close their doors. And this is also affecting our Children's Centers, many of which are now experiencing severe financial hardships, because they no longer have any income.

To do something about this, we have launched a fund called Corona Fund Education Healthcare – a relief fund aimed at keeping education structures intact at our facilities. We want to help our local partners in these times of hardship and work together in dealing with this global crisis in the best possible way – for the sake of the children at our PATRIZIA Children's Centers. Please help us to help others! To find out more about the coronavirus relief fund, turn to page 47.

By pooling energy and resources, we sincerely hope that we will succeed in getting the many disadvantaged children back to their education. Our shared ambition is to make 2020 a good year for the children in our facilities worldwide, despite the many restrictions imposed due to the pandemic. We also strongly believe that they will be able to tell us their personal tales of happiness again soon – in keeping with the title of this edition of the foundation magazine: HAPPINESS. We have been fortunate to tell many a tale of happiness until now, and some have been captured in this magazine. I do hope you enjoy reading them.

Thank you once again – not just for placing your trust in us, but also in our vision.

Wolfgang Egger
Founder of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation



4 Continents
11 Countries
17 Children's Centers

 10 Schools
 4 Medical facilities
 3 Accommodation buildings

Germany 2006 Munich 2008 Hamburg 2013 Augsburg 2015 Augsburg	Rwanda 2008 Ntarama
Nepal 2012/2019 Dhoksan	Uganda 2009 Buyamba
India 2019 Porayar	Tanzania 2002 Peramiho 2014 Songea 2017 Peramiho
Peru 2017 Sondoveni	Cameroon 2016 Yaoundé
	Zimbabwe 2016 Harare

 Every euro donated goes
100% into projects

We are
active
worldwide

The world of PATRIZIA Children's Centers

Our mission is to ensure children enjoy the same opportunities everywhere

TALES OF HAPPINESS 



"For me, happiness is building a house for lots of other people"

Pierre, 33, Rwanda

Pierre has had lots of bosses since training to become an engineer. He gathered experience working at a number of construction companies before deciding to become self-employed. Today, he runs his own company and builds homes for his compatriots – and earns well in the process. "Without the opportunity to live in the PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center next to the school, none of this would have been possible," he says. More about Pierre on page 12.



"For me, happiness is that I can go to school and not have to work like other girls of my age"

Rachel, 14, Uganda

Rachel is in the last year at PATRIZIA School Buyamba in Uganda. An orphan, she lives with her three younger sisters at her uncle's house, who enables the girls to attend school. Rachel is lucky that there is an affordable primary school in her town. Her dream is to attend a secondary school afterwards. More about Rachel on page 27.

CURRENT PROJECTS: PERU



& UGANDA



OUR PROJECTS AT A GLANCE:

WWW.PATRIZIA.FOUNDATION/EN/WHERE-WE-HELP/



2019 at the foundation

Financing:

PATRIZIA AG supported the foundation by donating €1.2m in 2019. As well as covering operating costs at the foundation, this money was invested in projects and placed into reserves. All further donations flow 100% into the projects.

Long-term help:

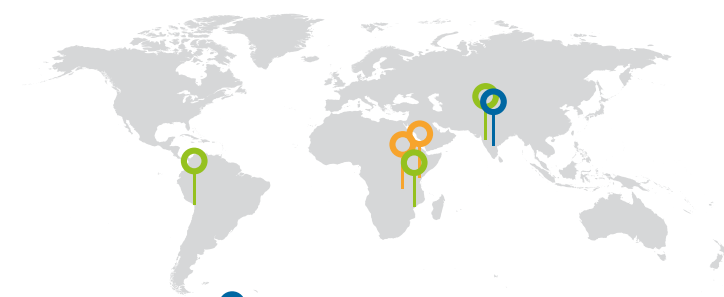
We ensure partnerships with our Children's Centers last 25 years.



PATRIZIA Child Care Porayar (India)

- Accommodation for 240 girls, integrated into the school
- Opening ceremony for the project: 2019
- Number of buildings: 2
- Partner: Evangelical-Lutheran Mission, Lower Saxony

Our projects 2019 & 2020



Project opened in 2019:

- India (Porayar): girls' home

Live projects:

- Peru (Sondoveni): school extension
- India (Govindpur): kindergarten
- Tanzania (Songea): primary school

Further projects in the pipeline:

- Uganda (Buyamba): school extension
- Tanzania (Kipili): kindergarten

Planned projects are being rescheduled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

17,751 children
received our support in 2019



Education

10 schools
• 3631 children



Healthcare

4 medical facilities
• 13,830 children



Homes

3 accommodation facilities
• 290 children

For over **20 years**

we have been helping children and adolescents worldwide to gain access to an education

220,000

children have been helped since our establishment in 1999

100 %

of donations go directly into our projects. Thanks to our know-how and powerful network, we make even more out of this.



A close-up photograph of a brick with a carved floral pattern. The brick is reddish-brown and shows signs of wear and discoloration. The word 'MIND' is partially visible in a serif font, with the 'M' and 'I' being prominent. The background is blurred, showing more of the same brick pattern.

OUR VISION

*To change the world in the long term
through education*



"FOR ME,
HAPPINESS
IS BUILDING
A HOUSE FOR
LOTS OF
OTHER
PEOPLE"

Pierre (33)
Rwanda

Pierre's TALE OF HAPPINESS



Pierre has had lots of bosses since training to become an engineer. He gathered experience working at a number of construction companies before deciding to become self-employed. Today, he runs his own company and builds homes for his compatriots – and earns well in the process. "Without the opportunity to live in the PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center next to the school, none of this would have been possible," he says.

"I would never have achieved all this without the PATRIZIA Children Foundation"

It all started here, at the Nelson Mandela Education Centre. "Luckily I got a bed in the home run by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation," he beams. "Otherwise I don't know what would have become of me – I was simply too far away to go to school." And now Pierre has achieved things he once considered impossible. He has a family of his own, he lives within his own four walls and he can afford to send his own children to school. "And I even pay taxes," he adds. "That really makes me proud because that's good for our country." Because he understands how important a good education is, as a businessman he now also supports children himself so they can go to school and look forward to a brighter future.

PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama in Rwanda

In 2008, the PATRIZIA Children Foundation joined forces with the Green Helmetts and built a home for adolescents and young adults at the Nelson Mandela Education Center for Apprentices (NMEC). The home stands next door to the vocational school in Ntarama, south of the Rwandan capital Kigali. The school currently has around 170 pupils. The fact that Rwandan president Paul Kagame came in person to officially open the training centre shows how important the establishment is to the

landlocked country in East Africa. The home currently provides a roof over the heads of 150 young people, who are all training to become electricians, bricklayers, metalworkers, dressmakers or hairdressers. The PATRIZIA Children Foundation is thus making an important contribution to education processes in Rwanda. Long journeys to school are a problem in many African countries and it can be one of the main reasons why young people receive no training.

The dream of owning a proper home

Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, is considered one of the cleanest cities in Africa. But the urban population is rising as many people flock to cities from the countryside. For many, finding a suitable home in the outer suburbs is impossible, especially if they want bathroom facilities and a kitchen. Keeping the unregulated urban sprawl under control and stopping slums developing is a perennial struggle for the government. In the new areas where housing is approved, building basic but dignified homes has been an aspiration Pierre also subscribes to. His aim has never been to build mansions for the rich, but simple, attractive houses for average families. One thing that makes him really happy is knowing he is supporting the local economy and thus making an important contribution to the continuing economic fortunes of his country.

Rwanda on the road to happiness

One thing about Rwanda that few people know is that the country is now relatively stable and safe. The east African nation has done many things to develop the domestic economy. For example, in 2015 a national housing policy was introduced aimed at addressing the rising demand for housing in urban and rural areas. The idea was also to promote the use of local building materials, which are not only inexpensive but also environmentally friendly. Things also look good for the projects managed by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation in Rwanda; corruption is almost unknown in the country. "Not only is Rwanda the safest country to travel to in Africa, it also has an amazing focus on the future," says Till Gröner, patron of the PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center in Ntarama. "That's why it's all the more rewarding enabling more children to attend school and receive a good education."

HELPING OTHERS

The young people supported by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation go on to make a real difference to the lives of others. We call this 'helping people to help others' – and by helping us, you can also change the world of others.



Award-winning architecture for sustainability

Supertecture wins the Hans Sauer Award for work on the PATRIZIA School in Dhoksan

Construction is currently one of the most resource-intensive sectors of industry. As a result, sustainable building runs down the backbone of every project at the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. Even before appointing a partner to work on one of its projects, the foundation assesses how responsibly resources are being used. One example of this is PATRIZIA Primary School Dhoksan in Nepal, built in partnership with Till Gröner and his start-up company, Supertecture. The Hans Sauer Foundation has now honoured Gröner's non-profit architects with a sustainability award for their work on the school.



Till Gröner and his Supertecture colleagues built PATRIZIA School Dhoksan in Nepal

After graduating in architecture, Till Gröner spent many years working in a voluntary capacity for the Green Helms. In 2010 he helped build PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama in Rwanda (see also page 32). But he soon noticed that there were limitations to his creativity during such short voluntary assignments. When you're working on a relief project, there is very little room for new architectural concepts, simply for pragmatic reasons. "Buildings can be more than just a roof over your head. They can be environmentally friendly, inspire people, be a revelation and thus become a vehicle for social support," says Gröner. And so, after joining a handful of kindred spirits, he went on to found Supertecture in 2018. His start-up only works on projects on an honorary basis.

