

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**GREAT LAKES
PEACE CENTER**
"Building Peace to Bridge Nations"



INTRODUCTION

The year 2021 has brought a new trajectory to what GLPC has known to be success. Despite of the lockdown situation in the country due to COVID-19, GLPC has continued to fly high and high with the help of its local and international partners and friends that make time to support ideas groomed locally to solve local problems.

Even when we have worked with reduced staff and in a phased manner due to the pandemic situation, we were able to meet our targets and much more.

We have grown our partnerships and networks throughout 2021 including but not limited to the UN WOMEN project that supports women groups in four districts to understand standard conflict reporting tools and scale up case reporting and referral to ensure that each case is heard. The project is a consortium of four organizations with a Lead partner being Meeting Point in Hoima. We also added the Peace Jam Funding from the Points Guy to support our programming at Makerere University, Spirit in Action Funding to support livelihoods of households affected by disasters in Bulembya Division in Kasese, the Sexual Reproductive Health Alliance, the Germany Government Volunteer Program with Act 4 Transformation as our Prime partner in Germany where they will send Volunteers annually to be hosted by GLPC.

Our partnership with Kiima Foods has continued from the areas of renewable energy to climate smart agriculture for youth and women.

We remain very grateful to our partners GIZ in Uganda and the Rotary Club of Winchester for the continued support towards our work.

DETAILS IN THIS REPORT ARE FROM OUR TWO PROGRAM AREAS OF PEACEBUILDING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH PROMOTION:

The Education Project

Climate Action/ Renewable Energy and Support an Environment

Viral Hepatitis B

This annual report offers a snapshot of the development and achievements of GLPC in 2021.

GLPC's Vision: We envision a society that is peaceful and violence free.

GLPCS's Mission: To empower communities in particular young people to take responsibilities for their peace in the Great Lakes Region.

GLPC's Core Values:

Service – Service activities to bring cohesion among communities and ultimately foster world understanding and peace.

Diversity – Organizational membership to reflect diversity of vocations, race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion and political affiliation. Diversity is required to direct projects and activities of the organization across boundaries of communities, cultures and nations.

Integrity – Adherence to ethical code of conduct and professional standards in our work. Respect for humanity and accountability from all member to all we serve.

Leadership – Every member/ staff of the organization is a leader in one way or the other. We are a conglomeration of different leaders in different fields. It is therefore important to bear in mind that as staff

members, when duty calls, show-up and be prepared to live up to the leadership demands

Foreword from our Executive Director's

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the GLPC Annual report 2021. We believe that every youth has a right to participate in their decision-making platforms to contribute to the peace they cherish and in 2021, our work was made critical progress towards this aspiration.

The stories in this report represent a sample of this work across our two program areas of Health Promotion and Peacebuilding & Social development.

We believe that by working together with all stakeholders, we can build a future free of violence with youth at the frontline of ensuring peaceful coexistence. We work across the whole life cycle of a youth, ensuring good health and wellbeing, education and protection of their rights, a good and sound social environment, quality skills and capacity to do work, knowledge of positive peace and living harmoniously in the environment that hosts us.

At GLPC, we believe that youth should not only benefit from our good programs and those from government but rather contribute to making them in a more active way. I am particularly thrilled by our role this year where we had the opportunity to ably work with other youth groups in the Great Lakes Region to come up with Action Papers to their regional Ministers to ask for their attention in issues affecting the youth in the region. This will ensure a road map for acting on youth issues in conflict for the four participating countries.

We are committed to supporting Uganda's long-term development plan and also responding to key issues in the area of Peace and security in the context of youth participation. I am pleased that we played a crucial role in the formulation of the National strategy for Preventing and

Countering Violent Extremism with the Ministry of Internal Affairs which was a much-needed strategy to aid our work but also guide Government.

I would like to extend our gratitude to our donors, partners, Staff and Volunteers whose tremendous work through out the year enabled Great Lakes Peace Center to build a peaceful environment in local communities through local youth efforts.

