

**PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP
OF GIRL CHILD IN THE SLUM COMMUNITIES OF KOMBO
WEST COAST REGION**

GAMBIA

IMPLEMENTED BY

**PECK FOUNDATION AFRICA (PFA)
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INTRODUCTION

In a slum, where most people live below the poverty line, girls and women education takes the back seat. Poverty, underdevelopment, mass illiteracy, ignorance, urban backwardness and conservatism cause a majority of girls in slums to be deprived of their basic right to education. Various other social problems such as child marriage, trafficking and discrimination leads toward the undermining of girl's right to education. Limited access to education means many are stuck in a cycle of poverty.

Women and Girls are often treated as second-class citizens in our society. They have no access to contribute to community development and it is perceived that the only place they can best perform is in their husband's house and in the kitchen. They are forced to marry at a tender age because of religious, cultural and traditional beliefs. These barbaric attitudes towards female children must stop.

Peck foundation Africa aims to educate the uneducated ones, for them to realize that pushing a girl child to marriage is not the solution to the acute poverty we are facing. Rather educating them to a higher level for them to be gainfully employed and earn a good living, will subsequently solve their problems.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The Convention on the right of the Child (CRC) defines a 'child' as 'a person below the age of 18', unless the laws of a particular country set the legal age for adulthood younger. The Children's Act, 2005 of The Gambia, defines a child as 'a person below the age of eighteen (18) years.

Child marriage occurs when one or both of parties involved in marriage are below the age of 18. Child marriage is a manifestation of that violence. Violence against women and girls is a global menace. In Gambia, statistics indicate violence against women's and girls' that affects one in every three women. In many cases, parents opine that it is in their child's best interest to marry at a young age, believing that this will protect them against physical or sexual assaults. This belief is however misguided. On the contrary, child marriage puts victims at risk of sexual, physical and psychological violence.

NEED ASSESSMENT

In order to improve the situation of these, it's necessary for families and local communities to contribute either individually or as group to supplement government's effort and those of other development partners. Therefore, there is need / a call for both local and international organizations/ communities/ groups/development partners/corporates and private individuals to contribute in order to improve the situation under which these girls live and grow. We intend to encourage families, communities and external parties to treat all girls from the slum and other vulnerable girls with respect ensuring that they are not treated as helpless victims but as actors in their own rights. They should be entitled to express their own views and be actively involved in matters that relate to them.

CHALLENGES:

Being a local initiative by Peck Foundation Africa, there are quite a lot challenges the organization meets:

- General perception and belief systems that limits the abilities and potentials of a girl child.
- Parents / Guardians do lack the confidence and resources to make contribution towards the education of these girls in the slum communities.
- Girls from the slums do lack the required scholastic materials and training materials.
- Most slum girls cannot access proper nutrition and sanitary pads which leads to poor health.
- The foundation /organization lack enough resources and finances.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project aims at providing Primary and Secondary, vocational and university educational services to vulnerable and underprivileged girls in the slum communities of Brikama and Sukuta of Kombo, West Coast Region.

PROJECT MISSION:

Provision of holistic high quality education and skills, to vulnerable and underprivileged slum girls, for better resource exploitation, management and control for improved quality of life.

PROJECT GOAL:

- To improve the well- being of vulnerable and underprivileged girls in the slum communities.
- To promote primary, secondary, vocational and university education to vulnerable and underprivileged girls in the slum communities.
- To provide care and support services to these vulnerable and underprivileged girls.
- To promote job creation opportunities to the most vulnerable and underprivileged.
- To promote income generating opportunities to the vulnerable and underprivileged.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- To access primary, secondary, vocational and university education to the vulnerable and underprivileged girls in the slums.
- To access the vulnerable and underprivileged girls in the slums with scholastic materials and other training materials.
- To improve the nutrition and sanitary condition of these vulnerable and underprivileged girls.
- Prevention of the involvement of these vulnerable and underprivileged girls into early and force marriages, commercial sex activities, child domestic labour and other immoral activities.
- To increase capacity in job creation and income generation.
- To promote more cohesive considerate and creative individuals / societies with equal opportunities and rights for all.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

- **Education (scholarships)** - Using a variety of educational approaches to build knowledge, skills, and self-confidence. The top priority of Achievers, providing funds for school fees, books and uniforms. The level of funding support is decided after certain selection criteria are met for each girl. Girls of basic school age are favoured to maximise long-term impact. The progress of each girl, including grades and attendance are regularly evaluated.

