

Technology without Borders



Newsletter II 2025

Dear members, dear friends and supporters of Technology without Borders,

on March 17, 2025, the TeoG general meeting for the last association year took place in Erlangen. Just like last year, our energetic regional group in Erlangen, this time under the new leadership of Arthur Cash, had once again prepared everything perfectly.

The weekend began with a relaxed get-together at the Steinbach-Bräu. It was a little chilly, which is why we moved inside at an advanced hour, but as always it was cozy and entertaining. We had perfect technology available in the FAU rooms on saturday and were able to hold the official part of the general meeting with - unfortunately - only 28 members present in person and three online participants. In his review, Robert focused on working through the to-dos from the Board's annual strategy meeting. A lot was achieved, but there are still issues that need to be taken forward to 2025. In particular, member recruitment and the regeneration of some regional groups that are struggling to survive remain core tasks. Our international RGs are developing very dynamically, especially in Ghana, Uganda and Cameroon - this is very pleasing. After the elections, the focal points of the current association year were presented. At this point, we would like to appeal to all members: please let us know your urgent questions and, above all, suggestions, and we will be happy to include everything in this year's strategy meeting at the beginning of october. The official part of the meeting ended with Jannik Mechau's impressive report on our international activities.

Our esteemed founder and honorary board member Frank Neumann gave us a wonderful overview of 15 years of association history with many photos and anecdotes. What an achievement, dear Frank, that has your signature on it! In the afternoon, Jannik Mechau's workshop on international cooperation once again demonstrated how efficient face-to-face meetings are and how quickly and creatively ideas and solutions can be developed constructively in small teams. As good and efficient as our online tools are these days, please let's continue to take every opportunity to meet in person.



The grand finale was the fantastic 15-year-TwB-celebration at Galileo in Erlangen in the evening. It was a perfect end to the day with good food and drink, excellent conversations with lots of new ideas and very funny photos ...

Special thanks to Jan Amtmann, Luise Brock, Katharina Mai, Ina Reichmann and Jana Landel for the great organization of the general meeting and the anniversary celebration!

The next opportunity to meet, run together and raise funds is the annual 1000 Miles

Run of the RG Erlangen on June 29. Come and join us! Keep up the good work and stay active and energetic, especially in these times.

Robert Schullan

Best greetings from the entire Board

Robert	Markus	Jannik	Felix	Christian	Lara	Maximilian	Jana
Schullan	Reinhard	Mechau	Schofer	Zeidler	Hachmann	Martin	Landel
Andreas	Heiko	Katharina	Lena	Arne	Daniel	Julia	Dominik
Vierling	Blumenschein	Mai	Augustin	Bruns	Schaffert	Güntherodt	Lang

Completed Projects

Field Report – Uganda trip



Sylvester Duoh (RG Sunyani) and Nurudeen Ayubeogo Akamaah (RG Accra), two Ghanaian representatives of Technology without Borders, received an invitation to attend the board trip of Robert Schullan and Jannik Mechau to Uganda which included a Project Leader Workshop. The aim of this journey was to empower members in Uganda to develop into project leaders, providing them with the necessary skills and knowledge to execute projects utilizing the Technology without Borders (TwB) methodology within their individual communities. Various projects were also implemented in Uganda:

We arrived in Uganda on the 9th of February, where we were greeted by Hiram Mwanga, leader of the regional group Ndejje. On February 10th, Jannik and Robert landed at Entebbe International Airport and were welcomed by us. The team then travelled to Ndejje to finalize our plans for our program in Uganda. On ...



Preliminary exploration at orphanage Bubbebere



As part of our board trip to Uganda, we visited an orphanage in the village of Bubbebere, which is supported by the Child Care Initiative e. V. association.

