

## **BOOKLETS PROMOTING POSITIVE CULTURAL VALUES IN AFRICAN CHILDREN'S EDUCATION**

The mission of the NGO, *Grandmother Project (GMP) - Change through Culture*, is to improve the health, education and well-being of women and children in the Global South, especially in Africa.

GMP believes that there are many positive cultural roles, values and traditions that are very beneficial to today's children that should be actively promoted. Since 2008 GMP has collaborated with the Vélingara School District in southern Senegal in a programme called "Integration of Positive Cultural Values into Educational Programs in Schools and Communities".

In Senegal, as in other African countries, there is serious concern about the loss of cultural identity and of positive cultural values and traditions in an age of globalisation. For this reason, this strategy is potentially relevant for many African countries. This work has been strongly supported by the Ministry of Education in Senegal, by local education authorities and by communities themselves.

An important part of this strategy has been the production of five reading booklets dealing with different aspects of African cultural values and traditions.

A participatory process, involving elders, teachers and pupils was used to develop the booklets. The text in each booklet is based on information collected from community members in southern Senegal. The illustrations were done by local artists.

The booklets not only help children to appreciate their cultural heritage but also are an important teaching tool that contributes to increasing literacy skills.

The integration of positive cultural values into schools has been greatly appreciated by parents, teachers and pupils in the area of Senegal where it has been implemented.

We believe that this strategy is relevant across Senegal and in other African countries as well in light of the loss of positive cultural values and identity in many countries.

GMP hopes that many schools, both private and public will use the booklets in their programs with children from pre-school through secondary school. GMP offers the booklets to teachers and schools at affordable prices. Profits on the sale of the booklets support GMP's ongoing programs.

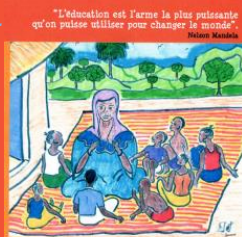
GMP also offers workshops for teachers to help them to adopt the strategy and use the materials in classrooms and in community level activities. A collection of detailed lesson plans is also available for teachers to help them develop learning activities dealing with the cultural values and traditions presented in the booklets

### **Contacts for additional information and to purchase the booklets:**

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## « AFRICAN PROVERBS FOR TODAY'S CHILDREN »



Proverbes africains pour les enfants d'aujourd'hui

This booklet offers readers a collection of sayings gathered from elders in the Vélingara area, in southern Senegal. Using parables for the most part, these proverbs were selected for their interesting content that could be expressed through illustrations. Several topics, such as solidarity, the importance of intergenerational communication, respect for elders, are addressed through the proverbs included in the booklet.

**Produced with support from World Vision - Senegal  
Booklet 4 : 40 pages, Price 2000 f CFA - 2014**

## “RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AFRICAN CHILDREN”



Devoirs et droits des enfants africains

In African societies, children have a number of universal rights: education, health care, expression of their ideas, etc. They also have responsibilities towards their family, their community and their country. Taken from conversations with members of the community, religious leaders, students and teachers, a range of rights and responsibilities are presented to inform children of their rights and also of their responsibilities in order to allow them to grow up in harmony within the family, school and community.

**Produced with support from World Vision - Senegal  
Booklet 5: 36 pages, Price 2000 f CFA - 2015**

## “AFRICAN STORY TALES FOR TODAY'S CHILDREN”



Les Contes Africains pour les enfants d'aujourd'hui

Story-telling, used in the past as a way of passing on values, occupies an important place in the traditional African system of education. The stories in this collection were told by elders and written down by the pupils and teachers in the Vélingara area. This booklet contains sixteen (16) stories which will immerse the reader in a world filled with customs and traditions. Each story has a moral lesson that helps children to think about how to be both respectful and respected individuals in society.

**Produced with support from the Dutch Embassy - Senegal  
Booklet 3 : 40 pages, Price 2000 f CFA - 2012**

## “THE ROLE OF ELDERS IN AFRICAN SOCIETIES”



Le Rôle des Aînés dans les Sociétés Africaines

GMP highlights the role of elders, grandmothers and grandfathers, in passing on positive cultural values to the younger generations. Their important roles were identified through interviews with elders themselves, parents and children. In all African cultures, elders are teachers and guides within families and communities. The booklet encourages children to respect and to spend time with their elders in order to learn from their experience and wisdom.

**Produced with support from the Dutch Embassy in Senegal  
Booklet 1: Price 2000 f CFA - 2008**

## “AFRICAN VALUES FOR TODAY'S CHILDREN”



Les Valeurs Africaines pour les enfants d'aujourd'hui

Following intergenerational meetings, the elders of the Vélingara area identified twelve (12) important African values to pass on to today's children. These values, based on both cultural and religious teachings include: respect for elders, honesty, solidarity, generosity, humility and hard work. The purpose of this booklet is to reinforce these values in the younger generations.

**Produced with support from the Gianturco Foundation, US  
Booklet 2 : 20 pages, Price : 2000 f CFA - 2011**

## GUIDE PÉDAGOGIQUE INTÉGRATION DES VALEURS ET CONNAISSANCES CULTURELLES À L'ÉCOLE.



The loss of cultural values and identity among young people is a major concern throughout Senegal, as it is in many countries.

In southern Senegal, the NGO, Grandmother Project – Change through Culture, in collaboration with the District Education Office, has implemented an innovative program in schools and communities to promote positive cultural values among children.

This guide is the result of this very promising experience. It is a pedagogical tool intended to help teachers across Senegal to integrate the teaching of local cultural values into their teaching activities