

# UNESCO CLUBS AND ASP net SCHOOLS CULTURAL VISIT TO DAKAR 2018



***PARTICIPANTS FROM BOTH UNESCO CLUBS AND ASP net SCHOOLS (UNESCO REGIONAL OFFICE DAKAR)***



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Associated Schools



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

**PREPARED BY: LAMIN CEESAY (NAFGUC SECRETARY GENERAL)**

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

## INTRODUCTION:

The National federation for the Gambia UNESCO Clubs and Centers is the voluntary body that oversee the activities of the UNESCO Clubs and Centers in the Gambia. The federation aims among other things: to create awareness on the essence of peace and tolerance among its members and the general public at large, to promote understanding of the ideals of UNESCO at grass root level. (I.e. promotion of peace through education, science, culture and communication). Joined in partnership with UNESCO's Associated Schools Project Network (ASP net), commonly referred to as UNESCO Associated Schools, is a global network of some 8000 educational institutions in 177 countries (ranging from pre-schools and primary to secondary schools and teacher training institutions), who work in support of quality education.

UNESCO encourages the reinforcement of synergies between the Clubs Movement and the Associated Schools Network as it believes they are complimentary to each other. Such convergence between the Clubs Movement and the Associated Schools is obviously not restrictive. When possible, co-operation, joint action and mutual stimulation strengthen initiatives and help diffuse the UNESCO spirit more widely.

National Federation of The Gambia UNESCO Clubs and Centers, (NAFGUC) and ASP net embarked on a Cultural visit to Dakar, Senegal. From 10th **September to 14<sup>th</sup> 2018. This was** part of our summer package to explore some of the educational, cultural, social and economic sectors of Senegal. As the world is becoming a global village, there is need to encourage young people on cultural diversity and promote peace.

The culture of peace and non-violence is a commitment to peace-building, mediation, conflict prevention and resolution, Peace Education, (Education for Non-Violence, Tolerance, Acceptance, Mutual respect, Intercultural and interfaith dialogue and reconciliation) all these are subjects on peace education.

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As set out in its Constitution UNESCO Clubs support UNESCO priorities by using a community's own experience, skills and outlook to foster peace and exchange. They consist of groups of people from all ages, from all walks of life and every background who share a firm belief in UNESCO's ideals.

The trip also highlighted on the main objective of UNESCO: "to contribute to peace and security in the world by promoting collaboration among nations through Education, Science, Culture and Communication in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion.

**PURPOSE:** as part of our summer package to explore some of the educational, cultural, social and economic sectors of Senegal. As the world is a global village, there is need to encourage young people on cultural diversity particularly in sub region.

The team left Banjul Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 board with kunta kinteh ferry by 14:00hrs and arrived in Dakar, (PATTE DOIE) by 02:00 am.

Tuesday, the team visited UNESCO Regional Office in Dakar where participants were welcomed by the president of the Senegalese Federation Madam Mane. She informed the club members on some of the activities of UNESCO which clubs are promoting and challenge the team to work harder on some of the activities outline by UNESCO as part of the Organization's programmes on the promotion of peace. She



also explained the incoming activity of their federation in January 2019.

Madame Fall also in her short speech praised NAFGUC for their activeness in organizing very important educational activities. She also explained the incoming activity of their federation coming January from UNESCO Participation Program.

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Members were also lectured by Mr. Alieu Camara Liaison Officer for UNESCO in the Gambia and Mr. Lamin Jarjou Senior Programme Officer and National ASP net Coordinator at the National Commission for UNESCO Banjul respectively. On the role of UNESCO Multi-sectorial office, Dakar; and the activities of UNESCO.



UNESCO's work is carried out principally in the fields of education, the natural sciences, the social and human sciences, culture, and communication. Mr. Camara continued on the actions taken by UNESCO on the possible cooperation areas in the Gambia.

Strengthening policy dialogue and planning through training on developing education policy simulation model

Support to development of a multi-year coasted action plan to help identify the resource implications (human, technical, financial) for an expanded and innovative learning and training system.

UNESCO liaison officer still shade more light on the 'Learning to live together' skills and competencies through:

Capacity building on education for peace, human rights, global citizenship and sustainable development

Integration of global citizenship education, prevention of violent extremism, ESD in education strategies

Strengthen ASPnet/UNESCO Clubs on ESD and GCED through capacity building activities, and research.

He also talks about youth engagement skills for life and the world of work this include support in preparation of the action plan for skills development

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in formal, non-formal and informal settings, to create jobs, empower youth and integrate them into the society and economy

Development of methodological guidelines and tools for vocational training of youth, particularly for illiterate and out-of-school youth

Support to “dual” vocational training centers and apprenticeship arrangements.

