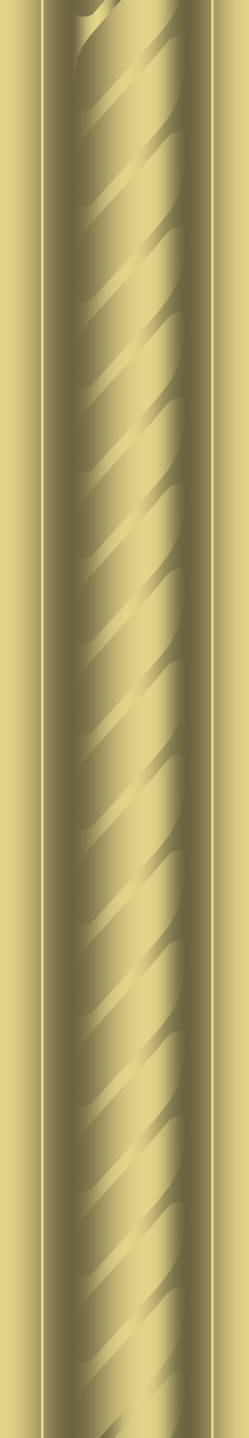




**RECOUP THEME 1: SOCIAL AND HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES**

**YOUTH, GENDER AND CITIZENSHIP
(YGC)**



No-one is born a good citizen: no nation is born a democracy. Rather, both are processes that continue to evolve over a life time. Young people must be included from birth. A society that cuts off from its youth severs its lifeline.

(Kofi Annan 2007)

Youth in the Maelstrom of Social Change in Sub-Saharan Africa

- Increase in rural/urban poverty, growing gaps between rich and poor, increased migration to cities
- Pressure to sustain a national identity, patriotism and cultural heritage
- Increasing individualisation through global mass media whilst responding to traditional ethnic, patriarchal, gerontocratic and gender cultures.
- Educational opportunities, the loss of traditional skills, individual mobility away from community support, gender change.

Faulty Modernisation

- Partially educated, with material expectations that they cannot fulfil.
- Process of 'becoming somebody' is not easy
- Gap between educated and partially educated increasing
- Drawn to become victims, heroes, entrepreneurs, or criminals – postmodern Western 'vanguards' or disengaged 'vandals'
- Powerlessness and frustration of youth results

The Demographic 'Window of Opportunity'

- Some 200 million people - 60% of the African population are between 12 and 24 years old. This number will peak in about 20 years.
- Globally, some 130 million youth cannot read or write. Young people make up approx. half the world's unemployed. 100 million new jobs needed to cope with young people seeking work
- The chance is now to invest in health, education and labour market skills of youth to prepare them for a globalising world.
- Group based social exclusion of youth is potentially dangerous to the political stability required for economic growth.

World Bank (2007) *Development and the Next Generation*.

Youth Citizenship

Young people's experiences of citizenship are crucial to development outcomes. Markets cannot deliver on their own.

- Youth citizenship enhances the overall climate for investment and private decision making
- Youth citizenship promotes government accountability for basic service delivery
- Youth citizenship enhances the human and social capital of individuals



The Five Youth Transitions

Learning

Beginning to work

Taking risks that impact on health

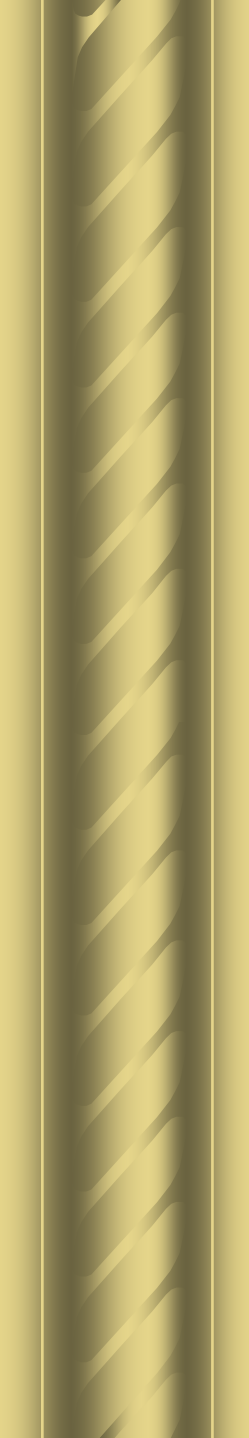
Forming families

Exercising citizenship

Social citizenship: the 'softer qualitative outcomes'

David Korboe (1998) *Handing over the Stick: Ghana Social Assessment*. World Bank.

- Esteem, hope, self-worth, potential self sufficiency
- Peace of mind, security about dependents
- Well being, health happiness, a good life

- 
- Addressing powerlessness, vulnerability, conflict resolution
 - Social protection, affiliation, cohesion
 - Freedom, freedom from hunger
 - Consultation
 - Knowledge, enlightenment, broadening.

