

Press Release

Paris, 26 January 2011

The Société Générale Charitable Foundation renews its support for CARE France

The Fondation d'entreprise Société Générale pour la Solidarité (The Société Générale Charitable Foundation) and the international humanitarian and development organisation CARE France together announce the renewal of their partnership, with financial support from the foundation of 1.5 million Euros for the next three years. This renewal is effective from January 18th 2011.

Pursuing the partnership concluded in 2008, these funds will be used to support CARE's projects giving access to education for the most deprived. It will help support a new project for the education of girls in Gando areas in Benin ⁽¹⁾, while continuing the four projects supported by the partnership so far (School to Fight Exclusion in Peru ⁽²⁾, School in Rural Area in Mali ⁽³⁾, From Factory to School in Bangladesh ⁽⁴⁾ and School and Integration in Morocco ⁽⁵⁾). Close to 10,000 children have already benefited from these programs.

This partnership initiated by Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking in 2008 has benefited from the growing engagement of its employees throughout the world as part of its Citizenship Program. Employees' enthusiasm has resulted in successful fundraising and direct donations for CARE projects, including for the disasters in Haiti and Pakistan in 2010, totaling more than 555, 000 Euros.

The renewal of the partnership reflects the long term commitment of Société Générale Charitable Foundation alongside CARE, worldwide. Philippe Lévêque, CEO of CARE France stated : "We are very happy with the renewed commitment from Société Générale and its employees because when it comes to education, it is key to have a long term view if we want to change these children's lives in a sustainable way."

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Note to the Editors:

(1) Education of Girls in Gando Areas - Benin:

This project will increase access to primary education for children and support savings and credit activities for the villages in Kalalé and in Nikki with particularly deprived and isolated communities. CARE is coordinating awareness in the community of the importance of education for girls, developing their leadership skills and building classrooms.

(2) School to Fight Exclusion - Peru:

This project, initiated in 2008, gives children speaking Quechua or Aymara access to education. This community belongs to a marginalised linguistic group excluding them from the school network. CARE provides teacher training, appropriate educational materials and lobbies local public authorities. So far, 8000 children have benefited from intercultural bilingual education.

(3) School in Rural Area - Mali:

This programme, started in 2008, aims to improve literacy and economic development in Mali's rural areas by educating young girls and training their mothers on how to save and apply for loans. In addition to training local teachers, CARE builds classrooms, sets up and trains micro finance groups. So far, 480 children have accessed this second chance school, and 937 women trained 33 villagers micro finance groups, to support their children's schooling.

(4) From Factory to School - Bangladesh:

This programme, initiated in 2008, allows Bengali children working in the capital city's factories to benefit from regular schooling, without causing their families any economic hardship. To help bridge the families' financial shortfall, CARE develops new income producing activities by giving the parents professional training. So far, 982 working children could follow literacy classes for 2 and a half hours, six days a week, over 18 months.

(5) School and Integration in Morocco:

This programme started in 2009 in the most deprived areas in the rural district of Dar Bouazza, near Casablanca. It aims to prevent pupils dropping out of school and to support women in initiating economic activities. In addition to supporting 3 local primary schools and 9 nursery schools, CARE is coordinating basic literacy lessons for women. They are also made aware of how income-generating activities provide additional funds to support their children's education. So far, 200 mothers and 540 children have benefited from this project.

About CARE

CARE France is part of the CARE network, a leading relief and development non-governmental organisation. Microfinance, education, prevention of the spread of HIV, access to clean water, environment and urban development programs, CARE helps tackle underlying causes of poverty, reaching over 66 million beneficiaries each year in nearly 70 countries. CARE places special focus on working alongside women as they are the first victims of poverty.
<http://www.careinternational.org>

About Fondation d'entreprise Société Générale pour la Solidarité

Founded in September 2006, Fondation d'entreprise Société Générale pour la Solidarité (Société Générale Charitable Foundation) supports educational projects worldwide, with a focus on improving young people's employment prospects and literacy. With a €6 million budget over five years, the Foundation brings financial support, in France and internationally, to national and local initiatives.
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About Société Générale Corporate & Investment Banking

At the core of Société Générale's universal banking business model, the Corporate & Investment Bank is a well-diversified and leading player with nearly 11,000 professionals present in 33 countries across Europe, the Americas and Asia-Pacific.

Standing by its clients across sectors, the Corporate & Investment Bank tailors solutions for them by capitalising on its worldwide expertise in **investment banking**, **global finance**, and **global markets**.

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