



# TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE



**10**  
**YEARS**  
**of building**  
**peace**  
**2001 - 2011**



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**Conflict is an  
Opportunity**



## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE IS TURNING OUT TO BE A REPUTABLE PEACE REWARDING INSTITUTION

From a few people's dreams and inspirations in the 1980s and 1990s, TIP is slowly turning out to be a reputable peace building organization. War between the Uganda People's Army (UPA) and National Resistance Army (NRA) in Teso and the persistent insecurity brought about by cattle raiders originating from Karamoja created a desire among some people and churches to initiate TIP as a peace building organization. TIP started without operational structures with only volunteers running the organization. The teaming up of TIP with DED led to a significant transformation of the organization because it got some funds for its activities and was supported by a civil peace adviser known as Edith Naser. This was also the time when TIP staff and organizational structures were established. TIP has now got a number of partners which include GIZ, Diakonia Bread for the World and Trôcaire among others. This has enabled it to access more money, more skilled training for its employees and develop greater capacities to do more peace building activities in Teso and Karamoja.

Our organization has realised that without working through the local leadership and local governments it becomes difficult to implement peace activities. Its strength therefore is to work through the local leadership in order to realise results.

TIP has made some significant achievements. Those include increased contacts between the Kari-mojong and Iteso communities and settlements in Apeitolim and Okoboi, K/Obulin and Arengepua, increased meetings between the leaders of the border districts to discuss issues affecting their communities and reduced insecurity in the border areas of Teso and Karamoja. In the last elections, TIP brought our politicians together in order to promote a peaceful election period in the Teso sub-region. We are looking ahead to consolidate the achievements that were made in Teso and in the border region of Teso and Karamoja. This includes fronting the Iteso Cultural Union and His Highness, Emorimor Papa Iteso, as institution to promote peace in Teso and among its neighbours.

TIP is also looking at invigorating peace education in schools so that our children grow up with a culture of peace and peaceful co-existence with their neighbours. Furthermore, TIP seeks to collaborate with various organizations whose key objectives are to promote peace and peaceful co-existence to work jointly and achieve together.

We are well aware of the challenges we are confronted with. Those include inability to mobilize funding



locally without heavily relying on foreign donors. It is also common knowledge that at times the people along the Teso-Karamoja border region experience droughts and food scarcity. There are increased land conflicts in Teso due to population pressure.

I express my sincere gratitude to the donor community, the Board, the secretariat and the people of good will who have entrusted us to reach where we are in our efforts to build peace in Teso and Karamoja.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Oluka Vincent'.

**Oluka Vincent**  
*Chairperson Board of Directors TIP*



# TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE: A DECADE OF LOOKING FORWARD

Teso Initiative for Peace has never looked back since the late 1980s and early 1990s following the insurgency which left many people in the Teso sub-region traumatised after losing their loved ones, property and the rich cultural identity. The initial efforts to start counselling people affected by the insurgency were started by Rev. Fr. Richard Pius Okiria and Ms Adio Winifred who had themselves risked their lives while giving a helping hand. It is notable that religious leaders in the Teso sub-region also embarked on similar initiatives. Several meetings and workshops were organised to explore the way forward and were guided by the theme: Ekwaikisi ai? (Ateso for "What should we do?"). The stakeholders involved understood peace as the "absence of war" and were therefore working to ensure that guns fell silent. It was an issue of peace first and justice later.

The decision to constitute Teso Initiative for Peace as an entity took many protracted discussions. Some members wanted it to focus on peace building while others thought it should address livelihood deprivations following the mayhem of the insurgency; some suggested that it should address the plight of women and children who suffered the brunt of the insurgency. In the year 2000, there was pressure from long term associates to register the organisation as a Company Limited by guarantee with the Registrar of Companies. Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP) was then officially born with a focus

on peace building in the Teso sub-region. While the name Teso Initiative for Peace was reserved with the Registrar of Companies, it was not until 2005 that a certificate of registration as a company limited by guarantee without a share capital was secured. In the meantime, TIP registered with the National NGO Board in 2001.

At the initial stages the organization relied on volunteers with Mr. James Opale Ongodia being the first. The first office was at Kingdom Hall and it later shifted (in 2002) to the house of Rev. Fr. Pius Okiria at Komolo Road in Soroti Town. Once formed, some of the first activities organised included workshops and dialogues between the Iteso and Karimojong, training of the clergy and local leaders, exchange visit to Western Uganda, production of a documentary showing an interaction between the Karimojong and the Iteso.

An interim structure drawn up in the very first official meeting of TIP included a Board of Trustees composed of Ms Christine Amongin Aporu and Rev. Fr. Pius Okiria while the Board of Directors included, Rev Sam Opol, Rev. Fr. Boguslaw Zero, Mrs Christine Oluka, Mrs Grace Ebwadel, Mrs Winifred Adio, Ms Frances Akello, Mrs Anna Epechu and Mr. Omiat Moses.

Rev. Fr. Pius Okiria became the first coordinator and later handed over to Mrs Ann Epechu. There were challenges relating to payments of rent and salaries and TIP was at a risk of being closed in its infancy. In 2002,

one of the long term associates of TIP, Amojong Akello Frances met the Head of the Africa Desk of the German Development Service (DED) in Kampala. This meeting later led to a work place assessment and eventual financing of the "Bridging the Gap Programme" by DED which commenced activities in 2005. A peace Advisor in the names of Edith Naser was appointed by GIZ to support the implementation of the project. Ms. Edith Naser diligently worked until her contract expired in April 2011.

The first AGM was held in 2006 at Soroti Lion's Club. With the election of a substantive Board of Directors some accomplishments have been realized. The most notable ones are the development of a three year strategic plan (twice), human resource management and finance policies, expansion of interventions, opening up of three district offices. TIP membership has also grown from a small number of the initial ten to over fifty members.

The initial activities of TIP centred on promoting peaceful co-existence between the Iteso and Karimojong. These activities were largely informed by the Theory of Change that: "if communities in conflict jointly work to address their felt needs, conflict among them will be responded to non-violently". This theory informed the genesis of joint peace projects in the joint clearing of road networks, de-silting of water dams and joint cassava multiplication in Kapelebyong and Lokopo sub-counties

under the Food for Work of the WFP. Accompanying these activities was peace education in schools, Early Warning and Response meetings, dialogues and training of stakeholders in the Teso and Karamoja neighbouring sub-counties and districts.

In recognition of the role institutions of state play in fostering peace, TIP embarked on training the Anti-Stock Unit Forces (Teso side) and UPDF (Karamoja side) in understanding conflict and peace building. To inform policy engagement, TIP carried out several training sessions for the LC III councillors of the Teso-Karamoja neighbouring sub-counties. These efforts yielded much in informing the embracing of peaceful co-existence and pro-peace planning at sub-county level. Taking the agenda forward, TIP animated the creation of the Peace Monitors at the LC V Councils of the eight Teso-Karamoja neighbouring districts under the Teso Karamoja Peaceful Co-existence Initiatives Programme (TEKAPIP). As a coalition, TEKAPIP registered as an NGO in 2010.

Aware and in support of the multi-party dispensation guaranteed by the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (as amended), TIP organised a training for political party leaders in the Teso sub-region. The parties that participated included NRMO, FDC, UPC, DP and PPP. The training was done to re-awaken the need for sensitive politicking in the fall of the 2011 elections. Somewhat, these efforts contributed to the calm atmosphere during the campaigns and consequent elections in the Teso sub-region.

Conscious that violence can arise due to cultural and social identification fixations, TIP has embarked on soliciting the participation of clan leaders



and the Iteso Cultural Union in fostering the participation of clan members in advocating for and participating in the enhancement of education, health and governance in the Teso sub-region. This is being pursued within the provisions of the "Citizen Manifesto" paradigm. TIP envisages that clan leaders are well placed in influencing community participation at Parish Development Committee levels in improving planning and service delivery. There is no sustainable peace without culture.

The above initiatives could not have borne fruit without the support of GIZ (the then German Development Service), Trocaire, Diakonia, Bread for the World, DANIDA-HUGGO, CECORE, the local governments of the Teso and Karamoja and the ordinary people who in their every day life, wake up to face challenges perpetuated by greedy, insensitive and inept leaders and errant community members. We owe them this success!

TIP is therefore looking to a future where it will enable individuals and communities to address the root causes of conflict than its symptoms, a future where individuals and communities appreciate being different and yet work for a common cause, a future where peace actors in the

Teso and Karamoja regions appreciate networking for justice and fairness, a future where duty bearers willingly bear the burden of their responsibilities and where rights holders will strengthen their civic awareness and responsibility. TIP is looking towards a future where peace will mean development, equity and equality. It is a future that all Ugandans ought to look forwards to complement to the government of Uganda's efforts for peace and prosperity.

Stay connected and be blessed.

Michael Odeke  
DIRECTOR

# DEARLY MISSED

*Most of the founder members of Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP) are still closely linked to TIP. However, two of the initiators who largely contributed to the development of the organisation, have passed on in recent years. This obituary is therefore written to appreciate, be thankful for their contribution and support and to acknowledge that they are dearly missed and fondly thought of up to date. These persons are Christine Oluka and Francis Ariko. In their loving memory, Mr. Oluka Vincent and Mrs. Adio Winifred looked back on the life of their respective spouses.*

## ARIKO FRANCIS

Ariko Francis initially trained as a primary school teacher but later on joined the armed forces as a soldier who largely worked in VIP protection.

**"He was a person who loved peace"**

One of the things I, Adio Winifred, found remarkable about Francis Ariko was his behavior in one incident. One day, a prominent man from Idi Amin's army was arrested. Francis by that time was an intelligence officer. The man was taken to jail and he had no friend. But Francis said, "I will look after you. You are a human being like me." Both of us were working in Obote's party at that time. I was worried and thought Francis would get into problems because of that. Nevertheless, he saved this man, saying, "We should find a way for him. He was innocent. Right now I am in the army. Whatever I do is an order. Whatever that man did, he should be forgiven. It was an order." Francis helped the man, sneaked him out of Uganda to Kenya. That is when I first saw Francis as a person who loves peace. That was during Obote's second era in the 1980's. Afterwards, he was transferred from intelligence, went for training, came back and worked as a presidential escort to the late Milton Obote. When Obote was overthrown, they went together to exile. He went with many of his friends who died and he came back here in 1995, traumatized. By then, he was no longer in the army and found that we already got involved in peace work with Fr. Pius

Okiria. That was when he also joined peace work. I told Fr. Okiria, "I am going to bring your brother, my husband, because he is also involved in this kind of thing. We have always talked about forming a group that can be strong and help the people. God has spoken to us."

**TIP: Something came up before he died**

Ariko Francis was a very kind and communicative person. And he was concerned about his people. He saw their suffering here and those who had gone to exile. How many had died, how many had suffered? Francis even pressurized me to intensify my peace efforts, saying that I was in a better position. "There are more people who know you. I have not been here, you have been here. Let's use that". I approached somebody who was by then working for DANIDA. He was able to help us with some small training for TIP. Francis went home and collected a few people saying: "You people are always talking about the Karimojong. I fought Karimojong myself in the early 80's and we have not resolved anything. Lesson learned, we need to sit down together, they are our own people. Let us hear what their problem is, we also tell them our problem. Maybe we will come to a compromise." After some time, I had to leave because I joined the Amnesty Commission. I left him here alone. But he kept on working hand in hand with the others, Frances Akello, and Epechu Anne Mary. Francis helped to conduct the train-

ing. He also helped with a number of ideas, helped to mobilize people and to organize our meetings. Francis really wanted to see reconciliation coming in, peace built up. I am glad that something came up before he died. We could see it and we can now still see it. When I look at TIP, my head is up and I thank our Father the Almighty.

**Francis was a friend**

I was not married to him all along. We were friends, having worked in the same office. He was in the security department; while I was in the media department. We were always together and we produced our children as friends before he went to exile. It is actually because of those children that I went to visit him in Nairobi where he was exiled.

Francis died when he was 48 in Owen-Clinic in 2008. He was born in 1959. Francis was a calm person, a very intelligent man, kind, but short tempered. But he would never lose his temper on strangers. He could be a very patient man. The world has missed him. He left me with a daughter and a boy. They are intelligent children and they have copied their father's character. They are equally kind.

Adio Winifred  
Interview: Ayub Muhammad, Verena Bongartz

# DEARLY MISSED

## CHRISTINE OLUKA

Christine Oluka was born in 1953 in Ngora District and trained as a primary school teacher. She married Mr. Oluka Vincent in 1977 and by the time of her death, she had seven children. Oluka Christine was a Head mistress of Fr. Hilder's er'Primary School in Soroti Municipality.

Her involvement in peace work started with her engagement in church activities of the Catholic Church. As a Catholic Christian, she was in touch with Fr. Okiria, the founder of Teso Initiative for Peace. In the beginning, their engagement in peace work led to her attendance of peace conferences organized by CECORE in Kampala. At the same time, TIP was in its starting stages. When Fr. Okiria left to go to the United States, she became the Programme Mobilizer for Teso Initiative for Peace while Mrs. Epechu Anne Mary was the Programme Coordinator. They organized training programmes in those early years, sensitizing and mobilising people of Teso for peace and training the youth and women groups. These were their most important activities. They also contacted people from Karamoja and she was involved in organizing a visit with clan leaders and warriors, the Karacunas, when they went for an exchange visit to Western Uganda. After Fr. Pius left for further studies in USA, Christine spent a lot of her time in the TIP office and organized programmes, supported the organization as such, even from her own resources.

She was a very strong person. I, Vincent Oluka, was a Principle at that time while she was a head teacher, being very busy. Christine was trusted by very many people. I believe that many people had more trust in her than in me. She did many good things for the community. At one time, she was a chairperson of the Women's Municipal Council in Soroti. One positive thing about her was that she really wanted peace. She wanted to train people, especially in order to improve their family income. That was very important for her. That's why she engaged herself in women groups and in the women's municipal council.

In the beginning, when she went to TIP, I was mostly driving her. We were always coming to TIP office and I used to know what she was doing but I did not want to interfere with her activities, so I did not join in first. But our family contribution was large. We were holding up the office for some time. When she died, I came in. Through her, I had known a lot about the organization already. That is how I happened to come to TIP.

One thing is memorable to me: When Fr. Pius was looking for funding for the organization, he went with her to the German Development Service country office in Kampala. Afterwards, Fr. Pius went to America. She came back to Soroti. A day after her return from Kampala, she fell sick and died. She died in 2003, 22nd August at the age of 50.

When I see TIP today, I recognize her



The late Christine Oluka

achievements. She has influenced many people to come to TIP, including Mr. Makumbi Stephen who is now the Programme Coordinator. At the beginning of TIP, she was among the people who gave the initial training, helping the organization to grow and helping people to understand peace.

Vincent Oluka  
Interview: Verena Bongartz

- TIP opens up an office in Soroti town
- Initial project: "Hands across the Border" in partnership with Centre for Conflict resolution (CECORE)
- Katakwi training workshop "Ekwaikisi Ai?" (Ateso for "what should we do?") on Building peace bridges among and between the people of Teso and Karamoja. Production of the first of the three resource handbooks on peace building.
- Training and discussion workshop "IKOKINIO AI? (Ngakarimojong for "what do we do?") with communities of Moroto district. The second resource book was produced out of this workshop.

