



## Making Peacebuilding Inclusive

Annual Report 2010



## MAKING PEACEBUILDING INCLUSIVE

Since 1994, Interpeace has been enabling people to build lasting peace. We provide support to societies to develop their own capacities to deal with conflict and differences, without the use of violence or coercion.

By taking a people centric approach, we create peacebuilding processes that are inclusive, participatory and trusted.

The solutions for lasting peace are always developed collectively within societies, ensuring the results are locally-owned and sustainable.

We share our local insights with policymakers from the international community and the United Nations, so that more people can benefit from lasting peace.

www.interpeace.org



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## ABOUT INTERPEACE

## WHERE WE WORK

#### **ABOUT US**

We are an independent, international peacebuilding organization and a strategic partner of the United Nations.

We were created by the United Nations (UN) in 1994. We became an independent organization in 2000 while maintaining a unique partnership with the UN. As a result, we operate either as an independent NGO or as a UN initiative.

We work through national partnerships and over 300 national peacebuilding experts.

Interpeace is headquartered in Geneva (Switzerland) and has offices in Brussels (Belgium), Guatemala City (Guatemala), Nairobi (Kenya) and New York (USA).

We are governed by a Governing Council made up of prominent individuals from the government, international, and private sectors.

The Governing Council is chaired by the former President of Ghana, John A. Kufuor and includes a seat for the personal representative of the UN Secretary-General and the host government, Switzerland.

Through our Advisory Council we bring together governments, UN agencies and experts to analyze the latest in peacebuilding trends.

#### **OUR WORK**

We enable societies to build lasting peace through inclusive and nationally-led processes of change.

Our added value is our tested approach in strengthening capacities within societies to manage conflict without resorting to violence or coercion.

Peacebuilding must be led and owned from within a society so we work exclusively through national teams in countries across Africa, Asia, Central America, Europe and the Middle East.

In 2010 we were supporting initiatives in 16 countries and territories, four of which are implemented through our UN arm, the Joint Programme Unit for UN/ Interpeace initiatives. We also have a thematic programme covering 'Constitution-making for Peace', a handbook on options for making and reforming constitutions.

We combine our local peacebuilding knowledge with the latest in international thinking to assist the international community, including the UN, to play a more effective role in supporting peacebuilding efforts around the world.

#### **OUR FINANCES AND SUPPORT**

We are a non-profit organization. Our peacebuilding work is funded by generous voluntary contributions from governments, multilateral organizations, foundations and private individuals.

Our donor governments and multilateral organizations work with us through our Donor Committee.

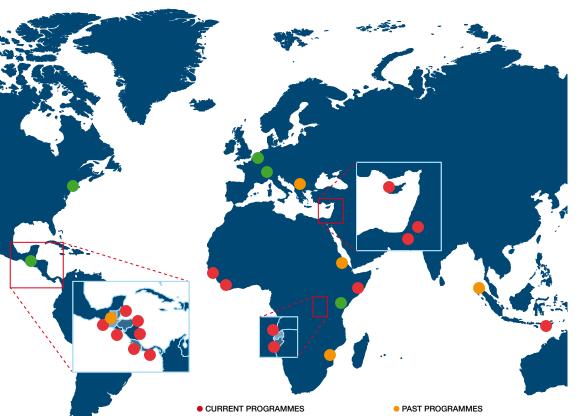
Our 2010 expenditure of US \$ 23 million reflects the growing demand for our support and expertise from governments, civil society, donor countries, UN agencies and other international organizations.

88% of funds went directly to supporting the programmes.

Our 2010 financial reports were, for the second year, in accordance with the highest financial reporting standard - IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards).

In 2010 we received ZEWO certification from the Swiss charity evaluator. This demonstrates our focus on providing transparency and accountability for all our stakeholders.

In addition to our country programmes our learning and thematic programmes enable access to our expertise so providing benefit on a national, regional and global level. This includes the initiative 'Constitution-making for Peace.'



CENTRAL AMERICA: Belize; Costa Rica; El Salvador; Guatemala; Honduras; Nicaragua;

AFRICA: Burundi; Guinea-Bissau; Liberia; Rwanda; and Somali region (Puntland, Somaliland, South-Central Somalia).

EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST: Cyprus; Israel; and Palestine

ASIA: Timor-Leste

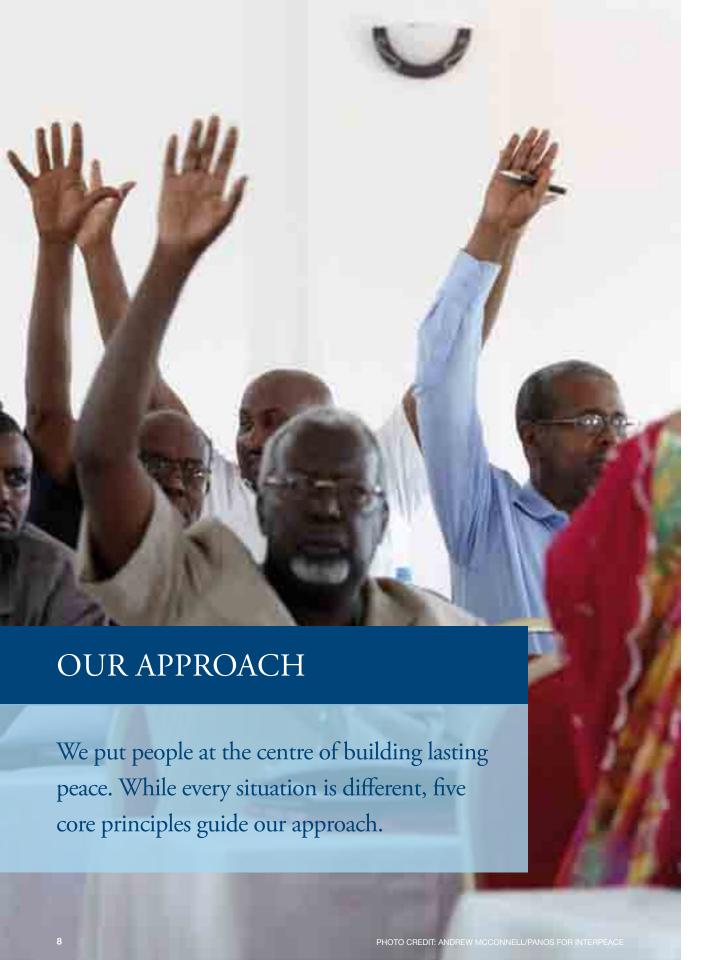
Interpeace also has a thematic programme: 'Constitution-making for Peace'

Guatemala; Mozambique; Ethiopia; Macedonia; and Indonesia (Aceh)

Geneva (Switzerland); Brussels (Belgium);

and New York (USA)

Guatemala City (Guatemala); Nairobi (Kenya);



## ENSURING LOCAL OWNERSHIP

If local people and groups actively participate in defining the obstacles that stand in the way of lasting peace, they own the solutions. By creating spaces and processes in which dialogue can take place, consensus can be achieved while priorities can be locally determined and not imposed from the outside. Through ensuring local ownership, we pave the way for the sustainability of the peacebuilding efforts.

