

Civil Society Alternative Process of Sierra Leone (CSAP-SL)

Development and Peace: The Role of Development Aid in Ending the War and Bringing Peace in Sierra Leone and the West Africa Sub- Region

In 1989, a criminal gang comprising drug dealers, human traffickers, diamond thieves under the direct control and command of the Liberian warlord and former president Charles Taylor waged a rebel war on Sierra Leone that lasted for 11 years, using former Sierra Leonean coup-d'etat convict army corporal Foday Saybana Sankoh as proxy.

- The war ended in 2000 through the intervention of the West African Regional body Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Military Operations Group (ECOMOG) with heavy funding and technical input from the international community including Japan to maintain the forces on the ground.

The role of the International Community during the war

- Support to the legitimate government and the regional institutions like Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its military wing ECOMOG
- Stop the inhuman atrocities, never seen in war history of amputations, deliberately burning people alive, splitting pregnant women's bellies and the sexual orgy of holding women as sex slaves.

- Stop rouses, thieves and fraudsters from human trafficking, diamond smuggling and using Sierra Leone as drug transit point for Asia including Japan and Europe.
- Encourage the rebels of Liberian warlord Charles Taylor's proxy Corporal Foday Saybana Sankoh to come out from the bush and go to the negotiating table
- Guide the negotiations to a fruitful conclusion.

The role of the International Community after the war:

The international community intervened after the war in Sierra Leone for three main reasons:-

To bring Sierra Leone into a club of civilized nations based on strong democratic principles, human security, legal and investment friendly laws.

To help Sierra Leone plan its course in meeting the MDGs as scheduled

To bring justice to bear on the perpetrators, reparations for the victims through the UN backed Special Court for Sierra Leone, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the normal legal system

- Sierra Leone as a small country in the West Africa sub region feels the impact of international conferences, meetings and their outcomes through bilateral and multinational/transnational institutions like The World Bank, DfID, USAID, JICA and others but perhaps because the country is merely emerging from war, after consultations within our network and other coalitions it came out that, there was no sign that our country experienced any direct impact from the TICAD process solely.

- However, it need be said here that there is a very strong Japanese presence in Sierra Leone with the presence of a Consulate for over 12 years followed up with JICA; eventhough their activities, especially those of JICA are neither strictly monitored nor evaluated. In terms of trade, 95% of the vehicles, 75% of small to medium industrial machines, 60% of all machines are products from Japan.
- The disappointment in this is that, much as original Japanese machines including vehicles are very good, we have discovered that there are various generic versions flooding the market and especially the third world market in poor countries like Sierra Leone which are of far less good quality than the original Japanese brand.

- We in third world, poor African development countries like Sierra Leone, would implore the G-8 but especially Japan to cause democratic changes at the Breton Woods institutions of The World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Finance Corporation (IFC), Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) etc., and Japan as the second largest singular voter after the United States of America, has the capacity to effect change within the bank if she desires to do so and, on behalf of the poor, marginalized African people and in the name of human security we would want to see Japan do it.

No.	Country	Number of votes	%-tage vote
1.	Canada	45,045	2.78
2.	France	69,647	4.30
3.	Germany	72,649	4.49
4.	Italy	45,045	2.78
5.	Japan	127,250	7.86
6.	Russia	45,045	2.78
7.	United Kingdom of Britain	64,467	4.30
8.	United States of America	265,219	16.80
9.	Whole of Africa	116,824	6.50

Our Demand from The World Bank

- We, on behalf of our poor marginalized people want The World Bank to do the following if we are to have human security, meet the MDGs, prevent HIV/AIDS:-
- Cancel the debt of all African Countries especially debt that was incurred during the cold war by dictatorial regimes up to the year 2000 with special consideration for sub-Saharan countries
- Increase quality aid to Africa

