



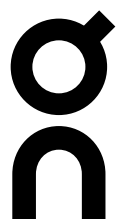
experience
the KENYAN way...

Annual Report 2021



RUN2GETHER

AUSTRIA-KENYA
ITALY-GERMANY-SWITZERLAND





Thomas, Sarah, Daniel and Kerstin at Lake Naivasha in Kenya

Preface

Dear run2gether members, friends, supporters and participants of our running camps!



The past two years were full of a variety of challenges for us as a club. The pandemic did not only lead to painful personal losses, but furthermore resulted in a difficult financial situation for a lot of us. Our athletes in Kenya were specifically affected

by the economic consequences. Our project **'Help for our run2gether athletes'** massively helped our athletes to deal with this difficult situation until mid of 2021. Without the support of all of you it would not have been possible for our athletes to continue their career in running and to stay on the **run2gether team**. Therefore, we would like to take the time to thank each and every one of you!

The importance of your support can be shown best through the effort our athletes put into their training, despite the circumstances of cancelled races. All of this resulted in many great performances later on in 2021. We want to specifically highlight the successful mountain-running season with many good placements of our mountain-specialists, which ultimately led to a clear win in the overall world cup. We were further impressed by the success in several marathon races in Graz, Venice, Cividale del Friuli and the great achievements on track and on the road, which you will be able to read about in the review of 2021.

On 'European level' we unfortunately have sad news as Carina REICHT made a change and will focus on triathlons in the future. We wish Carina all the best for her athletic future. On the other hand we are more than excited to announce the joining of Felix GEIEREGGER, who has been part of our team since autumn. He is one of the greatest talents of Austria at this time and we are delighted to be working with him and

hope that we can support his further career as much as possible. A warm welcome to Felix!

At the end of May we also had our debut as a race organizer. The **S7 marathon** brought an international audience to Austria, where top athletes from 32 nations and more than 140.000 live stream viewers got to witness this new side of us. This race hugely contributed to the increasing awareness of our **run2gether** athletic team and the overall project. We would like to thank all of our volunteers for helping to make this such a success.

After Covid-19 caused a 1-year break for our running camps the previous year, it was immensely rewarding to finally execute the running camps again in summer 2021 at Kals am Großglockner. Together with our guests and the Kenyan athletes we were excited for this new beginning. We are more than happy that the atmosphere, mood and program were in no way negatively impacted by the Covid-19 precautions and the mandatory antigene tests three times a week. The variety of activities and the regained normalcy in these eight summer weeks was a pleasure for both body and mind, as well as guests and athletes.

Meanwhile we are already busy preparing 13 weeks of running in the valley of the beautiful Großglockner mountain. We are hoping there will be lots of new guests and many reunions with friends and previous guests.

Let's keep an open mind and have an optimistic outlook on the future, where we will once again overcome challenges and further grow as a team. I am looking forward to seeing you soon, or at latest at the running camps in Kals.

Your chairman, Thomas KREJCI

Wherever used in the course of the annual **run2gether** report a pronoun in the masculine gender shall be considered as including the feminine gender unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.



Joyce and Purity at their victory at the Großglockner mountain race

Review of 2021

Athletic Review

Highlights

The first possibility to challenge our athletes' efforts and overall form after a year without races was at the end of January 2021 at the regional and then in mid February at the **national cross-country races** in Nairobi. At the end of February we also hosted the **run2gether trials** in Kiambogo, where we not only offered 10k and a half marathon distance, but for the first time in history also a full marathon. The results and times of our athletes enable our new coaching staff to evaluate the individual performances and levels of running. This was further tested two days later at the **Mountain Trail** over 10k where many of our athletes showed very exciting improvements.

In May 2021 our talent Purity Kajuju GITONGA, one of our twins, started to excel. While Purity showed her hard work and effort in various mountain races in the past few years, she moved her main training to the track in 2020 as well as 2021. At the **pre-trials for the qualification for the Olympic games** over 5000 metres in Nairobi Purity surprised all of us with a sensational second place and a new personal best. The next chance to reach the Kenyan limit for Olympia over 5000 metres was taking place in June. Even though she

reached another PB in Nice, she ended up 8 seconds over the Kenyan limit. One week later she further improved her personal best over 3000 metres, short time after she managed to cut 40 seconds from her personal best in the 10k distance. At the beginning of July she then ran another PB at 1500 metres before ending her PB chase with a new record over 5k.



Purity missed the cut-offs with a new PB

From the beginning of June until autumn our fastest athletes were located at our partner AFRICA&SPORT in Varese. The married couple Teresiah Kwamboka OMOSA and Dickson Simba NYAKUNDI were partly responsible for many of the success stories of 2021. Teresiah accomplished four half marathon wins in 2021, while Simba managed to take home seven podium finishes in a total of eight races he participated in. Besides them our new athletes also had a great start in our team. Mathew SAMPERU made a debut at the **half marathon in Lugano** where he not only won but achieved a new personal best. In November of the same year he managed to improve his 10k time to an impressive 29 minutes.



James winning the half marathon for the first time at the Wörthersee



Victory, course record and new PB for Charles at the Graz marathon

The new start of our summer running camps in Gröden and Kals am Großglockner enabled us to finally bring our athletes back to Austria.

