



**You  
reach out  
high**

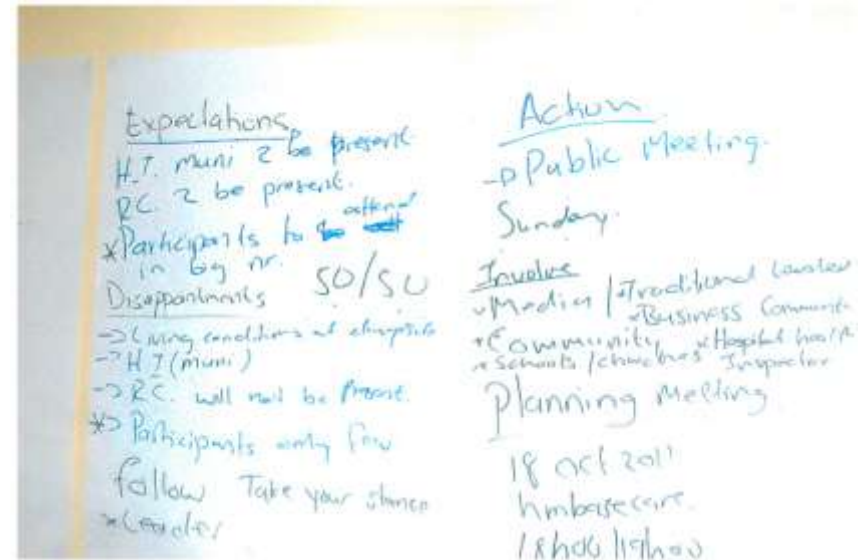
PLEASE FEEL  
FREE TO ADD  
YOUR OWN  
BACKGROUND!

***NAME OF GOOD PRACTICE***  
***PRESENTERS NAME:***  
***CATEGORY: THEME***  
***INSTITUTION: ALLIANCE/COUNCIL***  
**COUNTRY SADC GENDER PROTOCOL SUMMIT**  
**DATE 3 – 4 April 2013**  
**VENUE Polytechnic of Namibia Hotel**

**GENDER EQUALITY BY 2015, YES WE MUST!**

# BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE GOOD PRACTICE

- Put your thoughts always into action to motivate others for them take part.
- Involve others for best results.
- Make people feel important.
- Criticise without offending.
- Learn to communicate effectively



# WHAT IS THE PROBLEM BEING ADDRESSED? WHY?

- EDUCATION in Namibia and ECONOMICS of Namibia.
- ARTICLE 20 ( Namibian Constitution ).
- WHY ?
- Namibian children's rights have been violated ( free primary education denied was denied )



# HOW IS THE PROJECT CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE 28 TARGETS OF THE SADC PROTOCOL?

| <b>PROTOCOL TARGET</b>   | <b>ACTIONS</b>                |
|--|-------------------------------|
| ARTICLE 4 Constitutional rights                                  | Mobilize, Lobbying , Educate  |
| ARTICLE 14 Gender equality in Education and Economic Empowerment | Mobilize , Lobbying , Educate |
|  |                               |

# DESCRIBE YOUR TARGET GROUP

- How many females and males
- Why did you choose to work with them
  
- Parents – They are the ones paying and most affected.
- Learners – Are the ones mostly deprived .
- Schoolboards – Are the ones who opted for SDF to be paid, who dont know their real dutties, get easily manipulated by principals, concentrate mainly on school maintenance.
- Principals – send learners home for non payment of SDF.
- Ministry of Education – is the responsible body which make policies,and implement it, should monitor and evalute
  
- There are 10 male and 50 female in our group
  
- REASON
  
- These are the main role players in education



# OBJECTIVES

- Mobilize and pressure for the implementation and accountability by 2015.
- Lobby for implementation of free primary education for 'real' before 2015.
- To develop a strategic partnership and networking opportunities.
- Strengthen gender movements from constituency level to regional level to the national level.



# PROCESS

- Four woman came together and talked about how they struggle to put food on table and above all to how to pay SDF.
- We came up to look for a way how we can get help from the Government and its there where we got Article 20.
- There were no turning back from that time so we mobilised others to have collective efforts.



# PROCESS

- House to house visits
- Hijacking Sundays  
community meetings
- Done media briefings
- Demonstrations
- Public announcements
- TV interviews ( Good  
morning Namibia )





# WHAT HAVE BEEN THE MAIN SUCCESSES?

- Okahandja community got aware of their Constitution and so they confronted the Principals in this regard.
- Principals locally were now facing the big challenge from the community .
- After the media briefing on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011, the Deputy Director of thé Otjozondjupa called all principals the next day and Principals were reprimanded to refrain from sending away learners for non-payments.
- Grade 1 learners got enrolled that year who have been send away.



# WHAT HAVE BEEN THE MAIN SUCCESSES?

- Okahandja women stood up for their children and faced the local Principals not to send their children home for non-payment of school development funds.
- Prior to this project children were denied enrolment at local schools but after this project they all got enrol without any payment of deposit.

# KEY OUTPUTS (MATERIALS ETC.)

- Free Primary Education in Namibia current context. Ministry of Education 2011. In the introduction of this directive it is quoted as follows, “ On 13<sup>th</sup> January 2011, some 50 women from Okahandja gathered to voice their protest to the Minister of Education, according to a national daily newspaper. ***“The constitution says that every Namibian is entitled to free education. We refused to pay schoolfees for 2011 or to buy books”*** *Their purpose was to force the Ministry of Education to make more money available to schools so that the parents could be relieved of the responsibility of buying cleaning materials, photocopy paper, and books*

# KEY OUTCOMES (MAIN RESULTS)

- This effort resulted in the Namibia's first ever Educational Conference.
- Pre and Primary EDUCATION IN Namibia 'FREE at last'

# CHANGING LIVES

- All the people whom we empowered are now very happy and their children are now peacefully at schools. In particular Fidelia, Susethe, Priscilla are much aware of the constitutional rights



# LESSONS LEARNT

- To have faith always.
- To persevere.
- To have determination
- To mobilize and empower others
- One person can start something.
- To be a CATALYST.



# WAY FORWARD

- To established or create a platform between the parents, learners and the Ministry of Education.
- Lobby for support from
  - Principals
  - Schoolboards
  - Learners
  - Parents
  - Communities
- OSEWA to become the watchdog over the Ministry of Education.
- Am Dorka Shikongo I thank you!!