Projects that are sustainable and offer social benefits

Supertecture's goal is to offer sustainable and socially responsible architecture based on three concepts. First, they

offer the Room House, which divides up complex projects such that each architect designs a room as an individual home, which is then constructed using one main material. Their second concept is called the Supertecture Hotel. This involves creating sustainable 'social architecture' in selected villages. A hotel is built and then passes into the possession of the village community. Any profits it generates are channelled into local social projects. And finally, Supertecture's Water to Wine concept allows its architects to put local building traditions, materials and resources to creative use in order to offer appealing – yet inexpensive – architecture.

Supertecture implemented its first project in Nepal in collaboration with the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. A team of seven architecture students from universities in Munich and Augsburg built a school for PATRIZIA in Dhoksan, a village high in the Nepalese mountains. This was an extension to a primary school

already set up by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation in 2012. The extension now allows pupils to stay on after the fifth year of primary school and receive a secondary education up to the eighth form.

Retrieving materials from the rubble

The Supertecture experts used two of their house concepts to design the four new buildings: Room House and Water to Wine. By carefully selecting the right construction materials, each house was given its own unique style. Most materials were donated by locals whose houses were destroyed in the recent earthquake – poignant symbols of reconstruction. "One of the buildings consists exclusively of donated bricks, another one is made from clay, one is made from stone, and then we have a wooden building – which involved securing 700 windows recovered from the

earthquake rubble onto the facade and roof,” explains Gröner.

The brick house consists of 16,000 bricks donated by local inhabitants whose houses were destroyed by the earthquake. Overall, the house used 50 different types of bricks. To build the clay house, the students rediscovered an ancient Himalayan tradition:



In the brick house, 50 different types of brick were used

compressed clay. Using their own bare feet, women from the local village mixed five different layers of clay consisting of straw, cow dung and pebbles. Each house thus offers its own tale of creativity and construction based on local, sustainable building materials. And each is a tale of happiness – which will be recounted in four books and published at the end of this year.

The 2020 Hans Sauer Award

The project also became a tale of happiness for Supertecture, not only because the sustainable houses it built attracted a great deal of attention in Nepal. It has also been highly acclaimed and gained recognition in Germany. In March, the up-and-coming architects were honoured with the 2020 Hans Sauer Award for ‘designing circularity in the built environment’. This interdisciplinary award is bestowed in recognition of new building

concepts based on circular principles of sustainability. It also honours projects that foster and share an understanding of circularity in the built environment. It was precisely for this aspect of knowledge sharing that the fo(u)r friends project (as Supertecture fondly refers to its four houses) was honoured, because it dealt with social and circular building methods.

Speaking on behalf of the jury, Professor Werner Lang of the Technical University of Munich praised the project as an “exceptional design, which, from an educational perspective, can be considered innovative and imaginative, at the same time reflecting a social and clever opportunity to achieve a noble goal – with minimum resources – and thus make a contribution to the environment.” The jury also considered the initiative a highly topical social project, because it also

took the opinions of the schoolchildren into account as users of the buildings.

Further awards on the horizon

Supertecture has also been nominated for further architecture, sustainability and social awards. For example, it has been nominated for the Wienerberger Brick Award, which honours the top 50 brick buildings in the world, the Augsburg Hans Benedict Award for social engagement with students, the Iconic Award and the 2020 DETAIL Prize.

As Angelika Jacobi of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation explains, using local materials to save resources is in keeping with the foundation’s philosophy: “For us as a foundation, it’s important that the buildings we work on for our projects are built sustainably. But of course we’re delighted that this is also gaining recognition internationally.”

New project in Tanzania

Gröner and his experts at Supertecture are currently building a lodge in Kipili in Tanzania. Their aim is to erect a social hotel for a village community on the banks of Lake Tanganyika, the most beautiful lake in Tanzania (which is also abundant with fish). Supertecture is receiving support for the project from the Missionary Benedictine Sisters of St. Ottilien – despite the fact that this will be a secular hotel and have nothing to do with the Catholic Church. The Benedictines are supporting the project because they strongly believe in the charitable benefits of the project.

Gröner is also planning to build the “most beautiful kindergarten in Africa” in Kipili, also with the support of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. The facility will have eight to ten rooms, each of which will be designed by a team of two architecture students and a young architect from Tanzania. Again, priority will be given to sustainable construction using only local building materials such as clay, ‘homemade’ bricks, straw panels, timber and bamboo. The underlying priority is reproducibility, and every inhabitant of Kipili should be in a position to build similar houses. “We want to become a school of materials that allows children to see the materials that are used to build a house the moment they walk in the door – so they can also take that knowledge home to their families,” says Gröner. The grand opening is scheduled to take place in the summer of 2021, and you can rest assured that the PATRIZIA Children Foundation will be there when it happens!



Supertecture received the 2020 Hans Sauer Award and a prize of €3000 for its fo(u)r friends project. Pictured at the award ceremony is Theresa Villinger (in orange blazer) of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation.



Till Gröner is planning to build a kindergarten on the banks of Lake Tanganyika in Tanzania with the PATRIZIA Children Foundation



Visit to PATRIZIA School Sondoveni in Peru

Managing Director Alexander Busl and our CSR partner APOprojekt visited the school deep in the Peruvian rain forest.

Read his report on the foundation trip on our website:

www.patrizia.foundation/en/project/patrizia-school-sondoveni-peru/

“We want to build a future in the Peruvian rainforest”

CSR partner APOprojekt provides support at the PATRIZIA School Sondoveni in Peru

APOprojekt, a specialist in tenant improvement projects, has been a member of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation's Sponsor Circle for several years. The Hamburg-based company is now ramping up its involvement as a CSR partner by working on an extension project at the school in Peru. We spoke about the project with managing director Hendrik von Paepcke and the duo responsible for the initiative, project managers Christian Brüggemann and Vera Fontanella.



Hendrik von Paepcke, APOprojekt managing director

Hello Mr von Paepcke. What does corporate social responsibility mean to you?

One thing that should distinguish companies and business leaders is that they not only take responsibility for their fellow-workers, but also for society. The idea of APO Building Future is to do justice to this aim – which is also extremely important to me on a personal level – by consistently taking social responsibility. Not only does this entail providing financial resources, for us it also means investing our skills and passion in projects and

making a difference. We want to put the literal meaning back into ‘building the future’.

Tell us more about the background of APO Building Future. When was it set up?

APO Building Future is still quite a new undertaking. We got off the ground last year and our aim is to really pick up momentum this year with our first project. We’re going to work together with the PATRIZIA Children Foundation and provide an extension for a school in the Peruvian rainforest. Our role

at APOprojekt will be to provide the entire funding and take care of planning and delivering the project. Some of our staff also plan to travel to Peru in the summer to help with the construction work.

How much are you investing in the project?

Our financial investment is 250,000 euros. Then there’s the manpower investment in areas like planning and implementation.

Has APOprojekt been involved in any other child education initiatives before this project?

Yes. We’ve been a member of the Sponsor Circle since 2018, so we’ve already been supporting PATRIZIA Children Foundation projects in financial terms. When Alexander Busl told us about the PATRIZIA school in Sondoveni, we knew immediately that we wanted this to become our first CSR project and that we could provide even more specialist input – and give the children in the area an even better opportunity to receive an education.

And your colleagues – are they all on board?

You bet they are! I can hardly hold them back. When we showed them the project at our Christmas party they were immediately inspired by the idea. Lots of them offered their support immediately. It’s an extra effort for them, but it’s meaningful working on this project, and overall it’s unbelievably motivating, even for their everyday work.

Hello Ms Fontanella. Hello Mr Brüggemann. You both travelled out to Peru in November to see the PATRIZIA School in Sondoveni first hand. What were your first impressions of the school?

Vera Fontanella: When we first got there, we were completely overwhelmed by the local situation. The living conditions are much, much more basic and you immediately notice how lacking they are in lots of areas. We received a really warm welcome from the community. Once we’d gained an overview of the situation there, we came up with some initial ideas for the

sorts of measures that would need to be taken to improve the school and with that, what would need to be done to improve teaching conditions for the schoolchildren.

What are you planning specifically?

Christian Brüggemann: As well as extending the classrooms and the kitchen area, we’re also planning to add sanitary facilities and sleeping quarters for the teachers. We’re also looking into a home to offer a place to sleep at night for the kids that have a long journey to school. And then we also want to build a cistern to store rainwater and provide water supplies.

When will the school extension be built?

Brüggemann: We’re currently working flat out on the planning side of things, so our colleagues are coming up with ideas and different concepts. The plan at the moment is to start putting things in place in July and August of 2020, depending on what happens with the COVID-19 pandemic of course. Our aim by that time is to at least have ‘tools at the ready’ so we can adapt according to the situation at hand. In all likelihood, we’ll have 20 of our APOprojekt colleagues in Peru working on the project themselves and our aim is for the building phase to take between six and eight weeks.

