



DAFI



Yemen: Former DAFI pharmacy student working in a drop out center



Kenya: Former DAFI scholar with his third class pupils



Senegal: Graduation ceremony

“The hope for further education is what made me what I am today.”

– Sudanese DAFI Graduate

The DAFI programme provides scholarships for qualified refugees to study at universities and colleges in their host country and, more recently, in their country of origin upon return. DAFI is implemented by UNHCR and fully funded by the Government of Germany since 1992. DAFI is the German acronym for Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative.

In 2011, over 1,700 DAFI students enrolled in the DAFI academic scholarship programme went beyond achieving only academic success. They engaged in and launched many remarkable initiatives in collaboration with UNHCR DAFI focal points and partners in 39 UNHCR country operations. This review highlights their achievements and acknowledges their efforts and enthusiasm by sharing their inspiring ideas with the members of the global DAFI community.

Azerbaijan-

Contributing to community education

DAFI scholars contributed to **community education** by organizing tutorials, education sessions and conversation clubs for school children at the Refugee Women and Youth Center e.g. in Math, Computer Literacy and English.



Find the 2010 DAFI Annual Report on:
<http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e4a2dd6.html>

Botswana-

Marketing Graduates' Skills

Former DAFI scholars created a **concept proposal** for an association called "Give Back Consultancy" that aims at offering free language interpretation, access to information technology and academic coaching.

The DAFI scholars have also formed an association that works to raise awareness on refugee issues. The association organizes activities such as a **Tree Planting Day** at Dukwi Refugee Camp.



Benin-

Funding club activities

The DAFI Club from Benin provided counseling on career and education choices, participated in the World Refugee Day, organized an HIV/AIDS awareness campaign for the refugee camp in Agamè and **established a funding scheme for DAFI Club activities.**



Burundi-

Participating in an International Conference



A DAFI scholar in Burundi **participated in a conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration** in Kampala organized by the Refugee Law Project. The conference explored the linkages between governance and forced migration.

DRC-

Contributing to development and entrepreneurship

Two former DAFI students from Tanzania who recently repatriated to the DRC after completing their Master studies shared their initiative. While they were at the university in Tanzania, they **founded an NGO** with the aim to provide training on entrepreneurship, business and project planning and management. When repatriated to the DRC, they adapted the initiative to the national context and continued their activities. Reportedly, the IED - **Entrepreneurship Learning and Development Initiative** - has been contributing to the country's post conflict reconstruction by supporting the community to find ways to improve their living conditions.



Ghana: DAFI Workshop with a representative from the German MFA

Ghana-

Publishing a magazine

The DAFI Club Ghana organized a **talk show** for the World Refugee Day on the "Rights, Responsibilities and Challenges of Refugee Students" for three senior high schools in Buduburam settlement to encourage high school students to work towards attaining a tertiary qualification.

The Annual DAFI seminar focused on enabling scholars to develop a strong **work ethic** before entering job markets, acquiring necessary skills to work and how to "survive" in corporate organizations and cope and manage problems at their future work places. Another seminar for final year students was on **research writing** with a specific focus on research data analysis including the use of a statistical analysis tool (SPSS) during research work.

The DAFI project in Ghana published a **magazine** known as "The REFUGEE, Our Story, My Story", which serves as a morale booster, a motivation for refugees, an appreciation of the programme benefactors and a means to educate the general public about DAFI.

During the long vacation 8 members of the DAFI Club carried out **voluntary teaching sessions** in the schools of the refugee community in Buduburam. Two participants in the teaching sessions who passed their exams got university admission and are currently on DAFI scholarships said they were motivated by the DAFI Club.



Iran- Launching a website

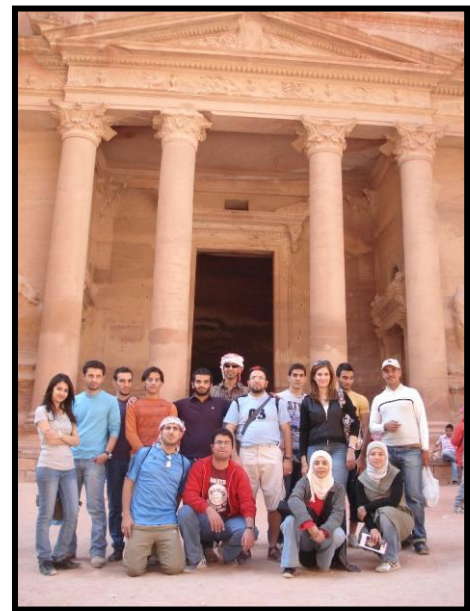


At the beginning of the year DAFI students in Iran, with the assistance of the University Union representative, organized a workshop on Health, Life Skills and Weblog writing methods. Another workshop was organized on Creativity Concepts and Communications Skills. **A DAFI forum** was presented and inaugurated at the workshop. It serves as a virtual environment for interaction between DAFI students, offering the latest news and encouraging former and current scholars to share thoughts, academic articles and job opportunities in the region.



Kenya- Networking at career week

Students and the DAFI implementing partner participated in Kenyatta University's **career week**.



Jordan: Trip to Petra and Wadi Rum with DAFI students

Jordan- Participating in a Robotic Championship

Seven DAFI scholars participated in the **4th Open Arab Robotics Championship**. The event is organized yearly by the National Educational Centre for Robotics. Teams from different Educational sectors from Jordan and the Arab world compete in designing and programming robots. All volunteers received participation certificates and memorial gifts for their outstanding role in the event.

One DAFI student participated as a volunteer in the **Annual Scientific Summer Camp** that was held for school students at Jubilee Institute. She took her responsibility in supervising and guiding participants.

