

Stichting Onderwijs Oost-Afrika
(Education East Africa Foundation)

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Updated POLICY PLAN - 2024-2025

This updated policy plan covers the Foundation's policies to be pursued for 2024-2025. The policy plan is reviewed annually and, if necessary, updated.

Background

In East African countries like Sudan, Eritrea and Ethiopia, education is the bottom line. Besides expensive public schools, there are state schools, but they are not free and also rely on parental contributions.

State schools impose entry requirements, such as the maximum age of seven to enter primary school. To make sure these children can still receive an education, teachers and volunteers have set up so-called self-help schools. These, mostly mixed, small schools have no entry requirements and often admit children whose parents are unable to contribute financially.

In most cases, these small schools can be registered as educational centres with the Ministry of Education. In that case, they follow the state curriculum and are inspected by the Ministry of Education, but they receive no financial support. And they desperately need it.

In Sudan, war broke out on 15 April 2023 between the army and the largest government militia, the Rapid Support Forces, which has resulted in a quarter of the population fleeing their home, and more than half the population going hungry. The end of the violence unfortunately is not yet in sight.

Objectives

Education East Africa Foundation was established and notarised in August 2010. The main objective is to raise funds to give underprivileged children in the region the chance to receive an education, so that they can later function independently in society.

Due to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Sudan, the Foundation decided in March 2024 to set a second, temporary goal, to provide poor families of students with a simple daily meal. (Hence this updated policy plan.)

The Foundation is a non-profit organisation; the funds that are acquired through gifts and donations are transferred directly, in their entirety and free of charge, to the aid recipients.

The Foundation has been awarded the ANBI (Public Benefit Organisation) status since November 2010, making financial donations tax deductible. The board of the Foundation has taken note of the tax regulations for charitable institutions as they have applied since 1 January 2008 and have been amended with effect from 1 January 2009 and 1 January 2010.

Division of tasks and supervision

The board prepares the annual reports. The annual accounts are audited by an independent auditor.

There are currently seven people on the board of the Foundation: a chairperson, a secretary, a treasurer, and four members. Since April 2024, they have all been helping to support the tasks involved in pursuing our recent second goal.

Projects

The Foundation focuses on educational institutions in the region and has been supporting three self-help schools in Sudan by means of a monthly financial contribution for many years.

Until the outbreak of war in Sudan, the donations were spent on three ongoing projects: the Elrayan primary school and Salwa's kindergarten in Khartoum state, and a school for children with disabilities in El Gezira Aba.

After 15 April 2023, the Foundation's income was partly spent on the Elrayan School teachers on a monthly basis and, on and off, on breakfast for Salwa's kindergarten. The payment of transport for the Eisa Mahannaschool students stopped. In cooperation with the management of Elrayan school, the Foundation also supports very poor families in the neighbourhood each month with a small amount.

Separate donations for food aid that have been received from April 2024 onward are spent on two soup kitchens in two neighbourhoods adjacent to the Elrayan School.

Raising of funds

The Foundation is committed to raising income from monthly and one-off donations from individuals, associations and companies through PR ('word of mouth', newsletters, direct requests for financial support, and the occasional distribution of leaflets to individuals).

The Foundation has additionally started a crowdfunder to help run two soup kitchens, in cooperation with the Sudanese Hadhreen organisation, in two poor neighbourhoods near the Elrayan school.

Management

The Foundation's funds consist entirely of donations received from private persons or legal entities (such as companies and associations). Donors transfer funds to the Foundation's bank account on a monthly or on an occasional basis.

The board members receive no remuneration. They perform their duties on a voluntary basis. Recruitment costs are also nil. Development of leaflets and maintenance of the website is carried out by volunteers who receive no financial contribution in return.

Legal form, registration, and contact details

Stichting Onderwijs Oost-Afrika (Education East Africa Foundation) was founded on 26 August 2010 and has been registered as a foundation at the Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce since 27 August 2010 under number 50687980 as Stichting Onderwijs Oost-Afrika, address Laplacestraat 47-II, in Amsterdam.

The Foundation has a business account with Triodos Bank (account number 198367171).

The board members are:

Djûke Poppinga, chairperson

Marijke) Wessel, secretary

Rianne Tamis, treasurer

Marjan van der Horst, member

Khalid Eltayeb, member

Elseline Tuinier, member

Marcel Piters, member (website)

Short annual reports (in Dutch) can be read via the Foundation's website, www.onderwijsoostafrika.com. Translations in English will be sent on request.

Education East Africa Foundation can be contacted through its email address: onderwijsoostafrika@yahoo.com.