- Work towards a strategic action plan for the integration of Africa into the global capital market by having Africa to be part of the price fixing mechanism for her raw materials like Coffee, Cocoa, diamonds, iron ore, timber etc
- Shy away from environmentally damaging projects especially those dealing with deforestation, logging where poor peoples livelihoods are affected, dams and mining where whole populations are relocated adversely affecting their Environmental, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR)
- Democratize the voting system and the appointments procedure within the World Bank Group
- Have a transparent disclosure and information flow system

Our Demand from the G-8 Countries

- Cancel all bilateral debt owed by Africa especially that incurred during the cold war up to the year 2000 most of which is odious because the donor countries knew and still know that it was not used for the intended purpose; it's a known fact that most of the resources were used to suppress their own people
- Scale up to meet their 0.7% GNP obligation to the third world
- Do their utmost genuinely towards the stability of Africa
- Get their NGOs to work through genuine local CBOs, NGOs, CSOs and coalitions in African countries

- Invest genuinely in pro-poor, private sector and civil society led activities that will bring Economic Growth including in the informal sector
- Support environmental CBOs, NGOs, CSOs etc.
- The church and other religious groups in the G-8 to liaise with and support the African church and other religious groups which are going through hard times due to the loss of membership through HIV/AIDS, short life expectancy, preventable diseases etc.

Our Demand from Japanese Government

- Apart from the fact that Japan like all the other G-8 countries meet the above obligations but as a special new friend; we demand the following:-
- Open Japanese institutions to Africans including but not limited to research institutes, universities, technical vocational institutes for the assimilation of knowledge that made Japan an industrial giant in merely 60 years: we want to replicate that knowledge in Africa
- Cancel all of Africa's debt
- Provide short internships, training programmes and cultural exchanges and joint projects
- Support the Civic Commission for Africa (C-CfA)

Our Demand on TICAD IV and TCSF

- TICAD IV, as an event, process and platform we demand that between TICAD IV and TICAD V in 2013 the following be done:-
- Establish a strong link between the TICAD process and the TCSF on the one hand and the Civic Commission for Africa (C-CfA) on the other
- Strengthen the Civic Commission for Africa (C-CfA)
- Promote the linkages between Japanese CBOs, NGOs, CSO, Trade Unions and their equivalents in Africa through a peer linkage programme

- Initiate the idea of worker exchanges on internship bases including cultural exchanges
- Replicate a counterpart to TICAD in Africa which we may call "African Conference on Development and Peace (ACOD) since we believe that C-CfA is the counterpart of the TCSF in Africa.
- The basis for the above demands is a quotation for the Blair Commission for Africa Report:

- **"Africa has suffered from governments that have looted the resources of the state; that could not or would not deliver services to their people; that in many cases were predatory; corruptly extracting their countries' resources; that maintained control through bribery and violence....These governments received active support from the donors, often from Europe....and Japan" *Italics mine*(1)**

- The above quotation seems to be referring to long ago and in a faraway country but it is true of many African countries with Sierra Leone been no exception if her political history from 1968 – 1989 is to be reviewed. On a small scale, power saws mainly from Japan are gnawing at the forests but the most prominent sector in which the peoples Environmental, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) are violated is in the extractive sector. To get a gist of the problem, we will quote a portion from the report of a research this author (2) carried out in early 2004 titled, **"The unheard Cries of the Kono People"**

- "A security Company (Branch Energy), which helped in protecting the diamond rich Kono district from the rebels during some time of the war, entered into a 25 year contract with the military regime (National Provisional Ruling Council) that was in power in 1995 when Kono fell to the rebels, abandoned the district and left but before leaving; Branch Energy company went to the High Court of Sierra Leone and entered a *force majeure*"

- "They returned in 2000, not as Branch Energy but as Koidu Holdings, a South African Plc, and started kimberlite mining without regard to the local people. Villages have been wiped out of the map of Sierra Leone by the tailings, the people complain of water borne diseases possibly due to the damage done to the water table. Noise levels are far higher than the normal 250 decibels accepted by the normal human ear.

