

D for D Second Half Year Report (July-December, 2014)

Dialogue for Development (**D for D**) is a peace-building Programme under the Religious Sisters of Charity which aims to foster human rights through Dialogue with different stakeholders and at different levels in Zambia. Issues of particular concern include Human Trafficking, Child Protection, Reconciliation and Forgiveness, Active Citizenship and Sustainable Living. Operating under the following strategic objectives, **D for D** conducted the following activities in the second half of 2014:

OBJECTIVE ONE: To raise awareness on human trafficking in the Institutions and communities where the Religious Sisters of Charity minister.

Under this objective, awareness raising activities were carried out in Ndola, Maamba, Kasama, Mongu and Lusaka Districts between July and October.

In Ndola, **D for D** spoke at two masses at Divine Mercy Parish reaching about 650 people on Sunday 13th July. The Programme also had talks and musical performances using the human trafficking theme song, "Let us Rise as One" by Winston Moyo, at Suburbs Girls' School and Perseverance Secondary School to about 1,500 pupils and their teachers about human trafficking and the dangers of migration. The message was well received especially considering that there had been an issue of children disappearance that caused a riot and the beating up of the suspects as reported in the media just before these activities were conducted. The children and teachers could therefore relate to the issue very easily and stressed that continuous awareness-raising would be key so that everyone receives the message and is protected. Two people also approached **D for D** to give testimony of the cases of internal trafficking highlighting that although the victims have been rescued, there has been no counseling services available for the victims because victims and their families do not know Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Ndola working on the issue of trafficking.

In Maamba, **D for D** organized activities through the office of the District Education Board Secretary, (the DEBS) and the Religious Sisters of Charity Human Trafficking Representative, Sr. Namangolwa Liamunga. Activities in Maamba included the training of 26 teachers from 11 of the 14 Zones in Sinazongwe District, musical performances and talks in Basic/ Secondary Schools and the road show for the public. The training for teachers took place on Thursday, 17th July. The teachers had scant ideas about human trafficking in regard to cross border but had no knowledge of internal trafficking. With the training, some indicated in their discussion that they had been traffickers of their own relatives and they planned to put the children they recruited from the villages for

domestic servitude in school. Outcomes of the training included the plans for different schools to sensitize their pupils and parents, communities and traditional leaders working closely with the office of the DEBS.

The training in Maamba was followed by the talk and musical performances by two Zambian musicians, Winston Moyo and Espe (Franz Lombe) at Maamba Boarding Secondary School for boys and girls. About 1020 pupils attended the musical performance and the talk and the questions asked indicated an appreciation of the issue and the pupils' willingness to do something about it such as spreading the messages to friends at school and at home. On Friday, 18th July, **D for D** held talks at two more Secondary Schools reaching about 900 pupils. The trained teachers from these schools were of help as they translated the human trafficking messages from English to Tonga, the local Language of the area, for emphasis.

Human Trafficking activities in Maamba ended with a road show which took place in the stadium and about 1500 participated in it. The event was captured by the Zambia National Information Service (ZANIS) journalist for airing on the National Broadcaster, Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC).

In Lusaka, **D for D** gave two TV interviews on human trafficking on ZNBC and six radio Programmes, three recorded ones on Yatsani Radio, one on ZNBC, another on Mungu Radio and the other on Pan-African Radio. Responses from the public indicated that more awareness must be raised on the issue for many people to awaken to this social issue especially with regard to internal trafficking. A training was also conducted for Sisters from eight African countries attending a Formation Course at Kalundu Study Centre in September (18th -22nd).

Although the Religious Sisters of Charity do not minister in Mongu and Kasama, D for D conducted the training of 120 Civic and Church leaders in Mongu and Kasama Districts in September and October through collaborative efforts with Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) and the Press Freedom Committee of the Post (PFC), in September and October. In the two Districts, **D for D** also raised the issue with approximately 650 people in Chief Munkonge's area (Kasama and Nalolo Area (Mongu), JCTR and the Media will facilitate the awareness raising on human trafficking to communities beyond where Sisters of Charity are currently serving.

At most of these events, materials on human trafficking such as training manuals and brochures sourced from IOM were distributed and these should help the messages to reach the people that did not participate in the aforementioned events. Another key outcome is that the relationship established between **D for D** and the Ministry of

Education through the District Education Board Secretary's Office. These collaborative efforts will go a long way in sensitizing communities about human trafficking.