In November 2019, the project managers Christian Brüggemann and Vera Fontanella visited the school in Sondoveni



Are you also working with local partners?

Fontanella: The PATRIZIA Children Foundation is overseeing the project. So that also includes negotiating with local partners. As well as dealing with the district council in Rio Negro, which works closely with the indigenous people of the Andes region, that also involves dealing with UGEL, the Peruvian education authority responsible for recruiting teaching staff, and also the chief councillor in Sondoveni itself. There are lots of indigenous people from the Asháninka tribe in the village, so they’re an important partner because it’s their children that are intended to benefit from the school extension. It’s particularly important to us to think about their interests and requirements.

We would like to thank the three of you for the interview and the amazing things you are doing.

Are you also looking for a CSR project, an initiative to participate in that would inspire your company and capture the imagination (and emotions) of staff? We’d be delighted to work with you on a project and join forces in improving the educational opportunities of children. Get in touch today: +49 821 50910-303.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a folding ruler. The person is wearing a teal-colored short-sleeved button-down shirt. The hands are dark-skinned and are holding the ruler in a way that it is partially unfolded. The ruler is yellow with black markings and has some blue and red markings on it. The background is a warm, brownish-orange color.

OUR PROJECTS

*Every project is selected after
meticulous consideration so that it
really helps those who need help*

Growing together over the years

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation campaigns for more education in Uganda

PATRIZIA has a primary school in Buyamba in southern Uganda. The landlocked nation in east Africa is one of the poorest countries in the world. At almost four per cent per year, population growth in Uganda is also above average compared to the rest of Africa, meaning that each year around one million more children start school. To make things even more challenging, many parents in the rural area of Buyamba have no work, they have to support themselves, or they can only find casual work. The PATRIZIA Children Foundation and its partner at the time, Grünhelme e.V. (Green Helmets), first heard about the primary school in 2009.

Working with the Green Helmets

The declared mission of the Green Helmets, who were set up by Rupert Neudeck (now sadly deceased), is to join forces as Christians, Muslims or Buddhists and put back together what others have unlawfully destroyed. To this end, as well as giving hands-on support, they also provide access to the specialist know-how of building engineers, architects and masons. The Green Helmets pooled resources with the PATRIZIA Children Foundation and embarked on a project in Buyamba in 2009. St. Francis Primary School was built in the late 1980s and was originally intended to provide teaching to three classes. By 2009, it was desperately overcrowded and in need of urgent renovation.

Goal: rebuild the school and improve conditions for the children

A whole host of things moved forward between 2009 and the official opening in February 2010. For example, the Green Helmets worked closely with the foundation to renew the roof on the school buildings, renovate the three existing classrooms and extend the school by adding four new buildings. These were used to house a teachers' dormitory and a canteen for school dinners. The school was then officially reopened by Rupert Neudeck, project manager and founder of the Green Helmets, in the presence of local dignitaries from the Buyamba district of Rakai and our foundation board member, Alfred Hoschek. To express their gratitude, the village community gave Hoschek a rabbit and a hen, which he was unfortunately unable to bring back to Germany.

After completion of the extension work, the school was large enough to take in 400 pupils, 88 of whom could sleep in the two dormitories, thus saving them the long daily march to school. Once the renovation work was over, the Green Helmets handed the school over to the headteacher in the village, Sylvia Nalusuuna.

Expansion of the project to include water supplies

Nalusuuna has now been headteacher at PATRIZIA School Buyamba for eleven years. As well as organising the timetable for the 16 state and five private teachers at the school, she also oversees maintenance of the facilities. She remembers the time the school took another important step forward: in 2015, two cisterns were installed by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation to provide a water supply for the schoolchildren, teachers and rectory. Before the two tanks were installed, there was no running water on the site. In the meantime, a third water cistern has been added to cope with the continual growth in the number of schoolchildren. The school was originally forecast to take in 400 pupils. That figure has now more than doubled. After improvising a bit (the canteen also functions as an informal classroom for preschool children), the primary school now has nine classrooms.

Sylvia Nalusuuna is now the most important contact for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation at the school. In late 2019, Jowita Fuchshofer went on an official foundation visit to the school (see page 26) to discuss conditions in person and explore potential ways to do more to address the needs of pupils.



Learning reading, writing and arithmetic is the goal: to attend our school, the children sometimes have to travel long distances

Sylvia Nalusuuna: "We're extremely grateful for what the PATRIZIA Children Foundation has done for our school until now – the renovations, the extensions and fitting the water tanks."

Father Jude, who succeeded Father Charles (see interview on page 28) as spiritual leader of the Masaka diocese in Buyamba, is also head of the religious community at the PATRIZIA school in Buyamba. "It's lovely that the foundation is genuinely interested in what we're doing, even after helping us, and that it's been at our side for so many years." It is a strong partnership based on mutual respect. "When we're asked what we need, we're asked like a partner of equals," explains Father Jude.

More schoolchildren means more space is needed

The headteacher is delighted that the PATRIZIA school in Buyamba is so popular in the area and that its presence has such a positive impact on the local community. Despite this, its facilities are now too cramped for the 882 children at the school. It's impossible to teach children properly with more than 100 schoolchildren in a single classroom. Conditions have also become precarious for boarders at the school. The dormitories are currently used by 112 boys and 140 girls and are virtually bursting at the seams. A number of teachers also have to share rooms.



Headteacher Sylvia Nalusuuna with Jowita Fuchshofer

There is enough land next to the property to build extensions on, it's just that the school has limited financial resources. The headteacher currently has to manage on a state grant of four dollars per pupil, topped up by a tuition fee of around 4.50 dollars per child per term. This has to cover everything – from school dinners to the cost of maintaining buildings.

School expansion planned for 2020

This is where the PATRIZIA Children Foundation will step in, with plans to expand the school further in 2020 and introduce a variety of measures. For example, seven additional classrooms will be built as well as three preschool classrooms, a brick wall, water supplies, sanitary facilities and accommodation for the teachers. "The extensions will allow us to work with the headteacher in ensuring that almost 900 pupils continue to receive a school education in the future – under proper conditions," says Jowita Fuchshofer of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation.



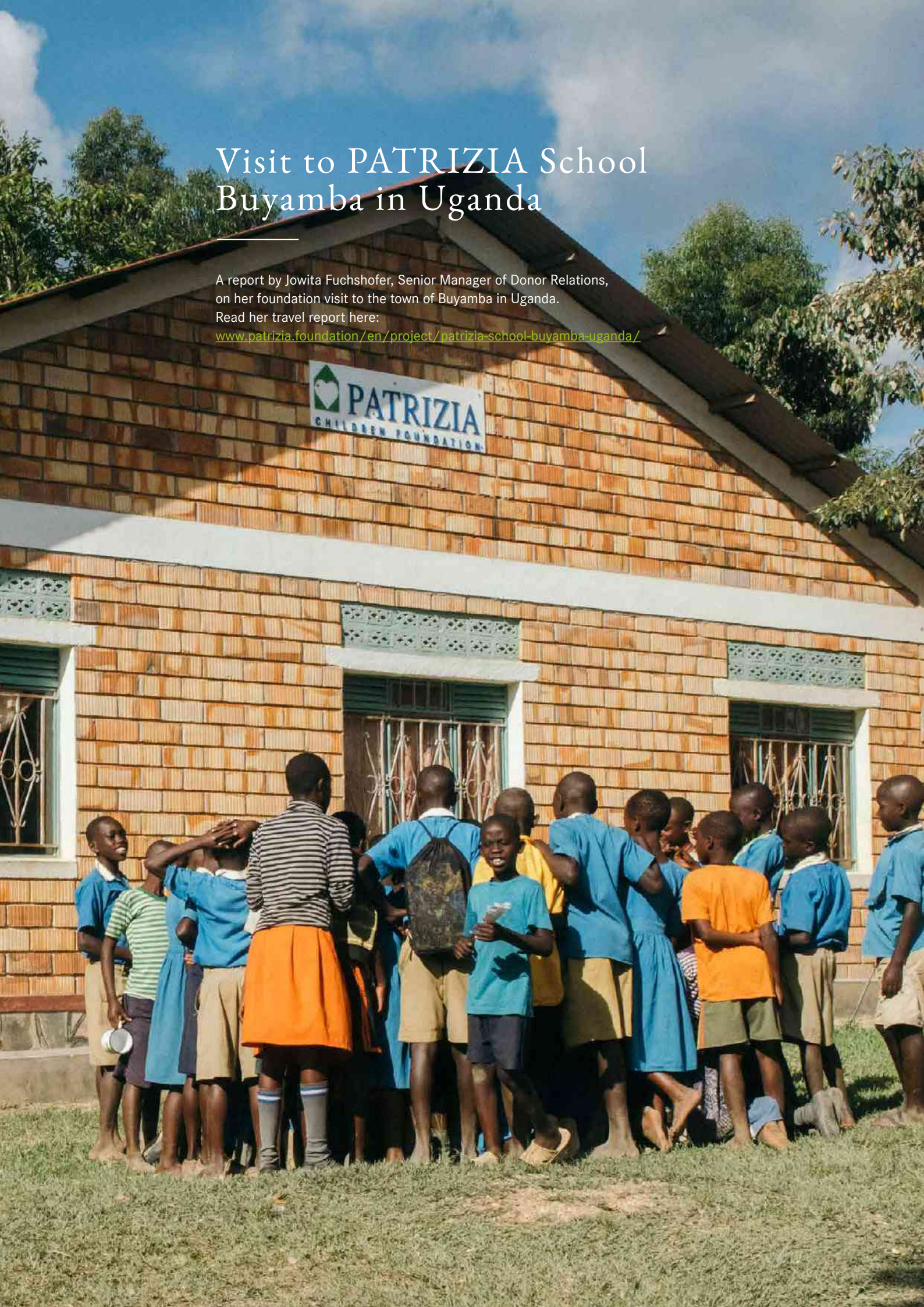
The general vicar of the diocese of Masaka, Msgr Joseph Kato, opened the extended school together with foundation board member Alfred Hoschek (left) and Rupert Neudeck from the Green Helmets

Visit to PATRIZIA School Buyamba in Uganda

A report by Jowita Fuchshofer, Senior Manager of Donor Relations,
on her foundation visit to the town of Buyamba in Uganda.

