

**Rotary Peace Fellowship
Makerere University, Uganda
Learning for Lasting Community Impact**

By: Tom Okoth Omondi; Rotary Peace Fellow, Cohort 4

September 20, 2025: District Conference at Thon Hotel Bergen Airport

Background and Motivation



PGDip. (Peace & Conflict Trans.)

Community Development Practitioner with over seven years of experience in community development and project management. Expertise in mediation services for ethnic-based conflicts in Kenya

Personal philosophy of life is to help others.

Helping others is a way of life that has been instilled in me because of the generosity that I have received from others throughout my life.

Background Context

- Historical land conflicts
- 2007 Post-Election Violence
- Water and other resource-based conflict
- Displaced children missing education
- The Big Five Umoja (CBO)

Land once occupied by Luo community



42 Ethnic...

Ethnic Group: Predominantly Kipsigis (Kalenjin subgroup), largely agrarian. Luo are the minority.

Soin Constituency (Sigowet–Soin), Kericho County, Kenya



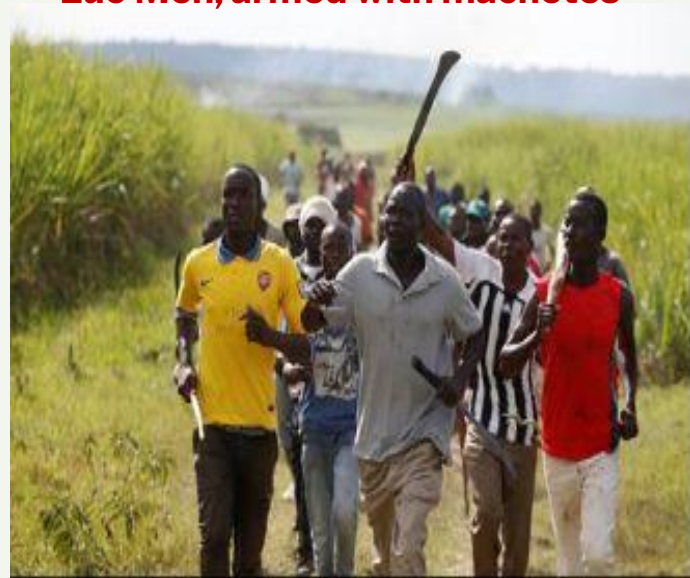
- **Location:** Rift Valley region, Kericho County, Kenya.
- **Area:** Approximately 193 km².
- **Borders:** Belgut, Ainamoi, Kipkelion East & West constituencies; Kericho borders Uasin Gishu, Baringo, Nandi, Nakuru, Bomet, Kisumu, and Nyamira counties.
- **Features:** Created in 2013; four wards (Sigowet, Kaplelartet, Soliat, Soin); agriculture-based economy; tea, dairy, maize, vegetables, sugarcane.

A Divided society. Tribal/Ethnic Conflict, 2021

Kipsigis Men armed with poisonous
arrows



Luo Men, armed with machetes



Conflict resolution: Before & after Makerere

Broking peace with Kalenjin Elders



Impacting **POSITIVE** peace among the youth



Rotary Peace Fellowship at Makerere University

Fellowship Overview:

- ❖ One year blended program.
- ❖ Practical skills to promote peace locally and globally.
- ❖ Field studies.
- ❖ Design & implementation of Social Change Initiatives.



Social Change Initiative Implementation

RPF-A Notable Component & Significance



Positive Peace



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
2025

“Act Now for a Peaceful World”