#### **REACHING OUT**

Participatory processes are at the core of Interpeace's approach to peacebuilding. We reach out to all groups that have an influence on making or breaking the peace. Excluding key groups undermines legitimacy and leaves room for any progress to be disrupted by 'spoilers'. By taking a comprehensive approach we enable societies to find compromises, and develop constructive relationships between all sectors and levels of society.

#### **BUILDING TRUST**

Trust can only be achieved through widespread engagement and commitment to a common vision. It cannot be imposed, imported or bought. We help societies to reestablish trust through collaboratively identifying common problems and collectively developing and implementing solutions so creating the connections that contribute to building trust.

#### BY REACHING OUT TO ALL GROUPS, WE ENSURE LONGEVITY OF THE SOLUTIONS FOR PEACE

Representatives from the different levels and sectors of society are typically involved: government; opposition; security sector; business community; religious groups; youth; women; ethnic minorities; marginalized groups; and the diaspora.

#### LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

Building lasting peace takes time. Sustainable peace only comes from consistent support to peacebuilding efforts. Long-term support, including financial support, is crucial to any process so enabling a society to steadily move forwards while adapting to often rapidly-changing contexts. This enables both the tangible resolution of conflict issues and the intangible reconstruction of society to take hold.

#### PROCESS MATTERS

We put as much effort into 'what' needs to be done to enable a society to build peace as 'how' the process is approached. There is a need not only to focus on the end goal of building peace but also on the process that will lead to lasting peace.

## IN FOCUS: INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH UN

Interpeace supports UN peacebuilding operations in the field with an innovative partnership.

#### AN OPERATIONAL FOCUS

The Joint Programme Unit for United Nations/Interpeace Initiatives (JPU) was created in 2005 from an agreement between UNDP and Interpeace. The JPU now works as an operational unit of the Swiss operational centre of UNOPS.

The JPU is supporting the United Nations by collaborating with UNDP-PAPP in the Middle East, UNDP-ACT in Cyprus, and UNMIL in Liberia.

#### AN APPROACH THAT ADDRESSES THE 'HOW' OF PEACEBUILDING FOR UN PROGRAMMES IN THE FIELD

The JPU uses research-based, participatory dialogue strategies to help societies identify, agree and deliver against shared goals and actions to build lasting peace.

## THE JPU SUPPORTS THE FIELD OPERATIONS OF THE UN

The JPU provides support by:

- Designing joint peacebuilding strategies with UN local offices;
- Identifying and training key local capacities;
- Implementing field initiatives through local teams; and
- Bringing expertise from the Interpeace programmes.



## **OUR PROCESS**

#### 1. CALL FOR SUPPORT.

The work of Interpeace is largely demand-driven. We receive requests from a range of sources: the government or civil society of the countries or regions concerned; donor countries; UN agencies; other international organizations; or our Governing Council members.

#### 2. ASSESSMENT.

Exploration visits combined with in-depth consultations with local, national, regional and international sources provides the basis from which we assess whether our approach would have a positive impact.

After we have monitored the situation closely, the Interpeace Governing Council makes the final decision whether Interpeace should explore a possible engagement further.

We only initiate projects when the key national players are willing to participate in the peacebuilding process. Further criteria are the political and security situations and the availability of the necessary financial resources.

#### 3. IDENTIFICATION OF THE LOCAL TEAM.

The identification of the team is one of the most crucial steps in our peacebuilding methodology. Made up exclusively of people from the society concerned, the team's credibility and reputation are key to the success of any initiative.

A painstaking vetting process is undertaken to ensure that the national team is well respected, is made up of individuals from a broad range of local professionals, and includes researchers and facilitators under the leadership of a consensus figure. We aim to ensure representation of a credible balance of the conflicting forces within our teams to ensure that the team is seen as trustworthy from all sides.

In order to form a peacebuilding team we develop a strategic partnership with an existing local NGO or research centre, or we create one.

#### 4. STRATEGY DESIGN.

As each context is unique, we work together with our local team to develop a joint peacebuilding strategy.

The local team is best placed to mould the Interpeace approach according to their particular context and formulate the peacebuilding strategy. Considerations include: How will the priorities be determined? Who must be involved for the process to be truly inclusive? How will ownership of any findings and solutions be ensured? How will the solutions be seen as legitimate? Which specific techniques should be used: group discussions or participatory polling? Radio, events or a social media strategy: What should the media strategy look like to disseminate results?

Frequently, the context and working environment rapidly changes. The strategy is regularly reviewed to ensure continuing relevance and maximum effectiveness.

Peacebuilding is not a linear process. We adapt the development of any peacebuilding initiative to a society's specific circumstances. With this in mind, there are eight typical phases of an Interpeace peacebuilding process.

#### 5. CONSULTATION AND RESEARCH.

The local peacebuilding teams engage the society in the development of the peacebuilding plans, asking them for their views on the obstacles to lasting peace in their countries.

This interactive dialogue, supported by objective, verifiable research and the evaluation of the data are the foundation for a national self-portrait. It documents the history of the conflict, details the current state of relations between different groups and levels in the society, and defines priority issues. All this is done through the eyes of the society themselves so ensuring their unique input remains the hallmark of the process.

#### 6. SETTING PRIORITIES.

This inclusive process drives understanding, supports the prioritization of the main obstacles that stand in the way of lasting peace, and enables the smooth implementation of solutions that have been developed collectively.

The local team then convenes a national level meeting where all relevant stakeholders from government, civil society, academia, media, religious authorities, members of political groups, and representatives of the diaspora come together to talk about obstacles to peace.

Facilitated by the team, they debate and validate the findings so far and select the most important obstacles to peace from the many presented. Typically the local team of peacebuilders is then mandated to analyze and understand between three and five main challenges to peace in more depth and to possible solutions.

#### 7. DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS.

For each priority area selected through this consensus-orientated process, a working group is formed.

These working groups are facilitated by the team of local peacebuilders and are composed of the most relevant individuals and institutions for the problem. The working groups develop recommendations for change and present them to the national group for validation. Inclusion is key every step of the way.

#### 8. FACILITATING IMPLEMENTATION.

The peacebuilding team then facilitates the process of implementing the recommendations by advising national stakeholders and especially the state.

The local teams of peacebuilders are often called upon by national stakeholders to engage in new rounds of problem solving in addition to implementing initiatives. This can involve research and dialogue on other obstacles to peace as they emerge, providing an early warning network, or other interventions to prevent the use of violence and coercion.

Local insights and expertise fuse with the Interpeace experience to create a combination that is the foundation for creative solutions to peacebuilding challenges and that are owned by the society concerned.

## 2010: YEAR IN REVIEW



Interpeace's Regional Office in Central America hosts a forum on youth and peacebuilding. Interpeace and its partners discuss the positive and negative roles youth can play around the world.



#### **BURUNDI**

Recommendations coming out of the dialogue process are presented at the Burundi National Group meeting. First Vice President Dr. Yves Sahinguvu says that the government will do its best to implement the recommendations whenever possible. Board member Matthias Stiefel attends the meeting, also spending time in Rwanda.



#### **POLICY INPUT**

First global meeting of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding in Timor-Leste. Interpeace is mandated to coordinate civil society input into the process and one of its partner organizations, CEPAD presents the findings.



Mabel Van Oranje, CEO of The Elders, joins Interpeace Governing Council.



Oto Denes, former Head of Operations for the organization, passes away.