Read her travel report here:

www.patrizia.foundation/en/project/patrizia-school-buyamba-uganda/



The pupils present their
class work with joy



Jowita with Rachel on the school grounds



Jowita Fuchshofer with Bishop Severus Jjumba (centre) and Father
Charles Mbazzi

Rachel's tale of happiness



Rachel is in the seventh form at PATRIZIA School Buyamba. The fact that the 14-year-old is even able to attend the school is not to be taken for granted; both of her parents passed away when she was a toddler. Since then, she and her three sisters have been living with their uncle, who looks after the girls and is even making it possible for them to go to school. Rachel is also extremely fortunate that there's even a primary school where she lives, that it's affordable and that she can get there on foot. PATRIZIA School Buyamba is five kilometres from where Rachel lives. She's so happy that the school is so close. As well as receiving an education at the school, she also gets two meals a day. She has also become part of the social network at the school and – unlike other girls of her age – doesn't have to work at the local market or help run the household.

“Rachel strikes us as an extremely appreciative girl who's keen to help, and she's fully aware of how amazingly fortunate she is to be able to go to the school. She's currently completing her last year at primary school and her dream is to move up to secondary school. We really hope her dream comes true,” says Jowita Fuchshofer.



“We are true brothers and sisters in spirit”

An interview with Father Charles Mbazzi, long-standing partner of the foundation

From 2013 to 2018, Father Charles Mbazzi (37) was in charge of the Mary Mother of God parish in Buyamba, which owns land where the PATRIZIA School Buyamba stands. As a member of the school’s steering committee, he took care of a number of school affairs during this time and campaigned tirelessly in Buyamba and neighbouring communities for parents to send their children to the school. For all these years, he was the main contact person for the foundation and even though he moved on to a different parish two years ago, he still feels strongly attached to the school in Buyamba.

Hello Father Charles. Could we start by asking how you would describe education, and the opportunities it opens up for children in Buyamba and the area?

Education is so important for people. It opens their eyes, the spirit; it changes their future and gives them courage. Education gives children the opportunity to lead a better life and makes them strong for the future. So we are so grateful that we have the school and can do this for them. We want to educate as many children as possible here and provide them with a proper upbringing.

Could you tell us about everyday life at PATRIZIA School Buyamba?

We currently have more than 880 children, from class one to class seven. The pupils and teachers come from different parts of Uganda. We are so grateful for this place because as a

public school it’s open to all religions, tribes and genders. Students who wish to join the school are given a personal interview. If they pass it they are admitted to the school.

What can you tell us about the teachers of the children?

We are extremely proud of the teachers we have here. They love their work and are as committed as if they were at home – as if they were teaching their own children. This has allowed us to gain the trust of parents. When the parents come here, they see how committed the teachers are to the school and how kind, caring and devoted they are. They are always punctual, and they make sure the pupils do what they do well. This is another reason why the number of schoolchildren keeps growing.

The theme of our foundation magazine is HAPPINESS. Are there any things that make you particularly happy when you think about PATRIZIA School Buyamba?

We have succeeded in gaining people’s trust in the school. When people send their child to the school, they know it will receive a good education. The school is also an important part of the community. The school year is broken down into three terms, then there are three months’ holiday. We use this time to organise different activities in the community. We use the facilities and the rooms to bring people together from the surrounding area. As well as providing advice, we also run seminars on different topics, depending on their needs. This allows



Jowita Fuchshofer visited the school in Buyamba at the end of 2019 and met Father Charles (right) and his successor, Father Jude



Father Charles takes a personal interest in the development of PATRIZIA School Buyamba

the school to really do something for the common good – and that makes me really happy and grateful.

What can we do to make our partnership even better?

I can’t imagine what would have become of the school without the support of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. The foundation has done such wonderful work – its help means so much to us.

But the number of schoolchildren grows year by year. We’re doing what we can to use the resources that are available to us, but we still don’t have enough classrooms. Our dining hall is currently being used as a classroom for pre-schoolers. All in all, our capacity is gradually running out. Any further help would be extremely welcome.

Thank you, Father Charles, for talking to us.

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation has set itself the goal of expanding PATRIZIA School Buyamba. You can also help us achieve this. For example, you could sponsor a classroom or become a building partner.

Write an email to jowita.fuchshofer@patrizia.foundation or call +49 821 50910-306

Milestones

- | | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| 1987 | St. Francis Elementary School is founded |  |
| 2009-2010 | The PATRIZIA Children Foundation and the Green Helmets completely renovate three existing buildings and erect four new buildings |  |
| Feb 2010 | Official opening of the recently renovated PATRIZIA School Buyamba | |
| 2014 | New sanitary buildings are built for PATRIZIA School Buyamba |  |
| 2015 | The school is given two new water cisterns for supplying the pupils, teachers and neighbouring parish house with water |  |
| 2020/2021 | If all goes well, construction can start on the planned school extension |  |



“The skills people learn here are needed immediately by the community. That’s not just good for the local community, but also for our country”

Félix Mubumbyi, head of training and studies at
PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama

A home for vocational students

The PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center in Ntarama provides Rwandans with an opportunity to gain an education

In 2008, the PATRIZIA Children Foundation joined forces with the Grünhelme (Green Helmets) and built a home for adolescents and young adults in Ntarama in the east African state of Rwanda. The home stands directly next to the Nelson Mandela Education Centre (NMEC), a school for vocational education where young people can do apprenticeships lasting three years.

Opened in the presence of President Paul Kagame

Between 2006 and 2012, the Green Helmets established a vocational school for building engineers and solar energy technicians in the Rwandan town of Ntarama in collaboration with the NMEC. Just under 50 Green Helmets volunteers – including Till Gröner (see page 14) – helped erect the buildings and oversee fittings and fixtures.

The training centre was officially opened in the presence of Rwandan President Paul Kagame in October 2008. Kagame praised the facility as an example for future projects in the country. The NMEC welcomed its first 34 students in January 2009. At first, the centre only offered two subjects: electronics and construction technology. But over the years, the solid training given to the students resulted in the introduction of further disciplines. Young adults can now choose from five professions: electronics, metalworking, bricklaying, tailoring and hairdressing.

To qualify for a place at the school of secondary education, students must have completed six years at a primary school and the first three years of a secondary school. On completion, students are then qualified to attend the NMEC. The vocational centre offers a day school and short courses lasting two terms. Training finishes with a state examination that qualifies students to go to university.

Strong emphasis on practical training

As a state school, students are sent to the NMEC by the authorities. The school fees per term are approximately 74 dollars. The school is highly popular among students because it dovetails education with business and lays emphasis on practical training. The professions the students learn at the school open the door to a promising future. They can go on several work placements, even during their three years of training. Many

students become self-employed after finishing, as was the case with Pierre, who was one of the first students to complete a course at the school and went on to set up his own building company (see Tale of Happiness, page 12).

As of 2020, the NMEC has 220 vocational students, most of whom had to travel a long distance to get there. They wouldn't be able to attend the school without a boarding home, which was built by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. In fact for many of the students, attending the vocational centre would be unthinkable without it. Long journeys to school are a problem in many African countries and are often the reason why young people receive no training and sometimes even fail to finish primary school. Building the PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center has thus allowed the foundation to make an important contribution to the education system in Rwanda, providing young people with a key opportunity to receive vocational training.

Rwanda – an exception in Africa

The school has been run by Rwandans for the last nine years. After a number of years of successful management under the Green Helmets, in 2011 the running of the training centre and home was handed over to the Workforce Development Authority (WDA), an independent body that works on boosting vocational education.

Till Gröner, whose work for the Green Helmets temporarily involved acting as headmaster of the school, is impressed by the east African nation and the rapid progress it has made: "What Rwanda has achieved in terms of regeneration after the genocide is nothing short of a miracle. Not only is it the safest country to travel through in Africa, it's also wonderfully clean and has an amazing focus on the future. They're even developing things that would be important in Europe, like a drone airport."

