

#1 Arajel Aboilil – “Drama for Integrity”

Engaging young students in schools through anti-corruption theatre

Name

Arajel Aboilil

Date of birth

31/12/1984

Gender

Male

Nationality

Mauritanian

Profession

Journalist

Country of residence

Mauritania

Why I fight corruption

Because corruption is undermining our present and future; because of the practices that led to the death of many in their hospital beds and deprived others of accessing their rights; because it obstructs the dreams of our peoples of a better future; because its repercussions deprived us of opportunities for good education, and made our graduates useless in real life; because it still has a huge toll on political life in our country, with lots of frustration and failures attached.

Your experience

Regardless of my participation in the initiative “Publish what you pay” that I worked on along with the teamwork of “coalition against bribes in Mauritania” since 2011, it became quite apparent to me now that resisting corruption starts with educating the young as a basis for facilitating public advocacy for fighting corruption in Mauritania.

Since I teach drama and organize interactive drama shows, I think using “Drama for integrity” as an initiative will be the first of its kind in the Arab world, and it should have an impact, along with other relevant initiatives.

Title

Drama for Integrity

Brief description

Close-mindedness towards a deeper understanding for the phenomenon of corruption, through considering it related to the political field, is one of the main reasons why the project “Drama for Integrity” came about. i.e., working on building public advocacy instead of the traditional elitist way of fighting corruption.

Context

Corruption in Mauritania takes various shapes and manifestations. Bribery is considered one of its main facets, be it on the individual or collective level. Due to the accepting political environment in Mauritania, corruption became an ordinary practice accepted by citizens and within governmental offices. Citizens became coerced to accept it, which needs raising awareness in order to give the concepts of transparency and integrity their due respect in a community that takes its values and principles from religion.

Target

The project targets preparatory year one students, between 12 and 16 years old, over the months of the school year. This targeted category will be involved with the dramatic process, through participation and taking parts, individual and collective, within the single show. Which means that the drama event will be prepared by them, and targeting them, when most students will become participants instead of spectators.

Who will benefit?

It's important to notice that working with children within a modern and unique drama context, like the "School Drama" that will expose social behavior towards corruption and other behaviors known by the children, means that they will have a direct role in extending that kind of interactive [collective] awareness to their families and communities, enabling many discussions about our stance as a society towards corruption.

Game changing factor

It might be proper to speak about the role played, and will be played, by art in the field of social, cultural and political change throughout history. But when it comes to School Drama, in terms of extending the values of integrity to the young, and to our community subsequently, we are here speaking about new thinking, which is considered a unique learning process.

The project is considered unique because it returns due respect to the "learning character". It's also considered creative/innovative since it adds a new dimension in the formation of the young elites; pushing them to think and practice thinking in a different way.

Project partners

This project will accommodate teachers specialized in the field of school drama, and also drama in learning context. They will design and plan drama shows related to corruption and its manifestations, under supervision from specialists from the education department, in the Mauritanian Ministry of Education. People from the Ministry of Children and Family will evaluate the impact from the first segment of the project, beside the involvement of the Education Inspectors from the Ministry of Education.

Results

We are working on professional reports to measure the achievements of the project, that will include:

- . Adding a new curriculum that interests the children.
- . Putting an educational basis for fighting corruption inside our classes.
- . Creating a state of communal awareness towards the dangers of corruption in the school and at home.
- . Creating an anti-corruption club to sustain the message in high school and later on in university, etc.

How will you know when you have achieved these results?

Results can be measured as follows:

- . Through positive results from the specialized evaluation committees.
- . Through adding that curriculum to the study schedule in targeted schools.
- . Through doing a survey that the families reached through students will participate in.
- . Through building a clear picture about the dangers of corruption, in shows that the graduated club members got trained on.

Planning table

See below

What challenges do you think you will face in implementing your project?

Among the bigger challenges we noticed are:

- . Lack of interaction from the students, that we will overcome by making it a compulsory subject, and putting special incentives.
- . Lack of interaction from the families, which we will overcome by raising awareness and proper advertising.
- . Lack of funding, that we try to overcome through writing to related bodies.
- . Drama shows overlap with academic studies, which we will overcome by coordinating with the concerned authorities.

How do you plan to make your project results sustainable?

We can notice the sustainability of the project on more than one front:

The project in its initial stage will work on the age group 12 to 16.

In second stage it will work on age group 16 to 19.

In third stage it will work on age group 19 to 23.

It's also noteworthy that each of the 3 age categories will participate with their peers in class in exchanges about the drama experience, to reproduce it with more modern "givens" about corruption and its facets.

Overall budget of your project in EUR?

5134.27 Euros

Do you have other funding sources for your project? Will you seek other funding sources? Please explain.

I look forward to funding in order to provide for the sustainability of the project through concerned authorities working on the education we will organize.

Would your project become a social business? Please explain.

This project is part of the "dialogue league for culture and creativity" program, related to fighting corruption, and we do not intent to turn into a social company or a business aiming for profit in any way, because the program is essentially a not for profit regional organization, according to its bylaws and regulations.

