

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



FOUNDATION
Founded by Maria Doria

**Desert
Flower
Foundation**



INDEX



OFFICIAL ENDFGM CAMPAIGN PHOTO

The Desert Flower Foundation has launched a sensational new campaign in 2019 with British luxury lingerie label Coco de Mer and star photographer Rankin.

1. FGM awareness, public relations, presentations and lobbying

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EMPOWER WOMEN

Waris Dirie (left) with sponsored girls in Sierra Leone. And Kiera Chaplin (right) joins Desert Flower.

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DESERT FLOWER - OUR STORIES



FACEBOOK

Account of Waris Dirie on Facebook. Together with the Desert Flower Foundation's account we come to a total of 63,118 followers (as of 31.12.2019).

1. Awareness and Public Relation

1.1. Social Media platforms

The Desert Flower Foundation has been operating its own homepage, two Facebook accounts, an Instagram account, a Twitter account and a YouTube channel since 2003.

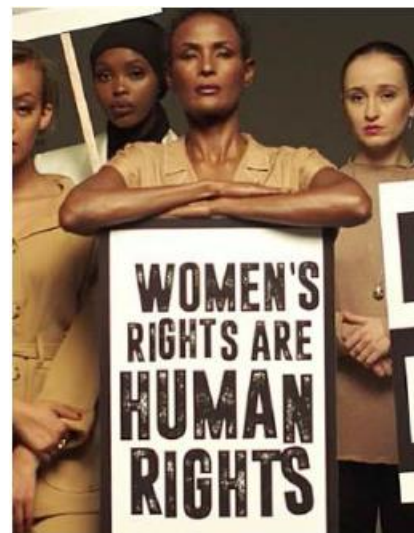
The homepage is updated several times a week with news in German, English, French and Polish, which can also be found on Facebook and Twitter.

The Instagram account appeals especially to Waris Dirie's large fan base. All information about the Desert Flower Foundation's work can be found on these channels.

Both donors and the media are informed via social media. In addition, a newsletter is sent to 6,000 subscribers once a month.

Desert Flower Foundation social media reach (as of 31.12.2019):

- DFF Facebook with Waris Dirie Facebook – 63,118 followers
- DFF Instagram with Waris Dirie Instagram – 38,069 followers
- DFF Twitter – 8,042 followers
- DFF YouTube channel with 768,833 followers
- DFF monthly newsletter to 6,000 subscribers



COLLABORATION WITH PHOTOGRAPHER RANKIN & COCO DE MER

Waris Dirie celebrates a comeback as a model for the Desert Flower Foundation. She poses in London in front of the lens of the British star photographer Rankin (photo middle) and follows Pamela Anderson as icon testimonial (left) for the British luxury lingerie label Coco de Mer.

1.2. EndFGM campaign with video shoot by Rankin and planning of a new campaign landing page

Waris Dirie is available for the British luxury lingerie label Coco de Mer for an advertising and PR campaign including a photo shoot in London in December 2018.

In return, Coco de Mer will finance the Desert Flower Foundation's campaign video spot End FGM, produced by star photographer Rankin, PR tour with Waris Dirie to present the campaign internationally. And Coco de Mer will donate GBP 10,000 to the Desert Flower Foundation for the production of the campaign landing page.

The campaign will start in March 2019 with several events, expert talks, press conferences, interview dates and a campaign launch event in London. Waris Dirie, Father Peter Konteh, President of the Desert Flower Foundation Sierra Leone, Dr Cornelia Strunz, Head of the Desert Flower Center Berlin and Secretary General of the Desert Flower Foundation Germany, Joanna Jasik Vice President of the Desert Flower Foundation, Kiera Chaplin, President of the Desert Flower Foundation France and Walter Lutschinger, Executive Director of the Desert Flower Foundation, will participate in press appointments and events in London, St. Gallen, Montreux, Berlin, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, Heidenheim, Freetown, Seoul, Amsterdam, Milan, Madrid, Vienna, Going, Gdansk and Warsaw.