- "This is not to talk about evacuating people from their villages to makeshift places to wait the blasting of the Kimberlite; sometimes for hours without compensation.....women have given birth in these unsanitary makeshift places. This is a people violated....."
- Let us end by sitting a dare situation where a traditional livelihood has been stolen from a whole group of people – Gara Dye Tie Women – in the northern region of Sierra Leone.

- "Gara-Tie Dye, (dyeing various colours of clothes, giving them patterns, shades and styles) had been a traditional labour practice of the majority Mandingo, Susu, Themne ethnic tribes' women in the northern province of Sierra Leone. Proceeds from the sale of these dyed clothes is what these women had used to pay the school and college fees of their children in the past; most of who are ministers of government, religion, diplomats, business executives etc.
- "The Chinese have stolen that trade by copying nearly all the patterns, shades, styles etc., and replicating them in China on cheap cotton and flooding the Sierra Leonean market with the cheap materials.

- "These poor women are deprived of a livelihood, tradition and occupation but they cannot do anything because they cannot afford to go to the WTO let alone the tedious legal process and time at the WTO....even though their Environmental, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) have been blatantly violated" This is partly how poverty is perpetuated on and in Africa

References

- 1) The British Prime Minister Tony Blair's Commission set up in 2004 to give an assessment on Africa which reported in 2005.
- (2) Mr. Falla Ensa-N'Dayma was commissioned in 2003 to do a research into the causes of unrest in the Kono district with regard to the Kimberlite Mining that was going on in the district.

Food security in Africa-

"A possible role for the international community"



Key thrusts

- Insights on the context of production food in Africa
- Policy and trade barriers to food security.
- A different perspective of food.
- Possible roles for the international community.

Insights on the context of food production in Africa

While food production is a major livelihood and economic activity in most Africa countries, it is challenged by:

- Ineffective and inadequate Agricultural policies and funding.
- Unfavorable local and international trade arrangements(EPAs)
- Limiting access to resources and infrastructure
- HIV/AIDS
- Climate change

Insights contd!

- Evolving technologies, knowledge and skills that ignores IK and eliminates African farmers.(**GMO**).
- Food is a lucrative venture and this has resulted into the aggressive entry and gradual take over of the agriculture industry by powerful profit driven multinational co operations.
- The above links to marketing of new technologies such as GMOs while castigating age old seed and farming practices.
- The politics of food aid that paints a gloomy picture of the performance of Africa agriculture.

Policy and trade barriers to food security

- Agricultural policy is just evolving in most Africa countries.(**Maputo Declaration 2003**)
- Most policies are externalist.(**favor practices that require expensive external inputs fertilizers, pesticides or draw on experiences external to Africa AGRA etc**)
- Inadequate funding to the agricultural sector (**10% GDP not yet achieved!**)

Policy and trade barriers contd"

- Misconceived focus on global markets as the driver for agricultural productivity resulting in weak development of national and regional markets.
- Absence of mechanisms to increase capital inflow in the agriculture sector. (**water harvesting, irrigation, processing etc**)
- Inflexible global discourses eg the on going EU/ ACP EPA negotiation has raised a lot of concerns in both ACP and EU countries. If signed at the end of 2007 EPAS will be a new landmark in promoting food insecurity and destroying livelihoods.

Access to resources and infrastructure

- Unreliable rural road infrastructure.
- Small farmers small voices.
- Weak value chain linkages.
- Exploitative marketing systems that disadvantage farmers.

Resources and infrastructure contd”

- Most producers of food in ACP countries have limited access to resources (financial, information, extension services, energy, water etc)
- There are diverse reasons why access to resources is a problem for most producers
- Infrastructural impediments are some of them
- ACP-EU cooperation should ensure infrastructure development. In doing so there is need for recognising that there is need to take an extra mile if the marginalised groups are to be incorporated in food security programmes

A different perspective on enhancing food Security

1. Recognition that an Africa that is food secure provides more and better returns to the entire world.
2. The need for authentic frameworks to carry out agricultural reforms and catalyse investments.
3. Promoting empowering innovation systems that recognise and build on existing knowledge.
4. Human capacity development to implement, internalise and upscale evolving agricultural practices and approaches.
5. African farmers and Scientists hold tremendous knowledge yet to be harnessed for the benefit of the entire global agriculture knowledge system.