#### JANUARY

#### CYPRUS



The Cyprus programme publishes the results of its island-wide participatory poll to widespread media attention. Participatory polling combines Interpeace's methodology with public opinion polling. The findings show the majority of the interviewees want a settlement, contrary to popular belief.

#### **MARCH**



#### **GREAT LAKES**

Interpeace together with its partners in Burundi and Rwanda, the Centre of Alert and Conflict Prevention and the Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace, plan an exploratory phase for the Great Lakes region.

#### **GUINEA BISSAU**

Voz di Paz, Interpeace's partner in Guinea-Bissau, becomes a registered Bissau-Guinean organization.

#### **APRIL**



#### **ISRAEL**

The SHAS educational programme, which focuses on building capacity among leaders of the traditional religious population so they can participate in peace processes, holds its first graduation ceremony.

#### **APRIL**



#### **PALESTINE**

The programme in Palestine, Mustakbalna, meaning 'Our Future', holds a meeting with former detainees from political factions. Meeting participants call for immediate national reconciliation, a revival of the 'Palestinian Accord Document' as a base of common ground agreed upon by all parties, and the mobilization of a cohesive body to advocate on behalf of detainees and ex-detainees.

#### JUNE

# Was to

#### **SOMALI REGION**

A tremendous milestone is reached as the people of Somaliland vote peacefully on 26<sup>th</sup> June. The elections were deemed credible, free and fair by international observers. Interpeace is the lead international organization supporting the Somaliland National Electoral Commission.

#### JULY



#### TIMOR-LESTE

Official presentation of the Timor-Leste country note. The document captures how Timorese society sees the obstacles to lasting peace. Participants at the national level meeting went on to priortize the four key obstacles for future work by the programme.

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#### **GUATEMALA**

The 'Prevention of Youth Violence' proposal, developed by Interpeace, is integrated into the National Youth Policy of the Guatemalan government.



#### LIBERL

President Kufuor, Chairman of Interpeace, and the team present President Johnson Sirleaf with a national report that highlights the main challenges to peace as seen by over 10,800 Liberians from across the country.



#### **RWANDA**

IRDP, Interpeace local partner in Rwanda, presents its findings on the issues of 'Public participation in decision-making' and 'Ethnic identity and social cohesion' at the Rwanda National Group meeting. President Kufuor attends and meets with President Kagame.

#### **SOMALI REGION**

The second phase of the 'Puntland Stakeholders' Meeting' takes place.



#### LATIN AMERICA

Interpeace's youth programme in Central America is selected as an example of best practice by the 'Central American Commitment' expert committee of the 'Knowledge Fair' organized by the Central American Integration System and UNDP.

#### **SOMALI REGION**

Interpeace partner, the Academy for Peace and Development, holds a national level meeting.



Interpeace is contracted by the UN PBSO to conduct a survey of civil society organizations to inform the report on 'International Civilian Peacebuilding Capacities.'



Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, personal representative of the UN Secretary-General, and Claude Wild, representative of the host government, Switzerland, join the Interpeace Governing Council.

#### DARFUR

The first Darfur exploration mission travels to Khartoum.

#### **AUGUST**

Interpeace completes transition to the highest financial reporting standards — the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

#### **SEPTEMBER**



#### **RWANDA**

Rwanda's Peace Centre, in the centre of Kigali, is inaugurated on International Peace Day.



#### SUPPORT TO THE UN

Interpeace and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) facilitate a process whereby all UN agencies in Lebanon come together to develop the foundations for a Peacebuilding Priority Plan for Lebanon.

#### **OCTOBER**



#### ISICALI

The Israel programme with the Russian community meets with the Elders; participants include Mary Robinson, Jimmy Carter, Lakhdar Brahimi, and Ela Bhatt.



#### TIMOR-LESTE

Construction of the first peace house begins in Timor-Leste.

#### **OCTOBER**



#### **GUINEA-BISSAU**

The Guinea-Bissau country note is published, finding that poor governance and state weakness, poverty, poor functioning of the justice system and tribalism present the greatest obstacles to peace.

#### **NOVEMBER**



Interpeace and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) holds a successful 'Senior Leadership in Peacebuilding Course.'



Interpeace receives its ZEWO certification, making it the first NGO in Switzerland to meet both IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) and ZEWO standards. The ZEWO seal of approval certifies that the donations Interpeace receives will be used economically, effectively and for their designated purpose.

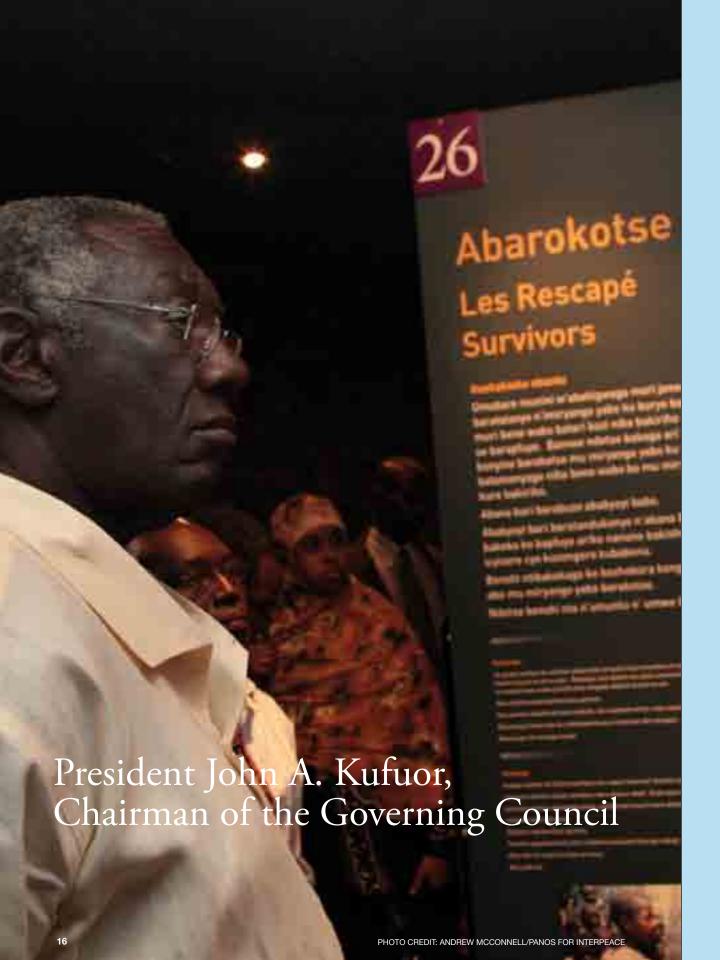
#### DECEMBER



#### **POLICY INPUT**

The Advisory Council meeting and Partner's Forum are held; this year's theme is the connection between elections and peacebuilding.

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Over the past year, my second as Chairman of the Interpeace Governing Council, I am very pleased to have been able to contribute to Interpeace's activities, both supporting specific 'in country' actions in the field and leading a dynamic team of fellow Governing Council members.

I would like to thank two outstanding council members for their service to the organization. Hishashi Owada and Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun both finished their second terms during the course of the year and we are indebted to both of them for their insights, advice and unwavering support during this time.

