

Biennium 2015-2017: Soroptimists **Invest** in Education

	ERADICATION OF GENDER BASED ILLITERACY	EDUCATE WOMEN AND GIRLS TO BE LEADERS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND PROFESSIONS	EDUCATION AS A MEAN AND TOOL TO DEFEAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
ONE THEME "EDUCATION" & THREE AREAS OF FOCUS	<p>Education: <i>The concept of literacy goes well beyond simply knowing how to read</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy enables women to pursue knowledge • Literacy enables women to be independent • Literacy teaches women their rights • Literacy helps women to cope with the changes in their societies • Literacy is showing women the benefits of education for their children • Literacy enables to think critically 	<p>Women empowerment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowered women fulfil their potential to become leaders • Empowered women access tertiary quality education and professional training • Empowered women access economic power and obtain gender equality in professions • Empowered women attain sustainable employment opportunities • Empowered women can develop in sciences and technology professions (STEM) • Empowered women access vocational training to reach out to employment • Empowered women get out of gendered division / stereotypes • Empowered women to be enrolled in non-discriminatory (migration, ethnic minorities, disabled, etc.) education and training 	<p>Violence against Women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education as awareness raising • Education prevents trafficking • Education to helps rebuild confidence of victims • Educate women to raise their voice • Educate women to take their space in conflict resolutions • Educate women to refuse FGM and child marriage for their girl child • Educate women to fight stereotype generating violence
WHAT CAN SOROPTIMISTS DO? HOW CAN THEY INVEST?	<p>‘Adopt’ a school <i>To improve quality education, help access to secondary and tertiary education and support lifelong training</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build schools or classrooms • rehabilitation of schools / furniture • set up a library for a school • improve the supply and quality of textbooks • provide girls scholarships for secondary schools • mentoring young adults • support computer courses • vocational training • train teachers • etc 	<p>‘Adopt’ a woman community centre <i>Through education, improve access to economic empowerment and sustainable opportunities for the employment of women</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clubs to open their network for the professional reintegration of women • help girls who dropped out of school • mentoring: Share / exchange of skills and knowledge and professional guidance • scholarships for women to pursue professional development to support career advancement <p>‘Adopt’ a migration centre <i>Through education, help women integrate rapidly the host country’s society and the economy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teach women the language of the host country • help women understand their ‘new’ rights and obligations • teach women the local habits and customs • guide women in the maze of employment • give women scholarships and vocational training • etc. 	<p>‘Adopt’ a shelter <i>Offer head of shelters your competences in specific fields</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build a library • help women understand their rights • help women to build back their lives and regain confidence • assist to get women back to work • provide legal counselling for women who have been victims of violence • etc