



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILDHOOD
JOURNÉE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ENFANCE AFRICAINE
INTERNATIONALER TAG DER AFRIKANISCHEN KINDHEIT
INTERNATIONALE DAG VAN DE AFRIKAANSE JEUGD
DIA INTERNACIONAL DE LA CRIANCI AFRICANA
....and its YOUTH - IDAY - www.iday.org

2009-2010 PROGRAMME

Executive Summary

IDAY is an international network of African and European civil society organisations (CSOs) whose common objective is to achieve quality basic education for all in Africa by 2015, as stated in the 6 Objectives of the Dakar Framework. It is widely admitted that radical and massive measures are necessary to enable Africa to reach these objectives on time. IDAY members carry out together a number of innovative activities in order to convince African governmental authorities as well as foreign donors to invest in basic education, in close partnership with African civil society.

In 2009, IDAY gathered over 200 organisations involved in education in Africa across 19 countries in Africa and 8 in Europe.

IDAY's policy, which stresses the fundamental role played by African civil society as an actor of change in close collaboration with their respective governments, begins to bear its fruits. IDAY members' advocacy brought about tangible results in terms of increased number of schooled or alphabetised children and youngsters, and improved quality of education. The 2009-2010 investment programme includes, among others: IDAY's participation to the "1GOAL: Education For All" campaign of the Global Campaign for Education (GCE), youth exchanges, provision of computers in vocational literacy centres, reiteration of the successful "I Offer You My Book" campaign around June 16, conferences in Europe and 2 regional meetings in West and East Africa on issues on which IDAY has expertise (vocational literacy for child domestic workers, so-called child "witches" and orphan children). The organisation of these activities calls for the setting-up of 2 additional national offices, 1 regional office and a strengthened administrative structure in Europe.

This programme represents expenses estimated to 307 128 €, of which 40% are to be financed by Belgian and international public funding, 55% by private sponsoring and 5% by own revenues. The significant rise in the budget (200%) reflects the conclusions of the evaluation of past activities. Specifically, that the rising demand of IDAY's services calls for a corresponding increase in the resources and means at its disposal. However, this budget increase remains limited compared to the objectives, one reason being that volunteer contributions as evaluated along official rates are importantly under-estimated.

See Projected Budget for 2009-2010 on p.9

1. Introduction

IDAY is an international network of African and European civil society organisations (CSOs) active in the field of education in Africa. Their common goal is the achievement of the 6 Dakar Framework's Objectives: ensuring quality basic education for all by 2015. IDAY observes that African CSOs play an growing part in getting their governments to respect everyone's right to quality basic education. IDAY therefore believes that strengthening their capacity to engage in a constructive dialogue with government authorities in Africa and Europe is a *sine qua non* condition to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MGDs).

IDAY's core activity is the annual joint celebration of the International Day of African Youth (June 16) in Africa and Europe, and the distribution of a Manifesto listing the measures required from the authorities and CSOs to keep up with the engagement of achieving quality basic education for all by 2015. Other actions carried out by IDAY members contribute to their advocacy campaign, such as participation in the Global Action Week of the Global Campaign for Education (GCE), of which IDAY is also a member.

In 2009, IDAY comprises over 200 CSOs represented in 27 national coalitions: 19 in Africa and 8 in Europe. IDAY expects to become a pan African and pan European movement by 2013.

Despite IDAY's young age (the network was created in 2005), a number of tangible results have been achieved: in Burkina Faso, review with the Ministry of Education of the teachers' statutes and of the modalities for decentralising education programmes; In Nigeria, launch of a education programme for girls in North-West rural areas upon request of the First Lady; support of the Ugandan government to IDAY members in the Kampala slums; In Burundi, initiation of discussions between civil society and government concerning literacy for 300,000 child domestic workers ; recognition of IDAY by traditional authorities in Ivory Coast ; enrolment of IDAY for distribution via the network of seeds of the Artemisia Annuua plant (known for its preventive and curative values against malaria) ; collect of €70,000 for the financing of 3 projects through the Project Bank...

All these developments contributed to validate IDAY's innovative approach of development and foreign aid, which is based on strengthening the capacities of African CSOs with the support of European organisations, especially those from the African Diaspora in Europe.