In my capacity of Chairman, I am also delighted to announce Scott M. Weber's second term as Director-General. In accordance with the Interpeace statutes, the Governing Council conducts a review with core donors and senior managers. The input from those consulted strongly testified that Scott's vision, his analysis and his passionate drive to support local capacities have enabled the organization to make sound decisions that have benefited many societies across the world. We look forward to supporting him as he heads into this next term.

Over the last 12 months, I have witnessed first-hand that Interpeace is an organization fundamentally centered upon people, a unique approach I support wholeheartedly.

Every individual has an important role to play in the process of building lasting peace, including Interpeace local partners, national citizens, and our supporters worldwide.

I have been impressed by how Interpeace staff and local teams are able to serve as dynamic catalysts for peace. When I went to Rwanda to open a National Conference, I saw how our local partner, the Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace (IRDP), is able to set off a chain of positive reactions by bringing people from the diverse parts of a society together to engage in constructive dialogue. This in turn, enables people to overcome difficulties and build a better future for themselves. They also give the people the tools they need to make positive change a reality.

The Interpeace approach is a powerful one that gives everyone a voice. I was proud to present the final report of Interpeace's consultation and policy recommendation process in Liberia to the President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. The report involved over 10,800 Liberians from across the entire country – a challenging undertaking in itself. In response to this impressive achievement, President Johnson Sirleaf pledged to use it to help guide her government.

Most of the credit goes to all those individuals that participate directly and indirectly with our initiatives. They are the owners and leaders of the peace process, as they must be, for we recognize that true, lasting peace is only possible when people commit to resolving the

underlying causes of violence and instability. By investing themselves in the process, people become determined to maintain the peace they have achieved. The fact that the overwhelming majority of people are willing to make such an investment has always inspired me. I saw that willingness in action in Rwanda, through the speed with which participants in the Rwanda National Conference took ownership of initiatives and their enthusiasm in pursuing solutions.

The work being implemented around the world would not be possible without the nations, organizations, and individuals who believe in our mission and approach. On the behalf of Interpeace, I wish to thank all of our donors for their generous support.

I share a common fundamental belief with Interpeace: despite the great diversity of views within societies, virtually everyone is united by the desire for peace.

Interpeace works to enable people to translate that desire into reality. I have been thrilled and honoured to have the opportunity to contribute to this work, and I look forward to continuing my involvement and assistance in the years ahead.

Sohn he Kufuq

John A. Kufuor
Former President of Ghana
(2001-2009), Chairman of the
African Union (2007-2008) and
ECOWAS (2003-2005)

There is no better way to highlight our accomplishments this past year than to focus on the people who make peace possible.

Over 300 local peacebuilders are working with Interpeace around the globe to help their societies manage tensions in non-violent ways and build lasting peace.

This year they are represented by four outstanding individuals - Isabel, Professor Rwanyindo, Maysoun and Jimmy - whose knowledge, commitment, passion and humility are an inspiration to us.

In a world obsessed with indicators, achievements and the bottom line, our greatest successes are often manifested in precisely what does not happen: the violence that did not break out; the political compromise that did not fall apart; or the parents who no longer fear for the safety of their children.

The peacebuilders we profile in this annual report are a great example of the heroes who, if truly successful, you will probably never read about or see in the news. But, of all their qualities, it is their dedication to ensuring that the peace is as inclusive as possible that offers us an important lesson.

Peace must be broadly owned.

Peace must be inclusive.

We have witnessed the danger and fragility of solutions dictated by one group or another to the exclusion of others. They rarely last. For peace to be sustainable and legitimate, the priorities must engage as broad a cross-section of society as possible. Peace must be broadly owned. Peace must be inclusive.

Inclusive peacebuilding begins to restitch the social fabric of a society. It ensures that all viewpoints are represented and all groups begin to feel the future belongs to them too.

Inclusivity requires us to fight the temptation of quick-fix solutions and of surrounding ourselves with like-minded allies. It requires us to challenge our assumptions and to ask: Who else should be involved? Who might be impacted by this issue and how can we get them involved in the decision so that they feel a sense of ownership? These are some of the questions that Interpeace staff and partners ask themselves every day as they seek to build lasting peace.

It is a privilege for me to be able to serve such a dedicated global team.

But tragically, peacebuilding is often accompanied by great risk; risk that has robbed us and entire societies of those best able to transform despair into hope and hope into a better future for all.

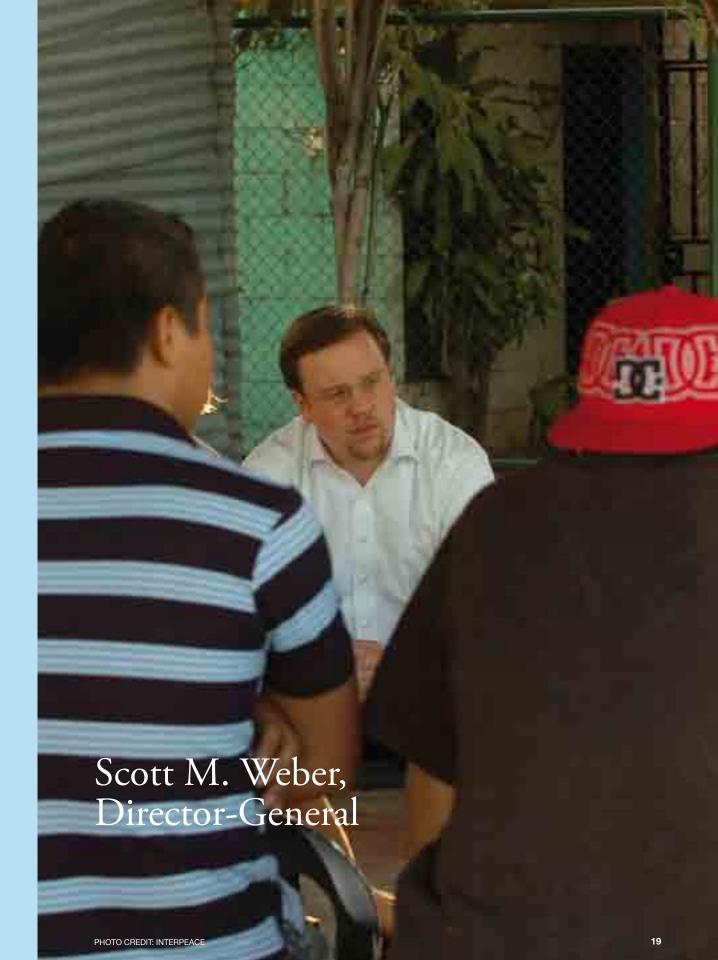
Interpeace is not immune to such loss. It is with great sadness that we pay tribute in this report to one of our outstanding long-standing colleagues, 'Ilkoasse', an influential and dedicated peacebuilder from Puntland, Somalia. His assassination earlier in the year shocked and saddened us all, but his legacy is very much alive.

