



## Press Release

### **Munich-based social start-up receives support from PERI for the development of a sustainable, modular construction system for slums**

- Start Somewhere has been developing a flexible, reusable, cost-effective, and fireproof construction system for buildings in slums since 2015.
- PERI, one of the world's largest suppliers of formwork and scaffolding systems, now supports Start Somewhere as technology partner
- Objective "change from within:" By 2020, Start Somewhere wants to build a workshop for the production of hollow concrete blocks and a school building in Kibera slum, Nairobi.

Since 2017, the Munich social start-up *Start Somewhere* has received active support from PERI, one of the world's largest manufacturers of formwork and scaffolding. The project partnership of *Start Somewhere* and PERI focuses on the development of an innovative construction system to improve the living conditions of people in slums.

As a technology partner, PERI supports Start Somewhere in the consulting capacity with its technological know-how and also provides the necessary infrastructure and materials for the development and testing of the building blocks. In close cooperation, a formwork for casting the hollow concrete blocks will also be developed, so that the production process can be kept as simple as possible in the independent workshops in the slum.

Oliver von Malm, managing director, architect and leading developer of the construction system says: "For Start Somewhere, the support from PERI is an important milestone and we are very happy to have it. We are confident that the cooperation will accelerate the entire development process and improve the structural properties of the construction system."

Alexander Schwörer, Managing Director Marketing & Sales PERI Group: "Start Somewhere is breaking new ground with the development of a construction system for specific use in slums. PERI will support start Somewhere in their ambitious goal in the best possible way. We are looking forward to this co-operation and are pleased that we can be a part of this meaningful and promising project."

Start Somewhere plans to construct the first school building as a pilot project in Kibera together with the slum dwellers by 2020. The vision of Start Somewhere is the sustainable improvement of the living conditions in slums worldwide from the inside out.



## 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:

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