Ashanti Nana
For Her, Naturally with Thanks

Keep Me in School - Girls Campaign

Female students today face great challenges in terms of hygiene sanitation and period poverty. We find often that many schools have insufficient numbers of latrines, poorly designed and maintained bathroom facilities for girls who are menstruating.

These problems are compound with the difficulties in that many girls cannot afford to pay for sanitary pads as well as the cultural taboos around menstruation.
As a result, many girls decide to stay at home and miss up to a week of school every month which adds up to over a month in a year which leads them to falling behind in class and sometimes even dropping out of school altogether.

These issue only add to the challenge that we see today that already exists with the high drop-out rate of female students in schools.

Ashanti Nana an authorised supplier and distributor in association with Palesa Pads and through our sanitary dignity programme called “Keep Me in School - Girls Campaign” look to various organisations both government and non-government to assist many beneficiaries in Africa to raise the necessary funds in order to deliver free reusable sanitary pads to poor girls and women across the African continent and beyond when possible.

Ashanti Nana is currently to ensure hassle free supply and delivery of the high-quality South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) compliant reusable sanitary pads through the establishment of a distribution pipelines to various NPO’S, NGO’S, business organisations and online platform’s into the African and Middle East markets with future endeavours to reach other international markets.

To date more 128 000 girls from over 200 schools have benefitted from reusable sanitary pads which has also contributed to keeping the environment clean by keeping over 176 611.40 disposable (single use) sanitary products out of the landfills, pit toilets and their general environment.
These environmentally friendly reusable pads offer a sustainable solution to such critical problems.

These reusable pads have none of the toxic chemicals that aggravate menstrual cramps, or that cause rashes or skin irritations woman and girls of ten get using single-use pads and when it comes down to budget constraints, reusable sanitary pads are washable and reusable for up to 5 years which will cost less than 20% of what one will spend on disposable sanitary products over the 5 year period.

ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) can be used to fund sanitary pads in several ways, aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
This funding can support initiatives like distributing free pads to girls and women in need,

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supporting the manufacturing of sustainable pads, and promoting menstrual health education. By investing in these areas, businesses and individuals can contribute to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Here's a more detailed look at how ESG can be applied to funding sanitary pads:

1. **Addressing Period Poverty**:
   a) Funding Distribution Programs:
   ESG investments can support organisations that provide free or low-cost sanitary pads to girls and women in need, ensuring they have access to essential menstrual hygiene products.
   b) Community-Based Initiatives:
   ESG funding can be directed towards local organisations that address period poverty within specific communities, tailoring solutions to meet local needs.
   c) Raising Awareness:
   ESG initiatives can support campaigns that educate communities about menstrual health, breaking down taboos and promoting safe hygiene practices.

2. **Supporting Sustainable Manufacturing:**
   a) Investing in Eco-Friendly Products:
   ESG investments can be directed towards companies that produce biodegradable or reusable sanitary pads, minimising the environmental impact of menstrual hygiene.
   b) Promoting Sustainable Supply Chains:
   ESG can encourage companies to adopt sustainable sourcing practices, ensuring fair labour conditions and minimising environmental impact throughout the production process.
   c) Supporting Local Production:
   ESG investments can support local businesses and entrepreneurs in developing affordable and sustainable sanitary pad solutions, creating jobs and empowering women in the process.

3. **Promoting Menstrual Health Education:**
   a) Funding School-Based Programs:
   ESG can support educational initiatives that provide girls with knowledge about menstruation, hygiene practices, and available resources.
   b) Promoting Open Dialogue:
   ESG can help create spaces where girls and women feel comfortable discussing menstruation and seeking help when needed.
   c) Addressing Stigma:
   ESG initiatives can challenge the stigma surrounding menstruation, promoting a positive attitude towards female health and wellbeing.

4. **Aligning with ESG Principles:**
   a) Environmental Impact:
   Choosing sustainable sanitary pad solutions reduces waste and minimizes the environmental impact of menstrual hygiene, aligning with ESG goals.
   b) Social Impact:
   Supporting menstrual hygiene empowers girls and women, improving their health, education, and overall well-being, which aligns with ESG principles.
   c) Governance:
   ESG principles encourage transparency and accountability in the way resources are used and impacts are measured, ensuring that funding is used effectively and for its intended purpose.

By aligning investments with ESG principles, businesses and individuals can make a positive impact on menstrual health and hygiene, contributing to a more equitable and sustainable future.

Here are some facts about these reusable sanitary pads:

1. For very one of the reusable pads used keeps 200 single use plastic items out of the environment.
2. A woman menstruates for around 40 years, adding close to 7 680 disposable sanitary products to the environment over that period of time.
3. In 2022 roughly 16 940 446 girls in South Africa between the ages of 15 and 49 contributed to 126 646 625 280 single use disposable sanitary items being discarded into to landfills, pit toilets and the environment in general.

The Good News However Is:

EVERY REUSABLE PAD WE SUPPLY HELPS KEEP 200 SINGLE USE PLASTIC ITEMS OUT OF LANDFILLS, PIT TOILETS AND THE ENVIRONMENT!!!

These reusable sanitary pads have undergone rigorous quality testing to ensure that they provide the best protection and ***Fully SABS*** Compliant.
For extra comfort the reusable sanitary pads have specially designed ***PUL waterproof fabric*** with ***multiple absorbency layers*** to ensure that the pads are able to hold flow and not leak.