Peacebuilding and social Development Program

SCAPE PROJECT - UN WOMEN

SCAPE stands for scaling up access to conflict prevention services through meaningful women engagement in the Rwenzori region. The project is being implemented in four districts Kasese, Kabarole, Kenjonjo and Hoima. Meeting Point Hoima is the lead partner. This project is funded by the UN women following the 1325 resolution of UNSCR to involve women in conflict prevention, management and resolution. The resolution mainly relies on participation, protection, prevention, relief and recovery.

The following activities were implemented;

- A District inception meeting, this involved district stakeholders, CDOs among others. It was meant to introduce the project to the people that will directly transfer the information to the rightful persons.



- Subcounty inception meetings. These were held in the three selected subcounties that is Bwesumbu, Buhuhira and Mpondwe Lhubirigha T/C. This was purposely to orient the group members what the project was all about and what to expect.



- 3 Women groups trained on conflict prevention, management and resolution.
- We Identifying and trained peace ambassadors on mediation, how to handle cases/ case management, identifying conflict, prevent conflict and learn more human rights. For example, the divorce rights.



- The 15 Trained peace ambassadors cascaded similar trainings to the 90 group members on conflict prevention.
- Conducted 36 Community barazas in the three sub counties reaching 2160 community women and men.
- 4 quarterly community sensitization meetings held in each of the three sub counties.
- 4 District quarterly stakeholder meetings held to improve coordination of the activities of the project.
- A Survey/ Mapping identified more than fifty organizations working in the area of conflict and care giving.
- The project trained 90 members of the three women groups in standard tools i.e police medical forms and delivery of IEC materials.
- Together with the district leadership, we have conducted joint Quarterly support supervision of our projects.

The project achieved the following:

- ❖ Community cases are being reported and registered with the peace ambassadors as they counsel, advise and mediate the conflicting parties.
- ❖ The LC1 and Police stations are no longer handling petty cases like theft of a goat, chicken, man selling wife's produce among others. Most of the conflict in community is now handled and managed by the peace ambassadors. This was testified by OC police station Meri Francis Bwesumbu subcounty. He clearly mentioned this in one of the district quarterly meeting.
- ❖ Peace ambassadors have sensitized and created awareness in their communities about human rights especially children's rights and women's rights in marriage.
- ❖ Many people have identified these women groups as good counsels and advisors especially in family issues and child abuse.

These women groups have done a great job in case management where by for any conflict in the community, people refer to them.

SUCCESS STORY

On 18th November Ms. Zuana in Buhuhira s/c approached one of the peace ambassadors Mrs. Biira Agnes telling her how the husband Mr. Baluku was beating and mistreating her. This affected their children because the woman got abdominal pains after being beaten by the husband and would not do any work even cooking for the children.

Mrs. Biira Agnes' intervention, she asked Ms. Zuana why the husband was beating her. She said, the husband thinks men befriend her because of the business she is operating in the center. That is a small restaurant of which most of the customers are men. This has caused a lot of doubts and thoughts in her husband who thinks every man who eats from Zuana's restaurant sleeps with her. After Mrs. Agnes listening to Ms. Zuana, she asked her to go back home and to respect the husband, not to bring up anymore quarrels with him as she prepared to talk to him. [Mr. Baluku]

On meeting Mr. Baluku, other two group members got involved Mrs. Mbambu and Mrs. Evas since they know the woman and she is their friend. They all sat to listen to the side of the man so that they can know the exact problem. He said the wife likes being in company of men since they buy her alcohol[beer]. For the whole day you find different men in her restaurant and you wonder why. After her getting drunk then men sleep with her either in her business or in bushes, this is where he found Zuana with a man standing at the river side and he beat her terribly affecting abdominal stomach.

