

NIKOLO NETWORK

England & Wales · Charity number 1169126

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-09-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 2 Alexandra Road
Cardiff
CF5 1NS

Phone 07956865709

Website www.niokolonetwork.org

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES ON THE PERIPHERY OF NIKOLO-KOBA NATIONAL PARK, A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE IN DANGER LOCATED IN SOUTHEASTERN SENEGAL. THIS IS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH:- THE RELIEF OF POVERTY AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE;- THE PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE MEANS OF ACHIEVING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REGENERATION;- THE PRESERVATION, CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT BY THE PRUDENT USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Activities: We work to promote sustainable development by overcoming social, economic and environmental challenges in communities on the periphery of Niokolo-Koba National Park in Senegal.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Environment/conservation/heritage

Geography

- Senegal

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	-	-	-	-
2023-12-31	-	-	-	-
2022-12-31	£23,597	£7,393	-	-
2021-12-31	£7,596	£9,216	-	-
2020-12-31	£8,700	£8,959	-	-
2019-12-31	£8,309	£3,484	-	-
2018-12-31	£1,300	£1,295	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr TABITHA NDIAYE	Chair	2015-11-29
Claire Myriam Clement		2021-02-28
DR Matthis Drolet PhD		2016-12-21
Dr Daphne Kerhoas		2016-09-09
Dr Federica Dal Pesco		2019-06-10
Lorraine Alexandra Clark		2022-05-26
Roxanna Angel Rawson		2019-06-10

NIOKOLO NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1169126

Accounts

	Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
	From	Period start date			T o	Period end date		
		01	Jan	2022		31	Dec	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Niokolo Network
Other names charity is known by	None

Registered charity number (if any)	1169126	
Charity's principal address	2 Alexandra Road	
	Cardiff	
	Postcode	CF5 1NS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Dr Tabitha Ndiaye (Chair): 09.09.2016 - Present

Dr Daphne Kerhoas (Secretary): 09.09.2016 - Present

Lorraine Fletcher (Treasurer) 26.05.2022 - Present

Dr Matthis Drolet: 21.12.2016 – Present

Dr Federica Dal Pesco 10.06.2019 - Present

Claire Clément 28.02.2021 - Present

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	CIO
Trustee selection methods	Appointed for a term of 2 years by a resolution passed at a convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is to promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public in economically disadvantaged communities on the periphery of Niokolo-Koba National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Danger located in south-eastern Senegal.

The objects of the charity are to be achieved through:

- The relief of poverty and the improvement of living conditions;
- The promotion of sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration;
- The protection and restoration of the environment by the prudent use of natural resources.

Section D Activities and Achievements

2022 Achievements

We deliver our work through partnerships with Senegalese organisations. Our key partners continue to be the Senegalese Community Based Organisation “Kamben” and the Senegalese NGO “Kamben Productions”. Over the course of this year we also continued a more recent partnership with the French Association Nawari Kourientine, which is supporting the delivery of the community development plan for Kourientine village, on the NW side of Niokolo-Koba National Park. To better align our work with the priorities of local Government, we developed an MOU for a more formal partnership with the Town Council of Dialocoto, which hosts the office responsible for overseeing the topic of birth registration. We attribute the achievements described in this report to the hard work of our partner organisations. We are also grateful to the Welsh Government's Wales and Africa Grant Scheme, The Waterloo Foundation, and Hub Cymru Africa for the grant funding that enabled us to carry out the work described below.

Key Achievements

- ✓ A socioeconomic survey plus mapping across 50 villages in Dialocoto commune;
- ✓ Activity plan for delivering our birth registration programme across 20 villages situated within the Dialocoto Commune;
- ✓ Training of seven community mobilisers;
- ✓ Purchase of film software subscriptions and training of Kamben Film Group to use IT film production and information distribution tools;
- ✓ MOU signed with the Town Council of Dialocoto;
- ✓ Baseline surveys with households and schools started across 20 villages for our birth registration programme;
- ✓ Field office established in the village of Dialocoto;
- ✓ Digital Story Telling Workshops for Wales-based charities operating in Africa.

2022 Activities

Local context

The year of 2022 saw COVID-19 having a far reduced impact on everyday life and project activities in Senegal. Children returned to school and social distancing restrictions were reduced. However the pandemic alongside the Russian invasion of Ukraine has had a significant impact on the country's economic outlook, with individual's feeling this in the form of increasing food and energy prices, reduced income, domestic price inflation, and the disruption of essential services.