- Second phase of Hands across the Border project
- Interim Board of Directors with Amojong Epechu Ann Mary as Programme Coordinator
- Enhancing political leaders' skills in peace building
- Work place appraisal for a DED Civil Peace Advisor to TIP
- Joint familiarization tour for Iteso and Karimojong to Western Uganda
- Production of the third resource handbook

- Peace education in schools starts with the schools of Soroti Municipality



2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

- 21st September: TIP registration with National NGO Board
- Development of a joint Proposal with Center for Conflict Resolution (CECORE), Kampala, funded by German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

- First Director of TIP, Reverend Fr. Pius Okiria leaves for studies
- Makumbi A. Stephen starts work as Coordinator
- Reverend Fr. Okella Edmund takes charge as care taker Chairperson BoD
- TIP is Secretary of Teso Network for peace Initiatives (TENEPi), a local network of peace organizations in Teso

- TIP starts cooperation with DED through a Civil Peace Advisor
- Training of Journalists in peace journalism/ conflict sensitive reporting
- Formation of Teso Karamoja Peace Journalists Association (TEKAPEJA)
- 22nd - 24th November: Development of a strategic plan
- Activities expand to Amuria & Katakwi Districts
- Signing of an MoU with OCODI on joint cross border activities
- Certificate of registration as a company limited by guarantee
- Opian Jorem Obicho takes over as care taker Chairperson BoD

- First AGM held and first BoD elected
- Opening of Iriiri joint office together with OCODI
- First meeting with TIP, CHIPS and water officers of Amuria and Moroto districts on joint dam work
- "Join Hands" Training and Workshop for Politicians from Teso and Karamoja
- Carrying out the first financial audit. Audit is done annually since then
- TIP Policies for Human resource management and Finances instituted
- TIP starts training in Alternatives to Violence Project, Non-violent Communication and Do no Harm

- The executive Director, Michael Odeke, starts work in TIP
- Formation of Teso Karamoja Peaceful Coexistence Initiative Programme (TEKAPIP)
- February: Apeitolim-Lokopo road clearance work supervised by TIP
- Monthly newsletters being produced
- TIP's bi-monthly radio talk show "Peace time" (later: "the peace builder") is on air
- Production of the short film "a short encounter", which competed at Europe-Ugandan film festival
- LC V chairpersons of Amuria and Moroto & programme coordinators of TIP and OCODI travel to Germany to lobby for support towards peace activities

- New partnership with Trócaire established
- Training with political party leaders from Soroti, Katakwi and Amuria in peace building and conflict transformation
- Oluka Vincent elected the new Chairperson for the BoD
- Membership of TIP rises from 39 to 60



2006

2008

2010

2007

2009

2011

- 9th January: Joint water dam work activities commence in Obalanga, Kapelebyong in Amuria district and Lokopo, Moroto district
- 31st March: Launch of desilted dams at Tukum dam in Kapelebyong
- Office shifts from Komolo road senior quarters to Haridas road Soroti town



- External assessment of TIP done by BV&L Company
- DIAKONIA and WELTHUNGERHILFE partner with TIP
- TIP contracted by Welthungerhilfe, to train Lira District councilors; and sub county leaders, NGO staff, teachers and clan leaders in Otuke and Erute counties.



- External evaluation of the Bridging the Gap Programme of TIP conducted by Gulu University
- TIP engages cultural/clan leaders in training and dialogue meetings
- "Voices for Peace", a booklet with success stories of all-levels of peace builders is launched
- Training of musical leaders reaches a peak with the launch of a joint song for peace
- Celebration of 10 years of serving North eastern Uganda on the peace agenda

# Conflict is an Opportunity to grow

## Biodata

**Born** 1950 (age 61)  
Soroti, Uganda  
**Nationality** Ugandan  
**Occupation** Teacher

Epechu Anne addressing political leaders during a workshop in Mbale as the first programme coordinator of TIP

# Interview<sup>with</sup>

## Epechu Anne Mary

A teacher by profession, Anne Mary Asio (61) is a founder member and the first Programme Coordinator of Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP). She has steered TIP through all ups and downs of the last decade and has made the organization the lively place it is today. Since Anne knows TIP like hardly any other person, we met her in Kampala where she lives now and asked her to give an insight into the development of the organization and her experiences as a peace worker.



Epechu Anne Mary

**Q Please, tell us about your engagement in peace work and the birth of TIP**

A In 1993, I started teaching in Teacher Training College (TTC) in Soroti. Soon, I was elected in a community to work with the presidential commission for Teso. From there I got conflict resolution skills training in Kampala with the center of conflict resolution (cecore). That training helped me so much! It did not only help me at home but with the community I lived in and the staff I was teaching with. That is how I entered into peace work. After the training, cecore asked the trainees to organize a workshop in their own districts. When I called Rev. Father Pius Okiria to help me facilitate that workshop, he recognized Stella, the executive director of cecore. They used to train people outside Uganda together and the three of us discussed issues of peace. That marked the birth of TIP. We decided to name the organization Teso Initiative for Peace. I was acting coordinator and he (Rev. Father Pius Okiria) was the director. People like Amojong Akello Frances, Adio Winifred and others, who are still close to TIP up to today, came for meetings. We were looking at the causes of the UPA rebellion in Teso against the government at that time. The Karimojong were also killing Iteso and stealing their cows, other household properties and crop harvests. Those two issues were the backbone of Teso Initiative for Peace – helping people

to discover that you cannot look just at the surface but you have to look at the root cause of a problem.

**Q How did TIP develop and what role did you play?**

A The beginning was very tough. We did not have any funding. Rev. Father Pius Okiria was using his own resources; I too was using the home resources and my salary from teaching to run the organization. This caused disputes between me and my husband. But TIP was something I had initiated. It was my baby. I wanted it to grow.

Between 2000 and 2003, TIP decided to partner up with the center for conflict resolution (cecore) because they were internationally known. Eventually, TIP got the first grant funding from GTZ through cecore. Of course, getting a funding through another NGO, we were just like an attachment. We discovered it was better for TIP to get its own direct donors instead of relying on its other implementing partners. Whereas GTZ was willing to give direct grant funding, TIP as an organization did not have permanent staff as a necessary prerequisite. From one moment to the other I had to decide whether I was prepared to leave my profession as a teacher and work for TIP fulltime in order to get the funding. Without thinking twice and without consulting with my husband, I agreed. Other NGO's were willing to

support us but our structures were fallow. We did not have a board. People did not understand the concept of peace building and conflict transformation. They were suspicious. Some of the government officials were looking at TIP like it was an organization that was joining with the rebels. But by and by, people started to understand and appreciate our mandate. We mobilized Teso-Karamoja MP's and the LC's. Many other government arms also joined hands with TIP. We moved from a tiny office to a spacious one. Now we have two field offices in Katakwi and Amuria, besides the regional office at Soroti.

TIP is now well recognized by donors and other stakeholders. Trainings on conflict management and peace building for a very large audience have been conducted. Teso Initiative for Peace is the first local peace NGO to break the shell and enter into the life of the Karimojong communities. TIP has developed and will develop because conflicts will never stop. People have understood through TIP that conflict exists. You can't run away from a conflict. You just have to learn how to manage it and take it positively.

**Q What is the positive side of a conflict?**

A Conflict helps you to grow. Take an example of your home. If you don't have an open conflict with your husband or your children, you will not know exactly what their problems are. When they speak out through a quarrel then you know "I have to adjust". It helps you to mature. It helps you to give a person space to talk out. It helps you not to pretend that issues don't really happen. You will know that somebody is not satisfied with the way you are doing things. Conflict, once taken positively, brings a positive change in society. –

**Q How could the conflict between the Iteso and the Karimojong have a positive effect on the communities?**

A The time we started, there was no positive effect at all. The Karimojong were quiet when talked to. They were not ready to work with us. But eventually, they understood what the Iteso were saying and likewise Teso people also understood what Karimojong were saying. There was a tremendous reduction from cattle rustling to thefts in Teso. Today, killings are no longer as they used to be. People could be gun-shot openly in vehicles commuting between Teso and Karamoja. At one time in Katakwi some Iteso pulled out the travelling Karimojong out of a bus and lynched them. By that time, you could not convince Etesot to sit with a Kari-

mojong because they were arch enemies. Now you can see people talk together; they travel together; they stay in a restaurant together; They are friends, they can joke, they can laugh. Inter-marriages are also increasing. I see quite a lot that I never used to see when I was growing up. Elders never told us anything good about a Karimojong. It was always negative Information: They are naked, they are useless, the type of food they eat is funny, they are hostile people. It is however, unfortunate to hear some of the ongoing Teso-Karamoja cross border tensions, If not amicably resolved it can reverse the situation. There has not been a constant follow up of the structures which were initiated through NGO's. Peace is a collective responsibility but not all actors understand it. Donors withdraw from supporting peace activities. People on the ground receive little affirmation for their work. TIP cannot just withdraw. No more workshops, no dialogue and so forth. What we want is that as the youth grow, they will not understand the negative things the elders have been saying. It needs a continuous process and having joint cross border projects to do. It will have a very big impact.

**Q What experiences have touched you most during your work with TIP? What have you kept in mind?**

A Engaging with the ASTU's and UPDF was inspiring. They were able to discover and acknowledge that they were also fueling conflicts in the community they were working in. By shouting and sometimes being cruel, not consulting and accommodative when talking to communities, they were part and parcel of the conflict. What I enjoyed best: People realizing that it is not a gun but a relationship that solves a conflict. They discovered it was better to talk. Also seeing Karimojong opening up to talk to Iteso excited me. Karimojong women told us that they are not supposed to talk when men were present in an open discussion. These were things that we did not know. I personally discovered it is better to know the culture of people because sometimes it helps one to understand conflict dynamics. The Karimojong culture for instance also asserts the male youth to raid cattle in order to become a man. Otherwise you may not marry and be respected. Some time ago Karimojong could give 200 heads of cattle and as well up to 500 or 1000 in order to get married. When you know about the culture of people, you can help them resolve their own conflicts. It is not TIP but the people within and amongst themselves who resolve their conflicts. That is what I have enjoyed.

**Q** *It is hard to say: "In order to achieve peace we have to give up our culture". How can culture and peace converge?*

A The bottom line is to make people understand that there are good parts in culture that cannot be thrown off and there are also bad parts that the community can leave without. Going to raid in another sub county is inflicting pain on the neighbour. Marrying with reduced number of cows can be affordable and useful. My mother got married for twenty five cows. I was married in 1971 with 13 or 15 cows. I let my first daughter go for only three cows. I am told the Karimojong have also reduced from 1000, 200, now I hear 150 cows for dowry or even less. The culture can be maintained but its negative effects minimized to an amicable level to all the parties involved without causing injuries or division.

**Q** *Do you think that a state of complete peace is possible?*

A Some people will debate and say: "the old woman said something wrong" but I think complete peace is not possible. To attain an atmosphere where none of us is suspicious of the other, where we can relate freely – that is very possible. Peace has so many facets. It is not just the absence of war but we are looking at what holistically a person must be catered for: His/her health, the social, economic and spiritual aspects. If all that is taken in, then we shall say there is some peace. But look at the health status of people. You go to a health center where there is no medicine. A human being is sick. His/her children can be sent from Soroti to Mbale and a child can die on the way. There is no money for transport and medication. People are eating once a day, children in schools are starving so the performance is very poor. The teacher also goes through the same experience; he cannot pay school fees for his children at University. He cannot teach properly because at the back of his mind he is thinking about those problems that he has left there. There is no peace in that kind of human being.

**Q** *Out of your experience: What could people do themselves to obtain a certain degree of peace?*

A Everything starts in the family. We need to understand the relationship between the children, the father and the mother. If we could understand in the family that we have to listen to each other, we have to understand the concerns and try to make the others understand why we are not able to give them what they want. We always appre-

ciate the little we have. The children understand why the father today has not come with food, understand why the mother is preparing the meal late. It is also important to learn to listen to people's problems and make them comfortable the way they are. That way peace can come out from the family. When those children go out, they do not quarrel in order to get what they want. When such children are together with others who are quarreling, shouting to the teachers, they will say: "Let's not shout. Shouting will not help us. Fighting will not help us. Let's discuss and see why there is no peace."

**Q** *Did you ever regret abandoning your profession as a teacher?*

A I have no regrets for having left my teaching profession. In TIP I still taught communities. Now as a grandmother, I am still teaching. Sometimes I am asked to give an advice chairing a function. It seems teaching and learning never end until one dies.

**Q** *What message do you want to leave for TIP?*

A TIP should never die as an organization. Conflicts will never stop until one dies. Make TIP grow even bigger. Go beyond the North East and come to the South as well. I want to cite Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called the children of God". Remain friendly and focused. You cannot change the world but you can change your community.

Interview: Verena Bongartz



The woman councilor of Nabilatuk expressing her view during the cross-border dialogue exchange visit in 2010

# Teso-Karamoja

## Dialogue Meetings and exchange visits

From the onset of TIP, dialogue meetings have been one of the most vital activities on the organization's schedule. The intention is to facilitate the coming together of two or more opposing parties to discuss and come up with ways of fostering peace and peaceful co-existence as they look towards the development of the region. Dialogue meetings started long before TIP's registration as an NGO in 2001 and they are successfully held up to date. Under the umbrella of "dialogues", many activities are taking place including exchange visits where TIP facilitates the transport of one group or party to meet another one in a different location. Cross-border exchange visits are the most common actions since we believe that it is vital to bring together Iteso and Karimojong communities to discuss. Two types of exchange visits determine TIP's programme. These are dialogue exchange visits, aiming at bringing together local politicians and cultural leaders in an attempt to give them a push towards a more common

understanding. Learning exchange visits engage women and other peace groups, giving them the opportunity to enhance their horizons while meeting with fellow groups from the other side.

Many dialogue meetings have been held between the leaders of Teso and Karamoja especially from the border sub counties in Katakwi, Nakapiripirit, Napak, Amuria, Abim and Kotido. At first, participants were always antagonistic in a way that the sitting arrangement in the venue divided between Iteso and Karimojong. Dialogue was held in form of an attack from one side and a counter-attack as a response from the other party. One of the first meetings TIP held between Ngariam and Iriiri Sub Counties in early 2007 exemplified this attitude. When people asked why there were continuous raids from Karamoja side, the response of the LC III chairperson of Iriiri was: "After all, we are also being raided." That statement was enough to raise

eyebrows among the members of the meeting.

Although these meetings had hot discussion and exchanges, there were also fruitful outcomes as at the end there were agreements on how Iteso and Karimojong would work together for peace in their areas. Local leaders of both sides made commitments to follow up the activities which had been agreed upon. These included the opening of a school in the border area, engagement in joint cassava farming, more sensitization on border communities, lobbying for water sources along the border and the construction of markets. Consequent meetings were more positive and objective than the initial ones. "People should talk about the possibilities of peace between the two sub counties and not about borders", were the guiding remarks given by the LC III chairperson of Iriiri, in one of the subsequent meetings.

The recommendations drawn from



A vivid discussion arises between the director of TIP and inhabitants of Kobulin joint settlement

these meetings brought on board many other border sub county leaders in a joint dialogue on an exchange basis. These included Ongongoja, Ngariam, Magoro, Lolachat, Nabilatuk, Lokopo and Kapelebyong.

In 2010 a selected group of elders and youth of Okoboi (Kapelebyong sub county in Amuria district) and Apeitolim (Lokopo sub county in Napak district) jointly visited the elders and youth of Kotido and Panyangara sub counties in Kotido district. The topics of discussion ranged from the effects of cattle rustling to how thefts could be stopped. A return exchange visit (Kotido to Amuria) was also organized for the elders and youth of Panyangara and Kotido. The elders and youth shared views with the Amuria LC V Chairperson, the community of Apeitolim in Lokopo and the community of Aeket, Agonga and Amootom parishes in Kapelebyong sub county

Apart from sub county leaders, many women and youth groups were also involved in exchange visits to enhance interaction among them. In the past three years, Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP) carried out over twenty learning exchange visits between Teso and Karamoja. This programme was support-

ed by ded (now GIZ). It involved women, youth, and even children (peace clubs in primary schools). The purpose of the exchange visits is to understand and appreciate the different cultures in the two regions and see how the good aspects of cultures can be promoted.

Some people might have problems in their homes, their families or communities emanating from conflicts. Through sharing of experiences they realize that they are not alone in such situations. Meeting others with similar experiences, the participants learn from one another how to cope with challenges that affect their daily lives. This empowers them and it is one of the major reasons why TIP emphasizes so much on the strength of dialogue and exchange; for they offer lasting lessons one cannot learn in formal teaching.

Women have played a big role in fueling conflicts in the regions they come from but they can also be influential in helping their children and husbands reduce conflict. TIP looked at women as the key to opening peaceful co-existence in and between Teso and Karamoja. That is why they were supported to do exchange visits. Several women exchange visits have been

carried out between Teso and Karamoja to enhance peaceful co-existence.

