

INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES: Where we are now

The Child Development and Youth Formation Programme is being piloted in under-resourced centres, the first located in a deep rural area in the Mbizana municipality in the Eastern Cape, the poorest province in South Africa, with a large part of its population living in communities that have no access to basic services. It is the scarce availability of ECD centres that moved GGA to invest in this community.

To date, we have received positive reports from our monitoring and evaluation process on the positive impact that the programme is having on the children, their teachers, relatives and the broader community. We are extending teacher training for Phase 3-6 years, as well as Phase 6-12 years, and we are scaling up our roll out over the next three to five years in collaboration with local and international partners.



To get involved in GGA's Early Childhood Development Programme, contact info@gga.org or call +27 (11) 268 0479.

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The future is in your hands



CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH FORMATION PROGRAMME



WHAT IS GOOD GOVERNANCE AFRICA?

Good Governance Africa (GGA) is an independent and registered non-profit organisation, established to promote better governance in Africa. GGA opened its first centre in Johannesburg in February 2012 to focus on the 16 countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Three years later, GGA opened an office in Accra, Ghana, for English-speaking West Africa: Gambia, Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone, which now also covers several Portuguese-speaking countries: Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and São Tomé and Príncipe. GGA opened its Lagos office in Nigeria in November 2015 to represent Africa's largest population and one of the largest economies. In 2018 we opened GGA-Z in Harare, a centre dedicated to Zimbabwe.

GGA will be setting up other centres across Africa, each responsible for managing and developing its geographic and language region.

GGA runs five programmes covering the areas of Local Governance and Grassroots Democracy, National Security, Promotion of Ethical Values and Spirituality, Natural Resources, and our recently initiated programme dedicated to Child Development and Youth Formation. Under these programmes, GGA engages in cutting-edge research, which can be applied to improve the lives of all citizens.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH FORMATION PROGRAMME

Driven by our passion for promoting and supporting good governance, we have identified a gap in the system at the very developmental foundation of society – children and the youth. We acknowledge that a holistic, ethical intervention is required to foster a culture of good governance, one that starts at birth and extends to the age at which leadership potential is realised.

The Child Development and Youth Formation Programme (CDAYFP) serves as one of GGA's efforts to promote good governance in Africa. Ironically, given *Ubuntu* or the philosophy of African humanism, children, especially those from marginalised communities, are vulnerable from the earliest days of their lives, and can be easily socialised into depersonalisation and violence. We recognise that these challenges create an environment that fosters bad governance practices and if these are not addressed at an early stage, they ultimately lead to greater societal obstacles to development.

Systematic development and governance

Underpinned by a combination of two human development theories – the bio-ecological model adapted from Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems theory and Vygotsky's socio-cultural model – our CDAYFP intervention considers five phases of interest, with tailored content and activities for each phase.

In recognition of the influence the environment plays on a child's development, the developmental models are explored in the context of the Montessori teaching method.

Our intervention strategy seeks to promote a culture of confident, self-reliant and accountable children and youth, who are wholesome and responsive to others' needs and are productive in their communities and broader society.

How?

Acknowledging the significant role that adults play in a child's life, our phased approach to development and good governance provides support to children, youth and adult groups. Our vision for Africa's children and youth will be achieved through various initiatives, including the following interventions:

- **Facilitating** workshops on child nurturing and parenting;
- Providing **psychosocial support** to parents and caregivers with the help of social workers to improve parent-child relationships;
- **Providing support** to under-resourced Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres, primary and high Schools;
- **Empowering** children and youth with life skills to enhance their self-esteem and leadership skills;
- Under the mentor-a-child project, affording inspiring adults opportunities to **mentor** young children in their communities;
- Good governance at **grassroots** level – affording children in high schools opportunities to participate in seminars, debates and outreach projects addressing good governance at various levels;
- Affording marginalised youth opportunities for learning and **skills development** through GGA's scholarship funding project and trainee-teacher internship project.



Child and Youth Initiatives

Teacher Training Scholarships

GGA placed and funded trainee teachers through an internationally accredited Montessori training programme (Phase 0-3 years) and these teachers graduated in August 2018. A new candidate is currently studying towards the 6-12 Elementary Teacher Training Diploma qualification at the Indaba Institute in Stellenbosch. These teachers operate in the Mbizana municipality in the Eastern Cape. In September 2019, a candidate from the Phoenix area in the eThekweni municipality in KwaZulu-Natal will be undergoing training for the 3-6 years Phase.

Support for Early Childhood Development Education and Services Centres

Our trainee teachers also assist in sharing our content and activities by implementing the gains made through their training in under-resourced ECD centres in their home communities.

Parent and Community Engagement

GGA facilitates workshops for parents and community members with the aim of empowering adults with life skills to respond to issues such as child abuse, nutrition and learning challenges, as well as broader social issues that affect children's development.

Youth Formation

GGA is exploring institutional FET training in the Port Shepstone area, Hibiscus Municipality of Kwa-Zulu Natal.