

OBJECTIVE

To support consortium and implementing partners' learning through a summary of evaluation findings and conclusions focusing on increased well-being of young people and strengthened youth participation in policymaking and peacebuilding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Engage in an internal dialogue to mitigate challenges
- Refrain from wanting to do too much. Keep it simple and make sure all relevant officers are adequately included in the design phase.
- Continue to seek the engagement and participation of young people who have already received training under this project.
- Think about how consortium partners might want to move towards a youth-led peacebuilding and remain conscious of different perspectives and objectives.
- Explore assumptions young people have regarding peacebuilding and participation. Take assumptions into account in project design.
- Consider organizing a workshop with partners that will allow for discussion on learnings and to

CONTRIBUTING TO WELL-BEING OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Well-being of young people is defined in two ways in this project, namely the socio-economic well-being of young people and well-being derived from a sense of belonging and peace. Contributions to well-being were made through the livelihood component and the trainings, which had the objective of empowering young people for advocacy and engaging in dialogue for mitigation of conflict.

Contributions were strengthened through:

- The ability of consortium partners to be agile and flexible when it came to adapting training materials after they realized current training materials were too advanced for participants.
- Empowering young people to actively participate by supporting them in developing an action plan based on conflict analyses done by young people during trainings.
- By supporting and facilitating young people to mitigate root causes of conflict through community dialogues and advocacy at (sub-)prefectural levels.
- To create a structure in which allowed for peer-to-peer education for peace and advocacy.
- Seeing an opportunity and interpreting the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity to increase peacebuilding efforts and to engage young people in preventing conflict as a result of the pandemic.

CONTRIBUTING OF THE LIVELIHOOD COMPONENT TO PEACEBUILDING

The livelihood component of the project allowed young people to participate in entrepreneurship training or vocational training. The component adds to the peacebuilding and youth empowerment objectives by also focusing on socio-economic well-being of young people and providing them with an alternative livelihood as opposed to joining/re-joining an armed group. Its contributions were limited, and young people's experiences were mixed.

Contributions were strengthened through:

- Mixing types of participants during trainings and activities, which allowed for dialogue, discussion and increased understanding between young people.
- Creating opportunities for personal growth of young people and for them to contribute positively to society.
- Its relevance to life stage development, for young people seeking increased independence from care givers.

increase shared understandings of concepts and goals.

- Brainstorm key concepts and explore what they might mean in practice. Check and validate your assumptions with young people and other relevant stakeholders.
- Learn from inconsistencies between intentions and outcomes, as shown in this evaluation report, and consider how they might be avoided.

SHORTCOMINGS

Missing components that could have strengthened outcomes and contributions to planned outcomes even more are three-fold, namely:

- The inclusion of a gender-responsive approach that enables the active participation of young women, which might be hampered by social norms and social expectations.
- The exploration and inclusion of a religious lens over the longer-run, especially as Muslims are not generally accepted in communities.
- The project's title alludes to the project being youth-led, when, in fact, consortium and implementing partners support process youth leadership.

Contributions were weakened through

- Delays in selection of participants due to use of an unsuitable tool and in finalizing the market study.
- A lack of communication between WCUK offices for the implementation of livelihood activities that led to delays in the implementation of activities.
- Limited budget allocated to the component, meaning that concessions and adaptations in the design needed to be made late 2019.
- Young people started feeling frustrated and annoyed following unclear communication, which created tensions between group members and led to disagreements. Such also among parents who sought control of limited resources given to groups.

CONTRIBUTING TO YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN PEACEBUILDING

This aspect of the project refers to advocacy and the role young people played in policymaking and changed behaviours among peers and community members through outreach. Advocacy was done on multiple levels, including the (sub-)prefectural levels and the national level.

Contributions were strengthened through:

- Facilitating a space in which young people could engage in discussion and facilitate dialogue by empowering young people through training.
- Supporting young people in developing action plans for conflict resolution and mitigation based on conflict analyses.
- The distribution of publications of listening exercises for creation of awareness of perspectives of young people.

Contributions were weakened through:

- Limited implementation of the VoiceMore method, especially of the peacebuilding module.
- Uncertain outcomes of advocacy done on the national level.