This year (2011) in July, the pupils of Nyada primary school in Obalanga Sub County visited pupils of Amuria primary school in Amuria town; and the pupils of Akum-Acowa P/S visited those of Madera Girls primary school in Soroti. The exchange visits were aimed at helping children appreciate their differences, build their self esteem and confidence and promote peace building.

By Apio Ann, Ayub Muhammad, Makumbi Stephen & Verena Bongartz



Locals of Lokopo Sub County are eager to join the team leaving for the dam works

# The peaceful co-existence programme

## initiated by TIP in Amuria

**TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE STARTED COLLABORATING WITH AMURIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON THIS PROJECT IN 2006. THE REASON WAS TO PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE IN THE DISTRICTS OF AMURIA AND MOROTO. THE FIRST ACTIVITIES WERE PEACE EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND THE PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE PROGRAMME.**

### ➔ The co-existence project

This programme was started in order to reunite the Iteso and Karimojong who had been living in suspicion, fear and prejudice because of cattle rustling along Teso-Karamoja border. It was supported by DED with a technical advisor and some finances for basic activities. It started with community mobilization and dam desilting. The start was with only 54 Karimojong men who had picked interest in resettling in their previous home Apeitolim (under Lokopo, Moroto district). Most of them had lived there before the rustling had intensified.

On the side of Kapelebyong (Amase-niko), a few members had also picked interest in returning to their ancestral home (Okoboi) which is the last parish before Apeitolim. So, with the support of TIP, OCODI, CHIPS, UPDF and World Food Programme, the two communities were more than ready to try a joint programme if that could facilitate their resettlement. Before the desilting started, the two communities held meetings and a dam work committee was elected to oversee the desilting of each of the four dams that were worked on. This committee was a combination of Iteso and Karimojong. On 9th January 2007, the peace-

ful co-existence project through joint dam work was launched by a representative of The Iteso Cultural Union (ICU), Muzee Vance Omome, and on 12th January 2007 work started. Iteso and Karimojong jointly worked on each of the dams. The goal was for the two communities to get closer to each other, appreciate each other and at the same time be able to support their families with food. World Food Programme gave the food for work and TIP and CHIPS gave the management and technical support. Because of the positive response by the two communities, more people from Lokopo and Kapelebyong joined not



Tireless work on the four dams resulted in a quick resettlement process

“ IN THE ABOVE PROGRAMME, KNOWING THAT WOMEN AND YOUTH PLAY A KEY ROLE IN PROMOTING PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE, THEY WERE NOT LEFT OUT.

only in the work but also in the resettlement. So, as more people joined the dam rehabilitation work, the population in the resettlements of Okoboi and Apeitolim grew. Four dams were desilted and two resettlement communities expanded, one in Apeitolim (Karamoja) and the other in Okoboi (Teso).

To-date, Apeitolim alone has a population of over 20,000 people and Okoboi has a population of over 6,000 people. This programme has given birth to two other resettlements and a number of joint activities. Along the border of Nyakwae and Kapelebyong is the new resettlement called Kobu-

lin and at the border of Morulem and Obalanga is Arangeputa resettlement. Also in place are now Okoboi primary school and Apeitolim primary school; and Okoboi and Apeitolim health centres. As an achievement from the peaceful co-existence project, there are also operational markets at Oditel (Adipala market) on the Teso side and Apeitolim daily market on the Karamoja side. Adipala has assured a ready market for the crops of the resettling communities who have embraced agriculture, cultivating green grams, sorghum, groundnuts, cassava, sweet potatoes, sunflower and millet. (1 landscape: Adipala Market 001.jpg) With the support from OCODI, a silo

was constructed in Apeitolim to support the community with storage.

In the above programme, knowing that women and youth play a key role in promoting peaceful co-existence, they were not left out. TIP started organizing exchange visits among the women of Apeitolim, Kapelebyong and Obalanga. When they started appreciating each other, the women felt that exchange visits alone could not sustain the co-existence. They thus formed themselves into groups and asked TIP to support them. Currently, Apeitolim has four women groups that are supported by TIP. Okoboi has one women group, Amaseniko has

When the rainy season had come, dam workers and volunteers finished the last bits of work



one, Kapelebyong has one, Kobulin has two, Obalanga has four, Nyakwae has one and Acowa has one.

The youth of Obalanga, Lokopo and Abim and Acowa have also embraced working in groups, currently two youth groups exist in Apeitolim (two youth groups), in Oditel (two youth groups), in Acowa (one), in Obalanga (one) and in Morulem (one). TIP gave these groups trainings in group dynamics, enterprise selection and peace building and also gave them goats, pigs, sheep, seeds for cultivation, hoes and pangas as a start-up support for livelihoods.

It is though important to note that TIP is not only working with youth and women groups in Amuria, Abim and Napak districts where the joint settlements are. Other groups are operating in Soroti and Katakwi. Exchange visits between those groups and the ones formed along the Amuria borders bear fruits since the youth and women infect each other with their aims and solutions to daily life conflicts.

Under the co-existence project, chil-

dren were also looked at as a very important generation that helps to promote togetherness; TIP set aside special days called the Child Play Days. On these days the children of Karamoja and Teso are brought together to play, eat and sing songs with each other. The purpose is to support the children from the two communities to appreciate each other as brothers and sisters.

Peace building requires everybody's contribution. The programme has thus expanded to include other stakeholders. With the support of TRÓCAIRE, the clan/traditional leaders and the Parish Development Committees have been brought to the forefront of peace building. Sixty five clan leaders of Acowa and Kapelebyong as well as sixty Parish Development Committee chairpersons of Acowa and Kapelebyong were trained in peace building and conflict transformation. The clan leaders now have an overseer committee that has been registered with the sub counties. This committee is expected to monitor and support the activities by various clan leaders with appropriate advice and linking up

with the Iteso Cultural Union and its leader, His Highness Emorimor Papa Iteso.

We are proud to say that with the cooperation and support of Amuria, Abim, Moroto and Napak district local governments and special cooperation of Lokopo, Kapelebyong and Obalanga sub counties and the vigilance of the Anti Stock Theft Unit (ASTU) and UPDF, cattle thefts have significantly reduced in the area. Prejudice between the communities of Teso and Karamoja has reduced to the level of witnessing intermarriages and trade & agriculture have grown. All happened as benefits of peaceful coexistence.

**By Apio Ann, Field Officer TIP & Stephen Makumbi, Programme Coordinator TIP**

The success of the dam work encouraged thousands of locals from Lokopo and Kapelebyong to come and build in the border area





Today, Adipala market is a lively place for people from all over Lokopo, Kapelebyong and the bordering sub counties



Two members of Apeitolim Youngsters Youth Group jointly harvesting oranges



The human knot game is a tool that helps people understand the importance of analyzing a conflict in order to solve it

This is one of the tools that TIP is using to help people embrace non-violence instead of using violent means as a way of resolving conflicts. We believe that a life lived with dignity and self-respect and opportunity for self actualization is the birthright of every person. We believe that only when this birthright is made real for all of us shall we have a just and peaceful world.

Since 2006, TIP has trained various categories of people in alternatives to violence for including representatives of NGO staff and media houses, students of secondary schools, sub county and district councilors and individuals who saw the need to review their approach to conflict resolution.

AVP is done on three levels, that is Basic, Advanced and Training of Trainers (TOT) levels. One must go through the Basic level before the Advanced. TOT is only for those who desire to gain skills of how to pass on peace skills to others. The trainings take at least three days to have some substantial coverage, but could take more days. Three days has been the measure in the past trainings. TIP has been doing this activity in conjunction with Makerere University, Department of Religious Studies, Peace and

# Peace and Conflict Trainings

**TIP's strength: Their training Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP), Do no Harm, Mediation and Non-violent Communication**



After the basic AVP in 2010, trainees join hands in a circle as they sing "Make melodies in my heart"

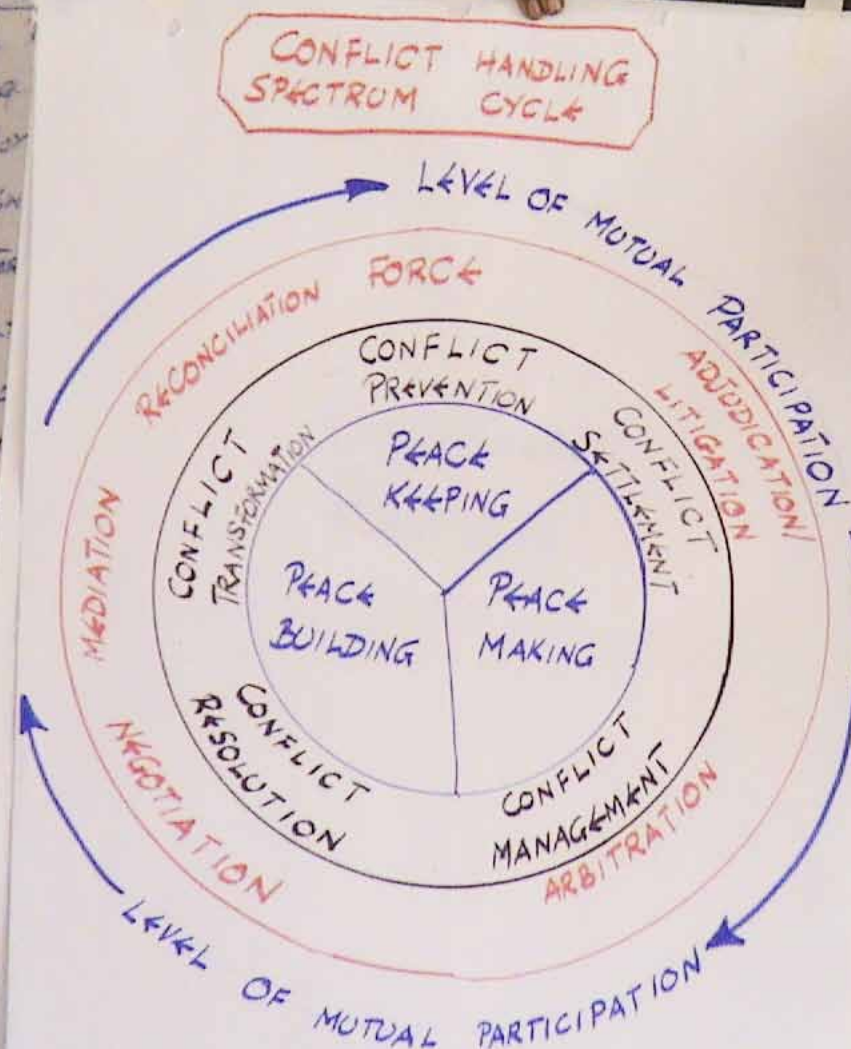
Conflict Masters Programme. Over 200 people have been trained to the level of trainers in the districts of Teso and Karamoja, Bugisu and Busoga. Many more have been trained at the basic and advanced levels.

During a TIP internal evaluation that was carried out in February 2011, people gave testimonies of how the training on AVP had helped change their individual lives and how that had helped change their communities. The outcomes were positive throughout. Many years after the training,

participants could still recall the content of the training and demonstrate skills acquired to the benefit of their families and communities. One parent of a student from Soroti SS sent an appreciation letter to one of the trainers on how her daughter had helped her and her husband in a family conflict they had.

## Do no Harm

Though not very pronounced, the training in Do no Harm principles is one of the trainings TIP has offered to varied stakeholders



"Peaceful Patrick" explaining the spectrum of conflict handling during a basic AVP training in Soroti (2010)



in the region including NGO workers and sub county and district councilors.

The Do no Harm principles attempt to answer the question: How may aid be provided in ways that help local people disengage from the surrounding violence and develop alternatives rather than feeding into and exacerbating the conflict? The training thus aims at helping those who support communities to programme their work in such a way that it does not cause more harm/conflict instead of improving on people's relationships.

In these seven steps the trainees are guided to reflect on the above question.

### ➔ Step 1. Understanding the Context of Conflict

- Who is Fighting?

- What are those divisions and intergroup tensions that either have in the past, or might in the future, turn into intergroup destructive conflict or intergroup violence?

### ➔ Step 2: Analyzing Dividers and Tensions

- The Context of Conflict is characterized by the Division and Tensions between groups and what might be called 'War Interests' or 'Capacities for War' that we all know exist in conflict settings.

### ➔ Step 3: Analyzing Connectors and Local Capacities for Peace

- In the midst of warfare, especially in situations of civil war where former fellow-citizens are fighting each other, there continue to exist a whole series of things that

connect people who are fighting.

### ➔ Step 4: Analyzing the Assistance Programme

- When aid is given in the context of conflict, it becomes a part of that context and, as such, either reinforces and exacerbates the divisions and tensions or supports and strengthens the connectors / capacities for peace.

### ➔ Step 5: Understanding the Impact of Programming on Dividers and Connectors

- Aid involves provision of some resources and these can become a part of the conflict as groups vie for their share or try to keep others from getting access to them.
- Aid carries the explicit message of caring about suffering. By the ways in which it is given and the actions of staff, it

also carries several implicit or tacit messages and these can affect the context of conflict.

### ➔ Step 6: Considering and Generating Programming Options

- In case the analysis of the programme's impact on the context of conflict reveals any negative side-effects, we must think about how to provide the same programme in a way that eliminates these conflict-worsening impacts.

### ➔ Step7: Test Programming Options and Redesign Project

- Test the options developed to avoid reinforcing the dividers on their potential impact on the connectors
- Test the options developed to prevent weakening the connectors on their potential impact on the dividers

## Mediation

Mediation is a key mechanism for the resolution of all sorts of conflicts on different escalation levels, be it peace

mediation, business, family mediation etc. It is a process whereby a third, neutral person is invited to help conflicting parties in order to reach future oriented, implementable and acceptable win- win solution for all actors involved. Doing this, the mediator does not take sides or come up with his own ideas but rather moderates the process of reconciliation between the opposing parties. Mediation can highly increase the likelihood of attaining sustainable peace in situations where the conflict is highly escalated. But even at family or work place levels, it can easily support the achievement of better relationships and more constructive conflicting behaviours.

The trainings offered aimed at providing the participants with the basic knowledge on mediation and its conduction / procedure, the role of the mediator and communication and conflict resolution strategies. So far, this training has been offered to NGO staff in the Teso and Karamoja region and secondary school teachers in Lira district.

other hand aims at developing the skills to observe without evaluation, to differentiate feelings from thoughts and interpretations, to acknowledge the need behind feelings, to make requests and not demands thus creating a fruitful dialogue in conflicting situations.

The trainings so far held have benefitted NGO staff and journalists from Teso and Karamoja. These trainings are a wealth of peace work in this region as they have built the capacities of many NGO staff and individuals who have over time come into the world of peace work but did not know how to go about it. Positive results have also strengthened the desire of TIP to continue with the peace work.

By Anyaso Mariam, Acting Programme Officer Soroti & Makumbi Stephen, Programme Coordinator TIP

## Non-violent Communication

Nonviolent communication on the



While some trainees are captured in the human knot, others analyze the problem and give advice from outside



Group work during a training of Parish Development Committees in Acowa, Amuria (2011). The exercise encourages team building among trainees



Participants engage in a vivid discussion moderated by one of TIP's CINEDUC facilitators

# Learning through motion pictures: **Cinema Education**

People, watching a movie together in a group. Discussing about the heroes of the story and about possible reasons for the figures' actions. Communities, trying to understand the sources, the parties and possible solutions of a conflict they see on the screen. Individuals, applying what they have just seen to their daily lives. This is the concept of Cinema Education.

Cinema Education (CINEDUC) is a

tool developed in Rwanda in the early 2000s. It is about showing films in the formats of documentaries, fiction, cartoons or animation to a public embedded in a guided discussion about the topic the film displays. The issues handled range from non-violent conflict management to Human Rights or HIV/AIDS settings. CINEDUC can be carried out as a programme on its own but it can as well be part of a more comprehensive training session.

Either way, disseminating information about a problem with the support of audiovisual means tends to bond the audience tightly to the subject. Thus, ensuring high attention levels, the world of films is a very accurate tool to bring a group towards understanding a conflict. This is most viable with communities in rural areas who have limited access to cinema shows and appreciate the opportunity given.