In July the start of the **WMRA Mountain Running Worldcup** further took place for our athletes. The **Großglockner Berglauf** ended up becoming somewhat of a **run2gether** party. Joyce Muthoni NJERU, who rejoined **run2gether** after two years and Lengen LOKURRARU both competed in the race and were able to excel with a double victory. Purity JOYCE came in on second place, while Geoffrey Gikuni NDUNGU, six times Großglockner champion, missed the podium on 4th place. For Joyce, Gikuni and Lengen this victory was only the beginning of a fantastic mountain running season. While Joyce and Gikuni's constant performances managed to get them the discipline worldcup 'classic' titles, Joyce further triumphed at the overall worldcup, while Gikuni came in third place in the men's segment.



Gikuni in action at Großglockner

The Swiss classic runs were another success story for **run2gether** in 2021. With victories from Purity and Lengen in Dixence and very good placements for Teresiah and Lengen in Zinal we were able to add to the list of accomplishments in long distance mountain running.

More exciting results were achieved in several different competitions by Geoffrey Githuku CHEGE and one of our newer team members Isaac Kipkemboi TOO. James Murithi MBURUGU finally achieved the first ever win for **run2gether** in the men's half marathon distance at **Kärnten Läuft**. James was able to run a new personal best over the 10k distance of 28.07 minutes just three days before this win.

In autumn Charles Juma NDIEMA, our new athlete Anderson Saitoti SEROI and Simon Kamau NJERI managed a number of fantastic **marathon wins**. Charles ran a new course record in **Graz** (2:10:43), Saitoti impressed us in **Venice** (2:12:21) and Simon won the **Mytho-marathon** (2:14:50) – all of these wins resulted in new personal bests!

Amidst the difficult situation during the pandemic our new coaching team with Thomas Makini OSANO, Peter Ndegwa NYAMBURA and Peter Mochere ANGWENYI was still able to keep the motivation and performance of our team high. Obligatory training weeks in the camp, constant compliance and monitoring of our training plans as well as the financial support of our athletes within the 'help for **run2gether** athletes' project were paying off. All together the year of 2021 was the most successful since the establishment of **run2gether**.



Our athletes at their regular training meetings

run2gether youth team Austria

For our national runners Carina REICHT and Luna WINDSPERGER the year was rather difficult due to several injuries. While Luna was not able to run a single race in the **run2gether** kit in 2021, Carina won the open Styrian championships over 3000 metres and even managed to become vice state champion over 2500 metres in Graz in June. Carina managed to have her personal highlight at the **women's run in Vienna**, where she managed to run into 9th place and achieve a new PB over 5 kilometres. In the future Carina will now focus on triathlon.

Our strong Austrian youth team got another great additional in November. We are excited to welcome Felix GEIEREGGER on our team. Felix, who was born in 2001 is one of the greatest local talents and was able to achieve a new personal best in four disciplines in 2021. Felix's time of 1:08:44 at the 'Kärnten Läufer' half marathon shows his potential. A heartfelt warm welcome and all the best for your future plans and your graduation, Felix!



Felix will be running in run2gether gear in the future

run2gether athletics academy

Happily, also this part of **run2gether** had a successful year. With real passion, competence and constant training our coach Peter Ndegwa NYAMBURA managed to keep our youth team together after the difficulties 2020 and 2021 brought upon all of us. Team spirit, a variety of suitable training sessions and enjoying running are our most important principles. Our team successfully participated in the cross-country championships in the beginning of last year. Two young ladies managed to show great results at the pre-trials on track. Both of them qualified for their individual distances (800 metres and 3000 metres) for the national cut-offs for the U20 world championships in Nairobi in 2021. Further fantastic placements were achieved in the age group U18 in November. All of these developments not only make us proud but show that together with them we have a bright future ahead.

S7 Marathon 'Your final call to Tokyo'

The organisation and executions of the '**S7 Marathon – your final call to Tokyo**' in spring 2021 was not only an athletic challenge to us, but furthermore a highly emotional one. For the first time **run2gether** experienced the difficulties and rewards of being a race organizer in an international setting.



More than 100 participants from 30 nations at the S7 marathon

What started as an idea in the beginning of 2021 to offer Austrian runners a last minute opportunity to qualify for the Olympic Games in Tokyo – since most races were either fully cancelled or postponed to autumn – ended in a unique international elite race. The framework surrounding this race was more than tough when it came to only 3 months of preparations, a small team of volunteers, a tiny budget, the official survey from AIMS and various requests from athletes from all around the world.

After intense months and weeks of organizing the S7 marathon finally took place in May 2021 under especially strict Covid-19 prevention measures. The flat and very fast section of the freshly built temporary road enabling the construction of the motorway S7 near Fürstenfeld in Styria was the venue for this exclusive marathon and half marathon. The runners looking to qualify for the Olympic Games were offered experiences Kenyan and Austrian pacers to reach their personal goals.

At the end of the day we had 105 runners participate from more than 30 nations. Despite the immaculate organisation the weather did not quite play its part that day. Many runners had to realize under pouring rain that their dream of reaching the limits to qualify were just going down the drain. Nonetheless 5 athletes did manage to qualify for the Olympic Games and many others at least went home with a new PB.