Detailed budget proposal

See below

Planning Template

	Steps	Justification/Explanation	Evidence	Timeline	
#1	a-Choose between 30 to 40 students from the Preparatory schools "al Waii", "Al Sabi al Towal", "Qotb al Maarifa" in the capital Nouakchott, through a test on drama basics to determine level of interest and merit. b-Students will join preparatory sessions and we will coordinate with the "lessons" departments in the schools selected.	a- Because determining the targeted members for the project is considered a basic step for starting the work. b-These sessions will be the first stop towards knowing each other and putting a participatory work plan.	a-Concerned committees will nominate 35 students who fulfill the test criteria. b-A consolidated report about the goals of the session.	For (A): 2 weeks from the first month For (B): 2 weeks from the first month	Phase one: December 2014 – February 2015
#2	3.Discussion and group planning sessions about the first drama show against corruption. It will be performed by elements of the new teamwork with the rate of one drama class/week	3.All participants will participate in a brainstorming session in order to deepen the three topics discussed	2.An evaluation technical paper about the quality of the undergone performances/shows	1 month/from phase one	
#3	4.Carry on working on the second performance/show with the rate of one drama class/week	3.Because it is the first step towards sustainability	3.Video shooting/joint committee's report	1 month/from phase one	
#4	5.Building up 3 scenarios for 3 drama performances on 3 practices related to corruption in Mauritania	4.In order to provide drama criteria that are agreed upon as preparatory/initial steps for the project	4. An evaluation technical paper about the quality of the undergone performances/shows	1 month/from phase two	Phase two: March 2015 – May 2015
#5	6.Work on the three shows, that will be about: - Bribery in Public Health. - Nepotism in Public Works. - Clientelism in Public Procurement	5.Because they are among the main goals of the project.	5. Video shooting/joint committee's report	1 month/from phase two	
#6	7.Do the three drama shows for/by the students of the three mentioned above preparatory schools. Evaluate phase two of the project	6.In order to exchange knowledge about the subject of corruption, and share pilot experiences in fighting it.	6.A film documenting excerpts from the event/Committee's report	1 month/from phase two	

Budget Template

Details:	#	Type of expenditures	Cost						Funding from initiative	Self-funding
			Value	#	Unit	#	Unit	Total		
Internal salaries	1	Project Manager	83,33 EUR	1	Person	12	Month	1000EUR	600EUR	400EUR
	2	Project coordinator/ Administrative	66,66 EUR	1	Person	6	Month	500 EUR	300 EUR	200 EUR
	3	Head Accountant	66,66 EUR	1	Person	6	Month	500 EUR	300 EUR	200 EUR
	4	Accountant	66,66 EUR	1	Person	6	Month	500 EUR	300 EUR	200 EUR
	5	Expert/Consultant	66,66 EUR	1	Person	5	Month	333,33 EUR	200 EUR	133,33 EUR
	6	Film maker	50 EUR	1	Person	3	Month	150 EUR	90 EUR	60 EUR
		Total teamwork						2983,33 EUR	1693,33 EUR	1290 EUR
General expenditures	7	Computer	166,66 EUR	1	Computer	1	Piece	166,66 EUR	100 EUR	66,66 EUR
	8	Paper board	33,33 EUR	1	Board	1	Piece	33,33 EUR	20 EUR	13,33 EUR
	9	Cartoon paper stock	41,66 EUR	1	Paper	5	Piece	208,33 EUR	125 EUR	83,33 EUR
	10	Drawings and designs	5 EUR	1	Bags	40	Piece	200 EUR	120 EUR	80 EUR
	11	Projector	50 EUR	1	Projector	1	Piece	50 EUR	30 EUR	20 EUR
	12	Printer	41,33 EUR	2	Printer	2	Piece	83,33 EUR	50 EUR	33,33 EUR
	13	Camera	150 EUR	1	Camera	1	Piece	150 EUR	90 EUR	60 EUR
	14	Screen	23,33 EUR	1	Screen	1	Piece	23,33 EUR	14 EUR	9,33 EUR
	15	Rest station	23,33 EUR	1	Rest station	22	Pieces	513,33 EUR	308 EUR	205,33 EUR
	16	Other	77,66 EUR	1	Expenditure	1	Piece	77,66 EUR	46,60 EUR	31,6 EUR
	Total general						1506 EUR	903,6 EUR	602,91 EUR	

		expenditures								
		Publications and PR								
Operational Costs	17	Student booklet	125 EUR	1	Book	1	Piece	125 EUR	75 EUR	50 EUR
	18	Ad campaign	33,33 EUR	2	Websites	6	Month	399,96 EUR	239,97 EUR	159,98 EUR
	19	Internet subscription	10 EUR	1	Internet	12	Month	120 EUR	72 EUR	48 EUR
		Total publication and PR						644,94 EUR	386,96 EUR	257,98 EUR
		Total budget						5134,27 EUR	2983,89 EUR	2150,89 EUR