Activities in Senegal

Niokolo Network has previously worked with Kamben to deliver birth registration work across a small cluster of villages. This year we initiated work to scale up our efforts to support birth registration across an additional 20 villages- close to one third of the communities making up the commune of Dialocoto. This “laying the groundwork” included:

- A baseline survey was carried out across the majority of villages in Dialocoto Commune (exceptions of a few villages that were still inaccessible following on from the rainy season). The name of each village was recorded alongside a GPS location, the number of people and households, the predominant ethnic group and language spoken, what basic services were available, and whether there was internet/phone signal.
- A three-day preparatory meeting with follow-up discussions was carried out to plan for the effective delivery of birth registration work across 20 villages in the Dialocoto Commune of Senegal. Participants of these meetings were:
 - Two representatives of Kamben
 - One representative from Niokolo Network
 - Local consultant/Trainer
 - Government Officer for the office of birth registration at the local Town Hall
 - Inputs from staff of World Vision and Caritas

This meeting achieved the following:

- Criteria for the selection of villages were discussed, and following on from this 20 villages were selected by Kamben and the Mayor's Office using the data from the baseline study described above. These villages were sorted into the three experimental groups on the basis of whether there was a good enough internet and phone signal for awareness raising messages via telephone networks or not.
- Criteria for the selection of volunteer community mobilisers were discussed- important points were that they must be able to read and write in French, they must live in one of the selected villages, they must have time available across the whole project period, must be competent in using a smart phone, have an aptitude for public speaking, speak Mandinka and Pulaar, and have a bike or motorbike in order to travel between local villages. On the basis of this, seven community mobilisers were selected. Each volunteer would be responsible for between 1 and 5 villages, depending on size and proximity. The mobilisers are to be responsible within their villages for awareness raising activities, supporting film screenings, creating and managing a telephone information network, collecting of evaluation data, and helping to collect birth registration documents. It was further decided that mobilisers would have their expenses covered, be provided with any equipment needed to do their work, and receive a per diem of £4/day for specific activities to ensure that work is carried out without delays due to the prioritisation of other paid work.
- The annual work plan is agreed and signed off

- A training programme was delivered for Kamben and the seven community mobilisers. This was delivered by locally recruited consultants with support from Niokolo Network's Director of Ops. This achieved:
 - The signing of an MOU with the Marie of Dialocoto for the co-delivery of birth registration across 20 rural villages
 - The members of Kamben and the community mobilisers understand the objectives of the programme and the planned methodology
 - A Code of Conduct and Letter of Engagement is signed by each volunteer
 - The annual work plan is agreed and signed off
- Members of Kamben and the community mobilisers started to create a list for each of the 20 project villages including the name and details of each person lacking their birth certificate.
- A baseline survey was designed and roll out of this began at the household level and in the primary schools located in the 20 focal villages collecting information on the project indicators: the number of students lacking birth registration; the level of understanding of the birth registration process; the level of motivation to register the birth of new-borns, and the number of new-borns in a household that are not registered.
- A context analysis survey was designed and roll out of this began at the household level to understand peoples' understanding of the importance of birth registration, and to what extent people understand the process of birth registration. The results from this will help shape our behaviour change and awareness raising later in the project.
- Community mobilisers have started to collect telephone numbers from each household in their villages.

Activities in Wales

The opportunity to participate in a series of four Digital Story Telling Workshops was advertised through Hub Cymru Africa communications channels and through direct contact with charities we thought might benefit. So far two workshops have been held:

- Workshop1: Planning your story

This workshop was delivered by Free Focus Film online and covered: determining the message; identifying the audience; considering resources and capacity; understanding equipment; pre-production planning; and consent. Five Wales-based charitable organisations with links to Africa participated.

- Workshop 2: Capturing your story

This workshop was delivered in-person by Free Focus Film and covered tips and techniques for capturing good quality images, videos and sound. Two of the organisations from the previous workshop participated.

Next steps: In 2023 we look forward to:

- ❖ Completing the baseline survey and context analysis survey
- ❖ Completing the collection of phone numbers and community WhatsApp groups
- ❖ Planning and producing film clips to share information in local languages on the importance of birth registration, and the correct steps to take to register a birth;
- ❖ Working with the government office of birth registration to submit the applications for all eligible applicants for birth registration across the target 20 villages, and then distributing the completed birth registration documents and carrying out an endline survey to measure the impacts of our work;
- ❖ Work with Kamben Film Group and children in Senegal to produce a film depicting what life is like for children living in Senegal
- ❖ Deliver global education activities for young people in Wales to better understand the life of young people in Senegal;

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At the current time Niokolo Network is a small charity. We do not have any governance costs and it is the decision of the charity's trustees that no commitments to support charitable activities should be made until the necessary funds have been secured. As such, at the present time trustees are content that it is not necessary to hold any funding in reserve, but that this should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Section F Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

First name(s)

Dr Tabitha Ndiaye

Dr Daphne Kerhoas

Signature(s)

