



Nigerian model of engagement and reconciliation applied in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)



Beginning January 2012 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa, Offuh James OFFUH and a small team of women and men began learning and time-testing a model of Sustained Dialogue communication illustrated in the documentary film, *[DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA: Muslims & Christians Creating Their Future](#)*, that dignifies participants, heals relationships, and builds communities beginning with their small core team within the NGO, **United for Peace Against Conflict International (ONG UFPACI)** described at <http://ufpacdialogue.net>

Step-by-step progress included (1) Preparing Locally in Abidjan, (2) nearby Akouedo Ebrie Village Reconciliation, (3) far-away Duekoue Peacebuilding, (4) deeper First Dozos-Guerre Reconciliation in Duekoue, (5) the First Albino ~ Non-Albino Reconciliation in southern Cote d'Ivoire,

and (6) the First Albino ~ Non-Albino Reconciliation Workshop in Bouake, northern Cote d'Ivoire, April 2014. Each step is described in depth at <http://traubman.igc.org/vidnigeriaivorycoast.htm>.

Step #7

3-Day TRAINING SEMINAR

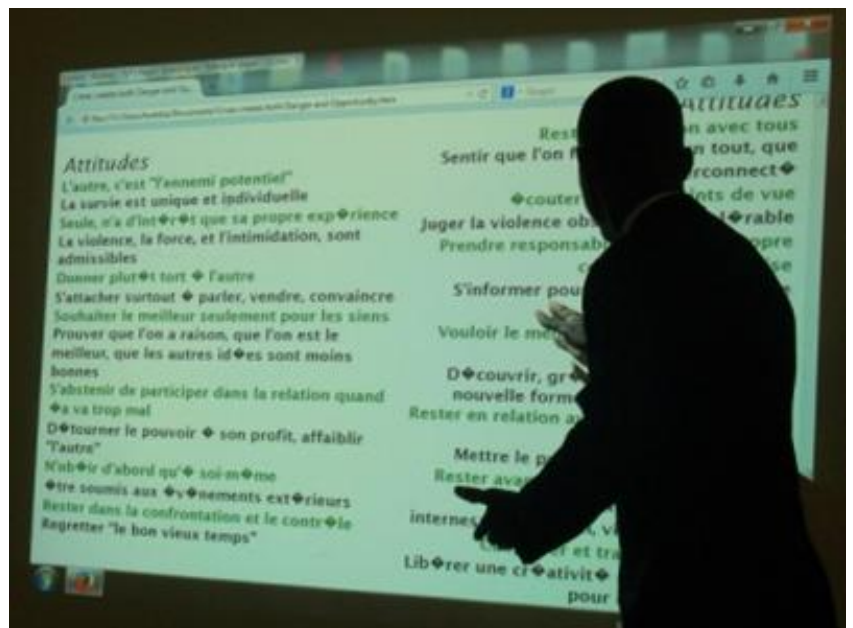
for UNESCO and The Ministry of Education on strategies to overcome stigmatization and rejection of the "other" through Social Dialogue

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday — July 21, 22, 23, 2014

(The [Seminar Outline](#) is at end of this document)



The first day of training—21st July 2014
by Offuh James OFFUH of ONG UFPACI



Illustrating the attitudes of Sustained Dialogue



Co-sponsors (1) Abidjan office of UNESCO and (2) Cote d'Ivoire Ministry of Education invited Offuh James OFFUH of (3) United for Peace Against Conflict International (ONG UFPAC) to facilitate this 3-day training for participant-representatives of the Ministries of Justice, Security, Education, Family Planning and Handicaps, and Interior. Also included were the Teacher's Association and other NGOs.

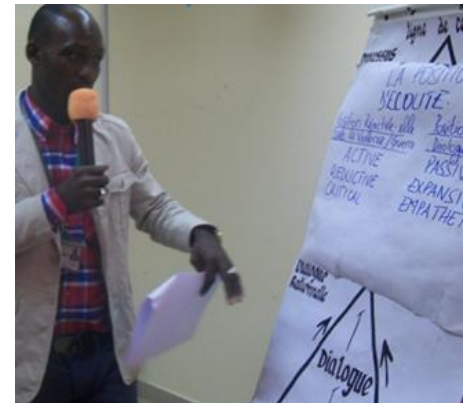


COULIBALY Mamidou, OFFUH James, and AKISSI Valere



GNAMIEN Louis Patrice, KONE Yacouba, and OFFUH James

The purpose was to begin popularising this module-approach of Sustained Dialogue for intercultural civic communication as remedy for prejudice and discrimination, and to insure just, safe, and equitable society.



Madame Haidara and colleagues from the Ministry of Education studying the rationale for Dialogue





In the **Perspective Squares Exercise** participants see 16, 17, 18, 40, and other numbers of squares then realize:

- 1) other people have surprisingly diverse perceptions and views of life.
- 2) there is more than one way, my way, to see a situation.



