



Project Proposal Summary

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| Rotarian Peace Projects Incubator's Thematic Area | Peace and Education |
| Rotary Focus Area | Peace and Conflict Prevention; Basic Education and Literacy |
| Contact: Contact person within your group (Name and email) | Amardeep Kainth kainth.amardeep@gmail.com |
| Project Title: Provide a full title | War Child: Youth Participation for Better Child Protection |
| Project Partners and Participating Organisations: List all your project partner organisations, including participating Rotary clubs and districts if any | War Child UK War Child Holland Makerere University Rotary Peace Centre Similar Ground |
| Geographical Scope | Bidi Bidi Refugee Settlement, Uganda |
| Summary: Please provide a concise summary with a maximum of 500 words outlining the project and explaining the community needs your project will address and how these needs were identified. Ensure that you include what your project aims to achieve (objective) and how (method/procedure). What will be the main outcomes? Explain in a few sentences how you will incorporate the objective of sustainability into your project. | <p>Between July 2018 and June 2020, War Child supported two 'VoiceMore' groups in Bidi Bidi refugee settlement, Yumbe, Northern Uganda. The 40 young people, 50% Ugandan nationals and 50% South Sudanese refugees, completed spokesperson and advocacy training and identified needs in their local community. Both groups identified the neglect and abuse of separated and orphaned children in the communities as the issue they wished to focus on. The young people then designed and undertook their own research - the first ever community-based count of child orphans in the district - and carried out activities to raise awareness and change negative practices impacting children. The project also brought together the refugee and host community youth in a new spirit of solidarity and helped promote young people as positive changemakers to elders in the community.</p> <p>The groups are on the cusp of achieving tangible sustainable change for orphans and separated children. They have the agreement of local stakeholders, including health workers, teachers and the community, to make changes to be sensitive to orphans' specific needs and were pursuing the decision makers who have the authority to take these adaptations to a national level. The young people have also established their own community-based organisation called <i>Similar Ground</i>, to run play-based activities with children and peace building initiatives for older youth. For the orphans, who were identified as the most vulnerable in society, these initiatives by VoiceMore and Similar Ground will be life changing. Therefore, we believe this work has further potential, both within the settlement and for other communities.</p> <p>Our proposal has three parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An independent assessment. 2. The co-creation of a project to strengthen community based protection mechanisms and further local advocacy. |

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| | <p>3. Supporting the young people’s organisation to continue their own activities and register as an official Youth Led Community Based Organisation.</p> <p>We are requesting support to undertake a robust, community-based assessment and independent evaluation. We would like to partner with Makerere University and the new Rotary Peace Centre to analyse the impact of the VoiceMore and analyse the continuing needs of the youth and community. The independently verified evidence base will help unlock wider funding opportunities which will allow us to meet the community’s needs, reach more young people and increase the impact of the work.</p> <p>The second phase of the project is to continue working with the group to co-create a project that strengthens community based protection mechanisms and continues to bring about change locally and nationally through advocacy. This would help support meeting the needs of thousands of orphans in Bidi Bidi and potentially many others further afield. The focus of the activity will be seeking policy and practice change, driven by the community itself, to ensure sustainability of outcomes.</p> <p>Finally, we would like to allocate funds to supporting Similar Ground, to continue their own activities, have the support required to get registered and be a partner in this proposal.</p> |
| <p>Beneficiaries: Who are the beneficiaries? Please include the estimated number of direct beneficiaries</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 40 direct VoiceMore programme participants. ● 500 children and youth through Similar Ground play and music based activities. ● Indirectly this programme has the potential to positively impact the lives of thousands of orphans in Bidi Bidi refugee settlement through local advocacy and more widely via national and international advocacy. |