



2006 ANNUAL REPORT NEVER AGAIN RWANDA



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INTRODUCTION

2006 was an exciting and groundbreaking year for Never Again Rwanda (NAR) in more ways than one. Building on the promise and progress of our previous years in operation, we saw 2006 as an opportunity to broaden our scope, commitment and tangible outcomes. Amongst other accomplishments, NAR expanded its breadth, appeal and visibility by focusing on the means by which to reach people both in Rwanda and throughout the world. NAR's base of operations shifted from a small office space to the newly opened Peacebuilding Centre in Nyamirambo; NAR collaborated, twice, with an American human rights organization on a cross-cultural, human rights workshop; NAR began accepting interns from all over the world; NAR's Director of Peacebuilding, Nzamukwereka Albert, did a human rights fellowship in New York City; NAR launched its own website, www.neveragainrwanda.org; and NAR contributed to the creation and dissemination of Never Again International's youth newspaper, Rising Voices, a newsletter and beautiful new brochures. Through all this, NAR focused on reaching out to more people and to advocate for the youth in more pro-active and efficient ways.

As per our mission, NAR made these efforts in 2006 because it wants to reach its full potential as a grassroots, youth-oriented human rights organization committed to creating a peaceful and thriving local Rwandan and global society. All activities and the aforementioned breakthroughs have been created, produced and disseminated by youth in Rwanda and throughout the world. Though there is always work to be done, this has begun to meet the organizations goal of enhancing youth capacity to analyze the root causes of past conflicts and create space for dialogue among peers to generate ideas and activities supporting conflict resolution and sustainable peace.



Never Again Rwanda

Never Again Rwanda (NAR), developed in 2002 and officially registered as a Rwandan non-governmental organization with the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports in January 2005, creates a collaborative partnership of youth around the world. NAR aims at promoting a constructive exchange of ideas to prevent violent conflicts and help remedy its effects. It has been instrumental in bridging divides between youth by engaging them in critical thinking, encouraging them to learn about and advocate for human rights, socio-economic development and peace issues.

NAR highlights the importance of focusing on youth as more than 60% of Rwanda's population are under 20 years of age. Youth have a significant role in society to future stability and sanctity for Rwanda.

NAR builds its practices on *five main objectives*:

- 1) To increase awareness about the critical importance of peace, reconciliation and economic stability among youth;
- 2) To develop strategies whereby youth can play a key role in advocating and helping vulnerable groups in Rwanda;
- 3) To facilitate global collaboration toward conflict prevention and dialogue between young people around the world;
- 4) To seek alternative and creative means of preventing, managing and resolving conflicts; and
- 5) To share knowledge, information and experience through networking with youth from the international community.

In 2006, NAR made great strides in meeting and further advancing these objectives. In 2007, we will continue to strive in new and creative ways, as well as using acknowledged best practices and lessons learned, to improve the lives of youth in Rwanda and the global community in order to live in peaceful and conflict-free societies.



Overview of 2006 Activities

- January
 - Partnership with Global Youth Connect on Human Rights Education and Advocacy” Workshop
 - Completion of PHASE II of “Mobilization of Youth to Overcome Social Prejudices and Manipulation in Former Kibuye Province” in collaboration with Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) and AJPRODHO
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- February
 - Lake Kivu Retreat
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- March-May
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- June
 - Partnership with Global Youth Connect on “Human Rights Education and Advocacy” Workshop
 - June-November, partner with AJPRODHO and NPA on “Youth Mobilization Promoting Active Participation in Improving Socio-Economic Conditions in Karongi District”
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- July
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- August
 - Nzamukwerekwa Albert begins 2-month Human Rights Fellowship at International Center for Tolerance Education in New York City, America
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- September
 - Creation and distribution of youth newspaper “Rising Voices”
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- October
 - Opening of Peacebuilding Centre in Nyamirambo, Kigali
 - Arrival of first international intern for Never Again Rwanda
 - Creation and distribution of NAR brochure and newsletter
 - 2-day workshop collaboration with National Unity and Reconciliation Commission on “Unity and Reconciliation as a Pillar to Development
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- November
 - Launch of Never Again Rwanda website, www.neveragainrwanda.org
 - On-going Youth Clubs and Associations
- December

- 5-day workshop in collaboration with NPA and AJPRODHO on Training of Trainers/Facilitators with theme: “Youth Participation in Development Projects and Programs”
- On-going Youth Clubs and Associations

➤ ONGOING

- Expansion of Never Again Rwanda Youth Clubs
- Generation Grand Lacs Radio Show, in collaboration with Radio La Benevolencija



Listed below, in chronological order you will find a brief synopsis of each of the major actions of the 2006 year, beginning with those actions that were continuations from 2005. The list concludes with those actions that are ongoing into 2007. Where appropriate partner organizations are listed, desired outcomes noted, dates of action, goals, objectives and activities of the action, region(s) of intervention and budget¹ are noted.

