

Standard Bank supports entrepreneurship, life skills and financial literacy

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FRIDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2009 08:56



On 4 September, Junior Achievement (JA) Namibia and Standard Bank held a leadership training workshop at Rock Lodge.

This training was an excellent opportunity for scholars from 30 different schools to learn leadership skills from business leaders such as the Chief Operating Officer from Standard Bank Namibia, Beronice Hans, and others.

Hans presented the young people with a motivational talk on the 'willingness to take risk and embrace change' and said that JA Worldwide reaches approximately 8 million students on an annual basis.

"Their programmes begin at the primary school level and teach children how they can impact the world around them as individuals, workers and consumers," Hans said. "JA programmes continue through the grades to high school, focusing on the key content areas of entrepreneurship, work related life skills, and financial literacy-and these are three areas that Standard Bank is very passionate about and where possible we support such initiatives, which will ensure that our youngsters are equipped with entrepreneurship savvy, life skills and financial literacy."

Standard Bank has committed a total amount of N\$200,000 to JA Namibia in 2009 and the funds will be used for a variety of projects ranging from Aflatoun to Entrepreneurship days and operational costs.

According to Johanna Cloete of JA Namibia, the excitement to learn from business people as well as peers lasted for one week at a boot camp for leadership training.

Instead of only learning indoors, there were many opportunities to learn and test skills through ab-sailing from a height of seven metres and paintball fights.

Working out strategies in the conference hall as well as on the battlefield were to say the least, exhilarating.