Several students participated in different **training courses** such as: Image Processing, Matlab Robotics, TOEFL Preparation and German language. Students received certificates of accomplishment at the end of the courses. Swimming and football classes were also arranged. In addition to this many educational trips were organized.

Kyrgyzstan-

Promoting tolerance and peace

A group of DAFI scholars organized several campaigns in public schools under the topic "We are the children of one planet" aiming to raise awareness of refugee issues and promote tolerance and non-violent behavior. They used methods like the **forum theatre** (short interactive theatre performances) to guarantee active student participation. The campaigns were announced in the local newspaper and on the UNHCR website.



Panama-

Becoming community leaders

Eight **workshops** were organized in Panama on the following topics: psychological and cognitive tools that help students to handle their emotions, personal and career counseling, life planning, study skills, awareness and prevention of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS

Two DAFI scholars are actively involved as **community leaders, supporting their community** in terms of mobilization and protection.



Namibia-

Finding additional funding

A private Namibian Financial Institution called Standard Bank Namibia provides a **partial scholarship** to a female student to study at a tertiary institution in Namibia.



Panama: workshop with DAFI students



Panama: Celebration of the closing of the academic year 2011 with Christmas lunch and gift exchange

Russia-

Radio broadcasting



At the end of November 2011 a meeting was held for ongoing and ex-DAFI students in the context of the **Human Rights Day** ("The rights of refugees and Integration of young refugees in Moscow and the Moscow Region").

Besides representatives of UNHCR, a well-known radio was also invited to the workshop and obtained an interview from students for a monthly **radio broadcast**.

Tanzania-

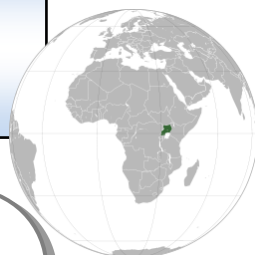
Launching new projects

The DAFI Students Organization in Tanzania (DAFISOTA) was established with the goal of sharing information on academic issues, private and general matters, raising awareness of HIV/AIDS and supporting education activities. Several activities were organized such as the preparation of a project proposal for the Establishment of four Tuition Centers for English Language, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology in Nyarugusu refugee camp and the creation of a **weblog** (<http://dafisota.wordpress.com>) which aims at sharing information among DAFI scholars.



Uganda-

Developing job readiness skills



A "**CV writing skills**" workshop helped final year students to write effective job application letters and CVs and to develop good interview presentation skills. A second seminar targeted continuing students and covered the topic "Leadership and Entrepreneurship" intended to encourage participants to think of contributing to fill leadership gaps in their communities. A focus was also placed on Entrepreneurship to develop ideas on self-employment after graduation.



Uganda: DAFI Students on the occasion of donating exercise books and stationery to secondary schools students in Kyaka II refugee settlement

Yemen

Winning a Refugee Youth Competition

The DAFI Union in Yemen organized an **Arabic Language Seminar** for newly arrived students and campaigns for the community in the Basateen refugee camp aiming to promote awareness of hygiene, environmental protection and HIV.

In August, six DAFI students participated in a **Refugee Youth Culture Competition** event and won the first place among all refugee teams.

From March to June, three female DAFI students worked as **volunteer teachers** in drop-out centers in Sana'a in order to encourage and teach children with learning difficulties.



Yemen: DAFI scholars with students and parents during HIV and environmental awareness campaign



Yemen: workshop for DAFI students

DAFI Scholars Strategic Leadership Modeling Workshop in KENYA

In June 2011, 60 DAFI delegates from Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya convened at a workshop to discuss the involvement of refugee scholars in **leadership initiatives in Africa**. The workshop took place in Kenya.

Participants used the opportunity to develop a joint program on communication and development issues.

A big Thank You to all DAFI Implementing Partners and UNHCR colleagues for their dynamism and commitment and of course, thanks to all DAFI Scholars who have given back to their communities and continue to act as role models.

Refugee Women Speak Out

The report on Dialogues with women and girls held around the world between November 201 and May 2011 shows that education for girls beyond primary level is highly valued.

Students and parents expressed their frustration at the lack of opportunities to pursue secondary or tertiary education, and girls dropping out of school early. "Studying is expensive and scholarships are so rare. So girls are forced into early marriage because there is no other option."

"I fled my home country twice and walked days through the jungle and the rivers to find safety. Finally we came here. My parents – both highly educated – can hardly make ends meet working in a little shop, but I have been fortunate to receive a DAFI Scholarship with which I am now studying at the university. I worry about my family and the future but I am so grateful for the opportunities I got working hard for them".



"We need those women that are educated to teach the women who don't know, who are not educated."

(Source: Report. Dialogues with Woman and girls, 2011, UNHCR)

<http://www.unhcr.org/4f4f389f9.html>

20th Anniversary of DAFI

The efforts of DAFI students are not only rewarded with a Degree. 1724 students are enrolled in the programme in 38 countries and thousands of graduates have had a positive and inspiring multiplier effect with the support of the whole DAFI network, universities, partners, and refugee communities. As shown in this document, DAFI is much more than an academic initiative.

2012 will mark the 20th Anniversary of the DAFI programme, which has been supported since 1992 by the German Government.

Some ideas to celebrate and show the multiplier effect of higher education include:

- Help us organize a journey with DAFI students through their own videos
- Encourage DAFI graduates to stay in touch through a facebook album
- Support the Alumni network and participate in the online DAFI Community
- Organize an event in the field with all DAFI stakeholders to celebrate and showcase the impact of tertiary education

Engage in the DAFI network!

Website: <http://www.refed.org/>

DAFI Blog: <http://dafischolars.org/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/DAFI-Albert-Einstein-German-Academic-Refugee-Initiative/106199899409173>