1) Never Again Youth Clubs

Never Again Rwanda

July 2004-Present

Goal:

Mobilize youth around Rwanda to come together building sustainable peace through dialogue, unity and reconciliation.

Objectives:

- Support psychological needs of traumatized youth.
- Create a safe and open forum to discuss sensitive issues, such as ethnicity, social prejudice and the genocide.
- Encourage youth to get involved in peacebuilding to prevent future conflicts
- Bring youth of families who participated in the genocide and survivors together working through issues and building unity.

Activities:

- Monthly meetings where youth get together to do a variety of activities including: debates, skits, sports, dance, music, drumming, song and poetry.
- Reports by Never Again youth club leaders
- A number of trainings, seminars and workshops
- Visits to memorial sites

Desired Outcome:

- Create a safe space for youth to come together, share, unite and discuss in different regions around Rwanda
- Fill a need for dialogue, reconciliation and community building
- There are presently 20 youth clubs mobilizing nearly 3000 youth throughout Rwanda. Our hope is to expand to other regions, reaching more and more youth.

Regions of intervention:

Kigali, Gisenyi, Ruhengeri, Kibuye, Kicukiro

¹ Refers to either how much was spent (e.g. contribution from Norwegian People's Aid), or how much is needed (e.g. the Peacebuilding Centre Budget for a year)

2) Mobilization of Youth to Overcome Social Prejudices and Manipulation in Former Kibuye Province

Never Again Rwanda in collaboration with AJPRODHO-JIJKIIRWA sponsored by Norwegian People's Aid.

August 2005 – January 2006

Goal:

To actively oppose social prejudices, manipulation, divisionism and the genocide ideology through various activities of youth sensitization and mobilization.

Objectives:

- Increase youth confidence and freedom of expression
- Challenging and reversing genocide ideology
- Improve gacaca understanding and participation
- Artistic collaboration between youth survivors and youth of parents who participated in the genocide

Activities:

- Debate moderator training - Youth representing each sector and eight secondary school human rights clubs were trained in the preparation and moderation of debates
- Youth Debates - youth genocide survivors and youth of parents accused or convicted of genocide freely exchanged ideas on sensitive topics.
- Sensitization meetings - taught about the role they can play in combating the ideology of genocide and divisionism, as well as strengthening the gacaca courts.
- Artistic competitions - Ten performance-art troupes from Kibuye and Budaha created pieces on the theme “No to Manipulation and Divisionism”

Desired Outcomes:

To see more youth denounce the divisionism seen in their communities and advance comprehension of gacaca and the genocide, thereby decreasing hate crimes against survivors and gacaca witnesses. Through the promotion of theater troupes we also anticipated artistic collaboration between youth survivors and youth of parents who participated in the genocide.

Regions of intervention:

Debate moderator training - Youth representing each sector of the Western province;
Debates - Youth from nearly all sectors of the Western province participated;
Sensitization meetings - 8 schools and non schooling youth participated; Artistic competition – Youth from Kibuye and Budaha

Budget: 32.727 US\$

3) Youth Human Rights Learning Communities

Global Youth Connect and Never Again Rwanda

January 2-January 15, May 21-June 19, 2006

A learning community is an experiential learning process. Participants work together to develop common frameworks of common understanding. The term learning community comes from the popular education movement and refers to a group of learners who work together to create knowledge through shared dialogue, reflection and action.

