Project Description “Medical Equipment and Furnishings for the Newly Built Surgical Center at the “Hôpital Évangelique UEEB Bembéréké” Hospital in Benin / West Africa (as of August 2026)”

- The “Hôpital Évangelique UEEB Bembéréké” hospital has built a new Surgical Center with a capacity of approximately 90 patients. The association Kinderchirurgie in Afrika e.V. has agreed to organize the funding required for the necessary equipment and to provide the furnishings, medically necessary infrastructure, and required medical devices. The old surgical center had become too small. It is currently being renovated and will subsequently be available for patients in internal medicine.
- The equipment required for the Surgical Center consists mainly of the following materials:
    - Materials for accommodation
        - Beds, bedside tables, chairs, mosquito nets, …
    - Materials for nursing care
        - Wheelchairs, bed trapezes, scales, stretchers, walking aids, …
    - Medical-technical materials
        - Suction devices, emergency sets for children and adults, blood pressure monitors, syringes, oxygen concentrator, …
        - Operating table, including the necessary accessories
        - Anesthesia machines with integrated oxygenator
    - Office supplies and equipment
        - Cabinets, shelves, refrigerator, printer, coffee machine, microwave

oven, …

As part of this project, we will also connect the newly built Surgical Center and other hospital buildings to the existing photovoltaic system (PV system). The PV system was made available to the hospital through Kinderchirurgie in Afrika e.V. and was put into operation in April 2024. The PV system supplies all areas responsible for pediatric medical treatment as well as the three operating rooms. At least during the summer months, the PV system produces more electricity than is required for these areas. Through the new wiring, the newly built Surgical Center and other hospital buildings will benefit from the freely available solar power.

Motivation, Impacts/Project Goals and Indicators for the Project to Procure Medical Equipment and Furnishings for the Newly Built Surgical Center at the "Hôpital Évangelique UEEB Bembéréké" Hospital in Benin / West Africa

- Affordable costs for the hospital's patients
    - Investments in medical equipment must be financed by the hospital itself. In addition to donations and support from international organizations, the hospital is financed through revenues from treatment costs. The government covers a portion of personnel costs (<5%) and the costs of cesarean sections. As a result, investments made directly by the hospital always lead to higher treatment costs.
- Enabling special examinations and treatments that are only possible with specific equipment; for example, a dedicated pediatric ventilator in the operating room makes it possible to perform operations that could not otherwise be carried out, or could only be performed with increased risk.
- Medical care for children often prevents the affected children from becoming dependent on their families for life. Through treatment or surgery, the affected children in Africa are given the chance to lead self-determined lives.
    - Parents of children who live in the hospital's catchment area in Benin and urgently need medical care often do not have the financial means required. For this reason, Kinderchirurgie in Afrika e.V. is committed to providing financial support for equipping the new Surgical Center and also for supporting the medical treatments and operations performed by the medical team for children treated at the hospital in Bembéréké.
    - As a result, children often receive medical treatment even when their parents or families do not have the financial means required.

Target Groups/Beneficiaries

- With improved infrastructure and better qualifications among hospital staff, the hospital will be able to treat cases that previously could not be performed, or could only be performed with increased risk.
- Patients, especially children under the age of 16, will benefit from better treatment as a result of the improved infrastructure and better qualifications among hospital staff.

Financing Plan (as of August 2026)

- The total cost of the materials for the newly built Surgical Center, the rewiring of the

relevant buildings, and the optimizations to the PV system amounts to €213,603.28.

- Of this amount, €200,263.61 was covered by grants from federal funds, foundations, and companies. The difference of €13,339.67 was covered by Kinderchirurgie in Afrika e.V.
- The total amount also includes the costs of transporting, importing, and clearing the materials through customs, as well as the costs of corresponding training and maintenance for the new medical devices.
- As with the PV project, BEGECA gGmbH supports us organizationally and with federal funds provided through the Katholische Zentralstelle für Globale Entwicklung e.V. We cover the largest share of the total costs through a generous grant from the Hector Foundations. Further grants come from Restcent – an initiative of SAP employees – and from Cents for help e.V., the joint initiative of employees and companies of the Bosch Group in Germany, with the aim of making a sustainable social contribution together.

Current Status (as of August 2026)

- The commissioning and procurement of all materials had already been completed by the end of 2025.
- The materials were shipped in three containers from Hamburg to Cotonou/Benin by sea at the beginning of December and arrived at our partner hospital in Bembéréké at the end of February.
- The newly built Surgical Center was then furnished and equipped with the materials.
- The connection of additional hospital buildings to the existing photovoltaic system (PV system), as well as further optimizations to the PV system, was carried out under the leadership of Uwe Buchwitz, who had already volunteered to provide the technical planning for the PV system, and with the help of our local partner "Centre de Formation Liweitari" (CFL).
- In the meantime, training and instruction sessions for various medical devices have also taken place, so the project is considered complete.

We would be happy to provide further information upon request.