Participants giving in their views as some of the CINEDUC methods demand

TIP has discovered the value of Cinema Education as early as 2006, having shown more than 50 film shows in different communities in Teso and Karamoja since. Two staff members in TIP implement the tool. They choose from a variety of around 20 different movies and decide which film fits best to the respective audience. The focus of many movies lies on HIV/AIDS and conflict. Those films are mostly shown during HIV awareness training. Others handle topics of war and war trauma, misuse of office property, family conflicts, Karamoja region and its distinct difficulties, inheritance, domestic violence and corruption. All of the movies contain conflict situations arising from these general problems that need to be addressed. TIP considered especially those movies that have a

direct relation to the communities we are working with.

Since Cinema Education has been developed in long-term assignments, a variety of methods comes with it that helps analyse the films together with the communities in a systematic approach. At times, the viewers are advised to follow the actions of one specific character. This leads to a broad understanding of the figure's behavior. Before most of the shows, the moderators apply the "barometer of values" – a provocative question or statement relating to the content of the film is put forward to the audience and people are asked to take sides and position themselves in the room according to their judgment. It happens that after watching the movie, the spectators now under-

stand and learn lessons from the film and change their minds about the situation and lessons they have learnt in relation to the provocative question or statement. Another method is the "play continuation" where the film is cut towards the end and people are encouraged to come in front and act out how they feel the story should continue. This leads to an intensive reflection of the subject and often remains deep in the minds of the visitors. Which-ever method applied, any Cinema Education show always goes with a discussion on the key actions of the film.

Ayub Muhammad, the Communication Officer in TIP, is the one in charge for the Cinema Education tool. He highly believes in the power of the motion picture: "Cinema



The communication officer TIP guiding the audience through a CINEDUC session as their eyes are glued to the screen

Education has had more impact than any other kind of training or classroom work because the participants have a chance to see real life situations and compare them to their own life. People never forget certain situations they have seen in a movie and what they see touches them deeply". Emotional experiences the communities had through CINEDUC often are present up to today. This also reflects in the nickname "Saga", Ayub has got in one of the communities. They had discussed a film called "Tilai" whose main actor, Saga, moved them so much that people recall every detail of the movie each time the Communication Officer passes by.

TIP likes to carry out CINEDUC in schools and open communities. When we show a session in the open, at least 200 people attend, at times reaching up to 500 or even 700 spectators. According to the Communication Officer, the impact is great: "Once people see a movie, they learn from the weaknesses or strengths, they copy the behaviour to prevent the problems from arising in their communities."

By Verena Bongartz

Since Cinema Education has been developed in long-term assignments, a variety of methods come with it that help analyse the films together with the communities in a systematic approach

# Early Warning and Response Systems



Community members giving their testimonies on incidences of cattle theft during an EWRS meeting in Okore

In order to minimize insecurity in the communities emanating from cattle rustlers, TIP and their partner organization OCODI together with local authorities and security personnel made endeavours to set in place a community based early warning and response system. This is to ensure that citizens especially in the border region learn to detect threats at an early stage and react accordingly. In 2008, a consultant from Germany was hired by the German development service to help TIP/OCODI consult with three categories of leaders on early warning and response systems. There was district level consisting of RDC, CAO, the

LC V chairperson, DISO, commandant of the Anti Stock Theft Unit (ASTU), and DPC. The second included the level sub county leadership that is LC III chairpersons, sub county chiefs, GISOs, detach commanders of UPDF in Karamoja (mostly Iriiri) and zone commandants ASTU. The third and final level were the ASTU and UPDF detach commanders, LC II chairpersons, parish chiefs, opinion leaders, religious leaders and secretaries for defence in the L C I committees and a cross section of youth and community members.

Consultations were made for three

months in the districts of Amuria, Katakwi, Moroto and Nakapiripirit along the border sub counties of Ngariam, Iriiri, Lokopo, Lotome, Lorengedwat and Kapelebyong.

The findings were that the communities were aware of some early warning signs. In Karamoja for example - whenever the youth starts sitting in small groups of between 3 and 6 people, buying packed waragi, biscuits, dried meat, roasted cassava and any preserved food items, this is a sign that they are planning for a raid.

On Teso side, dogs barking, strange footsteps of Lugabire (tire sandals), uprooted cassava and new unfamiliar



Through training, TIP prepares security personnel to work hand in hand with the communities to enhance community based Early Warning and Response Systems

faces in the community, reduction in the number of security personnel in detachments or their removal are a sign that something wrong might happen soon. The communities are also aware that during full moon and during holiday seasons when children are back from schools, there tend to be more cases of thefts.

### **EWRS implementation in Katakwi District**

For Katakwi district, there have been a lot of animal thefts especially along the Karamoja bordering sub counties of Ongongoja, Palam, Ngariam and Magoro with spill-over to Omodoi, Usuk and Toroma sub counties.

In response, TIP has been conducting a number of early warning and response system meetings with the communities of Angisa in Magoro, Okore in Ngariam, Palam/Ising in Palam, and Okulonyo in Ongongoja sub counties in Katakwi district. These meetings were aimed at reinforcing

community participation in discerning and preventing the incidences of cattle thefts, violent conflicts and improving community participation in peace building. The meetings were also aimed at animating the communities to generate ideas on early warning and response systems which they can work with and encourage them to be more vigilant and coordinate with security.

The key actors in these meetings are GISOs, ASTU detach commanders and intelligence, police, secretaries for defence in LC I, II, and III, opinion leaders, elders and community resource persons

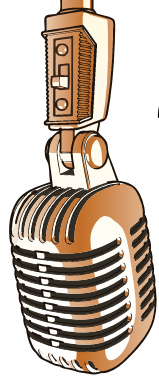
Some of the response measures put in place by the communities include:

- Reporting thefts early to the security personnel
- Every household to buy and stay with airtime of at least UGX 500, so that when anything strange happens, observers can run with

the information and airtime to the nearest home with a telephone

- Branding of animals
- Before going to bed, family heads to count heads of animals in the kraals to be certain whether all were brought back from the field
- Animals to be taken to nearby guarded community kraals
- Taking care of animals in a group by elderly persons not children
- Going to bed from 9:00pm and beyond because most thefts are done around 8:00pm
- Construction of stronger kraals

By Eripu Emmanuel  
Programme Officer Katakwi.



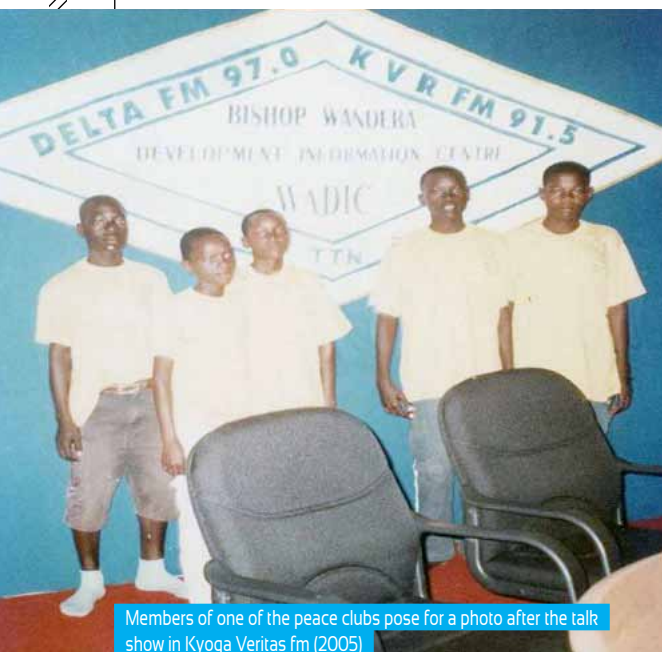
# “peace time” AND “the peace builder” our radio talk shows

TIP runs a bi – monthly radio programme in some of the local fm radio stations. This programme was started in 2008 on VERITAS radio and was named “peace time”. It has the intention to inform and discuss peace issues in north eastern Uganda with support from the then ded, now GLZ.

On analysis and considerations from the study man’s report on the wake coverage and listenership of local fm radios, and with the emergency of the vision group radio Etop fm, it was decided that the program be shifted to Etop radio from June 2009 and re-branded “the peace builder”. The in-

tension still remained to inform and discuss peace issues in the north eastern Uganda.

The program brings together partners and stake holders in peace building, project beneficiaries from the grass roots community where TIP operates,



Members of one of the peace clubs pose for a photo after the talk show in Kyoga Veritas fm (2005)



Political party leaders engaged in a heated discussion at ETOP radio in Soroti on how to work together for the development of Teso region despite their political differences

security personnel, local government representatives and political, religious and cultural leaders to discuss the general peace and conflict situation in their areas and also discuss their contribution to the peace process.

Security updates are given periodically in joint UPDF and ASTU talk shows.

The important topics of discussions include: the contribution of stakeholders and partners to the peace process in their areas, peace and security situations along the border areas of Teso-Karamoja, developments and challenges in the border resettlement areas, governance, human rights and peace, the impact and benefits of peace education in schools, peace and harmonious politics; non-violent politicking; youth, culture, peace and development, among others.

Some of the talk shows have generated heated discussions at the beginning of the program and towards the end as the audience get involved. In these talk shows, especially concerning the Teso Karamoja border security, where the representatives of security organizations like the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF) and the Anti-Stock Theft Units (ASTU) are hosted, there are always many calls from the audience with security concerns, complaints and questions to the guests. Questions like "when do security people hope to completely wipe out cattle theft from the region?" Some of these concerns come as a result of the continuous cattle theft alongside the beefed-up security among the border sub counties of Teso and Karamoja.

Another controversial discussion was

the joint political parties' post-election non-violence talk show. TIP invited the political opponents from three different parties to a local fm radio after elections, to discuss how they would work together for peace, harmony and development in Teso. Out of the three political opponents, one had successfully been voted in as MP for the constituency. The discussion during this talk show started well with each of them giving thanks to the electorates for participating in the political process, recognition of the winner and acknowledgement and acceptance of the other two who had lost. The discussion started to heat-up when there was a call for honesty and accountability from each of them, of who did what during the election period. This is the time when many secrets were released without control. Most amazing is that none of them spoke out on their own, but it was rather their opponents who unveiled what had been going on in their opponents' camps. Since these were diplomats and mature in thinking, they unveiled these political gaps non-violently, but these disclosures had victimizing implications directed to at least one of them and whatever was unveiled remained in the ears of those who listened among the audience.

The discussion was called to order when the moderator reminded his guests of the main topic of discussion i.e. post election non-violence.

Other such topics include the contribution of cultural leaders to peace, harmony and development in the region, where clan leaders are invited from different Iteso clans. Their discussions include informing the public

what their roles are as clan leaders in relation to bringing about peace and development. However, when the clan leaders talk about the link between clans and the Iteso Cultural Union (ICU) as a cultural institution, there are many questions that always come up from the audience such as "Apart from the role played by clan leaders, what role has ICU played in uniting the people of Teso? When will ICU as an institution appear on radio to discuss their own contribution to peace, unity and development in Teso?" among other Questions related to the position of papa Emorimor (The Paramount Chief of Teso)

These kind of talk shows among others, have raised TIP's fame with its beneficiaries, the radio audience and the entire public.

By Ayub Muhammad,  
Communication Officer

**UGANDA PEOPLE'S DEFENSE FORCES (UPDF) AND THE ANTI-STOCK THEFT UNITS (ASTU) ARE HOSTED, THERE ARE ALWAYS MANY CALLS FROM THE AUDIENCE WITH SECURITY CONCERNS, COMPLAINS AND QUESTIONS TO THE GUESTS.**

# PEACE EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

In a region that has lacked peace for a long time, there is a need to reinforce the concept of peaceful co-existence among the communities. ,

Non-violent responses to conflicts can be taught just like other subjects necessary for human existence and can be learnt by any person and institution. Peace education is one of the activities that Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP) engages in. TIP has trained teachers, pupils and students in the districts of Soroti, Katakwi and Amuria.

This programme was started in order to promote peace building activities in schools after the trauma caused by the Karimojong cattle rustlers over the years and LRA rebels in 2003. There were also many violent strikes in schools which had adverse effects on society and motivated TIP to step in and start up this programme.

The programme of peace education in schools started in 2004 in Gweri Sub County and Soroti Municipality in Soroti District. The huge success registered with the first 19 schools encouraged TIP to reach out to more schools in Soroti District today. The same project expanded to cover Katakwi and Amuria districts. Today, TIP is working with schools in Kapelebyong, Obalanga and Acowa Sub Counties in Amuria District. In Katakwi, TIP is working with as many as 67 schools in Katakwi, Usuk, Ongongoja, Ngariam,

Omodoi and Magoro Sub Counties.

Through training, TIP seeks to inculcate a culture of non-violence among children. In order to sustain these efforts, TIP trained Peace Club Patrons and head teachers in the schools it is working with. These teachers were trained in three modules enabling them to sensitize pupils on issues of peace and conflict. This motivates pupils to form or join a peace club where they learn how to respond to conflicts non-violently.

The children also learn leadership skills. Each peace club has a project which enables the children to exercise this fundamental attribute in their lives. Some of the projects include planting flowers or citrus trees, goats and sheep rearing, poultry keeping, agriculture and school kiosks. TIP gave grants to peace clubs to boost their projects and also contributed files, counter books, printing paper and other stationary.

The pupils also compose and present poems, songs, dance, drama and many more which they carry out to their communities and convince people to interact more peacefully.



Peace club members in Gweri are involved in orange planting as their peace project. They present the result of their work to TIP staff.



club project. Proudly,

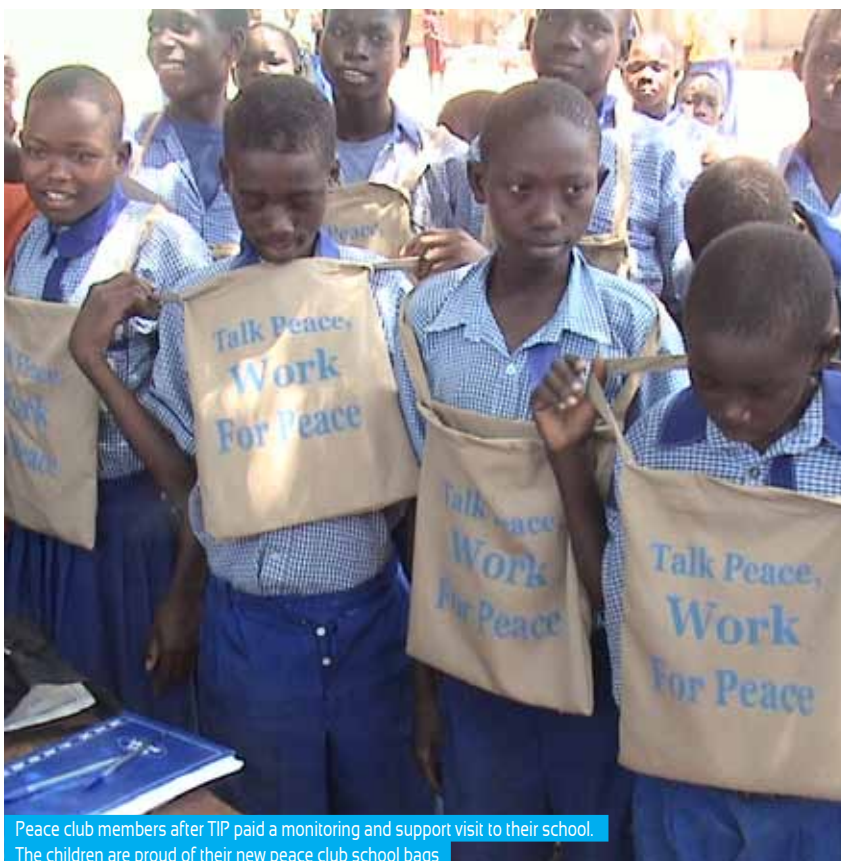
TIP has trained the peace club members and student leaders of Soroti Senior Secondary School in Alternatives to Violence (AVP) to enable them solve conflicts in their school and in their communities. The students give a positive feedback, testifying that communities listen to their advice. Many of the students have expressed their wish to engage in further studies on peace building or in practical peace work.

