



MBARARA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Promoting sustainable development through community peacebuilding: A case of the community Peace programme

Presenter

Moses Tukwasiibwe

Research Associate/Coordinator, Community Peace
Programme ,FDS,MUST

succeed we must

Faculty of Development Studies

Mbarara University of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 1410, Mbarara, Uganda,

Mobile: +256-782-494191, Fax: +256-485-21126, E-Mail: tukwam@yahoo.co.uk, Website: <http://www.must.ac.ug>

Section 1: Introduction

- The community peace programme is a community outreach initiative aimed at transferring academic knowledge into practice through partnering with neighbouring communities in contributing to realization of their development goals.
- At the beginning of 2006, the Faculty of Development Studies in conjunction with 'ideas work' and the University of Western Cape embarked on implementing the community peace programme.
- The Zwelethemba Model for dispute resolution and community development guides this work. Zwelethemba is the name of the community where this model was developed in South Africa.



The model

- This local conflict management and local governance model operates with aid of Peace Committees.
- Peace Committee Members include anyone who agrees to help organize and run Gatherings according to the Peace making and Peace Building Steps and the Code of Good Practice.(Peace making guide). Organizers are Peace Committee Members who arrange Gatherings.
- This model builds individual, organizational and community capacity, especially in marginalized and under-resourced communities. It does this, first, by mobilizing local knowledge and commitment around questions of safety and security (Peacemaking); secondly, by extending this facilitative problem-solving approach into supporting local projects that build social and economic capital (Peace Building).



Practical operation

- The community peace programme team under the Conflict prevention and peace-building unit manages the implementation of the programme. This team works through coordinated efforts to train community members in peace making and peace building, data gathering and analysis for community development in partnership with local councils and other development agencies and institutions.
- Conflict prevention and peace building students are involved to participate in handling practical aspects of the programme in order to sharpen their applied skills in development, community work and practical conflict management.
- Student activities include: Data gathering and analysis, peace committees' trainings and peace building facilitation.
- The Community Peace Programme supports Peace Committees through provision of training packages and assisting with fund-raising for community peace building activities.



Kacence east peace committee in session



Kacence west peace committee in session



Kacence east peace committee after session



Ending a peace committee meeting in reconciliatory mood



One of the pilot sites



Acheivements

- Community members have been empowered to find their own solutions to the problems they face
- Communities have been helped to resolve conflicts and to find lasting solutions
- Community members are helped to explore in depth the causes of the problems the face together
- Partnerships are built with local councils and as such resources mobilized to fund proposed development projects in the community to tackle the identified root causes of conflicts
- Peaceful living and harmonious co-existence has been promoted in the communities



Challenges

- There is need for creation of more sustainable partnerships so as to ensure greater impact of the programme
- Communities are yet to fully realize that the solution to their problems lies with them fundamentally
- More inputs /resources are needed and this requires greater networking and goodwill from all stakeholders including government, business community and the civil society



Applicability in promoting peace and development

- Promoting community tourism as a means of raising income for ongoing development projects
- Economic empowerment through promoting entrepreneurship among community members
- Exchange of knowledge and information
- Promotion of community initiatives through peace building





MBARARA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Thank you

By

Moses Tukwasiibwe

succeed we must

Faculty of Development Studies

Mbarara University of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 1410, Mbarara, Uganda,

Mobile: +256-782-494191, Fax: +256-485-21126, E-Mail: tukwam@yahoo.co.uk, Website: <http://www.must.ac.ug>