

**“Curriculum innovations to learn to live together:
Integration of peace education and poverty alleviation”**

Sixth international seminar of the project

Curriculum innovations, peace education and poverty alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa

Kigali, October 13-17 2008

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

Participants of the 6th International seminar of the project « Analysis and curriculum innovations, peace education and poverty alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa » that took place in Kigali from 13 to 17 October 2008, concluded their activities as follows:

General conclusions:

- 1) **Importance of including the dimension of « learning how to live together » in the curriculum and training in order to attain the objectives of quality education;**
- 2) **Training to include the dimension of « poverty alleviation » and « peace education »; such an integration is possible and already in place;**
- 3) **The focus must be on innovations in the curriculum, school management and links between the school and the community;**
- 4) **Emphasis should be placed on documenting and informing participation on existing best practices and key researches in the field.**

The key results of the seminar:

From the works of the seminar, participants fully agreed on the following important results:

- Relevance of using different research and training tools: i) the study « *preparation for life and work* »; ii) the publication of Perspectives n°146 of the project « Curriculum innovations, poverty alleviation and peace education in Sub-Saharan Africa »; and iii) the study on the « *follow up and evaluation of the dimension learning to live together* ».
- Need for sharing experiences started through the project and extension of the project to other countries;
- Need for an in depth analysis of the « learning how to live together » concept which includes both the peace education and the poverty alleviation as well as highlighting the links between the two in accordance with needs and priorities specific to each country;
- Crucial importance of enhancing the capacities for the competences-based curriculum development and the implementation of the curricula developed ;
- Importance of placing more emphasis on issues pertaining, the links between teachers, the links between the school and the community, the links between formal and non formal education, the school management, and widening the basic education.

Challenges:

Countries participating in the 6th international seminar pointed out to a series of challenges faced at the levels:

- The link between policy and concrete actions for change, as well as between the objectives of the curriculum and their implementation at country level;
- The training of teachers ;
- Monitoring and assessment;
- Clarification of specific ministry-level responsibilities and mandates ;
- Flexibility in the curriculum.

Practical propositions :

On the basis of the previous results, challenges and conclusions reached, countries participating in the 6th international seminar formulated the following recommendations:

- Dissemination, sharing and extension of the studies improving the tools for working on poverty alleviation and peace education ;
- Provide a theoretical framework of « the poverty alleviation » and « peace education » ;
- Widening and providing access to good practices documenting practical solutions for fighting against poverty and education for peace;
- Exploration of effective strategies for partnership (e.g. with GTZ) and for identification of funds for the sustainability of the project.

Kigali, October 17th 2008