Position



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.01.2022		31.12.2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds 2022 to the nearest £	Restricted funds 2022 to the nearest £	Total funds 2022 to the nearest £	Total funds 2021 to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Donations				260
Grants		23,597	23,597	7,336
Sub total		23,597	23,597	7,596
A2 Asset and investment sales				
None				
Sub total				
Total Receipts		23,597	23,597	7,596
A3 Payments				
Charitable activities	58	7,072	7,130	9,115
Governance costs		263	263	101
Sub total	58	7,335	7,393	9,216
A4 Asset and investment purchases				
Sub total				
Total Payments	58	7,335	7,393	9,216
Net of receipts/(payments)	(58)	16,262	16,204	(1,620)
A5 Transfers between funds				
A6 Cash funds last year end	466	2,494	2,960	4,580
Cash funds this year end	408	18,756	19,164	2,960

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds 2022 to nearest £	Restricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022
B1 Cash funds				
	Cash in UK bank	408	18,632	19,040
	Cash in Senegal bank		123	123
	Total cash funds	408	18,755	19,163
B2 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Cost	Current value	
	None	-	-	-
B3 Liabilities	None	-	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Date of approval

Tabitha Ndiaye

Lorraine Clarke

NIOKOLO NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1169126

Accounts

	Trustees' Annual Report for the period								
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The objects of the charity are to be achieved through:

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- The protection and restoration of the environment by the prudent use of natural resources.

Section D Activities and Achievements

2021 Achievements

We continue to deliver our work through partnerships with Senegalese organisations. Our key partners continue to be the Senegalese Community Based Organisation “Kamben” and the Senegalese NGO “Kamben Productions”. Over the course of this year we also began a new relationship with the French Association Nawari Kourientine, which supports the delivery of the community development plan for Kourientine village, on the NW side of Niokolo-Koba National Park and we are excited for opportunities to share our skills and learnings from overlapping areas of work. The achievements listed here would not have been possible without the hard work of our partners and the many other organisations who have lent us their support. We are also grateful to the Welsh Government’s Wales and Africa Grant Scheme, The Waterloo Foundation, the Strathspey Charitable Trust and The Kitchen Table Charities Trust for the grant funding that enabled us to carry out the work described below.

Key Achievements

- ✓ Completion of a series of six short local language film/music clips providing messages to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and to reduce vaccine hesitancy for the COVID-19 vaccine.
- ✓ Distribution of COVID-19 film/music clips through social media and YouTube channel, achieving ~80,000 views.
- ✓ Hygiene promotion with handwashing devices and locally made soap with hygiene behaviour prompts across eight villages
- ✓ Expansion of birth registration work, helping over 300 people to get their birth certificate from across six villages
- ✓ Kamben Productions continue to maintain their small office and to produce local language educational films.

2021 Activities

Local context

COVID-19 continued to dominate headlines and happenings in Senegal in 2021, and was the main external factor to impact on our activities over the course of the year. Early in the year a second wave began to hit Senegal and the country’s President declared that the country should re-enter a state of emergency. The first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine were planned to arrive in March 2021 but with the expectation that large-scale roll out would take time. Vaccine hesitancy was a big concern, with numerous myths circulating about the risks and politics of the vaccine drive, and a belief that these fears could result in low vaccine uptake even when vaccines were readily available. In response to the ongoing pandemic, we continued to prioritise the health and safety of our project partners and to follow government restrictions, in particular this was seen in our continued use of animated clips distributed through social media and phone networks, rather than the community-based film making and screenings that had previously been a big part of our work. As well as changing our way of working,

we also continued to develop and run COVID-19 awareness raising campaigns alongside our ongoing rural birth registration programme.

Projects:

1. COVID-19 Health Campaign

The start of 2021 saw Niokolo Network and our Senegal partners complete the production of a music clip called Xeex Corona, a two minute rap in Wolof reaching out to young people to stress that Covid-19 is a serious illness and that they should take the social distancing restrictions seriously. This added to three other short film clips produced the previous year, with the final collection of four videos providing key public health messaging in local languages, targeted to different audiences.



“Xeex COVID-19”

A 1.5-minute film clip. Senegalese soundtrack with French subtitles. The clip provides the WHO guidance within the setting of a Senegalese street scene. Click [here](#) to watch.



“Un message pour les enfants”

A 2-minute film clip to help younger children understand public health guidance and to normalise mask wearing and more distanced play. A Senegalese soundtrack is used. Click [here](#) to watch.



“Suivi ces etapes simples...”

A 3-minute animation with Mandinka voice over and French subtitles. The film explains what the virus is, what the symptoms are, how it is transmitted, 5 steps to reducing transmission, and what to do if you suspect you or another has COVID-19. Click [here](#) to watch.



“Xeex Corona”

A 2-minute rap in Wolof. Reaching out to young adults to stress that the virus is real and that it is killing people. Looking to persuade them to wear masks correctly and washing hands when spending time with friends. Click [here](#) to watch.

