

Outlook for 2021

As you know from your own experience, it is difficult to predict developments in the current situation. In 2020, for the first time since our organisation was founded, none of our members was able to travel to Mutolere in order to get an impression on site or to plan new projects.

After the pandemic, support will be necessary in many areas. We are in contact with the schools, the hospital and the local parish in order to estimate where our help is needed most.

In addition to our sponsorship program, we would like to continue the distribution of aid packages as long as the pandemic continues. Other project ideas range from the construction of classrooms to a continuation of our solar projects in schools to the equipment of a physiotherapy rehabilitation center after orthopaedic procedures. Also individual support of extremely poor families, e.g. by renovating their house or building a new house, will again be the focus of our work.

Through your donations, the long-standing cooperation with our partners as well as the tireless support of Mrs Waltraud Ndagijimana and our local helpers, we have succeeded in realising projects and providing the poorest of the poor with help much-needed despite of all the problems. We would like to thank you very much for that!

Together, we all hope that a vaccine will soon be introduced so that the pandemic will be overcome and normality returns in Germany as well as in Uganda.

Right now, people in Mutolere need your support more than ever!

Wakozee – Thank you

for your support and your trust!



Please help us to continue the work of
Together for Uganda
successfully.

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**We help children in Uganda.
Please, support our work!**

Annual report 2020
Outlook for 2021

Uganda during the COVID-19 pandemic

The confirmed number of cases of COVID-19 in Uganda is very small, but one has to keep in mind that the country does little testing. Nevertheless, a strict lockdown was enforced in mid-March and they have been easing the stringent measures very slowly so far. Much later than in Germany, where the people experienced a summer without major restrictions, shops and businesses were allowed to open again in Uganda. It took until August before bus traffic was started and church services were allowed again with a maximum number of 70 people, where otherwise several hundred people meet for a prayer. Larger events and family gatherings are still prohibited. This also applies for the weekly markets where the rural population buys food and other supply at a low price.

Since October, the international airport has finally been open again, so that business and tourist trips are possible under strict conditions. Free travelling like we practised it in the course of our work during the last couple of years is still not possible.



Children in the villages

Without any form of state aid, purchasing power is lacking throughout the country so that many shop and business owners had to lay off employees. The rural population is also suffering extremely from the Corona protection measures. Most families live as small farmers on the poverty line. Sufficient food supply is always a problem for these families and many of them

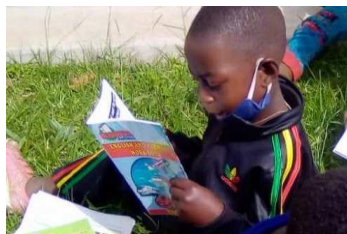
suffer from hunger in the dry season. Since the closing of schools in March the children have been at home. For them, the regular school feed is thus omitted, which is an additional burden for the relatives because the low yield of the fields must feed more people now. These people do not have any money left for items of hygiene or new clothes, for example.

Our work in 2020

In order to support the **families of our 150 sponsored children** and to help **another 200 Aids orphans** in Kisoro region, we organised four issues of **aid packages** with food, hygiene articles (soap and detergent) as well as everyday face masks between the end of May and the end of November. One time there were also clothes and a non-fiction book for our younger sponsored children (up to seventh grade). The older sponsored children were paid a pocket money that they could dispose of themselves. In coordination with our local partners, a small amount of money will also be paid to the families of the sponsored children before Christmas from which they can buy clothes and food, depending on their individual situation, or make much-needed repairs at their cabins. We financed this aid from the school fees that did not have to be paid in full for 2020, as well as from free donation.



Distribution of aid packages



Boy with the first book of his own

For most **school children**, 2020 will be a lost school year. Schools were closed only six weeks after the beginning of the school year in mid-March. Even if the government plans are not yet public, the headteachers in Mutolere

assume that the lessons for most students will not start until the end of January (official beginning of the school year in Uganda). In mid-October, only the students of the examination classes were allowed to return to school. The same applied to the graduates of vocational training centres and universities. It will be possible for them to take their examinations with some delay.

St. Francis Hospital in Mutolere is the only clinic in the district where Corona patients can be treated according to WHO guidelines.



Laboratory from the outside

In July, the much-needed reconstruction of the laboratory could begin. Right now, it is clear how important a functioning laboratory is for the hospital. Covid-19 tests may only be carried out in a special facility in Uganda, but examinations for other infections associated with fever, such as malaria, can be done at St.

Francis Hospital. That way patients are given the certainty quickly that they are not ill with Corona. At the moment, the work on the floors is being completed. In parallel, the painters are working. The hospital administration expects that the new laboratory can already be used in January. The total cost is \square 25,000 and we depend on **further donations** to cover that cost.

Already before the lockdown, the construction of two classrooms at Kagera Primary School and the construction of two water tanks at schools were completed. The examination classes are currently testing the new premises before the other students will also benefit from the new classrooms and the water tanks in January.



New rooms at Kagera Primary School

Unfortunately, other ongoing projects, such as the orphans' meeting, the agricultural seminars and school meals at Mutolere Primary School had to pause since mid-March. They will continue immediately as soon as the lockdown is cancelled.

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