SMALL THINGS

At PATRIZIA Children Foundation our aim is to motivate others to take charge of their own destiny. In many areas of the world, it doesn't take much in real terms to make a difference. Join us in helping everyone to do small things that have a positive impact on the lives of many.



The school in Ntarama was established in cooperation with the Green Helmets

The education system in Rwanda

The school year in Rwanda starts in February and ends in November. Children start school at the age of seven and attend primary school for six years. This is followed by three years of secondary school, meaning that children receive a state education of nine years (the nine-year basic education programme – 9YBE). Secondary education can be extended to total twelve years. More than three million Rwandan children are registered at a primary or secondary school. Over 80 per cent of pupils are at primary school. 47 per cent of all 15- to 24-year-olds in Rwanda have never even completed primary school.



The PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center opened in October 2008 in the presence of President Paul Kagame (front row, second from left) and Green Helmets founder Rupert Neudeck (front row, left)



A visit to PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama in Rwanda

Jowita Fuchshofer, Senior Manager of Donor Relations at the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, paid a visit to the training centre in Ntarama.

To read her travel report and see more photos, go to our website:

www.patrizia.foundation/en/project/patrizia-vocational-training-center-ntarama-rwanda/



Tailoring is one of five professions taught at the training centre



The boys' dormitory, just one of the buildings built by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation



Peter, a genocide survivor and former student at NMEC, kindly showed the foundation team around during their visit

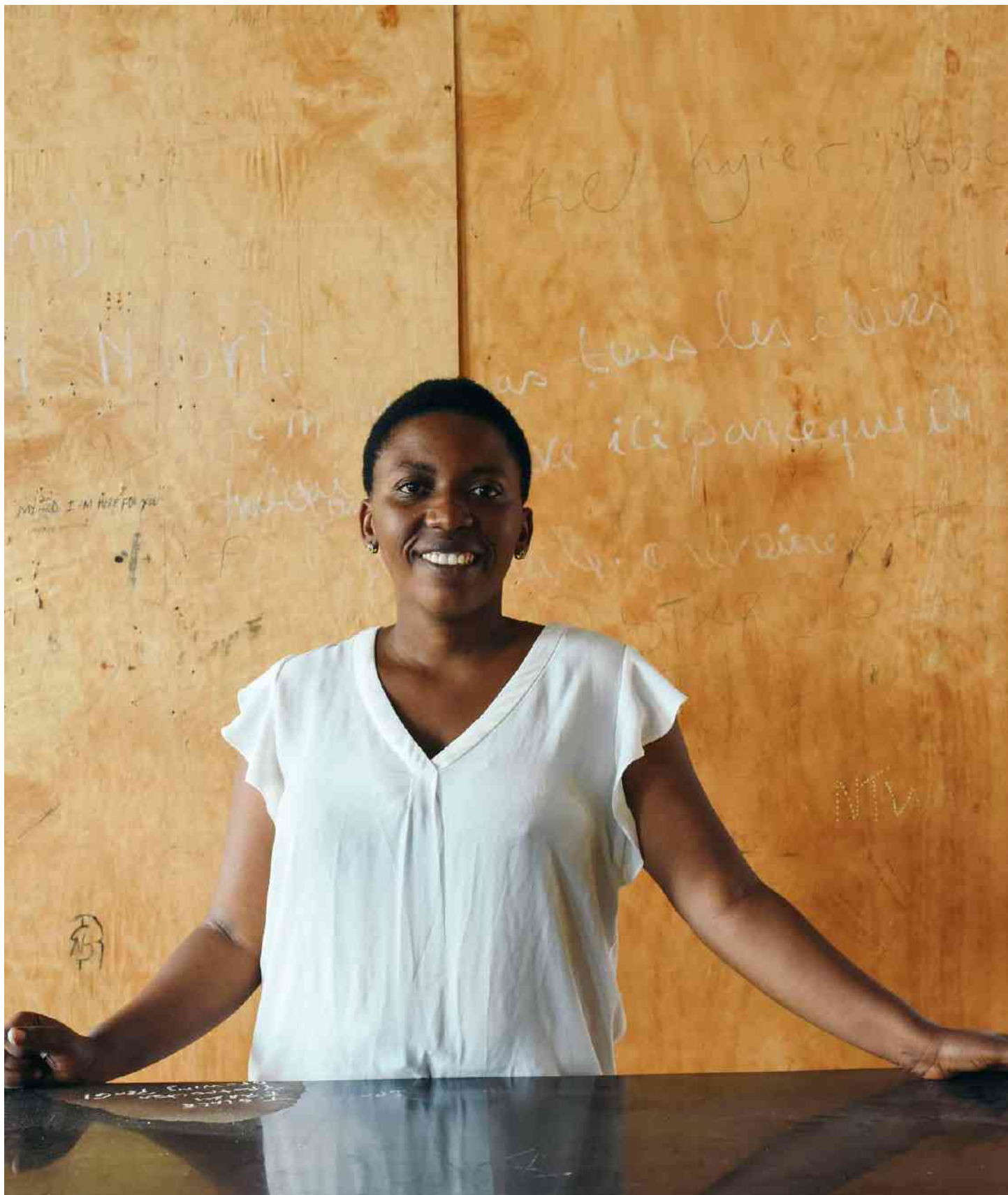
Rwanda and the impacts of genocide

Between April and July of 1994, Rwanda experienced a gruesome campaign of mass murder, the worst example of genocide since the Holocaust. Within just 100 days, followers of the majority Hutu community killed around 75% of the minority Tutsi community. According to estimates, one million people died. The genocide tore the economy apart at the seams, effectively extinguishing decades of development. Despite this, recovery in the country has been surprisingly rapid and compared to the rest of the African continent, economic development is currently considered exemplary.

The period of genocide also inflicted dramatic environmental scars on the country. Forests were razed to the ground, and settlements sprang up in conservation areas after refugee camps were built for millions of displaced people. Rwanda has introduced a number of measures to combat pollution in recent years, including reforestation programmes and funding for renewable energy generated by solar energy plants and hydro-electric power stations. One particular measure that stands out came in 2008, when a ban was introduced forbidding the production, introduction and use of plastic shopping bags. The bags are now made out of sisal hemp or paper.



Playing football like Mario Götze: the students were delighted with the shirts sent by our foundation ambassador



Brigitte was once a student herself at PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama. She now teaches electronics there.

Greater opportunities for women

Rwanda is a fine example of equal opportunities for men and women

If there is one area in which Rwanda performs better than Germany, it is in equal opportunities for women. The East African nation is ranked fifth in the world, compared to Germany which only makes it position 12. Promoting women's rights is a declared aim of the Rwandan government.

The Rwandan genocide in 1994 left behind hundreds of thousands of widows and orphans. It completely changed the role played by women in Rwandan society. Because many women's husbands and fathers were killed or sent to jail, they suddenly had to take on the role of running the household themselves. Previously, they were not even allowed to inherit or head up the family.

After the genocide, the government of Rwanda introduced special measures to promote the interests of women in many areas, from work to sport and politics – for example in areas like public administration and parliamentary affairs, where 30 per cent of all workers are now women. 64 per cent of parliamentarians in Rwanda are now women. This makes Rwanda the first (and as yet only) country in the world where the majority of members of parliament are women.

Improved education opportunities for girls

The state has granted women the same rights as men in other areas, too. As a result, women now play a more important role in the economy. More and more women work in well-paid professions, are appointed to management positions or become self-employed. One reason for this is the opportunities women now enjoy in education, which have improved markedly thanks to laws that promote the interests of women.

Rwanda has around 12 million inhabitants in an area around the same size as the German state of Hesse. This makes it the most densely populated nation in Africa – and the population continues to grow. On average, every woman in Rwanda has five children. As a result, the government is pursuing a three-children policy. This also grants women easier access to medicines and contraceptives. Improved family planning also makes women much more autonomous, which is why the proportion of girls that attend school is higher in Rwanda than in most of its neighbouring countries. And it doesn't just stop there. Women are actively encouraged to learn professions previously considered the domain of men. One person who exemplifies this is Brigitte, who teaches electronics at PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama.



In Ntarama, women also teach technical subjects

Once a schoolgirl, now a teacher of electronics

Brigitte was once a pupil at the training centre in Ntarama herself (see report on page 32). As a young girl, she lacked confidence and would never have dared to study a subject like electronics. But then she was given the opportunity to do an apprenticeship at PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama. She praises training standards at the centre, which she describes as much better than other establishments: "My practical skills are really strong compared to others who didn't have the opportunity to learn here".

Brigitte comes from a region in the north of Rwanda. As a result, she lived in the dormitory built by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation during her training. Like many schoolchildren, she would never have been able to attend school without a roof over her head. She has fond memories of her time at the home: "The girls' dormitory was really cosy. Everyone had their own bed. We never had electricity cuts and there was always enough water. For us, it was like being in a hotel. It meant we could always concentrate properly on our lessons."

Brigitte has been a teacher at the vocational school herself for the last nine years. She originally wanted to work for a company after completing her training. But she was convinced by her teachers that she would make an excellent teacher, so she decided to pursue that career path instead. She is now proud to be able to pass on her knowledge to the next generation in Rwanda. But she also wants to keep learning and expand her knowledge. Her dream? To do further studies and earn a PhD.