Following on from the production of the above film clips focussing on the prevention of COVID-19 transmission, we then produced two new films with funding from the Welsh Government's Wales and Africa Grant Programme. These focussed in on the issue of vaccine hesitancy within the Senegalese general public. For the initial animation film we began with our partner organisations (Kamben and Kamben Productions) sharing with us the key COVID-19 vaccine myths circulating within our area of work. Using this information Niokolo Network wrote a draft film script referring to various trusted websites such as the WHO and John Hopkins Medicine COVID-19 Myth Busting internet pages. We shared the script with members of the Wales Africa Health Links Network and THET who kindly fact-checked the information we were providing, before sending a final version of the script to Kamben Productions and Kamben to make sure the information was context appropriate. Once the final draft of the script had been agreed by all partner organisations, this was made into an animated film with Wolof narration and French subtitles. The second film was made from an interview with the Doctor in charge of COVID-19 oversight at a major hospital in Dakar. We added these two new films focussing on vaccine hesitancy, to the four previously produced films focussing in on COVID-19 public health advice.



“Se vacciner, se protégé”

A 2-minute animation clip. Wolof narration with French sub-titles. The clip provides information on why vaccination is important, how the vaccine works, the safety tests that vaccines go through, the common side-effects experienced, and what is known about the effectiveness of the vaccines. Click [here](#) to watch.



“Recommandations de Docteur Ndour”

A 4-minute interview in Wolof with French sub-titles with Dr Ndour, a COVID-19 specialist at a Dakar hospital, sharing his knowledge and advice relating to the disease and recommending vaccination as a way of preventing serious illness in adults. Click [here](#) to watch.

This series of six film clips was distributed nationwide via Facebook. Key metrics describing the impact of our information campaign are provided in the table below. The project also helped Kamben Film grow the number of followers they have on their YouTube channel, this has reached 286 people ensuring that every time they publish a film it immediately reaches close to 300 people who have especially indicated an interest in their work. Films published on the Kamben Film YouTube page have been viewed a total of 28,929 times showing that this is also an effective platform for reaching people.

Film	People Reached	No. views >1minute	No. of Reactions
Se vacciner, se protégé	34,475	28,948	31
Docteur Ndour	19,719	542	78
Xeex COVID-19	70,382	7,432	714
Message pour les enfants	39,068	4,585	2,072
Suivi ces etapes simples	54,370	8,459	65
Xeex Corona	49,546	9,200	1,145
Total	267,560	52,166	4,105

In 2021 we also began a trial of establishing a communications network across selected villages situated adjacent to Niokolo-Koba National Park. To do this we used a communications platform developed and run by the Senegalese NGO Jokalanti as well as WhatsApp groups to distribute regular prompts relating to public health advice across rural communities situated around Niokolo-Koba National Park. A total of 25 short animated film clips were produced by Kamben Film Group covering topics such as handwashing and social distancing and the correct way to wear a mask. They also aimed to bust common myths in circulation, for example eating chili will not prevent you from catching the virus, the virus can spread in hot countries, and young people are not immune. These short clips had a duration of less than 20 seconds and were designed to be regular reminders or prompts to sustain changes in behaviour. Contact details were collected across six villages using the free survey software Kobobox, and film clips were shared via mobile phones. A training was provided by two German volunteers on how to use the software Kobobox to collect information in the field and transmit this to an online database.



Village volunteers receiving training to conduct the field surveys needed to set up our communication networks

2. Health and Hygiene

In 2020 we began a programme of installing Tippy Taps and had completed this within households in a single village. By the end of 2021 we had increased this to a total of 234 tippy taps installed across eight villages in the vicinity of Niokolo-Koba National Park within the commune of Dialocoto. The Tippy Tap is a handwashing structure that is operated using a foot (avoiding contamination from germs on a person's hand) with soap conveniently attached within reach. It is a very simple design that can be built with minimum instructions, with basic tools and using materials that can be found for free in the local area or purchased cheaply on local markets. A single Tippy Tap was installed per household and was installed at the entrance.



A Tippy Tap installed at the entrance to a family home.



Demonstrating how to use the Tippy Tap

A small team of local youth took responsibility for constructing the Tippy Taps and reported that the installation was easy, but over the year they started to improve the design by adding an old tyre filled with gravel to better absorb the used water and to avoid attracting livestock and bees. Generally community members were happy with the Tippy Tap model, but whilst some households maintained and frequently used the Tippy Tap, in other households the Tippy Tap was knocked down by loose livestock and not repaired. Ongoing campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of handwashing will be important, and towards the end of the project Kamben was seeing an increasing interest from other villages to have Tippy Taps installed.

