

Influence of Conflict Resolution Strategies on Sustainable Community Development in Ikwerre LGA, Rivers State

By

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Abstract

The study examined influence of conflict resolution strategies on sustainable community development in Ikweere Local Government Area of Rivers State. Four research objectives, and questions were used for the study. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design. The population of the study was 207, members and leaders of community- based organisations which comprised 160 members and 47 leaders of registered community- based organisations in Ikwerre Local Government Areas of Rivers State. The entire population was studied without sampling because it was a manageable size. The instrument designed for data collection was a structured questionnaire titled “Influence of Conflict Resolution Strategies on Sustainable Community Development Questionnaire” (ICRSSCDQ). The instrument was validated by three experts, two in Community Development, and one in Measurement and Evaluation. The reliability of the instrument was established through a pilot study using the Cronbach Alpha Method. A cumulative reliability coefficient of 0.83 was obtained. The responses from the four research questions were analysed with mean and standard deviation. The findings from the study revealed among others that conflict resolution strategies such as arbitration, mediation, negotiation, and reconciliation influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State to a high extent. Based on the findings, the study recommended among others that. government through ministry of justice should partner with facilitators in the field of peace and conflict studies and community development to regularly organise conflicts resolution training programmes for communities, to promote element of peace in them to enhance development of communities.

Keywords: Influence, Conflict Resolution, Strategies, Sustainable, Community Development.

Introduction

In the face of escalating conflicts that ravage communities, shatter livelihoods, and undermine human dignity, the pursuit of sustainable community development has

emerged as fundamental for rebuilding fractured communities and fostering lasting peace. The quest for sustainable community development has become increasingly crucial in contemporary society, particularly in areas plagued by conflict, where the very fabric of social cohesion is torn apart by discord and violence. Adewale, Oluwabamide, and Adeniyi (2018) noted that conflict, a pervasive and insidious obstacle, not only hinders community growth and development but also perpetuates cycles of poverty, inequality, and social injustice, thereby exacerbating the vulnerability of already fragile communities. The above assertion implies that as the world grapples with rising tensions, displacement, and humanitarian crises, the need for innovative and inclusive approaches to conflict resolution and community development has never been more pressing. Consequently, Okoye, Ezejiofor, and Nwosu. (2020) stated that understanding the complex interplay between conflict and development is critical to harnessing the transformative potential of sustainable community development, where local capacities are leveraged, and community-led initiatives drive social, economic, and environmental renewal.

Undoubtedly, the inevitability of conflict in human societies is widely acknowledged, with Wahab and Adetunji (2015) noting that conflict has become an entrenched aspect of human existence due to its frequent occurrence. Essentially, conflict is an inherent companion to human interaction, arising naturally when individuals or groups converge. Human interactions, driven by daily needs and shared goals, can potentially deteriorate into conflicts. Although these interactions aim to foster personal and communal development, disagreements can emerge, leading to conflicts. This inherent dynamic underscore conflict's universal presence, making it a fundamental challenge to community development. Conversely, Nwosu (2020) acknowledged that conflict arises when groups pursue incompatible interests and goals, often involving struggles over values and scarce resources. This clash can lead to discord, disagreements, and antagonisms, ultimately hindering community development. Oji (2020) noted that conflict is a natural aspect of human interaction,

fueled by diverse personalities and interests within communities. However, Adebayo (2019) avowed that conflicts can escalate into violence, hostility, and psychological warfare, underscoring the need for effective management.

On the other hand, the word “sustainability” is used to describe a long-term human and material maintenance. The 1987 report of the World Commission on Environment and Development titled “Our Common Future: From one earth to one world”, acknowledged the concept as a criterion for all development initiatives and defined sustainable development as human progress that meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs. Sustainable community development refers to a holistic approach that integrates social, economic, and environmental considerations to create resilient, thriving, and self-sufficient communities. It prioritises community-led initiatives, participatory decision-making, and collaborative problem-solving to address local needs and challenges. According to Okoye, Ezejiofor, and Nwosu (2020), sustainable community development empowers communities to address their unique challenges, leveraging local resources and capacities. This approach ensures long-term development and community ownership. Similarly, Mensah, Owusu, and Agyemang (2019) emphasised the importance of inclusive decision-making processes in sustainable community development, recognising community members' diverse needs and perspectives.