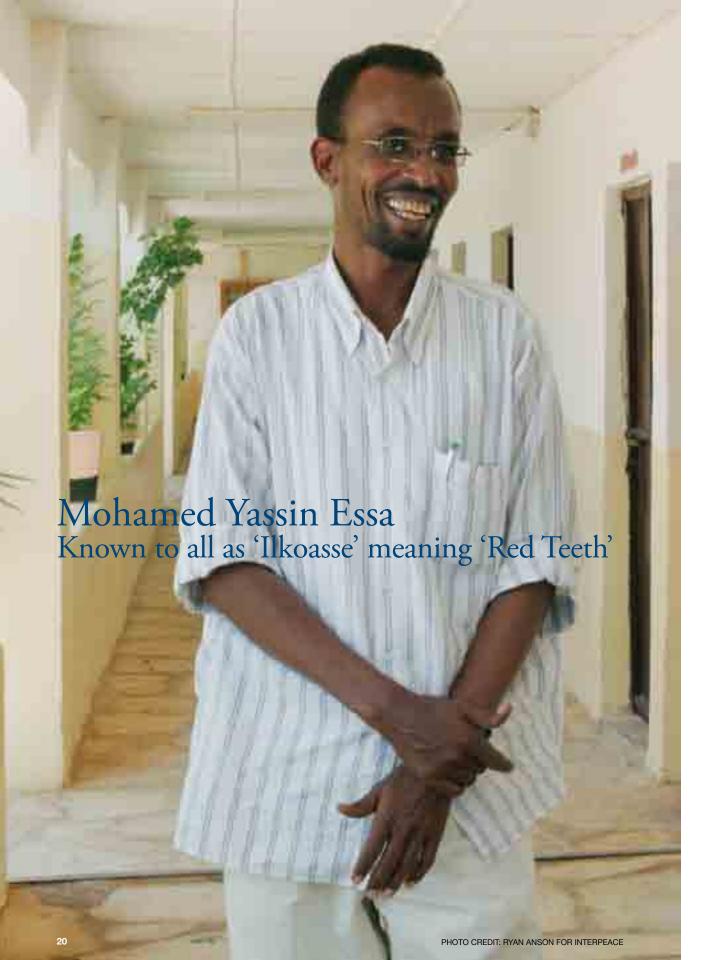
He showed us that if you are determined, committed and persistent, you can overcome the most powerful scepticism and make peace possible.

All of us at Interpeace are deeply grateful for the encouragement and contributions we receive from the global community of people, governments and institutions who join us as partners on the path to peace. Everyone can make a difference.

Peace must be inclusive, so please get in touch and let's discuss how we can work together to make this world a better place.

Scott M. Weber
Director-General





## A TRIBUTE TO 'ILKOASSE'

"Ilkoasse will remain an inspiration to all those he encountered. Delivering against his ambitions and dreams (*riyadiisii*) will be taken up by his colleagues around the world."

- Abdirahman Abdulle Osman 'Shuke', Executive Director of Interpeace partner, PDRC, Puntland.

ILKOASSE WAS
ASSASSINATED ON THE
MORNING OF 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL
2011, IN GAROWE, THE
SEAT OF THE REGIONAL
ADMINISTRATION OF
PUNTLAND, SOMALIA.

Peace, tolerance, justice, and development were the principles that Ilkoasse believed were essential for his society to move forwards. A devoted peacebuilder, his passion was to support the peacebuilding and democratization process in Puntland and further afield. His lifetime hope was to witness his society being able to determine and decide its own future.

"I believe that a reward good enough for all derives from good leadership, progress and justice." This captures Ilkoasse's concise analysis that defined him throughout his career. His clarity of vision and courage, combined with his life mission to supporting peacebuilding and democratization for the Puntland community, and beyond, always stood out.

As a teenager in the 1980s, Ilkoasse joined the Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF) militia. Following the collapse of the Somali state in 1991 he returned to the North East regions. His next role, as cameraman for the emerging leaderships, gave him the opportunity to witness national and regional peace missions as well as highlevel reconciliation initiatives. This experience was to provide him the foundation to become an outstanding peacebuilder and a key member of PDRC, the Interpeace partner in Puntland and the Interpeace family.

Joining the organization in 1996, he became Director of Finance and Administration ten years later. Not content with limiting his role to accounting and management, Ilkoasse acquired research and analysis skills, and a thorough understanding of peacebuilding methodology. He quickly became a power house behind the organization's peacebuilding and democratization work. A peace mobilizer par excellence, he was able to gain access to all quarters and to all levels of society. No matter if he was with militiamen, civil society, intellectuals, or presidents, he was always at ease. His influence extended even further when his impressions were published across the region.

The murder of Ilkoasse goes into history as a lasting shame and is a tragic loss for PRDC, the Interpeace family, the community and leadership in Puntland, and those across the Somali region. Ilkoasse's enthusiasm, optimism, fierce commitment to justice, and joyful passion for life are an inspiration to all who knew him, all who worked with him, and all who loved him.



## ISABEL AGUILAR UMAÑA

Isabel's life has been shaped by the troubles in Central America in the 1980s.

She saw her own family divided and destroyed by ideological intolerance and violence. She decided to take positive action and become a peacebuilder.

Fifteen years later, Isabel is Interpeace's Director of the Central American Youth Programme, working to generate public policies to prevent youth violence.

Isabel had time to talk to us about what energizes her and keeps her going.

## Why did you decide to become a peacebuilder?

I grew up in an environment that was shaped by war. Family members were deeply affected by the violence that broke out across the region in the 1980s. Through the eyes of a small girl, I experienced what it really means to be in a society divided by intolerance and brutal violence. So I started looking for peace even when I was very young. Today, as an adult, the search for peace is my profession. I've been doing this now for 15 years.

#### What does peace mean to you?

Peace is not a signed piece of paper that sits on a shelf or in a museum. It is a process. Peace is something that is experienced. It is the ability of a society to manage and transform conflicts peacefully no matter how small and insignificant or large and impressive they may be. But in peace there is always room for discussion and fruitful contradiction. Humans are the main characters; they consider each other and how they interact with their surroundings. Therefore putting people at the heart of peace is strategic.

True peace enables people to live with dignity and be treated as equals on every level. Only then can we say we live in real peace and people can seize the opportunities available to them. Unfortunately, the peace we experience here in the region is a negative peace.

#### What is negative peace?

It's the maintenance of the political, cultural, economic and social differences that create structural violence. While officially we do live in peace since the signing of the Peace Accords 15 years ago, our society remains extremely violent and has enormous rates of poverty and inequality. I live in an environment where 18 people die due to violence every single day. The issues underlying the violence in our society are not being addressed. There is still a long way to go until we can say we truly live in peace. This is my motivation and what keeps me going.

You say inequality has caused a negative chain reaction...

Yes, one of our biggest problems is inequality. In Guatemala, my home

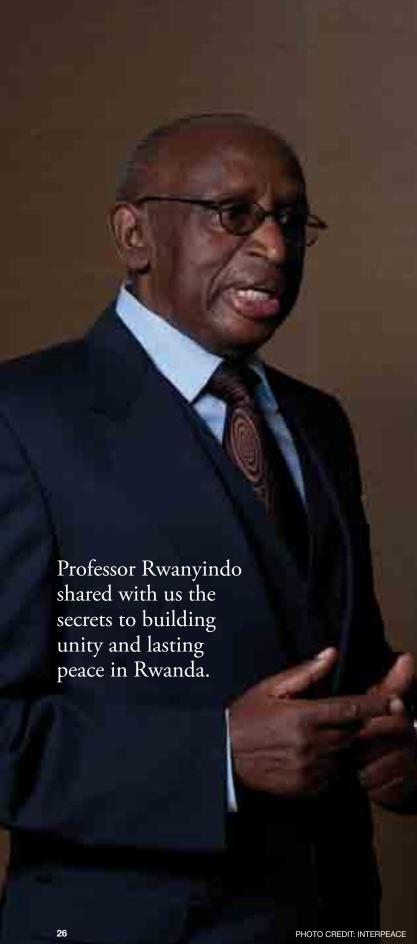
country, 50% of children under five years suffer from malnutrition, but at the same time Guatemala has the highest number of helicopters per capita in the world. This says it all for me.

