SCHOLARSHIPS
TO UWC DILIJAN

World-class, values-driven education anchored in the
diversity of the student body
A STORY OF DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN ARMENIA

The world is at a complex crossroads – clashes of values, ideas and cultures have taken centre stage globally and threaten peaceful and sustainable humanitarian, ecological and economic development. This reality creates major obstacles to meeting the UN seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030, including quality education (Goal 4), and making the world more equitable for all.

Its location in Armenia, a country that is reimagining itself in the post-Soviet period, made the school a perfect social venture that could grow and gain strength together with the new Armenia. The country’s recent history has made it conscious of the realities of suffering as well as threats to hope and sustainable development. UWC Dilijan reinforces what is the best of Armenia – its hospitable people welcoming a diverse international community enhancing both the school’s and the country’s values.

UWC Dilijan has a mission to “make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future”. The ambition is to make an impact personally – on the students; locally – on the Dilijan community; and globally – contributing through the power of education to a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable world. Impact of UWC Dilijan’s world-class, values-driven education anchored in the diversity of its student body is enabled by financial transparency, mutual responsibility, accountability and sustainability.
A PHILANTHROPIC VISION

The founders, together with an international group of people who believe in the power of education, financed the school construction and the start-up costs of up to US$180 million, making the investments that would result in a high-engagement and long-term approach to creating social impact. They also ensured the quality and sustainability of the infrastructure.

Like all UWC schools, UWC Dilijan adheres to a principle that everyone deserves a chance – we are proud that students are accepted based on their abilities and not their parents' financial situation. The majority of students are on some form of scholarship, enabling a true cultural, geographic and socio-economic diversity, which gives young people an opportunity to learn about each other as individuals in their own right rather than being defined by their status depending on their origins.

As a result of these investments, in five short years UWC Dilijan has successfully aligned its global mission with the authenticity of its host country and has become uniquely positioned as "a force to unite people" within the school, Dilijan, Armenia and the UWC movement.

Over 2019-2020 academic year, as the school celebrates its 5th anniversary, it has an opportunity to evaluate the past achievements and to chart the course for the next stage of its development, including:

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- Maintaining and improving a world-class quality education aimed at the development of each student's potential in harmony with an international student body rooted in Armenia
- Implementing the second phase of the school's campus development
- Delivering diversity of the UWC Dilijan student body through scholarships

TOWARDS FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

While focusing on excellence in education, the ethos of diversity of the student population is crucial to the school’s success and its ability to deliver its mission.

National, cultural and religious diversity within our student body is achieved with the help of the selection conducted by UWC national committees. Achieving socio-economic diversity has proven more challenging, given the continuous need for raising funding to finance scholarships. Around 500 supporters from all over the world have contributed to scholarships for students from almost 90 countries. (The school's operational budget of about US$8 million is met by US$3 million in fees and US$5 million in philanthropic support.)

Having proven itself as an international school that delivers top-quality education, UWC Dilijan is now putting in place a plan for reaching financial sustainability by expanding its support base globally. In the next three to five years it aims to achieve sustainability through:

1. Raising the profile of UWC Dilijan internationally
2. Parents’ contribution towards tuition reaching 40% in 2019-20 academic year and achieving 50% in the next few years
3. Outreach to a wider group of stakeholders to support the school
4. Building an endowment fund for scholarships
5. Seeking commercial revenue streams

SUPPORT FOR UWC DILIJAN

$26 MILLION FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
$180 MILLION FOR CAPITAL COSTS AND OPERATIONS

500 SUPPORTERS
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

20 INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS
IN-KIND SUPPORT
SUPPORT THE UNIQUE
UWC DILIJAN JOURNEY

UWC Dilijan is continuing to look to all who believe in the transformational power of its education to support it by contributing to its operation and ensuring the long-term viability and sustainability of this pioneering venture.

Please join us in supporting this unique educational journey.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarships
Over 70% of students are on some form of scholarship, enabling a true cultural, geographic and socio-economic diversity. The UWC Dilijan enrolment in 2019-20 academic year is 230 students from 87 countries, with 30% of them on full scholarships of US$74,000 over two years and more than 60% of student body on partial support.
We are asking you to contribute the full scholarship amount of US$74,000 over two years.