Mr. Baluku clearly said he was in police three days because of beating the wife and she does not respect him at all. Zuana rushed to the health center for treatment because she was hurt badly. After hearing all these, Mrs. Agnes called Zuana to join the meeting so that they can get a solution. Mrs. Agnes asked Zuana to respect her husband and not to miss use the chance the husband gave her of the business. Mrs. Mbambu also advised her not to go/divorce the husband because she is the one in wrong and she should apologize to the husband for all those acts. They therefore signed the mediation agreement form to show that they accept to forgive each other and to take care of their children who were already affected by their misunderstandings. This case was successfully managed and closed by the peace ambassadors as the police and LC1 failed to settle their disputes until the wife run to Bughendero Twanzane women group for help. The couple was counseled and advised not to use fights and abuses as a way to resolve disagreements since they cause permanent injuries/disabilities on our bodies hence affecting the children in the long run. The couple is leaving in harmony with love for their children unlike before when they had divided them to each other.



In the middle is Ms. Zuana illustrating how the husband beat her terribly on the abdominal stomach which brought her a lot of pain and ended up in the health center for medication.

Education Project

This project has been running for four years and has supported more than 56 students and pupils who include the current 35 that are getting school fees and scholastic materials from it.

The activities of the project include paying school fees, support monitoring at monthly basis, providing of scholastic materials to the learners. Delivered mosquito nets, these were delivered at Mpondwe primary school and at least 10 pupils were given mosquito nets, the project officer also conducts home visits that aim at identifying home related challenges especially during the lockdown. We also carried out special health sessions and checkups for the beneficiaries including the distribution of mosquito nets to all the beneficiary learners to curb malaria.



Achievements

We have four pupils who have completed primary leaving exams [P.L.E] Mpondwe primary school. This is a great achievement since they all have good grades, one in division 1 and three in division 2.

Name	English	Science	SST	Math	Aggregate	Division
Bwambale Yakub	C4	D2	D2	C4	12	1

Mulisya Akram	C5	D2	C3	C3	13	2
Masika Sharifa	P7	C4	C3	C6	20	2
Masereka Abdu-Rahman	P7	D2	C3	C4	16	2

Success Story

Edrine Kusemererwa aka Edrine K, is an artist/ musician and one of our students on the education program. Her music usually promotes the girl child's rights to education and not to marry off young girls because parents expect money from the men marrying their daughters. Her music has served as an example and is inspiring young girls to keep in school. She portrays the same as she likes studying, keeps encouraging young girls not to give up on studying. She is in her senior six vacation waiting to join university. She has interest in entrepreneurship and innovation where she is going to study a diploma.

Her song 'get off my way' which was literally telling men to let girls go to school because they have a future and can be ministers of tomorrow. This made her famous and GLPC considered to include her on the education program in 2019.

Peace Education Project – International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

The project is a subgrant from the ICGLR to support domestication and awareness raising of the Peace Education Project that they are promoting with support from the European Union. The subgrant has four major activities including:

Peace Education Symposium with local stakeholders at district level in Kasese and Kabarole District. The activity brought together

religious leaders from all faith, NGOs in the area of Peace, Youth leaders, Education department from the two districts local governments, Kingdom ministers, Teachers and local Elders.



Radio Jingles and Talk shows were also used to spread the word of peace education plus hearing feedback from the community on what they think about it.



PeaceJam Project

The project implemented a number of activities that were mostly online due to the lockdown of schools and universities. These activities included;

The online Mentor training for University students who support their high school counterparts in the project.

Sponsoring youth to attend PeaceJam online Saturday sessions with international presenters and motivation speakers from around the world.

Sponsored Mentors and other community youth to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award. Conference.

Talk shows on the International Peace Day were held to support the commemoration and reflecting on the same in our community.

Visited an Orphanage in Kasese with relief items for the kids to celebrate them and give them hope as part of the contribution from some mentors commemorating their birthdays.



GIZ Change Project

The continuing project supported through the Civil Society in Uganda Support Program was from 2020 and aimed at addressing issues of capacity development within GLPC and its governing organs. In the year 2021, the following activities:

Two Board Meetings, an Annual General Assembly, an Extraordinary AGM, Procuring of the Finance Policy Consultants, training staff in financial management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Success story writing, and Mainstreaming of key issues for GLPC.



