

LEEMING'S JOURNEY



Out of Africa: Young and old peddle their wares on the road and in the marketplace.

# End in sight to epic adventure

NATALIE GERRITSEN

She's overcome tsetse flies and injuries and been shot at by rebels in the Republic of Congo but Kate Leeming says the positives far outweigh the negatives as she nears the end of her epic cycling expedition across Africa.

The WA-born adventurer is just days from the end of a 22,000km journey from Africa's most western point to its most eastern.

She and her team, including a cameraman and driver, set out from Senegal in October and have travelled through 21 countries, raising awareness of programs giving "a leg up and not a handout" in the fight against

poverty. Speaking from Somalia, Leeming said she expected to finish her journey by Saturday after arranging with local authorities for safe passage to the Horn of Africa.

She is battling physical and mental fatigue after almost 10 months on the road but the arrival of her sister, Jane, was a much-needed boost.

"My body is tired but I'm very motivated to finish and it's great to have her with me because I haven't seen any family members for almost a year," Leeming said.

Leeming's journey will see her become the first person to cycle in an unbroken line across Africa. Her trip will be made into a documentary.



Tired but determined: Nearing the end of her epic ride, Kate Leeming says there have been only a few bumps along the way.



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