- **Technology** - Using technology to advocate, connect, and increase awareness of key issues affecting girls and to support girls in slum communities that are constantly learning, mobilizing and evolving. And also to inspire, educate and equip a girl child in a slum community with the computing skills. Achievers Coding and ICT program is providing unparalleled computer science education to girls at the community level — giving them the hard and soft skills needed to become the technologists of tomorrow. We don't just offer exposure to technology, we train tomorrow's engineers. We believe that more girls exposed to computer science at a young age will lead to more women working in the technology and engineering fields.
- **Leadership and Mentorship** - To change attitudes and systems, women and girls must be leaders – in protest, advocacy, representation and mobilization. This includes providing young women with important leadership and mentoring opportunities. Meeting and hearing from role models that girls can relate to is invaluable in sparking their interest in various careers. We invite female who are professionals to share information about their career paths, professional and personal life, and why they think their careers are interesting. This discussion is done in small groups, inspirational talks or round table discussions. We try to avoid lecturing and let girls ask questions freely.
- **Career Skills Development:** Girls are stalled between school and productive work: more than a third—34%—of young women in developing countries are jobless—out of the labour force and not in school (World Bank, 2018). Although the gender gap in school enrolment has been closing, the gender gap in labour force participation is on the rise. Reaching girls during adolescence is critical—decisions made and behaviours established during this period affect their horizons later in life. During this formative period in their lives it is important to provide adolescent girls with the tools they need to become economically empowered young women. Peck Foundation Africa also want to teach and support deprive girls in tailoring, liquid soup making, masonry, bead making, painting etc. in order to be empowered economically.
- **Community Advocacy:** Peck Foundation Africa across the communities is currently advocating for more protections to prevent adolescent girls from being forced to get married before they are ready. Fundamentally, child marriage is a violation of human rights. It's also a harmful practice that drags down communities and economies. When girls are safe, healthy, educated, and empowered, research has shown that they help have healthier children, earn more income, and help grow economies – making them powerful agents of positive change.

TARGET GROUP:

The main target groups are the most vulnerable and underprivileged girls in the urban slum dwellers. Initially a total of 25 girls shall directly benefit from the program. The age group of 5 to 23 years is considered. Fifteen grade students, five vocational students and five college / university students.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE:

The program covers the urban slums of Brikama Kombo South District and Sukuta Kombo East District, West Coast Region, Gambia.

EXPECTED OUT-COME:

- 25 vulnerable and underprivileged girls shall access school fees, uniforms and books on a yearly basis.
- 25 vulnerable children and youths shall access scholastic and training materials on a yearly basis.
- 25 vulnerable children and youths shall access nutritional foods on daily basis during the study days.
- 25 vulnerable children and youths shall access basic primary health care and support.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

It will be implemented by Peck Foundation Africa.

With the availability of resources, the project shall be fully operational within one month and on-going depending on the agreed donor time framework. The program tends to cover duration of 5 years.

PLANNED PROJECT ACTIVITIES 2020/2021

ACTIVITY	STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	INDICATOR	RESOURCES ACQUIRED
Recruit 25 vulnerable and underprivileged girls.	Identify vulnerable and underprivileged girls in need of support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project officer• 1 resource person• Parents / Guardians• Local councils• Religious leaders	25 vulnerable and underprivileged required	Conducive and secure environment
Data collection per girl	Use questionnaires method and fill out girl sponsorship forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project officer• 1 resource person• Parents / Guardians• Girls	Dully filled girl sponsorship forms in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logistical support• Conducive environment
Give support to beneficiaries	Use schools and PFA organizational structure for implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project officer• 1 resource person• Parents• School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School fees, books & uniform per girl• Mentors• Nutritional support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logistical support

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Most vulnerable to early and forced marriages, orphaned girl child, girls from old / weak grand parents and guardians and girls from single parents.
- Girls from families whose surviving parents are weak and sickly of chronic diseases.
- Vulnerable girls from very poor household and girl headed household.