A steady rise in IDAY's budget is necessary to meet increasing expenses generated by a growing membership and a number of specific requests made to IDAY. The 2009-2010 programme's budget of €307,128 represents a 200% increase compared to the 2008-2009 programme. Yet, this amount is underestimated compared to the real needs for the network's structure enhancement. This aspect will only be properly addressed once IDAY is formally acknowledged by the Belgian government (in process) and by European and international institutions. In the meantime, IDAY's development will rely critically on support from private sponsors and far-sighted donors.

2. Programme items. Expenditures

2.1 Specific programmes (implementation conditioned by specific sponsors funding)

2.1.1 Student exchange during the Global Action Week (GAW)

African youth is barely involved in today's global youth exchange. IDAY considers that such exchanges are part of a modern education, and is therefore willing to help developing them in Africa. In the past, IDAY focused on short exchanges occurring around June 16. However valuable, such exchanges suffered from a timing handicap: June 16 is often an exam period, therefore participation of European students proved difficult around that date. This is the reason why the 2008 General Assembly suggested that these exchanges be organised during the GAW, in the last week of April.

In 2008-2009, this programme could not be carried out due to a lack of funding. Thus, IDAY-International seeks once again to organise a 6-persons exchange – 3 young Africans and 3 young Europeans (with priority given to young people from the African Diaspora) – in April 2010. The participants will be selected upon criteria relating to their involvement in social activities. They will contribute 2 weeks in one or several CSOs and participate in the GAW with schools in the receiving country. IDAY-International should only cover the travel expenses and part of the accommodation costs, the remaining expenses being expectedly met by the receiving associations and schools. A detailed description of the programme and associated budget (€15,950) is available upon request.

Since IDAY-International is based in Belgium, it will take responsibility for the organisation of the GAW in this country, with the support of public national and regional financing. In 2010, the GAW will be dedicated to the "1GOAL" campaign launched in the context of the football WorldCup in South Africa.

2.1.2 Operation "Vulnerable children, invisible children"

It is Mr Vernoz Munez's (United Nation's Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education) deep conviction that vulnerable children are those who need the most help from civil society. CSOs in general are essential actors for many of these children and youngsters. IDAY identified a dozen categories of such vulnerable children in Africa (children in prison, so-called "child witches", street children, children victim of forced marriage, child domestic workers, etc) and surveys are under way to evaluate the numbers involved in each country. Upon request from some personalities, IDAY was invited to prepare programmes on 3 of these categories: child domestic workers, children in prison and so-called "child witches". Surveys and on-site visits have been conducted, especially by IDAY-Switzerland and IDAY-International. Partnerships are being negotiated with other international organisations involved in this sector to provide the financial resources for awareness programmes on the field. Nonetheless, IDAY's participation in these programmes requires administration means and structures matching the double challenge of the number and geographic dispersion of the children and youngsters concerned.

A survey is being conducted with IDAY members to estimate the number of these children and youngsters who are currently being taken care of by member associations, and to evaluate the number that ought to be schooled or alphabetised in their respective countries. More precise census will then be foreseen for some categories of vulnerable children in a number of countries, with support from international organisations directly concerned with these issues (Unesco, International Labour Organisation (ILO), etc).

IDAY will therefore seek moral support from high-ranking personalities and sponsors to meet the financial needs of such specific programmes, based on its members' plans and arrangements.

2.1.3. Computers

It is commonly agreed that with regards to education, ICT helps bridging the gap between developing and developed countries. In 2008, a private donor offered to finance the purchase and shipment of 100 computers but unexpectedly withdrew its support, thus leaving the demand in Benin and Togo unmet. IDAY hopes to raise the necessary funds in 2009-2010 so as to be able to provide the equipment as promised in 2008. If successful, the programme could be extended to other members.

2.2 Regular IDAY activities at international level

2.2.1 Participation of IDAY in the Global Action Week (GAW)

IDAY-International is a regional member of the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) and the focal point of this network in Belgium. IDAY-International participates in the organisation of this activity in Belgium with support from Belgian regional and national authorities, while in other countries members usually finance the GAW at their own expenses.

In 2010, several IDAY members wish to participate in this Week in the framework of the "1GOAL" campaign launched by GCE and FIFA in the context of the Football WorldCup that will take place in South Africa in June. In particular, the idea is to promote football training centres in Africa, through which children can be taken off the streets and integrated in training structures that combine sports and literacy curriculum.

2.2.2. June 16 Celebration

This is the core activity in IDAY's programme.

