

VOICES FROM THE GROUND ON POLICIES, PROJECTS AND PROCESSES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO AGENDA 2030 AND AGENDA 2063

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PRESESENTATION LAYOUT

Outline of presentation:

- 1) Caritas Africa projects/work on SDGs- Overview
- 2) Voices from the ground-Case for Zambia
- 3) Reflections on the outcomes of the research



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CARITAS AFRICA'S ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

- CA and its member organisations advocacy work highlights the transformational potential of Agenda 2030 by creating civic space, influencing national and sub-national policy spaces and delivering the SDGs in programmes that include: **PARCAP(6), RECS (6) & PASAN (5)**
- The projects aim at eradicating poverty and promoting good governance by engaging in advocacy at different levels in reference to context specific issues related to **SDG 1, 2 and 13** and supports food and nutrition security, Climate Change and advocacy initiatives.
- Our advocacy initiatives have also incorporated **Research** to influence Government planning and monitoring of the progress of implementation of the **17 SDGs**.
- In 2019 , a participatory project dubbed "**Bringing Agenda 2030 to Life**" supported by CAFOD in partnership with University College London and National Caritas Organisations in **Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Zambia** and collected concrete case studies that demonstrated policies, projects and processes that have worked towards contributing to the transformative principles of the SDGs



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OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH

This research considered the **four principles** which underpin the transformative aspirations of the 2030 Agenda:

- **Research Objectives:**
- 1. To assess how key people in the different countries define and understand the different principles
- 2. Compile positive changes, challenges, programmes or policies in country that are related to the principles.
- 3. Draw lessons and identify possible short and long term activities
- The research sought to bring the ambitious agenda 2030 to life by paying attention not just on the goals and targets but on the transformative principles that cut across.
- Process captured individuals knowledge and experience for collective learning



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PRINCIPLE 1: LEAVE NO-ONE BEHIND

- **Case Study : I**
Educational Inclusion through Affirmative Action - SDG 4; SDG 5 // Leave No-One Behind; Tackling Inequalities
- *HIV and AIDS crisis, which has left about 19% of children as orphans and without proper care and prone to drop out or fail to enrol in school, as well as at risk of child labour and sexual abuse.*
- *In response government is implementing a bursary scheme for these vulnerable youth. In this scheme, the Ministry of Education and Early Education has collaborated with the Ministry of Community Development, Mother and Child Health, as well as with traditional and local authorities to identify and monitor beneficiaries for this scheme. At least 25% of all bursaries are set aside for girls who excel academically but fail to transit from free primary to secondary and tertiary education.*
- **Educational Inclusion Case Study: What can we learn?**
 - *Working across Ministries and with local authorities helps to ensure that large-scale programmes designed to leave no-one behind are properly targeted and monitored*
 - *Affirmative action for particular marginalised groups to access funds helps leave no-one behind at the same time tackling inequalities*

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PRINCIPLE 2: TACKLING INEQUALITIES

- **Case Study 5:**
Accessibility of social protection schemes & social cash transfers SDG 1; SDG 5; SDG 10 // Tackling Inequalities; Leave No-One Behind
- *From a research undertook in January 2019 to examine social protection policies in the country and how accessible these were to women.*
- *The research revealed that social security systems are largely targeted towards workers in the formal sector. This is a concern as a vast majority of workers in the country are located in the informal economy.*
- **Assessing Social Protection Case Study: What can we learn?**
 - *Engaging policy makers to work towards gender responsive policy and practice help ensures that inequalities are not maintained as a result of labour market structures*
 - *Research can reveal multiple inequalities – across rural/urban divides, or between men and women – that social protection programs need to be more inclusive.*

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PRINCIPLE 3: INTEGRATING THE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

- **Case Study 7:**
- **Green Charcoal SDG 1; SDG 5; SDG 12; SDG 13// Integrating the Environment and Development; Tackling Inequalities**
 - In Solwezi and Kasempa districts, a project by the Kansanshi Mining in partnership with Caritas, aims to discourage deforestation
 - This is done through burning the stalks of maize leftover from agricultural processes, mixed with cassava porridge and then pounded into a mould to form a brick which can be used for cooking. 2000 Community members are trained in the process of making these briquettes which are sold for K120 rather than the K40 that is the market-rate for a 25Kg bag of charcoal.
- **Green Charcoal Case Study: What can we learn?**
 - Providing alternative sources of energy is very important to reduce deforestation, and meet the requirements of SDG 7
 - Providing alternative sources of livelihoods for the poorest can help reduce their reliance on practices which degrade the environment, however this work needs to be supported by extensive awareness raising
 - Private multinational companies can be encouraged by government to fund corporate social responsibility activities that can contribute to multiple SDG targets at the same time.

