



Kibera at the Norway Cup 2011

The Norway Cup is the biggest youth soccer tournament in the world. The tournament takes place annually in Oslo, Norway, and brings together children and youth between 12 and 19 years for a week of fun, sporting, educational and cultural exchange.

The 2011 Norway Cup will take place between 31st July and 6th August 2011. Over 30,000 boys and girls from 42 countries will be playing a total of 4,000 matches. Even though football is the main attraction, there are a lot of other activities as well. The tournament opens with a show featuring well-known artists. One of the evenings is devoted to festivities, and includes a match between two top international teams. Quite often professional players pay Norway Cup a visit to talk with the young participants. There is considerable media interest in Norway Cup, and this year it has attracted 700 accredited journalists and photographers from newspapers, radio and television all over the world.

Incredibly, a team from Kibera has been invited to participate in the 2011 Norway Cup! This is the first time that a team from the Kibera community has been invited to participate in a sporting and cultural event of this magnitude. Under the auspices of Carolina for Kibera, a Kibera-based international NGO, a team of 13 persons will represent Kibera with 10 boys under the age of 14 years and three minders comprising a community coach, a community sports representative and a team leader.



Welcome to Kibera

There are almost 2.5 million people in 200 informal settlements of Nairobi, meaning that nearly 60% of the city's population occupies just 6% of the land. The Kibera Slum represents the largest of these settlements. Over the years, Kibera has become world famous, both for the incredible suffering residents of this tough neighbourhood endeavour and for the resilience of the human spirit in the face of this suffering. In many people's minds, Kibera conjures images high rates of crime & violence, flying toilets, mounds of garbage, and abject poverty.

While these social challenges certainly exist, and cannot be wished away, Kibera is also home to incredibly resilient survivors, toiling hard to making a living against terrible odds. Just an hour spent in Kibera is a lesson in the strength of the human spirit, creativity & industriousness, and perseverance in the face of adversity. In short, "the audacity of hope" lives in Kibera!

Carolina for Kibera

Carolina For Kibera (CFK) is an example of an organization that harvests the ingenuity, talents and energy of Kibera residents, to bring about positive change in the community. CFK was founded in 2001, as a response to the serious inter-ethnic and religious tensions that had engulfed the community. With political, ethnic and religious divisions heightened to boiling point, there was a palpable threat of implosion. Kibera's many unemployed youth were particularly at risk.

It was clear that youth had to be part of the answer to many of Kibera's pressing political and social challenges. To access and mobilize these youth, a non-political, non-ethnic and non-religious tool had to be used. We had to identify a common interest or passion shared by most youth in the community.

Football offered the answer! ✓

The beautiful game offered, and continues to offer, us a neutral platform through which we could mobilize and engage youth - in positive youth empowerment and community development programmes. In Kibera, as with other slums in Nairobi, and across Africa, the passion for soccer is almost comparable to a spiritual experience. Some have even said that soccer is the new religion in Africa.

Through our Sports Program, Carolina for Kibera seeks to empower our children & youth, nurture sporting talents and contribute to community development. We achieve this by running innovative soccer clinics, leadership training for children & youth and compulsory community service initiatives.

Our Sports Program is one of the largest and most popular in Kibera. We are proud of the fact that we impact over 5,000 young men and women through our programmes. In 2010, for instance, 3,840 boys and 1,440 girls participated in the CFK annual Soccer League. 672 soccer players participated in community cleanup campaigns across the different "villages" of Kibera.



Our Sports Program offers children and youth unique opportunities to develop their talents and learn valuable life skills. Through the proven impact of our programs, we've been fortunate to secure support and endorsement from numerous leading global institutions including: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the British Council, Coaches Across Continents, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the English Premier League, the Ford Foundation, Google, Hewlett Packard (HP), the Nike Foundation, the US Soccer Foundation, and many more.

CFK has also enjoyed the support and endorsement of various eminent individuals including: President Barack Obama, serving President of the

United States, Dr. Jill Biden, wife of the serving Vice-President of the United States, and Melinda Gates. CFK is also widely viewed as a model of participatory development that has drawn the interest of respected institutions such as the Harvard University (where CFK is taught as a case study for the MBA class) to MIT, Stanford and University of North Caroline - Chapel Hill.

Other key achievements we are proud of from 2010 include:

1. Through the Education Program, CFK provides 307 educational scholarships to bright but needy children in Kibera to ensure they access quality education.
2. 5,280 children and youth actively participate in our sports league, with 672 players participating in 40 community cleanup campaigns.



