

Community transformation

The Yepa Community in Kitgum, Northern Uganda.



Bringing new hope to a war torn community through healing and regeneration.

Background

The Yepa community is situated in Kitgum District, Northern Uganda a region which has suffered greatly during 20 years of armed conflict between the Ugandan government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). During the conflict the Government forcibly moved the local population from their land into displaced person's camp where they suffered from lack of education and basic health facilities. The LRA for their part, conducted a concerted campaign of killings and child abductions forcing young males to become boy soldiers and young women to become child brides.

In September 2006 the fighting ended and since then people have been slowly returning to their traditional communities while many of the young people abducted as children by the LRA, are now finding their way home. For everyone it is a difficult homecoming, abandoned communities have lost their livestock and fields have fallen into disrepair and villages no longer have the most basic facilities. Now is the time to help communities like Yepa to rebuild their lives.

Proposal

FH will support the process of regenerating Yepa by working alongside its people, helping them both physically and mentally to become again a strong and vibrant community. FH Staff have already begun helping the people of Yepa to determine their priorities, work that will be complete by Spring 2009. Already we know that having a working primary school access for older children to secondary education is a key priority. Other priorities will be restoring the local agricultural economy, providing basic health care, counselling support for those traumatised by the years of conflict and basic levels of sanitation and clean water supplies. Our involvement with Yepa will be as a partner and a friend bringing resources and expertise to help its people restore their community to full health.



Target population

Community size of 5,000; junior school population of 500

Timeframe

This programme is designed as a multi year project, it will be led and managed by trained FH Uganda staff living in or close to Yepa.

FH UK will facilitate communication, give support and regularly review progress.

Finance

The annual cost of this programme is £25,000.