Although soap is an essential part of getting rid of germs whilst handwashing, in more remote and rural areas it is often hard to find and typically the soap for sale in local shops is imported, expensive, and made with unsustainable palm oil sources. Over the course of 2021 Niokolo Network has worked with Kamben and with our new partner Nawari Kourientine to support two groups of women to produce local soap. The women's group from Badi village had been making and selling four different kinds of soap made with local palm oil, banana powder and shea butter for the last 10 years but they had basic materials and were struggling to increase their number of sales. Niokolo Network helped them to buy some new equipment and also purchased a bulk order of soaps to be used with the installed Tippy-Taps. A second group of women based in Kourientine village began soap making work with new equipment purchased for them and training provided by Claire Clément, a member of Niokolo Network and Nawari Kourientine.



Soap making group and soap from Badi village



Soap making group and soap from Kourientine village

3. Birth Registration Programme

Activities were begun in early 2021 to build on our last year's pilot rural birth registration event. Documents were collected from six villages from a total of 318 people lacking their birth registration certificate (primarily students in their final year of Primary school) and these were signed off at the local Town Hall prior to being sent off to the court house in Tambacounda. It was particularly notable that School teachers in the focal villages were very motivated to help their students not miss their final exam and they participated actively in the project, helping to identify the members of the community who lacked their birth certificate and to fill in the relevant application forms for them. By the end of 2021 we were waiting for the certificates to pass through the Tribunal Office in Tambacounda in order for the certificates to be signed off and distributed via village teachers.

Kamben Association and Kamben Film Group

Over the course of 2021 we continued to support the activities of Kamben Association through financial support of a Project co-ordinator. We helped Kamben Productions to maintain an office on the outskirts of Dakar. From here they were able to produce the short film clips and animation clips described in the sections above.

Next steps: In 2022 we look forward to:

- ❖ Focussing in on the Commune of Dialocoto and carrying out a census to map the villages included within;
- ❖ Expanding our birth registration work and village-level communication network across more villages within the commune of Dialocoto;
- ❖ Continuing our COVID-19 campaigns and hygiene promotion as needed and depending on how the pandemic unfolds over subsequent years;
- ❖ Looking at the feasibility of moving the office for Kamben Film Group back to our area of Programme delivery, to ensure that field operations and film production is tightly coupled;
- ❖ Maintaining our support of Kamben Productions and Kamben Association and seeking opportunities to strengthen their ability to carry out the valuable work they do. Continuing to seek out opportunities of partnership with Association Nawari Kourentine;
- ❖ Ensuring that Niokolo Network continues its growth as a competent and responsible registered charity.

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At the current time Niokolo Network is a small charity. We do not have any governance costs and it is the decision of the charity's trustees that no commitments to support charitable activities should be made until the necessary funds have been secured. As such, at the present time trustees are content that it is not necessary to hold any funding in reserve, but that this should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Section F Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

First name(s)	Dr Tabitha Ndiaye	Dr Daphne Kerhoas
Signature(s)		
Position	Chair of Trustees	Secretary

Date

20.10.2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Niokolo Network

1169126

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.01.2021		31.12.2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds 2021 to the nearest £	Restricted funds 2021 to the nearest £	Total funds 2021 to the nearest £	Total funds 2020 to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Donations	260		260	
Grants		7,336	7,336	8,700
Sub total	260	7,336	7,596	8,700
A2 Asset and investment sales				
None				
Sub total				
Total Receipts	260	7,336	7,596	8,700
A3 Payments				
Charitable activities		9,115	9,115	8,959
Governance costs		101	101	
Sub total		9,216	9,216	8,959
A4 Asset and investment purchases				
Sub total				
Total Payments		9,216	9,216	8,959
Net of receipts/(payments)	260	(1,880)	(1,620)	(259)
A5 Transfers between funds	192	(192)		
A6 Cash funds last year end	13	4,566	4,579	4,838
Cash funds this year end	465	2,494	2,959	4,580

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds 2021 to nearest £	Restricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021
B1 Cash funds	Cash in bank	465	2,494	2,959
	Total cash funds	465	2,494	2,959
B2 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Cost	Current value	
	None	-	-	-
B3 Liabilities	None	-	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Date of approval

Tabitha Ndiaye

Lorraine Clark

NIOKOLO NETWORK

England & Wales - Charity number 1169126

Accounts

	Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
	From	Period start date			To	Period end date	
	01	Jan	2020	31	Dec	2020	

Section A Reference and administration details	
Charity name	Niokolo Network
Other names charity is known by	None
Registered charity number (if any)	1169126
Charity's principal address	2 Alexandra Road
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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

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 Dr Matthis Drolet: 21.12.2016 – Present
 Dr Federica Dal Pesco 10.06.2019 - Present
 Roxanna Rawson 10.06.2019 - Present
 Claire Clément 28.02.2021 - Present

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed for a term of 2 years by a resolution passed at a convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is to promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public in economically disadvantaged communities on the periphery of Niokolo-Koba National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Danger located in south-eastern Senegal.

