



THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

“Seko” is a word in Bambara, one of the most spoken languages in Mali; it means “that which is within my possibilities”.

Its objective is: “To improve the quality of life of the poor and distressed.” The association wishes to help disadvantaged people, those who are poor and cannot afford food, health care and clothing, in order to give them respite, affection and fraternity. The association wants to help these people in its “Seko” within the limits of its possibilities.

The association aims to help the poor and struggling in several domains such as:

- **health**
- **education**
- **culture and cultural diversity**
- the popularisation of African culture (particular Malian culture)**
- sport and youth**
- **sharing and self-giving**

and in any other domain that that from near or far affects rural people in distress and difficulty.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Every year, starting with the school year 2010/2011, the association will cover the total education costs (school fees, supplies, clothing and food) of two school children from poor families in Bamako and Segou (Mali). At the outset this will concern the first nine years of schooling from CP to Grade 9.

The association plans to make sponsorings for school children as well as twinnings with schools in France.

The Association also plans to make distributions of books, dictionaries, school supplies in some schools in the poorest neighbourhoods of Bamako and Segou.

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The association will organize a drawing competition, entitled the “**SEKO Prize**”, in schools from the poorer suburbs of Bamako and Segou. The first 3 winners will be awarded school supplies, dictionaries, encyclopaedias and educational material.

The first SEKO prize will be held in Bamako in the school year 2010/2011.

A meeting-debate, entitled the “**Wisdom Workshop**”, involving youth and adults on topics of everyday life, customs, traditions and the history of Mali, will be held in July and August.



ASSOCIATION SEKO « *Our ability to help others* »

In conjunction with the village chiefs “Dougoutigi” and local women leaders “Mouso kountigui”, the association plans to carry out projects for the extension of Malian culture.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL ACTION

Today in Mali, many families daren’t go and see a doctor because it is too expensive and some cannot even afford a simple prescription for paracetamol. The association wishes to facilitate access to medication for such people and cover the cost of their prescriptions.

It also plans to provide them with essential drugs and ongoing medical care by a doctor.

Today, in Mali, diabetes and hypertension are becoming a public health problem and unfortunately, due to lack of resources, these patients receive virtually no treatment. The association plans to set up a structure to enable these patients with chronic health problems to have proper care.

In addition, the association plans to collect clothes and toys to be distributed regularly to the children of poor and needy families in Bamako and Segou.

ASSISTANCE AND SOLIDARITY DEPARTMENT

Every two months the association intends to prepare meals and distribute them to needy people who congregate near busy areas of the capital.

During holiday periods the association will pay a bigger attention to the needy persons.

The association also wants to provide logistical assistance to the needy for the organization of ceremonies, such as baptism, marriage and funerals. This assistance, i.e. the loan of chairs, tarpaulin, mats, etc., free of charge, will facilitate the reception of guests. This same equipment can also be rented out to other groups of people.

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND YOUTH

Every year the association organizes a series of football matches, in Bamako and Segou, called the “**Seko Cup**”. The first “Seko Cup” took place in August 2009 in Bamako. These matches are organized in order to raise funds to finance the association’s projects (health, solidarity, education and culture).

The association plans to organize football matches for handicapped persons. So far there is only one football team for the handicapped in Mali, but the association aims to get many more to participate.

Other projects involve initiating young people to computers and Internet, and, in the presence of competent authorities, raising their awareness regarding diseases such as malaria, hepatitis B, HIV aids, etc.



ASSOCIATION SEKO « Our ability to help others »

“YOUNG BEGGARS IN MALI” PROJECT

The association plans aims to build a centre for young beggars and street children, to give them a chance to escape from poverty by providing housing, food, education and health care.

However the first step the association intends to take immediately is to prepare meals for distribution to those children begging in the street to enable them to simply survive.

The association will also distribute clothes to these young street children.

DEPARTEMENT OF ORGANIZATION AND EVENTS

The Association intends to organize dinners, galas, festivals, parties with raffles, concerts, etc. and any activity that will generate funds to carry out its projects.

The association intends to organize every year, a Dinner-show, a Gala Dinner and a concert.

Of course we cannot change the world and eradicate all the misery, but despite their poverty we hope to improve their living conditions and bring a little joy into their everyday lives.

Association Seko

Soisy-sur-Seine, February 15, 2010