IDAY-International contributes as follows:

- A fixed financial contribution to national coalitions:
 - o €1000 in Africa (2006: €200; 2007: €700; since 2008: €1000)
 - o €1000 in Europe for coalitions younger than 3 years.
- Cultural activities. Education is closely related to culture, and IDAY intends to resume in 2010 the activities organised in 2008, in particular concerts of African artists supporting education causes. These activities must be self-financing as were Baaba Maal's concerts in 2008.
- In Belgium. IDAYU-International contributes to the organisation of the "I Offer You My Book" operation which consists in gathering IDAY-Belgium members to collect books during events taking place on several large city squares across the country. The books are then shipped to literacy centre dedicated to vulnerable children. The originality of such an operation is two-fold: first, it gives the "donors" the opportunity to sign their books with their name and address, in order to initiate a correspondence with their future African readers; second, the operation also allows for a book sale of African literature masterpieces, the revenues of which are dedicated to financing the shipment of the books collected. This activity gives also an opportunity to IDAY members to expose their actions in Africa to a large public. It is entirely financed by Belgian public subsidies.
- These events also constitute opportunities for the distribution of the annual IDAY Manifesto.

2.2.3. *Conferences, Cultural Activities*

IDAY organises conferences with high-level experts on development so as to make the European and national authorities, and more widely the European audience, aware of the changes required in foreign aid policy.

These conferences are organised together with academics or other European civil society organisations involved in education in Africa. Thus in 2009, a conference took place at Anvers University, and Pr Paul Collier obtained a hearing before the European Parliament, followed by a conference opened to the public in Brussels.

In 2009-2010, IDAY intends to reiterate such conferences, including a seminary on education of vulnerable children to be held either in a European or an African country.

IDAY organised activities with African artists (theatre, concerts) so as to familiarise the public with the specificities of African culture. These events can potentially gather up to thousands of attendees (1200 participants at Baaba Maal's concerts in 2008) and therefore represent an opportunity to raise awareness on our obligation to ensure that the fundamental rights of African youth are respected.

Finally, as a member of the group dedicated to keeping Yaguine and Fodé's memory alive, IDAY participates every year in the commemoration of the discovery of their Message in Zaventem, on August 22. This group of organisations is committed to preventing Yaguine and Fodé's message being forgotten until it is properly addressed by the "Members and Excellencies of Europe".

2.2.4. *General Assembly – General meetings*

Regular meetings are necessary to maintain cohesion in the network, sustain the motivation of its members and provide training to its personnel. These meetings enable the members to exchange on experience and best practices, and to decide on their common strategy. The latter is a crucial element to strengthen IDAY-International's advocacy actions.

A statutory General Assembly is to be held within 7 months after closure of the accounts in order to approve them, discharge the Board of Directors and approve the programme for the coming year. As for year 2009-2010, the General Assembly took place on 12-14 November 2009 in Brussels. It was decided that as of 2010 onwards, the General Assembly would be organised once every two years at regional level (West Africa, East Africa and Europe) so as to better address each region's specificities. In 2009-2010, the gathering of the General Assembly will be combined with thematic meetings on vulnerable children and youngsters (for instance, on so-called child "witches" in West Africa, child domestic workers in East Africa, children in prison in Europe). Travel and accommodation expenses were calculated based on the expectation of IDAY's continuing expansion to 22 African countries and 10 European countries.

2.2.5. *Communication*

The impact of advocacy actions, including social watch, depends largely on its mediatisation. In Africa, members have in the past managed to have their cause largely covered in the media. As opposed to this success, the media reaction in Europe has remained insufficient. A communication firm – Gellis Communication Ltd – engaged *pro bono* in professionalising IDAY's communication strategy, particularly by revamping the website and developing the use of modern social media.

Advertisement about IDAY in the media accounts for the major part of the expenses that appear in the communication line of the budget.

IDAY's secretariat will dedicate half a day per week to communication activities.

2.3. Structural development

2.3.1. Regional and national offices

IDAY's principle is to limit fix costs to the minimum. However, the extension of the network's activities requires that its administrative capacity be consolidated. IDAY members in Africa must have a legal status and elementary administrative resources so as to be able to interact with other members from other networks, to pursue and be granted local funding, and increase their visibility and credibility.

The aim is to strengthen progressively existing structures, for now often limited to facilities made available to IDAY by already existing associations. Thus, in 2008-2009 a local office was launched in Togo (in the process of starting activities). Two other national offices should be set-up in 2009-2010, including one in Uganda due to the importance of IDAY's activities in this country. A first regional office should also be created in West of East Africa to coordinate regional activities (see § 1.2.2).

