

## Press Release

### Pilot project launched: Start Somewhere to build workshop and school in Kibera by 2020

- “Change from the inside:” Construction and putting in operation of a hollow concrete block workshop and a new school building in Kibera in Nairobi by the end of 2020
- Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH (DEG), a subsidiary of KfW-Bank, is supporting the project in partnership with PERI, one of the largest manufacturers and suppliers of formwork and scaffolding systems
- *Start Somewhere* in charge of project management and implementation on site

Munich, November 27, 2018 - Now it's getting real: The Munich social start-up *Start Somewhere* is setting the course today for a pilot project that includes the construction of a hollow concrete block workshop and a school building in Kibera in Nairobi by the end of 2020. Slum dwellers employed in the workshop will first be trained to produce the hollow concrete blocks and then use them to build the school. The implementation is co-financed within the framework of a develoPPP project of DEG - Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH - with funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

*Start Somewhere* and PERI are continuing the successful project partnership that has been running since November 2017 that focuses on the development of an innovative construction system to improve the living conditions of people in slums.

*Start Somewhere* is responsible for project management and implementation, while PERI is the project executing agent and supports the project with logistics and production of the formwork. The project has several objectives:

- Construction of a hollow concrete block workshop
- Training of the production staff
- Erection of a model room
- Training of construction workers
- Construction of a two-storey school building

Oliver von Malm, architect and founder of *Start Somewhere*, talks about the project and the underlying idea of change from the inside out in the slums: "The building system is the basis of our vision. In the pilot project launched today, we are not only concerned with creating the workshop and the school, but also with the process itself. It is about giving people long-term prospects for work and in-come. This pilot project wants to show that people in slums can one day be able to run their own construction workshop independent of donations and erect quality buildings in the slums."



From 2020, the workshop should be able to finance itself with orders from Nairobi clients and NGOs, thus bringing not only concrete buildings but also jobs to Kibera.

### **About Start Somewhere**

*Start Somewhere* gemeinnützige GmbH is a social start-up based in Munich with eight years of experience in development cooperation in one of the largest slums in Africa: Kibera, Nairobi (Kenya). The vision of Start Somewhere is the sustainable improvement of living conditions in the slums of this world. Concretely, *Start Somewhere* develops a flexible, reusable, cost-effective and fireproof construction system for buildings in slums. The resulting hollow concrete blocks can be assembled and disassembled by hand as a modular, mortarless plug-in system. For the first time, any angle can also be realised steplessly in the floor plan.

In this way, the first school building is to be constructed as a pilot project in Kibera by 2020. Start Somewhere wants to enable the slum dwellers to produce the hollow concrete blocks themselves in a workshop on site and thus erect better buildings in the slum. Jobs and a local construction industry are created so that the added value remains in the slum.

As a non-profit organization, *Start Somewhere* supports two schools in the Kibera slum with currently more than 800 children through donations. This includes two daily meals at school, medical care and school equipment.

### **PERI**

With a turnover of € 1,560 million in 2018, PERI is one of the largest manufacturers and suppliers of formwork and scaffolding systems. With around 9,500 employees, 70 subsidiaries and well over 160 warehouse locations, PERI serves its customers worldwide with innovative system equipment and comprehensive services for all aspects of formwork and scaffolding technology.

### **Note to the editors**

We are happy to provide you with pictures. Please contact our media department:

Kristina Cress  
Managing Director  
Start Somewhere gemeinnützige GmbH  
Brunnerstr.3  
80804 München

t: 0049 (0)17624296330

m: [info@startsomewhere.eu](mailto:info@startsomewhere.eu)



hp: [www.startsomewhere.eu](http://www.startsomewhere.eu)

fb: [www.facebook.com/let.us.start.somewhere](https://www.facebook.com/let.us.start.somewhere)

**Media Department:**

Karsten Hoppe  
TDUB Kommunikationsberatung  
Hongkongstraße 7  
20457 Hamburg

t: 0049 (0)40 8079212-20

m: [kh@tdub.de](mailto:kh@tdub.de)

hp: [www.tdub.de](http://www.tdub.de)