

17 July 2009

Standard Bank sponsors walk for 8th year

Jersey's rocky north coast will be put to good use on September 13th when over 400 people take part in Help an African Schoolchild's 'Great North Coast Charity Challenge' sponsored by Standard Bank. The participants will be walking 20 miles to raise money for orphans in Zambia and Tanzania.

Last year's walk raised over £18,500 and the organisers are hoping to beat that target this year. Claire Reid, Director of Marketing and Communications, said: "This is an extremely worthwhile cause and we are delighted to be able to sponsor the challenge again this year. Standard Bank has a large presence in Africa and we are proud that we can connect with Africa in this way from Jersey. As well as our sponsorship, some of our staff will be taking part in the walk whilst others will be handing out water along the way."

The Great North Coast Charity Challenge is organised by local charity, 'Help an African Schoolchild', which aims to improve the lives of African children by providing them with the opportunity to get an education and places where they can eat and live in safety.

Vanessa Nash, co-founder of Help an African Schoolchild, said: "We are very grateful to Standard Bank for their continued support of the challenge. Last year we used some of the funds raised to provide for the yearly food budget at Tetekela Day Care Centre in Zambia, which was built by the charity in 2000 and is now run by a local order of nuns. We were also able to provide over 200 children in Zambia and Tanzania with a bursary to help them attend school. In addition we were able to support a number of small projects in Kasama, Zambia and Dodoma, central Tanzania"

A wide variety of people sign up for the walk with participants coming from Jersey, Guernsey and the UK. The challenge has seen walkers as young as 7 years of age take on the 20 mile trek and there are a number of regular participants. The average

sponsorship of £40 per person allows us to supply food for 2 days at the centre or provide 3 pupils with education at a basic school for one term.

2009 is one of change for the charity because the release of the Tetekala Day Care Centre to local management will allow them to use funds raised from this year's challenge across a wider range of projects. The main aim for this year is to build a 6th form college in Dodoma, Tanzania.

[Ends]

NOTES TO EDITOR

Please call Deanne Le Gresley on 01534 735253, or email deanne@directinput.je if you require any interviews or further information.

For more information on the work of the charity, please go to <http://www.hast.org.uk/> .

Standard Bank

Standard Bank is a leading African banking group focused on emerging markets globally. It has been a mainstay of South Africa's financial system for over 145 years, and now spans 17 countries across the African continent. Its international expansion has taken it to 16 countries outside Africa including Brazil, Russia and China. The bank's headquarters are in Johannesburg and it is listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The Standard Bank Offshore Group has offices in Jersey, Isle of Man and Mauritius and provides a range of services for private and corporate clients including banking, wealth management, trust and company administration, asset management, investment services and fund administration.

Key facts and figures

- Standard Bank Group assets of approximately US\$162 billion (December 2008)
- Market Capitalisation of approximately US\$14 billion (December 2008)
- Present in 33 countries around the world
- Employs more than 50,000 people world-wide (including Liberty)

For further information www.standardbank.com/wealth