

Promoting peace clubs in schools: Towards a sustained peace education program

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Overview

- Introduction
- Why peace education ?
- Role of peace clubs (as a necessity, a recommendation and an approach).
- Conclusion

Introduction

- The school constitutes a main place for the promotion of peace.
- If peace education is not maintained at all level, education give a way to conflicts and violence.
- The experience of Rwandan historical background: hatred, ethnic and regional division were fueled in schools; genocide against Tutsi in 1994.

Why peace education

- conflicts and violence at home/school have negative effects on learning: e.g. drop-out, low completion rate (38 % in primary), low quality, etc.
- peace education is a necessity and a recommendation from region conferences
Goma, Bukavu and Kigali)

Role of peace clubs

Rubengera Presbytery has taken initiative to strengthen peace clubs



- Entity of Presbyterian church, located in western province
- It coordinates 37 with around 28778 pupils and 540 teachers.

Peace clubs as an approach to peace education

- Peace clubs offer opportunity to both learners and teachers at age level.
- Approaches: songs, drama, assisting vulnerable, group discussion to explore peace education materials,
- Celebration of reformation as opportunity, etc.

Some activities

E.P Nemba songs



Pupils collecting firewood for the old person (Indatwa school)



Continued

**Students after discussion-
ES Rubengera**



**Visit to support vulnerable
persons**



At TTC Rubengera students plant a tree for the peace garden



Conclusion

- Peace clubs create a sense of responsibility in peace building.
- Students are becoming more active in conflict resolution and community engagement.
- A friendly climate among students, reduction of bullying, etc.

Continued

- however, some teachers/administrative are hesitant to empower pupils.
- Training, monitoring and support is needed to make all our schools participate actively: principals, head teachers, teachers and peace clubs.

- Thank you very much !
- Merci beacoup!
- Aksante sana!