

Schools For Africa

Transforming LIVES Through Education

Delegates to the 2010 DKG International Convention in Spokane, Washington agreed to "transform lives through education" on the African continent when they unanimously voted to undertake the Schools for Africa project as the first official international project of the Society. Through DKG's support of this project nearly 5 million African children will gain access to quality basic education. The project has a special focus on girls, orphans, and vulnerable children. DKG's partnership with UNICEF will train over 100,000 teachers and build or rehabilitate almost 1,000 schools.

Why is Schools For Africa an appropriate international project?

In sub-Saharan Africa, one-third of all children do not have access to an education. In many cases this is because of inadequate school facilities and unqualified teachers. In addition, many schools lack gender-separate sanitation facilities, causing many adolescent girls to stay home. Poverty also forces these students to forego an education. They must work so that their families may survive. Schools for Africa makes it possible for children in these countries to realize the dream of an education and a better future. Support of this project allows all DKG members to embrace our vision of impacting education worldwide, not just in one country, but throughout an entire continent.

Schools for Africa operates in 11 countries: **Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.** The campaign was founded in 2004 by UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, and the Hamburg Society for the Promotion of Democracy and International Law. In 2009 additional corporate donors and foundations joined the effort: Gucci, the George Harrison Fund, the U.S. Fund Boston Board, and Kind World Foundation.

Currently, UNICEF national committees of twenty seven countries support the Schools for Africa UNICEF campaign. Among those countries are these DKG member nations: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Sweden, United Kingdom, and the United States.

What can DKG members do to support the international project?

Support for the project comes from donations made directly to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, not through materials or monetary donations directly to the countries where the project is in place. The U.S. Fund for UNICEF supports UNICEF's work through fundraising, advocacy, and education. UNICEF determines the needs for each locality and supports the efforts to address the problems.

It is important that members, chapters, and state organizations use this donation form whenever a donation is made to Schools for Africa. The UNICEF office keeps records of donations made by our Society and periodically forwards that information to Society Headquarters in Austin. A donation form is included in this packet of information and can be copied as needed. Forms are also available on the web site.

Donations by members in the U.S. should be made payable to U.S. Fund for UNICEF and mailed to:

U.S. Fund for UNICEF
Attn: NGO Department
125 Maiden Lane
New York, NY 10038

How does the Educational Excellence Committee help DKG members get involved with this project?

One of the major functions of the Educational Excellence Committee this biennium involves the promotion of the Schools for Africa project. The committee currently provides these resources for this purpose:

- Schools for Africa link on the International Web site where the following information can be found:
 - UNICEF brochure
 - Photo Gallery
 - What your support can do?
 - Newsettes

- Articles published in the *DKG News* and the *DKG@UN newsletter*

- Schools for Africa Newsette* –monthly newsletters posted on the DKG Web site, featuring information about the countries supported by the project, sample chapter programs, and fundraiser ideas

- Schools for Africa blog on the DKG Network

How will donations from members and chapters be used by the Schools for Africa program?

Here is a sample of how your donations will be used:

- \$5 can provide ten children with a pencil and exercise book;
- \$10 can provide a learner kit for 1 student in Mozambique and Mali which contains a bag, stationery, mini atlas, math tables;
- \$60 can provide a School-in-a-bag with individual school supplies for 40 students and 1 teacher;
- \$100 can provide 100 children with a sketch pad and crayons;
- \$250 can provide a School-in-a-box;
- Build and rehabilitate 1,000 schools;

- Create schools that offer a safe and protective environment for children; and
- Educate children about proper hygiene and HIV prevention; this knowledge is passed on to siblings, parents, and the community at large.

More information on the Schools for Africa program may be found at

www.schoolsforafrica.com

Other “Schools For Africa” Ideas

Fund-raiser Ideas

Monetary donations by DKG members demonstrate our support of UNICEF's Schools for Africa campaign. Chapters will want to generate the funds they donate in a variety of ways. Here are suggestions that can be used. Additional ideas will be found in each issue of the *Schools For Africa Newsette*.

"SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA" MONTH

At a chapter program either present a program on the international project or generate interest in the project through an icebreaker or news article in your chapter newsletter. As a follow-up to the material presented, designate the next month as "Schools for Africa" month. Give each member a calendar to use in generating her personal contribution to the project.

Here is a sample of what you could do. Personalize your statements to reflect interests in your membership or other projects your chapter supports...

MARCH 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd ay	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1. I helped someone today. (25¢)	2. I saw a snowflake last month. (10¢)	3. I can name a country in Africa. (5¢)	4. I ate a piece of chocolate. (25¢)	5. I sent an email today. (10¢)		

This should give you an idea of how to complete your chapter's calendar for SFA Month!