Effective sustainable community development integrates economic viability, social cohesion, and environmental sustainability. As observed by Nwankwo, Chika, and Opara (2022), community-based initiatives can drive sustainable economic growth while promoting social justice and environmental conservation. Furthermore, Adewale, Oluwabamide and Adeniyi (2018) highlight the role of community engagement and participation in ensuring peaceful coexistence of communities for development projects to thrive in communities without conflicts. However, in communities where communal disputes and ethnic clashes have hindered

development efforts, effective conflict resolution strategies are essential to foster peaceful coexistence, social cohesion, and economic growth in such communities.

Conflict resolution is the process of resolving disputes or conflicts between individuals, groups, or organisations through various methods, aiming to find a mutually acceptable solution. It seeks to address and resolve conflicts in a constructive and peaceful manner, promoting understanding, reconciliation, and cooperation. Bannon and Paul (2013) acknowledged that conflict resolution can be thought to encompass the use of non-violent resistance measures by conflicting parties as an attempt to promote effective resolution.

Undeniably, conflict resolution strategies are methods used to manage and resolve disputes, disagreements, or conflicts between individuals, groups, or organizations. Some effective traditional conflict resolution strategies as identified by Adewale (2020), include negotiation, which deals with direct communication between parties to reach a mutually beneficial agreement, mediation which is concerned with neutral third-party facilitates discussion to resolve conflict, arbitration in which neutral third-party makes binding decision, and conciliation in which neutral third-party helps parties reach agreement.

However, research has consistently shown that conflict resolution strategies significantly impact community development outcomes. For instance, a study by Akpan (2022) acknowledged the importance of dialogue and mediation in resolving communal conflicts. Similarly, Eke and Onwuka (2019) emphasise the role of traditional dispute resolution mechanisms in promoting sustainable peace. Furthermore, Odoh and Okolie (2020) demonstrate how collaborative problem-solving approaches can enhance community development initiatives.

Ikwerre Local Government Area (LGA) in Rivers State, Nigeria, is plagued by complex and entrenched conflict dynamics, affecting various communities, including Isiokepo, Omagwa, Igwuruta, Rumuekpe, and Aluu among others. These conflicts are

fueled by land, resources, and political power. The affected communities have witnessed recurrent communal clashes, cult-related violence, kidnappings, and armed robbery, resulting in loss of lives, displacement, and destruction of properties. Specifically, Isiokpo community has been embroiled in protracted land disputes among community inhabitants and neighbouring communities, while Omagwa, Elele has struggled with internal conflicts over chieftaincy titles and resource control. Igwuruta has faced insecurity challenges posed by cult groups, and has experienced tensions over electoral politics and boundary disputes. Aluu community, known for its academic institutions, has not been immune to the violence, but with reported cases of kidnappings and armed robbery. These conflicts have undermined economic development, exacerbated poverty, and compromised the overall well-being of residents in these communities, necessitating innovative and inclusive approaches to conflict resolution and sustainable community development.

Nevertheless, the persistent conflicts in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State have led to the loss of lives and properties; destruction of critical infrastructures; displacement of thousands of people and the destabilisation of economic; health and education systems. These developments have had attendant effects on the productivity and development of these communities and the entire Local Government. It is based on this background that the study was carried out to investigate the influence of conflict resolution strategies on sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government of Area of Rivers State. By examining existing literature and empirical data, this research seeks to contribute to the understanding of effective conflict resolution approaches that can promote sustainable development in conflict-prone communities.