But most importantly, this inequality that we live in causes violence. People experience injustice that derives from inequality every day. They get humiliated and this causes frustration. In the end, they can turn to violence because it is often seen as the only way to make their voice heard. The marginalized groups in our society - children and youth - suffer most from the violence that surrounds them. In the region, youth represent about 23.5 million people. That is a lot of vulnerable individuals. They have a right to have dreams and aspirations too.

## And your role – you say it energizes you ...

All my work is focused on youth. But also, everyone I work with is bursting with life, energy and enthusiasm. Against all odds, I see them suspending their prejudices to play their part in building peace. They help me keep my outlook fresh – I get new views and new ideas every day. Youth in the region are vibrant, they challenge me every day and their optimism is contagious. I'm not sure if there are many other jobs that are so stimulating.





### PROFESSOR PIERRE RWANYINDO

Behind the broad smile, is a gentleman seen as an authority on Rwandan history and culture. Highly respected by all Rwandan communities, his work focuses on implementing an inclusive approach to address peacebuilding challenges as Rwanda rapidly develops.

An academic and leading regional economist, today, Professor Rwanyindo is the Director of the country's leading peacebuilding organization, the Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace (IRDP).

He combines this with his academic roles, holding a Chair at the Rwanda
National University and the Chairmanship of the
Board of Directors at Kigali

Independent University.

His academic career has included the USA and spanned the region with posts in DRC and Burundi.

We caught up with the Professor at the end of a busy morning to find out what drives him to have such a challenging role in his society and what he sees as the essential skills of a peacebuilder.

## What made you add peacebuilding to your already heavy agenda?

For me the will of Rwandans, in Rwanda and around the world, to rebuild the country after the Genocide of the Tutsi, was clear. A difficult task, but not impossible, I wanted to add value where I felt I could, for the benefit of all Rwandans, and humanity in general.

I had already been supporting associations focused on rebuilding unity and solidarity within the traditional family structure for 10 years when I came across Interpeace. It was back in 2001. At the time, it was clear to me that we could take their way of working and tailor it to what we needed to achieve – a society that could live in harmony, without grievances, without troubles, in security, bound by respect and admiration for others.

As you built up IRDP and continue to manage a team of peacebuilders, what do you look for in a person?

It's simple and challenging at the same time. Any peacebuilder must

understand the context and its complexities. Without this, they cannot get off first base. Then they need to demonstrate tolerance, as it is difficult not to have been affected by the events in our recent history.

Then it is simple. Peacebuilders must have the ability to listen, and listen and listen. This means listening to everyone, their differing perspectives on the same issue, their understanding of events and their input into what can be done to move forward.

## To listen, people need to be comfortable talking. How do you achieve this?

We work hard to create neutral spaces for people to express their views openly, to have conversations with those they may never have expected to even acknowledge. In these places people can feel free to listen without putting up barriers in their own minds.

We work hard to be inclusive, enabling people from all levels of our society to speak out and discuss. In French, we say 'dialoguer'. With individuals with more extreme views, we spend time with them individually before they begin to participate so they too feel comfortable being part of the discussion, and then, part of the solution.

### Over the last 10 years, what has been achieved?

We need to look at the last 17 years. As a nation we have come a long way. We move closer to unity and mutual understanding. We have built the solid foundations upon which we can now build a strong house.

#### What are your hopes for the future?

My aspirations lie with Rwandans everywhere, from the hills to the towns, but importantly, with young Rwandans. They are the future. They must take everything we have achieved, embed the new understanding we now have and jump on the opportunities that are waiting for them to seize.

26 PHOTO CREDIT INTERPEACE

## MAYSOUN SAED IBRAHIM QAWASMEH

Maysoun was born and raised in Jordan. She moved back to her homeland, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, when she got married about 20 years ago. As an activist promoting women rights and a member of prominent international women organizations, Maysoun became a leader in the Palestinian society initiating and promoting positive change in peacebuilding.

While navigating the delicate political divisions in her society, she keeps an independent outlook and is careful not to take any sides. She applies her dynamism, energy and bubbly character to building peace. She also lays a lot of importance on passing on the importance

of civil peace to her children and the rest of her family.

Before rushing off to facilitate meetings in Hebron for youth group, Maysoun took time to connect with us via Skype.

## If there is to be one focus in Palestine, what would that be?

I believe we, as Palestinians, need to organize our priorities in order to end the occupation and be united towards our aim. In order to do that, we need to strengthen the culture of dialogue within Palestine. With the outbreak of internal fighting, it became very apparent to all peacebuilders that the focus must be on civil peace. 'Internal peace in Palestine' is how I usually describe what I do.

## Tell us about Mustakbalna and why you joined?

Mustakbalna is the name of the programme in Palestine. It means 'Our Future' in Arabic. I joined Mustakbalna as a member of a working group looking at local priorities.

I then started to work on the programme because I realized the uniqueness of its approach and the importance of its role in the community. I believe we need a collective vision. As Palestinians, we need to work on this together, overcoming our divisions, while focusing our internal problems and our national priorities. We must stop constantly looking at what is going on around us and focus on ourselves. We need to act instead of react.

## Your area of focus is on women and youth. Can you share with us why?

As women, we carry the heaviest burden of living in a conflict zone affected by occupation and violations by settlers. Our men are in constant danger, our children are not safe, it can be difficult to do the basics, and we spend our private lives mediating. When splits occur in families and amongst friends around political lines, the emotional impact is crippling. In a society where your political opinions dictate who you talk to, if your husband supports Fatah, your son supports Hamas, and your daughter is supporting the left, they can't even sit at the same table and share a meal.

As for youth, they are our future. They are the positive change agents of both today and tomorrow. They are the ones who can create change in our society. I like to think of them as 'multipliers'. They are a positive example to their friends but it doesn't stop there. At home they are changing attitudes as well. Youth must be empowered to become future leaders and decision-makers.

#### So what needs to be done next?

We are all excited about the Arab Spring and the wind of change it is bringing.

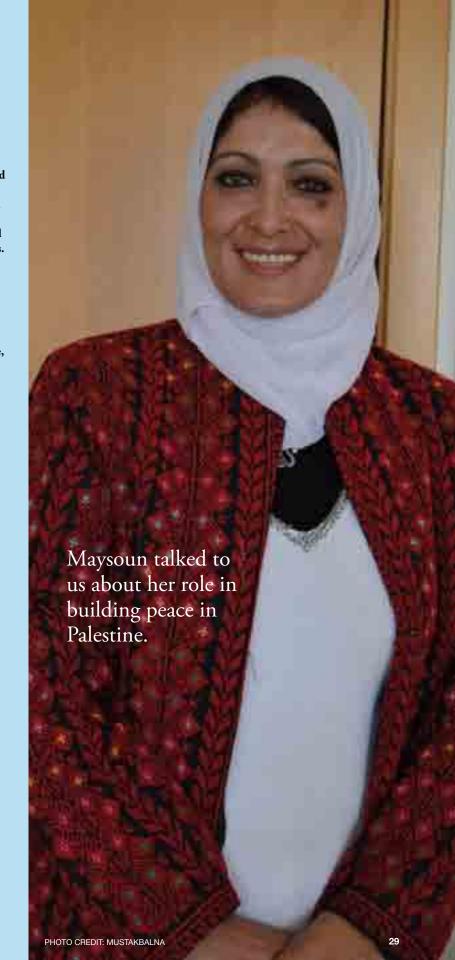
We are also excited about the reconciliation agreement between Fatah and Hamas. But a word of warning; people are often too optimistic and have expectations that cannot possibly be met.