Numerous news agencies such as Reuters, Keystone, Getty Images, AFP, DPA, APA and international media such as New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, Sunday Times, Daily Mail, Guardian, BBC, ITV, SKY NEWS, VOGUE, ELLE, Harper's Bazaar, Vanity Fair, Cosmopolitan, der Spiegel, Stern, FAZ, Süddeutsche Zeitung, EL PAIS, Il Messagero, Corriere della Sierra, BLICK and Kronen Zeitung report on the Desert Flower Foundation campaign ENDFGM and present the campaign spot on their platforms.

1.3. DFF Development ENDFGM Facebook and Instagram campaign

Since 2019, Facebook/Instagram have been advising and supporting Desert Flower Foundation campaigns with their creative, marketing and sales teams.

For the Desert Flower Foundation's social media team, Facebook organises trainings and workshops free of charge in the Facebook offices in Berlin and Warsaw to better use the DFF platforms for campaigning and fundraising.

At the meetings with the Facebook development teams and British photographer Rankin, concepts for a further development of the ENDFGM campaign are presented and discussed. Facebook and Rankin have developed two ENDFGM campaign concepts for the Desert Flower Foundation for free in 2019.

Facebook provides the DFF with an additional advertising budget of EUR 25,000.

1.4. Public Relation work of the Desert Flower Foundation

Desert Flower Foundation founder and honorary president Waris Dirie gives numerous interviews in 2019, gives speeches to companies, NGOs, political organisations, at award ceremonies, speaks about the Desert Flower Foundation's educational projects in Africa and about the Desert Flower Foundation's campaign.

Dr Cornelia Strunz, Secretary General of the Desert Flower Foundation Germany and Director of the Desert Flower Center in Berlin is available for interviews and talk shows (for example Markus Lanz Talkshow) and reports on the goals and mission of the Desert Flower Foundation. Father Peter Konteh, Director of the Desert Flower Foundation Sierra Leone, organises numerous interviews and reports in Sierra Leone and is himself available for interviews at events in Europe.

1.5. Speeches, presentations, seminars, workshops, press briefings, press conferences, interviews, charity events: Waris Dirie, Kiera Chaplin, Dr Cornelia Strunz, Father Peter Konteh, Joanna Jasik, Walter Unterweger, Walter Lutschinger, Desert Flower Foundation

- 29.1.-31.1.2019 London: ENDFGM campaign preparation, Waris Dirie gives interviews to SKY NEWS, Saturday Times Magazine, British VOGUE, Vanity Fair, Cosmopolitan, VOGUE Italia, La Repubblica, Glamour, VOGUE Germany, September Issue, etc.
- 31.1.2019 London: Soul of Africa DFF campaign, Waris Dirie photo shoot, interviews, video shoot for DFF education campaign.
- 4.2.-11.2. Seoul: Speaking tour Sunhak Peace Prize, Seoul, Korea.
- 6.2. Seoul: Press conference Waris Dirie/DFF with interviews.
- 7.2. Seoul: Interview Day Waris Dirie/DFF Korea Times, Chosun Media, Monthly Chosun, Herald Business, Joongang, MBC, Korea Daily.
- 7.2. Seoul: Waris Dirie opening speech World Peace Summit 2019 in front of 2,000 invited guests.



IN SEOUL

Waris Dirie during her opening speech at World Summit Conference in Korea.



IN ST. GALLEN

Presentation of the musical Wüstenblume at Theater St. Gallen.



IN LONDON

Waris Dirie (right) talks in an interview about her new campaign.