Statement of the Problem

The escalating complexity of conflicts in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State, characterized by cult wars, land disputes, politically motivated violence, chieftaincy tussles, and community leadership crises, has severely hindered

community development initiatives. These violent activities have created a hostile environment, undermining the ability of community members to participate in shaping their own destinies. Despite the critical role of community development in empowering individuals and communities, the prevalence of conflicts has retarded socio-economic growth, peace, and stability in Ikwerre Local Government Area. Existing conflict resolution mechanisms have proven inadequate, necessitating effective strategies to address the unacceptable violent situation. It is to find out whether conflict resolution strategies such as arbitration, mediation, negotiation, and reconciliation influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area that necessitated this study and to fill existing the gap in knowledge.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to examine influence of conflict resolution strategies on sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State. The objectives of this study are to:

1. Examine the extent to which arbitration as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.
2. Determine the extent to which mediation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.
3. Ascertain the extent to which negotiation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.
4. Find out the extent to which reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Research Questions.

The following research questions guided the study:

1. To what extent does arbitration as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?
2. To what extent does mediation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?
3. To what extent does negotiation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?
4. To what extent does reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?

Methodology

The study was conducted in Ikwerre Local Government Areas of Rivers State. The descriptive research design was adopted for the study. The population of the study was 207, members and leaders of community-based organisations which comprised 160 members and 47 leaders of registered community-based organisations in Ikwerre Local Government Areas of Rivers State (Source: Ministry of Local Government Affairs and Ministry of Youth Development, 2023). The entire population was studied without sampling because it was a manageable size. The instrument designed for data collection was a structured questionnaire titled “Influence of Conflict Resolution Strategies on Sustainable Community Development Questionnaire” (ICRSSCDQ). The questionnaire was structured on four (4)-point rating scale of Very High Extent (4), High Extent (3), HE, Low Extent–LE (2), Very Low Extent VLE (1). The reliability of the instrument was established through a pilot study and the

data collected was analysed with Cronbach Alpha method on each of the clusters to determine the internal consistency of the instrument, and the overall r-value of 0.83 was obtained for the various clusters of the instrument. Out of 207 copies of the questionnaire distributed, only 201 copies were retrieved, comprising 154 copies from members, and 47 copies from leaders of community-based organisations in the studied area. However, 5 copies from members were wrongly filled and discarded while 149 copies from members and 47 copies from leaders were correctly filled and used for the analysis. The data collected from the research questions were analysed using Mean and Standard Deviation Statistics. The items were rated on four (4) point rating scale. Thus, the decision on each of the items were guided by the following rules; 1-1.49 =Very Low Extent, 1.5-2.49= Low Extent, 2.5-3.49 = High Extent, 3.5-4.00= Very High Extent.

Results

Research question 1: To what extent does arbitration as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?

Table 1: Mean Responses on the Extent that Arbitration as Conflict Resolution Strategy Influence Community Development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State

State		CBOs-members N=149			CBOs-Leaders N= 47		
S/N	Statement	\bar{X}	SD	Rmks	\bar{X}	SD	Rmks
1.	Arbitration provides accessible justice, addressing grievances and promoting fairness among community inhabitants	2.70	1.22	High Extent	2.61	1.22	High Extent
2.	Arbitration reduces violence and promoting stability that is essential for community development	2.78	1.18	High Extent	2.57	1.23	High Extent
3.	Arbitration involves community members in the conflict resolution process thereby fostering ownership and accountability	2.86	1.13	High Extent	2.56	1.20	High Extent
4.	Promote mutual consent and unbiased procedure in resolving issues that affect community development	2.60	1.24	High Extent	2.62	1.22	High Extent
5.	Arbitration reduces costs associated with litigation, redirecting resources to community development initiatives	2.76	1.18	High Extent	2.64	1.24	High Extent
	Grand Mean	2.74		High Extent	2.60		High Extent

Table.1 above for research question 1 shows the mean response of respondents on the extent to which arbitration as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State. All mean ratings of both CBOs members and leaders for items 1 to 5 were high extent as their mean values are higher than the criterion mean value. Also, the grand mean rating for CBOs members was 2.74 and leaders was 2.60, the both are higher than the criterion mean of 2.50 which indicates that respondents were in agreement that arbitration as conflict resolution strategy promote community development in Ikwerre

Local Government Area of Rivers State, and all standard deviation values were very small/low indicating the homogeneity of the responses.