Masks and Culture Exercise

- 1) Discover how one's culture shapes, influences, and conditions personal responses to life.
- 2) Increase self-awareness and closeness to one another by opening a window to oneself.
- 3) Awaken to common challenges universally faced in all cultures.



Screening film of Dozos-Guerre Tribal Reconciliation in Duekoue, Cote d'Ivoire, facilitated by UFPACI



OFFUH James and Epouse HAIDARA, Project Director of the Ministry of Education



KOUAKOU Sui representing the Inspector General of National Education (IGEN) and OFFUH James, President and Founder of ONG-UFPACI



Communication Habituelle

100% Attentif Se Préparer à Réagir 100% Réagir

Usual Communication

100% Attentive Preparing to React 100% React

Dialogue

100% Attentif Ecouter pour Apprendre 100% Se Renseigner

Dialogue

100% Attentive Listening to Learn 100% Inquire



Third Day workshop illustrating Usual Communication VS Dialogue Communication for combined participants from UNESCO, Ministries of Education, Justice, Interior, and Security, and advocates for families and handicapped persons.

An Experience of Face-to-Face Dialogue

- 1) Each person shares her or his life's narrative and relate to others.
- 2) Participants experiences a new quality of listening-to-learn as well as being heard, while discovering that "an enemy is one whose story we have not heard."
- 3) Both listener and speaker are dignified.





After experiencing a new way of communicating, participants responded with what had personal meaning for them while listening and being heard between partners.



GHEHI LASSO FILBERT, President of the HIV/AIDS VICTIMS groups, says “NO” to stigmatization and discrimination preventing their socio-economic inclusion.

COULIBALY MAMIDOU, President of Albinos: "We suffer this stigmatization and discrimination. Let it stop. We are excluded economically and socially."

KONE Yacouba, President of the Physically Handicapped Association of Cote d'Ivoire, saying “NO” to stigmatization and discrimination, and asking for joint efforts to address the issues confronting the DIGNITY of those living with various handicaps. He pleads for education that sensitizes the public and creates many interactive platforms as UFPACI is doing for the Albinos. Such face-to-face engagements will indeed reduce exclusion and create community.



After the victims of stigmatization and discrimination narrated their different, pathetic life stories, OFFUH James, President of ONG-UFPACI, encouraged the participants to join efforts creating a new Humane Community Society without stigmatization and discrimination. He proposed a place where Love will become the predominant human function and where every human will feel secure, respected, dignified, and honored. This can only be possible with the new culture of Sustained Dialogue, giving all citizens equal voices, and loving all without distinction of race, religion, culture, or social or political identification.



Closing Candle Lighting Ceremony symbolizing shared accomplishment and solidarity in purpose





Délégation permanente
de Côte d'Ivoire
auprès de l'UNESCO



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SEMINAIRE DE FORMATION sur les stratégies de lutte contre la stigmatisation ou le rejet de l'autre à travers le DIALOGUE SOCIAL

Lundi – mardi – mercredi 21-22-23 Juillet. 2014

THEME : RENFORCEMENT DE LA COOPERATION ET CONPREHENSION MUTUELLE INTERCULTURELLE

OBJECTIF : Former des médiateurs pour la résolution des conflits.

- Apprendre à se maîtriser à l'égard des autres dans des situations de conflits.
- Acquérir des techniques pour désarmer un ennemi dans une situation conflictuelle.
- Apprendre à éviter la discrimination au sein de la société et en milieu scolaire, transformer les ennemies en partenaires et les situations de confrontation en coopération.

1^{er} JOUR

08h30-9h00 : accueil des participants

09h00- 9h30 : Cérémonie d'ouverture :

-Intervention du Représentant de l'UNESCO à Abidjan. (30mn)

-Intervention du Représentant du MENET -- Ministre de l'Education Nationale et de l'Enseignement Technique (15mn)

- Exposé de cadrage (15mn)

09h30-09h50 : Imprégnation des activités déjà menées par L'ONG-UFPAI

09h50- 10h10: pause - café

10h10-11h00 : Premier cours : la Dynamique du dialogue interculturel dans la prévention de conflit violent et la consolidation de la paix.

Sous-titre 1. : comprendre les attributs du dialogue social.

11h20-12h 30 : Deuxième cours : Lignes Directrices du Dialogue: Substituer le mot Confrontation par le mot Coopération.

Sous-titre 2 : a. Pourquoi le Dialogue ?

- La Communication.
- L'Engagement.
- La différence entre le Dialogue et le Débat.
- Écouter, parler, Découvrir

12h30-13h30 : DEJEUNER

13h30-14h30 : Troisième cours : Les Cinq étapes du processus de paix social.

14h30-16h 00 : Projection de film

2eme jour :

8h30-10h00 : DEBUT DES ATELIERS- étude de cas

Quatrième cours : Démonstration du dialogue rationnel à travers des exemples pratiques et des illustrations graphiques.