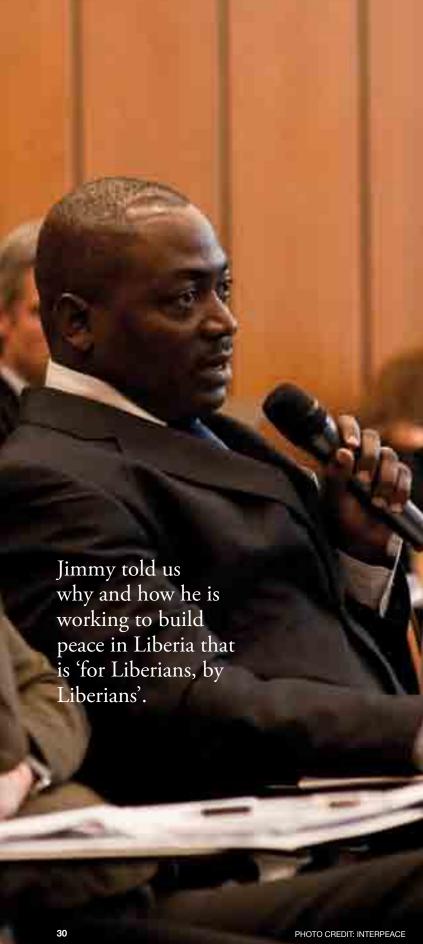
Reconciliation now needs to be implemented on the ground. It will take patience to work this through and achieve unity. Firstly, we need to educate society and especially

young people about their value and role as citizens. Only then can we build unity from within and begin to move forward, as we work to achieve a collective and consensual vision for Palestine by Palestinians.

#### What's your hope for the future?

Peace is always built on a foundation of justice. This is not exclusive to Palestine, but applies to the whole world. I hope the future generation will live in peace, have full rights and will not live under occupation.





## JAMES SUAH SHILUE

Having left Liberia in the early 1990s when the country fell deeper into civil war, Jimmy, as he is known, has since returned to play a central role in peacebuilding. Jimmy is working to fulfil what he feels is a moral obligation to make Liberia a peaceful place for all Liberians.

He is also delivering the promise he made to his children: 'To build a home they can all come back to.'

Today, Jimmy is the
Liberia Programme
Coordinator for the
Interpeace initiative based
in Monrovia. In his various
roles in the humanitarian
and development sector,
he has always taken a
peacebuilding angle.

20 years of professional experience has given him a comprehensive understanding of the issues, political and social structures and stakeholders from both inside and outside the country.

We spent time with Jimmy on his return from a working visit to Nimba County, an area over 300 kilometers from Monrovia, where the now nationwide programme has been active since 2008 and is now widely respected.

#### How do you use your knowledge and experience to guide you in your work?

There is no level of academic understanding that helps you when it comes to very specific peacebuilding interventions. You simply have to be humble as you approach the issues. You go to the local community and allow them to see you as somebody who respects, recognizes and understands their problems. You need to show them that you are there to learn from them, to listen to them and appreciate them in their uniqueness, you are visiting them as 'their son'. You must not behave like a chief, or an academic and certainly not someone who 'knows it all'. I also have to be very flexible, as we have a traditional structure here so certain issues are considered private and ones that

should not be openly discussed with strangers.

Above all, you say you focus on integrity. Why is this so important and what does it mean in reality?

Irrespective of ethnic or social background, when you work in the field of peacebuilding you have to maintain integrity. You need to be objective, non-judgemental, neutral, honest, respectful and sensitive to cultural, religious and social values. Only then can you expect to earn trust and be widely respected. From that point on, you can work on bringing together people. Typically, they have very different views. Therefore, discussions around the issues of conflict and peace, and reaching consensus at the end of a session takes a lot. But most of all they need to have confidence in you. Then all groups or parties can contribute to the peace process and it can become truly theirs.

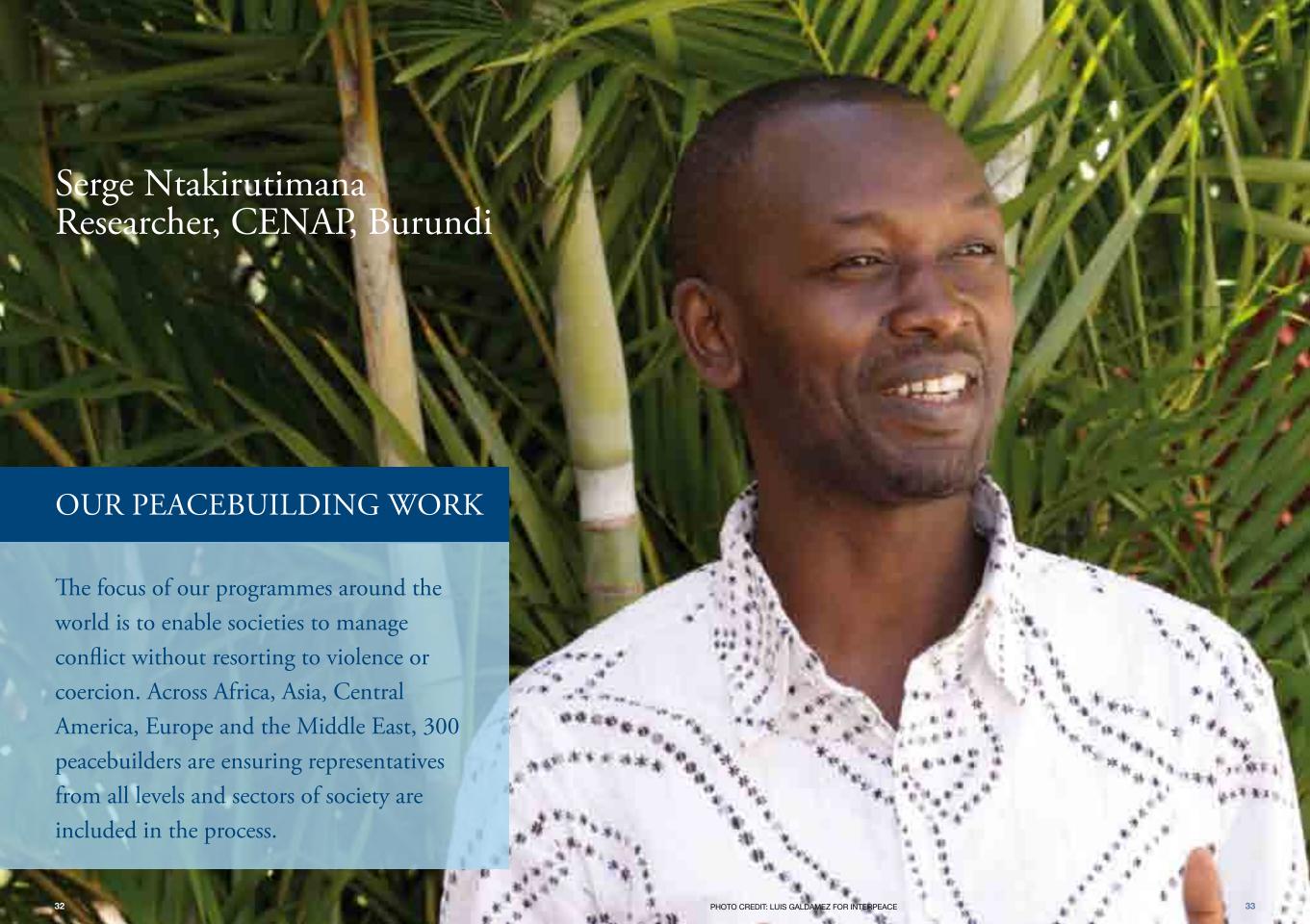
#### You are just back from Nimba County. Why are these visits so important?