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PRINCIPLE 4: PARTICIPATION AND DIALOGUE

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is defined as a document 'of the people, by the people and for the people' (UN 2015, 52).
- **Case Study 7:**
- **Silica Mining - SDG 1; SDG 3; SDG 5 // Participation and Dialogue; Leave No-One Behind**
 - Silica mining is an activity dominated by women- Stones were being sold at K70 per tonne to middle men, who then sold to the mines for K800 per tonne.
 - Futurepreneurs worked to increase dialogue between these women and the mining companies, to raise their concerns, and effectively negotiate on for 488 members of the cooperative.
 - As a result, the women now sell directly to the mining company at K400 per tonne. With the increased price for silica stones they are now saving to buy their own machine to wash and crush the silica, and continue to increase profit.

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PRINCIPLE 4: PARTICIPATION AND DIALOGUE

- **Silica Mining Case Study: What can we learn?**
 - *Organising marginalised groups into groups and awareness raising can help to ensure that they are not left behind*
 - *Governments and multinational companies can play an important role in designing and funding local empowering programmes which communities can benefit from*
 - *The principle of participation and dialogue can work at multiple levels – between communities and multinational companies, as well as between local communities and governments – to enhance outcomes for the poorest*



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REFLECTION: WHY ARE VOICES FROM THE GROUND IMPORTANT?

- People who are **vulnerable are found in the communities and they are the ones that must be empowered**. Those whose needs are reflected in the Agenda include children, youth, persons with disabilities, refugees and internally displaced persons.
- **Laudato Si'** demands a holistic approach to leaving no-one behind, which cannot be limited to policy or technical solutions.
- In his Encyclical *Laudato Si'*, the Pope affirms this focus in the 2030 Agenda on leaving no-one behind by emphasising preferential option for the poorest.
- Prioritising the most vulnerable members of society becomes the indicator of progress.
- Reaching the most marginalised and grassroots is a key dimension to this work: none of the 17 SDG goals or targets will be met unless they are met for each and every person. In society



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WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

1. Gives opportunity to identify and understand policy **gaps** and **spaces** that are available to change National planning and priorities.
2. Amplify the voice of the poor and marginalized and ensure their views are reflected in policy decisions
3. Allows for policies that are inclusive and benefit all but especially the furthest behind
4. Coordinate dialogue and participation to achieve SDGs



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REFLECTIONS ON PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- ***A commitment to leaving no-one behind:*** Putting most vulnerable groups at the center of policy making and tackling the discrimination that different individuals and groups face.
- ***An emphasis on tackling inequalities:*** Challenging inequalities in societies in terms of how wealth, power and opportunities are distributed.
- ***Integrating the Development and Environment:*** Encourage development processes that support and restore our common home so that it can provide for both the present and future generations.
- ***Promoting peoples participation and dialogue:*** Ensuring that women and men are able to participate in on-going dialogue and contribute to decision making around development priorities, policies and programmes

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RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES OF THE REPORTS

- The reports from the 4 countries demonstrate how citizens and CSOs can use agenda 2030 to engage in meaningful dialogue with government and other actors.
- Proposes participatory learning processes, supported by debate on complex issues to create trust among those involved.
- These case studies provide evidence to help guide future work and promote forms of transferable learning across sectors.

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CONCLUSION

- Caritas Africa member organisations from 11 sub-Saharan African countries have shared these lessons in different spaces to highlight similarities and differences in different contexts.
- There is need to facilitate for sub national engagements with reference to evidence based research in order to enhance responsiveness to the SDG principles
- Engage with civic and development committees that address people’s needs and share case studies to support SDG implementation.
- Encourage “Active SDG Citizenship” by creating formal and informal spaces for effective engagements in budget processes and decision making, to support SDG implementation.
- Engagements with government on the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process and lobby for active CSO participation/involvement



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END

- *We encourage you to part of people that will make agenda 2030 come to life – be an example, engage, dialogue, participate and be environmental friendly*
- *We are one people,,, have one world, lets care for all.*