

## **Support of the project "Help for deaf children in Uganda".**

Mrs. Gabi Finkelmeyer drew our attention to the project "Help for deaf children in Uganda" which has been supported by **Gabi Finkelmeyer for more than 16 years as a godmother** and as an active local supporter for more than one year.

**PowerOneForOne Foundation is happy to support two schools in Uganda with the electricity supply**, because the Rwera Mixed Primary School/Unit for the Deaf - Ntungamo and the St. Bruno Vocational School - Isingiro (vocational school) currently have no or only a very inadequate and too expensive supply of electricity.

**Through the installation of solar panels and batteries, both schools are able to recreate conditions that allow classes to be held in the evenings - as is usually the case in Uganda - and also to enable meaningful leisure activities, as light is indispensable for communicating via sign language.** In contrast to the Rwera Mixed Primary School, the St. Bruno Vocational School is connected to the local power supply, but the monthly electricity costs are a heavy burden on the school.

### **The current conditions at the schools are:**

#### **Rwera Mixed Primary School/Unit for the Deaf - Ntungamo**

- Solar panels are not sufficient, the batteries are outdated or so weak that a supply of light in the evening is no longer guaranteed.
- Classes in the evening hours - as usual in Uganda - are not possible.
- A meaningful leisure activity in the evening or communication via gestures (the only form of communication among deaf people) is not possible for the children.
- There is no local power supply.

#### **St. Bruno Vocational School - Isingiro**

- The classrooms are connected to the local power supply, but the monthly burden for the school is quite high.
- The boys' dormitory has solar panels on the roof, but no batteries, so the boys can't stay there in the evening because they can't communicate with each other through gestures.
- After class, the young people stay in the classrooms to communicate with each other about sign language and to spend their free time.
- In order to reduce electricity costs, the school management would like to install solar panels with sufficient batteries for the classrooms and the boys' dormitory.
- The girls are currently accommodated in two classrooms. A girls' dormitory building is planned, but sponsors still have to be found for the construction. Solar power will also be used for this purpose.

Practically, both schools are not far away from a larger city (between 20-30 minutes by car), where there are companies that can install and maintain solar systems.

**The project "Help for deaf children in Uganda" was founded** by Gerhard Ehrenreich more than 20 years ago and helps deaf children and teenagers to access education and to lead a more self-determined life. One contribution to this is that the rooms available cannot be used to the extent that would be desirable without electric light, and PowerOneForOne Foundation would like to work with you to help improve the situation in the two schools.

**All employees of the project "Help for deaf children in Uganda" are volunteers and all administrative and other costs are borne by the Bavarian Association of the Deaf e.V. or by the employees themselves.**

**The goals are in detail:**

- Support for hearing-impaired children and adolescents with regard to their school and professional careers
- Ensuring and maintaining drinking water quality
- Construction of simple houses, e.g. classrooms, dormitories, sanitary facilities, residential buildings for teachers, etc.
- Mediation of sponsorships
- Financial support for deaf teacher training students
- Payment of the costs of necessary medical treatment

Further information can be found at <https://www.gehoerlosen-afrikaprojekt.de/>.