Research question 2: To what extent does mediation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?

Table 2: Mean Responses on the Extent to which Mediation as Conflict Resolution Strategy Influence Sustainable Community Development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State

S/N	Statement	CBOs- members (N=149)		Decision	CBOs- Leaders (N=47)		Decision
		Mean	St. dev.		Mean	St. dev.	
6	Mediation encourages open communication thereby fostering understanding in resolving conflicts in communities	3.06	0.49	High Extent	3.03	0.49	High Extent
7	Mediation helps rebuild trust and strengthen relationships among community members	3.03	0.49	High Extent	3.05	0.48	High Extent
8	Mediation intervenes early thereby preventing conflicts from escalating and causing harm in communities	3.02	0.68	High Extent	2.46	0.82	Low Extent
9	Mediation encourages collaborative problem-solving thereby promoting community cohesion	2.98	0.95	High Extent	2.52	0.88	High Extent

10	Mediation provides accessible, affordable, and timely justice, addressing grievances thereby promoting sustainability	2.80	0.85	High Extent	3.05	0.61	High Extent
Grand Mean		3.00		High Extent	2.82		High Extent

Table 2 above for research question two shows the mean responses on the extent to which mediation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State. Item 6 has mean scores of 3.06 and 3.03, standard deviation of 0.49 and 0.49. Item 7 has mean scores of 3.03 and 3.05, standard deviation of 0.49 and 0.48. Item 8 has mean scores of 3.02 and 2.46, standard deviation of 0.68 and 0.82. Item 9 has mean scores of 2.98 and 2.52, standard deviation of 0.95 and 0.88. Item 10 has mean scores of 2.80 and 3.05, standard deviation of 0.85 and 0.61. with grand mean scores of 3.00 and 2.82 respectively, the answer to research question two prove that to a high extent, mediation as conflict resolution strategy promote community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Research Question 3: To what extent does negotiation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State?

Table .3: Mean Responses on the Extent to which Negotiation as Conflict Resolution Strategy Influence Sustainable Community Development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State

S/N	Statement	CBOs			CBOs		
		Members (149)			Leaders (47)		
		\bar{X}	SD	Rmks	\bar{X}	SD	Rmks
11	Negotiation helps establish trust, fostering collaborative relationships that promotes community development activities	2.65	1.27	High Extent	2.60	1.22	High Extent
12	Negotiation leads to win-win solutions, satisfying all parties' interests	2.67	1.27	High Extent	2.65	1.19	High Extent
13	Negotiation promotes trust, cooperation and consensus building that promote community development	2.61	1.22	High Extent	2.64	1.19	High Extent
14	Negotiation fosters and strengthens communication skills towards ensuring concerns are heard and addressed in community affairs to promote development	2.73	1.24	High Extent	2.62	1.23	High Extent
15	Negotiation promote inclusive decision-making, understanding and cooperation in resolving issues among community members in community development activities	2.70	1.20	High Extent	2.71	1.22	High Extent
	Total	2.67		High Extent	2.64		High Extent

Table.3 above for research question three shows the mean responses of the respondents on the extent to which negotiation as conflict resolution strategy influence community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State. Item 11 recorded mean scores of 2.65 and 2.60, with standard deviation of 1.27 and 1.22. Item 12 has mean scores of 2.67 and 2.65 with standard deviations of 1.27 and 1.19. Item 13 recorded mean scores of 2.61 and 2.64 with standard deviation of 1.22 and 1.19. Item 14 has mean scores of 2.73 and 2.62, with standard deviations of 1.24 and 1.23. Item 15 recorded mean scores of 2.70 and 2.71 with standard deviations of 1.20 and 1.22. Responses in this research question 3 recorded a grand mean of 2.67 and 2.64 for both group of respondents. The results pointed out that the respondents were in agreement that to a high extent, negotiation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Research Question 4: To what extent does reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.?

