

## **Vital Voices**

The Vital Voices African Artisans Export Development Program - if you attended Discover Africa we heard about some incredible individuals who in their own ways, big or small made a difference. You may remember the name Rebecca Lolosoli from Lynne Leakey's talks and in her honor we support "Vital Voices".

This program serves to provide African women artisans with the tools they need to build profitable businesses that will promote positive change in communities throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. It is an initiative designed by Vital Voices Global Partnership and supported by the ExxonMobil Foundation.

Through the sale of their exquisite handcrafted textiles, beaded jewelry, and unique home accessories, the African women artisans are working to supply incomes to impoverished women in their communities who are living with HIV/AIDS and suffering from illiteracy. Vital Voices is a non-governmental organization that identifies, trains and empowers emerging women leaders and social entrepreneurs around the globe, enabling them to create a better world for us all.

There will be a limited selection of this merchandise available for sale at the National Forum and the proceeds will go back to Vital Voices to buy additional merchandise for the DA series and/or next Forum. As long as we keep selling, we will continue to support. [www.bridgesforafrica.com](http://www.bridgesforafrica.com)

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