

WHAT IS BARZA?

It is a temporary framework for exchange and advocacy. The group makes demands and seeks solutions with the governing bodies.

Over 1 year, about 10 meetings

Who is behind Barza?

The women accompanied by the APEF, who bring up common problems during collective meetings
 > The need to act collectively!

The objectives of Barza:

- Collective awareness of the problem
- Claiming rights together
- Finding solutions for the whole community
- Getting the governing bodies to take action

«The power to act is strengthened when there are several of us.»

WHO IS INVOLVED IN BARZA?

Citizens trained by APEF

The governing bodies

The allies

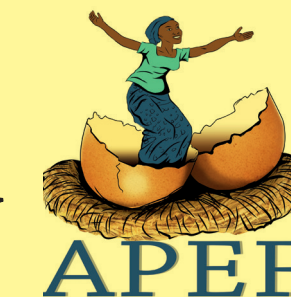
- other civil society organisations
- community and religious leaders
- local elected representatives
- other citizens concerned (by the problem)

«Together we look for solutions.»

Sharing experience

The APEF COMMUNITY BARZA

(Democratic Republic of Congo)



WHAT IS PARTICIPATIVE ADVOCACY?

A long-term action which allows groups to make their problems visible, and to look for solutions by involving all the actors of a geographic zone: the people concerned, the community, the governing bodies, other organisations...

WHAT PROBLEMS DOES BARZA SOLVE?

Any problem the community faces that can be solved by the decision-makers.

E.g.: the multiplicity of taxes, competition from products from neighbouring countries, non-involvement of the state in their activities

POSITIVE RESULTS

- ✚ The governing bodies become allies: promises from the minister on taxes, training offered to women, collaboration with a state service, 2 years of tax exemption, invitations to fairs
- ✚ Women are empowered: creation of a positive collective synergy between women, self-confidence, public expression, ability to propose

CHALLENGES

- ⚡ For follow-up: changes of contact persons at the level of the governing bodies
- ⚡ A long and arduous process that may discourage women or allies

THE STEPS OF BARZA

1 Women bring up the issues

2 Identification of allies

3 Analysis + prioritisation of problems

4 Setting up a monitoring committee

7 Public presentation to governing bodies (Advocacy Day)

6 Drafting of specifications

5 Identification of governing bodies to be addressed (by the committee)

8 Follow-up of proposed solutions

9 Review day

Media invitation

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BARZA

Motivate and raise awareness of difficulties

Anticipating the budget

Working in the local language

Supporting throughout the process

Properly identify the issues, allies and decision-making governing bodies