Unique Experiences During Fellowship

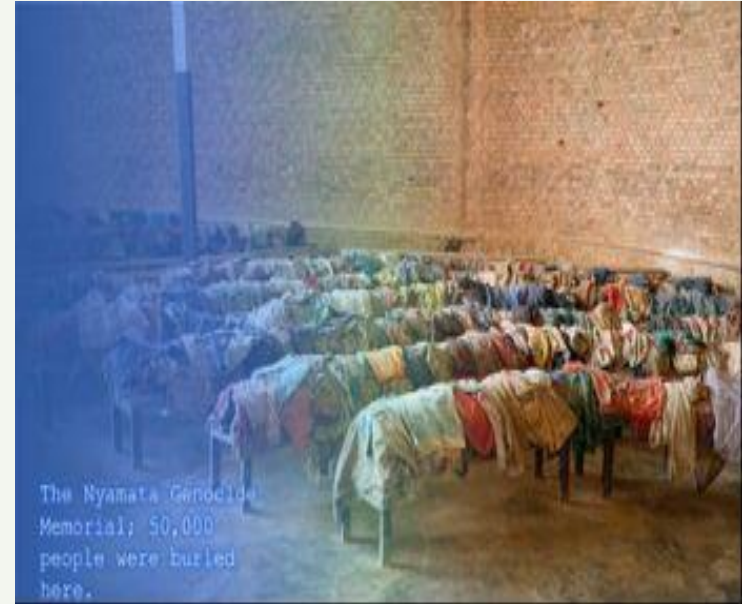


Inside the Memorial..

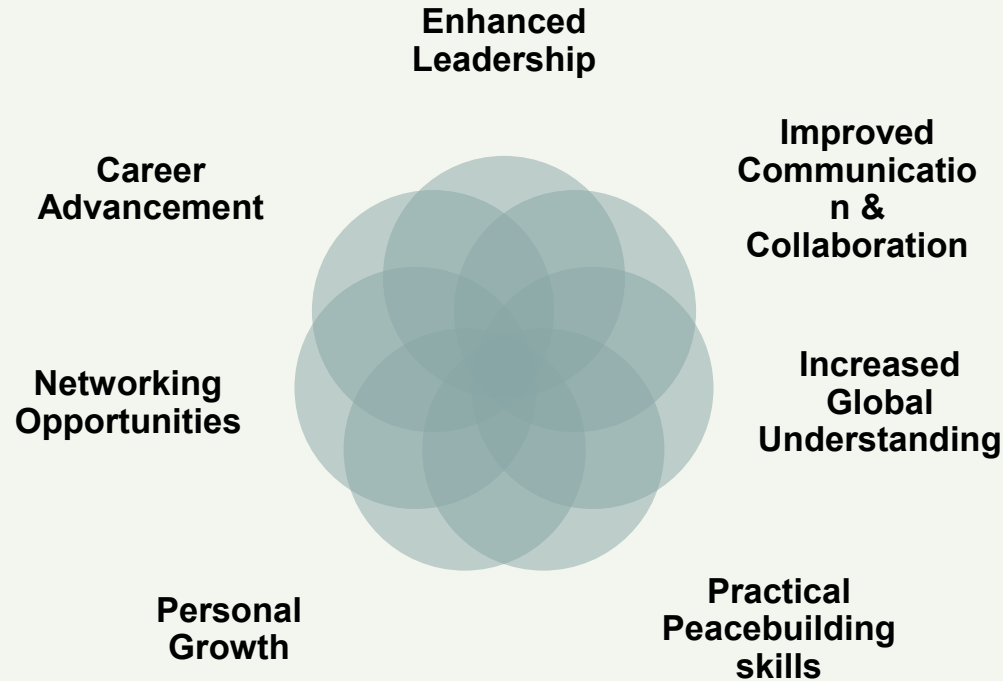
Pictures of the genocide Victims



Blood stained clothes of victims



Personal Transformation & Skill Development



Key realizations & Impacts of Peace Fellowship

**Importance of practical
application of theory**

**The power of
networking**

**The value of
continuous learning &
personal growth**

Applying Knowledge to TBF Projects

Youth
empowerment
programs

Community
dialogue on land
conflicts

Education support
for displaced &
vulnerable
children/youth



Sustainability...Future, & Call to Action

**Scaling interventions in
Kericho County**

Building partnerships
(NGOs, government,
Rotary)

Invitation to collaborate
and support

