



ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Objectives

The aim of this workshop was for representatives of the GNRC youth group(s), to develop and strengthen their skills on peace building and interfaith youth work; with hope that this will contribute to the work done by GNRC youth groups back home.

Participants

A total of 28 participants, including youth and youth leaders attended this year's Youth for Peace workshop. This included representatives of the youth groups in the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Colombia, India, Israel, Kenya, Nepal, Spain, Sri Lanka and Tanzania.



Facilitators

Six facilitators were involved in running the workshop. Agneta from Sweden, Laura from Spain, Jun from Japan, Srinath from India, Nanda from Indonesia and María Lucía from Colombia.



GNRC Staff

A great group of motivated GNRC staff and volunteers will be there to ensure the workshop and your stay in Tanzania will be unforgettable!



Dr. Mustafa (GNRC Africa Coordinator), Sister Jean, Zameer, Sophie were instrumental in the success of the workshop.

Agenda

Tuesday 26th Jan

		YOUTH	YOUTH LEADERS
Morning session	8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
	9:00 - 10:20	OPENING - Welcome and Introduction to the workshop - Objectives and agenda <i>"What's gonna happen"</i>	
	10: 20-10:45	Break	
	10:45 – 1:00 pm	Getting to know each other Expectations & Ground rules	
	1:00 - 2:30	Lunch	
Afternoon session	2:30 - 4:00	Sharing our youth group activities <i>Let's share what we do in our youth groups, what kind of activities we organize, what are the topics and issues we work with. It is a time for learning about each other's activities and to inspire one another.</i>	
	4:00 - 4:30	Break	
	4:30 - 5:30	THE GNRC: What, Why, Who, How and Where	
	5:30 - 6:30	Self-reflection time: What it is and what for	
Evening session	6:45 – 8:00	Opening Ceremony <i>Welcoming words by GNRC Africa Secretariat</i> <i>Peace Clubs performances</i>	
	8:00	Dinner	

Wednesday 27th Jan

		YOUTH	YOUTH LEADERS
Morning session	8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
	9:00 - 9:30	Meditation	
	9:30 - 9:45	Recap & Today's programme	
	9:45 - 10:45	GNRC youth: "Connecting people"	
	10:45 - 11:15	Break	
	11:15 - 12:30	Acknowledge myself in relation to others Beliefs <i>What are our beliefs? How do they shape our identity? Discovering others' identities and reflecting on our boundaries</i>	Myself <i>Identity, beliefs and culture</i> <i>Who am I? Who are you?</i> <i>Who are we?</i>
	12:30 - 2:00	Lunch	
Afternoon session	2:00 - 3:30	Understanding Conflicts, violence and Injustices around me <i>What's happening in our world? Understanding peace and violence in our own societies.</i>	Our world <i>Discrimination, xenophobia, conflict and interculturalism</i>
	3:30 - 3:45	Break	
	3:45 - 5:00	Understanding Conflicts, violence and Injustices around me <i>Continuation</i>	Myself and the world <i>Interfaith and spirituality</i>
Evening session	5:00 - 5:30	Self-reflection time	
	6:00 - 7:30	Book launch of "Emusoi, Masai Girls Tell their Stories" by GNRC/Dogodogo Centre & reception at the Norwegian ambassador's house	
	8:00 – 8:30	Dinner	

	8:30 - 10:00	Panel "Transforming the world: our contribution" — Sowers of change: personal stories about peace activists <i>Panelists: Bishop Method Kilaini, Sister Jean Pruitt, Ms. Dorit Shippin and Dr. Mustafa Ali, Moderator: Ms. Agneta Ucko</i>
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Thursday 28th Jan