Table.4: Mean Responses on the Extent to which Reconciliation as Conflict Resolution Influence Strategy Promote Community Development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State

S/ N	Statement Items	CBOs- members n=149)		Decision	CBOs- Leaders n=47)		Decisio n
		Mean	Std		Mean	Std.	
16.	Reconciliation facilitates forgiveness, healing, and emotional closure that promote social cohesion and unity in communities	2.86	0.90	High Extent	2.79	0.81	High Extent
17	Reconciliation promotes unity thereby reducing tensions and conflicts that affect community development activities	2.77	0.82	High Extent	2.75	0.88	High Extent
18	Reconciliation stabilises communities thereby attracting investment and promoting economic growth	2.73	0.80	High Extent	2.80	0.89	High Extent
19	Reconciliation rebuilds trust and relationships thereby ensuring sustainable peace and stability of communities for development	2.49	1.09	High Extent	2.85	0.87	High Extent
20	Reconciliation promotes acknowledgment of past wrongs, and tackles deep-seated issues thereby promoting justice and equality for community development	2.64	0.86	High Extent	2.37	1.00	Low Extent
Grand Mean		3.00		High Extent	2.71		High Extent

Table 4.4 above shows the mean response of CBOs members and leaders on the extent to which reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy influence community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State. Item 16 has mean scores of 2.86 and 2.79, standard deviation of 0.90 and 0.81. Item 17 has mean scores of 2.77 and 2.75, standard deviation of 0.82 and 0.88. Item 18 has mean scores of 2.73 and 2.80, standard deviation of 0.80 and 0.89. Item 19 has mean scores of 2.49

and 2.85, standard deviation of 1.09 and 0.87. Item 20 has mean scores of 2.64 and 2.37, standard deviation of 0.86 and 1.00. The grand mean of 3.00 and 2.71 was recorded. This indicates that both the CBOs members and leaders were of the opinions that to a high extent, reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Discussion of Findings

The findings from the study in Table 4.1 for research question 1 revealed that to a high extent arbitration as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State, as evidenced in items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 with high mean records higher than 2.50 indicating that arbitration provides accessible justice, addressing grievances and promoting fairness, reduces violence and promoting stability that is essential for community development, involves community members in the conflict resolution process thereby fostering ownership and accountability, promote mutual consent and unbiased procedure in resolving issues that affect community development, reduces costs associated with litigation, redirecting resources to community development initiatives. The finding of the study is in line with the observation of Wahab and Adetunji (2015) that arbitration build strong bond and stimulates the interest of parties involved in conflict to express their grievances without reservation in the bid to arrive at a sustainable resolution. The results of this study is also consistent with the finding of Adewale and Oluwabamide's (2019) who acknowledged that arbitration is a viable and straightforward alternative dispute resolution approach that facilitates community conflict resolution and promotes sustainable community development.

The findings in research question 2, shows that mediation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State to a high extent. The grand mean scores of 3.00 and 2.82 recorded proved that mediation encourages open communication thereby fostering

understanding in resolving conflicts in communities, helps rebuild trust and strengthen relationships among community members, intervenes early thereby preventing conflicts from escalating and causing harm in communities, encourages collaborative problem-solving thereby promoting community cohesion, and provides accessible, affordable, and timely justice, addressing grievances thereby promoting sustainability. This finding is in line with the discovery of Okoye and Agu (2019), that mediation reduced conflict duration and increases community cohesion in communities and that improved relationships among community members following mediation, contributes to sustainable community development. The findings is also supported by USAID report as cited in Otamiri (2021), which shows that mediation is a problem-solving tool that is well suited to the problems that communities face, and those trained in these approaches often use them to solve problems to promote peace which enhance development of communities.

