



SUDAN

Windle Trust International (WTI) has been promoting access to education for refugees and internally displaced people in Sudan since the early 1990s. There were estimated to be over 200,000 refugees in Sudan in 2006, mainly of Eritrean origin but also Ethiopian, Ugandan, Chadian, Somali and Congolese; and around six million Sudanese internally displaced by civil conflict, particularly from Darfur and Southern Sudan.

Undergraduate Sponsorship

From its office in Khartoum WTI sponsors more than 100 refugees and internally displaced Sudanese to study undergraduate level courses at universities and colleges in Sudan. To promote gender equity over half the beneficiaries are female. WTI supports scholarships with funds from various donors, and is the implementing partner for the UNHCR Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI).

Programme beneficiaries study a wide range of subjects relevant to the social and economic development of Sudan. Graduates are able to use their skills and knowledge to benefit their families and communities through their work in professions such as nutritionists, doctors, accountants, managers and engineers in the private and public sectors, and through taking leadership roles.

Students selected for sponsorship are from disadvantaged backgrounds and in need of financial support, with academic ability, leadership potential and a commitment to their community. WTI's work is guided by a locally based panel of advisors with knowledge and expertise concerning conflict affected communities, education, employment and development issues in Sudan. In addition to financial support, sponsored students participate in an annual workshop, and their progress is monitored by our staff.

Hostels Project

Since 1999 the Trust has supported a student hostels project in partnership with the Gordon Memorial College Trust Fund and Ahfad University for Women in Khartoum. Most students live outside the city in homes lacking basic amenities like electricity or running water. Each day, students face exhausting journeys of two or more hours to reach their university. The project, managed by a student committee, provides accommodation that enables girls to live close to the university in an environment suitable for study.



English for the Justice Sector

The quality of the administration of justice is a priority concern for Sudan. WTI is working in partnership with ATOS to train senior Sudanese judges, lawyers and civil servants as part of a wider capacity building programme to support the delivery of justice in Sudan. 150 participated in intensive English courses from November 2005 to March 2007.

The Reconstruction of Southern Sudan

WTI has recently opened an office in Southern Sudan in Juba, and sub-offices in Wau and Malakal. Since the signing of the Sudanese Comprehensive Peace Agreement in January 2005, WTI has sought to develop programmes inside Southern Sudan to continue building the human resources essential for reconstruction after decades of civil conflict.

Training English Tutors

WTI trained 300 English tutors in Juba in November 2005 to March 2006. This assisted the State Ministry of Education to tackle the challenge of converting the school system from Arabic to English as the medium of instruction. The UNHCR funded programme also promoted the reintegration of refugees returning home after many years in exile. WTI continues to upgrade the skills of tutors working on the Trust's English Language programmes in Southern Sudan.

English for Primary and Secondary Teachers

In partnership with the Government of Southern Sudan, UNICEF, Oxfam and the Common Humanitarian Fund, WTI has trained 900 primary school teachers through an intensive English programme, in Wau, Malakal and Juba in Southern Sudan.

This programme is being expanded to other areas and to address a similar need among secondary school teachers and trainee teachers.

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Professional Training

Through the Arua School of Nursing and Kyambogo University in Uganda WTI is training Southern Sudanese professionals in the health and education sectors with a particular focus on training trainers. Funds are being sought to expand this programme within key areas of need for Southern Sudan.

Developing the Higher Education Sector

WTI has been asked by the Government of Southern Sudan and the Education Rehabilitation and Development Forum to act as the lead agency in the development of the government's programmes to re-establish the Higher Education Sector.

Impact

Many former Windle students are playing a vital role in the reconstruction of Southern Sudan. WTI's investment in the education and training of communities affected by conflict equips them to address the causes of poverty and conflict, and lay the foundation for a peaceful future.

WTI Annual Student Workshop, Khartoum, September 2005