A school, financed by the Hubert-and-Renate-Schwarz-Foundation, is integrated into the orphanage. In addition to the implementation of a WASH-workshop with the pupils, several project ideas were developed in a preliminary exploration, whereby the focus will be on eliminating the waste problem by building a waste incinerator and recycling plastic waste. Contact with the orphanage was established via Rotarian Anne Klinge. After a slightly adventurous journey to Bubbebere, we were warmly welcomed at the orphanage by the director Lydia Mibembe and the children. During our stay, we held a WASHworkshop with our now highly coordinated team for around 200 pupils in grades 1 to 7. In addition to the orphanage children, other children from the neighbouring villages also attend ...

<u>more</u>

Menstrual Hygiene outreach program in schools



Menstrual hygiene remains a crucial yet often neglected aspect of adolescent health, especially in rural communities. Many young girls face challenges such as limited access to sanitary products, inadequate knowledge, and societal stigma. To address these issues, Technology without Borders (TwB) organized a Menstrual Hygiene Outreach Program at Krosua Rural School. The initiative aimed to educate students, provide essential hygiene products, and foster open discussions to dispel myths and misconceptions about menstruation. Recognizing the challenges faced by young girls, the Government of Ghana has launched a program to support girls' education and menstrual health. Since it may take weeks or months or even years government programs to reach rural for communities, our efforts help to immediately alleviate the burden and ensure that students receive the support they need. The outreach engaged ...



Current Projects

Solar Bakery



In many African countries, ovens are heated by wood or gas. In some places, there is no electricity supply at all, so electric ovens cannot be connected to the grid. In addition to the fact that fossil fuels are disadvantageous for climate and environmental protection, the search for firewood can be very time-consuming and the use of gas can be expensive. If the bread is not baked in the village, it often comes from large bakeries and may have to be bought from faraway shops. Solar radiation is high and reliable in large parts of Africa, so the use of photovoltaics as an energy source for baking ovens appears attractive. In addition, the purchase costs for PV panels have fallen dramatically in recent years. The idea that solarpowered village bakeries can be operated profitably without a connection to the electricity grid (off-grid) and contribute to a more liveable infrastructure in African villages is very motivating. This project aims to ...

<u>more</u>

Follow-Up of the TCB Project in Ghana – IT Equipment and Maintenance



The TCB working group of the Erlangen Regional Group continues its successful efforts in Ghana. Following the "Teaching Computer Basics" (TCB) project in Sunyani in April 2024, where a school was equipped with infrastructure for computer education, we are now taking the next step. Sunyani is a city in central Ghana with approximately 74,000 inhabitants. Despite progress in the education sector, over 90% of schools still lack the opportunity to offer computer education. In collaboration with our local project partners, we have decided to equip the St. Anselm Basic School with laptops and the necessary accessories.

In the past, TCB has successfully implemented several projects in the small town of Agona Abodom. Here, we aim to further strengthen our relationships with local partners and lay the foundation for future projects ...

<u>more</u>

Newsflash

1000 Miles Run of the RG Erlangen

The annual 1000 Miles Run is taking place again this year in Erlangen. On Sunday, June 29 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., we will once again try to break the 1000 miles with music and delicious food together with all runners. Every round matters, so register right <u>here</u>. You can also run as a team, so bring your friends along!

Anyone who is interested in helping is also welcome to contact Johannes (johannes.haberstroh@teog.de).

Johannes Haberstroh, RG Erlangen

We hope you enjoy reading it!

To stay up to date, please also visit us on <u>Instagram</u> or <u>LinkedIn</u> or have a look at our <u>website</u>.

Published by Robert Schullan, Sophie Hutzler V.i.S.d.P. Robert Schullan, Markus Reinhard

Technik ohne Grenzen e. V. - Richard-Strauß-Straße 38 - 91315 Höchstadt a. d. Aisch
Vorstand: Dipl.-Ing. Robert Schullan (Spokesperson), Dr.-Ing. Markus Reinhard
Vereinsregister: Fürth: VR 200 486 - Steuernummer: 216 / 111 / 00 865
apoBank IBAN: DE29 3006 0601 0007 5832 90 BIC: DAAEDEDDXXX