



Camfed: the Campaign for Female Education

Camfed fights poverty and HIV/AIDS in Africa by educating girls and empowering women to become leaders of change. Since 1993, 1,451,600 children in some of the poorest rural districts of Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia have benefited from Camfed's programs.

The Power of Partnerships

Camfed begins its work in each country by building partnerships with the national government and by utilizing a model of inclusive power-sharing with rural communities. By placing a high degree of responsibility in the hands of the local community, Camfed ensures that its local partners own a transparent and accountable system.

This grassroots model also encourages participation. To date, 73,336 local volunteers help deliver Camfed programs in 84 districts and 3,470 partner schools across Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi.

Access and Quality of Education

Camfed uses a community-based, holistic approach to bring change in Africa. The girls Camfed supports are selected by the community as being the most in need. Its scholarship program doesn't just provide her with books or school fees. It helps her throughout her development, from her elementary school years until adulthood. The Camfed package of support allows her to get into school, do well academically, and maximize the value of her education after graduation.

Camfed provides financial support for 4-5 years of high school education for girls from poor families in the most impoverished rural areas of Africa. It also assists the most vulnerable girls (and boys) in their communities at the elementary school level by providing school supplies, shoes, and more.

Camfed also invests in improving rural schools, supporting female teacher training and providing physical infrastructure, including classrooms, IT provision, and teaching and learning materials. Trained teacher mentors provide psychosocial support, helping girls to succeed.

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Camfed's Impact since 1993

- **1,451,600 rural children** have benefited from Camfed's education programs in 2,517 rural districts across 5 countries
- **602,405 children** have received financial support to go to school
- **47,810 girls** have been supported through four- or five-years of high school with a full Camfed scholarship
- **15,437 young women** from rural communities are members of **Cama** – the Camfed Association
- Cama members have supported **161,300 children** through school—**out of their own pockets**
- **73,336 local volunteers** are working with Camfed to develop and implement our programs in their communities
- Pass rates in Camfed partner schools have consistently improved over time. For example, **pass rates rose 80%** at Camfed partner schools in Tanzania between 2005 and 2007
- Camfed-supported girls have consistently achieved a **retention rate above 90%** at high school.

Cama: Young Women Leading Change

Upon leaving school, young women have the opportunity to join Cama, the Camfed Association, which offers peer support and education and economic opportunities. Initiatives include the Seed Money Program that gives young women financial training and business start-up grants.

The only network of its kind in Africa, Cama is proof that investing in girls' education and women's empowerment brings about profound change. The 15,437 members of Cama are acting as advocates for education and girls' rights, and becoming philanthropists. To date, they supported 161,300 children through school—out of their own pockets.

Child Protection, Transparency and Accountability

Camfed's governance is founded on transparency and accountability at every level, with the child's rights at the center. It employs a regulatory framework of rigorous checks and balances, ongoing measurement systems, external evaluations and regular audits to ensure that Camfed's model remains robust, sustainable and efficient. Child protection and financial accountability are securely linked. As Co-chair of the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative, Camfed developed a code of practice for child protection that has been endorsed internationally.

Partnering for Change

With 18 years' longevity and experience across five countries, Camfed has clear evidence that its model is scalable: clarity and focus of purpose; strong partnerships at all levels; mechanisms for tracking inputs, outputs and impact; and at the root, transparent governance and accountability with respect for each child and young woman at its center.

The following gives an illustrative picture of Camfed's program costs in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Ghana, Tanzania and Zambia:

- \$25 will support a child in elementary school for a year and provide them with pens, pencils, notebooks and more
- \$300 provides a girl with a full high school scholarship for one year, which covers everything from mandatory school fees and uniforms to textbooks and mentoring

Camfed gratefully acknowledges the invaluable role of its many generous supporters, and welcomes partnership with others who wish to contribute to the education of girls and empowerment of women as the route to lasting change in Africa.



"I am now an example in the village of how education can change a life."

—Abigail, 20, from Zambia, was supported through high school by Camfed and is now studying at the Zambia Insurance Business School

Awards and Achievements

Camfed's model has been recognized as best practice in publications by UNICEF, the World Bank and Oxfam.

It has received the **highest rating available on Charity Navigator** for the past two years because of its effectiveness: **More than 90% of Camfed funds go directly to programs in Africa.**

Other distinguished awards include:

- Ann Cotton, Camfed founder and CEO: **Keynote Speaker at the Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting** (2009)
- Ann Cotton and Angeline Murimirwa, Camfed-supported woman from Zimbabwe, featured in Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn's book, **Half the Sky**. (2009)
- Penelope Machipi, Camfed-supported young woman from Zambia, received the **Goldman Sachs-Fortune Global Women's Leader Award** at the Most Powerful Women Summit (2009)
- **Women of the Year Window to the World Award**, Ann Cotton, Camfed founder and Executive Director (2008)
- **Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship**, Ann Cotton (2007)
- **Financial Times** Seasonal Appeal Partner (2006, 2007)

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