3. CFK supports 750 girls in its Daughters United Program. The program offers financial literacy and life skills training, and has created 27 'safe spaces' within Kibera for girls to congregate and share experiences.
4. CFK serves 2,352 residents through the garbage collection program that employs 35 youth. The program is responsible for removal of 32 tons of garbage from Kibera, thus contributing to a cleaner, healthier environment.
5. 17 small-scale business owners graduated from the GET-IT computer-based entrepreneurship program in partnership with HP and UNIDO.
6. 2,282 Kibera residents positively impacted through our HIV counseling and testing services, 305 students involved in after-school reproductive health clubs.
7. 41,825 patients treated at the Tabitha Medical Clinic. 3,276 children under 10 vaccinated from influenza and 602 people enrolled in free HIV care and treatment program offered through the clinic.

When we started in 2001, our aim was to mobilize youth, through sports, to fight the political and socio-ethnic divisions tearing our community apart. Today, CFK is at the forefront of community development and youth empowerment in Kibera. Today, we are in the business of developing local leaders, catalyzing positive change, and alleviate poverty in the Kibera slum of Nairobi.



An Opportunity of a Lifetime for Kibera Youth

Incredibly, Carolina for Kibera has been invited to participate in the 2011 Norway Cup. This is the first time ever a team from Kibera is being invited to be a part of such a huge international experience. This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our youth.

The 2011 Norway Cup will take place between 31st July and 6th August 2011. Over 30,000 boys and girls from 42 countries will be playing a total of 4,000 matches. Even though football is the main attraction, there are a lot of other fun, educational activities as well.

The Norway Cup is about more than just fun and a challenging soccer tournament. Participants at the Norway Cup experience other positive benefits including:



- The rare opportunity to meet and interact with children and youth from diverse cultures and backgrounds
- The chance to grow and showcase their soccer skills at a prestigious international tournament.
- The challenge of developing off the pitch values such as integrity fair play discipline resilience and teamwork.
- Celebration of diversity through music, art festivals and exciting stage performances.



Meet the CFK Allstars

Deciding which boys would represent Kibera in this exciting tournament has not been an easy task. Thousands of youth play soccer regularly within the CFK League. Most are highly talented and motivated and all are hungry for an opportunity like this.

Our exciting challenge was deciding who these young players were going to be. CFK Sports Program officials, a team of community as well as distinguished football coaches from outside Kibera executed this demanding and delicate task. To make it into the team, players had to meet the following "on and off the pitch" criteria:



1. Be enrolled in school and have a good attendance and performance track record
2. Be a member of one of the CFK- registered community soccer teams
3. Possess outstanding soccer skills
4. Possess positive values such as integrity, discipline, and resilience.
5. Be active in community service beyond sports.

From an original shortlist of 30 young aspirants, the players were trimmed over the weeks, based on the above criteria, and the team of 10 players selected. The CFK Allstars team has been registered to participate in the 7 a-side under-14 section of the tournament.

No Pain No Gain

With the delicate task of selecting the team professionally executed, the focus has shifted to two urgent priorities:

1. Training the team for the Norway Cup
2. Raising the funds needed to enable the team travel to Oslo, Norway.

Working under the guidance of a community coach, competitively selected from an array of experienced coaches, the team is undergoing training consisting of:

- Weekly soccer clinics designed to enhance technical skills and physical fitness;
- Weekly soccer matches against other teams;
- Innovative workshops designed to tackle pressing social issues as well as presentation and interpersonal skills needed for interactions in a culturally diverse environment.

Budget Breakdown

At this stage in our preparations, a number of important expenses have already been fully covered. These key expenses, highlighted in the below budgetary table include:

- Registration of the team in the tournament
- Accommodation in Oslo, Norway
- Food in Oslo, Norway
- Transport in Oslo, Norway

We are calling on friends of Kibera and supporters to assist us with financial support to cover air tickets to and from Oslo, Norway, for the 10 players and three officials.

Expense particulars	Cost in NOK	Cost in KSh	Status
Team Registration	1,500.00	22,062.0	Paid
Accommodation in Oslo	2,090.00	30,739.7	Paid
Food in Oslo for 1 week	16,126.00	246,932.00	Paid
Transport in Oslo	5,267.82	80,664.5	Paid
Air fare (return ticket)	101,812	1,497,457	Pending
Team soccer kits	6,582	100,000	Pending
Team preparations	13,598.1	200,000	Pending

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