10h-10h20 : pause- café

10h20-11h30 : exercices pratiques en communication civique interculturelle

11h30-12h30 comprendre les traumatismes causés par la discrimination

Les outils pour la guérison des douleurs émotionnelles

12h30-13h30 : DEJEUNER

13h30-14h30 : soutien psychologique et social comme thérapie psychosociale

14h30- 16h00 : exemples pratiques

3^{ème} jour

8h30-9h 30 : communication personnes vulnérables

9h30-10h30 : communication personnes vulnérables

10h30-10h50 : Pause café

10h50-11h50 : communication personnes vulnérables

11H50-12h30 : Evaluation et assimilation

12H30-13h30 : Déjeuner

13H30-15h00 : Projection de film

15h00-16h00 : Clôture et Pause Photo

Réalisateur : OFFUH James

Président Fondateur ONG-UFPACI

Spécialiste en Gestion de conflits, Dialogue et consolidation de la Paix

Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

<http://www.ufpaci dialogue.net>

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TRAINING SEMINAR on strategies to overcome stigmatization and rejection of the "other" through Social Dialogue

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday — July 21, 22, 23, 2014

THEME: Strengthening mutual intercultural cooperation and understanding

OBJECTIVE: Training mediators for the resolution of conflicts

1. Learn to master respect for others in conflict situations.
2. Learn techniques to disarm an enemy in a conflict situation.
3. Learn to avoid discrimination in one's society and in schools, and to transform enemies into partners, and confrontational situations into cooperative ones.

DAY ONE

8:30 - 9:00 Welcome participants

9:00 - 9:30 **Opening ceremony:**

1. Welcome by the UNESCO representative in Abidjan (30 min)
2. Statement by the representative of MENET -- Ministry of National and Technical Education (15 min)
3. Meeting overview (15 min)

9:30 - 9:50 Introduction of activities already carried out by the NGO UFPACI

9:50 - 10:10 Coffee break

10:10 - 11:00 **First Course:**

1. Dynamics of intercultural dialogue in the prevention of violent conflict and in dependable peace building
2. Understanding the attributes of social dialogue

11:20 - 12:30 **Second course:** Dialogue Guidelines -- Replacing the word Confrontation with the word Cooperation

1. Why Dialogue?
2. Communication
3. Engagement
4. The difference between Dialogue and Debate
5. Listen. Speak. Discover.

12:30 - 1:30 LUNCH

1:30 - 2:30 **Third Course:** The Five Stages of the Public Peace Process

2:30 - 4:00 Film: *Dozos-Guere Dialogue-Reconciliation Encounter in Duekoue*

DAY TWO

8:30 - 10:00 START OF WORKSHOPS - Case study

Fourth Course: Demonstration of dialogue rationale with practical examples and graphic illustrations

10:00 - 10:20 Coffee break

10:20 - 11:30 Practical exercises in civil intercultural communication

11:30 - 12:30 Understanding the traumas caused by discrimination

Tools to heal emotional wounds include (1) empathic listening, (2) patience, (3) equal inclusiveness, and (4) other acts that dignify everyone.

12:30 - 1:30 LUNCH

1:30 - 2:30 Psychological and social support as psychosocial therapy

2:30 - 4:00 Practical examples

Successful experiences include (1) a safe place for deep heart-to-heart communication, (2) meal sharing, (3) conscious listening to learn from the victim's personal story narratives, and (4) indoor and outdoor theatrical, dance, and sports events.

DAY THREE

8:30 - 9:30 Communicating with vulnerable (at risk) individuals

HIV-positive victim-educator exemplar narrates her or his personal life experience and how those living with HIV/AIDS are stigmatized and rejected unnecessarily.

9:30 - 10:30 Communicating with vulnerable (at risk) individuals

Another physically handicapped victim-educator communicates about one's personal experiences living with a physical disability and being shunned and excluded.

10:30 - 10:50 Coffee break

10:50 - 11:50 Communicating with vulnerable (at risk) individuals

A third Albino victim-educator talks about the personal life of people with albinism being daily humiliated, assaulted, and rejected.

11:50 - 12:30 Evaluation and assimilation

12:30 - 1:30 LUNCH

1:30 - 3:00 Example film excerpts (if time permits): (1) DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA: Muslims & Christians Creating Their Future, or (2) Albino ~ Non-Albino Dialogue Encounters.

3:00 - 4:00 Closing and Group Photo

Organizer:

Offuh James OFFUH

President and Founder, ONG-UFPACI

Specialist in Conflict Management, Dialogue, and Peacebuilding.

Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

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United for Peace Against Conflict International

<http://www.ufpaciDialogue.net>

in cooperation with the

Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group

San Mateo, California USA

<http://traubman.igc.org/dg-prog.htm>

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