Peace club members participate in radio talk shows and exchange visits; for example Soroti Secondary School visited Lotome Boys in Napak District, Kichinjaji Primary School in Soroti Municipality hosted pupils from Apeitolim and Katakwi Primary Schools. This gives students the opportunity to compare their peace club activities with others and to see what happens outside their own areas. These exchange visits are most valuable when Iteso children meet Karimojong children. This way, both sides get a chance to get to know and appreciate each other's way of life, create friendship and eradicate prejudice.

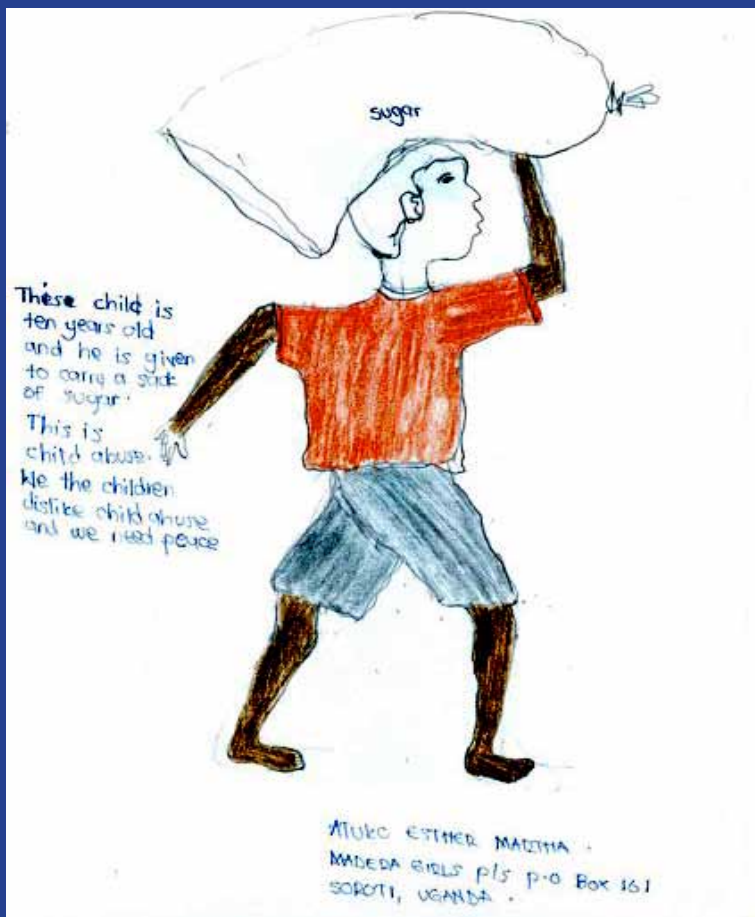
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Because of the above activities there are testimonies on the improvement of pupils' behavior at school. This change in behavior has also influenced the reduction of strikes, theft, fights, quarrels and stereotyping.

By Anyaso Mariam, TIP - Acting Programme Officer Soroti



Peace club members after TIP paid a monitoring and support visit to their school. The children are proud of their new peace club school bags



Dear youth,  
Take care of your selves  
Aids has no cure

people mourning  
the dead-victim.



Sexual abuse  
of boys is  
common but in  
most cases peo-  
ple only talk of  
sexual abuse of  
girls.

Dear mothers  
give boys chance  
to study.

By ATURO MARY CLARE.  
MADERA GIRLS' PLS  
P.O BOX 161,  
SOROTI-UGANDA.



parents, teachers  
and guardians  
Please stop abusing  
children.

You are developing  
hated between  
yourselves.



This man defiled  
this child. He is  
telling her not to  
tell anyone.

Parents you should not defile young girls because the future  
lies in them

ACEN LILIAN  
MADERA GIRLS PLS  
P.O BOX SOROTI UGANDA

# Peace Club Poems

## Aids has brought no peace

Call me what you feel like  
Bangole call me nabutono  
Bagishu call me manyafu  
Basoga call me kaveera  
Iteso call me eseny

But I will continue killing you one by one  
If you are not faithful to your partners  
Those who drink their senses go off  
And later choose to sleep with women

Those who do not read the Bible and follow  
what it says  
Who have one wife or one husband but go  
in for many  
I will continue destroying all of you until you  
change your sexual behavior  
Whether you go to Mulago, Nsambya or any  
other powerful hospital  
And fly out to get treatment you will never  
succeed!

I come for human being not chicken, dogs,  
goats or turkeys  
I don't come for plants like cassava and millet  
but you men and women  
Boys and girls, young and old, thin and fat  
black and brown  
Before you rape young girls, remember I  
could also be hiding there  
I am a killer and have come to kill  
I am called Aids

Do you want to know more about me?  
If yes,  
I stand for acquired immune deficiency  
syndrome

I am transmitted through

- Mother to child
- Sexual intercourse with the infected person
- Blood transfusion
- Sharing of sharp objects

Remember, I bring no peace to you as an individual, family and the community at large  
To an individual, shame, loss of immune system and death  
To the family loss of family assets in an attempt to save the individual  
To the community loss of revenue and reduction of community members

### AIDS HAS BROUGHT NO PEACE

But...

What must one do to dodge you ?

Only two major steps / precautions and risk with the third one

- Abstain
- Be faithful
- Risk with the use of condoms but I advice you not to use because it is not 100% safe

If you do that then I am out

Bye bye

See you then

by Nabuuma Martha, peace club Madera girls P/S,  
Soroti

# PEACE FOR A CHILD

A child! A child! A child!

Who are you?

Are you as young as a seedling?

A child is as creative as a child

Brethrens,

A child is the future of this globe

Without a child,

No more tomorrow

A child is a child

Parents,

Are your children on the streets?

Do your children know you?

Do you care for your children?

Whether good or bad you have to

Because...

A child is a child

Stakeholders

Wake up!

And get the child out of the street

Take the child to school

Treat the child

Protect the child as the teeth protect the tongue

Feed the child

Love the child as the fish loves the water

Because...

A child is a child

Children,

Look!

The flames of fire are on you

Rape, defilement, early marriages, unwanted pregnancies, child labor and child trafficking

All is nothing but school drop out

On the other hand, HIV/Aids and death

YOU!

Street child,

Come back!

You are lost!

Your future is doomed and yet God is there for you

Your parents are there waiting for you

The government is ready for you

The NGOs are there for you

P.l..e..a..s..e!

Come back street child

My people!

Wake up!

A child is a child

Take up the law

Take action and save the dying children

Because...

A child is a child

Peace be with a child

Peace be with a child

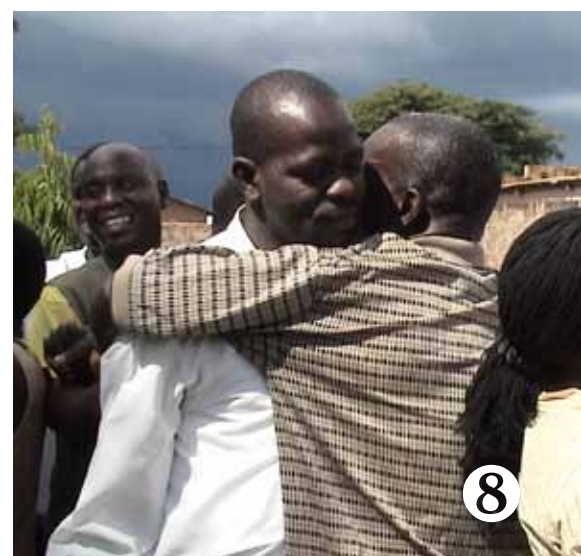
For God and my country

Compiled by:

Akol Steven Robert

Peace club Patron

Acanga p/s





**1:**

A joint activity of Teso Peace Actors: Prayers and discussions with inmates of Katakwi prison in the course of the peace week (2011)

**2:**

Demonstrating the benefits of crop agric other engaging in cattle keeping during anniversary celebrations in Omokori (2009)

**3:**

Dam workers on their way to the dam desilting activities around Okoboi and Apeitolim (2007)

**4:**

The TIP staff Amuria guides trainees in Acowa through a team building exercise (2011)

**5:**

Promotion of dialogue through traditional music dance and drama (mdd) is one of TIP's core peace building tools?

**6:**

An elder stresses the need for co-existence between Iteso, Bokora and Jie during an exchange dialogue to Panyangara, Kotido (2009)

**7:**

TIP engages in HIV/AIDS awareness raising in the communities through training (2008)

**8:**

Through TIP's training, different political party leaders move closer together (2010)

**9:**

Peace Club children of St. Joseph Dadas in Katakwi caring for their tomato garden (2005)



## **Aila! Aila! Aila!**

*Irai ijo elacet lok'aijar ka  
Icorakina kon erasi ikanyape  
Ido kesi luta  
Losodit Ailot araito eroko kenyama  
Kwape nat emwebe, ematuuda , emapeera k'icie da  
Ailot akanin k'akipi k'esabuuni  
Akaulo na aikingan  
Ailot akanin eroko kenyama  
Aitala aboisio nu aiyegea k'oyapeesin kolaete duc  
Edapakin do konye adeka na abelekeka  
Kitwasam emweso katipet akepar adeka ngin  
Mere aimor emweso k'ipapero kon  
Arai kicamutu icorakina lu ikanyape  
Ipote aijar ikaru ka ikaru lu mam edaunos*

*By Akkikara Mirika  
Madera Girls*

## **POEM ON PEACE**

*Peace is a state of being free from any disturbance  
Without people being disturbed  
Psychologically, socially, emotionally and spiritually  
Peace is a medicine to everybody  
Pupils fight, steal, abuse because there is no peace*

*Peace! Peace! Peace!  
Pupils are raped, defiled, given corporal punishment  
because you are not there*

*Peace! Peace! Peace!  
Teachers, mould your pupils so that we have peace  
We need to work together to promote peace in our school*

*by Akotoi Robert & Acom Stella, Amorwongora P/S*

# Smile! Smile!



*Smiling is infectious  
You catch it like the flu  
When someone smiled at me today  
I started smiling too  
I will start smiling too*

*I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin  
When he smiled, I realised I'd passed it on to him*

*I thought about my smile and then  
I realized its worth  
A single smile like mine could travel  
Right around the earth*

*If you feel a smile begin  
Don't leave it undetected  
Let's start an epidemic quick and  
Get the world infected*

*From Akello Christine  
Preace Club Madera Girls Primary School*



# A REFLECTION FROM PEACE CLUB PATRONS



TIP gave small grants of UGX 40,000 to peace clubs. Some clubs managed their money extremely well and worked hard to make the most out of it. This cow is one impressive result

## Background history

The peace club of Madera Girls boarding primary school was initiated by TIP in 2004. The purpose of the club is to train the young generation on how to handle conflicts on their own both at school and the communities they come from. The peace club at a moment enjoys a resounding popularity, hosting sixty six registered members.

The involvement of TIP in Ngariam primary school started in 2006. People were displaced and living in camps because of insecurity caused by cattle rustlers and the Lord's Resistance Army of Kony in 2003-2004. All

children in school were coming from these camps where there was a total lack of peace. These children were not fostering harmony.

## Activities and achievements of the clubs

First of all, we the peace patrons and head teachers were trained. Afterwards, we involved the children into peace activities such as drama, poems, debates, songs, letter writing and drawing among others. With the help of TIP, we also watch movies reflecting on peace and HIV/AIDS. Out of these activities, interested pupils established peace clubs. We now have

some outstanding activities such as the organization of inter-school competitions on the promotion of peace and exchange visits between Teso and Karamoja schools.

These activities help to keep the pupils motivated and the experiences gained have helped them to understand the concepts of peace. Additionally, the clubs run small projects (e.g. Madera girls bought one goat that has given birth to two kids). These projects bring children together. They learn to take care and in case of any conflict they are expected to apply the skills learnt in conflict man-

agement / resolution. We also plan to train the communities in the villages. They will be enabled to work for peace hand in hand with the school.

### Challenges

Running a peace club is not easy. We would like to train all the teachers in our schools but funds are inadequate. Moreover, materials are missing to run all our activities. We have to improvise and cut down planned activities. This discourages the children. The rising living costs don't allow the school to operate all the activities planned for on promotion of peace activities. Instead, we have to reallocate our budget for basic needs. Some individuals still disturb our peace activities, showing a negative attitude towards our peace club members. The patrons' perception about peace education in schools

Peace education is a valuable venture by TIP which must be embraced because it addresses bad behaviors among students. Peace education in schools has helped to reduce if not eliminate cases of indiscipline. This therefore has helped to boost the academic standards in schools where it is operational. TIP, let the peace education in schools continue and extend the same service to a number of schools in Teso sub region. We also call upon other development partners to come in and help promote this venture, support the existing peace clubs, bring on board more patrons, train co-patrons and give some facilitation if resources allow. Our encouragement also goes to other staff members, parents, schools administrators and local politicians. Let's support peace education in schools morally, materially, spiritually and economically

for if we do this, we are helping the young generation to realize the value of peace and they will continue embracing it in their lifetimes. It helps us to eliminate strikes in schools. Demonstrations in public places and riots have cost some of our relatives' lives in our country. The government as well through the ministry of educational and sports with guidance from the nationals curriculums development centre (NCDC) should see a way of integrating the teaching of the core subjects with peace education and encourage teachers to integrate it in their schemes of work and lesson plans.

By Oduch Sam, Ngariam P/S, Epidu Joseph, Olilim P/S and Obuku Robert, Madera girls P/S



Confidence building exercise during a training for Head Masters

# Earning livelihoods, building peace: Amotot Youth Group



The youth group's orange trees have started to yield fruits

TIP trains the youth of Teso in peace building and conflict resolution skills. Amotot youth group in Kamuda S/C, Soroti is one of the beneficiary groups, engaged in peace building and livelihood activities.

## ➔ TIP supports Iteso youth

Working with the youth has always been one of TIP's major efforts. Since the youth is a critical group, at times forced into crimes such as cattle rustling due to unemployment and lack of future perspective, it is vital for TIP to engage with youth groups and train them in livelihoods and peaceful interaction with the communities. On the other hand, the youth can cause a change in society, growing up in an era that is gradually withdrawing from the times of insurgency and reducing on stereotyping neighbours from Karimoja. Once set free from pre-occupations, the youth can bring peace at a higher level in Teso region.

Emerging from the dam construction work in Okoboi and Apeitolim Parishes, TIP started its engagement with the youth in 2007. Currently, we are working with ten youth groups, of which four are located in Amuria, three are based in Katakwi and Napak, two groups are operating in Soroti while one group is based in Abim District, respectively. TIP has the aim of transmitting information about peace building and conflict transformation for the youth group members to inherit the knowledge and spread it to the communities. Sometimes, they are also supported with livestock or crops to enhance livelihood activities.

## ➔ Innovative in income generation

One of those groups is Amotot youth group in Kamuda sub county. Sam Engwau and David Ecau, the director and chairperson of the youth group, respectively, share their experiences about the group:

Amotot youth group was formed in

2005, receiving a certificate of registration with the district in 2009. The group was founded to generate an income for its members. The primary goal was to reach out to school drop-outs and young illiterates. "In our village, many women have barely finished P1 or P2. They have few chances to generate an income but we wanted to try and give them a chance", the director states. Eleven of the 31 members are female; most participants are between 15 and 30 years old.

When the group first gathered, members sat down to think about ways to earn money. They decided together on the activities carried out. Nowadays, the group has many programs. One of them is growing mushrooms. In the beginning, none of the members knew how to cultivate the mushrooms. Not until the woman MP of Soroti District, Hon. Angelina Osege, came to the group to teach them how to grow the fungus. It was important for the youth to grow something that they can easily sell because markets

are not congested. Mushrooms are not common to be grown artificially around Soroti, so the group hopes to attract many customers to their offer. Other activities include the cultivation of Orange trees and Cassava among others. Outside the village, the group members also own a site for brick constructions. They say, words of their products spread easily. Communities know the group and some come from outside to buy their bricks. It is important to the group that members own their projects, so every participant is in position to pursue each of the livelihood activities.