Goals:

Learn about Human Rights Advocacy by actually designing a campaign to implement after the 4-day workshop

Objectives:

- Enhance their substantive knowledge of human rights,
- Strengthen leadership skills,
- Build supportive peer relationships and develop collaborative projects to address the issues of human rights.
- Build skills for collaborative cross-cultural action
- Facilitate cross-cultural dialogue, critical thinking and problem-solving regarding human rights

Activities:

- Small group discussions and activities
- Large group discussions and activities

Sample Workshops:

Theme: Protection of Human Rights in Conflict Zones

Theme: “All in This Together”: Human Rights in Our Families

Theme: Primary Education HRE Workshop

Theme: Genocide Prevention: Unlearning Intolerance through Empathy

Desired outcomes:

- Interactive Human Rights workshop
- Increase understanding on human rights among participants
- Share stories, ideas, experiences learning from each other
- Encourage personal growth, consider impact of choices on others, and deepen commitment to service

Region of intervention:

International youth (mostly from America) visiting Rwanda; Rwanda

Budget: 4.000US\$

4) Lake Kivu Retreat

In collaboration with Never Again International

February 2006

Goal:

Retreat for British and Great Lakes Regional youth and young professionals to explore current international relations and develop ideas to create change and build peace; a virtual retreat in conjunction with the actual retreat to allow more global participants.

Objectives:

- To remember the victims of genocide and other crimes against humanity and collaborate on practical ideas for peace
- To reflect and share ideas about the issues that face us
- To celebrate our common humanity, create connections and build friendships

Activities:

- Gathering of youth and young professionals from Rwanda, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, and UK at Kibuye on Lake Kivu in Rwanda
- Workshops, discussions about peace building, human rights, social justice, youth responsibility, etc
- Virtual Retreat component: online for participants unable to make it to Rwanda for actual retreat

Generate ideas and design a strategy to work to place humanity more firmly at the centre of conflict prevention, development and international politics

Desired Outcome:

- Facilitate global connections and celebrate our common humanity
- Provide an inspirational atmosphere for deep thinking and connecting diverse ideas together to see the bigger picture
- Encourage new members of Never Again International by developing practical actions for peace
- Broaden knowledge, understanding and sensitivity to a range of perspectives and insights about the world and about our work
- Expand Never Again International's global network and generate new activities in different places driven by new people.

Region of Intervention:

Rwanda, DRC, Earth

Budget:

5) Youth Mobilization Promoting Active Participation in Improving Socio-Economic Conditions in Karongi District

A collaborative project between Never Again Rwanda and AJPRODHO sponsored by Norwegian People's Aid.

June-November 2006

Goal:

Contribution to amelioration of youth socio-economic conditions in Bwishyura Rubengera, Murundi and Murambi in western province, district of Karongi.

Objectives:

- Develop youth creativity and innovation in above-mentioned areas of Karongi district;
- Increase youth's understanding of implementation, management and maintenance of small income generating projects;
- Reinforce focal points and youth clubs to advocate for youth structures at the fundamental level;
- Improve youth self-confidence and freedom of expression.

Activities:

- Youth sensitization to mobilize youth in creating and joining youth-oriented associations.
- Youth representative training for youth structure, focal points and youth clubs in the areas of: planning, managing, and maintaining small income generating projects.
- Contradictory debates in 9 schools of 13 designated sites totaling 26 cells.
- Youth representative training for moderating debates, human rights and civic duties including: leadership, rights and freedom, activism and accountability.
- Follow up and evaluation

Desired Outcome:

- Rise in youth participation in diverse national programs;
- Priority given to youth's socio-economic status;
- Youth creativity and innovation capacity increase;
- Reduce youth dependence and increase their potential to take care of their needs;
- Create employment and reduce social assistance.

Regions of intervention:

4 Sectors: Bwishyura, Rubengera, Murambi, Murundi

9 Schools: ETO Kibuye, College Ste Marie, ES Bwishyura, TTC Rubengera, ES Rubengera, IPESAR Rubengera, ESI Kilinda, IPK Kilinda, ES Muzanga

Total Budget: 50139 US\$ funded by Norwegian People's Aid

6) Nzamukwereka Albert Human Rights Fellowship at the International Center for Tolerance Education (ICTE) in New York City, USA

August-September 2006

Goal:

To bring a leader from a “global south” grassroots, human rights organization to New York City to work with specialists on how to improve organizational capacity, but also to open lines of communication and networking for young people interested in human rights in the “global north.”

Objectives:

- Improve organizational capacity
- Increase networking opportunities
- Support work of NGO’s in “global south”
- Build global leadership with youth voices
- Build capacity for tolerance education

Activities:

- ICTE Fellow conducts seminars/lectures on organizational work
- ICTE Fellow attends seminars/lectures/workshops on how to improve organizational capacity
- ICTE Fellow networks, collaborates and partners in “south-south” and “north-south” dialogues
- ICTE Fellow has opportunity for cultural “understanding” of “different” cultures in different part of world—in order for perspective on one’s own culture

Desired Outcome:

- To build capacity of grassroots human rights education organizations from the “global south” with tools for improved project implementation.
- Provide broader networks for partnership, collaboration and fundraising for human rights organizations from the “global south.”

