



## MoreMilk for Children in Uganda

This is the motto by which we collect donations for distributing cows to needy mothers in the Butiru region of Uganda. Our initiative is entering its fifth year, and it has proved remarkably successful. It shows how a simple idea can bring about a lasting improvement in the lives of many people. A local cow yields about 5 litres of milk a day and costs only **€ 300**. So far, we have been able to distribute over 1,200 pregnant cows to selected mothers. And every year, these cows give birth to calves that are passed on, in turn, to other mothers. A highly successful cycle!

### About Uganda

The Republic of Uganda is a landlocked state in East Africa, with a population of about 50 million. For a long time the country was under authoritarian rule, but more recently it has opened up to democratic processes. Nevertheless, the people of Uganda are still suffering. In spite of its fascinating scenery and wealth of mineral resources, Uganda is a land of widespread poverty. The low level of industrialization and a weak infrastructure inhibit its development. The average age is an alarmingly low 15.7 years. In the rural areas, mothers have seven to eight children. There is a lack of education and job opportunities, which often results in child labour and robs young people of any chance of a better life.

# MoreMilk

for Children in Uganda



**A simple idea becomes  
a successful project in Uganda**

1 cow feeds 8 children  
with fresh milk – every day.



## The children of Butiru

Butiru is a little town in Eastern Uganda, near the border with Kenya, and at the same time an administrative district with numerous villages. The catchment area has a total population of about 1.8 million. The food situation in this rural and mountainous area is difficult. Scanty harvests and an unbalanced diet often result in a deficiency of vital vitamins and minerals in the children - many of whom are orphans who have lost their parents early in life as a result of HIV.



## Cows: a source of life

For the mothers, ownership of a cow means more than just practical help: it creates emotional support. Having a cow of their own brings the women independence, dignity and pride. In the rural areas of Uganda, mothers have an average of seven to eight children. With a cow of their own, they can provide each child with half a litre of milk a day.



**A cow gives more than just milk - it gives a future!**



## Milk: extra income for school fees

Surplus milk is sold and generates a small additional income that contributes to school fees or medical care. When money is short, it is usually the girls who are excluded from education; they are sent to work in the fields and married off early. For the mothers, a cow is a turning point in their lives. It transforms them from deprived persons into breadwinners.

## What do dairy cows feed on?

The local dairy cows are a cross between Friesians and the native zebu breed; they cope well with the African climate. Daytime temperatures fluctuate between 25 and 30 °C. The cows feed mainly on elephant grass, that grows abundantly in the hilly countryside, but they are also given chopped banana leaves, summer savory and maize straw. Those who can afford it complement the feed with maize meal.





### How are the cows distributed to mothers?

The recipients of the cows are mothers taking part in the existing microfinance scheme and organized in groups of about 20 persons. Besides offering microcredits, the scheme attaches importance to a transfer of knowledge in the fields of agriculture, health care, nutrition, and above all: family planning. In the Butiru region there are currently 175 groups of women with about 4,000 members in all, and the number is increasing steadily. Within the groups, distribution of the cows is carried out according to a strictly democratic system.

Milk instead  
of water in  
a child's daily  
breakfast  
porridge





## Elisabeth Mwaka, the guarantee of success in our project

For years we have engaged in various humanitarian activities in the Butiru region of Eastern Uganda. They include our well-known bee project "MoreHoney for Children in Uganda". Our partner on the spot is the German nurse Elisabeth Mwaka from the organization "Freundeskreis christliche Sozialarbeit in Uganda e. V." (Friends of Christian Social Work in Uganda) - in Hankensbüttel, near Giffhorn. She has been living in Uganda for 30 years, during which she has done magnificent work in establishing schools, hospitals and homes for widows and orphans. In recognition of her services, she has even been awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz, the Federal Award of Merit.



## "Many cows" means many donors

Our initiative is dependent on support from donors. They are the multipliers - friends of friends, who draw attention to the projects by word of mouth. Personal celebrations offer a wonderful opportunity for this. Each donor is sent a photo of his or her cow.

The day the cows are handed over is a special occasion on which the mothers wear festive clothes and thank the donors with a souvenir photo

## Donation account

A cow costs **€300** - but any sum is welcome, of course. Donors are sent a tax-deductible receipt by the organization in Hankensbüttel.

**Volksbank Hankensbüttel**  
**IBAN: DE07 2579 1635 0061 8870 00**  
**BIC: GENODEF1HMN**  
**Purpose of transfer: "MoreMilk"**

Please state your email and postal address for photographs and the donation receipt.



Kind regards,

Volkmar Wywiol (vwywiol@stern-wywiol-gruppe.com)

Founder of the Stern-Wywiol Gruppe in Hamburg and initiator of the humanitarian aid projects "MoreMilk and MoreHoney for Children in Uganda" in close cooperation with "Freundeskreis christliche Sozialarbeit in Uganda e. V.", Hankensbüttel

[www.stern-wywiol-gruppe.de](http://www.stern-wywiol-gruppe.de) // [www.butiru-freundeskreis.net](http://www.butiru-freundeskreis.net)