Possible role for international community

- Ensure fair and more pro poor responsive trade arrangements are put in place (*consideration of agriculture as a livelihood and employment sector*)
- Support the development of Africa governance and economic institutions that guarantee the participation of farmers in making decisions on important aspects of their lives. (FARA)
- Enhance mechanisms that build capacity of the marginalized groups to have their voices heard. (*support farmer growth of farmer organisations*)
- Show commitment on environmental efficiency and pollution(*real commitments to reduction of carbon emission*)
- Support Africa governments to address supply chain problems (*dumping, rural infrastructure*)

Role for international community contd”

- Support recognition and promotion of cheap, locally available and sustainable technologies.
- Fully exploit local innovations and practices as well as other more sustainable methods of producing food before experimenting on new and expensive technologies.
- Listen to and respond to African worries about the overzealous promotion of genetically modified organisms in agriculture that threatens further marginalization of the poor.
- Facilitate access to and enable transformation of information into new and empowering knowledge required for agricultural innovation along the entire value chain. (*lifelong learning*)
- Exercise conscious flexibility in global trade negotiations especially those that impact negatively on African Agriculture.

Scaling-up and out 'islands of successful agricultural technologies' in Africa requires innovation platforms in technology adoption (IPTAs) along the value chain.

ASANTE!!

**Gaps in linking HIV and AIDS
with Human Security and
Rights of PLWHA**

Present Situation

1

**Need Urgent Attention to
PMTCT, HPV, TB, HIV and
GBV**

The central question for government, civil society and the private sector must be ;

- How to pay the healthcare cost?
- How to strengthen the primary health care service that reaches the poor?
- How to end violence against women?

Responses to HIV and AIDS, **food insecurity** are being addressed at international level.

However, food distribution protocol does not consider the needs of women living with HIV and AIDS such as;

- Medical needs: access to effective antiretroviral treatment
- Sexual and Reproductive healthcare
- Pregnancy and women's health (PMTCT)
- Contraceptive and safer sex/decision making

3

❑ There are no Effective Policies to promote, protect, respect and fulfill the fundamental rights of women, PLWHA and vulnerable groups.

❑ There is the need to provide Effective Treatment, prevention and care for HIV over a long term.

■ The right **combination** of treatment and policies can **prevent new infections**, save lives and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS.

4

Sub Saharan Africa has lessons for other countries;

e.g. the scale of the epidemic,
the **political responses**,
the epidemiological evidence and
the outcomes data.

5

HIV is now an endogenous influence on most African countries.

⇒ Because it lowers workers efficiency.

AIDS has the potential to push economics into decline and keep them there.

⇒ Because it destroys existing **human capital**, particularly little and less **investment** in children.

6

Required changes as regards governance for African development

- Governments are accountable to communities and must take every necessary action to achieve the **universal access** goal by 2010.
- African Countries must submit their plans in line with the agreements at Abuja, to civil society and other structures at their countries to ensure effective **planning, monitoring, evaluation and implementation.** 7

- Implement a **comprehensive plan** for public health, social security and HIV/AIDS.
- Governments to enforce **human rights policies** and good governance. 8

- Urge Governments, donors and UNAIDS to significantly expand efforts to address inequality and inequity between men and women, gender based violence including sexual and **physical abuse of women, girls and boys**, and harmful gender-based practices and social and cultural norms as majority drivers of the HIV epidemic, including through increased and better coordinated funding to **national programs** and civil society partners. 9

