



SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
in support of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

**Increasing awareness in Africa:
success stories of
“Under African Skies”**

Gulnara Omarova, SGAC

**15th UN/IAF Workshop on “Space Education and Capacity Building
for Sustainable Development”
14-15 October, 2005, Kitakyushu, Japan**



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Background



1999 United Nations UNISPACE III conference

Space Generation Forum - ISU Alumni acted as organizers

June 2001 - SGAC was granted **permanent observer status** to the
UN COPUOS and its two subcommittees

July 2005 -SGAC was recognised by the UN Economic and Social Council as
an official **NGO**

Only youth organisation with direct dialogue to UN



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Vision

To enable and promote a continuous and interactive dialogue on space-related issues between the United Nations and young people of the world. *Employing the creativity, enthusiasm and vigor of youth in advancing humanity through the peaceful uses of outer space.*

Mission

Develop and maintain a fruitful relationship between the United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and space experts, focusing on increasing the participation of the world youth, especially in developing countries and young women, in space activities.



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Structure

6 geographic regions:

- Africa
- Asia-Pacific
- Europe
- Middle East
- North America
- South America



Two Regional Representatives from each region, who work together to coordinate the activities of the council and to communicate with State representatives.

Each country entitled to have a State Representative or Point of Contact to the Council.

State Representatives/Point of Contacts in Africa:

Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tunisia, Zambia

www.unsgac.org



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SGAC Project Activities

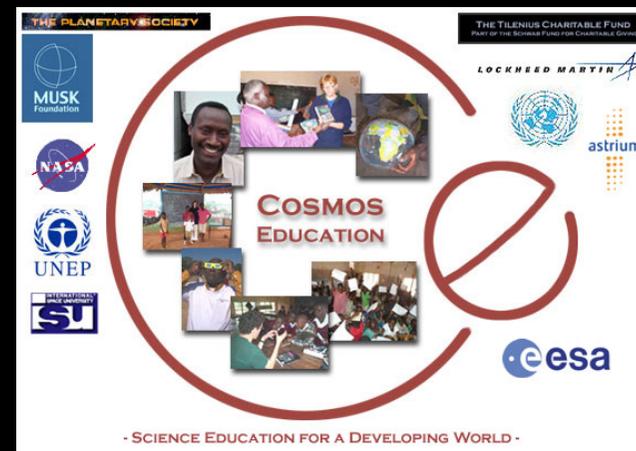
- Yuri's Night 2002 -2005 The World Space Party - www.yurisnight.net
- Under African Skies - Cosmos Education - www.cosmoseducation.org
- Present work at SGAC and COPUOS meetings
- World Space Week International – www.spaceweek.org
- COPUOS and sub-committee meetings since 2001
- 2000, 2001, 2002 Graz, UN/ESA/Austria Forum on:

Enhancing the Participation of Youth in Space Activities

- 2002 Space Generation Summit in Houston, Space Generation Congress in Bremen (2003), Vancouver (2004), Fukuoka (2005)



Office for Outer Space Affairs
United Nations Office at Vienna





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Under African Skies





Under African Skies

- recruits professionals and students in scientific fields in Europe, United States, Asia and Africa to visit schools and youth institutions in sub-Saharan Africa, extending science education outreach programmes in developed countries to the less privileged parts of th
- since 2001, volunteers visited over 100 schools and youth institutions in sub-Saharan Africa





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UAS project builds scientific literacy from the ground up by teaching children and students across sub-Saharan Africa about science and technology

- **mission**
 - to foster sustainable development in Africa through improved science and technology education
- **vision**
 - to inspire, empower, engage the African primary and secondary schools students in Africa with advanced knowledge in the field of science and technology
- **way of implementation**
 - by working directly in classrooms with hands-on experiments and providing the students with educational materials, organizing conferences

The UAS project:

- Motivates and empowers young students with regard to their ability to define the role of science and technology in the future of sustainable development
- Organizing conferences and expeditions to East and Southern Africa, visiting rural and urban schools and teaching a curriculum ranging in topics from health and the environment to physics and electronics

The program team consists of teachers and graduate level students with a wide variety of backgrounds and specializations – ranging from quantum physics and aeronautical engineering to biological sciences and environmental health





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Under African Skies 2001

June-July 2001 - the first Conference in Lusaka, Zambia and first expedition from Johannesburg, South Africa to Nairobi, Kenya.



