

Edward Hartley
August 25, 2023



Girl's Empowerment and Skill's Training Project

Gambia Vocational Education

In the Kombo North District of Gambia, GESTP runs a vocation in the impoverished town of Sukuta. Many women cannot access education because of the costs incurred and many already have children although unmarried.

They rely on their extended family system or turn to marriage for financial support. This becomes a strain for those who are financially responsible.

The programme facilitates financial independence for women by teaching them skills to run their own businesses and become contributing members of society.



Margret Orr's visit



One of IRFF-UK's Trustees, Margret, visited the project in Gabia in June 2023 along with her sister and niece.

Prior to their visit, they had raised funds to provide the project with 2 sewing machines to enable them to add sewing to their skills learnt.

They also provided the project with a donated digital camera, sewing materials (such as needles, scissors etc), new tables and general funds to facilitate its continuation.

During her visit, they received hands-on lessons in Tie-Dye techniques and taught the women how to sew shopping bags and create their very own signature stamps.



Margret visited the Center for Business Development (a government-funded programme) and had a lengthy run-through of information demonstration. They provide free basic training courses but the option to run a programme tailored to a specific business model is available at a cost. This would help the women to learn how to manage money and market effectively, to support them in creating their own businesses.

The Project

The aim is for women to complete the 4-month GESTP training programme. It trains

women in the skills of batik, tie-dye and since Margret's visit, sewing.



In addition, the programme will now include how to start and manage their own business. This would facilitate their access to the tourist market.



Graduation

Last year we saw 20 women graduate GESTP cohort 1. This year an additional 10 women graduated from cohort 2, although one sadly passed away prior to graduation.



The Future of this Project

The training centre that is currently used by the program is located in a very convenient part of Sukuta. The compound has running water, however, it is in need of repairs. The roof needs to be made waterproof, the concrete floors need to be redone (it is broken in many places) and it needs a borehole and water tower.

The focus for the GESTP programme now is getting the first two groups up and running and working out the business element of the programme before accepting a new group of women for cohort 3. A key part of this project is being environmentally friendly through recycling and producing high-quality goods. Women successful in this will ideally go on to become teachers for the programme themselves.

If this project is of interest to you, perhaps you can consider supporting it by donating today. Ultimately we want to help projects become self-sustainable so that we can continue to provide help to others in need.

[Help GESTP today](#)

To find out more about other projects we support [Click here](#)

Education

Education in third-world countries

For millions of children around the world, access to education is a distant dream. In many parts of the developing world, children are forced to work from a young age or are denied an education due to poverty, conflict, or other societal factors.

Our belief

At IRFF UK, we believe that education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering individuals and communities to reach their full potential. Join us as we explore the challenges faced by children in the developing world and the ways in which we are working to make a difference.



How IRFF UK helps

Discover how our projects are making a difference in the lives of children in developing countries by reading about them below.

[Uganda](#)[Ghana](#)[DR Congo](#)[Gambia](#)[SA - Shine](#)[SA - Slovo](#)[Senegal](#)

Senegal

A L'école Yonent Mame Ibrahima (Primary)

[Meet the project](#)[The Problem](#)[Solution](#)

What is offered



How IRFF UK contributes



Here are some statistics related to education in developing countries

According to UNESCO, there are approximately 262 million children and youth who do not attend school.

Of those who do attend school, around 617 million are not able to read or do basic math.

Girls are more likely to drop out of school than boys.



When education is available

Education can have a transformative impact on the lives of children in third-world countries. With an education, they can gain the skills and knowledge needed to break the cycle of poverty, contribute to their communities, and create a better future for themselves and their families.

Education can also lead to improved health outcomes, increased gender equality, and reduced rates of child marriage and other harmful practices. By investing in education for children in third-world countries, we can help build a brighter, more equitable world for everyone.



Health Outcomes



Gender Equality



Reduced Child Marriage



Empowering Communities and Changing Lives

Charity Number: 281776

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The Crisis

Period Poverty

Education

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Empowering Communities and Changing Lives

IRFF UK uplifts those most in need through education, healthcare, and support initiatives. As a non-profit, we're driven by a passion to make a difference in the world.

Read our annual report [here](#)



What we do

IRFF UK's Two Core Areas of Focus



Fighting Period Poverty

[Learn more >](#)



Providing Education

[Learn more >](#)

Our Goal

Help Us make a Difference

2023 Fundraising Progress

20%

£2811 raised

- £12,189



Great news awaits!

Subscribe to our newsletter now to stay up-to-date with the

latest and exciting stories from the field.

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Featured Campaigns



Become a Destiny Junior School Donor for £10 a month

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SHINE at Walmer School in Port Elizabeth, South Africa

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Slovo Study Group Port Elizabeth, South Africa

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30,000 people helped

IRFF UK has positively impacted the lives of 30,000 people through its various support initiatives.

40 projects completed

Destiny Junior School has provided invaluable educational opportunities for numerous children who otherwise would not have had access to them.

Projects that become self-sustainable

Thanks to our efforts in removing jiggers, thousands of people can now walk freely without pain. We are proud to have made a positive impact on the lives of so many and will continue our mission to alleviate suffering around the world.



What our donors are saying

Your efforts in the areas of education, health and sustainability are vital in certain countries and truly appreciated. My family will continue to sponsor a child at Destiny Junior School in Uganda, and will endeavour to support other causes that IRFF UK informs us about.

Marshall de Souza
Destiny School Sponsor

The Women's Federation for World Peace, South London, has been supporting Destiny Junior School through IRFF-UK for more than 12 years. Our ladies sincerely had been helping to provide a better place for the children of Destiny Junior School in Uganda. We believe Education and health are the most important things for the life of the child.

Dolores Read
Destiny School Sponsor


I have been happy to support projects that IRFF is running in Uganda. In particular, I have donated funds towards the building of a perimeter wall and a kitchen at Destiny School. I really appreciate the good work IRFF has been doing over the years to help people/children in Africa.

Joyce Suda
Destiny School Donor



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Every donation counts

You will directly be improving the lives of those in need around the world. Every donation, no matter how small, can make a significant impact.



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