- 8.2. Seoul: Waris Dirie opening speech at the UN Women for Peace Conference in front of 800 participants.
- 8.2. Seoul: DFF FGM Workshop at the UN Women for Peace Conference with 250 participants.
- 9.2. Seoul: Waris Dirie speech at the Sunhak Peace Prize Ceremony - TV live coverage.
- 9.2. Seoul: International press conference with Waris Dirie/DFF.
- 9.2. Seoul: TV premiere Waris Dirie and the Desert Flower Foundation.
- 10.2. Seoul: Desert Flower Foundation FGM workshop with Waris Dirie, publishers and 150 participants.
- 20.2. Berlin: First DFF Social Media Team Facebook workshop with Facebook CEO Europe Martin Ott and Paul Rose plus international Facebook experts.
- 5.3. Paris: DFF/Womanizer FGM media conference with 25 journalists at Hoxton Hotel.
- 7.3. St. Gallen DFF/Waris Dirie press conference ENDFGM campaign with presentation of the new musical Wüstenblume in St. Gallen - Reuters London, Keystone London, DPA, SDA, Süddeutsche Zeitung, BLICK, ORF.
- 10.3.-13.3. London: DFF/Waris Dirie ENDFGM International campaign launch and workshops.
- 11.3. London: DFF/Waris Dirie gives interviews to Welt am Sonntag, Spiegel, BBC radio LIVE, CNN London, EL PAIS Spanien, ICON Magazine, WWD, Global Citizen, etc.
- 11.3. London: DFF/Waris Dirie ENDFGM campaign presentation with DFF panel discussion (Waris Dirie and Father Peter Konteh) at the Ivy Club London with 150 representatives of British and international women's rights organisations.
- 12.3. London: DFF/Womanizer FGM media workshop with Dr Cornlia Strunz and 32 journalists at Mortimer House London, Waris Dirie one-to-one interviews with Evening Standard, The TIMES, Guardian, Daily Mail, L'official, Harper's Bazaar UK, VOGUE Spain, VOGUE Russia, VOGUE CZ, Vanity Fair Poland, Marie Claire Belgium, MAG, EURONEWS, etc.; DFF ENDFGM campaign launch event at The Parlour at SKETCH Club.
- 23.3/24.3. Burgau (Austria): DFF Fundraising workshop with Dr Günther Lutschinger.
- 28.3. Frankfurt: BLOOMBERG / WO/MEN Inc. DFF Waris Dirie lecture and panel discussion with 100 board members of German DAX companies.



ENTHUSIASM

Waris Dirie is frenetically celebrated at the event of the Rotary Club Heidenheim.

- 8.3.-9.3. Amsterdam: Workshop concept, PR, funding Kiera Chaplin Desert Flower School in Sierra Leone, West Africa.
- 10.3.-11.3. Munich: DFF new administration workshop with Deloitte Germany.
- 12.3.-16.3. Going (Austria): Waris Dirie DFF preparation, DFF triathlon Kitzbühel, Photo & Video shooting/interviews with WELT, Kronen Zeitung, Tiroler Tageszeitung, etc.
- 17.3.-19.3. Burgau Waris Dirie/DFF project and PR workshop with Waris Dirie and the DFF team.
- 23.3.-24.3. Warsaw: DFF campaign briefing with the Facebook team.
- 10.5. Metzingen (GER): Waris Dirie Hugo Boss meeting for DFF Charity event.
- 11.5. Heidenheim (GER): Rotary Club Heidenheim charity dinner to finance the Rotary Club Heidenheim Desert Flower School in Sierra Leone with Waris Dirie and Father Peter Konteh, director DFF Sierra Leone.
- 12.5. Heidenheim: Rotary Club Heidenheim DFF Mother's Day gala with Waris Dirie for the benefit of Desert Flower School in Sierra Leone, EUR 50,000 donation proceeds, 1,200 guests.
- 17.5. Berlin: DFF board meeting with presentation of projects.
- 19.5.-20.5. Geneva/Chamonix: Meeting Kiera Chaplin Desert Flower School / Desert Flower Library / Desert Flower Safe House in Sierra Leone. Fundraising with Father Peter Konteh and Kiera Chaplin in Chamonix (France).
- 21.5. Montreux: Kiera Chaplin/Father Peter Konteh, interviews, Video & photo shooting at Chaplin's World in Corsier-sur-Vevey.
- 4.6. Warsaw: Facebook presentation of DFF ENDFGM Sign on to Pleasure campaign.
- 11.6.-13.6. Berlin: Waris Dirie/DFF visit Desert Flower Center and DFF self-help group, 150 participants.
- 16.6.-17.6. Gdansk: Waris Dirie/Joanna Jasik give DFF lecture and workshop at Price Waterhouse, Coopers International Conference 2019 with 300 participants.



COLLABORATION

Kiera Chaplin (l.) welcomes Vater Peter Konteh at Chaplin's World in Vevey (SUI).