Partnership for Volunteers from Germany Project

Together with Act 4 Transformation a Germany NGO, the Federal Government of Germany has committed to support our Volunteer exchange program between GLPC and the Germany partner. The Volunteers will be facilitated to support GLPC work locally and grow programming by sharing

their knowledge and learning from the local initiative. Funding is expected to come in should there be a developed project that a Volunteer can support. This will be done annually and the German partner will be sending the Volunteer first in September 2022 and then we will follow in September 2023.



Posing with a representative from ACT4 Development on the extreme left.

Health Promotion

Hepatitis B Project

As a Non-Voting Member of the World Hepatitis Alliance, GLPC has taken strides in the fight against Hepatitis especially Hepatitis B due to its

high prevalence rates in the region. We have yearly commemorated the World Hepatitis Day whereby we partner with Hospitals such as Bwera General Hospital to offer free and sometimes subsidized Hepatitis medical services to the community.

This year's World Hepatitis Day commemorations involved month long activities which involved community meetings with the general population for example meeting site construction workers and pregnant mothers. The campaigns mainly centered on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT)

GLPC has undertaken several activities in regard to fighting Hepatitis B for example through Continuous Medical Education/Health Worker Training, Village Health Team (VHT) Training and Community awareness with a special attention given to expectant mothers in order to eliminate Mother to Child Transmission of Hepatitis B (PMTCT).

GLPC has also continued to boost its strong media presence in its campaigns against the spread of Hepatitis. These campaigns help in spreading more awareness to the masses especially the youth who are in most case on the social media platforms so as to equip them with knowledge on how to best protect themselves from the vice. Stigmatization is also a key factor in our awareness campaigns as most of the people who unfortunately acquire the disease are discriminated against.



Passing on prevention messages to construction workers

Success story of the project

The Head of the Health Promotion at GLPC was awarded as Global Elimination Champion 2021 by the Coalition of Global Hepatitis Elimination.



Covid19 Support

During the covid19 lockdown GLPC offered different kinds of support to both the local government and to the community. By using our newly acquired disability friendly van, we supported the community by evacuating disabled people who needed urgent care and treatment from the deepest of areas in Kasese considering the terrain of the place. Patients needing further treatment for non-communicable diseases, covid19 and other challenges who would otherwise not be able to move due to the state of

lockdown that restricted all movements of private vehicles.





GLPC Van carrying a disabled woman that was seeking specialized treatment for diabetes.

Supporting the Covid19 Taskforce

Among others, we supported the Covid19 Taskforce meetings

with refreshments such as water/ soda to enable the meetings to convene for more than two hours so as to plan for further action of cabbng down covid19 in our district.



One of the meetings of the District Covid19 Task force.

CLIMATE ACTION SUPPORT

Climate Smart Agriculture and environment projects:

Innovative and Gender-sensitive Nature Based Solutions for Resilience and Green Jobs (NBS-Project)

Great Lakes Peace Center (GLPC) in partnership with Kiima Foods with support from the European Union (EU) through WWF is implementing a project titled Innovative and Gender-sensitive Nature Based Solutions for Resilience and Green Jobs (NBS-Project) in Kyarumba Sub County in Kasese District.

This project aims at practically enlightening the local community members particularly youth and women with best sustainable environmentally friendly farming practices that help in adaptation and mitigating the effects of the ever-changing climate.

Achievements so far;

The project has set up three Demonstration sites in Kyarumba Sub County reaching 40 youth and women directly and hundreds indirectly. These sites help community members to bench-mark and copy those best practices performed and replicate the same in their homes even long after the end of the project.

