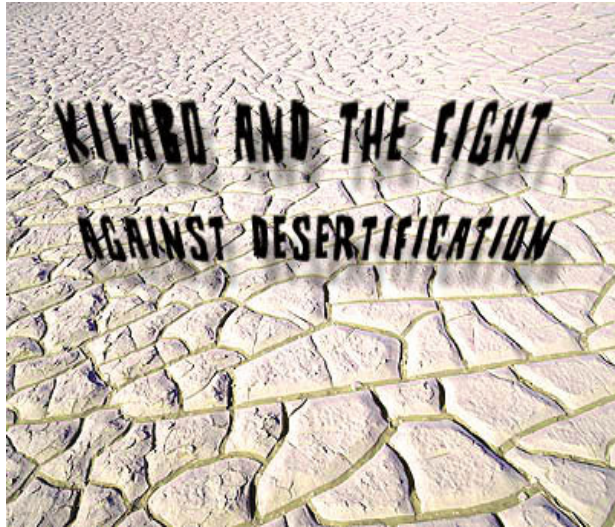


TEACHER'S GUIDE



Suggested Level	Secondary 1-2 (7 th -8 th grade)
Length	45 minutes (1 period)
Subjects	English, language of instruction
Broad Areas of Learning	Environmental awareness and consumer rights and responsibilities
Focuses of Development	Construction of a viable environment based on sustainable development
Educational Aim	Lead the student to become aware of the issue of desertification in Mali through the composition of an informative text.
Subject-Specific Competencies	To write self-expressive, narrative and information-based texts
Cross-Curricular Competencies	To use information



Background Information

Desertification is the gradual degradation of fertile soils in arid and semi-arid zones of the planet. It is a natural process, is provoked by difficult climatic conditions, and causes soil erosion and dryness. Now, however, humans and their activities are the principal cause of this process. Desertification is a wide-reaching problem, affecting more than a billion people according to estimates. Impoverished people living in rural areas of developing countries are the most vulnerable and most seriously affected.

Source: CIDA 2002; UN: International Year of Deserts and Desertification 2006.



Instructions

Students are first asked to read the following information, and afterwards, to compose a 250-word text. The task will verify their ability to clarify the desired information.



You may wish to consult the following sources and offer them to your students to learn more about the subject

Canadian International Development Agency : www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JUD-1118165457-TPW
(Canadian involvement in the fight against desertification)

In-Terre-Actif Network : www.in-terre-actif.com/trousseafrique (Lesson Plan about Africa, in French only)

United Nations : www.unccd.int (United Nations Convention for the Fight Against Desertification)

International Year for the Fight Against Desertification : www.iydd.org (Official Site)

Food and Agricultural Organisation : www.fao.org/desertification/default.asp?lang=en

AN INITIATIVE OF THE
In-Terre-Actif Network of the Comité de Solidarité/Trois-Rivières



PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
THROUGH THE



Canadian
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