



ONE GOAL

One Passion

One Attitude

One Energy

ONE GOAL is a multidisciplinary Project including education and action

Presentation

The use of amputation as a weapon of fear and intimidation was a common feature of the 10-year Civil war that ended in early 2002. Statistics regarding the number of surviving amputees are conflicting, even the conservative estimates recognize that many hundreds of people are directly affected, with thousands more affected indirectly.

One Goal Project makes us witnesses of the way towards Peace that a group of young amputees began some years ago. Thanks to their powerful play, they have managed to become an example for their society and for the rest of the amputees in Africa.

Originally war icons, they have managed to turn their lives into future icons by means of a passion: football.

“Disabled people want to be treated as normal citizens with rights. They want to be treated equally and participate as equal citizens in their communities

However, amputees (and disabled people more generally) do not have equal access to resources, and opportunities, they endure social exclusion, and have limited educational and employment prospects, which forces them and their dependents into poverty, Specific measures are needed to ensure their full inclusion and participation in National development.

The Sierra Leone's Team

The Sierra Leone's Team was set up as the war ended in 2001 by a group of young amputees who wanted to continue enjoying their favourite sport; football. Some had lost limbs in brutal amputations; others when bullet went untreated for lack of medical facilities.

Many of these amputees found themselves living in the Aberdeen Amputee Camp in Freetown with little to do and a severe lack of opportunities.

It was in this environment that some of the young men were introduced to the sport of amputee football. They enjoyed being active and loved the game. Thus was born the Sierra Leone's Team as an organisation to use sport, primarily football, as a vehicle for empowering amputees and creating opportunities for its members.

With the assistance of various national and international donors the Sierra Leone's Team turned the UK in 2003 and gained global recognition for their cause as well as the respect of UK amputee football teams. This proved a positive introduction to the international stage and they have since travelled to Brazil, Russia and Holland.

The Sierra Leone's Team currently has a total membership of 125 in the 5 teams across the country with ages between 16 and 35 years.

One Goal Project

One Goal Association will collaborate with The Sierra Leone's Team who represents amputees in their sportsmanship endeavours in the country.

A strategy plan including Capacity building, expansion of amputee soccer throughout the country, Provision of education, Job skills training, Micro enterprise supports, education initiatives and Advocacy for disable rights and Outreaches to their communities.

One Goal Project aims to improve the livelihoods of amputees in Sierra Leone. The focus is to increase awareness of the plight of amputees in Sierra and raise funds to implement projects that lead to increased opportunities to access education, improve their skills and gain the capacity to earn an income

Objectives

- Providing support for training and playing matches.
- Helping members to continue in education and gain qualifications
- Implementing Skills development programmes appropriate for amputees that increase employment and income opportunities
- Offering Micro finance programmes to give amputees capacity to generate income for themselves and their families
- Promotion of the needs of amputees to government and stakeholders

Obai Sessay "Iron Gate" (defender)

"Playing football has changed my life. Before, I had no hope, now I am proud of myself. I have travelled the world playing football and have hope for the future. None of this could happen without the Sierra Leone's Team."

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