SUPPORT

Kiera Chaplin talks in an interview in Milan about her new mission.

- 9.7.-11.7. London: Waris Dirie ENDFGM campaign workshop and briefing 2020 with Rankin and his creative staff.
- 30.7.- 31.7. London: Waris Dirie DFF ENDFGM campaign presentation and meeting with photographer Rankin plus his PR- and finance department.
- 29.8.-30.8. Vienna: Meeting Spencer Chaplin DFF charity concert 2020.
- 12.9.-13.9. London: Waris Dirie DFF meeting with British and German influencer.
- 9.10.-10.10. Berlin: DFF fundraising meetings & Facebook fundraising seminar.
- 18.10.-19.10. Frankfurt: Presentation Werner Holzer School in Sierra Leone.
- 21.10.-22.10. Warsaw: DFF Facebook meeting ENDFGM campaign financing.
- 6.11.-9.11. Milan: DFF Kiera Chaplin press conference, presentation and workshop as part of the Fashion Film Festival Milano 2019.
- 6.11. Milan: Teatro Dal Verme, press conference DFF with Kiera Chaplin about Kiera Chaplin Desert Flower School and DFF ENDFGM campaign. Kiera Chaplin interviews with international fashion magazines like VOGUE Italy, Marie Claire, ICON, WWD, TV interviews with RAI UNO, RAI NEWS 24, RETE 4, Canale5 and Fashion TV.
- 7.11. Milan: Hotel Viu, Kiera Chaplin DFF individual interviews with Italian media, Il Messaggero, La Repubblica, La Stampa, Corriere de la Serra, La Donna Moderna.
- 8.11. Milan: Astoria Hall, Kiera Chaplin/Walter Lutschinger presentation of DFF with workshop about FGM, moderated by Constanza Etro Cavalli, 300 participants.
- 11.11.-12.11. Madrid: 100 Years Save the Children Gala, Life Time Achievement Award for Waris Dirie and DFF, interviews with Spanish media, 1,000 guests.
- 22.11.-23.11. Düsseldorf: Waris Dirie Laudator at German Sustainability Award 2019 for Paula Caballero, inventor and mother of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Interviews with RTL, ZDF, ARD, BILD, Express. 2,000 guests from German economy, future collaboration with Paula Caballero agreed.
- 11.12.-12.12. Berlin: Presentation Desert Flower Charity Suite. Fundraising project in benefit of the Desert Flower Foundation with Waris Dirie, start June 2021.



NEW BOOK

Proceeds from the sale of new Waris Dirie short bio go to Desert Flower Foundation.



BOOK PRESENTATION

Waris Dirie at the book signing in Korea's capital Seoul.

1.6. ENDFGM campaign / Sierra Leone / Korean TV Documentary / Book

In 2018 and 2019, Korean television will produce an elaborate 30-minute TV documentary on the work of the Desert Flower Foundation in Africa, Europe and Korea, which will be broadcast in Korea in 2019.

Interviews with Waris Dirie, Father Peter Konteh, Desert Flower Foundation Sierra Leone staff, teachers, parents and sponsored children will be published as well as the work in the European Desert Flower Centers.

All film and photo material taken during the filming will be given to the Desert Flower Foundation free of charge for further use. The film and photo material will be used by the DFF for contributions on the social media channels as well as for media relations worldwide.

At the same time as the TV documentary, a Waris Dirie DFF short biography will be published and sold in Korea via Amazon since March 2020. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Desert Flower Foundation.

1.7. Collaboration with Google

The DFF homepage with Waris Dirie as a testimonial has been supported by Google since 2009 with Google Grants worth USD 120,000 annually and, together with Waris Dirie, has over 21 million entries on Google in various languages.



TV DOCU

Korean TV team films in Sierra Leone about the mission of Desert Flower Foundation.



AWARD CEREMONY

Waris Dirie is honoured with the Sunhak Peace Prize for her work.



SUMMIT MEETING

With Dr Akinwumi Adesina, president of the African Development Bank, in Seoul.

1.8. Honours and Awards 2019

In 2019, Waris Dirie was awarded for her work with the Desert Flower Foundation the Sunhak Peace Prize, the Life Time Achievement Award of the Save The Children organisation.