Bolstering the regional economy

Invaluable specialist training at PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama

The training centre in the Rwandan town of Ntarama places great importance on regional development, not just because of the high standards it adheres to: it also focuses strongly on practical application, a pivotal factor in boosting and promoting the regional economy. The vocations the centre provides training in are in high demand and many trainees become self-employed after completing their courses.



Théophile Rutabana, headmaster at the NMEC in Ntarama

As a nation still waiting for full-scale industry to take off and a shortage of land suitable for farming, manual trades and handicrafts play a crucial role in Rwanda in providing jobs. The cities and rural areas are already peppered with a variety of small manual trades, even if most firms manufacture to very low technological standards. Often, one of the reasons for this is the poor standard of training. Detail-

ed practical training, on the level offered at the vocational centre in Ntarama, is therefore highly valued in Rwanda.

“The school is extremely important to the community,” says Théophile Rutabana, headteacher at the Nelson Mandela Educational Center (NMEC) in Ntarama. He says this because it’s win-win for all stakeholders: “The students need a job after school, and the community needs people who can help it build houses, cut hair or make clothes – basically all the professions we teach young people here,” explains Rutabana.

Excellent prospects thanks to practical training

You can train in five professions at the NMEC – to become a bricklayer, electrician, metalworker, hairdresser or tailor. Each course is broken down into different streams. Depending on which stream they follow, students can enter a profession immediately after school or go on to study at university. The NMEC lays particular emphasis on the practical nature of its training. “The standards are very high compared to other vocational schools in the area,” says the headteacher. The students are expected to complete a number of work placements during training. By acquiring practical skills, many of the students are already in a position to work, so they can also earn a bit of money while they study.

Head of training and studies Félix Mubumbyi also considers acquiring practical skills an important complement to a school education: “It’s important that the schoolchildren gain practical experience at a company, because we can’t show them everything here at the school.” The students reap the benefits of this approach after school. Most school-leavers don’t take long to find a job in the local community, which means they don’t depend on the state to line up work for them. “The skills they learn here are needed immediately by the community,” adds Mubumbyi. “If we can train our own tailors here we don’t need to import clothes from other countries, so this helps promote our own textile industry. That’s not just good for the community, it’s also good for our country.”

A strong alumni network

Many former pupils of PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama now run their own businesses, just like Pierre (see page 12), and they are pleased that they can contribute to development in their country. Pierre stays in close contact with his former schoolmates through an alumni network and even provides them with jobs through his own company. After all, he knows that like himself, they received a solid education in Ntarama. This is an important enrichment to Rwandan society. Others, like Brigitte (see page 36), decided to move into teaching and pass on their knowledge to the next generation. They are all proud to be playing their part in the economic recovery of Rwanda.

Teaching practical skills plays an important role at PATRIZIA Vocational Training Center Ntarama



Still important: ongoing support

Everyday school would be impossible at the NMEC without the home built by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, mainly because many students live a long distance away and would be unable to make the journey to school every day. Staying at the boarding school also allows students to focus on their training rather than help their parents. The vast majority of the 220 or so students at the NMEC currently depend on accommodation in the boarding house to attend school. “Without the boarding house, we would have less than 30 students,” says headteacher Rutabana. Unfortunately, however, the home and the school have nearly reached breaking point in capacity terms, but the number of pupils is still rising. “We urgently need more classrooms to have enough space for all streams in all of the different areas of training,” says Rutabana.

Tools and building materials like cement and bricks are extremely expensive in Rwanda, but these are also needed for practical exercises. If the apprentices had new materials, they would be able to carry out a lot of the construction work on the classrooms and workshops themselves.

The PATRIZIA Children Foundation therefore intends to extend the school as soon as possible by providing further classrooms and expand the boarding home. This would allow even more young Rwandans to receive vocational training in the future.



Jowita Fuchshofer in conversation with headmaster Théophile Rutabana (right) and head of training and studies Félix Mubumbyi

Projects like the one described above can only be implemented by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation with the support of sponsors. We would like to thank our sponsors for their support. At the same time, we would also like to keep improving the education opportunities of young people in Rwanda. Please help us to help others!

You can find out more here:
www.patrizia.foundation/en/become-a-sponsor/



INSIGHTS

*Let's work together in giving more
people access to education!*

How will Africa fare after the COVID-19 crisis?

An interview with Brother Ansgar, member of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation advisory board

Missionary doctor Brother Ansgar is head of St. Joseph's Hospital in Peramiho and has spent many years in Tanzania. He also worked on the foundation's first construction project – a children's ward. The 68-year-old runs Vier Türme Publishing at Münsterschwarzach Abbey. As a physician, he is closely involved in COVID-19 issues. He compares the situation in Germany with what is currently happening in East Africa.

Hello Brother Ansgar. How do you see the current coronavirus crisis, both here and in Africa?

People are becoming infected here much more quickly than was expected; now an increasing number of younger people are being affected. What makes this situation difficult for us in Germany is that we've had very little experience with epidemics, so we can't build on previous experience as is the case in lots of African countries. I believe we need to get a much better grip on organisational aspects. We're investing a lot of energy and resources in the wrong things. Medical practice in Germany is based on individual treatment, which is extremely resource-intensive. In Africa, by contrast, more is achieved with fewer resources.

Are African countries better prepared for the coronavirus?

They've experienced cholera and the ebolavirus, so countries like Uganda and Rwanda have a better understanding of epidemics. For example in Uganda they've already had cases of the ebolavirus, but they managed to prevent widespread infection by introducing the right measures, like routinely checking people's temperatures at the border. Also, there was a cholera epidemic in Rwanda twenty years ago when refugees started moving around, and they survived that situation well. These countries are extremely well organised when it comes to combating epidemics.

According to the official numbers, there have been far fewer infections in Africa than here. Why are fewer people affected by the coronavirus there?

Some people are wondering if the virus is less prone to spreading in tropical countries due to the heat, although that's not been proven yet. But maybe it gives us reason to have more hope! One reason it's spreading out more slowly certainly has to be that people in rural areas are less mobile than they are here. That already limits the possibility of transmission. Then there's also the fact that more than half of the population in East Africa are under the age of 18 and they're not the high-

risk group. Also, Africans have extremely high immunoglobulin levels in their blood, probably because they had to survive lots of infections during childhood. That's perhaps one reason why they don't have bad flu infections in Africa like we do. So as a result, maybe the population there is also protected better from COVID-19 infections.

But I do see one potential high-risk scenario: in Tanzania around five per cent of the population is infected with HIV, so that's 2.5 million Tanzanians. Because their immune system is already weakened, they could already be particularly vulnerable to the coronavirus. There's no research into this yet, but it's quite conceivable that there will be more deaths in this section of the population.

You are still the official director of the hospital in Peramiho. How often do you make it to Tanzania, and what's the situation like there in these times of COVID-19?

I go there twice a year and also stay in close contact with the doctors there at other times. St. Joseph's Hospital is still running as normal, but preparations are being made. For example, rooms have already been put aside for possible coronavirus cases. Of course the government is also introducing measures to prevent the spread of the virus. So for instance the football cup I endowed, the Ansgar Cup, has been cancelled by the authorities.



30 years ago Brother Ansgar worked as a missionary and doctor in Tanzania



Brother Ansgar with the management team of St. Joseph's Hospital in Peramiho

And what impact is the virus having on the PATRIZIA Children's Centers in Tanzania?

There's good news on that front. The children have virtually no symptoms, even if they've got the virus. We've had no fatalities among the children. Despite this, schools have also been shut down in Tanzania. That said, this is not about protecting children, but their parents and society in general because as carriers of the virus, children can of course also infect others.

What do you see as the biggest challenges posed by the virus in the long term?

The economic consequences, without a doubt. And this will affect poor countries much more than us, even if they have fewer infections. Lots of countries will be particularly badly affected by the loss of tourists. Tanzania is already noticing the effects of this in economic terms. Domestic flights have been suspended due to a lack of passengers. There's concern about medical supplies running out. That's quite possible after manufacturing had to be halted in India and China. Transportation has also been reduced.

Thank you very much, Brother Ansgar!

Brother Ansgar: physician, missionary, publishing director – and advisory board member

Brother Ansgar studied medicine and was a missionary and doctor for 16 years (1987-2003) at St. Joseph's Hospital in Peramiho (south-west Tanzania). It was here that the first PATRIZIA Children Foundation project was completed in 2002: a children's ward. Brother Ansgar helped plan and expand the hospital from the very beginning. Once back in Germany, he was appointed missionary procurator and oversaw international projects for the Missionary Benedictines of St. Ottilien. In 2019, he became director of Vier Türme ('Four Towers'), the publishing unit at Münsterschwarzach Abbey. Brother Ansgar has been a member and supporter of the PATRIZIA Children Foundation advisory board for four years.

“For me, happiness is a life of self-determination”

Interview with graffiti artist Mirko Reisser (DAIM)

Mirko Reisser is an internationally renowned urban artist who also goes by the pseudonym DAIM. In 2017, he took part in the SCALE street art project in Munich and in 2019 he donated one of his art works to the charity auction organised by the foundation. We talked to DAIM about his passion in life and his 3D graffiti. And we discussed happiness.