Over 550 people from 15 different countries attended the conference.

The format of the conference consisted of two parallel tracks:

- Research – professors, students presented research presentations
- Education - students participated in hands-on learning activities

Special lectures and presentations

Approximately 200 participants were secondary school children from Zambian schools. These students worked in teams on hands-on activities related to science and technology.



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Under African Skies 2002

Nairobi -Johannesburg

Visited over 50 rural schools
in five sub-Saharan countries in Africa.
In the first week team has worked in
12 schools



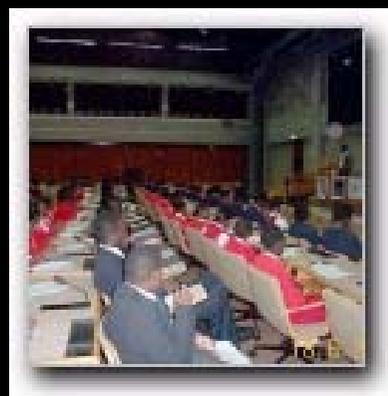
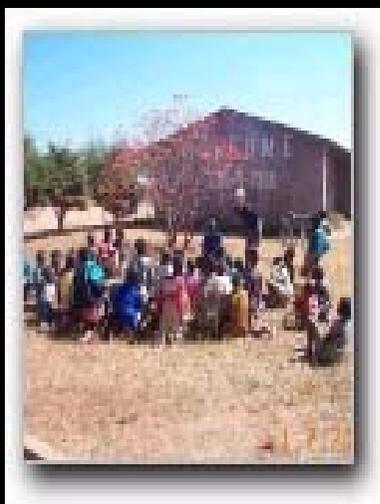
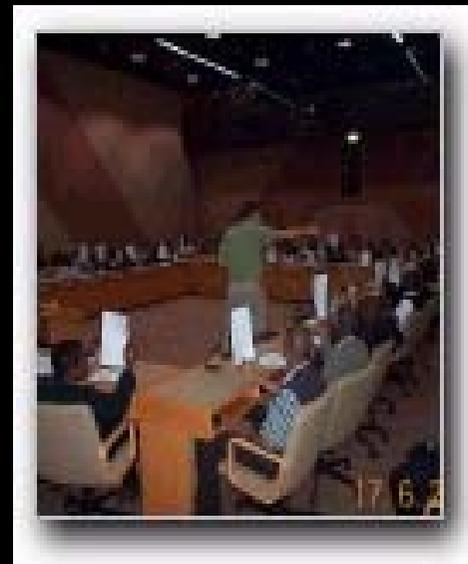
Conference theme was “Science and Sustainability – Applying
Appropriate Solutions for a Global Society”



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Between Nairobi and Lusaka in UAS 2002 expedition





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The educational program is adjusted to suit the individual interests and education levels of each school and focuses on hands- on learning and fun experiments using Familiar objects and materials





UAS visited countries

the UAS educational expedition works in sub-Saharan Africa from Cape Town to Nairobi, Nairobi to Lusaka, and Johannesburg to Nairobi, visiting schools and working with thousands students along the way





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KENYA

visited schools: Lenana School, Buruburu Academy, Kenya High School, Alliance High School, Malezi School, Sadili Oval, State House Girls, Upper Hill School, Muthurwa Primary





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The UAS team represents each year an International community with members from African countries, Europe, Asia and America





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Under African Skies 2005 Kenya – Tanzania – Zambia





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Contacts

For further information about the UAS project we encourage you to visit web site:

www.cosmoseducation.org

We would like to stay in contact with you for follow-ups.

Please send us an e-mail:

e-mail: education@unsgac.org

To read more about OOSA, COPUOS and the PSA visit their website at:

www.oosa.unvienna.org