		YOUTH	YOUTH LEADERS
Morning session	8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
	9:00 - 9:45	Meditation	
	9:45 - 10:00	Recap & Today's programme	
	10:00-10:45	Non-violent alternatives <i>What are those non-violent alternatives that we can use to make a difference in our societies?</i>	Our role as youth leaders: <i>Our contribution as agents of change: inspiring others to take action</i>
	10:45 - 11:15	Break	
	11:15 - 12:30	Non-violent alternatives <i>Let's have fun in a simulation to transform violence and injustices using non-violent alternatives.</i>	Our role as youth leaders (Continuation) – <i>Why do I do what I do?</i> <i>Encouraging youth participation, nurturing ethical values, promoting interfaith and intercultural learning</i>
Afternoon session	12:30- 2:00	Lunch	
	2:00 - 6:00	Side-event: Getting inspired by the GNRC Peace Clubs in Dar es Salaam <i>Visit to the Dogodogo Centre, a centre to empower children who have lived in the streets.</i> http://www.dogodogocentre.org/index.php We will also visit two School Peace Clubs projects (a school trash incinerator and a mediation programme) and one community Peace Club.	
	6:00 -6:30	Self-reflection time	

Evening session	7:00 – 10:00	Dinner at Sea Cliff & Cultural evening
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Friday 29th Jan

		YOUTH	YOUTH LEADERS
Morning session	8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
	9:00 - 9:30	Meditation	
	9:30 - 9:45	Recap & Today's programme	
	9:45 - 11:15	Building Bridges of Trust <i>Let's develop our communication and listening skills and our capacity to work with others. Have you played Treasure Hunt?</i>	Youth in action: how to facilitate the work of our youth groups <i>Challenges in our work with youth: what to do and how</i>
	11:15-11:45	Break	
	11:45 - 1:00 pm	Peace begins with me <i>It is time to strengthen our inner capacity to transform the world. How can we nurture peace within ourselves? Is it possible? Let's do it!</i>	Communication <i>Telling the story, selling the idea: talking about the GNRC to others</i>
	1:00 - 2:30	Lunch	
Afternoon session	2:30 - 4:00	Taking action: getting inspired on what we can do <i>Can you imagine putting all our small and big ideas together in a big poster? Let's discover how our contributions can make a difference in our societies! Let's learn about youth initiatives</i>	Networking and partnering : <i>Mapping our network, joining forces with others and exploring the potential of partnerships</i> <i>GNRC Youth Hub!</i>
	4:00 - 4:30	Break	

	4:30 – 6:00	Time journey - sowing seeds together for change - <i>Sharing what happened in our groups</i> - <i>Where are we now: what's been "sown" together so far –</i> - <i>What can we sow together in the future? Time capsule</i> - <i>How do we want the youth groups network of the GNRC look like in the coming years</i>
	6:00 - 6:30	Self-reflection time
Evening session	7:00 – 8:00	Dinner
	8:00 – 10:00	Closing Ceremony

Saturday 30th Jan

		YOUTH	YOUTH LEADERS
Morning session	8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
	9:00 - 9:30	Meditation	
	9:30 - 9:45	Recap & Today's programme	
	9:45 - 11:15	Next steps & Plan of Action: our plans – how to multiply the seeds at national, regional and international level & Active Communication: how to stay in touch and share	
	11:15 - 11:30	Break	
	11:30 - 12:30	Wrap-up What we have learned, what we take with us, how we'll we multiply our learning back home	
	12:30	Lunch & Goodbye	

Why YOUTH FOR PEACE 2010 was hosted in Tanzania?

There are many peace clubs operated by school children in Tanzania, so the workshop was organized in Tanzania so that the participants can understand on how to implement the knowledge gained at the workshop in to reality.

There are 118 peace clubs in Tanzania. Out of which 75 are in Dar es Salaam, 30 are in Unguja, 12 are in Pemba and 1 is in Arusha.

Sri Lankan Participants for Youth for Peace Workshop 2010:

- Youth Participant: Abdul Mawahib Mohamed Mufees (nominated by Shanthi Sena – Gampaha District)
- Youth Leader: Suchith Abeyewickreme (Coordinator, GNRC South Asia Secretariat)

Reflections of the Youth Participant:

by Mufees

The first Youth for Peace workshop was held in 2009 in Geneva. I am glad that I was able to participate in the 2nd Youth for Peace workshop which was held in Tanzania.

The theme of this workshop can be understood, where young people are taught on how to create peace so that there can be a better tomorrow.