Street art artist DAIM describes what happiness means to him

What brought you into art – and in particular: graffiti art?

I started developing an interest in graffiti when I was 17. It coincided with my enthusiasm for hip-hop. I was out with two friends one afternoon and we were going to spray paint our skateboards, but instead we just went off and spruced up a transformer station. I knew right then that I never wanted to do anything else.

So when did this passion become a profession?

Before long I took part in exhibitions, and after seven years in the graffiti scene I plucked up the courage to take the next step and studied free art in Lucerne. I developed while I was there and started working on sculptures. That was also when I started looking at the DAIM lettering from different angles. I organised a successful series of exhibitions called Urban Discipline in Hamburg with my studio collective, getting-up. Some important mentors helped me move on at the time, people like Rik Reinking, and we still work together closely.

How would you advise other artists to find the right direction to go in?

You have to believe in yourself, but you shouldn't lose sight of reality and moving forward in the right way. You have to be true to yourself and in some ways be unwilling to compromise if you want to stand out in your scene. Making the right decisions for the future is an exhilarating process, but of course it also takes a bit of luck. There's no patent recipe for it.

What does happiness mean to you?

I lead a life in which I can determine a lot of things myself, because as a creative and independent person I can start afresh every day and decide what to do. Nobody working for me. No boss. Having this liberty is definitely my idea of happiness.

Fostering self-determination by educating children is also our goal!

Which is also why I find what the PATRIZIA Children Foundation does so important and why I sent one of my works from the SCALE festival to auction! That event was an awesome experience. I got to work on the wall next to the wall of Daniel Man. We got our pictures to dovetail with each other – a big message I've been bringing into my artistic development for some time now.

Why is 3D so important to your work?

For me it's about capturing the moment between setting something up and dismantling it. By constructing and deconstructing letters I design shapes that are simultaneously nebulous. My 3D letters express something really personal about me because I see them as a kind of self-portrait. When I'm getting close to the end of such a project, for me that's the greatest moment of happiness – knowing I've created something new and sharing it with the world.



You can find examples of street art by DAIM and other artists at www.pat-art-lab.com/en/ 100% of the sales proceeds go to the PATRIZIA Children Foundation!



Our fundraising marathon in 2019

A big Thank You to all of the donors who supported us

To mark our 20th anniversary, in 2019 the PATRIZIA Children Foundation organised a fundraising marathon under the banner Every Brick Counts! More than €16,000 were raised in donations. We would like to express our sincere appreciation for all the generous donations.

Since the establishment of the foundation in 1999, we have made it possible for more than 220,000 children and young adults worldwide to enjoy a better future thanks to our schools, hospitals and Children's Centers.

WE SAY
THANK YOU!



€16,000



Our relief fund for the coronavirus pandemic



Corona Fund Education Healthcare

Schools around the world were forced to close in March and April due to the coronavirus pandemic. This also affected the Children's Centers run by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. It is currently not possible to organise lessons (or only very limited teaching), because in many countries our centres simply lack the infrastructure and technical facilities to replace classroom teaching or offer online education options. Many centres are also suffering extreme financial hardship due to the pandemic, with incomes reduced to a trickle after closing.

We have therefore launched a relief fund to help affected Children's Centers through these difficult times and at least keep education infrastructures in place. To set the ball rolling, the PATRIZIA Children Foundation has already paid €100,000 into this fund to provide immediate aid. We would also like to provide the Children's Centers with help in the long term, not only so they make it through the current crisis but also so they are geared to times after the lockdown. For example, we would like to put hygiene facilities in place so people can disinfect their hands and make e-learning options available.

To reach out and offer help to as many centres as possible, we would like to invite everyone to donate to the new fund, which is called **Corona Fund Education Healthcare**. Hopefully we can soon get children back into education and start writing more tales of happiness again – like the story of Pierre (see page 12) or Rachel (see page 27).

As with all donations, 100 per cent of your donations go directly towards our projects! In this particular case, funds will go directly to existing Children's Centers to keep facilities intact. To make it easier to donate, we have set up a separate donation account.



Corona Fund Education Healthcare
donation account:

IBAN: DE11 7208 0001 0160 0333 88
BIC: DRESDEFFXXX

“Children are life itself – and the future!”

Volunteering events: how PATRIZIA Iris Hildebrand and her colleagues draw attention to a good cause

“I’m passionate about children, they’re our heart and soul. And they give so much back to us,” gushes Iris Hildebrand in an interview with HAPPINESS. The 54-year-old started working as a senior assistant in the Berlin office of PATRIZIA Immobilien Kapitalverwaltungsgesellschaft in late 2016. Soon afterwards, she discovered a passion for volunteering for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation.

Iris first became aware of the foundation’s work in 2017 at the PATRIZIA Day, where she won two prizes: a trip and Hope, the foundation mascot. She was delighted with her prize and immediately struck up a conversation with Julia Agerer, who works as an assistant at the PATRIZIA Children Foundation. Before Iris knew it, she offered to provide help herself.

Supporting the PATRIZIA Children Foundation in all four seasons

Iris was soon walking around handing out Sweet Greets to colleagues, part of a staff event organised in the run-up to Christmas on behalf of the foundation. In early 2018, she helped her foundation colleagues in Augsburg on the reception desk at the K&L Gates charity event. “I’ve kind of evolved into an advocate for the foundation in Berlin,” she says, with an obvious sense of delight.

Supporting parents and bringing colleagues on board to help: Kids’ Day

Originally from the Rhineland area of Germany, Iris decided to get even more involved in the work of her employer’s foundation. In 2019, she chose a special day to launch the first Kids’ Day in the Berlin office: a ‘bridge day’ – the German term for a day between a Bank Holiday and the weekend. Her idea: invite colleagues to bring their kids to work – who she would look after for the day. “I dressed up as Hope to welcome the little ones to the office. They loved it,” she reminisces. Playing to a topic many are familiar with at PATRIZIA, Iris and her colleagues made buildings out of bricks with around eight children and then painted them. The parents also brought cakes in to work, which were shared around the office for donations.

Overall, they raised no less than €200 for the foundation. “My colleagues from Asset Management and the technicians took



Early 2020: Iris Hildebrand at PATRIZIA Soup Day in Berlin

the boys off to play table football. I know our colleagues in Hamburg also do a lot for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation and I was contacted by colleagues in London, and they wanted to do something similar,” says Iris with pride.

Hot soup on a cold day for a good cause

Iris Hildebrand is now known for her commitment to the foundation and she was approached by two further colleagues after the next event in late 2019. Together, they agreed that the wintertime would be just right for a PATRIZIA Soup Day – a lunch and small fundraising event with colleagues. By early 2020 everything was in the starting blocks. Staff from the Berlin office were offered a choice of soups and quiche for lunch – in return for a voluntary donation. Overall, the three volunteers raised €152 for the foundation. But of course, they also enjoyed working as a team for a good cause.

What motivates people to help others

“I really enjoy the work I do, and the events went down really well. They also inspire my colleagues and they’ve asked me to tell them if another event comes up – they’d really like to help, which delighted me. We’ve also got a piggy bank for the PATRIZIA Children Foundation, which we regularly top up with money. We’ll definitely organise another event this year. I

also hope I can bring more colleagues from other subsidiaries on board and encourage more people to help the foundation. Children are life itself – and the future!”

Support that is noticed and appreciated

At the foundation, Julia Agerer is responsible for overseeing volunteering and is delighted with the support she receives from PATRIZIA colleagues like Iris Hildebrand. “We’re currently working on ways to build stronger networks across the different sites at PATRIZIA. We’re always pleased when we hear someone else wants to come on board and help us,” says Agerer. Whether it’s organising a flea market or a charity sport event – she’s always open to ideas and suggestions. 100 per cent of donations go towards foundation projects.

The foundation also publishes regular bulletins on the intranet to keep colleagues up to speed with project news. Unfortunately, a number of workshops that were lined up by the PATRIZIA Children Foundation to take place at individual PATRIZIA sites had to be postponed due to the coronavirus, but they’ll be rearranged on another date. The intention of the foundation is to allow colleagues to relate more to the topics they work on.

Working with the London office, a walk was being organised in 2020 as part of a fundraising challenge planned by colleagues in London. This event has been rescheduled for June 2021 due to the pandemic. For more details, go to the foundation website or check our social media channels.

Interested in doing more to support the PATRIZIA Children Foundation? Feel free to contact Julia Agerer, who’s always pleased to hear ideas and suggestions. Simply write an email to julia.agerer@patrizia.foundation or call +49 (0) 821 50910-297.



On Kids’ Day, Iris looked after the children of colleagues and distributed cakes in return for donations to the foundation

A look back at events

From virtual tours of Tanzania to real trips to visit partners on site

Planning events in times of the coronavirus is difficult. We were hoping to report back on our Sponsor Circle brunch in early April at this point, but unfortunately we had no choice but to postpone it. A team from the foundation was also prevented from visiting our Children's Center in Hamburg. But none of the events have been abandoned. We will rearrange all planned events and visits to take place at another time, as soon as is reasonably possible. Fortunately, a number of events did take place before the lockdown and we're pleased to be able to look back at them now.