EVALUATION AND REPORTING SYSTEM:

The project will be subject to evaluation on a quarterly basis. However, day to day monitoring of its progress will be carried out by the Project officer and the Head teachers / principal where these girls attend school in consultation with the girls, and the beneficiary community members to ensure attainment of the project goal. Quarterly reports are to be made to the donor agency to confirm proper and effective use of resources received. All the necessary information and photographs concerning the girl(s) will be available on request.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY:

Though it's a girl's support project, at the start of the project, the beneficiary community members will be mobilized and sensitized about the need to contribute positively towards the education of the vulnerable and underprivileged girl child. After completion of the program start to work and earned a living, all beneficiaries will have to support a girl child the same way she was sponsored.

In a nutshell, the project will be in a circle form. More vulnerable and underprivileged girls will be sponsored in the future.

A community management committee will be set up to do some local fundraising programs. Funds collected will be used for loan scheme to petty traders, within the slum locality. Dividend yield will be used to support more deprived girls.

PROJECT BUDGET (ANNUAL)

LOCAL CONTRIBUTION

ACTIVITY	DETAILS	GAMBIA DALASI D Monthly	GAMBIA DALASI D Yearly	US. DOLLARS \$
Selection Exercise (Selection of the most needy orphans & vulnerable deplorable children)	One resource persons allowances @ per day. (three days each month)	D 250 x 3 = D750.00	D750 x 3 = 2250.00	\$ 45.00
ICT Training	One resource persons allowances @ per day. (three days each month)	D250 x 3 = D750.00	D750 x 3 = 2250.00	\$ 45.00
Mentoring /Leadership (Volunteers)				
	Stationery	D 250 x 1 = D 250.00	D 250 x 3 = 750.00	\$ 15.00
	Transportation D100 = per day (three days per month)	D 100 x 3 = D 300.00	D 300 X 3 = 900.00	\$ 18.00
Allowance	1 program supervisor	D 2500 x 1= D 2500.00	D 2500 x 9 = 22500.00	\$ 450.00
TOTAL		<u>D 4550.00</u>	<u>D 28650.00</u>	<u>\$ 573.00</u>

**Foreign (Donor)
Contribution**

ACTIVITY	DETAIL	GAMBIA DALASI D MONTHLY	GAMBIA DALASI D YEARLY	US. DOLLARS \$
<p>School fees (TUITION) facilitation.</p> <p>10 Primary School level girls</p> <p>05 Junior & Senior School level girls</p> <p>05 Vocational School girls</p> <p>05 College / University girls</p>	<p>School fees for 25 vulnerable and underprivileged slum girl's payable in three quarters. (One academic year)</p> <p>D 10,000 x 10 = D 100,000.00</p> <p>D 15,000 x 5 = D 75,000.00</p> <p>D 7,500 x 5 = D 37,500.00</p> <p>D 20,000 x 5 = D 100,000.00</p>	<p>xxxxxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>xxxxxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>xxxxxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>xxxxxxxxxxxxx</p>	<p>D 100,000.00</p> <p>D 75,000.00</p> <p>D 37,500.00</p> <p>D 100,000.00</p>	<p>\$ 2,000.00</p> <p>\$ 1,500.00</p> <p>\$ 750.00</p> <p>\$ 2,000.00</p>

Sanitary pads	D 100.00 x 25 = D 2,500	D 2,500.00	D 22,500.00	\$ 450.00
Scholastic Materials	<u>Class room facilities per child</u> (i) 1 dozen of exercise books - D 200.00 (ii) 10 pens at - D 50.00 (iii) 5 pencils at - D 50.00 (iv) 1 Maths set - D 100.00 Total cost per girl: D 400.00	xxxxxxxxxxxx	D 400.00	\$ 8.00
Monitoring and evaluation	xx	xxxxxxxxxxxx	D 15,000.00	\$ 300.00
Administration & Contingency 10%	xx	xxxxxxxxxxxx	D 35,000.00	\$ 700.00
TOTAL	xx	xxxxxxxxxxxx	<u>D 385,400.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,708.00</u>