Findings of the study in research question 3 indicated that negotiation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State to a high extent as shown in Table.3 which proved that respondents shared strong opinion that negotiation helps establish trust thereby fostering collaborative relationships that promotes community development activities, leads to win-win solutions, satisfying all parties' interests in community, promote trust, cooperation and consensus building that promote community development, fosters and strengthens communication skills towards ensuring concerns are heard and addressed in community affairs to promote development, and promote inclusive decision-making, understanding and cooperation in resolving issues among community members in community development activities. This finding is in line with the discovery of Jeong (2018) that negotiation skills enhance peaceful communication and amicable resolution of issues and promote dialogue as a method in resolving differences easily. It is in agreement with the finding of Adejumo, and Bello (2020), that negotiation increased trust, fostered collaborative relationships, enhance communication skills and inclusive decision-making in community

development process and encourage win-win solutions for sustainable peace in communities.

Research question 4, revealed that reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy influence sustainable community development in Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State to a high extent, as evidenced in Table.4 that respondents were of the strong opinion that reconciliation as conflict resolution strategy facilitates forgiveness, healing, and emotional closure thereby promoting social cohesion and unity in communities, promotes unity thereby reducing tensions and conflicts that affect community development activities, stabilises communities thereby attracting investment and promoting economic growth, rebuilds trust and relationships thereby ensuring sustainable peace and stability of communities for development, promotes acknowledgment of past wrongs, and tackles deep-seated issues thereby promoting justice and equality for community development. This finding is in agreement with the position of Okeibunor and Anugwom (2018) that reconciliation builds strong union and promotes unity of purpose for the advancement of development in communities. The finding also correlates with the position of Lartey and Amponsah (2019) that reconciliation initiatives increased community cohesion, reduces conflict recurrence, and enhances community participation in decision-making for sustainability of community projects.

Conclusions

Based on the findings of this study, it was concluded that the findings underscore the significance of mediation, arbitration, negotiation, and reconciliation as vital conflict resolution strategies that can mitigate conflicts, promote forgiveness, and rebuild trust among community members. These strategies have been shown to increase community participation, reduce conflict recurrence, and enhance community cohesion, ultimately contributing to the sustainability of community projects. Furthermore, the study highlights the need for stakeholders, including community

leaders, government agencies, and non-governmental organisations, to prioritise conflict resolution mechanisms that address the root causes of conflicts and promote inclusive decision-making. By adopting these strategies, communities can transcend the cycles of violence and conflict, harness their diversity, and leverage their collective potential for sustainable development. Ultimately, this research emphasises the imperative of integrating conflict resolution strategies into community development initiatives to ensure the long-term viability and resilience of communities, and serves as a clarion call for policymakers, practitioners, and scholars to prioritise the development of effective conflict resolution mechanisms that promote sustainable community development.

Recommendations

In view of the findings, the following recommendations were made:

1. That government at all levels through ministry of justice should partner with community stakeholders to mobilise community inhabitants for orientation programme on the need and relevance of arbitration as a component of conflict resolution in resolving their communal issues to avoid escalation that may lead to loss of lives and properties..
2. Government should fund conflicts resolution programme through ministry of justice to promote acquisition of mediation skills among community members especially youths and leaders in communities to ensure peaceful environment for development to thrive.
3. Government at all levels through ministry of justice should synergise with community stakeholders through workshops, community discussion forum educate and ensure that community inhabitants acquire negotiation skills as option for violent protest or conflict to ensure a stable community.
4. Government and civil society organisations should engage community members in conflict resolution training programme to equip them with

reconciliation skills and knowledge required to promote peace and development in communities.

5. Government through ministry of justice should partner with facilitators in the field of peace and conflict studies and community development to regularly organise conflicts resolution training programmes for communities, to promote element of peace in them to enhance development of communities.

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