

Perlenkinder News
Travel Report of Ute and Hans-Joachim Sahlmann
Buhoma from October 23rd, 2025, till November 1st, 2025



Back from Uganda – Impressions from our Perlenkinder orphanage

A few days ago, we returned from our third trip to Uganda, where we visited the 20 children in our Perlenkinder House as part of our organization Perlenkinder Uganda e.V. It was once again a deeply moving and impressive time, which showed us that many things are developing positively, but slowly.

Small steps with big significance

Over the past two years, the children's living conditions have improved significantly. Even though progress is slow, the changes are noticeable and valuable. Previously, the children had to sleep on the floor or often with others in one bed – today there are loft beds, which means that the children now sleep alone or with only one other child in a bed. This is a big step towards greater dignity, security and health. It was remarkable to see the pride and enthusiasm with which the children perceived this change.

Progress is also evident in everyday life: many things no longer take place on the floor! We were able to purchase mobile chairs and tables. There have also been significant improvements in the area of daily cooking. New pots, cups and eating utensils make everyday life easier and ensure that meals can be enjoyed in a more pleasant environment. In addition, a used laptop for homeschooling, among other things, as well as plenty of clothes were among the items that could be handed over to the local residents. A privately sponsored set of soccer jerseys, pants, and socks, as well as two soccer balls and two volleyballs, could be handed over to the children, furthermore numerous pairs of glasses, which are very difficult to buy locally. And as in previous years, we once again could provide the local pharmacist with medicine, who is responsible for the health of the children.

Happy children – committed employees

All children appeared to be very content, happy, and grateful. They appreciate the changes that have taken place in recent years and feel that their quality of life has improved significantly.

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We would also like to thank our team on site—especially Rodah, the “good fairy of the house.” With tireless dedication, warmth and care, she looks after the children and plays a key role in ensuring that our project can grow so successfully. We are deeply impressed by her commitment and that of the other local staff, e.g., Elia and Safari's driving and transport services for daily shopping, or Ian's numerous agricultural activities. With care and discipline, the children are truly well looked after by Akansasira and his team. He himself is regularly supported by his sister Deborah.

Our organization sets great importance to education. All children attend private schools, often sponsored by school sponsorships. Let's keep it up!

Understanding and solidarity

During our stay, we got a better understanding of many things – the Ugandan school system, local traditions, and cultural characteristics. These insights helped us to understand the current needs of the children and the community. We once again felt very comfortable in Uganda and enjoyed the warm atmosphere we encountered everywhere.

A special step towards self-sufficiency

A real highlight of our trip was the purchase of two cows for the orphanage – a big step towards self-sufficiency. One of the cows is even pregnant, so the stock will increase to three cows next year. This means that fresh milk and dairy products can be produced directly on site in future – a valuable addition to the children's nutrition.

The cows were also given names: one is called Nandi—a traditional African name—and the other is called Heidi—typically German! The children particularly liked the fact that both names reflect their respective origins. It gives the project a personal and individual touch.

Gratitude and outlook

Our journey was filled with impressions, encounters and emotions. We experienced a lot, learnt a lot, and achieved a lot—and none of this would have been possible without the support of our association members, sponsors, donors and supporters.

We look back with great gratitude – and at the same time look ahead with hope and enthusiasm. In 2026 we will continue doing our utmost to improve the living conditions of the children at the Perlenkinder orphanage step by step.

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We are attaching some photos to this message that vividly document our impressions and experiences on site.

Many thanks to everyone who is accompanying us on this journey and supporting the project—every contribution, big or small, makes a difference!

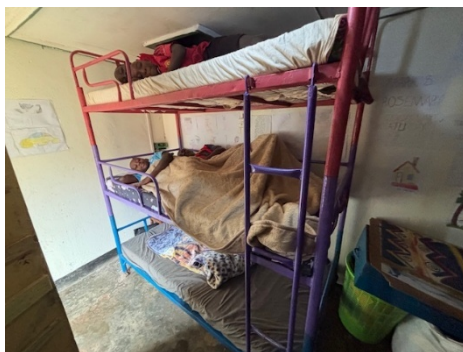
Buying food at the market



Handover of Clothes, Laptop and cups etc.



New Beds



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Pharmacy



Heidi and Nandi

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New chairs and tables



Playing and learning in the Perlenkinder-House



Rainy Season in Buhoma



We are a team!



WEBARE MUNONGA!