Region of Intervention:

New York City, Rwanda

7) “Rising Voices”

Collaboration of all Never Again groups across the Great Lakes Region, New York City and UK, International Center for Tolerance Education, Third Millennium Foundation, the Independent team, Romeo Dallaire and our other international advisors, Naomi Gryn and Exact Editions

September 2006: Pilot Edition

Goal:

The pilot newspaper has been created by young people working together across the globe. The pilot project will be used to develop a proposal for a national youth newspaper in Rwanda.

Objectives:

- To provide a safe and open space for global youth to share their thoughts and concerns about issues important to them in the ever expanding globalised world.
- To create an advocacy tool for global youth to utilize in order to make their minds and voices heard by youth and non-youth alike.
- To promote the creative and intellectual expression of global youth in a collaborative effort.

Activities:

- Creation and dissemination of international youth newspaper
- Writing of informational, creative, etc stories, essays, poems, etc around topics relevant to global youth
- Collation of youth voices from around the world

Desired Outcome:

- Global youth voices brought together in collaborative creative and informational endeavor
- A quarterly newspaper for Rwandan and international youth to share information, thoughts and expression around issues important to them

Region of Intervention:

Earth

8) Unity and Reconciliation as a Pillar to Development

Organized by the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission in collaboration with Never Again Rwanda with the Support of Norwegian People's Aid.

October 27 and 28, 2006

Goal:

Create a space for reflection and dialogue on the students' role in promoting conflict management, reconciliation and unity.

Objectives:

- Improve university students' knowledge of conflict prevention and management;
- Reinforce student understanding of unity and reconciliation;
- Summon students' creative energy to address challenges facing this process in universities.

Activities:

- Training: Types, Causes and Consequences of Conflict
- Training: Modern Techniques Of Conflict Prevention And Management
- Training: Reconciliation and Rwandan Reconciliation Process.
- Group Discussion and Student Presentations
- Participant Recommendations

Desired outcome:

- Equip university students with knowledge and understanding of unity and reconciliation.
- Increase student's comprehension of conflict management and prevention.
- Develop a network between youth and university to support unity.

Regions of Interventions:

12 universities: Kigali Institute of Education, Universite Nationale du Rwanda, Universite Libre de Kigali, Kigali Institute of Science and Technology, Kigali Health Institute, Institut Supérieur Agricole et Elevage, Universite Laïque Adventiste de Kigali, Universite Catholique de Kabgwayi, Universite Technique de Kibungo, Universite Adventiste de l'Afrique Centrale.



Budget: 7.313US\$

9) Never Again Rwanda Brochure and Newsletter

October 2006

Goal:

To increase the visibility of Never Again Rwanda on a local, regional, national, and international scale through brief informational tools: a brochure and a newsletter

Objectives:

- To raise awareness about what NAR is doing
- To promote the actions of youth in Rwanda through organizations informational brochure and a newsletter
- To provide up-to-date accounts of actions carried out and actions being planned by NAR and our youth clubs and associations.

Activities:

- Gathering of information regarding NAR and Youth activities around Rwanda
- Creation and dissemination of organizations informational brochure: provides contact information, NAR's mission, aims, goals, objectives, past projects, etc.
- Creation and dissemination of newsletter to promote up-to-date NAR activities and actions

Desired Outcome:

- To have 2 important sources for the advocacy and promotion of NAR activities and, in turn, youth activities around Rwanda
- Provide information about NAR in simple, accessible formats for the use and dissemination by the organization on our behalf and the behalf of youth we work for.
- Increased visibility of NAR project activities, aims, goals and mission.

Region of Intervention:

Rwanda, International NGO's and Development organizations, Organizational networks and contacts

10) Peacebuilding Centre

Never Again Rwanda

Opened October 2006

Since 2002, Never Again Rwanda has not had a permanent location. In order to continue with projects and plans, the organization's management deemed it essential to find a house that would serve as an office, a resource center and a lodging facility. The centre, located in Nyamirambo, has been nicely decorated and also has 3 desks, a large table, 11 chairs, 2 bookshelves, 2 laptop computers, office supplies, and a resource library consisting of a variety of books, reports, CD-ROMs, and VHS tapes related to peace building, conflict management/prevention/transformation, genocide studies, etc.