The objects of the charity are to be achieved through:

- The relief of poverty and the improvement of living conditions;
- The promotion of sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration;
- The protection and restoration of the environment by the prudent use of natural resources.

Section D

Activities and Achievements

2020 Achievements

We continue to work in close collaboration with the Senegalese Community Based Organisation "Kamben" and with the Senegalese NGO "Kamben Productions". The achievements listed here have been a team effort and we are grateful to our partners for continuing to inspire us with their hard work and commitment to our shared goals. We are also grateful to the Welsh Government's Wales and Africa Grant Scheme, the Peter-Alan Dickson Foundation, The Waterloo Foundation, and The Kitchen Table Charities Trust for the grant funding that enabled us to carry out the work described below. We have benefited hugely over the last year from the mentorship support provided by Hub Cymru Africa.

Rural communities surrounding Niokolo-Koba National Park in SE Senegal

- ❖ Production and distribution of an animated film providing information on the correct process for birth registration.
- ❖ Completion of a birth registration project, with 200 people from three villages supported to obtain their birth certificate.
- ❖ COVID-19 media campaign. Beginning the production of local-language film and music clips to provide factual information about COVID-19 and to deliver public health messages to help curb the spread of the virus.
- ❖ Handwashing facilities designed and installed in four rural communities

Dakar

- ❖ Kamben Productions were supported to maintain their small office and to continue to produce local-language educational films.

Wales

- ❖ Niokolo Network produced a series of five educational films to be used by Welsh schools within their home-working curriculum. These films provided fun facts on five different African countries, with each film finishing with a follow-along African dance class.
- ❖ Together with Hub Cymru Africa we undertook an organisational strengths and weakness assessment, and began work to strengthen areas of weakness.

2020 Activities

COVID-19 Impacts

It is not possible to describe the work of Niokolo Network over this last year without mentioning the impacts of the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst case numbers in rural areas of Senegal have been kept comparatively low, the Senegalese Government acted fast in putting a hard lockdown in place, and rules for social distancing and travel restrictions have had a significant impact on our work. From an early stage, we prioritised the health and safety of our project partners as well as the communities they work in by setting up community volunteer networks to minimise travel between villages. We have also switched from real-life films to animation clips which can be produced even during lockdown restrictions, and we have been increasingly looking to share these through social media and mobile phone networks instead of through rural cinema screenings. Whilst it has taken time to make these adaptations, and some efficacy is lost through a reduction in face-to-face communications, these new approaches also have enormous value in providing a cost-effective way of reaching large numbers of people, and we plan to incorporate these new tools into our work once restrictions are lifted.

As well as the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw an enormous opportunity to support efforts to curb the spread of the disease in Senegal via the rapid production and distribution of local-language films. As a result we introduced this as a core focus of our work alongside our ongoing programme of rural birth registration.

Birth Registration Programme

We had previously worked with the UK charity Purple Field Productions to produce a film telling the story of a young boy and the difficulties that his father encountered to get his birth certificate in time for him to sit his end of primary school exam. In Senegal, children who are unable to take this exam have to re-do the school year or drop out of school. This film was produced in the local language of Mandinka and had been very effective at motivating parents to try to register the births of their children. But we received feedback that parents were still unclear of the exact steps they needed to take. To overcome this, our partner organisation Kamben worked with the birth registration office in the nearby Town Hall to ensure we had precise details of the correct procedures for birth registration. Kamben then wrote a script using this information which was signed off by the District's Mayoral Office. Then, with COVID-19 restrictions just starting to be imposed, Kamben Film Group switched from filming live drama to using software to produce an animated clip that portrayed the correct procedures, also in the local language of Mandinka. This animation was added to the end of the existing film, which is published with English subtitles and French subtitles on the YouTube Channel "Kamben Film"



Moustapha talks to his mum about why he doesn't have his birth certificate

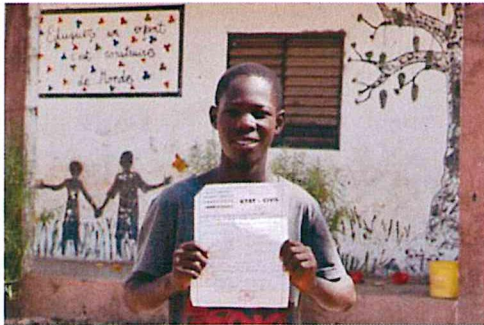


Animation illustrating the necessary steps needed to declare a child's birth

A rural birth registration event was held at the end of 2019, with forms for 200 people being submitted. The early months of 2020 saw these documents going through the correct procedures for sign off at the level of the tribunal office in Tambacounda and at the Town Hall in Dialocoto. The completed birth certificates were then distributed.