### **Natural Science:**

The Science sector works in the following areas:

Science, technology & Innovation Policy/STEM Education improvement

Biodiversity & environmental conservation using the Man & Biosphere approach

Hydrology: focus on improving management of surface and underground water systems

Disaster Risk Reduction

### **Latest activities in the Gambia:**

1. Development of the science, technology and innovation policy
2. Development of appropriate policy instruments *for managing the policy implementation*

Mr. Camara explained further the areas of cooperation his office supports the Gambia which also include: Support the conservation of biodiversity, restoration and enhancement of ecosystem services, and fostering the sustainable use of natural resources

1. Support the enlistment of the Marine park into the world biosphere reserves network
2. Support mitigation and adaptation to climate change and other aspects of global environmental change using the Niimi Park as a learning space for the Gambia

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3. Promote green economies using the Niimi park as a demonstration site

Support the improvement of science education in primary and secondary education levels

1. Needs assessment, gaps and challenges
2. Strengthening teachers' capacities in science Education and use of micro-science equipment
3. Quality assurance and strengthening of science education inspectors
4. Provision of micro-science kits

Technical and financial assistance to the management, rehabilitation and conservation of Gambia's two World Heritage Sites (**Kunta Kinteh Island and Stone Circles**) through the World Heritage Fund and the African World Heritage Fund. Support to community work and the construction of Interpretation Centre.

Technical and financial assistance to Safeguard Gambia's intangible heritage - 2016 Needs Analysis and support for the construction and management of the **Kankurang House** in Jangjang burreh (CRR)

Support to the development of a **New Culture Policy** in the Gambia (June 2016)

The Juffureh-Albreda Revamp Project: Revamping a Heritage Tourism Destination for more Sustainable Growth. UNESCO liaison officer ended his presentation with the importance of information and communication in the sustenance of peace and development.

The same Day, the team continued with their visit to the Gambian Embassy. On their arrival, the head of the team who is also the Secretary to the National federation **Lamin Ceesay** explained the purpose of their visit to Senegal: is to explore the young people on cultural diversity and to know through the office of the ambassador on the bilateral relationship between the Gambia and Senegal.



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Mr **Maudo H. N. Touray** the **Deputy Ambassador** called his staff to join him in welcoming the visitors. The Deputy Ambassador welcomed and thanked members on behalf of the Ambassador and the entire staff for their voluntarism. In response to the purpose of the visit he said the two countries share a lot in common ranging from culture, languages, tribe etc. He further mentioned that the two countries are the only countries in the world that are closest relationship and shared almost everything than any bordering countries. Mr Touray commended the participants for their engagement in promoting peace and called on them to be good ambassadors of their country. He finally assured the visitors his office's support during the stay in Senegal.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September**, members visited the Gorée Island where



they explored the island through the guidance of their Senegalese counterpart, **Mansour Secka** the **president of the PATTE DOIE UNESCO Club** also representing the Senegalese federation of UNESCO Clubs. According to the operator, the island of Gorée lies off the coast of Senegal, opposite Dakar.

From the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was the largest slave-trading center on the African coast. Ruled in succession by the Portuguese, Dutch, English and the French, its architecture is characterized by the contrast between the grim slave-quarters and the elegant houses of the slave traders. The Island of Gorée testifies to an unprecedented human experience in the history of humanity. Indeed, for the universal conscience, this “memory island” is the symbol of the slave trade with its cortege of suffering, tears and death.

The painful memories of the Atlantic slave trade are crystallized in this small island of 28 hectares lying 3.5 km off the coast from Dakar. Gorée owes its singular destiny to the extreme centrality of its geographical position between the North and the South, and to its excellent strategic position offering a safe haven for anchoring ships, hence the name “Good Rade”. Thus, since the 15<sup>th</sup> century it has been prized by various European nations that have successively used it as a stopover or slave

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market. First terminus of the “Homeoducs” who drained the slaves from the hinterland, Gorée was at the centre of the rivalry between European nations for control of the slave trade. Today it continues to serve as a reminder of human exploitation and as a sanctuary for reconciliation.

**On Wednesday evening**, the team visited the family of their counterpart,



the grand imam of the region and a Gambian family on international duty. Both shared expressed similar sentiments on the importance of peace, which according to them cannot be over emphasised as they indicated that peace cannot be achieved on the absent of cultural values.

In the same evening which also happened to be the cultural night, a drama competition was organized between members in four different groups with themes:

1. Role of young people in conflict resolution,
2. the role of citizen to vote and to be voted for
3. the negative impact on back way to Europe
4. ideals of UNESCO and its activities

The first two winning teams went for the final in the following day before the departure of the team back to The Gambia.

Group 4 won with the theme ideals of UNESCO and its activities.

#### Places visited during the excursion:

- 1 The UNESCO Regional Office
2. The Gambian Embassy (Lessons on the Sene-Gambia bi-lateral cooperation)
3. The Island of Gorée - UNESCO World Heritage Centre (History of the Island) **the first Muslim mosque and the first Christian church visited.**
4. **The African Renaissance Monument**
5. Family visits (1 Senegalese family, 1 Gambian family, and 1 Senegalese religious family)
6. Presentations on peace and cultural diversity / our common Senegambia heritage.