Goal:

Create a center in Rwanda's capital city for expansion of Never Again Rwanda's objectives. Although the Peacebuilding Centre is multi-purposeful, a primary goal is to bring local youth and from around the world together to share, collaborate and build sustainable peace in Rwanda.

Objectives:

1. Offer a safe, comfortable gathering place to local youth
2. Build resource and information center with material related to past conflicts, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, human rights etc.
3. Office and working place for international youth interested in volunteering for Never Again Rwanda as income generating initiative.
4. Give a variety of trainings, workshops, seminars and/or lectures to youth

Activities:

1. Youth Radio program listening groups every 3 weeks until May 2007
2. Host international interns
3. Administrative meetings

Desired Outcome:

- Official office location holding relevant documentation and material
- Information resource center for youth
- Host international volunteer interns
- Seminars, training, lecture series

Region of intervention:

Kigali and surroundings; Centre of Never Again Rwanda activities management, planning, design, etc

Budget: 7860USD/Year

11) Launch of Never Again Rwanda Website: www.neveragainrwanda.org

November 2006

Goal:

To spread the message, aims, mission, goal and objectives of Never Again Rwanda to a wider global audience and create connections with other like-organizations and people throughout the world.

Objectives:

- To increase collaborative global activities
- To promote Never Again Rwanda at a global scale
- To spread awareness about youth activities, thoughts and expression in Rwanda
- To utilize Information, Communication Technologies in a positive, proactive and progressive way for the promotion of youth and youth issues and youth efforts around the world

Activities:

- Gathering of information to be posted on-line
- Send out calls for applications to be interns or participate in Never Again Rwanda sponsored or promoted events
- Raise awareness of NAR
- Seek funding for NAR and youth activities in Rwanda—from internal and external donors
- Post current NAR activities

Desired Outcome:

- To join the global network of youth-oriented human rights organizations
- Provide a safe and open space for the promotion of youth and youth issues on a more global platform.
- To seek and invite youth from other parts of the world, not necessarily Rwanda, to Rwanda for internships, dialogues, volunteer-work etc
- A hub for collaborative, global youth efforts and advocacy

Region of Intervention:

Rwanda, Earth

12) Training of Facilitators Workshop on the Youth Right to Participate in Development Programmes: Strategies and Methodologies to Youth Participation

Sponsored by Norwegian People's Aid, in partnership with AJPRODHO

December 2006

Goal:

To increase youth participation, access to participation and acceptance of youth participation in development projects/programmes in Rwanda through rights-based, participatory approaches.

Objectives:

- To improve the welfare, social mobility and life of youth in Rwanda and non-youth vis-à-vis the youth of Rwanda
- To build the capacity of grassroots, youth-oriented organizations in Rwanda
- To facilitate discussions and best practice methodology for youth participation in Rwandan development projects/programmes

Activities:

- 5 day workshop: 2 simultaneous trainings, 1 on Participatory methods to youth involvement in development projects/programmes, 1 on action-planning (creating modules to be used)
- Small and large group discussions and action planning
- Collaboration between and amongst Rwandan grassroots youth-oriented (run by youth, for youth, etc) organizations
- Role-playing aspects of youth participatory methodology for development

Desired Outcome:

- Inculcate methodology, pedagogy in youth facilitators rights-based approaches to youth right to participate in development
- Increase youth participation in development projects/programmes in Rwanda
- Improve the development of Rwanda vis-à-vis youth and through the inclusion of youth and youth needs
- Raise awareness in non-youth stakeholders and decision-makers about the importance of youth participation in development projects/programmes
- Increased collaboration and partnerships between youth-oriented organizations in Rwanda

Region of Intervention:

Rwanda

Budget:

13) Youth Radio Listening Groups- Rwanda, Burundi and DRC

Radio La Benevolencija HTF and Never Again Rwanda

November 2006- April 2007

Goal:

To explain the origins of mass violence in order to prevent further conflicts and contribute to the culture of peace

Objectives:

To create critical thinking among the youth

Activities:

- 25-30 youth per group get together Saturday afternoon for about 1 hours to listen, react directly, discuss, ask question and share amongst each other.

Desired Outcomes:

La Benevolencija has solicited Never Again Rwanda's partnership in coordinating, facilitating and motivating 100 youth from the Great Lakes District (Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo) to listen to 1 hour long French radio program (zine)

The radio program "Generation Grand Lacs" is produced in all three countries rotating every week so youth groups get together every 3 weeks.

Area of Intervention:

Gisenyi, Butare, Kigali, Ruhengehi, Kigali-Rural

Budget: 2700US\$ for five months