Our juniors with impressive results

The event attracted more than 140.000 viewers from all over the world, who followed our live stream on social media – what a way to get the word of **run2gether** out there!

We would like to thank all of our sponsors, partners, participants and volunteers who have made this race possible!



Our Kenyan athletes as pacers at the S7 marathon

Anti-Doping Activities

**SAY NO!
TO DOPING**

Since our very beginning we follow a strict and coherent **'SayNoToDoping'** attitude with our club, athletes and youth teams. Whether it is our athletic activities in Kenya or Austria we clearly and transparently stand for clean sports. Every case of doping in our club leads to immediate suspension of the involved parties.



Finally running together again in 2021

Deaths

Unfortunately also this year we have to make the painful announcement of the passing of some of our own, who helped and supported **run2gether** for many years.

In April we were informed about the sudden death of Mary NDEGWA who was the very dedicated and engaged principal of our partner school 'Primary School Kiambogo'. For three years we had the pleasure of executing various successful school projects with her and we wanted to do so much more. Her death is not only a painful loss for **run2gether**, but also for her school and most importantly her family.

The sudden passing of Nasashon Gitonga KARURI, who was a founding member of **run2gether**, in November left us shocked and deeply saddened. He was a faithful companion, long-standing active athlete, host (in Kenya and Austria) and an essential supporter of many of our social projects in the years prior. His talent for organization, his versatility and his open heart will be specifically remembered and appreciated by many of us.



In order to further support his family we organized and executed the **'1st GITONGA Memorial Run'** in November where all donations and proceeds were given straight to his two children Ingrid and Javars as well as his widowed wife Judy.



Isolde Höfinger-Pattis, Editor

run2gether summer running camps

Kals am Großglockner

After the involuntary break in the year before we were finally able to get back to Kals for some running in 2021. It was always our goal to continue building on the successful debut in Kals in 2019 and to offer more **run2gether running camps**. Due to the worldwide situation planning this comeback in detail was almost impossible. We mean, who know in Spring what the situation would be like in summer? Therefore, it remained rather exciting. Will our athletes be granted visas? Will the guest houses in Kals be open without restrictions? Which regulation will be in place? Will guests and athletes have to be tested, vaccinated or recovered from Covid-19? Will they be allowed to be in a room together with masks? With the amount of questions left open until the start of the running camps this does not only affect our planning, but also the hesitant and reluctant booking status.

The preparation process therefore asked for nerves of steel and most importantly a great amount of optimism. Our determination and patience thankfully paid off and we were able to announce in the beginning of July that our running camps and **run2gether will be back in Kals**.



The Kenyan Lounge as the main meeting point

In the next weeks and months our running camp became a reunion of guests and friends. The inhabitants of Kals were very open-minded and welcoming to our athletes, the guest houses took in our participants with open hearts and the youngsters of Kals were happy to take part in the open training sessions with our athletes specifically created for them. The municipality organized a Covid-19 test centre which enabled our guests and athletes to get a test down every two days for free. This way we were able to guarantee the highest possible standards for Covid-19 prevention amidst our one week camps.



The participants running side by side with professional athletes

While the uncertainties did not only affect us as a club our athletes were also looking forward to a bit of normalcy. At the running camps they were more than happy to finally get back to hosting our guests and taking them on training sessions.

In order to meet all of our guest's expectations we added new parts to our proven program where sports physio therapist Kerstin and coach Dennis LOPUA played a big role in. The common, comfortable and sociable program points obviously still remained a major component of our day-to-day sessions.

The feedback of our visitors of 2021 helped us very much to come to a positive verdict of our summer season. And some of our guests were even in for a big surprise this summer when

they for example witness the wedding of our chairman Thomas and his wife Kerstin. This special moment will be hard to beat – but regardless we are very much looking forward to the next summer!

Grödner Valley

While the Austrian running camps were still in the unclear we had a bit of hope coming from South Tyrol in the beginning of 2021. Our athletic supporters Birgit KLAMMER and her husband Christian STUFFER kept cool during the pandemic and when our athletes were granted their visas we knew there would be a Kenyan running camp in Grödner valley in 2021. Along our two athletes Gilbert and John we travelled to the valley of the Langkofel where we got to run the most amazing and panoramic trails. The local cuisine got to take a little break when our Kenyans showed off what their country had to offer in terms of food.



After 2021 our camp is finally opening its doors again

Camp Kenya

Running camps for European guests in Kiambogo in 2021? Unfortunately a rather sad and non-existent chapter of our last year. Travelling to Kenya was almost impossible in the beginning of 2021 and mostly involved enormous restrictions. Therefore the beautiful **Mount Longonot Sports & Recreation Centre** remained empty for most of last year as well.