Full scholarship is $74,000 over two years.

Student Hardship Fund
While the scholarship covers tuition and all school costs, many students require assistance with travel costs and pocket expenses while at school.
Please contribute to the student hardship fund to cover four trips (winter and summer each year) over two years and help the students with their pocket expenses on school trips and outings.

Depending on the distance to home $2,000 to $4,000 per year is needed for each student on full scholarship (constituting 30% of the student population).

Summer School Bursary
UWC Dilijan runs a summer camp. It allows more students to experience Armenia and also give some of them a flavour of what to expect if they apply to UWC Dilijan. To maintain diversity of the students availing of the summer camp, we provide summer school bursaries to students from disadvantaged families.
The cost of a two-week summer camp is $3,000.

Endowment
Currently, UWC Dilijan endowment fund has about $60,000. It is of paramount importance to build an endowment that can help the school achieve sustainability while maintaining diversity of student population.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

First Armenian school to become member of the Council of International Schools (CIS)

47 courses and subjects taught

Above world average in
41 out of 47 courses

90% of students pass the IB exam
(worldwide average pass rate - 79%)

34 Average Diploma score (worldwide average - 29)

University enrolment for graduating classes 96%

UNIVERSITIES BY GEOGRAPHY

- US - 68%
- UK - 12%
- Europe - 13%
- Asia - 1.5%
- Canada - 6%

University admissions examples – Leiden in the Netherlands; McGill in Canada; University College London, King’s College and Edinburgh in the UK; Brown, Berkley, Columbia, Duke, Harvard, Wellesley, Yale in the US; University of Auckland in New Zealand

60 alums (of 388) returned to volunteer
Workneh grew up in a small village Matale in Southern Ethiopia. As a child, he had to herd cattle and collect firewood. Workneh studied in a local school and worked as a shoeshine boy in order to buy kerosene to study at night. Joining UWC Dilijan at 16 with a scholarship from a private donor, Workneh got an opportunity to develop his potential to the full. "This has been a great place where I could actually find myself. I became able to get all the ingredients which can motivate and influence in education. I am going to contribute to my country and to the globe as a whole," says Workneh. Workneh graduated in 2018 and was admitted to Harvard University.

Alina comes from a small Armenian town of Masis. At the age of 16 Alina received a scholarship to UWC Dilijan. Passionate about education and community empowerment, Alina was always dedicated to her studies, showed excellent results and was highly engaged in activities for the local community. She has worked as a coordinator for the Masis Youth Centre helping to transform it into a dynamic hub empowering the community. Alina is currently studying neuroscience at Edinburgh University. Her ambition is to contribute to the development of neuroscience as a field of study in Armenia and to finding solutions for the treatment of Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s.

Born to the family of refugees from Sudan that settled in Lebanon, Nour could not get Lebanese citizenship. Nour’s only identification document was his birth certificate and his father’s refugee certificate. He had major difficulties with English, but his passion for learning and keen interest in sciences made him stand out among applicants to UWC Dilijan. Nour received the Aurora Scholarship, which he describes as “transformational in every way”. Being surrounded by a supportive community has made him a more open and sociable person. “Here I learned how important it is to know others in order to know who you are.” Nour is now a student at the University of Rochester, US.

Cedric and Misha came to UWC Dilijan in 2015. They both fell in love with the stunning Armenian nature, while discovering that waste presented a real threat to environment. Passionate about this, Cedric and Misha decided to act and founded the Re-apaga Charity Foundation to raise awareness about waste pollution. With great support from the UWC Dilijan community and its network, Re-apaga soon became one of the leading Armenian environment organizations. Having finished the school with the IB Diploma, Cedric and Misha moved on to establish the first electronic-, plastic-, and aluminium-recycling facility of its kind in Armenia. Today they are working on the clean-tech startup Apaga. Starting from Yerevan, their users can access innovative smart containers to dispose of their plastic and get reward points from partner-companies in exchange. Having already 4,000 people and over 50 partner-companies engaged in recycling with Apaga, they are eager to spread the #greenrevolution all around the