25th Tuesday / January / 2010

Today was the 1st day of the workshop 'Youth for Peace'. Today we had a common session where both the youth and youth leaders were together. The opening words of the workshop was presented by Madam Agneta. Following her it was Laura, who joined Arigatou Foundation recently but who has learnt things quickly. A break was given and once the break was over we continued our sessions.

It was time for us to get to know each other. So we started sharing fingers. Which means that each finger in your hand will have a letter on it. The letters Y,O,U,T,H. Y is for you, O is for Objective, U is for us, T for thoughts and H is for heart.

The next move was to write on a piece of paper what you are thinking from your heart, in your hand and how to put in a practical manner. We were taught about the Speaking Stick. It is a stick used by the Red Indians, where the person who holds the stick has the right to speak and others should listen to him/her. We had a small break, once the break was over we formed a spider web, where the other participants had something in common.

Once it was done we were told to share our group activities with other participants. Countries were given various shapes of paper and each contained a topic to share. Once it was over the facilitators made us think why this type of workshop is being carried out. Then it was the time for us to go for the opening ceremony, where there were high ranked officials delivering speeches. Then the performances made by kids and teenagers were awesome. (They must be really talented guys). When the opening ceremony was over, we had our dinner. During the dinner time I was able to interact more with the

other participants. Afterwards I went to my room and slept thinking that tomorrow will be more enjoyable than today.

27th Wednesday / January / 2010

Today was the second day of the workshop.

The day started with a meditation where Madam Agneta told us to observe the venue and pick up something which attracted us. So which attracted me was that there were varieties of plants living together at the same venue without any conflicts. If they can live together why we human beings cant live together.

Once that was over we got a small break and once the break was over the youth and youth leaders were separated and we had two different sessions.

Maria Lucia, one of our facilitators, presented us with some questions and asked whether we agree with them or not. So the hall was divided into 2 spaces and one side for the people who agree with the question and the other side for those who do not agree. Once this was over we had a break. Once the break was over we learnt about the types of conflicts which occur around the globe. At this point only I realized that not only language causes conflict but many other aspects such as politics, religion, fear that opposite religion might change their culture.

Once the discussion was over we went for a break and after coming back from the break we were divided in to teams. So it was Said and myself were in one team, and we were provided with bristle board. Each team were told to think about a conflict and find a reason why it happens, How it happens, What happens because of the Conflict and present the information in form of a tree. The Roots represents the Why, the Bark represents How it happens and branches represent What happens.

Once it was over we were told to get ready to go to the book launch of “Emusoi: Masai Girls Tell their Stories” at the Norwegian ambassadors house. During the book launch it was sad to hear that these girls suffer a lot. Once the book launch was over we came back to the venue and had dinner. Once dinner was over we had the final session for the day, it was ‘Transforming the World’ a lecturing by 4 main people who are willing to accept the change. It was Bishop Methold Kilani, Sister Jean Pruitt, Ms. Dorit Shippin and Dr. Mustafa Ali. They told us about the challenges that they faced during our ages and how they overcame those challenges. I think that it was a great moment in my life to meet these sorts of achievers.

28th Thursday / January / 2010

The day started with a meditation, where it was conducted by Dorit from Israel. We were told to place ourselves in a comfortable position and close our eyes so that we can meditate easily.

Once the meditation was over we had a quick recap of yesterday’s activities. From this point the session were divided in to two, the youth and youth leaders.

The youth were divided into teams. Said and I were in the same . Said acted as volunteers . They wore mask on their faces and those maks had a picture on it. So we were told to describe the type of person he is. Once that was done we had a break and once the break was over we had an activity we were

clearing immigration. So Yogi, Indu and myself were treated separately, the Africans were treated separately, the Latin Americans and Europeans were treated separately. The main objective of this activity was to understand how people are being discriminated and what are the non-violent alternatives.

Luqman contributed a suggestion to non-violent alternatives by encouraging others at the lounge not to drink or eat as we were suffering. Another method was that people at the lounge were helping us although they were provided with comfort.

Once the activity was over we were taken out for side event. First we went to a high school (Kibasila Peace Club) where they presented us with a drama that showed us why HIV virus is still rotating around the globe. Here I realized that dramas can be a form of motivation.