- African Countries must meet the **15%** target for national spending on health that they agreed to at Abuja in 2001. Invest in health system to ensure effective health service with well **trained and motivated** health care workforce.
- Wealthier national governments should contribute an increased percentage of GDP to global public goods in accordance with the MDGs. 10

- African CSOs must continue to monitor and play a watchdog role, organise and mobilise all people to be vocal on the need. Giving awareness, campaigns to **empower communities.** 11

International engagements for African development

- JICA, TICAD, CCFA must lead in urging the responsible structures to deliver according to their promises and commitment. Initiating meetings to evaluate the progress. Planning for the next G8 and ensuring the involvement of Africans and PLWHA.
- Engage in policy decision making to influence in the abolishing of user fees for health services . (IMF policies fail the poor.) 12

- WHO, in partnership with UNAIDS, must review the treatment scale -up **targets** and plans, ensure that they are both ambitious and realistic, and declare a single, unified global target for universal access to treatment by 2010. **Civil Society must put pressure through advocacy.**

13

- Engage global companies – in **further advocacy** efforts to encourage good governance globally.
- Practice good corporate governance.
- Engage global companies – **commit** a percentage of profit to increased taxation for public health and HIV/AIDS.

14

- Urge donors to be flexible on their policies to benefit developing countries.
- Urge the G8 to fund the **global fund** and support national plans of countries by engaging the international structures and local voices.

15

A statement by people living with HIV and their allies

- The regulation of medicines and other health commodities on the continent must be strengthened and this issue must be dealt with on an urgent basis.
- No country in Africa should sign trade agreements on other treaties that restrict their ability to ensure access to sustainable supply of affordable medicines by producing or importing medicines or their active pharmaceutical ingredient.

16

- The approval process for new medicines and other health commodities should be streamlined, relying on the approval by other agencies (e.g. USFDA, EMEA, WHO) for a conditional approval for marketing to allow access to these products pending national reviews.
- A framework for regulating the health claims of traditional medicines, other alternatives treatments and procedures, and fake cures for HIV/AIDS and other diseases needs to be established.

17

- Regional assessments to identify local needs around human resources for health and specific plans to recruit, train and retain health care workers need to be developed and implemented.
- Regional plans must be developed and implemented to address the needs of migrant populations who need to receive proper medical care no matter where they are living at any given moment.

18

- Health care should be free at the point of access and users fees for services must be abolished across the continent.
- Solutions to minimizing the other costs associated with seeking care, including transport, need to be addressed as well.

19

- All health services (including AIDS, STI and TB treatment, sexual and reproductive services) should be integrated together, and decentralized, minimizing the need for length travel to receive medical care.
- All health services should be available and accessible to people without regard to whether they are living in urban or rural settings, and regardless of gender, sexuality, religion, nationality or disability status.

20

- Regional plans for supporting biomedical and behavioral research on HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and other diseases common in Africa needs to be established to build stronger capacity for research on the continent.

and ...

21

- All of these regional plans must be operational ones, and set out specific tasks for completion by specified deadlines.

We don't need more plans on paper that never implemented.

Endorsed by (list of formation)

AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA), AIDS Law Project (ALP), International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW), Mozambican Treatment Access Movement (MATRAM), Network of Zimbabwean Positive Women (NZPW), Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA), Pan African Treatment Access Movement (PTAM), Southern African Treatment Access Movement (SATAMO), Swaziland Network of people Living with HIV/AIDS (SWANEPWA), Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), Treatment Advocacy and Literacy Campaign (TALC), Zimbabwean National Network of people Living with HIV/AIDS (ZNNP+) and Zimbabwean Activists Against HIV/AIDS

**DISABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT:
WORKING TOGETHER TO INFLUENCE THE
DISABILITY AGENDA THROUGH THE AFRICAN
DECADE ON DISABILITY (2000 – 2009)**

