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## MID YEAR REPORT KAIMA DESIGNS SCHOOL UNIFORM PROJECT

### 1. Project Information:

Name or title of project: SAVE THE GIRL CHILD INITIATIVE

Duration of project: ONE YEAR

Amount of funding received: 439.493 CFA

### 2. Applicant Information:

Name of Organization: NGO FEMDEV

Contact Person: STELLA OKORONKWO

Title FOUNDING PRESIDENT

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page: Les femmes en mission pour le developpement

### 3. Project Results:

**Please provide information relating to each of the following questions:**

#### 1. How were the objectives of Girl-Child Education Initiative project met?

The objectives of the NGO FEMDEV project SAVE THE GIRLS INITIATIVE were met in that the girls felt very special that some NGOs and individuals are paying special attention to their education and went as far as providing beautiful school uniforms for them.

Parents of the girls were very happy and some of them came round to help select the right size for their daughters. They too are realizing that their daughters' education is attracting attention from the outside world.

The various communities were very glad to see that outsiders are taking special interest in their children's education. Schools in neighboring villages are beckoning on us to come to their schools and give uniforms to the girls as well.

## **2. Describe the short and long-term impacts of the school uniform project.**

### **Short term impacts**

1. There was so much joy and enthusiasm in the air during the distribution.
2. The community liked and endorsed the initiative.
3. They now know that some organisations are watching to see that their daughters will complete their education instead of being given out as child brides.

### **Long term impacts**

- a. The life of the girl child will be made better because school uniforms help vulnerable schoolgirls remain in school.
- b. This will eventually reduce the number of child brides.
- c. Long lasting confidence has been instilled into the girls. This makes them know that they are loved and valued by the community.

## **3. How many school uniforms were produced and distributed?**

One hundred and thirty uniforms (130) were produced and around 99 uniforms have been distributed. This is why this report is a mid-year report. We plan to visit another school for more distribution of school uniforms. We will send a complete report at the end of the process.

## **4. How did the production of the school uniforms enhance employment opportunities for women in your immediate community? Attach pictures of the production process.**

We did not engage female tailors but we should think about that in the next round. The tailors that made the uniforms are young men that live in the same vicinity as the FEMDEV office. One of them attended the village primary schools in Broffouedu. He said he could not make it in school so he decided to come to the capital and learn a tailoring. He was very happy to be part of the project for young girls. He prayed to become one of the major tailors for the school. He really wished the girls well in their education since he could not finish his education. He advised them to work hard and get their certificates.

## **5. How were the school uniforms distributed? (Attach pictures of the distribution).**

The uniforms were made in three different sizes of small, medium and large. We had a team of women helping to select the correct sizes for the girls. After that, the team helped them to try the uniforms on to take pictures. They were given opportunity to change the ones they did not like and take another one they preferred.

## **6. Can you attach group pictures of the students holding school uniforms in their hands?**

Yes, we took pictures of them holding the uniforms in their hands and also wearing them.

**7. Can you attach pictures of students wearing school uniforms in their classrooms?**

Yes, this is being done.

**8. Do you have any final remarks or observations?**

NGO FEMDEV is very grateful to Kaima designs and the donors to this project. In Ivory Coast, 60% of girls drop out of school every year due to poverty or religion of their parents or unwanted pregnancies. But if we continue with this kind of project every year and add sensitization programs to parents with the book CHIKA GOES TO SCHOOL written by the founding president of FEMDEV, we will go a long way to convince many parents to keep their girls in school until they finish well. She takes pride in encouraging girls to excel in school the same way she did when she was a pupil in primary school and a teenager.

**9. Observations or challenges**

We need to consider what to give to the boys so they do not feel discriminated against. We need to make them feel important as well.