The project trained 40 youth and women in Compost Manure making (Soil feeding). This was specifically in 3 pit manure making and heap manure. We advised that on top of the 3 pits usually made for the manure, a fourth pit should be added for the non-degradable waste like plastics and polythene bags. These can later be recycled for example water bottles can help in bottle irrigation or even acting as bricks in house construction. Polythene bags and sacks can act as kitchen gardens in the compound among others. However, if these wastes cannot be recycled, then they can later at worst get burnt. The burning process though involves mixing these plastics with dry organic waste like grass to reduce the effect on the ozone layer.

The project also trained 40 youth and women in Water and Soil Conservation (Contour ploughing, Terracing and water basins). This activity involved training the community members on how best to conserve water and soil in our environment. We trained the members in several ways of conserving water for example through water harvesting, planting trees, and protecting wetlands (limiting encroachment). Soil conservation too was tackled through contour ploughing, mulching, planting trees such as bamboo and terracing among others.



A trainer illustrating during the water and soil conservation activity

Another training that the project conducted was on maximum land utilization that reached 41 people. The training was mainly centered on how best a family or an individual can properly utilize his/her land in order to maximize the benefits. This training helped in bridging the gap between people owning large land and those owning

smaller pieces of land. Proper planning for an individual's land is a key component in this training.

Training on crop and pest management that reached 43 youth and women. This involved selecting two key crops that are widely grown in the area. In this case, we selected bananas and coffee as these are the widely grown crops in the areas and found solutions for the farmers to control pests.

Another raining was in Liquid manure (plant tea). This was conducted to help the farmers with an alternative type of manure. This is however highly recommended as its liquid nature makes it penetrate easily in the ground thus causing faster benefits



A demonstration of liquid manure



"I am grateful to GLPC as I now have a well organized garden and expecting high yields" Mumbere Godwin of Bukangara, Kyalumba sub county.(center in the picture)

ACTIVE BOARD, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

We are thankful to the seven-strong Board members that have made time for GLPC on several occasion to ensure that our activities are a success. The board met six times in 2021, what an amazing thing. In these meetings several plans and programs were approved including the purchase of the GLPC Van and many others. GLPC managed to have four staff on payroll supported by the SCAPE Project. We also boost of six Volunteers that come in time to time to support several projects.



A board and staff synergy building activity conducted in February 2021

FINANCIAL REPORT

2021 has been an interesting year especially when it marked our big step for supporting staff salaries and other administrative costs.

In terms of finances, we managed to increase our incomes by more than half meaning that despite the hardships of operating in such times GLPC had another year of more 100+% as far as the growth of incomes are concerned.

TOTAL INCOME 2021	UGX 213,497,021
LOCAL CONTRIBUTION	UGX 64,947,108
EXTERNAL SOURCES	UGX 148,549,913
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	UGX 213,677,341

Note: Our Budget projections for 2021 was UGX 570,300,000

Sources

Local donations/contribution	UGX 31,900,000
External donations	UGX 538,400,000

Note;

The budget projections for 2021 was UGX 570,300,000 to be got from the local contributions and external donations i.e. local UGX31,900,000 and external UGX 538,400,000 but we actually realized a total income of UGX 213,497,021 of which UGX64,947,108 was from local contributions and UGX 148,549,913 was external donations (project incomes).

The Budget projections for 2022 is UGX 1,725,760,000 hoping that UGX 1,624,600,000 will come from external donations and UGX 101,160,000 will come from the local contributions.

LOOKING AHEAD: 2022

In the year 2022, our activities are strongly focused on fund raising and broadening the GLPC support base and finding sponsors to scale up our work that has proven so essential to our communities.

GLPC will continue to approach fund managers and grant organizations as well as corporate organizations that have already expressed interest in our work and together we will achieve a sustainable future.

We will stop at nothing but achieving our goal of a sustained peace in the region for the youth by the youth.

Our developing Friendship with Spirit in Action – SIA is among those we will fight hard to grow. Winchester Rotary in the UK shall equally remain in the center stage of our works due to the continued support and already made pledge to our year's work.



"Peace Education through culture and religion" The District Kadhi, the Inter Religious Council Head and other Stakeholder at our Peace Education Symposium