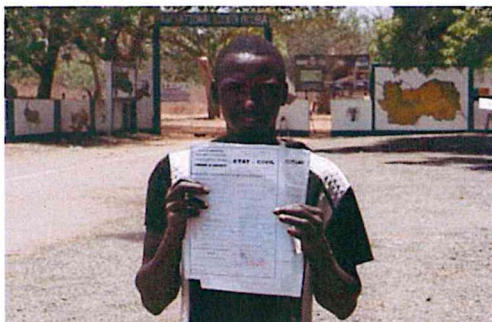
These three students of CP and CE2 at the school of Dar Salam now have their birth certificate. For them, it is the assurance of being able to continue until the end of primary school without worry, and they already have the necessary paper to pass their college entrance exam. They won't have an excuse to give up along the way!



Harouna, a CM2 student, is happy to have obtained his birth certificate. At the end of the year he will be able to take his first exam which will allow him to enter college and continue learning. Even though he doesn't yet know what he wants to become, Harouna plans to continue at least until college.



Banna received her birth certificate earlier this year. Banna is shy, but if asked if she wants to stay home and cook, she replies that that is out of the question, because she will be a teacher.... Or even a lawyer!



Toutou is 28 years old. He attended school until fifth grade, but was unable to register for the exam due to a lack of birth certificate. Since then he has submitted his file 3 times himself to obtain his birth certificate.... but without success. Thanks to the hearing organised by Kamben, Toutou finally received his certificate and he has just applied for an identity card. Since receiving his certificate he has been able to find work as a labourer, and today Toutou and other young people from the area have teamed up to start their own farming business.

COVID-19 Health Campaign

In early 2020, the world was watching COVID-19 spread rapidly across high-income countries, with high death rates even in countries with strong health systems. Looking at these patterns of spread, The World Health Organisation warned that Africa should prepare for the worst. The Government of Senegal declared a state of emergency and imposed a range of social distancing restrictions, however very little information about the virus was reaching people in the remote areas that we work in.

In mid-2020 Niokolo Network, Kamben and Kamben Productions planned the production of four clips: we aimed for these to be produced in a local language and to help people understand what the virus is, where it came from, and how to behave to curb infection. By the end of the year we had worked with Kamben Film group to produce three local language film and music clips. These were distributed through social media channels and have been viewed over 200,000 times.

Etape 1: les mains

Lavez - vous les mains
pendant au moins 20
secondes avec du savon.
ou utilisée une solution
hydro alcoolisée.



A two minute animation describing what COVID-19 is, steps to take to reduce transmission of the virus, symptoms of the virus, and what to do if you suspect you have the virus.



A music clip of just over a minute, showing how small changes to everyday behaviour can reduce risk of catching and spreading the virus.



A short music clip aimed at children, to normalise social distancing behaviour and remind about the importance of good hygiene when playing with friends.

Alongside our messaging campaign, we also looked at how to enable better hand hygiene within rural villages, where handwashing with soap is rarely practiced. This aligns closely with advice from the World Health Organisation which stresses that handwashing with soap is the most cost-effective way of reducing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. We trained up a small team of local youth to be able to instal tippy taps- a simple handwashing device that works by using the foot as a lever to tip water out from a container allowing hands to be washed without touching any of the equipment with your hands. These tippy-taps were initially installed within each household in a single village. Towards the end of the year we secured further funding to replicate this work in a further seven villages with approx. 3,500 inhabitants. We also planned to support a local women's group to increase their production and sales of a local soap block.



A young women using a household tippy tap.



