



2022 

CENTER SUMMARY REPORT

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY ROTARY PEACE CENTER REPORT FEBRUARY 2021 – JULY 2022

Fellows' Social Initiatives

The Peace Fellows have so far implemented 52 projects in different communities across the globe. The Social Change initiatives implemented broadly address the challenges identified in respective societies with a shared blueprint to contribute to peace and development. The initiatives address issues on; Youths, women and refugee empowerment, Domestic

Violence, Media and peace journalism, education and basic literacy, maternal health and WASH, food and climate change, and PWDs involvement in development programs.



52 projects in different communities across the globe



Magenta Girls Initiative

Mobilizing community support for girls' education in Africa and beyond.



Magenta Girls Initiative (MGI)

- ◆ Ensures access and retention in school
- ◆ Designs and executes trauma-informed supports
- ◆ Improves learning outcomes for at-risk girls
- ◆ Builds awareness of GBV, sexual exploitation, and child marriage
- ◆ Advances economic opportunities for girls and women
- ◆ Breaks the cycle of generational poverty

"If we are going to see real development in the world, then our best investment is women."
- Desmond Tutu



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The IEP Workshop

Peace fellows participated in a one-week workshop from the Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP). Throughout the week, the fellows drew simulations on the factors that contribute to positive peace in various countries.

advisory board of the Rotary Peace Center. In his speech, the President commended Makerere University for supporting the development of the only Rotary Peace Center in Africa



Fellows conducting a Yarn Game



RI President Visit September, 2021

The Center hosted the Rotary International President, Shekar Mehta in September 2021, at Makerere University. During the visit, the President was welcomed by the University top management, the Chairperson Council, Ms. Lorna Magara, the Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe and the members of the

2022 Capstone Conference

The Center hosted its first Capstone Conference in April 2022 at Makerere University. During the conference, Cohort 1 peace fellows exhibited their contribution to transformed societies. The fellows presented their social change initiatives under the theme: **"Peace building Re-imagined: Social Change"**

Initiatives as a vehicle for peacebuilding and development in Africa.”

The event was graced by representatives and dignitaries from embassies, Rotary International and Makerere University. That is to say; Past Vice President of RI, Yinka Babalola, the ambassador of Nigeria, Consul of Botswana and Liberia, and representation from the Deputy Principal College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Dean, Rotarians, Civil Society Organizations, and the Makerere University fraternity.



Makerere Peace Fellows participate in the 2022 RI Convention in Houston

Peace fellows from Makerere University represented the Center at Houston's 2022 Rotary International Conference. The event highlighted Rotary's areas of focus, and how each supports the eight pillars of positive peace. Among them included, Patience Rusare from Zimbabwe, Rebecca Mukiibi Nansubuga from Uganda and USA, and Jennifer Montgomery from the USA. The fellows participated in breakout sessions titled Amplifying Impact: Global Social Change Initiative, which focused on the fellows' social change initiatives.

During the breakout sessions, Patience gave a presentation on her Peace Journalism Initiative project in Zimbabwe. She implemented a 3-month training to strengthen the role of journalists in peace-building and conflict transformation. Rebecca also presented on the

Refugee Economic Empowerment, an initiative she will be implementing in Bidi Bidi refugee settlement in Uganda for a period of 5-6 months. Her initiative will focus on life skills, positive peace workshop, computer and digital literacy training, training on the prevention of sexual exploitation, and an abuse awareness campaign



In the picture: Peace Fellows pose for a photo at the Rotary Peace Center booth during the RI Convention

Upcoming events

RI President Visit

In the month of September, the Center will host the first female RI President, Jennifer Jones, who will visit the Peace Center and engage with the social initiative projects of two of our Cohort 1 peace fellows i.e., Paul Mushaho who implemented a project on Youth involvement in peacebuilding in Nakivaale Refugee settlement and Ronald Kasule who designed a web application that offers support services to persons with disabilities. The President will officially launch the Peace Center, and meet with Makerere University Council members, and Rotary Peace Fellows.


East African Rotary Positive Peace Activators Program

The Center is excited to host the East African Rotary Positive Peace Activators Program in the month of September. The selected Peace

Activators will be trained in positive peace philosophy at Makerere University Rotary Peace Center.

Challenges

During the fellowship program, the Center experienced challenges with the fellows. These include;

 Challenge	Proposed Mitigation
Fellows' non-functional Health insurance Policy	Proposing to have a local health insurance provider
Lack of funding for fellows' Social Change Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request Rotary International to fund fellows' social initiatives • Encourage the fellows to create more partnerships with other organization to support the implementation of their initiatives
Skyrocketing costs	Lobby RI to increase costs
Fellows' misconduct during the fellowship	A disciplinary committee was constituted to handle emerging issues of misconduct by the fellows
Unrealistic demands from fellows	The Center has continued to give fellows in-depth orientation and put in place mechanisms to manage expectations without compromising standards.
Unexpected/last-minute deferrals from fellows	The Center and RI to request selected applicants to present; proof of confirmation of leave from the employer and a valid copy of passport before the signing of contracts.

Challenges

Amidst the pandemic, the Center has successfully hosted the Rotary peace fellows. Through their class and field study engagement, the fellows acquired knowledge and skills to help them directly address the contemporary issues affecting their respective communities. As part of the Centers' mandate, the Center has also involved and partnered with communities and Civil Society Organizations to further the mission of building a culture of positive peace through transformative, research, innovative teaching, and service responsive to national and global needs.