

a system that is culturally relevant to the population. In many cases, a restorative approach will be more akin to the traditional, indigenous methods of conflict resolution of a country. These traditional methods must be built upon, as opposed to being negated by the importation of foreign concepts.

- The solution proposed to a country as part of a peacebuilding process must be consistent with the legal culture and the legal tradition already in place. For example, in Nigeria, there is the Sharia and the Nigerian legal system. These systems have existed in parallel.
- There are probably several ways of building a coherent, culturally sensitive, justice system:
 - Separate the warring factions entirely;
 - Bring about jurisdictional agreements;
 - Acknowledge and work co-operatively in areas of crossover.
- Should community development be emphasized, in peacebuilding efforts, as opposed to economic development?
- Restorative justice is long term goal that must be culturally relevant and be wanted by the people for whom it is to be implemented.
 - There must be clarification and an understanding of the precursors of the conflict.
 - Great care must be taken to avoid imposing an unwanted system.
 - A restorative approach must be pursued within the context of the agreed upon social and cultural norms.
 - Due regard must continued to be paid to the relevant international standards, as local community standards cannot always be expected to in conformity with recognized international human rights standards.
 - It cannot be assumed that the implementation of a 'democratic' system (usually understood in terms of electoral democracy) will necessarily be congruent with the desire of the target community.
 - An important goal of restorative justice is to stabilize the community. Therefore, the restorative justice model must be congruent with the underlying political and cultural norms of the receiving country or community.
 - Donor countries ought to structure aid to reflect economic and political priorities; "society-building" efforts, especially in the area of education, will continue to remain crucial.
 - The re-establishment of a justice system (and necessary structures) is also an important priority for action. It is, however, a long-term process that must take into account cultural differences.
 - A discussion about the promotion of electoral democracy as a necessary component of peacebuilding activities followed.