

## [KADEFO message to Commonwealth people and countries during the Commonwealth People's Forum](#)

### **International level issues**

#### **Common education policies and strategies:**

Commonwealth countries should develop common comprehensive policies and strategies geared toward realising Education for All (EFA) in all Commonwealth countries, considering unique issues that hinder access to quality education in each Commonwealth country. There must be agreed and well laid down strategies that will show how developed countries will assist developing countries to realise EFA.

#### **Increased funding:**

In order to realise EFA in developing countries, developed countries should increase their funding to the education sector of developing countries with flexibility in conditional ties attached to funds. This will help to solve unique challenges faced by each Commonwealth country that hinder it from realising EFA.

#### **Community empowerment:**

Commonwealth people must be empowered to know that education is their right and that it must be demanded more vigorously in order to be fulfilled by their leaders. In this area, civil society organisations (CSOs) have tried to increase community awareness about their rights but they are being challenged by inadequate resources especially in terms of funds. Therefore Commonwealth Governments must allocate adequate resources to CSOs in order to increase community awareness about their rights and MDGs at large.

### **National level issues**

#### **Strong political commitment and adequate/realistic resource allocation:**

In Uganda we need strong political commitment that is more widespread than one individual commitment. This will lead to the formulation of comprehensive policies and significant allocation of resources on interventions geared towards realising EFA, with special focus on those regions, districts or social groups like the fisher communities, Nomadic communities, war/conflict-affected areas etc, which are likely to lead us off track towards realising EFA by the year 2015.

#### **Public boarding primary schools in island communities:**

The above intervention will solve the problem of inaccessibility to education caused by the scattered nature of islands that don't have schools and the migratory tendencies of fisher folks.

### **Results of KADEFO interventions towards a transformed society**

#### **Formation of community schools and boarding sections:**

Mobilisation of fisher communities to start up interventions towards increasing access to education in fisher communities has resulted in the formation of community schools (schools which are started by community members and not Government aided) and boarding sections in some schools in order to accommodate children from islands where there are no schools.

#### **Community empowerment to influence local government plans:**

Mobilisation and sensitisation of community members about child education has resulted in the inclusion of education issues in parish development plans and eventually into sub-county development plans e.g. contributing to teachers who teach in community schools, provision of beds to schools with boarding sections etc.

#### **Adoption of boarding primary schools intervention in Kalangala schools by the district council:**

KADEFO influenced Kalangala district local government council to adopt a concept paper that advocates for establishment of public boarding primary schools (PBPS) in Kalangala as an intervention towards increasing access to education in the Kalangala district by children who stay on islands where there are schools, and KADEFO is now working with the district council to advocate for establishment of PBPS.

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