Once that was over we made a small contribution to the school by cleaning its surroundings and planting a tree. Once it was over we went to another peace club where they sang a song about peace.

When that was done, we went to Dogodogo Centre, a centre with children who have lived in the streets. Here they showed us some magnificent performances with the drum and a drama that shows that when we consume drugs the ultimate result is the death. The children at the Dogodogo Centre presented us with gifts and one of my friend got a gift so he presented to me but then I presented it to a young guy at the Dogodogo Centre who showed us his real talents and capabilities. I was sad to hear that these children were living without their parents. The final place we went to was the Kigamboni Community Centre. There were so many children and they were very happy to see us. There also children showed their capabilities. It was nice to see that they were very friendly with us. Once the side events were over we went to a beach hotel, had our dinner and danced to the rhythm of African music. We enjoyed ourselves, came back to the TEC and slept.

Today was a day that I cannot forget easily because the activities which we did showed us how people are being discriminated and the face of young children looking at us, makes me feel sad for them and people like them living around the globe.

29th Friday / January / 2010

Today was the 4th day of the workshop. Today was one of the most important days for us as we were getting close to the closing of this workshop. We had a quick recap of yesterdays activities. In order to do this the youth and the youth leaders of each country got together and discussed what we did yesterday and that particular day should be described in one word or sentence. When that was over the youth and youth leaders had separate sessions.

First a game was done by Maria Lucia to energize us. Then the youth were divided into teams and we played the same treasure hunt. We were divided into teams and each team had a blind person. The game is that there are three stations and at each station you should answer a question and collect your reward. But this should be done by taking our blind friend and we should think of him as an obstacle. The main objective of this activity is that to see ourselves as a common humanity and not discriminate each other because of being blind or their colour. The second objective was to discuss with each other the problem and come to a conclusion. Once the activity was over we had to purchase some items required by a peace club. So in order to do this our team had to discuss what should be purchased since

it was an auction. But I couldn't stay to complete that session as I had to leave for the Friday's special prayers.

After coming back from the mosque, we had our lunch break. We had another session for the day where it was common for both youth and youth leaders. Madam Agneta told us to write about the Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats for Global, Network, Religions and Children. Our team got the toughest one as we got religion. So we thought that in several angles and those were religious people, religious institutes and religion as a concept. When that activity was over we had a break and it was dinner time. Once the dinner was over we had the closing ceremony. It was like a cultural show, where each country represented their culture. So we sang a Sri Lankan song and it was backed up by the Indians. It was a wonderful night and I enjoyed myself.

30th Saturday / January / 2010

Today was sad for every participant as they were missing each other, including myself. We had a common session for both youth and youth leaders. Today our main focus was on how to interact with each other although we are in different parts of the world. So there were many suggestions on how to interact. Mainly it was electronic communication spoken widely, the suggestion using Facebook, Twitter, etc. Postal Service was another method of communication. Once the session was over we were very sad but left each other hoping that one day we will meet each other once again.

Bye Bye Tanzania

My Key Learning Points from Youth for Peace 2010:

1. Peace clubs:- Peace clubs can be formed in schools so that they can take steps to achieve peace in their schools and these clubs can help the society in preserving the nature. So that there will be a better tomorrow
2. Team work:-rather than working as an individual working as team would be more successful than you work as an individual. I learnt this from my treasure hunt activity. Where you should work with a team and each team has a blind and you should not consider this blind as burden to your team and we should succeed with our blind friend.
3. The talking stick:-the person who holds the stick has the right to speak and he should speak the right thing and the others should listen to him with their hearts open.
4. discrimination;-by looking at person you should not come to conclusion in what sort of a person he is this is because this can lead to discrimination.try to find about him as much as possible before coming into a conclusion
5. Language is not only the reason for war there were many other aspects which leads to war such as religion, political turmoil, etc