Each day on the calendar will have a statement for the members to read. Answers to the daily statements will determine if a donation is made that day or not to the member's collection for the Schools For Africa project.

Members will follow the calendar all month. At the next chapter meeting the icebreaker could involve a follow-up to the activity with members bringing their collected funds to the meeting and discussing which items they enjoyed the most or the least.

Money collected will be sent by the chapter treasurer to the US Fund for UNICEF per info on the DKG brochure for the project. [Members in countries other than the U.S. will wire funds to Society Headquarters per the procedure noted in the training manual overview for the Schools For Africa project.]

Members not at the meeting where the calendar is distributed can receive it via email or snail mail, thus ensuring that all members participate in this lighthearted way to promote the international project.

"PENCILS & PENS"

Show chapter members a sample of the items that go into a UNICEF Schools-In-A-Box used by children in several of the 11 countries served by this project. Items included are exercise books, pencils, pens, erasers, scissors, a wooden teaching clock, plastic cubes for counting, a wind-up solar multi-band radio and a set of three laminated posters (alphabet, multiplication and number tables), and a blackboard with chalk.

Ask members to count the number of pencils and pens they have at home. Challenge them to bring a donation to the SFA project to the next meeting, giving a nickel or dime for each pen/pencil they found.

Compare your collection to what one Schools-In-A-Box costs for UNICEF to produce for a classroom of students – \$250. Challenge your members to donate enough money from their chapter to the SFA project to match that amount.

For more information about these boxes prepared for students, especially in emergency situations see: <https://secure.unicefusa.org/site/Ecommerce>.

"THE SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA" CHALLENGE

Challenge the other chapters in your area, coordinating council or state organization to raise more funds for the Schools For Africa project than your chapter.

Collect donations at a multi-chapter function, coordinating council meeting or state meeting.

Recognize the winning chapter with a feature article and picture in the state newsletter (send to the local newspaper, too). You might also consider reimbursing the meeting expenses for that chapter's president at the event where the winner is announced.

"CHANGE" ABOUT

Place on your meeting "sign-in" table a box or jar decorated with an African motif.

Beside the jar have a sign inviting your members to empty their pocket change into the SFA container as they record their attendance and pick up the meeting agenda.

At the end of the meeting announce how much was collected and record that sum.

Bring the container to each meeting throughout the year, having members add to it each time.

As the amount increases note what item(s) UNICEF could now send to an African school.

Have your treasurer send in your collected change after the last meeting of the year.

Schools For Africa Resources/Links

A sampling of resources and Web site links that support both general information on Africa and information specific to the UNICEF Schools For Africa campaign follows:

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Mainstreaming Sustainable Development into African School
www.tc.columbia.edu/cice/issues/07.02/7

- Education in Africa www.newsfromafrica.org

- Shocking State of the Central African Educational System
www.scribd.com/doc/260352

- Pro Teacher African Lesson Plans (tons of information that could be used)
www.proteacher.com

- Click on the country to find its natural resources
www.exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum

- Free Wikipedia encyclopedia www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Africa

- African Atlas (click on the country for resources)
www.infoplease.com/atlas/africa.html

- African Political Sites sorted by country: www.politicalresources.net/africa.htm

- Industry list of African Countries: www.afribix.info/content/industries

- Choose a book to read together to prompt a discussion:
 - The Power of One by Bryce Courtenay
 - A Cowrie of Hope by Binwell Sinyangwe (lovely collection of short stories)
 - Joys of Motherhood by Buchi Emecheta
 - God's Bits of Wood by Ousman Sembene
 - The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born by Ayi Kwei Armah

SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA

- DKG resources (Library Section), including *SFA Newsettes*, UNICEF brochure and general information on the Schools for Africa project: www.dkg.org

- DKG's partnership with UNICEF: www.unicefusa.org/partners/ngo/delta-kappa-gamma-society.

- UNICEF's Schools for Africa Program: www.unicefusa.org/work/education/schools-for-africa/

- Gucci Partnership for Schools for Africa:
www.unicefusa.org/partners/corporate/gucci.html

- Video clips to support Schools for Africa:

- Through Schools for Africa, UNICEF works closely with governments, communities and other partners in 11 sub-Saharan countries to help ensure education for all children. Learn more about the campaign here www.unicefusa.org/assets/right-column/schools-for-africa-video.html and through this clip, too, www.unicefusa.org/work/education/schools-for-africa/

- Slideshows of SFA in Mozambique:
 - www.unicefusa.org/hidden/slideshow-3.html
 - www.unicefusa.org/slideshow-3.html
 - www.unicefusa.org/slideshow-2.html
 - www.unicefusa.org/slideshow-1.html

- *EVERY CHILD*, a publication of UNICEF; download updates from www.unicefusa.org/news/publications/