It is illusory to believe that the heads of African CSOs, who committed to represent IDAY in their country while they are already overwhelmed with their own daily activities carried out in difficult conditions, can simultaneously conduct research, coordination, advocacy and citizens' control activities without any permanent staff solely dedicated to these tasks. Therefore IDAY insists that permanently staffed national offices be progressively created in all member countries where such structures are for now inexistent.

Investment costs include: legalisation of the status, the salary of a project manager, rent of an office, purchase of equipment (furniture, computer, telephone...), creation of a website and transport of regional delegates 6 times a year for meetings. Base on the experience in Togo, these investment costs are estimated to €7620 and running costs amount to an average €400 / month. From the second year of existence, IDAY intends to secure the running costs with local financing.

2.3.2. Missions of IDAY-International Management Committee's members to national coalitions

Visits of representatives of IDAY-International in African countries have proved to be door opening and to facilitate contacts with higher-ranking local authorities and foreign or international representations.

In 2008-2009, three missions were conducted out of which only one was covered by IDAY-International's budget. The two others were carried out at the expense of the travellers – voluntary agents. This situation should change in 2009-2010, especially because of the additional tasks to be accomplished (follow-up on programmes on children in prison, so-called "child witches" and child domestic workers) and the review and follow-up on the Project Bank. Thus, four missions to Africa are scheduled. In Europe, five missions are envisaged, in part to ensure cohesion between national programmes and IDAY's objectives, but also to launch new coalitions.

2.3.3 Secretariat, administration

IDAY's coordination and administration are being taken care of by a single full-time employee and volunteers who accomplished more than half of the workload.

Such a situation is not sustainable. The coordination Assistant will need to be seconded as soon as possible, at least for the management of the Project Bank. An additional staff will be required from March 2010. In addition, IDAY needs an office and a professional address to be officially recognised the status of a Belgian Non Government Organisation (NGO). These costs are relatively low compared to the work that remains to be done to achieve the Millennium Development Goal for education at a continental scale.

Translation expenses will rise in correlation to the growing membership.

3. Revenues

3.1 Specific programmes

In total, the expenditures and revenues of these programmes are estimated to €50,200, which represents 16% of the global budget. These programmes will be started only after resources for their financing have been secured. Private and public donors – in particular multinational ones when it comes to contributing to protection and literacy programmes targeting vulnerable youngsters – will be approached.

3.2 Regular programmes and structure strengthening

3.2.1 National public contributions

IDAY requested a contribution from the Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGCD) to support awareness campaigns in Europe and for conferences on vulnerable children/youngsters due to take place in Africa. DGCD should also be requested to contribute to the June 2010 activities in Belgium. Other donors will be addressed as well.

Belgian regional entities will once again finance IDAY-Belgium's programme for the Global Action Week. This will include activities in Belgian schools and sports clubs to raise awareness on schooling situation of young African people.

IDAY submitted a request for employment aid to the Wallonia region to support the costs of a permanent employee. The procedure could take up to 6 months, and only half of the potential contribution is included in the 2009-2010 budget.

Contributions from the National Lotto should be subject to a call for proposals; thus they remain uncertain.

The European Parliament and/or the city hosting the General Assembly have, in the past, contributed in kind (conference rooms, food, etc) to the organisation of this meeting. IDAY therefore expects this customary practice to continue in large European cities.

3.2.2. In-depth actions.

IDAY expects former private donors to renew their support and complete the budget for structuring IDAY's action.

3.2.3. European Investment Bank (EIB), Africa-Latijns America (AFLAM), Fonds Message Yaguine et Fodé.

IDAY hopes the EIB to resume its annual donation. The EIB contribution was suspended in 2008-2009 based on the policy that subsidies cannot be allocated to an organisation for more than 3 consecutive years.

3.3 Conferences, Cultural Events

The estimated revenues generated by these events are based on 2008 and 2009 experiences.

3.4 Sponsoring

IDAY became a member of the -Belgium-Luxembourg-ACP Chamber of Commerce. The aim is to establish further contact with the Chamber's members – companies that invest in Africa and which therefore have an evident interest in the education of the local population. A campaign targeting 75 companies will be launched in November and December 2009.

3.5 IDAY Contribution - Deficit

Pursuant to the General Assembly's decision of June 2008, IDAY sees to balance its accounts on an annual basis. To fulfil this obligation, a number of Directors have generously contributed funds in the past, and these sums are reported on the 2009-2010 programme.