The ENDFG campaign, produced by the Desert Flower Foundation in partnership with British photographer Rankin and luxury lingerie label Coco de Mer, was awarded the prestigious IF Design Award 2019 in the NGO category for Best International Social Media Campaign 2019.

1.9. Stop FGM lobbying and networking meetings with Waris Dirie

- Dr Akinwumi Adesina, president of the African Development Bank, collaboration
- 2020/2021 Jean Claude Juncker, president of the European Commission 2019/2020
- Dr Charlotte Proudman Award Winning FGM Lawyer, London 2019
- Women's rights and FGM NGOs networking meeting, London 2019
- Collaboration with Save The Children Spain 2020
- American Association of Journalists, London 2019
- Medical Congress, St. Gallen (SUI) Cooperation
- 2020 Reuters Trust Law, London 2019
- African Academy of International Law, Paris 2020
- Paula Caballero, Sustainable Development Goals 2020

HIGHLIGHT

Laudator Waris Dirie presents German Sustainability Award to Paula Caballero.





INTERVIEW SESSION

Waris Dirie never tires of raising awareness about FGM.



WARIS IN FRONT OF MUSICAL POSTER

The new musical Wüstenblume has a strong message and encourages women.

1.10. Video and photo productions of DFF with the world's most extensive photo and video archive on FGM

One of the Desert Flower Foundation's most important concerns is to generate as much international attention (awareness) as possible for female genital mutilation (FGM). Many media use the photo, video and text material produced by the Desert Flower Foundation for its social media platforms since 2002 and made available to all media free of charge.

Students and pupils use photo and video material to illustrate their papers, presentations, lectures, etc.

The Desert Flower Foundation photo archive now comprises over 15,000 pictures and hundreds of videos. In this context, the Desert Flower Foundation has the largest archive on the subject of FGM in the world.

International media networks such as REUTERS, AP, AFP, DPA, CNN, BBC, SKY NEWS, ITV, MBC, FOX NEWS, Channel 4, Al Jazeera, TF1, TV5MONDE, FRANCE 24, RAI UNO, RAI 24, ARTE, ZDF, RTL, ARD, CANAL+, NTV, Getty Images, Keystone, UPI and others repeatedly request PR material, which is also regularly used for news programmes, TV documentaries, reports and features.

1.11. Preparing the Desert Flower Gives Girls Courage campaign on the occasion of the premiere of the musical Wüstenblume in Switzerland

Together with the Theater St. Gallen, the Desert Flower Foundation Switzerland is preparing the Desert Flower Gives Girls Courage campaign for the launch of the musical Wüstenblume in February 2020. Encouraging girls and women all over the world is the key message and the most important message of the musical Wüstenblume. Founder Waris Dirie addresses this again and again in all interviews.



NEW TESTIMONIAL

Waris Dirie is the face of the Born Nomad, Born Free shoe collection.



SOUL OF AFRICA BY CLARKS

Social Media campaign in benefit of the Desert Flower Foundation.

1.12. Development and launch of the international campaign with Soul of Africa by Clarks

Soul of Africa is a charity of the British shoe dynasty Clarks, which among other things produces fair trade shoes in Ethiopia. Waris Dirie is available for an advertising and PR campaign including a photo shoot in London for the shoe collection Born Nomad, Born Free shoes. The shoes are made by women in a Fairtrade shoe factory in Ethiopia. In return, Soul of Africa will donate EUR 10,000 to the Desert Flower Foundation's education projects and organise the Together for African Women social media campaign with Waris Dirie and the Desert Flower Foundation at its own expense in 2019.

2. Desert Flower Foundation sponsorship project Save a Little Desert Flower

The Desert Flower Foundation supports families in Africa financially if they contractually agree not to have their daughters genitally circumcised, not to marry them off as children and to send them to school. Furthermore, the parents agree to send the Desert Flower Foundation regular report sheets and school certificates. The parents agree that their daughters will be examined annually by a Desert Flower Foundation medical doctor for their physical integrity, so that it can be verified that they have not been circumcised. The parents also agree to participate in FGM awareness workshops organised by the Desert Flower Foundation.