### ➡ **TIP steps in for peace activities**

A few months ago, Engwau Sam and Ecau David told the director of TIP about their group. TIP picked an interest and began training members about violence, conflict and peace. The youth group benefitted greatly, saying, "In the village, some people beat their mothers, they drink alcohol all day. TIP has taught us how to handle those things." They now know how to sustain peace in the families and how to solve conflicts in groups and communities. This knowledge, they say, members want to pass on so that their village can also benefit from their experiences. The joint activities also contribute to peace building. "We work closely together. We learn how to solve conflicts together. Through our work, we are united. Automatically, peace comes", the chairperson, David Ecau states.

### ➡ **Youth group still to grow**

Amotot youth group is ambitious and well organised, meeting monthly and working together several times in a week. This is their strength. Once, members become lazy, activities can not develop anymore. They have realized this when harvesting the cassava.



The new mushroom Project for Amotot Youth Group

Few volunteers came to reap, a majority of the harvest remains in the soil. Other challenges are the heavy rainfall that keeps the group from bricks making project. Also, the group's money is still small. This causes credit & savings scheme delays but does not foil their plans. The group director explains, "We want to inform the youth about educational skills, helping drop-outs in gaining tailoring, carpentry, entrepreneur skills and others". Another aim is to engage in commercial agriculture like poultry or cattle rearing, organizing farmer youth groups to transform their efforts into modern agricultural activities. Since the youth group has not yet received financial support from outside, they have to move forward slowly. Membership fees of UGX 5.000 allowed the start-up

of above mentioned activities. Once the group earns substantial money, doors are open for buying handcraft equipment. The earnings also serve as loans for members who want to re-engage in their studies. A future perspective is seen in everything, Amotot youth group starts, their projects and ideas are promising. Now, the group wants to extend its services to other youth, not only members. They want to grow bigger and be available in the whole sub county. The chairperson hits the group's spirit by saying, "If we think small, we shall not grow big".

Verena Bongartz

# COMMUNITY PEACE PROMOTERS

**P**ace Promoters are community resource persons from the three sub counties of Ongongoja, Ngariam and Magoro in Katakwi district who are attached to TIP.

32 members per sub county were nominated by the communities in 2008 to represent them whenever TIP is conducting community information sharing meetings. 96 nominated members were therefore trained in the same year on community conflict transformation and peace building skills and their roles and responsibilities to support the work in the community. The peace promoters link TIP to the communities since they are closer to them.

Up to today, the peace promoters have been doing a great job in fostering peace among Katakwi communities. Their main role is to help their communities in solving conflicts through non-violent methods like mediation and negotiation, to promote reconciliation and peaceful co-existence. Sensitization and information sharing with TIP, village, parish and others stakeholders in their communities are other responsibilities. These also include consultations through review and planning meetings and conducting cross border dia-



Peace promoters from bordering sub counties have quarterly review meetings with TIP officials and sub county authorities to report on their responsibilities at the grass roots

logues with karamoja among others.

The majority of peace promoters states that the trainings attended have changed them and enabled them to fulfill their work. Thus, they helped transforming members of their villages.

## EXPERIENCES BY PEACE PROMOTERS

### ➔ **Etukoit John Robert (34 yrs), Angisa – Magoro Sub County.**

Etukoit was too surprised to be nominated by his people; he remembers being notorious and a fighter at his village. He says the training he at-

tended was a very big blessing that changed his lifestyle from being violent to being a peaceful, trusted and prosperous leader. He exactly did what he was supposed to without receiving bribes. The LC refers to him as a consultant and he managed to solve all cases brought to him non-violently especially on land, domestic violence and adultery. He leads by example.

In 2009, Etukoit was made the clan chairperson and his vision was to unite the breaking clan. In his first month, he managed to make his people contribute 500 shillings each, organized a meeting where the money collected fed the clan members.



TIP has trained grass root peace promoters and charged them with the responsibility of animating peace. These are the 30 peace promoters trained in Ongongoja Sub County in Katakwi

In the same meeting the executive was chosen and meetings are now held twice each year, in March with elders, then in December with children to let them know each other to avoid incest and promote best cultural norms and practices of their clan.

This has not diverted him from being a peace promoter; he balances his work and has been instrumental in organizing exchange visits of peace promoters to other parishes.

### ➔ **Olungur Michael** (42yrs) Pakwi Ngariam Sub County

"I was a soldier for nearly ten years; in 2006, I fell ill and could not work. I decided to ask for retirement because I could no longer serve as expected. When I came back to the village, life was hard and I was rude on people. In April 2008, I heard about an organization called TIP, calling people for a meeting; I went because I had nothing to do.

When the time came to nominate community members for the training, I heard people murmuring "Olungur, eh olot ngopongol, ebo olot" literally saying "let him go - yes, he should go". I didn't know why.

**The majority of peace promoters state that the training attended have changed them and enabled them to fulfill their work. Thus, they have helped in transforming members of their villages.**

Later, while we were discussing issues, some of my friends frankly told me I was chosen because they needed me to go for some rehabilitation to change my violent attitudes in community. This touched me a lot. When we were invited for training, this rehabilitation thing remained in my mind, I promised myself to do something over it and this perfectly worked out.

My first assignment was to get my wife back, reconcile and re-unite with her after five years of separation. We

are now loving peacefully.

The second is leading people to resettle at Okore 8 km from Ocwin Camp towards the border with Karamoja in a move to promote peaceful co-existence with the neighbours.

In Okore, I am the lead farmer and I ploughed 4 hectares of cassava in 2009. This fetched me reasonable amounts of money to take care of my family and my children who can now attend good schools in Soroti.

This is all because of being a peace promoter and the trainings I went through.

My message to my fellow Ugandans is, non violence is possible and we have to embrace it for development."

**Interview: Eripu Emmanuel**



Journalists play an important role in influencing the mindset of people. Therefore they become one of TIP's target group as we seek conflict-sensitive reporting

# The Media and Peace

## Let the media sustain the success stories of peace breeding done by peace organizations in Teso

Many many years ago the cattle rustling in Teso and Karamoja sub regions was downgraded as Teso/Karamoja conflict. In spite of the fact that many lives were lost, the problem was referred to as a local problem between the two tribes with a common background. The conflict that had forced hundreds of people in Teso into camps for over four decades and manufactured many widows and orphans both in Teso and Karamoja regions was not nationally recognized as a crisis let alone it being made known to the outside world.

Yes! The Iteso and Karimojong are two ethnic tribes that extremely have a similar background, language, color and culture but fighting in a sovereign country with fully functioning government institutions wouldn't

have been normal.

Following the fact that the conflict was localized, the local people on their own rose up to try and build peace. This resulted in the formation of local peace organizations such as Teso Initiative for Peace [TIP], oldest perhaps, Teso Women Peace Activists [TEWPA] and Teso/Karamoja Women Initiative for Peace [TEKWIP] among others on the Teso side and Omani-man Community Development Initiative [OCODI] from Karamoja. They complemented the Church-based peace organizations such as SOCAJ-APIC, CoU-TEDDO, TERELEPAR and others, most of them already set in place.

Years later the conflict has been put to both national and international

perspective and today one can not talk about peace in Uganda without necessarily mentioning the Teso/Karamoja conflict. Therefore the real issue should not be who has done what, when and how? But how the media can sustain the success stories of peace breeding and harmonious living that has been created by peace organizations in Teso.

Partnering with German Development Service [ded], TIP has carried out a lot of activities including training journalists on peace journalism. Sometime in 2005, several journalists from both Teso and Karamoja were trained in Soroti on peace writing and later on helped to form Teso/ Karamoja Peace Journalist Association [TEKAPEJA]. The association was to be a vanguard for peace journalists and

could be used for preaching peace and harmony other than writing hate and derogatory articles.

The time the association was formed, hundreds of people were being re-settled by TIP in Apeitolim in Napak District - a land bordering Amuria that was deserted by the people for over 20 years. At that time intermarrying had also started taking root, peace clubs had been started and music, dance and drama groups. The dramas are characterized with playing of local popular Iteso instruments commonly known as "Akongo" [thumb piano] and "Edonga" a popular high jump that is mostly sung at the times of merry and happiness in Karamoja.

Now let the media sustain the success stories of peace breeding by using simple guidelines on media roles and responsibilities in peace reporting; The media can do this through providing fair, accurate and comprehensive peace-related news and information

to enable people make informed decisions; provide balanced & adequate opportunity for citizens and warring parties.

The media as autonomous sources of information should inform & educate the public about peace building, reconciliation and the peace processes. The media should get information right such as names and facts. Reporters should avoid use of bad events that evoke memories and try as much as they can to give all sides of the story.

Journalists should remain independent, ensure stories filed for publishing are not overly oriented towards personality, party or ethnic positions as opposed to issue oriented news and refrain from giving space to hate speech or utterances that might incite violence or cause social turmoil.

Journalists are not stenographers or megaphones for the "warriors" [war mongers]. They should instead inter-

rogate leaders, examine their actions, plans etc and provide background on the areas in which they are writing.

The media in Teso/Karamoja especially radio which is a cheapest and quickest means of communicating should initiate and provide space and a platform of encouraging peace and co-existence other than waiting for peace organizations to buy air time.

Looking at Mega FM in Gulu that initiated a programme called "Come Back Home" that made a lot of LRA rebels to surrender in 2004, the media in Teso can do more than that to put off the conflict in these two regions.

David Okurut



Journalists in Teso-Karamoja region have undergone a number of trainings with support from TIP. Through various practical exercises, they have developed hands-on skills in peace journalism.



**“Make your  
voice  
heard!”**

## The celebrations of the International Day of Peace 2011 in the Teso sub-region

*Peace efforts in Teso have grown over the years and now have a strong alliance in the formation of the Teso Peace Actors Coalition (TEPAC). The spirit behind the coalition is collective responsibility for peace and development in Teso. Nine NGO members of the coalition organized a joint celebration of the International Day of Peace in partnership with the local administration of Katakwi District and held it in Magoro sub-county. The theme of 2011 being “Make your voice heard”.*

The members of TEPAC include “Teso Religious Leaders’ Efforts for Peace and Reconciliation” (TERELEPAR), the “Church of Uganda – Teso Dioceses Planning and Development Organisation” (CoU-TEDDO), “Soroti Catholic Diocese Justice and Peace Integrity of Creation” (SOCAJAPIC), “Teso Women Peace Activists” (TEWPA), “Community Integrated Development Initiative” (CIDI), Clide Consultancy, “Amuria District Development Agency” (ADDA) and “Teso Karamoja Women Initiatives for Peace” (TEKWIP), “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit” (GIZ) and Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP).

### **The International Day of Peace – an overview**

One of the pillars in the United Nations’ framework is peace. In an effort

to enhance the promotion of peace, the UN created the International Day of Peace in 1982. In 2002, the General Assembly officially declared September 21 as the permanent date for the International Day of Peace and proposed that: “Peace Day should be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and people.”

The Celebration of the Day of Peace is an invitation to peoples around the world to cherish peace and harmony. It has grown to include millions who organize and attend events to celebrate this day every year. The UN states, “Anyone, anywhere can celebrate the Day of Peace. It can be as simple as lighting a candle at noon, or just sitting in silent meditation. Or it can involve getting your co-workers,

organization, community or government engaged in a large event. The impact if millions of people in all parts of the world, coming together for one day of peace, is immense.”

In the course of the years, one week was established to commemorate peace activities. It commences from 14th of September and reaches its peak on the International Day of Peace on the 21st September. Each year, a theme is chosen to encourage participants worldwide to envisage ideas for a peaceful world. In 2011, the selected theme was “Make your voice heard!”.

### **Peace Day Celebrations in Teso – a contradiction?**

Some critics might say there is no reason to celebrate peace in an area



TEPAC members sit together in a planning session for the international peace week activities



Karimojong brothers and sisters enjoy a warm welcome to Ngariam during the international peace day celebrations of 2010

that has lacked harmony for decades and is still struggling to overcome political, cultural, resource and domestic conflicts. However, the Teso Peace Actors Coalition joined the International Peace Day Celebrations just as some relative peace was achieved in the joint settlements of Okoboi and Apeitolim – a place that was abandoned for several years because violent conflict. The joint peace day celebrations were held in 2008 between the Teso and Karamoja peace actors and it took place at Omokori, right at the Teso-Karamoja border. The peace organisations invited youth and women groups, students, local leaders and the communities to present drama, poems, songs cherishing the achievements registered. The successes of the event lead to its repeat in 2009 at the same venue. The two settlements of Kobulin and Arengepua/Apeipopong were also brought into life, people from Nyakwae (Abim) came to Apeitolim to participate in the celebrations and let themselves be inspired. As the circle of participants grew the number of organizations sponsoring the event also went up. However, the coalition was still very loose but became more active in 2010, when other organisations came on board. Last year, the venue moved from Omokori to Ngariam in Katakwi District. The feedback of the Peace Day Celebrations encouraged the organisations to jointly facilitate other events such as the Joint Peace Prayers and the joint survey at Kobulin Settlement in 2010. In 2011, the Peace NGO's formalized their working together, now calling themselves Teso Peace Actors Coalition (TEPAC).

The Celebrations of the International Peace week – an overview

A number of activities were carried out in this year's peace week in Teso, peaking in the celebration of the Day of Peace in Magoro Sub County (see

following pages). This included a joint football for peace training for 70 youth and match of Iteso and Karimojong youth; 14 radio shows that informed a Teso wide listenership on issues of peace and reconciliation, the formation of TEPAC and the programme for the peace week; a TEPAC committee also went to Katakwi for prison and hospital ministry; the inmates shared a meal with various leaders and members of TEPAC; TEPAC members bought sugar, salt and soap for the inpatients at the Katakwi health Centre IV. Clan leaders of Gweri and Kamuda met with His Highness Emorimor, the paramount chief of the Iteso in Soroti to speak about the influence of cultural leaders and their task to bring peace into their clans. His Highness similarly met clan leaders from Kapelebyong, Acowa, Palam, Ngariam and Magoro sub-counties admonishing them to foster peacefulness and good governance in the communities. The following actors and individuals are recognized for their financial and in-kind contributions:

|                      |                                          |                         |                           |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>TIP:</b>          | <b>17,000,000 UGX</b>                    | <b>TERELEPAR:</b>       | <b>3,300,000 UGX</b>      |
| <b>TEDDO:</b>        | <b>1,900,000 UGX</b>                     | <b>TEWPA:</b>           | <b>1,500,000 UGX</b>      |
| <b>SOCAJAPIC:</b>    | <b>1,300,000 UGX</b>                     | <b>MP Toroma:</b>       | <b>400,000 UGX</b>        |
| <b>CIDI:</b>         | <b>300,000 UGX</b>                       | <b>Clide:</b>           | <b>150,000 UGX</b>        |
| <b>ASTU Katakwi:</b> | <b>posho (100kg) &amp; beans (100kg)</b> | <b>Child fund int.:</b> | <b>2 tents, 50 chairs</b> |

### Radio talk shows: broadening people's voices

Special radio talk shows took place during the preparations and celebration of the International peace week. The broadcasts relayed information to the public about the international peace week and peace day celebrations, the formation of the Teso Peace Actors' Coalition (TEPAC), the peace week activities, the venue for the Teso Regional celebrations and general in-

itation to the public to join the celebration. The involvement of print and broadcast media in the preparations and the celebrations of the international peace week enhanced the publicity of the events of the week.

The media houses that facilitated the above process included Saviour FM in Amuria, Kyoga Veritas FM, Delta FM, Etop FM in Soroti and Joshua FM in Katakwi. A total of 14 talk show hours ensured the dissemination of peace messages to the listenership in the region. Saviour FM in Amuria offered four hours which were consumed on 20th and 22nd in the pre and post peace day celebrations. It hosted the Amuria district peace focal person and the district peace monitor and members of TEPAC (ADDA and SOCAJAPIC). Delta FM offered five hours and hosted members of TEPAC (TIP, BftW, SOCAJAPIC, Clide Consultancy, Teso-Karamoja youth, CoU TEDDO and TERELEPAR). Kyoga Veritas FM offered one hour of talk show which was utilised by the youth for peace footballers.