In 2021 it was very quiet in our camp

While our guests were not able to come to Kenya at least the local regulations allowed for our athletes to return to the camp. This enabled them to have structured and regular trainings which helped in getting them ready for the S7 marathon and the summer and autumn competitions. In autumn the camp was finally also able to open its doors for tourists again. Whilst the bookings were reluctant in the beginning we can now happily say that the camp is back to its old glory. The current situation allows for a positive outlook for spring of 2022 – the main season. Our staff and athletes are looking forward

to every single guest. The running and holiday destination of Kenya has so much to offer, therefore take a look yourself at our centre. Karibu sana at the **run2gether running camp Kiambogo!**



Tim Philipp Koch, Running Camps

Dear Tim, thank you so much for your great work and organization when it comes to the booking of our running camps!

our activities. The peaceful location of the hotel, the proximity to the old town and the the Gaisberg were just some of the success factors that made this get-together a special one. 25 members from Austria, Germany and Switzerland were enjoying the sunny weather.



Running together is always a part of the members-only weekend



Our members meet for a joint weekend

The obligatory night run on the first night of the stay as well as two morning runs along the Salzach river showed our guests what the area has to offer. This was complemented by a hike and a trailrun at the Gaisberg, a walk through the old town and a guided tour at the Festung Hohensalzburg. Similar to the years before the general meeting was part of the program on that weekend as well. It was a wonderful, fun and uncomplicated alignment and exchange with many interesting conversations in a relaxed environment.

Isolde Höfinger-Pattis, memberships

run2gether members

Despite the pandemic and the related physical, social and economic consequences we are more than thankful that we were able to acquire new club members in 2021. With 18 people joining and two exits we are now counting 197 members from seven nations, who support our club. 161 of those are full members, 36 are supporting us with a sponsorship membership. The average age is 50 years. Just as last year 2/3 of all of our members are Austrian citizens, about 1/3 are German citizens plus a few members from Switzerland, Italy, Finland, Slovenia and Russia.

run2gether members-only weekend

After having to cancel our get-together in 2020 we were able to finally host a members-only weekend in autumn of 2021. In order to enable our members an easy arrival and departure we decided to host the event in Salzburg. The district of Parsch and the Hotel Heffterhof were the ideal place for all of

run2gether child sponsorship program

Our **run2gether children's project** is growing! After we started in 2013 with 30 children, we are happy to announce that as of 31.12.2021 there are 327 (!) children being supported by **run2gether!** In 2021 alone we were able to acquire 22 new sponsorships and to take on 16 more children in our program.



New children are joining the sponsorship program

Furthermore, next to the **run2gether Nursery School**, the Primary Schools Kiambogo and Sision we have managed to add two more primary schools in Longonot and Kamuyu to our program, as shown in the illustration. All of these school projects do not only help our **run2gether** sponsored children, but they support all of the students of all five schools, which at this point in time means approximately 2.400 children.

Nursery School	Primary Kiambogo	Primary Sision	Primary Longonot	Primary Kamuyu
seit 2013	seit 2014	Seit 2014	Seit 01.2021	Seit 09.2021
30 Schüler	597 Schüler	600 Schüler	790 Schüler	330 Schüler
2 Lehrkräfte	18 Lehrkräfte	14 Lehrkräfte	25 Lehrkräfte	11 Lehrkräfte
30 Patenkinder	116 Patenkinder	98 Patenkinder	32 Patenkinder	0 Patenkinder
2 r2g Lehrkräfte	1 r2g Lehrkraft	1 r2g Lehrkraft	1 r2g Lehrkraft	
1 r2g Köchin		1 r2g Köchin		

run2gether projects

The villages of Kenya often lack things that to us are non-negotiable. Our athlete Peter Chege WANGARI is our on-site project managers who is always on the lookout for potential new projects with his deep understanding of the local conditions.

Here is an overview of the **run2gether** social projects in 2021:

- Renovation class rooms Primary School Kiambogo
- Tables & chairs Primary School Kiambogo
- School kitchen Primary School Sision
- Trees for KIAMBOGO families
- School kitchen Primary School Longonot
- Teacher for Primary School Longonot
- Laptops and printer for the doctor's office and schools in Kiambogo
- 10.000 litre water tan Secondary School Kiambogo

We would like to take the time and tell you about some of these projects in more detail.



The doctor's office of Longonot received a new laptop and printer

Trees for KIAMBOGO families - successfully carried out

The handover of 5.000 trees to the families of our **run2gether children** in Kiambogo was initially planned for March 2020. The delivery of the trees was already planned out and a team of gardeners was really to pass on their knowledge for planting and maintaining the trees to the families within the official handover. But as we are all very well aware of the global situation and the covid-19 pandemic standstill. This recollection of the annual children's festival and therefore also the handing over of the trees to the families. All helpers from Europe further had to make an immediate decision to leave Kenya.



With a 1-year delay the trees are finally handed to our families

We were very happy about the possibility to leave the trees in the local tree nursery until we finally got to give the trees to the families of our sponsored children the year after. Peter Chege WANGARI chose a great time for the handover of the trees as it was right in the beginning of the wet season and therefore guaranteed a sufficient watering of the plants.

Muchemi, John and Githuku, our loyal and hard-working camp aides further planted more than 300 trees in our **run2gether stadium** in Kiambogo. Therefore one tree for every of our

sponsored children. Just as we support the growth and development of our sponsored children we want to see these trees grow over the next years.



More than 300 trees planted at the run2gether stadium

School kitchen at Primary School Longonot

At the beginning of the year 2021 we were able to add another school to our school partnership program. The Primary School Longonot is located in Nakuru country in the district of Kiambogo and is currently already the school to more than 20 sponsored children of our **run2gether** program.