Youth, Gender and Citizenship

Research Aims:

- Does education help impoverished young female and male adults achieve participatory citizenship?
- How could educational outcomes improve the capability of young male and female adults living in poverty to become participatory citizens?

Research Design

- Comparative (four countries)
- Rural and urban communities
- Inter-generational household study
- Qualitative with quantitative data base
- Voice- centred research

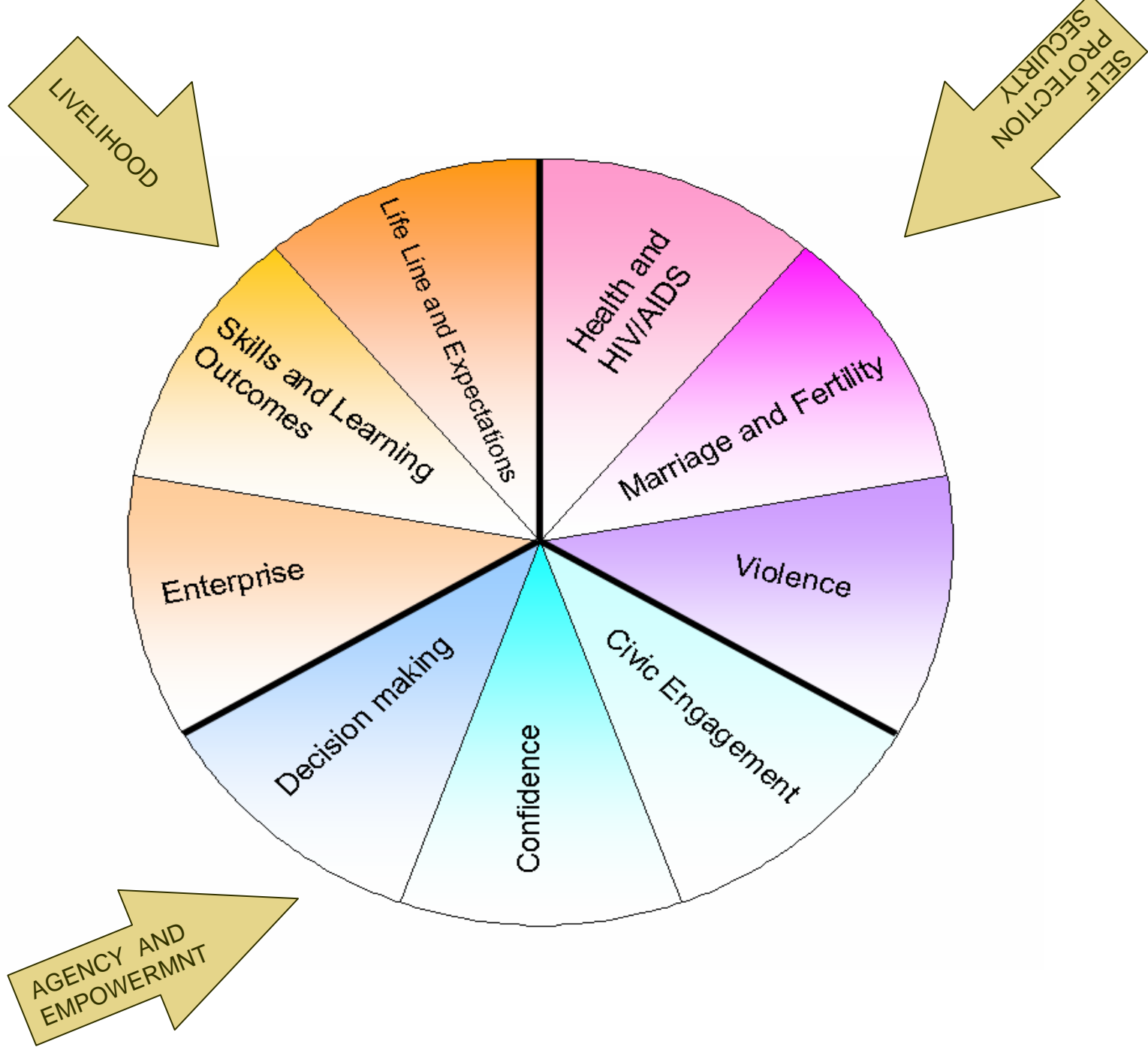
An intergenerational community study

- *Rural and Urban Communities*

- community scoping with observations
- household surveys
- interviews and photography
- trigger materials

- *Youth and their 'parents'*

- A. no schooling or incomplete basic
- B. basic schooling completed
- C. post basic schooling (secondary and above)



Educational outcomes


Desired outcomes

Actual outcomes

Desirable outcomes



**Full
participatory
citizenship**



**Lived world of
the young
citizen**

Young people informing policy?

The act of research is already one way in which young people can engage as citizens in policy-making

Young people are the future.