

COURSE GRADUATE PROFILE

Mohammed I. Adam

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Three sentences on who you are: where are you from and what is your involvement in your community?

I am Mohammed Ibrahim Yousof Adam from Fata Borno (Kutum), North Darfur. I am a senior intercultural facilitator, corporate trainer and active volunteer in the community where I am volunteering with HSDF. I want to contribute to change in my country, especially by making a contribution to peace, education and equality. I dream of creating harmony in my community and make the people accept their differences and live in an intercultural environment without any segregation. I am 27 years old.

How has this course added to or changed what you knew or believed about protecting ci-

vilians or securing communi-

ties?
I always believed in pacifism for resolving conflicts, but I had no specific method or strategy to implement it. This course has allowed me to gain insights and knowledge that I can follow in spreading the culture of non-violence, peace education and conflict resolution. Since I am from an area of continuous conflict, I will work to spread the culture of non-armed protection for civilians and rely on peace to resolve conflicts. My work in the education and training sector and youth empowerment will help me in that.

Of the things you learned or experienced in the UCP course, what has been the most important for you?

Learning about UCP methods and applications was very interesting for me as it expanded my horizon. More specifically, I was very enthusiastic to learn about UCP methods in capacity development and relationship-building since it is more directly related to my work.

Were you able to use the information and methods from the UCP course in your life, whether in your family, your community, or your work? Can you give one example?

Definitely, especially for my work so as to understand conflict and conflict analysis in a systematic way. For instance, I used the methods in one of my Profes-

sional Development Program for teachers on how to help students in conflict areas.

What opportunities for UCP do you see in your community?

There are different opportunities in many sectors including human rights, capacity building, and conflict transformation. In Sudan, we are in a transition period so we need more work to contribute to Sudan's development agenda.

How do you see that Unarmed Civilian Protection can contribute to silencing the guns in Darfur? In other words: many people, including civilians, own and use weapons in Darfur. Do you see that UCP can effectively protect people in this context? How?

The real contribution is in spreading a culture of non-violence. UCP should work on raising awareness about "why" non-violence? "What" is the power of no-violence? And "how" to bring about non-violence? Because those who own and use weapons think that these weapons can solve all problems but they don't. We need to change the way people think and act. As Martin Luther King said: "we must meet violence with non-violence; darkness cannot take off the darkness - only light can do that." Peaceful ways always produce tangible results to end suffering, and I hope that non-violence will bring an end to the civil war in my country.