**SOUTHERN AFRICA FEDERATION OF THE DISABLED
(SAFOD)
ALEXANDER M. PHIRI**

1

Background

- 20th Century was a century of amazing progress?
 - Many success stories throughout 20th Century; Universal Declaration of Human Rights, etc...
 - At the turn of the 21st Century, world leaders declared the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- But a majority of the estimated 80 m people with disabilities in Africa continue to live under very deplorable conditions
 - Their visibility remains very low
 - Poverty and disability have been going hand in hand and governments and CSOs in Africa have not been very much supportive

2

African Decade on Disability (2000-2009)

- Organisations of people with disabilities in Africa (SAFOD included) lobbied the AU to declare **African Decade on Disability**
 - Following UN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (1983-1992)
 - 8 objectives which appear in the AU's Continental Plan of Action launched in July 2002;

3

- Objectives in **AU Continental Plan of Action**
 - A) Poverty alleviation among people with disabilities and their families;
 - B) Raising awareness and sensitization on disability;
 - C) Combating causes of disability;
 - D) Strengthening the African voice of disabled people;
 - E) Putting disability on the social, economic and political agenda of African governments;
 - F) Spearheading the implementation of the UN Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for People with Disabilities, and ensuring the issue of the 22 Rules as a basis for formulation of policy and legislation to protect their rights;
 - G) The application of all UN Human Rights Instruments to promote and monitor the rights of disabled people;
 - H) Addressing issues pertaining to disabled children, youth and women.
- How many of African governments remember? The promised funding is still a non-event
- Implementation strategy was debated in South Africa in 2003

4

SAFOD's implementation strategy

- Publication of newsletters; Lobbying donors and partners from outside Africa
- SAFOD's engagement with **JICA**
 - Organisations of people with disabilities in Africa have been participating **JICA Area Focused Training on Mainstreaming and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in Southern Africa** since 2003 and not less than 50 DPO leaders were trained
 - Japan is sponsoring the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (1993-2002), the Second APD (2003-2012), promoting **South-South cooperation**

5

- **SAFOD** made progress in terms of;
 - The disability movement in Southern Africa (i.e. SAFOD) is one of the most vibrant in Africa;
 - Organizations of disabled people have influenced policy makers in some countries to pass legislation or equality laws on disability (Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe);
 - Organizations of disabled people have been actively involved in constitutional reform processes (Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe);
 - Some countries have disabled members of parliament, senators, and cabinet ministers who are either elected or appointed (Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe).

6

Partnership Development

- Very little self-directed initiative; majority of disabled people continue to live in a situation where there is an overwhelming lack of resources, no real citizenship, legislations are not effective
- What exactly needs to be done?
 - **AA NGO Network Workshop, TICAD IV, and G8** are coming;
 - Disability must be addressed as part of the development agenda;
 - Disability is a cross-cutting issue that should involve all aspects of the human condition;
 - Disability rights are human rights;
 - The new Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons offers greater opportunity for advancing the disability agenda;
 - Institutions or approaches that practice or encourage segregation must be eliminated;
 - Disability issues must be mainstreamed.

7

- We were guided by the concepts of **“empowerment”, “equalisation of opportunities” and “inclusion”**
- **“pretenders” or “ignorance”**...
 - 1981 UN adopted theme of “Full Participation and Equality”; International Year of Disabled Persons; etc...
 - Do our governments, donors, community leaders really understand what we want? We are not asking for impossible
 - If the concepts mean anything at all, the neglect of disable people must stop
- **Mainstreaming disability: “inclusive” and “universal design”** should guide all new projects that require international financial support, and this must be adopted by international funding agencies as a safeguard
- There are some international organisations, such as WB and other bilateral/multilateral agencies that are incorporating disability components

8

- **Disability issues must be mainstreamed**
 - Society, governments and NGOs/CSOs need to build capacity, provide information, and collect and monitor feedback from the community
 - The approach should be supported by the disability movement through establishment of a proactive relationship at international, regional, and country levels; concentrating on educating policy-makers and funding agencies about the concepts of inclusive development and universal design
- **82% of world’s disabled people live below the poverty line in developing countries (UN)**; mainstreaming disability would have tremendous impact