Abdul Mawahib Mohamed Mufees

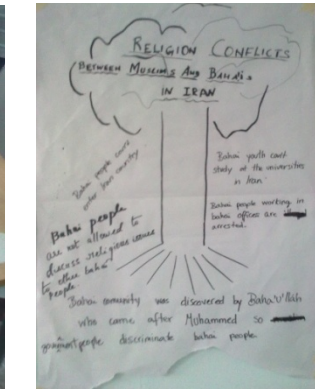
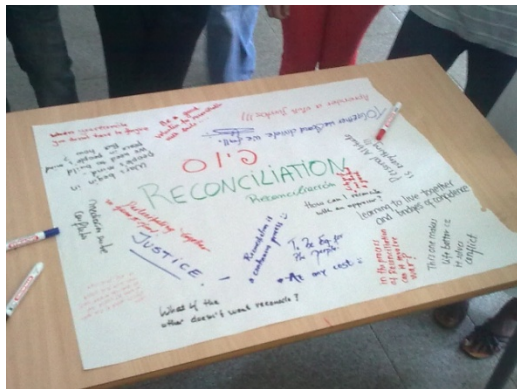
Malwana, Sri Lanka

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Quote I learnt from Laura:

"It's often what we think that we already know what prevents us from learning"

Youth for Peace Workshop Activity



At the 'Emusoi':The Stories of Masai Girls, Book Launch



Visit to Peace Clubs



Visit to Dogo Dogo Center



Visit to Kigamboni Community Center



Key Learning Points from GNRC Youth Activity in Participating Countries

by Suchith

Colombia

- The National GNRC Structure involves a committee including two coordinators for the committee one being an adult and the other a Youth leader.

India

- Ethics Education and the 'Learning to Live Together' toolkit taken in as an inbuilt approach for all activity related to children run by Shanthi Ashram.
- Concrete action by youth after each workshop

Tanzania

- GNRC Africa Secretariat is hosted in Tanzania and includes a 12 member staff.
- The GNRC Africa Secretariat runs Peace Clubs at Schools and Communities in Dar es Salaam, Unguja, Pemba and Arusha. Currently there are over 118 Peace Clubs around the country that carry out various activity addressing current social issues.
- The Peace Clubs in Dar es Salaam meet every Wednesday.
- Peace Caravan
- GNRC Africa secretariat has many different partners to support its programs.

Kenya

- School based peace clubs similar to Tanzania. Primarily driven by youth.

Argentina

- Once a month gatherings of GNRC Youth Groups ongoing for 4 years already.

Israel

- Tangible inter-faith and inter-cultural program called 'The Journey' run to bridge different religious communities together. The program involves visits to places of importance to each religion, workshops and visits to homes different youth participants.

Possible Follow-up Points for GNRC Youth Activity in Sri Lanka:

By Suchith

The following are some of the potential implementations as follow-ups to the GNRC 'Youth for Peace' workshop.

- GNRC: Inter-faith Committee for Children
 - o Possibility for Sarovdaya and GNRC South Asia Secretariat to initiate a committee of persons of religious/spiritual nature (as individuals or as representatives of religious institutes) who are working for and with children.
 - o This could be a possible channel to promote and support Child Protection and Well being at community level through religious institutions.
- GNRC: Youth Peace Clubs at School/Community Level
 - o Possibility for Sarovdaya and GNRC South Asia Secretariat to initiate a school based (or other) 'Peace Clubs' network serving as a medium for informal education on peace building.
 - o 'Learning to Live Together' – Ethics Education toolkit is available as a guideline for learning and activity at Peace Clubs.
 - o Targeted Children to be of 14-16 years of age (Toolkit is targeted for ages 14 up) and that would avoid overlap with 'Shanthi Sena' youth groups.
 - o Strong opportunity to add value to Sarvodaya's network by building up urban youth groups to complement the already existing rural youth network and promoting topics such as Child Rights and Child Protection.
- GNRC: Inter-faith youth activity
 - o Possibility to connect through interactive inter-faith programs that take the shape of camps/visits to religious places/home visits/etc.

Thank you

Both Mufees and Suchith as the Sri Lankan participants for the Youth for Peace Workshop 2010 offer our sincere gratitude to the Arigatou Foundation, GNRC Africa, GNRC South Asia and Sarvodaya for providing us with the opportunity to attend this workshop and gain valuable experience. We eagerly look forward to initiating GNRC youth activity here in Sri Lanka.