Part of the monthly support is invested in capacity building in the communities. In 2019, over 1,000 girls have been sponsored in Sierra Leone, West Africa and thus saved from FGM.



FILM SCENE

It started with Desert Flower: Safa with mother on the way to circumcision.



SNAPSHOT

The cute photo of Safa went around the world, she became our first sponsored girl.

2.1. Safa, the first sponsored girl of the Desert Flower Foundation

Safa can be seen as little Waris in the genital mutilation scene in the film Desert Flower. In 2008, during the filming in Djibouti, it turned out that Safa's parents wanted to have her genitally circumcised with the film fee after the filming. In Djibouti 98 percent of all girls are genitally circumcised.

The film crew, Waris Dirie and the Desert Flower Foundation were able to convince Safas' parents not to have their daughter circumcised and concluded the first sponsorship contract, guaranteeing Safas' poor family, who lived in the slums of Djibouti, a carefree life.

Safas' rescue became a success story. Waris Dirie wrote a book about the rescue in 2014. The book Saving Safa was sold worldwide. Simon Egan, producer of The King's Speech and 4-time Oscar winner, among others, is planning to make a film of the story. Safa is now 15 years old, attends the Lycee Francais in Djibouti, is considered a very good student and has the dream of becoming a medical doctor or an actress.

From 2020, Safa will regularly take on PR tasks for the Desert Flower Foundation.

Previous story:



Father Peter Konteh, a Catholic priest and director of Caritas in Sierra Leone, approaches the Desert Flower Foundation with the proposal to start the sponsorship project Save a Little Desert Flower in Sierra Leone as well. His home country has one of the highest rates of FGM in West Africa, at 91 percent. People of Sierra Leone are desperately poor after civil war (1991-2002) and the Ebola crisis (2014-2016) and are in need of financial assistance. Due to a lack of schools, 70 percent of the population is illiterate.



MOBILE AMBULANCE

A mobile medical service visits Kiera Chaplin Desert Flower School for the first time.



FREE MEDICAL CHECK

Pupils and their parents receive free medical check and medicine.

2.2. Save a Little Desert Flower in Sierra Leone, West Africa

In April 2014, the sponsorship project Save a Little Desert Flower was launched in Sierra Leone. After the establishment of a local organisation, meetings with leading politicians and a PR campaign, the project quickly found great acceptance among the population.

The donations for the sponsorships not only support families financially, pay for the school fees of the sponsored girls, school materials and workshops for teachers, parents and children, but also pay for regular health check-ups of the sponsored girls by a medical doctor of the Desert Flower Foundation. In this process, the physical integrity of the girls is also checked. In order to increase acceptance among the population, the Desert Flower Foundation started educational projects (construction of schools, school facilities, purchase of school materials, construction of the first Desert Flower school library, educational and vocational training offers for parents) in the communities in 2018, which are co-financed from the sponsorship contracts.

2.3. Expansion of the Save a Little Desert Flower sponsorship project into Capacity Building for communities in Sierra Leone

In 2018, after several meetings with different communities willing to ban FGM in their area, it was decided to build three schools, a library and a safe house. Construction companies were invited to bid and building permits were obtained from local authorities. Schools from different locations involved in the fight against FGM participated in Desert Flower workshops and will receive 10,000 Desert Flower education kits for school lessons.





BRIGHT CHILDREN'S EYES

Schoolgirls are thrilled about our Education Boxes.



EDUCATION BOXES

Delivery of our school material.



3. DFF education campaign in Africa

3.1. FGM workshops

Desert Flower Foundation Sierra Leone regularly organises FGM awareness workshops for parents and teachers of our sponsored children in which other members of the communities can also participate.

3.2. Desert Flower Education project and distribution of 10,000 education kits to 34 schools in Sierra Leone

In November and December 2019, 10,000 educational boxes containing Waris Dirie's first reading book *My Africa - The Journey* were distributed to 34 schools in Sierra Leone.

3.3. Construction and opening of first 3 Desert Flower Schools

In December 2019, the first two Desert Flower Schools for a total of 800 children will be approved for school operation by the local authorities in Sierra Leone.

