



Dear Friend:

I am pleased to be writing to you on behalf of Aga Khan Foundation Canada's (AKFC) World Partnership Golf volunteer team in Edmonton.

World Partnership Golf is Canada's only national golf event in support of international development. Thanks to the generous support of Canadians over the past ten years, Aga Khan Foundation Canada (AKFC) is working towards long-term, sustainable solutions to global poverty. AKFC addresses the root cause of poverty through programs in healthcare, education, rural development as well as initiatives that strengthen community-based organizations.

As part of the rural development program offering, AKFC has recently signed an agreement with the MasterCard Foundation to implement a Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) model. VSLAs are self-managed savings groups that receive no external funding. The accumulated savings within each group is made available in small loans to members. Each group sets its own rules about membership, savings and loans. The model, has proven to be a cost-effective means to ensure poor populations have access to appropriate financial services.

Over the next five years, Aga Khan Foundation Canada will adapt and introduce VSLAs to the mountainous regions of Tajikistan, benefitting more than 350,000 people. Based on local needs, this \$5 million program – \$4 million from The MasterCard Foundation and \$1 million from Aga Khan Foundation Canada – will help villagers identify and develop viable businesses and connect them to markets.

Allow me to share a story from recent work in Afghanistan where for the first time in a generation, girls will be able to attend school and dream of new horizons:

The Girls Education Support Program (GESP) began working with communities, educators and government at the local, provincial and national level to improve access to education for girls, as well as the quality of teaching and learning in a safe and supportive environment. Building on more than two decades of experience in East Africa and South and Central Asia, AKFC and CIDA support programs that enable girls and women to fulfill their educational potential and become catalyst for positive change in their communities.

The support of Canadians, such as you, is vital as we seek to create new partnerships and new opportunities in the developing world. It is for this reason that we respectfully invite you to consider becoming a contributor of the live and/or silent auction for our 11th Annual World Partnership Golf Tournament which will be held on Monday, July 6 at RedTail Landing Golf Club.

It is the support of Canadians like you that helps fuel the determination, initiative and drive of thousands of people who live in isolated, impoverished communities across Asia and Africa. We know the search for solutions is a long-term endeavor. We also know that we cannot solve the problems of poverty alone. For this reason, we ensure that the contributions Canadians make with AKFC with World Partnership Golf are invested in initiatives that deliver lasting and effective solutions in the developing world.

We are proud to say that 100 percent of donations go directly to support programs that are enabling communities to find positive and lasting solutions to their day-to-day challenges. Administration costs are covered by our founder.

Thank you for your support and sincerely hope that you will join us again on July 6, when we gather as Canadians in a united effort to end global poverty.

Help take a swing at Global Poverty!

Yours sincerely,

Ali Sachedina
World Partnership Golf Convenor -Edmonton
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