



**GFC &**  
**SUSTAINABILITY**  
**PEOPLE**

# GFC & SUSTAINABILITY PEOPLE

The Global Fashion Conference **supports the education of young girls and women on the African continent**, where 40% of the population is aged 15 and under.

In 2023, the GFC **aims to provide scholarships for two young women from Northern Mozambique** so that they can further pursue their studies and training in Fashion Design.

## Who are these young Africans?

ROSA

LÚCIA



[www.gfc-conference.eu](http://www.gfc-conference.eu)

[globalfashionconference@gmail.com](mailto:globalfashionconference@gmail.com)

# LÚCIA

Lucia lost her mother in 2004, when she was just four years old. After the death of Lucia's mother, her father stayed in Maputo – the capital of Mozambique – with his older children and sent Lucia to her paternal grandparents' home. At their house, Lucia simply did the housework and never went to school. Thanks to the involvement of her maternal grandparents and by alerting government entities, in 2011, when she was eleven, Lucia was admitted to the "O Viveiro" Reception and Training Center, in Chitima. At that time, she didn't know how to read or write. Nor could she speak Portuguese, the country's official language.

In addition to her school education, Lucia began attending classes in dressmaking and sewing guided by the tailor trainer Remigio Maquia Chapassuca.

In 2018 she became one of the junior trainers in the Handicraft Project promoted by the Italian association Dignity Mozambique and supported by Harambee for Africa, having been involved in sewing workshops in Chitima and in Tete. That same year, she also started making sandals and fashion accessories, involving young students in this activity who had an interest in learning handicraft techniques.

Lúcia is currently studying at the IFP- Instituto de Formação de Professores (Institute for Teacher's training) in Chiuta. Lucia loves Mathematics and would like to do further training in Fashion, have her own Atelier and start a Fashion Academy.

Lucia's Father moved to Tete a few years ago and, initially, Lucia lived with him, but was driven out of the house, when her father realised her determination to continue studying and become a teacher. He told her: "a woman doesn't need to study, she should stay at home and cook."

Lucia receives a grant from the Dignity Mozambique Association to qualify as a teacher, but she shares what she earns from her work with Fashion products to pay for her books, uniform, and notebooks.

Lucia tells us: **"People here finish school, look for work, but then there isn't any work. With the sewing machine, capulanas"** (traditional Mozambique printed cloths worn by women), **fabrics and our work we prove that it is possible to create your own job and earn a living."**

# ROSA

Rosa lost her father in 2009, when she was ten years old. Rosa's father was a cook at the Cabora Bassa hydroelectric power station, and he died of tuberculosis. He had five wives and many children. Even before Rosa's father died, one of her legs had already been amputated, after developing gangrene due to an infection in a wound.

In 2011 Rosa and her sister were admitted to the Reception and Training Center "O Viveiro" in Chitima because their mother was unable to provide for her family.

In 2013, Rosa received a prosthesis in Malawi and then a new prosthesis in Italy in 2015. During the two short stays both in Malawi and Italy she attended classes related to Fashion. In Malawi she took a course in tapestry and learned to make carpets and upholster chairs and sofas. Later, in Rome, she learned to draw and paint.

In 2014, she was selected to represent the Cabora Bossa district at the Provincial Crafts Festival, where she was awarded the first prize. In 2015, she participated in the National Crafts Festival receiving the third prize from the very hands of the President of Mozambique.

Rosa lives in Chitima with her mother and works as a trainer in Matambo, giving drawing and painting courses to children in the villages. She also earns some money by selling her own drawings and paintings.

Her dream is to become an artist and work in Fashion.

H A R A M B E E



ALL TOGETHER FOR AFRICA

As a first step, the Global Fashion Conference, **through the Project "Harambee for Africa"** aims to obtain two scholarships worth three thousand euros each, so that **Lúcia and Rosa can receive the training they hope for, at the Sewing and Modelling School "Escola Bernina", in Maputo** (1.081 Km from Chitima where they live) in 2023, contributing to the promotion of Sustainable Fashion in their home country.

<https://www.harambee-africa.org/en/>