OBJECTIVE TWO: To promote dialogue on child protection

The Programme held two dialogue meetings with Roma Girls' Primary School parents on child protection. In these meetings parents brought out experiences of children being trafficked and being left confused since they had no knowledge of organizations offering services to survivors. Best practices about how to protect children from any form of abuse were also discussed and **D for D**, the School and parents are looking at possibilities of having dialogue meetings on children's issues in small groups as some issues are too sensitive to talk about in a bigger group.

D for D also facilitated the formation of Human Rights Champions among pupils at Roma Girls' Secondary School. These will serve as peer educators of children's rights and will also play the role of whistle-blowers where children's rights are abused in school working closely with teachers responsible for the promotion of their rights. This is in response to the reported bullying of young girls by older girls. Beyond this, the Champions will ensure that every pupil has knowledge of their rights and how they should be protected at school, at home and elsewhere.

OBJECTIVE THREE: To develop Materials for Human Trafficking Education

The Programme translated the six questions on the Human Trafficking brochure by IOM into local Languages (Bemba, Tonga, Nyanja and Kaonde). The translated copies will be sent to Mission Press for printing next week beginning with three Languages (5,000 brochures per Language). These brochures will be useful in sensitizing communities with little or no knowledge of the English Language.

OBJECTIVE FOUR: To Promote Dialogue, Reconciliation and Forgiveness and Active Citizenship as Anchors of Peace

The Programme gave input to Presidents of Political Parties, University Students, Church Leaders and NGOs on how dialogue, reconciliation and forgiveness can serve as anchors of peace. This was at an occasion organized by the Jesuit Centre for Theological Reflection (JCTR) to celebrate Zambia's 50 years of political independence. Similar input was given to the young Religious from Zambia, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Nigeria preparing for final vows at the Institute run by the Christian Brothers in Lusaka and the sisters studying formation at Kalundu Study Centre. The outcome of the input is

an appreciation of the need to promote values that have the likelihood to sustain peace while working towards economic development.

The Programme also participated in the activities of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), a tool that assesses the enjoyment of general human rights in a country and encourages citizens to participate in the governance of their country.

Challenges in the Programme Implementation

The key challenge that the Programme still faces is the resources to follow up on the partnerships created with the parishes, schools and the communities and on the cases of human trafficking that are raised by communities when awareness for prevention is raised.

Sources of Financial Resources

The human trafficking activities were enabled by funds from ZAS Peace and Justice Committee (K12,550), the Mother Cablini grant from UNANIMA (\$1,500) and the Religious Sisters of Charity General Leadership Team as indicated in the first report. Special thanks and prayers to the above for allowing the Programme to conduct its activities, saving many lives from falling prey to human trafficking.

Way Forward for D for D

The Programme continues to build networks to achieve its objectives. One significant network especially on human trafficking is the National Freedom Network (NFN). D for D has become a member of this 24-member network which also has a sister network in South Africa. The Network comprises mainly Church Organizations especially from the Pentecostal Churches working on issues of child abuse and human trafficking. D for D serves as Secretariat and hosts the Network meetings. Members of the Network include Catholic Council of Women (CCW), Freedom Climb of OM, Ukazipalile etc. This offers a unique opportunity for conscientisation of many communities on human trafficking.

Another significant collaboration is that of D for D and Children International (CI). An MOU will soon be signed with CI-Zambia so that the two Organizations can promote general human rights while paying particular attention to children's rights, human trafficking and active citizenship. CI-Zambia offer various services to about 19,000 children between 12-19 years in three of Lusaka's densely populated areas (Kanyama, Chibolya and Garden Compounds) whose households are often poor, therefore vulnerable to human rights abuses. CI-Zambia also works with 300 volunteers from

these communities. D for D will therefore use such ready audiences to raise awareness and to train volunteers so that they too can raise awareness in their communities beyond these children.

D for D will also continue to work closely with the Justice and Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee (JPIC) of the Zambia Association of Sisters (ZAS), being a member of this Committee especially with regards to the training of Religious Institutions' staff so that awareness is widespread.

D for D also needs to pay attention to following up on Government's implementation of the priorities identified at the 4th Human Trafficking Symposium in June, 2014 and the general implementation of the 2008 Anti-trafficking Law.

Highlights for First Quarter, 2015

- Training of 300 Children International-Zambia volunteers.
- Formation of Human Rights Champions Groups in RSC Schools in Lusaka for peer education.
- Holding dialogue meetings with parents in RSC Schools in Lusaka and Children's rights.
- Raising awareness on human trafficking in higher Institutions of learning.
- Production of education materials in local languages.

Sr. Kayula Lesa, RSC

Programme Manager (**D for D**)