A number of cultural leaders came to the youth football for peace match to support the joint teams from Iriiri and Ngariam, Kapelebyong and Lokopo.

## Teso – Karamoja youth football for peace

One of the peace week events that attracted public attention was the unexpected coming together of the Iteso and Karimojong youth to an experience sharing training and playing together. Teso Initiative for Peace, with support from Trôcaire, organised and mobilised youths from border sub counties of Teso and Karamoja to participate in a joint training on peace football. The youths were picked from border sub counties of Ngariam in Katakwi, Iriiri and Lokopo in Napak, and Kapelebyong in Amuria districts respectively. The training took place from 17th – 20th September 2011 at Church of Uganda medical centre in Soroti. The training was divided into two parts, peace building sessions in the morning and football training in the afternoon. The content of the morning sessions included understanding of basic peace building concepts like peace and conflict, response to conflict and conflict transformative approaches. Later in the day, the youth were taken through various modern soccer (peace football) hands-on skills training with two identified football practitioners and coaches. This training was officially opened by the RDC of Soroti who gave very encouraging remarks to the joint youth group.

While at the medical centre, the joint youth were able to create friendship,

share their experiences and jointly train, practice and play football for peace. According to Gwayana Bilal, one of the football coaches who trained the youth, a few of the participants had some basic football skills however some of them knew football as all about kicking the ball. *“Football is a uniting game where dialogue is promoted unconsciously. At the beginning these youths were identifying differently as Iteso and as Karimojong but when they started the peace football practice in the field, they began mixing up very freely and I realised peace between these youths,”* said Bilal.

He added that other than kicking the ball the youth acquired skills of ball control, ball passing, defensive and non-offensive play as modern soccer demands. *“I urge the youth to put these skills into practice and try as much as they can to pass these skills to others who did not turn up for this training”.* After the three days of skills acquisition and understanding basic peace building concepts, the youth had a peace march led by a brass band, through the streets of Soroti town as they proceeded to the sports stadium for the final peace football match.

This football match coincided with the visit of His Highness Papa Emorimor to have a dialogue with the clan leaders of Kamuda and Gweri at

Lion’s club hall. The paramount chief of Teso therefore took the privilege to officiate at the kick-off of the friendly football match. While addressing the youth in his opening remarks, Osuban encouraged the youth to strengthen the unity that has been initiated by TIP between them. He also advised the youth to continue meeting and playing periodically and encourage others who did not get the chance for this training to join the teams. *“I am happy that you have come out as the Teso-Karamoja youth to show the world that you are united and you love peace. I commend TIP for facilitating your coming together. Now you have the responsibility of animating these peace football skills and helping other youth to learn from you, as this will help to find an alternative to the idle minds among some youths,”* said Emorimor Papa Iteso. The football match which had mixed teams of Iriiri/Ngariam versus Lokopo/Kapelebyong, ended up in a goalless draw hence symbolizing the friendly peace football.

The youth also were given chance to have various radio talk shows in some of the local fm radios, to inform the public of their coming together and how they feel about the unity that has been initiated between them through football for peace.

## Celebration with the Katakwi Prison inmates & patients

"Ask and it will be given to you", the Bible says. None of the inmates in Katakwi Government prison expected quick returns during the prayers with TEPAC members. However, immediately after the prayers one of the inmates was released!

In commemorating the peace week,

George, Chief Khadh Hassan Abila and Reverend Okiro Philip went to Katakwi Government Prison and later to the health unit. District leaders including the Deputy RDC Katakwi, Mr. Lulawa Isaac, the DISO, Mr. Odong John and Mr. Ikabalet, who represented the CAO Katakwi, joined the celebration.

After a joint prayer, the religious leaders encouraged the 72 inmates, assuring them that they are not alone. A Sermon given by the Bishop was highly appreciated by the inmates as is reflected in the newly acquired prayer habits. "Ever since you came, we have kept on praying together every Friday, Saturday and Sunday", the Officer in Charge of the prison, Mr. Omooka John Bosco, informed TEPAC afterwards.



Sharing experiences with the religious leaders gave the prisoners strength

One convict, prosecuted for alleged assault, complained about bed bugs and lice in his cot. The OC however informed the participants that "this inmate has just entered prisons today. We constantly fight against parasites only to be brought in by new inmates." After the discussion and prayers, the inmate was picked up and taken back to court to be released. Heaven's help sometimes reaches its beneficiaries instantly. Not only the freed had reason to thank God on that day, though. The others were fortunate to find that TEPAC had brought meat, rice and posho for their shared lunch. Receiving a piece of meat roughly once in a blue moon, the prisoners felt blessed, munching their food and thanked TEPAC: "We cannot understand why people just come, share with us and bring us something nice to eat. Today is like Christmas for us".

On arrival in the health centre, another task was awaiting TEPAC members. Roughly 70 patients, most of them children and women, wearily waited outside their wards to receive TEPAC



90 minutes of fair play testified the success of the previous three days of joint peace football training

Teso Peace Actors decided to visit Katakwi Government Prison and Health Center IV on 20/09/2011 to pray and support the people in these institutions. Each of the TEPAC members contributed 100,000= towards this noble cause. A group of six TEPAC members together with Bishop Edweu

TEPAC also provided information on the rights of convicts. This led to a vivid discussion with the inmates who while they appreciated the conduct of the prison administration mentioned some isolated mishaps in the hygiene, medical treatment and lack of information about their rights as prisoners.



and harmony, knowing they are not alone

messages into Ateso. This cheered the patients to the extent that the pale cheeks of the sick-ridden brightened up! All patients received blessings from the Bishop.

### One day creates an impact

Promising were the words of the RDC who assured the inmates there should be regular exchange of information between prison management, convicts and local government. The first meeting was immediately scheduled for mid October. Consultative talks between management and inmates are now held regularly on weekends. The OC gave a feedback from the prisoners, saying they were happy and had enjoyed the visit. "Some told me, they felt a change inside themselves, a satisfaction that leads them to continue praying", he stated. Furthermore Mr. Omooka assured TEPAC that the medical status of the prisoners will improve. All inmates with medical problems would be taken for treatment. The prisons management is currently seeking medical staff for permanent health supervision.

Still, two things have to be worked on

in the future including the renovation of the prison and installation of a better water supply. The OC asked TEPAC for their support. On being informed that this was government's work, Mr. Omooka responded that "you Peace Actors can help. If you talk, government will listen". He urged all peace actors in Teso and abroad, private and institutionalized, to internalize the appeal and continue to lobby.

members. Little did they know that TEPAC had salt, sugar, soap and tea for every patient to ease the unpleasant stay. The health centre management were also given cleaning utensils and detergents knowing that a clean hospital environment is a peaceful environment.

More encouraging than the in-kind contributions were the words shared by Bishop Edweu. He preached in English while Rev. Okiro translated the

TEPAC members and religious leaders encouraged patients at Katakwi health center IV to be happy as it is a source of healing







A retired UPDF official works for peace: The MP Tomora, giving his peaceful address to the people of his constituency after a cash contribution of UGX 400,000 towards the event

## Celebrating the day of peace in Magoro: A community of resilient people

Magoro is a special place in Teso as it is here where the Iteso are said to have settled first when they came from Karamoja. It is also a place hard hit by cattle rustling for a long time. For almost 30 years people in Magoro lived in camps because of the insurgency perpetuated by cattle rustling and UPA war. The area also experiences flooding every year round due to its being low lying. The people in the sub-county virtually live deprived lives all year round.

After some time of relief, people in this area have of late experienced increasing theft of cows and killing of people. In reaction, the people asked for guns from the government to protect themselves. The decision to bring the International Peace Day Celebrations to Magoro this year reflects the desire to look for peaceful avenues to be heard. "The day signifies our desire to domesticate non-violence and to remind each other that peace is about living together not killing each other", Michael Odeke, the Director of TIP, says and adds, "We would like to make non-violence a common word, some-

thing on people's fingertips."

### Katakwi officials and communities gather for a day of peace

During the celebration many speeches were given. Among the speakers were: the LC I, LC III and Senior Assistant Secretary Magoro sub-county, the LC V Vice chairperson, the Deputy RDC, The DISO, The District Police Commander of Katakwi District, the UPDF Commandant and the MP Toroma County. Other speeches were by the Religious leaders and the Deputy Prime minister of Iteso Cultural Union.

In their speeches, the invitees appreciated the actions taken by TEPAC, feeling honoured to host this year's celebrations. "At the moment, we have relative peace in Katakwi thanks to the efforts of peace organizations. I encourage them to continue their work", the Vice LC V stated. She later on added: "What brings us into problems are the politics in Teso and Uganda. We have politicians who are not sensitive and that brings about conflict." She en-

couraged politicians and communities to be truthful since lies had big implications on peace.

The Deputy RDC appealed the communities to play their part. "People are not cooperating enough when it comes to handing in illegal arms," he stated, "let us not look at these arms as a source of livelihood. Our people are hurt and killed by these very arms."

The event's Guest of Honour was the MP Toroma, Hon. Amodoi Cyrus Malinga, who requested the population to give him advice on what guidance they needed and how the MP could manage best his leadership tasks. During his speech, he took people back to 1955 when the time of insecurity and settling into camps began. He stated: "I know that as we celebrate this day, real, sufficient peace in Magoro is yet to come," but was positive that "God is going to release the peace we are longing for to pour over Magoro, Toroma, Katakwi and Teso at large." Following his words, the MP launched the planting of Mango trees. The symbolic tree planting at the sub county head quarters was one of the highlight of



Masses of Katakwi residence gathered at Magoro sub county to celebrate international day of peace organized by TEPAC

the event. Being aware that peaceful living requires a peaceful environment with a sustained natural resource base, the MP Toroma, the Deputy LC V and RDC Katakwi each planted a mango tree.

It is therefore time that the communities counted on their leaders for a better future.

The Teso Peace Actors' Coalition invited several performing groups, each of them attached to the respective

partner organizations. Each performing group made a presentation which made their voices heard. The presentations were in form of singing, reciting poems, dance. The groups gave their advices to the community, using creative means to create awareness about the ongoing border conflict, inter-tribal and domestic conflicts. The presentations emphasized the need to facilitate the education of children. Amazingly, when the DJ struck the 1960's oldies (rumba and twist), the elderly took to the scene and showed rare but titillating strokes, reminiscent of the good old days!

Since the concept of peace requires a holistic approach, not only the minds of guests were satisfied on that day; TEPAC also provided food for everybody, completing the success of the day. Non one fought over food but everyone had a bite!

A successful, sunny day ended with hundreds of people dancing and enjoying themselves as they celebrated

peace. So good were the celebrations that visitors from outside Magoro are asking TEPAC to hold 2012 celebration in their respective sub-counties.

### **TIP: A special reason to celebrate**

As a peace organization, the International Day of Peace 2011 came in a special way for TIP because it marked exactly a decade (ten years) of its existence and peace work in the Teso region. Formed as a loose group of people in the late 1980ies, TIP registered with the National NGO Board on the 21st of September 2001 – coincidentally the date that was later on decided to be the International Day of Peace. The ten years of peace work and its related achievements therefore give TIP a sense of accomplishment, commitment and relevance. EMURIA KOLIAI!

By Anne Werbter, Ayub Muhammad and Verena Bongartz



Old is gold as emulated by this fellow dance enthusiast

# Our international partners



## Who we are

Since 2011, GIZ has brought together the capacities of three organisations: the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) (German Development Service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) (German technical cooperation) and Inwent – Capacity Building International.

## The Civil Peace Service (CPS)

The CPS is funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and its work is carried out by seven German peace organisations of which GIZ is the only

government agency. The CPS supports local partners in:

- Preventing violent conflicts from erupting
- Resolving conflicts peacefully
- Building structures following conflicts which help to secure peace in the long-term

## Our work with TIP

The CPS has worked with TIP since 2005 to realize the “bridging the gap” project which aims at easing the border conflict between Iteso and Karimojong through promoting peaceful co-existence, joint activities, exchange dialogue visits and train-

ings. Peace education in schools is supported by Bread for the World to educate a peace loving generation. TIP/GIZ also set up the district network “Teso Karamoja Peaceful Coexistence Initiative’s Programme” (TEKAPIP) which guides the districts in peace building activities.

## Contact

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)  
Kampala P.O. Box 7251 • Muyenga Plot 1773 • Tel: +256 414 268 660 • E-mail: uga@giz.de



## About Us

Minority Rights Group (MRG) International campaigns worldwide with around 130 partners in over 60 countries to support minority and indigenous people as they strive to maintain their rights.

## TIP and MRG in partnership

In 2008, MRG and TIP entered a partnership together with TERELEPAR, CoU-TEDDO and SOCAJAPIC due to challenges which were cropping up in a newly established joint settlement involving Thur, Iteso and Karimojong communities at Kobulin, bordering Abim, Amuria and Napak districts. Little more than 300 people live in the area. Conflicts are being perpetuated by lack of sense of identity and uncertainty about the border along the Bokora Corridor, absence of basic social services, poor road network and administrative structures. TIP and MRG together with their partners organize dialogue meetings with the communities and the duty bearers to access information on community development issues, strengthening their participation in decision making and governance for a peaceful way forward in Kobulin joint settlement.

# Our international partners



## diakonia

PEOPLE CHANGING THE WORLD

**About Diakonia** Diakonia is a Swedish organisation founded in 1966 by five churches. We support more than 400 partner organisations in 30 countries. Diakonia works through supporting local partners for a more effective long term development. Diakonia's key areas include human rights, democratization, gender equality, social and economic justice as well as peace and reconciliation.

Enhancing Women and Youth Participation in Peace and Conflict Transformation In 2009, Diakonia has partnered with TIP to support livelihood for women and youth groups in peace building. Focus was set on developing knowledge in group dynamics, enterprise development and peace building. Today, we are working with 20 groups both in Teso and Karamoja regions, including Amuria, Napak and Abim Districts. After the training, each

group develops an enterprise idea and starts their own business, ranging from goat rearing projects to crop agriculture, village banking and others.

**Contact** Annabel Ogwang-Okot, Country Representative, Diakonia Uganda

Phone: 0414 533 820, P.O. Box 28431 Kampala, Web: [www.diakonia.se/english](http://www.diakonia.se/english)

Danida



### Promoting cross-border co-existence between Teso and Karamoja Communities

In 2008, Danida Development Forum and TIP partnered in accordance to Danida's "Human rights and good governance" programme (HUGGO). Focus was set on joint activities of Iteso and Karimojong communities and joint training in conflict resolution. These involved:

- Cross-border meetings of LC councils and sub county chiefs
- Training of ASTU und UPDF
- Quarterly review meetings of all involved actors and the RDC's of Katakwi and Moroto. Synergies of government and civil service in peace building could be established.

### About Danida

Danish Development Assistance (Danida) is a state-run development organization acting under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. The Strategy for Denmark's Development Cooperation focuses on five political priorities.

1. Freedom, democracy and human rights
2. Growth and employment
3. Gender equality
4. Stability and fragility
5. Environment and climate

# Our international partners



## Who we are

Trócaire was set up in 1973 by the Bishops of Ireland to express the concern for the world's poorest people. We're working in 28 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, helping communities and families to free themselves from poverty.

## The Partnership with TIP

In the course of our joint project "Enhancing peaceful co-existence in and between Teso and Karamoja" that started in 2010, TIP and Trócaire pro-

mote:

- 1.) Political participation
- 2.) Education – with a focus on universal primary education
- 3.) Health - focusing on availing basic health services for everybody

We achieve this through strengthening citizen participation, good governance and human rights. TIP's aim is to support peace building through the promotion of these core areas hence providing training to all project beneficiaries in peace building and conflict transformation.

