



Loropio, 25 July 2023

## TESTIMONIAL TO THE FONDATION ARPE

Dear Larkin Erdman,  
Dear honorary board member of Fondation ARPE,

on behalf of the entire team of Learning Lions and our students, I would like to thank you for your generous support in expanding our student housing. Your support helps us to accommodate even more students directly on campus and to offer them a pleasant living and learning environment.

Our organization Learning Lions aims to fight poverty and unemployment among young people in one of the most underprivileged regions of Kenya. Therefore, we offer free training in IT, which opens up new career prospects for young people and thus enables to overcome the challenges in their home region. Since we started our work less than 10 years ago, more than 1,000 "Lions" completed the training, and our campus has grown substantially. We are particularly proud that we now have a high percentage of women and refugees from other African countries.

In 2020, with financial support from Google, SAP, the Löwenmarsch e.V. team and the Bavarian state, we finally opened the Startup Lions ICT Campus at the Shores of Lake Turkana, a dedicated, innovative and largely autonomous hub in the world's most remote regions. The building is designed by the highly renowned Kéré Architecture office and is optimally tailored to the needs of an IT campus in the semi-desert of Turkana. We believe that the learning process does not end after leaving the classroom. For this reason, we created multiple common spaces on the shaded rooftops, accessible by everybody, favouring meetings and exchange ideas. The campus is facing downhill overlooking the beautiful lake Turkana, the largest desert lake in the world. And because the growing number of students also needs space to live, we have created about 50 small houses and a day care centre on the campus site in a second construction phase.

We are very pleased that they have co-financed one of these unique houses, giving our students space to live on campus.

Sincerely,

Brizan Were  
(co-founder and director)