The material used is ***easy to clean and does not stain. Cloth pads don't smell!***

The smell associated with your period is due to the chemical reaction that happens when the blood and the chlorine bleach, dioxins etc. mix and which are found in many disposable pads. With these unique disposable pads one does not need to worry about unpleasant smells.

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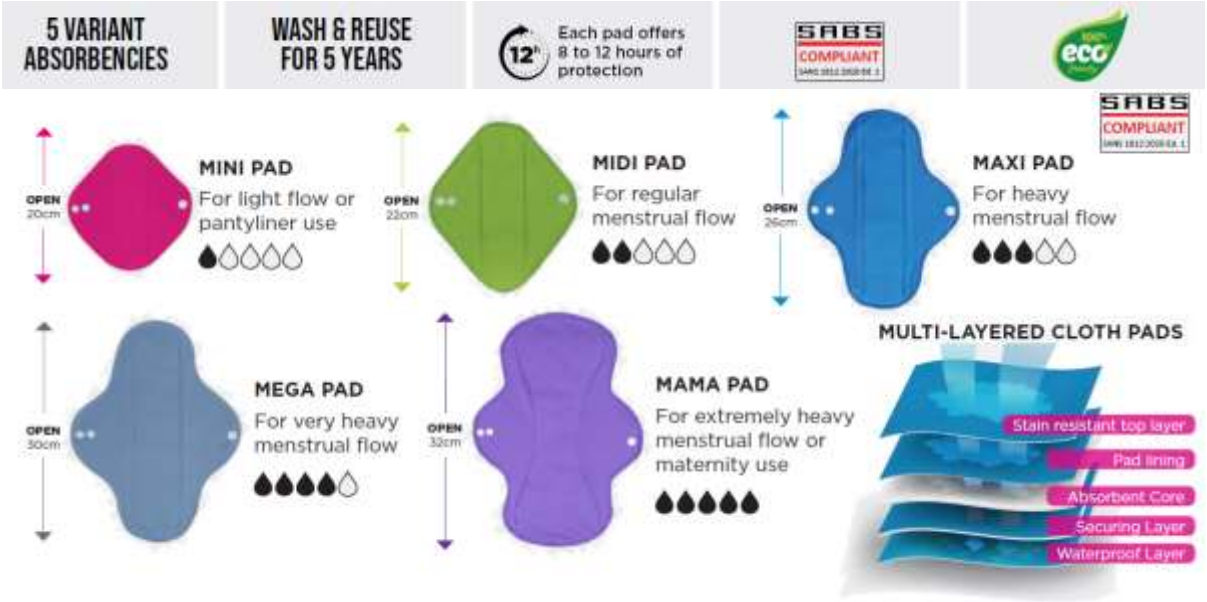

Special Events

Special events that are sponsored by various organisations provide a wonderful opportunity to educate young girls on how menstruation works and on how to use the reusable sanitary pads and covers topics such as:

1. Change they can expect their bodies to go through during puberty
2. How pregnancy occurs
3. Breaking down negative stigmas around their periods

During these special events we want the girls to appreciate how miraculous their bodies are and to be proud of themselves. These special events answers many questions that they may not feel comfortable asking a teacher or a parent and are always impressed at the level of questions being asked by our youth and the eagerness to learn about their bodies.
We are also willing to have motivational speakers from inspiring woman join up with us during these special events should that be a requirement and an arrangement made with the sponsors.
We have a long list of schools and communities who have approached us to assist them to secure donations and or sponsorships in order to supply not only these reusable sanitary pads but also special events for them.
We also welcome selected schools and communities that clients recommend or have as a requirement under their Social Labour Plan and or BEE requirements.

You are most welcome to suggest a school and community to be a beneficiary of these special event!

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Special events are quoted on a project specific requirement and will cover all travel costs however, these events can delivered at no cost based on orders of certain volumes as outlined in the table below.

EVENT FORMAT

A typical agenda looks like this:

10 min	10 min	20 min	10 min	10 min	1 hour
Welcome & introduction	Ice Breaker	Menstrual Health Talk	Palesa Pads Training	Product handover	Total event time

A minimum of 4 pads per girl is required to be eligible for these services.

South Africa Only	100+	200+	300+	500+	1000+	2000+
FREE Sponsor branding					●	●
Gauteng					●	●
Mpumalanga, Southern Limpopo, North West					●	●
Free State, Northern Limpopo, Kwa-Zulu Natal					●	●
Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Northern Cape					●	●
International*					●	●

For international events (other than SADC Countries) a minimum order of 33 000 Kickstart Combo Boxes is required as well as the team's travel and accommodation costs are for the client's account.

Branding

As part of our service to our clients that sponsor one hundred or more starter kits we can arrange for special branding on the kits and boxes with the company logo, slogan and a special message such as "Keep Me in School – Girl Campaign Sponsored by" or any other fitting message/statement.

We are also able to arrange that management and company photographers attend the event for marketing and public relations purposes should that be a requirement.

No client specific examples of logo branding:

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NEXT STEPS

Once your order is confirmed and paid, we will start packing your order.

We manufacture pads daily so we always have stock. For larger orders, an extended lead time will apply to manufacture the additional stock.

We will then confirm the first available delivery date that suits you as well as the school. This will depend on the workload in the factory as well as everyone's availability.

We arrange everything with the teachers and the principal and provide our own gear to entertain and educate. All you need to do is attend the event. It's time to join the #ClothPadRevolution. We look forward to welcoming you on board!

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