Our first activity in January was the employment of Lilian WAMBUI a teacher who will support and complement the existing team of state-funded teachers at the school in order to help with the constantly overfilled classrooms.

Similar to other schools in the region there is no sort of state fund to financially support the repair of the insufficient architectural and hygienic infrastructure.

For us it was very clear from the beginning that we want to help out and reach a minimum standard of hygiene and cleanliness with the new construction of a school kitchen.

After drawing up the construction and financial plans we hired a local construction business. Within a few weeks a stone building was built, flooring and walls were tiled, a sink was installed and shelves were added to securely store the food products and groceries.



The new kitchen at the Primary School Longonot



The big pot holds lunch for all of the students

During a ceremonial opening under strict Covid-19 measures the school kitchen was presented to the teaching staff by our camp manager Geoffrey Gikuni NDUNGU.

The schools received a rather special surprise from us on that day. Every child was given a banana and a mango – which is far from normal in Kenya.

The financial means for the build of the kitchen as well as the monthly wage for the chef sponsored by **run2gether** are taken out of the funds acquired within the **run2gether** child sponsorships and donations.



The doctor's office in Kiambogo received a laptop and printer also

Laptops and printer for doctor's offices

As the doctor's office in Kiambogo often lacks the smallest things **run2gether** has often jumped in with different investments, as for example furniture, a refrigerator for medicine etc.

This time Peter Chege WANGARI handed over a laptop and a new printer aiming to help the local doctor Dr. MIGWI to put together diagnosis and test results in a faster manner and possibly send them on to other doctor's offices if needed. Obviously we also looked after providing paper and cartridges to keep the printer running as both of these items are not available in Kiambogo.

In October we were then able to surprise the local doctor's office in Longonot, a neighbouring village of Kiambogo with about 15.000 inhabitants.

Another laptop and printer will help the local doctor and his team to execute a more efficient process in the office. The items were handed over by Geoffrey Gikuni NDUNGU and Peter Chege WANGARI. The reaction of nurse Ann was therefore very positive: 'Ann was very excited when we called to tell her about the handover. Even before she saw the laptop and printer she said Thank you, bless you for fulfilling this wish!'



All laptops were given to run2gether free of charge

In total **run2gether** was supported with 60 laptops and laptop bags. Some of them were picked up by Purity Kajuju GITONGA and Philimon Kipkorir MARITIM on one of their journeys to Vienna.

We would like to thank the **Raiffeisen IT Group** for their support and donation. The laptops are still currently being handed out to different institutes in Kenya as well as to some of our athletes.

New bathrooms for our partner school Primary School KAMUYU

run2gether is now supporting 2.400 children in five local Kenyan schools. In September the fifth school was welcomed in the **run2gether children** program. The school located approximately 4,5 kilometres from Kiambogo hosts 339 children and employs 11 teachers.



The bathrooms of our partner school were finally opened

As in our other partner schools the most essential parts are missing here as well. The construction of a new toilet building for girls and boys massively helped to improve the day to day business for the children. Only 1,5 months after starting the building Peter Chege WANGARI was able to open this building to the staff and children during school festivities.



Thomas Kratky, child sponsorship program

run2gether financial report

Financial report 2021 (rounded to € 100)

Income

Income running camps	16.800
Income races	44.200
Income child sponsorship program	79.000
Income sponsoring	43.900
Income membership fees	16.100
Income donations	50.700
Income sale of equipment	11.600
Income miscellaneous	15.600

Expenses

Costs for personnel	0
Costs for flights	-28.000
Costs for travelling, vehicle	-21.400
Costs for insurances	-500
Costs for accommodation and equipment	-23.500
Costs for advertisements, fees and miscellaneous	-34.200
Surplus	170.300
Support Kenya TOTAL	-124.200
Thereof child sponsorship programs	-39.200
Thereof Covid-19 athlete support	-9.700
Thereof 'Trees for Kiambogo families'	-200
Thereof without specific project	-75.100
Surplus for upcoming events	46.100



We want to thank all of our running camp guests, members, sponsors, supporters and volunteers for their aid!

Michael Reiter, treasurer

Donations and charity events

We are very proud of the many charity events every year that contribute to our running club.

Our child sponsor Suzanna donated the money from her **60th birthday** to our club. Nora gave the **surplus from her**

school class to run2gether in the name of her school. Team Laufrausch from Oldenburg organized another **'Tour de Laufrausch'** charity event and gave all their earnings to our school project. Klaus, long-term **run2gether** member, child sponsor and long-standing guest at our running camps in both Kenya and Austria, organized a relay run around Oldenburg in July 2021. The money from this event went straight towards the construction of the children's bathrooms at the Kamuyu Primary School.



Doing the right thing while making sure Covid-19 rules are followed

For the second time our long-standing guests and child sponsors Leander and his wife Ulrike organized a charity run with their local running group 'Ostfilderner-Läufer'. 65 runners ran 1 to 4 laps of 6,7k. The youngest participant was only four years old and the oldest 71 years old. What an achievement! The donated money also went to the Kamuyu Primary School.