A women's group producing solid soaps for sale

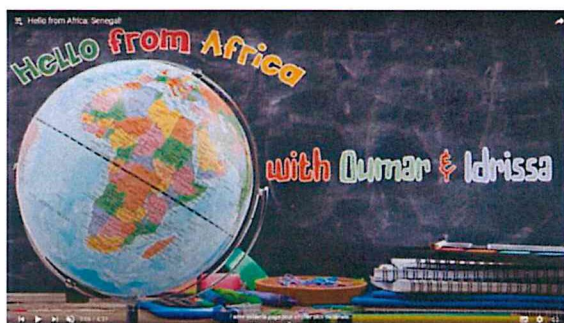


Kamben Film Group

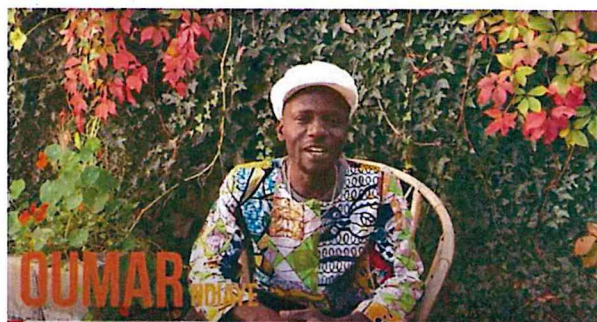
In 2019 Niokolo Network helped Kamben Productions to establish an office on the outskirts of Dakar, where they could have reliable access to electricity and set up their equipment for the production of film and music clips. Kamben Productions also planned to start up additional activities relating to event promotion in order to make the group more financially sustainable without ongoing external support. Unfortunately the lockdowns and closures that were brought in as a result of COVID-19 prevented many of these plans to take off- nevertheless, Kamben Productions continued to cover their expenses and remain operational through film-making contracts with Niokolo Network. A great achievement for a new business working under very challenging conditions.

Wales- educational activities

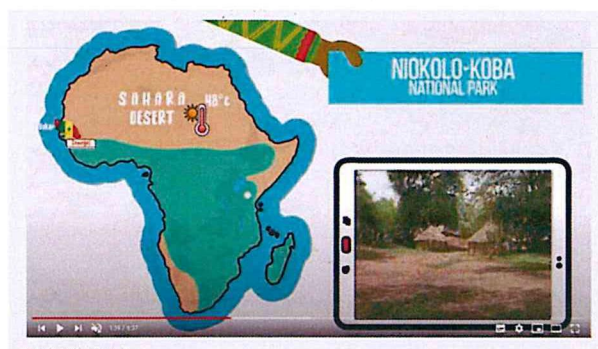
We had planned to accompany our work in Senegal with global education sessions including live African dance lessons within primary schools in Wales. But due to COVID-19 and the closure of schools for a large part of 2020, we had to adapt our plans and rather than delivering educational sessions within schools we worked with a film producer in Wales to develop a series of five videos providing fun facts about five different African countries followed by a follow-along African dance class with Idrissa Camara. We have made these videos freely available on YouTube and shared them with local schools and other groups we thought might be interested. We have received positive feedback from teachers who have agreed to include these films as part of their home-education resources packages.



The "Hello from Africa" series



Presented by Oumar Ndiaye



The Senegal episode



A follow-along African dance class with Idrissá Kamara

Hub Cymru Africa – Mentorship support

In early 2020 Niokolo Network was selected to take part in a mentoring programme run by Hub Cymru Africa. We began by carrying out an assessment of how Niokolo Network was being run, and highlighted a few areas to focus on and improve. Over the course of the year we have reviewed and considered how best to strengthen our:

- Financial Management Procedures
- Safeguarding measures for Wales and Senegal
- Communications strategy
- Theory of Change

Next steps

In 2021 we look forward to:

- Continuing our support of birth registration in rural villages around Niokolo-Koba National Park, so that no child misses out on an education due to this easily solved barrier.
- Continuing to produce COVID-19 messaging to reduce the impacts of the virus in Senegal
- Replicating our handwashing work in additional villages and ensuring that affordable locally-produced soap is available
- Maintaining our support of Kamben Productions and Kamben Association and seeking opportunities to strengthen their ability to carry out the valuable work they do.
- Ensuring that Niokolo Network continues its growth as a competent and responsible registered charity.

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At the current time Niokolo Network is a relatively new charity with a very small annual income. We do not have any governance costs and it is the decision of the charity's trustees that no commitments to support charitable activities should be made until the necessary funds have been secured. As such, at the present time trustees are content that it is not necessary to hold any funding in reserve, but that this should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

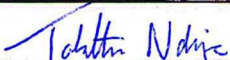
None

Section F Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Dr Tabitha Ndiaye Dr Daphne Kerhoas

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Secretary

Date

20.09.21



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Nickolo Network

1150125

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.01.2020		31.12.2020

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds 2020 to the nearest £	Restricted funds 2020 to the nearest £	Total funds 2020 to the nearest £	Total funds 2019 to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Donations				
Grants		8,700	8,700	8,309
Sub total		8,700	8,700	8,309
A2 Asset and investment sales				
None				
Sub total				
Total Receipts		8,700	8,700	8,309
A3 Payments				
Charitable activities		8,959	8,959	3,443
Governance costs				41
Sub total		8,959	8,959	3,484
A4 Asset and investment purchases				
Sub total				
Total Payments		8,959	8,959	3,484
Net of receipts/(payments)		(259)	(259)	4825
A5 Transfers between funds				
A6 Cash funds last year end	13	4,825	4,838	13
Cash funds this year end	13	4,566	4,579	4,838

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 to nearest £	Restricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020
B1 Cash funds			
Cash in bank	13	4,566	4,579
Total cash funds	13	4,566	4,579
B2 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Cost	Current value
	None		
B3 Liabilities	None		

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Date of approval

Tabitha Ndiaye

20.09.21

Daphne Kerhoas

20/09/21