## Contact

Trócaire Uganda: 1812 Mitala Road  
Kansanga, Kampala, P.O. Box 72721  
Phone: 0414 347 260, Email: [esendege@trocaireug.org](mailto:esendege@trocaireug.org), Web: [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)



## Welthungerhilfe

- is a private, non-profit, politically independent organisation which works under a voluntary Board of Directors and the patronage of the German President
- has supported some 5,500 projects in over 70 countries with 1.9 billion Euro since its foundation in 1962

## Working with TIP to promote and enhance Community Participation in Peace Building

TIP and Welthungerhilfe partnered in Lira and Katakwi districts to promote peace building as a means to overcome deprivation, injustice and violence. TIP gave training in Do

no Harm and peace building to 2495 beneficiaries in Lira, including local government, traditional leaders, police and court officials, NGO staff, youth, teachers and students. Joint activities of TIP and Welthungerhilfe in Katakwi concentrated on enhancing the peace building potential of community peace promoters, education stakeholders, LC I representatives and security personnel with the intention to rule out capacity gaps in conflict transformation and peace building.

# Balance sheets

## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (TIP)

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL)

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Consolidated Statement of Income  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007

|                              | Sch. | General<br>Fund<br>Shs | Restricted<br>Fund<br>Shs | Capital<br>Fund<br>Shs | Total<br>2007<br>Shs | Actual<br>2006<br>Shs |
|------------------------------|------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                |      |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Grants                       |      | 3,115,000              | 206,822,750               | -                      | 209,937,750          | 133,044,300           |
| Local Revenue                |      | 4,439,874              | -                         | -                      | 4,439,874            | 18,972,850            |
| <b>Total Income</b>          |      | <b>7,554,874</b>       | <b>206,822,750</b>        | <b>-</b>               | <b>214,377,624</b>   | <b>152,017,150</b>    |
| <b>Expenditure</b>           |      |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Core Activities              | 1    | -                      | 126,008,123               | -                      | 126,008,123          | 133,879,650           |
| Office Running               | 2    | 3,422,800              | 9,024,084                 | -                      | 12,446,884           | 8,060,000             |
| Organization Development     | 3    | -                      | 13,226,850                | -                      | 13,226,850           | -                     |
| Staff Salaries               | 4    | 3,815,000              | 14,400,000                | -                      | 18,215,000           | 13,914,476            |
| Public Relations             |      | -                      | 5,650,300                 | -                      | 5,650,300            | -                     |
| Net working                  |      | 510,000                | 1,814,000                 | -                      | 2,324,000            | -                     |
| Board Expenses               |      | 735,600                | -                         | -                      | 735,600              | 685,850               |
| AGM                          |      | -                      | 957,150                   | -                      | 957,150              | 1,441,050             |
| Monitoring & Evaluation      | 5    | -                      | 7,440,650                 | -                      | 7,440,650            | -                     |
| HIV/AIDS Main Streaming      |      | -                      | 849,000                   | -                      | 849,000              | -                     |
| Depreciation                 |      | -                      | -                         | 8,802,061              | 8,802,061            | -                     |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>     |      | <b>8,483,400</b>       | <b>179,370,157</b>        | <b>8,802,061</b>       | <b>196,655,618</b>   | <b>137,981,026</b>    |
| Surplus/Deficit for the year |      | (928,526)              | 27,452,593                | (8,802,061)            | 17,722,006           | 14,036,124            |
| Add: Balance 01.01.07        |      | 3,199,950              | 12,640,415                | 15,542,202             | 31,382,567           | 1,804,241             |
| <b>Balance c/f 31.12.07</b>  |      | <b>2,271,424</b>       | <b>40,093,008</b>         | <b>6,740,141</b>       | <b>49,104,573</b>    | <b>15,840,365</b>     |

# Balance sheets

## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (TIP)

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL)

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance Sheet  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007

| None Current Assets | Note | 2007<br>shs       | 2006<br>shs       |
|---------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Fixed Assets        | 3    | 21,150,141        | -                 |
| Cash Balances       | 4    |                   |                   |
| Cash in Bank        |      | 28,922,532        | 14,225,515        |
| Cash at Hand        |      | 13,441,900        | 1,614,850         |
| <b>Total Assets</b> |      | <b>63,514,573</b> | <b>15,840,365</b> |
| Represented by:     |      |                   |                   |
| Capital Fund        | 5    | 21,150,141        | -                 |
| Restricted Fund     | 6    | 40,093,008        | 12,640,415        |
| General Fund        | 7    | 2,271,424         | 3,199,950         |
| <b>Total Fund</b>   |      | <b>63,514,573</b> | <b>15,840,365</b> |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on the  
...06...day of ...06...2008.....and signed on their behalf by:

  
Chairperson  
Board of Directors TIP

  
Honorary Treasurer  
Board of Directors TIP

  
Coordinator  
TIP

# Balance sheets

## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (TIP)

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008

|                                | Sch | General<br>Fund<br>Shs | Restricted<br>Fund<br>Shs | Capital<br>Fund<br>Shs | Total<br>2008<br>Shs | Actual<br>2007<br>Shs |
|--------------------------------|-----|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                  |     |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Grants                         |     | 47,270,750             | 331,527,050               | -                      | 378,797,800          | 209,937,750           |
| Local Revenue                  |     | 18,301,033             | -                         | -                      | 18,301,033           | 4,439,874             |
| <b>Total Income</b>            |     | <b>65,571,783</b>      | <b>331,527,050</b>        | <b>-</b>               | <b>397,098,833</b>   | <b>214,377,624</b>    |
| <b>Expenditure</b>             |     |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Core Activities                | 1   | 1,060,000              | 369,984,414               | -                      | 371,044,414          | 126,008,123           |
| Administration                 | 2   | 28,309,450             | 1,404,508                 | -                      | 29,713,958           | 12,446,884            |
| Organization Development       |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 13,226,850            |
| Staff Cost                     | 3   | 33,774,000             | -                         | -                      | 33,774,000           | 18,215,000            |
| Public Relations               |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 5,650,300             |
| Net working                    |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 2,324,000             |
| Board Expenses                 |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 735,600               |
| AGM                            |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 957,150               |
| Monitoring & Evaluation        |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 7,440,650             |
| HIV/AIDS Main Streaming        |     | -                      | -                         | -                      | -                    | 849,000               |
| Depreciation                   |     | -                      | -                         | 6,334,167              | 6,334,167            | 8,802,061             |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>       |     | <b>63,143,450</b>      | <b>371,388,922</b>        | <b>6,334,167</b>       | <b>440,866,539</b>   | <b>196,655,618</b>    |
| Surplus/Deficit for the year   |     | 2,428,333              | (39,861,872)              | (6,334,167)            | (43,767,706)         | 17,722,006            |
| <b>Transfers between funds</b> |     |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| <b>Purchase of a Printer</b>   |     |                        | (750,000)                 | 750,000                | -                    | -                     |
| Add: Balance 01.01.08          |     | 2,271,424              | 42,599,985                | 21,150,141             | 66,021,550           | 48,299,544            |
| <b>Balance c/f 31.12.08</b>    |     | <b>4,699,757</b>       | <b>1,988,113</b>          | <b>15,565,974</b>      | <b>22,253,844</b>    | <b>66,021,550</b>     |

# Balance sheets

## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (TIP) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

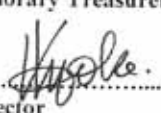
### BALANCE SHEET for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008

|                            | Note     | 2008<br>Shs       | 2007<br>Shs       |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>None Current Assets</b> |          |                   |                   |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>        | <b>2</b> | <b>15,565,974</b> | <b>21,150,141</b> |
| <b>Cash Balances</b>       | <b>3</b> |                   |                   |
| Cash in Bank               |          | 4,739,400         | 30,944,767        |
| Cash at Hand               |          | 1,948,470         | 13,926,642        |
|                            |          | <b>6,687,870</b>  | <b>44,871,409</b> |
| <b>Total Assets</b>        |          | <b>22,253,844</b> | <b>66,021,550</b> |
| <b>Represented by</b>      |          |                   |                   |
| Capital Fund               | 4        | 15,565,974        | 21,150,141        |
| Restricted Fund            | 5        | 1,988,113         | 42,599,985        |
| General Fund               | 6        | 4,699,757         | 2,271,424         |
| <b>Total Fund</b>          |          | <b>22,253,844</b> | <b>66,021,550</b> |

The Financial Statements were approved by the AGM on the  
...12<sup>th</sup> Day of ...December 2009... and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....  
Chairperson

  
.....  
Honorary Treasurer

  
.....  
Director

# Balance sheets

## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (TIP)

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009

|                                       | Sch. | General<br>Fund<br>Ugx | Restricted<br>Fund<br>Ugx | Capital<br>Fund<br>Ugx | Total<br>2009<br>Ugx | Actual<br>2008<br>Ugx |
|---------------------------------------|------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Income                                | 1    |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Grants                                |      | 33,486,000             | 219,049,501               | -                      | 252,535,501          | 378,797,800           |
| Local Revenue                         |      | 53,244,900             | -                         | -                      | 53,244,900           | 18,301,033            |
| Interest Earned                       |      | 38,042                 | -                         | -                      | 38,042               |                       |
| Total Income                          |      | 86,768,942             | 219,049,501               | -                      | 305,818,443          | 397,098,833           |
| Expenditure                           |      |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Project Costs ( Activities )          | 2    | 36,263,500             | 137,260,113               | -                      | 173,523,613          | 371,044,414           |
| Administration                        | 3    | 12,261,140             | 9,098,074                 | -                      | 21,359,214           | 29,713,958            |
| Staff Cost                            | 4    | 38,520,000             | 0                         | -                      | 38,520,000           | 33,774,000            |
| Net working                           | 5    | 1,274,400              | 326,000                   | -                      | 1,600,400            | -                     |
| Monitoring & Evaluation               | 6    | 3,100,000              | 20,914,100                | -                      | 24,014,100           | -                     |
| Documentation                         | 7    | 0                      | 4,845,000                 | -                      | 4,845,000            | -                     |
| Depreciation                          |      | 0                      | 0                         | 4,191,491              | 4,191,491            | 6,334,167             |
| Total Expenditure                     |      | 91,419,040             | 172,443,287               | 4,191,491              | 268,053,818          | 440,866,539           |
| Surplus/Deficit for the year          |      | (4,650,098)            | 46,606,214                | (4,191,491)            | 37,764,625           | (43,767,706)          |
| Transfers between funds:              |      |                        |                           |                        |                      |                       |
| Capital Costs                         |      | 0                      | (17,796,000)              | 17,796,000             |                      | -                     |
| Add: Balance 01 <sup>st</sup> January |      | 4,699,757              | 1,988,113                 | 15,565,974             | 22,253,844           | 66,021,550            |
| Balance 31 <sup>st</sup> December     |      | 49,659                 | 30,798,327                | 29,170,483             | 60,018,469           | 22,253,844            |

# Balance sheets

## TESO INITIATIVE FOR PEACE (TIP) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### BALANCE SHEET 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2009

|                     | Note | 2009<br>Ugx | 2008<br>Ugx |
|---------------------|------|-------------|-------------|
| None Current Assets |      |             |             |
| Fixed Assets        | 2    | 29,170,483  | 15,565,974  |
| Current Assets      | 3    | 33,947,986  | 6,687,870   |
| Current Liabilities | 4    | (3,100,000) | 0           |
| Net Current Assets  |      | 30,847,986  | 6,687,870   |
| Total Assets        |      | 60,018,469  | 22,253,844  |
| Represented by      |      |             |             |
| Capital Fund        | 5    | 29,170,483  | 15,565,974  |
| Restricted Fund     | 6    | 30,798,327  | 1,988,113   |
| General Fund        | 7    | 49,659      | 4,699,757   |
| Total Fund          |      | 60,018,469  | 22,253,844  |

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Directors on  
the 29<sup>th</sup> Day of October, 2010 and signed on their behalf by:

  
Chairperson

  
Honorary Treasurer

  
Director

TIP ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

**Board of Directors**



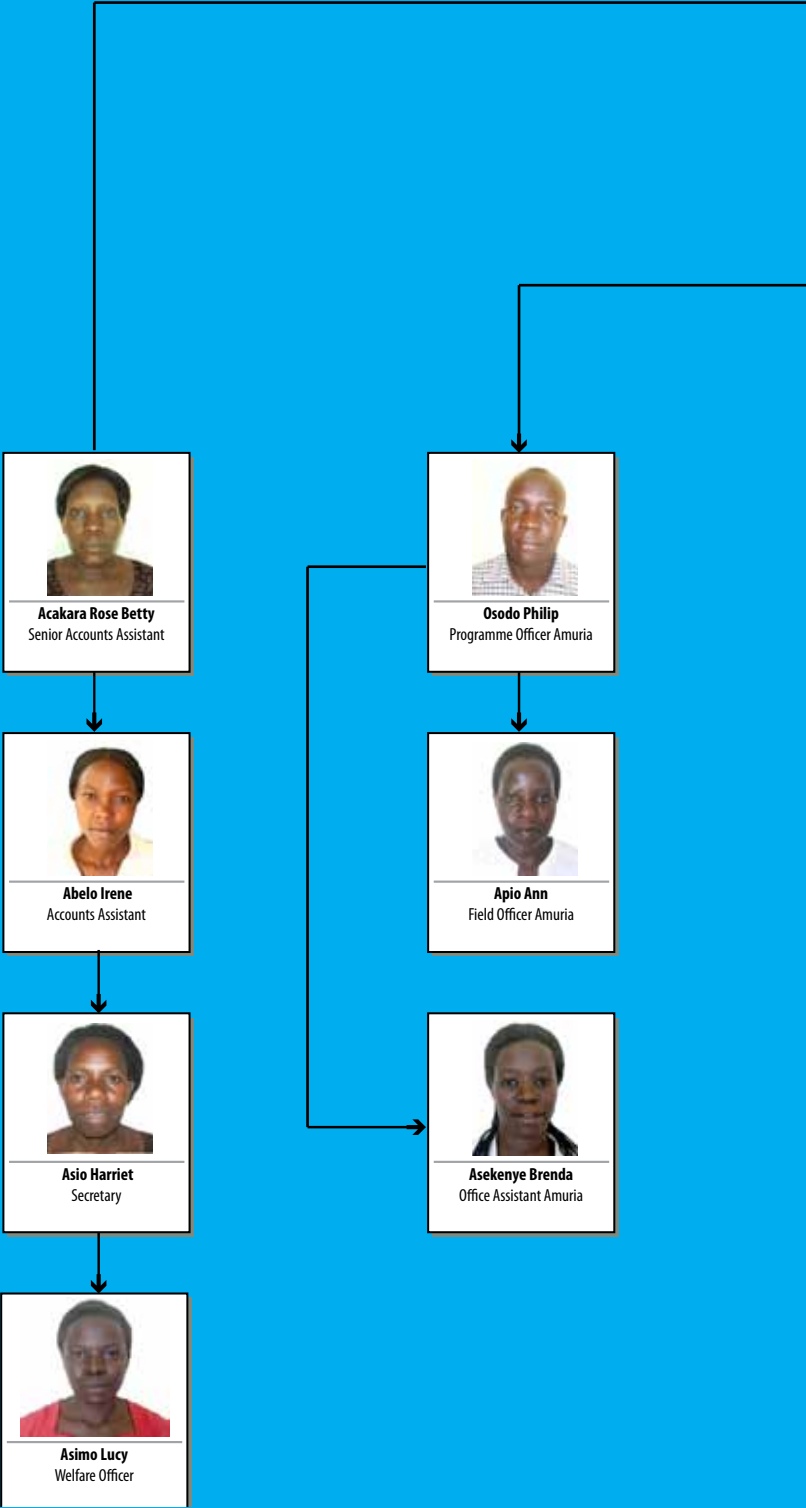
**Oluka Vincent**  
Chairperson



**Ebwadel Grace**  
Vice Chairperson/  
HR and Administration



**Agayo Janet Rose**  
Chairperson Finance  
Committee



# AGM



**Akello Frances**  
Chairperson Procurement &  
Disposal Committee



**Omome Vance**  
Member



**Olemukan Hellen**  
Member



**Obuku Robert**  
Member



**Odeke Michael**  
Director



**Makumbi Stephen**  
Programme Coordinator



**Eripu Emmanuel**  
Programme Officer Katakwi



**Anyaso Mariam**  
Acting Programme Officer  
Soroti



**Ayub Muhammad**  
Communication Officer



**Verena Bongartz**  
Junior Technical Advisor