Furthermore we received donations from the participants of the **Austrian women's run**, who were able to donate upon registration.



Chairman Thomas got handed a donation by Ilse Dippmann

Peter from Waiblingen, Germany, has helped us out with several social projects in the past. For the 9th time he organized a **Christmas tree sale** and donated all of the money to our club and the fruit snacks of the children in Kiambogo.

We would like to take a moment to say thank you for all of your donations, events and efforts.

Isolde Höfinger-Pattis, editor



Our community runs in Vienna are frequently joined by Kenyan athletes

run2gether community runs

Since 2015 our members and **run2gether** friends meet weekly for a joint run at the Prater Hauptallee in Vienna. The exact place where Eliud KIPCHOGE ran the fastest marathon of all time in 1:59:40,2 in 2019.

Every now and then these community runs are joined by Kenyan athletes who happen to be in the area. This makes some of these meet-ups extra special.



Always having fun

We start together and run several different paces from 5:00-7:30 minutes per kilometres in various groups. Therefore, each and every runner can find the suitable speed. If you want to stop by we do meet every Thursday at 6.30 pm at the Prater Hauptallee.

The exact meeting location is at the parking lot of the stadion at Meiereistraße. If you also want to join one of our community runs, please stop by and run with us. The participation is obviously free of charge.

Thomas Kratky, community runs Vienna



Joint speed training with our athletes

Recent news and preview 2022

run2gether running camps

Our running camps with our athletes are not solely there to provide training in all different performance levels, but furthermore for the unique intercultural exchange and interaction. In the following chapters we are happy to announce a few adaptations for 2022.

Mount Longonot Sports & Recreation Centre

The pandemic and the consequential lack of guests was used for smaller renovations at our centre in Mount Longonot. This way everything will be ready for our guests to arrive in 2022.

In order to fulfil the needs of our guests, athletes and youth team we are looking to expand our camp with on more roundhouse. The demand has steadily increased over the last few years, therefore we do believe this will be a great addition.

Our program will further be improved by another construction measure from autumn 2022 onwards: a multi-purpose room, which will be used as a fitness and yoga room during peak times and a student accommodation during the school holiday to make sure our youth team is getting a good nights sleep.

Our 26 guest beds in 2-bed or 4-bed categories, including the two roundhouses offer a friendly and comfortable atmosphere to our guests. The altitude of 2.400 to 2.800 metres, the high

variety of routes ranging from flat, to hilly to technically challenging and our 400 m track offer everything you need for a successful training. Together with our athletes our guests get to train, cook, eat, relax and laugh. One of our perks is that our camp is an attractive holiday destination all year round.

And now on to the most positive news: despite the strict entry requirements it is now again possible to safely and easily travel from and to Kenya.



The roundhouses are very popular with our guests



The Grödnertal valley offers various trails

For the very first time we are also offering a running camp to our guests, which will be hosted and organized by Kerstin and Thomas KREJCI. The camp **'RUN.YOGA.SAFARI'** will take place in Kenya from the 14th to the 25th of January 2023. The program will include various running workshops, stability and yoga training as well as a safari. Please find more information here: <https://www.run2gether.com/laufcamps/runyogasafari>

St. Christina im Grödnertal

As per our tradition we are starting off the running camps in the beautiful Grödnertal valley in South Tyrol. Everyone who has heard of the Dolomites mountain range knows what to expect there. We will once again stay at the Hotel CENDEVAVES*** at the foot of the Langkofel mountain, where the owners and **run2gether** friends Birgit KLAMMER and Christian STUFFER add to this enjoyable stay. Since both of them are passionate runners themselves they often not only join us but guide us through their stunning home mountains and trails. Kenyan teas and homemade chapati are also a guaranteed part of this stay.

Kals am Großglockner

In 2022 we wanted to add to our previous programs and therefore offer 13 running camps in total. The first one will start at the 19th of June and for those of you who are still hesitant due to the situation we can happily say that our partner hotels have been more than helpful when it comes to Covid-19 related cancellations.

We are very much looking forward to seeing our guests and friends again, as well as the joint activities with our Kenyan athletes and the stunning runs and atmosphere of these beautiful mountains.



The long run to the local lake is only one of many highlights

Our booking website features all of the information about the various running camps in Austria and Kenya. We are looking forward to many booking requests and if you do need a bit more information about our running camps feel free to check our website <https://www.run2gether.com/laufcamps/> or send us an enquiry via info@run2gether.com.

Book your slot at one of our running camps this summer in Grödnertal or Kals am Großglockner and benefit from the individual and unique training sessions and activities with some of the best runners worldwide!

Future project 'Osttirol'



As mentioned in the annual report of 2020 there is this vision of making Kals the running hotspot of the Eastern Alps. The location offers everything you could possibly need: 1.400 metres of altitude, routes for all types of runners and a variety of trails. This is met by the interest and support of the local tourism board, the municipality as well as the inhabitants of the area. For the last two years we have been working on bringing this idea from paper to reality and we are excited to present a few new facts in this annual report.



