

Uganda

Pentecostal Assemblies of God

Partner: PAG

Amount required: £100,000 annually



tearfund

Objectives of project:

Poor communities in Uganda are being helped to mobilise their own skills and resources to tackle local problems, rather than depending on aid from outside. The result is a growth in confidence as their initiatives improve living conditions and build relationships.

Prayer points

- Pray for churches in Uganda that are engaging in integral mission with their communities, touching every part of people's lives.
- Pray for more facilitators to help communities change, and for wisdom as PAG works to expand this programme.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG) is the second largest evangelical denomination in Uganda, with some 4,500 churches. Since 2001 it has been mobilising churches and communities in Soroti District, using the Bible as a catalyst for community action that brings physical and spiritual transformation to poor people.

Key activities

▪ Mobilising

Helping church leaders and members to realise their potential and responsibility to bring physical and spiritual transformation to their communities.

▪ Training

Identifying suitable people and training them to be facilitators in the process of church and community mobilisation.

▪ Equipping

Enabling churches and communities to work together to identify problems, agree priorities and find achievable solutions to local problems.

▪ Identifying resources

Helping churches and communities to identify the resources they already have (eg manpower, local materials) so they can tackle poverty.

▪ Workshops

Facilitating church and community discussions of Bible passages that inspire and guide community action.

Project impact

Churches and communities that have put the process into practice have been transformed:

- physically (eg better health due to improved access to clean water)
- socially (eg uniting around a common vision and reaching out to help vulnerable people)
- materially (eg increased income from community projects made possible by joint efforts)
- spiritually (eg as people experience the practical love of Jesus and commit their lives to him).

Future plans

The church and community mobilisation process has had a striking impact in the two dozen places where it has been implemented so far. Initiatives resulting from it include food security, water and sanitation, health and education projects. But there is huge potential to expand it across the country. Now the need is to train more facilitators who can take the process into new areas, enabling communities to build their own capacity, use local resources, and transform lives and relationships.