9

Conclusion

- The measures should be taken by government agencies, non-state actors
 - Establishment of **“disability desks”** to build capacity within agency structures and governments;
 - Development of **internal criteria and mechanisms** for reporting, enforcing and monitoring of mainstream versus special programmes;
 - Stimulating and promoting the development, implementation and dissemination of best practices through mechanisms such as **“Request for Proposals”** on inclusive projects;
 - Use of people with expertise in disability to work as consultants and employees within the agencies, specially in development related positions;
 - Maintaining consistent pressure for realization of inclusive programmes and projects;
 - Create **standards and criteria** for inclusion of disabled people (e.g. as currently provided for gender inclusion policies).

10

Thank you!

11

**Education and Empowerment:
Financing Education for All in Africa:
The Equity and Quality Challenge**

Juliana Nzomo
Aga Khan Foundation

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- ❖ AKF, an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), seeks to improve living conditions and opportunities for people in the poorest parts of the developing world.
- ❖ **AKF Thematic Pillars:** Education, Health, Rural Development and Civil Society Strengthening
- ❖ Present in 30 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and North America

AKDN
AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

- ❖ Works in partnership with national and local governments, development agencies, civil society and the private sector to realise universal development objectives.

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AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

AKF Education Goals & Objectives

- ❖ **Goal:** to equip children and young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to help them interact effectively with the world and be contributing members of society
- ❖ **Objectives:**
 - To increase access to education opportunities and improve retention and completion rates, particularly for the most disadvantaged.
 - To enhance the quality of children's and young people's learning opportunities and support their overall development.

AKDN
AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

- To strengthen local systems and institutions that provide leadership and build capacity in education.
- To contribute to knowledge creation and dialogue which influences practice and policy.
- ❖ Holistic approach and child/learner focus; emphasis on inclusion, pluralism, institutional learning and partnerships – with local and national governments, communities and local civil society.

AKDN
AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

AKF Overview

- ❖ Focus on:
 - ❖ Strengthening community-based institutions
 - ❖ Building the capacity of School Management Committees and local government to provide quality education
 - ❖ Teacher training, mentoring and support
 - ❖ Implementing a whole school approach to educational improvement
 - ❖ Women empowerment

