

LAUNCH OF SDGs CHILDREN BOOK

Daughter of Kenya (DOK) in partnership with Smart Ways to Start, Sustainable Development Solutions Network-Kenya (SDSN-Kenya) and SDGs Kenya Forum launched SDGs Children Book: A Smart Way To Start Doing Good. The Launch took place on 22nd June 2022 at The University of Nairobi attended by different NGOs, the Anti FGM Board, the Switzerland Ambassador, the Islamic State of Iran Ambassador, an official from the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), schools and other stakeholders.



'A Smart Way To Start Doing Good'



Dr Mara Harvey is the author of the book, it was published and adopted by the United Nations to help the children around the world to understand the 17 SDGs as Dr Mara puts it 'like the A-B-Cs. The book explains in detail the SDGs to young children all in rhymes so that everyone knows what role they can play in shaping a more sustainable future. The book has been brought to life in collaboration with well-known illustrators in Kenya who have brought to life the SDGs through watercolors paintings and graphic designs for children to enjoy. A song was also composed to go together with the book, indeed there is a passage in the book that explains the SDGs for children just like their

ABCs. *The mission is that the book does not only bring joy poesy to children around the world but make them understand that we all have to come together as partners to shape a better world. In these trying times, when we know there is so much suffering due to conflict very nearby, the hope is that the next generation of children can grow up with a money mindset that is no longer tied to power, competition and greed but they can understand that money is a tool for empowerment for equality and environmental consciousness.* – Dr Marth Harvey.

SDSN-Kenya helped us understand how to engage schools in the realization of SDGs:

1. Awareness by using the right tools for information like books and also debates.
2. Actionable practices.
3. Through accountability.



SDGs vary from each country and that's why they are localized to meet the needs of specific nations. We need to look at them from different angles. This played a critical role in the writing of the book as it adopted the Kenyan context to help the children understand it better. It also incorporated children's themes and styles that are captivating, appealing to read and inspiring 'to start doing good'. Learning and putting into practice the SDGs will accelerate the change we need in the world and also give a clear path to follow to the coming generations.



KICD was impressed by the initiative and promised to incorporate SDGs learning in their new curriculum; Competence-Based Curriculum (CBC). The learning of SDGs in school will help a lot in:

1. Communication.
2. Critical thinking and problem-solving.
3. Learning new things.
4. Self-efficacy and confidence.
5. Digital literacy.

Remarks

'A Smart Way To Start Doing Good' is a book that focuses on making children in schools conversant with the 17 SDGs as it explains them one by one in an elaborate manner that fits in our Kenyan context. The book will go a long way in creating awareness and impacting the young generation in the realization of our Vision 2030 as Kenya. We hope that the Government of Kenya (GoK) will also assist in translating the book into Kiswahili, assist in distributing them to all the schools and this could also be initiated in all institutions of learning. We will use the books across all our 47 partner schools and make it part and parcel of our activities.

