

COURSE GRADUATE PROFILE

Halima Mohammed Ibrahim Nyala (South Darfur)



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

My Name is Halima Mohammed Ibrahim and I am a Darfurian from South Darfur state, Nyala town. I graduated from Juba University College of Natural Resources and Environmental Studies in 2003 and am PMD PRO certified since April 2019. In my community, I teach biology in high secondary schools and am currently working with Norwegian Church Aid's (NCA) Darfur programme as GBV.

How has this course added to or changed what you knew or believed about protecting civilians or securing communities?

The course has opened my mind on the very important aspect that it is

possible for civilians to be protected without using force. There are several techniques I have learned through the course which can contribute to civilians protecting civilians, raising community awareness and community dialogue, training, proper context and conflict analysis which will lead to better understanding and better planning for suitable approaches on protecting civilians in a nonviolent manner.

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

I thought that the fifth course module was most impressive, where we learned about UCP principles and nonviolent approaches, different types of accompaniment, nonpartisanship, and the importance of assessment and training approaches.

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?

I managed to share the course materials with our [NCA] staff, mainly those who work in health and safety sectors. The materials helped them to enhance their capacity in terms of context and conflict analysis in their area as well as giving feedback. Also, information on training has open my mind on how to carry out context analysis and develop future plans on protection.

What opportunities for UCP do

you see in your community?

There is a lot of opportunity. On top of my head I can think of: community awareness about UCP and nonviolence to reduce protection risks; staff training; community dialogue and engagement; development of local peace infrastructure; confidence building, etc.

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?

It is possible to silence the guns in Darfur. Because of the long time of war and continuing displacement of communities, all Darfurians in camps and towns are fed up with war and violence. That being said, unfortunately there are still some areas in the region that are in conflict with each other. In order to reduce violence and apply UCP techniques in Darfur, the following steps should be considered: conducting a comprehensive situation, context and conflict analysis for "hot" areas; confidence building between government and violent conflict parties; identifying troubles makers within communities and engage them in UCP activities so that they can become role models; work with the local peace infrastructure and develop their capacities and activate their roles in the community by engaging in UCP principles and techniques.