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Developing and piloting replicable innovative education strategies ❖ Supporting holistic early childhood development ❖ Facilitating successful transition for children moving from home to primary ❖ Documenting and disseminating learnings for purposes of systemic change ❖ Promoting girls' access, participation and performance 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Challenges of Early Transition
<p>Across the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Free Primary Education policies have dramatically increased enrolments especially at Grade One – which are often 80-100+ children ❖ Lower primary classrooms have severe shortage of space as well as the necessary teaching and learning materials needed for children to use and manipulate regularly 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lower primary teachers have lowest status, is least well-trained, and rarely has specific Early Years training – resulting in inadequate skills and knowledge to teach critical early language and literacy skills, initial maths concepts, etc 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ High combined drop-out and repetition rates at Grade One: Uganda - 35.6%; Kenya - 17.8%; Tanzania – 11% -- these rates are worse for disadvantaged/marginalised children ❖ FPE led to a decline in pre-school enrolment as many parents preferred to send their children to primary school rather than pay fees for pre-school education. 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Government financing to the Social Sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➊ According to the 2007 Economic Survey, the government is committed to invest in human capital development and fulfillment of MDGs, and has increased resource allocation to the social sector, particularly to education and health. ➋ The budgetary allocation to social services increased by 16.5% from Kshs.126 billion in 2005/06 to Kshs.146.6 billion in 2006/07. 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Government financing to the Social Sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➊ The gross total allocation to the Ministry of Education increased by 71.3% from Kshs.64.1 billion in 2002/03 to Kshs.109.8 billion in 2006/07. ➋ The proportion of recurrent expenditure on pre-school education has remained less than 1% of overall education budget (0.05% in 2006/07). 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Financing Gaps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Shortage of adequately prepared teachers ➤ Poor physical infrastructure – school facilities are overstretched and many classes are conducted under trees or in overcrowded classrooms in substandard buildings. ➤ Most schools have inadequate latrines and water storage facilities – girls are the greatest victims. 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Financing Gaps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weak educational management systems – linkages between MOE, District Education Boards, School Management Committees, sponsors of educational institutions and communities are often poor or non-existent. ➤ Community-based mechanisms for supporting marginalized and vulnerable children are not in place and a significant number of children are susceptible to non-enrolment or dropping out. 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Financing Gaps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Insufficient education opportunities <u>relevant</u> to local cultures and marginalized groups ➤ HIV and AIDS pandemic has changed the demographic profile in African countries and threatens economic progress. The number of orphaned children in schools continues to increase which, in part, explains current drop-out rates as there is stigma attached to and lack of support for these children. 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Priority Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Children living in remote, rural areas often have more difficulty accessing, staying in and succeeding in education because of the combined forces of poverty and local cultural practices. This is especially problematic during early childhood. ➤ Meaningful community and parent involvement – this only happens with intense efforts, transparency, patience and time, but can lead to transformation of government schools into community schools. 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Priority Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continuity in quality, relevant learning opportunities – providing an adequate learning environment beginning in early childhood through secondary is critical. A range of partnerships across communities, civil society and Government need to be tested and replicated. ➤ Relevant curriculum and sound teaching and learning materials building on local cultures and resources – fundamental to learning, yet often absent or inadequate 	

AKDN <small>AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK</small>	Priority Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Professional development of educators working with marginalized children – regular teacher support and mentoring deepen and broaden classroom competencies and skills and is often left out due to remoteness and poor capacity ➤ Collaboration between Government and other stakeholders building ownership and sustainability – many of the strategies that work best for marginalized children require flexible policies and effective collaboration. 	



WIFIP EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL APPROACHES TOWARDS
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN THE LAKE
VICTORIA REGION OF KENYA

THE WIFIP MODEL AND INTERVENTIONS

PRESENTED TO THE GCAP – KENYA
MEETING: SEPTEMBER 2007

Historical Background of L. Victoria Fisheries and Communities

- Fishing is an economic activity in Kenya that is undertaken in both inland and coastal waters.
- Despite the wealth accruing from fish, poverty is still high among fishing communities, literacy is low and there are high incidences of diseases especially HIV and AIDS.
- High incidence of disease, besides increasing fish pressure and effort on the lake, poor and destructive fishing methods, deterioration of water quality among others, and the need to curb them.

Women in the Fishing Industry

- Women occupy a central place in the fishing sector and dominate the post harvest sub-sector of the Lake Victoria fisheries accounting for between 70% to 80% of all fish traders involved in artisanal fish trade.
- Women traders are almost excluded from the trade in Nile perch except for under size and/or rejected fish and processing of swim-bladders.
- The women are also subjects of illicit sexual relationships with their male counterparts in the fishing industry
- Women out of ignorance, affect the lake and its' resources and consequently their own livelihoods through activities in other sectors

WIFIP Intervention Model

- Non-formal and Distance Education
- Group Learning, Organization and Learner Support
- Learning Content

Learning Outcomes

- Confidence building
- Women operating in cleaner environment on the beaches, markets and homes
- Sustained Kitchen gardens
- Improved savings culture
- Increased demand for Revolving Loan Fund
- Formation and organization of stronger groups for orphan support
- Increased VCT uptake and HIV status public disclosure

Challenges

- High poverty rate
- High illiteracy level among the target community
- HIV/AIDS Crisis

Conclusion

- The potential of open and flexible learning is unquestionable
- The WIFIP model and approaches touch lives of the very grassroots woman and community member and has proved quite practical in meeting to their needs for improving themselves in the society.