

Report on The National Forum 2000 and National Forum Youth during and after the Conference on War-Affected Children

Effective Peace Building Strategies

What is not working?

- Peace strategies in Ethiopia do not work, for example, US taking sides and not supported internationally.
- Corruption in governmental organizations lead to waste of money originally assigned for peace building projects.
- Too many groups exist on the planet, so there are a lot of differences and opinions which decelerates the peace process.
- Some peace processes are not supported by some governments, for example, Camp David.

What is working?

- Aid Helpers.
- Negotiation between government leaders.
- Many are fed up of wars.
- More effort to break down borders, former enemies are now near allies.
- Youth peace building initiatives.

Recommendations/Key actions

- The involvement of eminent personalities such as actors, politicians, sports stars in awareness programs and companies.
- Government organizations which promote youth taking an active role in teaching children general education.
- Everyone needs to follow international laws.
- Always find somewhere to discuss before using weapons.

What Actions Can Youth Take

- Create a youth network that will work with others youth in war countries.
- Young people need to be heard – need help from UN and media exposure.
- Youth should always speak with adults if the opportunity arises.
- Promote patriotism, discourage nationalism.
- Make some peace process about some refugee issue.
- Encourage education about both sides of the issue, give children both sides of the story, so that children don't grow up hearing only the opinions of often biased adults.
- There should always be impartial media coverage.
- Include peace education in school curriculum.
- Land acquired justly since and held for a substantial amount of years should rightly belong to the nation that is currently inhabiting it.