The water reservoir with a 500 metre track is currently planned

The municipalities of Kals and Mauterndorf are very supportive of maintaining the running infrastructure as well as doing the necessary bit in surveying and signage. They do see this as an additional offer for tourists to enjoy whilst staying in the area. The main focus point are rather flat routes on different altitudes. The local authorities are currently looking into the constructions of a water reservoir and an accurately measured 500 metre track surrounding it. Furthermore the construction of a 400 m tartan track currently awaits approval.

The core piece of the project will be the 'House of Running' which will be situated on the main street in Kals-Großdorf, in proximity to the lift station. The building will offer a hotel, restaurant especially focused on endurance athletes, as well as

a spa area with sports-medical personnel and a sports shop. In the summer the house will be available for our athletes and will therefore replace the 'Kenyan Lounge'. In the winter season it will be used to accommodate tourists or other sports clubs focused on winter sports.



The first plan for the House of Running in Kals

The integrated restaurant offers lots of space as well as a lovely terrace to sit outside and enjoy the beautiful scenery. The cuisine will feature new, innovative dishes focused on the needs of athletes prior or after training sessions. Obviously all dietary restrictions and nutritional preferences will be included.

The construction is due to end in spring of 2023 with the delivery of the wooden panels. Currently the basement is being worked on.



The location for the House of Running is great

run2gether will directly be involved in the running of the 'house of running' by providing a chief executive officer. We are therefore looking for people who might be interested and qualified to work on this with us in the future.

Please approach our chairman Thomas KREJCI via email (info@run2gether.com) in case you are interested in this role.

Sponsors

The loyalty and support of our sponsors is essential for our club and project. We are more than grateful for the support



The integration of different cultures works from the very beginning

from our **main sponsor ON running** for the long-lasting cooperation. Furthermore we would like to thank **ams Osram AG** for their sponsorship.

From the very beginning of **run2gether** we are glad to have the **Integrated Consulting Group**, the **Aktiv Praxis Altenhof** and the **thermal baths Loipersdorf** on board. We are excited that besides the thermal baths we now also have the **Hotel Sonnreich in Loipersdorf** as our supporter. **AFRICA&SPORT** has been supporting our team since 2015. For three years we have now also had the joy of working with **RunOsttirol**. Our newest sponsor is '**lovedodicorsa**' an Italian sports brand. Thank you very much for all of your support!

run2gether competition support

We very much hope that 2022 will bring more races and therefore more opportunities for our athletes to make a living. As in the past years we will host, accommodate and support the athletes on various races and are therefore also asking for your help.



Our team is looking forward to 2022 race season in Europe

We are **URGENTLY** looking for drivers and hosts who will safely bring our runners to the races, offer on-site support and drive them back to Kals afterwards. If you want to join one of our running camps in Kals the weekends before and after your desired week might offer a great opportunity for you to experience this.

We are further looking for accommodations on the way and close to race locations.

As most of the athletes travelling from and to Kenya will cross Vienna we are specifically looking for accommodations there, as well as support to get them from the airport to the train stations and similar.

In case of questions about our athlete support please contact our coordinator Thomas KREJCI (info@run2gether.com). He will make sure that you have all the necessary information for your first time doing competition support.

If you are looking to get in touch about supporting our athletes from Vienna, please contact Thomas KRATKY (thomas.kratky@run2gether.com).

Isolde Höfing-Pattis, Editor



Since 2022 fresh fruit is provided for the children of our partner schools

run2gether Projects

Due to covid-19 we were not able to execute any larger projects in 2021. Therefore we have lots of plans for 2022 (as you can see in the chart below). The projects are chosen together with our local Peter Chege WANGARI who not only communicates with the 5 partner schools on our behalf, but furthermore organizes cost estimates and accompanies the execution on-site.

This year we are mostly focusing on infrastructural projects in the schools. All of the projects are frequently updated on our website, the newsletters and on social media.

Planned run2gether social projects in Kenya in 2022	Status
Tracksuits for 600 students at the Primary School KIAMBOGO	Executed
School kitchen for the Primary School KAMUYU	Planned
Fruit for 2.400 students for 14 days	Executed
Continuation of the project 'Water for KIAMBOGO families': renovation and construction of cisterns	Started
Teacher bathrooms for teacher at the Primary School SISION	Planned
Approximately 300 pressure cookers for the families of all sponsored children	Executed
Establishment of a school library at the Primary School LONGONOT	Planned
Renovation of the classrooms of the Primary School KIAMBOGO (continuation)	Planned
Chairs and tables for the Primary School KIAMBOGO (continuation)	Planned
Toys and play equipment for the Nursery School KIAMBOGO	Executed



Continuation 'Water for KIAMBOGO families'

As many of you remember we have been working on this project for the last three years and unfortunately the results have not been all successful. Even though it was scientifically suggested and further analysed by different parties we failed to reach any fresh water supplies in the past. Therefore, based on the geological location and the tremendously high costs involved we have decided against to do so and thus another chance will be financing the renovation of an old cistern and the purchase of three big water tanks in central venues in Kiambogo and Sision. These should guarantee the locals water supplies through existing springs and the rains, even during droughts.

As many locals often gather around these venues we are further planning on including areas for personal hygiene as well as meeting points. Stay tuned for updates!