PATRIZIA Day

The annual PATRIZIA Day took place in November last year in the halls of a Munich film studio. Around 600 PATRIZIA employees attended the event, which went by the motto *Under the Sea*. Accordingly, they came in all kinds of costumes – from mermaids to sea deities. Of course, the PATRIZIA Children Foundation was also at the event – and offered PATRIZIAans a chance to view foundation projects in Tanzania with the virtual reality headset. A pretty big crowd of people came to the VR island and there was enthusiastic feedback on the virtual trip to Tanzania. Our full-size mascot, Hope, also received a warm reception as it walked around. To round off our visit, we also cut a huge birthday cake to mark another big event – it was our 20th anniversary last year.



Happy Birthday! Mascot Hope brought a birthday cake to mark the 20th anniversary of the foundation.

Investment Horizons

Visionary. Living. Digitalised. This was the motto for the tenth Investment Horizons event organised by PATRIZIA in November 2019 in Munich. The PATRIZIA Children Foundation was also at the event with a virtual reality island that allowed investors to immerse themselves in a different world. The idea was to experience our foundation projects in Tanzania 'virtually' first hand – with a VR headset, so you really felt like you're there. The idea was extremely positively received. The 3D sequences showed a variety of investors what wonderful work the PATRIZIA Children Foundation is carrying out, also underscoring how the direction we are moving in not only makes sense but will also be successful. It was also an opportunity for Angelika Jacobi, Chairwoman of the Foundation Board, to hold a short speech and tell the tale of happiness of 15-year-old Padmavati, who, following the opening of PATRIZIA Childcare Porayar in India in 2019, is now also receiving an education.



Angelika Jacobi impressed the investors with an emotional speech

Visit to PATRIZIA Child Care in Augsburg

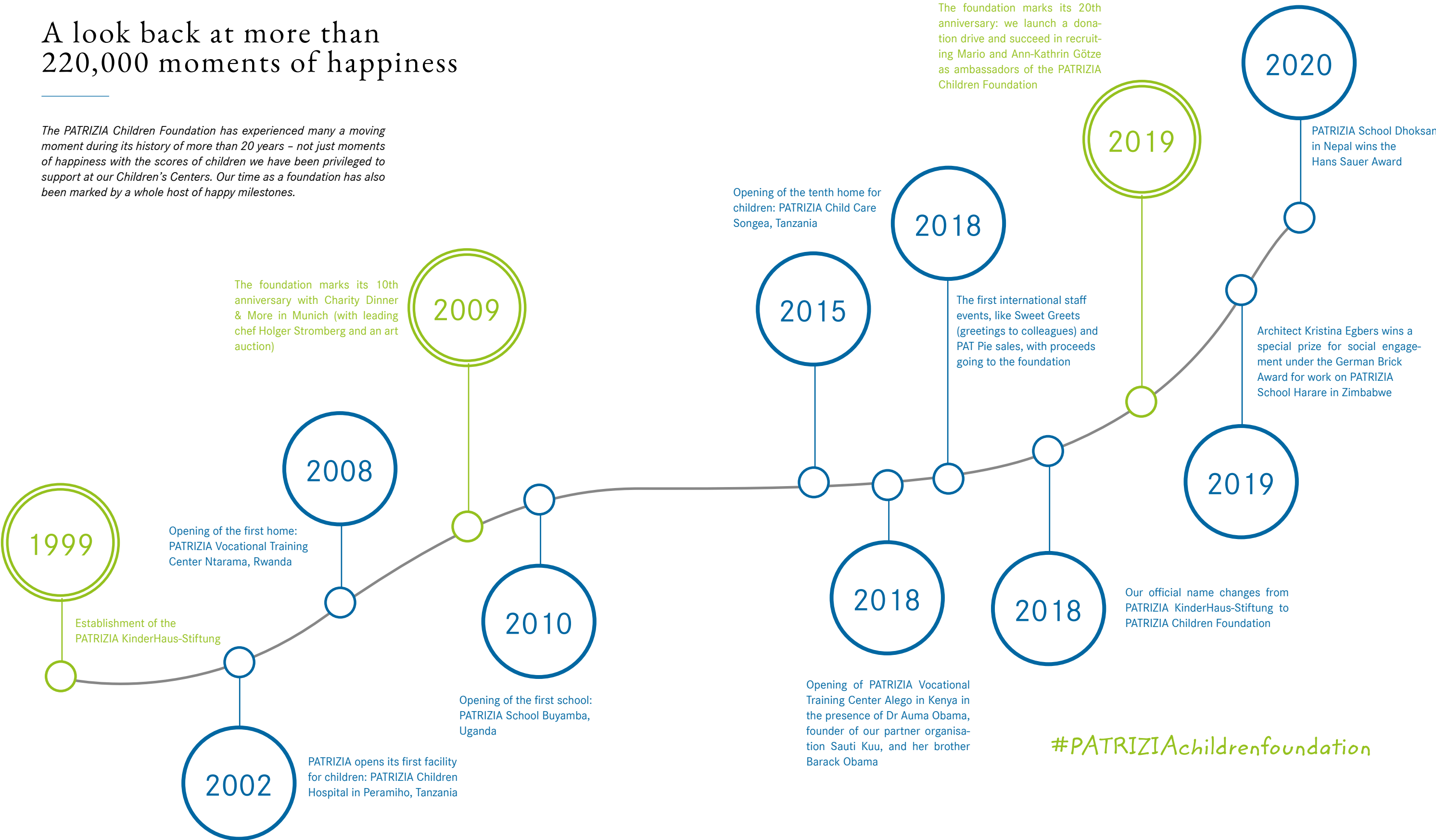
In February, a delegation from the PATRIZIA Children Foundation paid a visit to PATRIZIA Child Care in Augsburg. The centre was set up in 2013. Our project partner, IKA, runs a bilingual day care centre in the building so the staff and children at the centre speak English and German. We were given an extremely warm welcome by nursery director Martina Devine and Angela Chamberlain, who took us on a tour of the facilities. The centre currently looks after 100 children aged one to ten in a nursery, kindergarten and after-school club, providing playful supervision in two languages and offering a caring setting during the most formative years of early life. As a token of our appreciation, we took a consignment of books from our foundation ambassador, Mario Götze, which clearly delighted the team at IKA.



Martina Devine from IKA (3rd from right) is delighted with the children's books from foundation ambassador Mario Götze

A look back at more than 220,000 moments of happiness

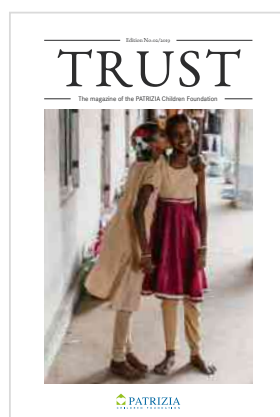
The PATRIZIA Children Foundation has experienced many a moving moment during its history of more than 20 years – not just moments of happiness with the scores of children we have been privileged to support at our Children’s Centers. Our time as a foundation has also been marked by a whole host of happy milestones.





The Board of Trustees (from left): Andreas Heibrock, Simon Woolf, Dr Konrad Finkenzeller, Constanze Egger, Peter Helfrich, Angelika Jacobi and Andreas Menke

Your opinion matters to us!



Dear Friends of the Foundation Magazine,

Until now, we've published three editions of this magazine, involving a lot of passion, care and personal commitment.

We do hope you've enjoyed reading them and that they gave you a good impression of the many things we'd like to achieve in the world through our work at the foundation.

We'd now like to ask you a favour. Without feedback, we can't keep moving forward, improve what we do and produce the kinds of articles you'd like to read. So we'd like to know whether you feel enthusiastic about our magazine or whether you feel there's still something missing.

Please tell us what you think – we'd love to hear from you!

How? Simple – answer a few short questions for us! We've set up a survey here: <https://www.patrizia.foundation/en/feedback/> (of course all feedback is anonymous)

Or write us an email: info@patrizia.foundation

P.S. Do you have experience in development work, or have you travelled to countries where they're still building up their education systems?

We'd love to receive letters from readers and hear stories that could inspire us in our work at the foundation.

With kindest regards,
The editorial team at the PATRIZIA Children Foundation



We provide access to education. Worldwide.

Make the world a better place – for lots of children!

It is only thanks to the support of strong partners that the PATRIZIA Children Foundation is able to provide children with a safe place to live, medical care and access to an education.

If you're also interested in helping children and young people in need as part of your corporate social responsibility activities, we would be delighted to send you an individual proposal. You can also make an important contribution as a private sponsor. We're only a phone call or email away!

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Corona Fund Education Healthcare

Help with the coronavirus crisis. Donate now!

Schools are closing their doors all over the world, severely restricting children's access to the education they deserve.

By launching the coronavirus relief fund, we want to help the PATRIZIA Children's Centers make it through this crisis so they can provide education again in the long term.

Help us to make a difference! Your donation will make it possible to keep the Children's Centers running and introduce important measures to the benefit of children. For example:

- Set up sanitisation units
- Provide health education support
- Make online learning options available
- Hand out lunchboxes to families in need



Donation account for
Corona Fund Education Healthcare:

IBAN: DE11 7208 0001 0160 0333 88
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