The Desert Flower School in Allentown bears the name Werner Holzer School. The Desert Flower Foundation also purchased and financed a plot of land for this school. The Desert Flower School in River Number 2 is called Kiera Chaplin School and was financed by the Desert Flower Foundation France (Fondation Fleur du Desert), whose president is Kiera Chaplin. Kiera is the granddaughter of the great Charlie Chaplin.

Both schools also offer adult education in afternoon classes, as well as vocational training for women. The schools will officially open in 2020.



CONSTRUCTION SITE

30 kilometres south of Freetown, the first Desert Flower School is built.



OPENING OF OUR FIRST SCHOOL

First Desert Flower School named after Kiera Chaplin, granddaughter of Charlie Chaplin.

In the community of Tombo, the third Desert Flower School, Rotary Club Heidenheim Desert Flower School for 400 children is being built. As the area around Tombo was devastated during heavy storms in the rainy season, construction could only begin at the end of September 2019. The school will also officially open in 2020.

On the neighbouring property of the Kiera Chaplin Desert Flower School, the first Desert Flower School Library and, in a specially protected area, the first Desert Flower Safe House for girls fleeing FGM or domestic violence will be established. Ongoing maintenance costs, teachers' salaries and scholarships are co-financed by the sponsorship project.

3.4. Construction of the first Desert Flower Library and the Desert Flower Computer Learning Center

The Desert Flower Library and Computer Center will be built with the support of the Desert Flower Foundation France, also in the community of River Number 2, right next to Kiera Chaplin School, and will open in December 2019.



FIRST DESERT FLOWER LIBRARY IN SIERRA LEONE

The building was completed and opened in December 2019.



DESERT FLOWER CENTER BERLIN

The team around Dr Cornelia Strunz (3rd from right) and Dr Roland Scherer (far right).

4. Medical care and prevention

Since 2013, the Desert Flower Foundation has been offering holistic medical treatments for women and girls affected by FGM. The treatments offered include restoration of the clitoris and labia minora, gynaecological care, treatment of incontinence and obstetric fistula, proctological surgery and psychological care. Furthermore, the Desert Flower Foundation offers regular trainings, seminars and workshops in the Desert Flower Centers in Berlin, Stockholm, Amsterdam and Paris.

4.1. Five years of Desert Flower Center Berlin

Since September 2013, the Desert Flower Center Berlin at the Waldfriede Hospital has been the first medical facility worldwide to offer holistic medical treatment for FGM affected persons. More than 500 women and girls have been treated so far. The Desert Flower Center is run by Dr Cornelia Strunz, Secretary General of the Desert Flower Foundation Germany.

4.2. Desert Flower Self-Help Group Berlin

Since 2014, the Desert Flower Center Berlin has offered women who have been affected by female genital mutilation the opportunity to participate in a self-help group. Meanwhile, 200 women meet regularly at the Desert Flower Center. These meetings are led by the very committed Dr Cornelia Strunz, Secretary General of the Desert Flower Foundation Germany.



SELF-HELP GROUP IN BERLIN

Dr Cornelia Strunz (centre, with red shirt) leads the regular meetings at the Desert Flower Center in Berlin.



TRAINING FOR MEDICAL STAFF

Regelmäßige Workshops für medizinische MitarbeiterInnen im Desert Flower Center.



ON-SITE INSPECTION

Dr Frances Sesay (far right) checks girls for physical integrity.

4.3. Training and workshops for medical staff at the Desert Flower Center in Berlin

The Desert Flower Center Berlin, as well as the Desert Flower Centers Stockholm, Amsterdam and Paris regularly offer workshops and seminars for medical staff. In 2016, 800 Scandinavian doctors attended the Desert Flower Foundation's FGM seminar at Karolinska University in Stockholm.

4.4. Medical checks on-site of our sponsored girls and FGM education for their parents

The Desert Flower Foundation organises compulsory FGM checks for its sponsored girls. During the checks, parents are additionally educated about the dangers of FGM. In 2019, 2,000 health checks were conducted by Dr Frances Sesay, the Desert Flower Foundation's paediatrician, and funded by the Desert Flower Foundation.



MEANINGFUL

We reach out to those affected by FGM.