Fruit for 2.400 run2gether children in Kenya

For those of you who have been lucky enough to travel to Kenya or other African countries it is quite evident that the local regions offer great fresh fruit and produce. Huge plantations, many street vendors and markets sell many of the local fruit on every other corner. Nonetheless it is not normal for Kenyan children to regularly eat fruit as the prices are mostly too high for the families to afford.

Therefore **run2gether** has decided to financially contribute to the school nutrition of our partner schools in the future to make sure fresh fruit and vitamins are added to the daily school menus. In an initial trial run at the Primary School Sision we have taken a closer look at the logistics needed to order, deliver and distribute this fresh produce to our children. Since January of 2022 we provide 2.400 student of our 5 partner school with fresh fruit every two weeks.

We are grateful that with the help of our donators, sponsors and project sponsors we are able to put projects like this into place.

Thomas Kratky, child sponsorship program



The Nursery now has a swing and a slide



Large joint community run during the Vienna City Marathon

Club news

General meeting

After 2019 we have now for the second time held our general meeting during the 6th members-only running weekend. This time we were excited to add a new format to it: a hybrid format. Members, who could not join on-site, were able to participate in the general meeting virtually. In the 3-hour meeting participants got insights into the work **run2gether** does behind the scenes. For one through the report of the chairman, the statement of accounts, but furthermore through the election of the new club chairman for the next two years.



For the first time members could also join virtually



The board members inform the participants of the general meeting

The combination of on-site and digital participation will be kept alive in the future as well, as this allows for more of our members to join in.

New board

In the general meeting the addition of the role 'representative for social projects' into the board was discussed and approved. Therefore the board now hold seven members instead of six. You can see an illustration of this on page 19. We would like to welcome Thomas KRATKY, who has been responsible for our child sponsorship program as well as our social projects for many years, to the board! Good to have you here.

Baby2gether

The past year we did not only have additions to our Kenyan team, but also to the European team.

Ursula FESSELHOFER has been a big part of our club from the very beginning. She is Austria's most successful female athlete in orienteering and very much responsible for the visuals of **run2gether** together with Thomas KREJCI. Ursi has put a lot of time into the layout of the **run2gether** annual report since the club's establishment. In June of 2021 Ursi and her husband Roland welcomed their little Theresa into the world.

In November Tim-Philipp KOCH and his wife Mirjam gave birth to their son Julius. Tim is a board member and was responsible for the running camps in Kenya, Gröden and Austria for many years. With the start of 2022 however he wants to shift his focus from **run2gether** to his family and the construction of his house.

We are very excited for all of you about expanding your families! All the best for your future.



The Fesselhofer family during their first walk as a little family

New representative running camps

As mentioned above Tim KOCH was responsible for these tasks in the past few years. In order for him to take on his new responsibilities as a dad he has decided to discontinue this position and therefore Franz WEIXELBAUM is taking over.

Franz has developed our booking platform on our website and has been nice enough to agree to manage enquiries and bookings for our running camps in Kals from now on.

All bookings regarding our camp in Kiambogo will be dealt with by chairman Thomas KREJCI.

In case of questions or queries please feel free to contact Franz via franz@run2gether.com and Thomas via info@run2gether.com.



Many new members in the run2gether team

Team Kenya

The successful running season of 2021 allows for a positive outlook to whatever 2022 holds. The accomplishments show the hard work our team of coaches puts into this project. All of our athletes participate in regular training camps in our centre in Longonot without exceptions. Trainings in different groups, individual goal setting and working on the team spirit are among the most important things. Our runners are highly motivated and the atmosphere on the team is grat.

For 2022 there will be smaller changes in the Kenyan athlete team as a small number of athletes has decided to go their own way. The team now consists of more than 60 runners.

An important aspect and challenge in the future is the expansion of our female team. Currently only few of the small team are equipped for taking on bigger tasks.

7th run2gether members-only weekend

Save the date: 18.-20.11.2022

Also in 2022 we want to stick to this traditional event whilst adding new child-friendly parts to the program. Get excited – this is going to be great!

More information on the location and the detailed program will be sent out in time by Isolde HÖFINGER-PATTIS.



The annual members-only weekend is a highlight for many of us



The different tasks are being taken care of as followed

Contacting run2gether

Name	Position	Main Duties	email
Thomas KREJCI	Chairman	Responsibility for all club activities Athletes management Coordination of drivers for athletes	info@run2gether.com
		Sponsoring	
		Booking of running camps in Kenya	
		Webmaster homepage, Facebook	
Michael REITER	Treasurer	Finances Donations	mreiter@office.sh
Isolde HÖFINGER-PATTIS	Membership Support	Membership registrations and dues Annual get-together (running weekend)	mitgliedschaft@run2gether.com
		Editor homepage, Facebook, annual report	
Thomas KRATKY	Child Sponsorship Program & Social Projects	Child sponsorships and social projects in Kiambogo	patenschaften@run2gether.com
		Athlete support Vienna	
		Vienna group runs	
		Editor homepage, Facebook, annual report Club database & privacy officer	
Franz WEIXELBAUM	Running Camps	Booking of running camps in Kals	franz@run2gether.com
Thomas TAUT	Equipment	Managing, ordering and delivery of equipment Webshop	webshop@run2gether.com

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