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## MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATE:

1	LAMIN SOWE	TEACHER BRIKAMA LOWER B. S	2660778 / 3447496
2	HAWA DARBOE	TEACHER KERR ARDO BASIC CYCLE SCH	3928160 / 7797181
3	HATAB B. SANNEH	REGIONAL COORDINATOR L.R. R	3631562 / 7644285
4	KADDYJATOU MARONG	STUDENT GAMBIA S. S. S ASP net	3020304
5	MUSTAPHA CHAM	✓	
6	OMAR DARBOE	BRIKAMA COMMUNITY	6678091
7	MUNIROU JAMMEH	REGIONAL COORDINATOR N.B. R	7005119
8	LAMIN KOTEH	COORDINATOR MANDUAR COORDINATOR	7059059
9	FATOUMATA S. JALLOW	MANDUAR COMMUNITY UNESCO CLUB	3305742
10	MUHAMMED L. DRAMMEH	BRIKAMA COMM BASE UNESCO CLUB	7892814
11	BA FODAY SAMATEH	✓	3561811
12	AMADOU BARROW	✓	3399191 / 7691764
13	FATOUMATTA CHATTY	GREATER BANJUL UNESCO CLUB	2662600
14	LANDING CAMARA	✓	3709181
15	SAIKOU KANTEH	GAMBIA SEN SEC SCH ASP net	3611166
16	MADINDING CEESAY	✓	7782239
17	ISHA SIMA	✓	
18	KADDY JAMMEH	REGIONAL TREASURER W. C. R	6348114 / 7124814
19	ALASAN KASSAMA	GAMBIA SEN SEC SCH ASP net	
20	EBRIMA JALLOW	✓	
21	HADDY JATOU JALLOW	TEACHER COORDINATOR KUNTAYA N B R	3081952
22	ABDOULIE NJIE	ASP net TEACHER COORDINATOR G.S.S.S.	7673684/9812228
23	BUBACARR BALDEH	MANDUAR COMMUNITY BASE UNESCO CLUB	
24	JARRY JALLOW	GAMBIA SENIOR SEC SCH ASP net	
25	MUHAMMED TOURAY	✓	
26	MANDING COLLEY	ESSAU COMMUNITY BASE UNESCO CLUB	
27	SHERIFFO SAINE	DRIVER	

Lamin Ceesay (Secretary General & Administrator) 7318665 / 3361406 / 6618665  
 Isatou Sillah (Treasurer)  
 Lamin Saidyfaye (Program Officer Science & Environment)

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## Gallery



MEMBERS DURING THE ORIENTATION BEFORE THE TRIP



MARCHING TOWARDS THE UNESCO – DAKAR OFFICE

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



STANDING IN FRONT OF THE UNESCO DAKAR OFFICE



PRESENTATIONS AT THE UNESCO – DAKAR OFFICE



Motto: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed"





FATOUMATTA CHATTY (GREATER BANJUL)



FATOUMATTA S. JALLOW (WEST COAST)



FINAL FAMILY PHOTOS AT UNESCO-DAKAR OFFICE

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



**VISIT WITH GAMBIAN EMBASSY IN SENEGAL WITH THE DEPUTY AMBASSADOR**

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**VISIT TO GORÉE ISLAND (MEMBERS AT THE WAITING ROOM)**



**VISIT AT GORÉE ISLAND (PHOTO SESSION ON THEIR ARRIVAL)**

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PREPARING FOR THE EVENING CULTURAL NIGHT WITH THE NAFGUC PRESIDENT



MEMBERS WATCH ON THE PLAY (THE IMPACT OF THE BACK WAY TO EUROPE)



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**MEMBERS EXPLORING THE MARKET OF DAKAR**



**VISIT TO AFRICAN RENAISSANCE MONUMENT**

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



**VIEWING DAKAR STANDING AT THE AFRICAN RENAISSANCE MONUMENT**



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**GIRLS PREPARED MEALS WHILE BOYS DO THE CLEANSING SERVICE (USUAL)**



**HAND WASHING WAS ALSO PRACTICE BY THE MEMBERS**



**INTRODUCING UNESCO CLUB IN ONE OF THE SCHOOL IN DAKAR**

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**DISTRIBUTION OF THE BOOKS AND POSTERS TO CLUB MEMBERS**



**Farewell speech by the president (patte doie UNESCO Club)**



**A surprise Certificate of honour**

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## CHALLENGES

Accommodation (the accommodation was one the main challenging issue the members face during the trip as only a single room was catered for the thirty members. The male participants had to sleep outside in a bid to provide the females privacy.

Senegalese federation's, (the executive of the federation could not meet our team during the visit. The team was hosted by the Patte Doie community base UNESCO Club.

Exchange rate of the money from Gambian dalasi to CFA.

Lack of enough funds to send an advance team.

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Cognizant of the relevance of such a visit the seeks to foster cooperation between members of UNESCO Club from the different countries, the Executive of the Federation recommends for such visit to be an annual event.

Visit to UNESCO heritage sites should be made free for members of UNESCO Clubs and ASP net

Finally, the executive of the Federation believes that such a cultural visit should be an annual thing between the Gambia and Senegal in the course of promoting peace. It is of conviction that a more interactive cultural dialogue should be organized in order to allow a proper discourse to take place between the two-sister country.

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

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