



# EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

**Around 97.5 million out-of-school children aged between 6-17 years old in Sub-Saharan Africa they cannot afford the cost of education, the female out-of-school reached 52 million, while the male is 45.5 million . Unfortunately, this number, 31.2%, is the highest in the world .**

## DirectAid's vision

Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Sumait, the founder of DirectAid, stated: "If I can go back in time, I would not have invested in Africa except in education." That is how valuable education is to DirectAid. With education, an entire nation and continent rises. Such a vision is in line with Africa's 2063 and the United Nation's sustainable development of goals. More specifically, the importance of providing adequate and equal access to education at all levels in order to empower citizens to transform their economy into a sustainable one, ultimately allowing all to have a good quality of life free of poverty and hunger .

# Education is a right

DirectAid believes that education is a right of every child in Africa. It has raised and established this message since its inception. This comes from unequivocal belief in the crucial role that education plays in developing marginalized African communities. It thrives to have at least one in three children in kindergarten, every secondary student in school and seven out ten in higher education institutes.

Thus, DirectAid treats education as the beating heart that provides life in all fields. In other words, if education is good, every other field will be as good, if not better. As such, it aims, through education, to nurture a new generation of educated and qualified youth who will be able to rise up with their communities and Africa to help develop them until they achieve the highest levels of self-sustenance, resilience, and independence of external aid.

## Educational programs supported by DirectAid

There are several education projects supported by DirectAid. Below are a few examples.

### 1. School bags

At the beginning of each year, DirectAid aims to provide a school bag which includes necessary stationeries to 110,000 students. It does so to relieve some burden off students' families and to help reduce dropout rates.



### 2. Extracurricular activities

DirectAid dedicates particular attention to all extracurricular activities, such as cultural, sport, social, and scouting activities, as it believes that they can be as effective as curricular activities inside the classroom. This ensures that the strong African cultural identity is preserved and promoted. More specifically, they enhance students' soft skills and help shape their ambitious and strong personalities.

### 3. Textbooks

DirectAid supports and assists in distributing textbooks to students. It does so to ensure educational efficiency, relieve some burden off students' families, and effectively reduce dropout rates.

### 4. Educational grants

DirectAid aims to address many issues related to poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy by providing educational grants to students. It believes that education can further sustainable development in all fields. Its donors provide these grants to cover tuition fees and allowances for transport, accommodation, and stationeries.

## 5. School meals

DirectAid provides students with a nutritious meal during the school day. This helps combat hunger and malnutrition-related diseases. It also reduces dropouts and increases educational attainments, as it allows students and their families to focus on education, rather than trying to make basic ends meet.

## 6. Lab equipment

DirectAid works to provide essential lab equipment like chemicals, test tubes, safety gear etc., to motivate students to attain their education. This allows students to attain their fullest potential and harvest their scientific curiosity.



## 7. School uniforms

DirectAid aims, at the beginning of each year, to provide school uniforms to all students in its schools. It does so as the majority of students come from families living below the poverty line. Providing these uniforms relieves some burden off students' families.

## 8. School library

DirectAid supports the educational process with other programs that play a vital role in increasing education quality. Amongst these programs are school libraries, a crucial amenity that achieves educational and cultural objectives for both the school and the students. It allows students to explore their interests, African cultural identity, and values. The school library is supplied with textbooks, books, and publications outside the school curriculum, which effectively supports the educational process.

## 9. Illustration tools

DirectAid provides computers and other tools to be used by teachers and students to improve the learning process and allows for an interactive teaching environment. Some of these tools include, but are not limited to, visual, audible, and educational advanced tools.

## 10. Sport facilities and equipment

DirectAid sources sports equipment and prepares stadiums for students in its schools to improve the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of its students. These facilities allow students to get involved in activities like football, basketball, and volleyball. This promotes peace and inclusivity amongst its students and their communities.

# DirectAid's educational institutions in numbers

- DirectAid has 318 schools that educate 1,567,059 registered students from kindergarten until high school. As for vocational education, it has 79 centres that it established and maintains. Some of these centres are solely established to train women and youth.
- As for higher education, four universities were established and maintained. These universities presently have 47,984 students enrolled, of which 16,640 students benefit from DirectAid scholarships.
- Finally, DirectAid also supports Islamic institutions and Qur'anic schools, allowing students to further explore their heritage, identities, and promote peaceful teachings. It established 25 Islamic institutions and 624 Quranic schools. Presently, 1,750 students are registered in Islamic institutions, while 17,610 students are registered in Qur'anic schools.

