

## GREATER BANJUL UNESCO CLUB EXCHANGE VISIT WITH KEREWAN BASIC CYCLE UNESCO CLUB



National Federation of The Gambia  
UNESCO Clubs & Centers  
(NAFGUC)

### INTRODUCTION

**Exchange visits** are intended to benefit all participants through an open exchange of ideas, knowledge, and sound practices. The host club should expect to gain as much from the experience as the visitors, if not more. A peer exchange can be appropriate for clubs of any size, geographic reach, mission, Stronger, more sustainable community-based clubs can contribute to a more effective response to the needs of vulnerable people. Different types of capacity building activities such as exchange visits and mentoring relationships can provide relevant technical assistance through sharing on-the-ground experiences between clubs.

However there is little coordination among UNESCO clubs, and as a result lessons that are learned in one club are not always passed on to other groups. An important way to strengthen clubs is to help them learn from each other. While it is good to network at meetings and events, often the best way to learn from other clubs is to visit them and see with your own eyes what they are doing.

*Motto: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men and Women that the defences of peace must be constructed"*

The main objective of the visit is “to contribute to peace and security in the country by promoting collaboration among clubs through exchange visits and also part of the action plan.

Value of Clubs for UNESCO does not lie simply in the knowledge it helps to impart but also in its training role, in the self-education of its members through their participation in its activities. The Clubs do not provide training for their members alone; they also seek to contribute to the education of those around them. Training can take the form of studying basic UN and UNESCO documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Constitution of UNESCO in order to grasp the fact that what these organizations say and do is of direct concern to them.

Most of the Clubs arrange visits, excursions and tours for the twofold purpose of giving participants a more concrete idea of economic, social and cultural conditions (visits to industrial centres, dams, model farms, training centres, monuments, museums, artists’ studios), and providing opportunities for personal contacts between people from different backgrounds or different countries.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> of January, 2018, the greater Banjul UNESCO Club visited their counterpart (Kerewan Basic Cycle UNESCO Club) in Kerewan North Bank Region. The team led by NAFGUC Secretary General arrived late on Friday received by the Regional coordinator and the school teacher coordinators with some members.

**Second Day**, the two clubs joined in the morning to share their talents and both sang peace songs, dramas and poems on peace. Secretary general Ceesay had a lecture with the clubs on the ideal of UNESCO, role of young people in conflict resolution and the important of the exchange visit not to only enjoy but to share the little knowledge both have.

In the evening of the day the host club organised a cultural night where members continue with showing their talents with singing, dancing comedy and educative plays.

**On the third day** of the visit, club members visited the regional governor led by the regional UNESCO Clubs Coordinator **Saikou Jallow** and handed over the declaration and the posters from the training that was held 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2017. Within the frame work of the implementation of the Participatory program on **Youth** Engagement to Foster Global Citizenship, Sustainable Development Initiatives and Peace Building in The Gambia.

The Governor of the region (Governor Dampha) welcomed participants even though there was no written notification that he was happy and always happy to receive young people in his home at working hours on not he said, governor Dampha advised the members and challenge them to be good citizens. Members sang a peace song for the governor always focus and be faithful in what you do, respect elders and peers no matter what their tribes, culture and back ground is.

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On his part, the Secretary General of the federation Lamin Ceesay thank the Governor and explained the objective of the visit and the role of the UNESCO Clubs is to promote the ideal of UNESCO that is to promote peace through Education, science, culture and Communication, which the visit is part of.

Ceesay continue introducing the members and thanking the National commission NATCOM – UNESCO for their supports to the UNESCO Clubs activities.

This information gathered from this visit is intended to be submitted to NATCOM and partners.

This exchange visit was made possible with the support from NATCOM the Gambia on the leadership of the Secretary General

### **GALARY FROM THE EXCHANGE VISIT**



**GOVERNOR DAMPHA TALKS WHILE MEMBERS LISTENED**



**GIRLS IN THEIR ROOM AS ONE FAMILY**

*Motto: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men and Women that the defences of peace must be constructed"*



THE HOST AND THE VISITORS LEARNED FROM ONE ANOTHER

(With kebba Jammeh vice president greater Banjul UNESCO Club



THE SECRETARY LECTURED HOST AND THE VISITORS

*Motto: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men and Women that the defences of peace must be constructed"*



Global citizenship CULTURE SHARING EVERYTHING TOGETHER

*Motto: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men and Women that the defences of peace must be constructed"*



IT IS A CULTURE IN THE VILLAGE FAMILY SIT OUTSIDE TO WARM THEMSELVES IN THE MORNING DURING THE WINTER SEASON



Returning bowls, plates, spoons etc. after used this is the culture we knew (sharing Utensils)



Entertainments

*Motto: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men and Women that the defences of peace must be constructed"*



### RECOMMENDATION:

Finally, the executive of the Federation believes that such a visit should be continue with other clubs in the Gambia in the course of promoting peace. It is of conviction that a more exchange visit should be organized in order to allow a proper discourse to take place between the school clubs and the communities.

With this ideal of UNESCO will be well known to all UNESCO schools and ASP net schools.

To partners, the Federation seeks to build a strong collaboration to share ideas and knowledge on Peace Education issues. Capacities need to be built and awareness created. The youths of this nation consist more than 50% of the population and therefore needs to be empowered since they are the future leaders.

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