

# Newsletter

## Dear Friends and Partners of RTC

We are all experiencing challenging times. All around the world, people are affected by the Pandemic and so are we.

Today we want to share some news about the situation in Rubengera.

The year 2019 was once again full of events. We had of course our regular training with more than 60 students and also several external trainings such as ToTs (Training of Trainers) and a big training of 4 months with 25 participants. We collaborated with several Organizations like GIZ, Worldbank and Rwandan authorities. All were very satisfying.

Finally, the results of national exam for 2019 candidates have been released and all our 20 students performed very well.

In beginning of January, Rubengera TVET school opened its doors for a new year. We started with 22 new students for Level III, 25 students of Level IV and 18 for Level V which gave us a total number of 65 students.

We expected that the year would be a successful one and our students were willing to learn and share life with us. Unfortunately, in the middle of March, all students had to go back home due as we had first cases of COVID19 in Rwanda.

## Video production

Since all schools in Rwanda have been closed, we started to think how we could support our students and also use the time in an effective way. Someone once said

*“You should use any crisis to improve.”*

As we were planning to work on a digitalization project since a longer time, we decided to do a first approach now. In collaboration with the German cooperation and the authority for vocational education (Rwanda Polytechnic) we started to produce Video-lessons of relevant modules for Carpentry. These Lessons are shared with our students but also published on national Level via the RP e-learning platform.

During this period our teachers could show their skills in teaching but especially gain unique skills in video-filming and editing of technical contents.

We are proud that we can contribute to the continuous development of the TVET sector and we plan to keep and implement these skills also in future projects.

If you like to see our videos, search on Youtube for “RP e-learning carpentry”

## Production Unit

The six-week Lockdown which stopped all not essential activities in Rwanda also affected our Production Unit. As part of our social responsibility, we continued to pay at least reduced salaries. With this we wanted to support the families of our workers even though with this step we have lost much of our reserves.

In the first days after the lockdown was lifted, it even seemed that we would face a hard time with only very few orders.

Fortunately, this has changed within few weeks. Right now, we are glad to have some very big projects coming up where we even plan to provide jobs to our Students.



## WTRC

After the re-opening in the beginning of May, WTRC Startups went on with their projects. Unfortunately some challenges arose such as lack of enough orders and delay payments from customers. But as days went through, all have managed the situation and we hope that the situation on the market will get normal again.

Part of the Rotary funded WTRC is also waste management. For this we planned to make briquettes as a solution of organic waste, such as sawdust, and as a contribution to environment protection. A first briquetting machine was successfully made and the samples are being tested.

Usually in WTRC, we conduct different trainings. Of course, also these activities had to be stopped. But as it is our passion to share our knowledge, we decided at least to work with single interns during this period. Here we can even work more efficiently, as it is a one by one training.

Meanwhile we prepare for more normal trainings once restrictions are lifted.

Training for Career guidance for Students  
of primary & Secondary Schools

Thank you for all support and prayers.

May God bless you and keep you well.

Yours, **Sr. Marie-Louise NIYONSENGA**

# Donate

Rubengera Technical

Secondary School

[www.rubengeracampus.com](http://www.rubengeracampus.com)

Karongi District

Rubengera Sector