

- Discuss and summarize the most pressing issues facing victims of war, and raise the awareness and identify the potential avenues for the resolution.
- To engage victims with state authorities and non-state actors in dialogue geared towards building the mutual trust, sustainable peace and national reconciliation in Uganda.
- To build a national network of war victims.



Engaging leaders in ensuring justice for victims.

Approaches to achieve the goals

- Mobilize and sensitize victims to participate in the Transitional Justice Processes.
- Empower victims to speak out on their needs and priorities in the Transitional Justice Processes.

- Building a Network of war victims with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Government, and other Institutions on Transitional Justice processes



Ensuring a gender sensitive Transitional Justice process as all are equal in the eyes of the law, all must be equally protected

- Organize and hold regional conferences and outreaches for victims and survivors of war as a platform for dialogue and solidarity in advance of the National Victims' Conference in 2014.

Expected Outcomes

- Increase awareness of transitional justice processes and the rights of victims under national and international law and policies.
- Establish an inclusive victim centered transitional justice process that has capacity to deliver credible transitional justice goal.

- Establish a victim influenced and victim responsive transitional justice processes and transitional justice policy.



Transitional justice should address the inter-generational impacts of war in Uganda.

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Transitional Justice in Uganda



Barlonyo Memorial Site - Lira

Helping communities move from darkness and pain of war, to a bright future of Peace and Reconciliation.

National War Victims' Conference - 2014

**From Victims to Survivors:
 the Struggle for Reparations,
 Remedies and Justice**

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

This refers to the different judicial and non-judicial processes applied by communities to come to terms with a history of grave and massive abuses and violations of human rights, in order to ensure accountability, serve justice and achieve reconciliation.

The core of Transitional Justice in Uganda is to;

- Ensure Accountability
- Serve Justice, and
- Promote Reconciliation

Transitional Justice policy

This is an overarching framework of the Government of Uganda, designed to address justice, accountability and reconciliation needs of post conflict Uganda.

Background:

Uganda is a country whose history has been marred by political instability. As an affirmation of commitment to national reconciliation, peace and justice, the Government has developed a draft national transitional justice policy. The draft policy provides the following approaches to Transitional Justice:-

- **Restorative Justice** It deals with socio economic recovery of Victims of mass Human Rights Violations and Perpetrators which comprises of acknowledgement,

truth telling, reparation, institutional reform, memory, forgiveness and amnesty.



*"Our future is more than the pain each of us suffered",
a survivor of Lokodi massacre - Gulu.*

- **Retributive Justice** This entails bringing to court the perpetrators of gross Human Rights violations.

The development of a national policy on transitional justice is an affirmation of Government of Uganda's commitment to national and international obligations on fundamental human rights. Through this policy, the government of Uganda pays special attention to the elements of reconciliation, peace and justice.

Transitional Justice strives not only to deliver justice to victims of mass atrocities, but also to assist societies devastated by conflict to come to terms with their painful past and achieve sustainable peace and reconciliation. The framework therefore, provides an important opportunity for implementation of transitional justice mechanisms.

However, its success remains subject to public understanding and ownership, as well as their willingness to participate in the processes.

In a bid to achieve national participation and ownership of the transitional justice processes, by the common public, especially war victims who are most meant to benefit from the policy, AYINET is organizing the national war victims' conference to provide a platform for dialogue to ensure that transitional justice processes reflect the interests of the victims; and should be conducted in a manner that takes into account; victims' needs, promotes their sense of dignity and supports their rehabilitation. As well as, their potential to assume a constructive role in society. This is intended to prepare victims and community to take active role in transitional justice processes in order to achieve national peace, justice and reconciliation.

The National conference will take place in Kampala, Uganda, in May 2014. It will bring

together representatives of war victims from around the country, humanitarian and human rights activists, peace builders, media, donors, United Nations and Government representatives.



"We come to remember, heal, and gain courage and strength to live again." (Barlonyo massacre survivor)

Goal of National Victims' Conference:

To Strengthen Victims' Participation in Transitional Justice Processes

Objectives of the National Conference

- Come up with coordinated and harmonized voices and subsequently influence policy debates on matters concerning; victims' rights and victims' participation and priority taking in transitional justice, as well as, an established inclusive victim centered transitional justice process that has the capacity to deliver credible Transitional Justice outcomes.