As Liberia transitions from war to peace, much developmental work is focused on Monrovia, however it is not the entire country. People living in each of our counties need to be involved to ensure that decisions made in the capital resonate in all parts of the country to ensure sustainable peace and development. I often have to present opinions from our far flung towns and villages to key stakeholders and decisionmakers based in Monrovia, the capital. I often think of myself as a messenger, giving our remote villages and marginalized groups a voice. As I navigate the political waters back in Monrovia, I try to remind those in the capital of the benefits of representing everyone – inclusive pluralism.

## What is a major challenge you face when working in Liberia?

People come to dialogue sessions with a long list of problems. Their issues need to be listened to, discussed, analyzed and then reported in a way that captures the essence of what they said, while still condensing their opinions and insights within the allocated time line. For our last report, we were capturing the opinions of 10,800 Liberians with insufficient financial resources and in extremely challenging geographical locations. Only when the reports are in a digestible format can their words be used for the government, other NGOs and civil society organizations, the UN and the donors that fund our work.

PHOTO CREDIT: INTERPEACE 3



#### **GROWING TENSIONS**

The past year has seen the emergence of potent new challenges for Burundi, still struggling to overcome the legacy of its ethnically-divisive civil war. Following disputed communal elections in May the first of five elections over five months – most opposition parties withdrew from the electoral process. Violence erupted over the following months; subsequent elections without the opposition firmly established the ruling party in power, undermining Burundi's democracy. Additionally, most signs indicate that new armed rebel movements have been formed.





## **BURUNDI**

#### **PRIORITIES FOR PEACE**

Consultations with over 2,200 people revealed that Burundians see four major issues as critical for lasting peace:

## Disarmament of the Civilian Population

 Arms easily find their way into the hands of criminals, but because Burundians do not trust the police to protect them, they cling to their weapons for self-defence.

#### Alleviating Youth Poverty, Unemployment

 Burundi's tens of thousands of poor, unemployed and discontented youth are targets for recruitment by militias and manipulation by politicians.

#### **Legitimizing Elections**

- In the past, disagreement about results by winners and losers has frequently sparked conflict.
- Political parties campaign on divisive messages and often lack clear political platforms and programmes, leaving the country polarized and without stated goals that Burundians can use to hold their government accountable.

#### Reconciliation with the Past

PHOTO CREDIT: CENAFINSET PHOTO CREDIT: THOMAS MUKOYA/REUTERS

 Burundians lack a common understanding of prior conflicts, partly due to a lack of objective historical information about the past.

#### BRINGING BURUNDIANS TOGETHER TO FIND SOLUTIONS

Throughout 2009, CENAP organized working groups to formulate proposed solutions to the major issues. In March 2010, these solutions were presented to the National Group, whose 200 participants represented all aspects of Burundian society. They were asked to prioritize the proposed solutions to the issues. Recommendations included:

#### Disarmament

• Declaring a new grace period for the voluntarily surrender of weapons.

#### Youth Unemployment

 Developing a culture of entrepreneurship amongst Burundian youth and creating links between the education system and the corporate world.

#### Elections

 Establishing a dialogue process for political parties.

#### Reconciliation

 Collecting and protecting information about past events through archives and recorded testimonies.

#### HAVING AN IMPACT

The National Group's recommendations form the basis for CENAP's advocacy efforts. Despite the instability that prevailed for

much of the year due to the electoral situation, definite progress has been made. For example:

- President Nkurunziza has committed to making his government more accountable.
   For instance, at the beginning of 2011, he ordered all ministries, provincial governors, and communal administrators to state their goals and programmes for the coming six months.
- Université Lumière has established entrepreneurship classes for undergraduates and launched an entrepreneurship training centre.
- A National Jobs Observatory
  was created to set up a dialogue
  framework on the challenges
  undermining the labour market
  and an effective information system
  on employment training for youth.
  It will also serve as a resource for
  employment policy-making.

#### THE YEAR AHEAD

#### Facilitating Dialogue, Promoting Solutions

CENAP intends to use the respect and credit it has earned from the stakeholders involved to create a safe space for dialogue between them. This respect will also help CENAP and Interpeace continue to promote the National Group's recommendations and bring its solutions, devised by and for Burundians, to reality.

Interpeace started its programme in Burundi in 2007 in partnership with the Centre of Alert and Conflict Prevention (CENAP). It seeks to facilitate a Burundian-led approach towards forging lasting peace.

## AFRICA

## **GUINEA-BISSAU**

#### A STRONG PARTNERSHIP GROWS STRONGER

Interpeace has been working in Guinea-Bissau since 2007 through the Voz di Paz ('Voice of Peace') programme. The initiative seeks to remove the obstacles to the consolidation of peace and stability in the country through an inclusive, participatory dialogue process that incorporates representatives from all facets of Bissau-Guinean society. In February 2010, Voz di Paz became a fully independent non-profit organization, deepening the capacity of Interpeace and Voz di Paz to work together for peace.

#### **KEY ISSUES**

In 2008-2009, Voz di Paz conducted nationwide consultations with over 6,000 Bissau-Guineans including, for the first time, members of the military and the police. Four main obstacles to peace were identified:

- Lack of effective state institutions and poor governance;
- Poverty;
- Poor administration of justice; and
- Tribalism.

#### **GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT**

These findings were disseminated through a nationwide integrated awareness campaign, which fostered debate and ownership of the issues by Bissau-Guineans. Outreach through a wide variety of media continues:

#### Radio

 Partnering with 25 regional and local radio stations, Voz di Paz produces weekly programmes on current issues such as land disputes and governance. Some partner stations are located deep in the countryside, enabling Voz di Paz to bring dialogue on the issues to the most remote areas.

#### Newsletter

 In October 2010, Voz di Paz launched Eco da Voz di Paz, a newsletter which addresses different topics of interest each month. The bulletin is read both within Guinea-Bissau and by members of the diaspora around the world.

#### **Building Local Media Capacity**

 Voz di Paz provided assistance in the training of 44 local radio journalists, which covered best practices, information management and objective reporting in conflict situations. A further 46 journalists will be trained in the coming year.

#### A TRUSTED ACTOR

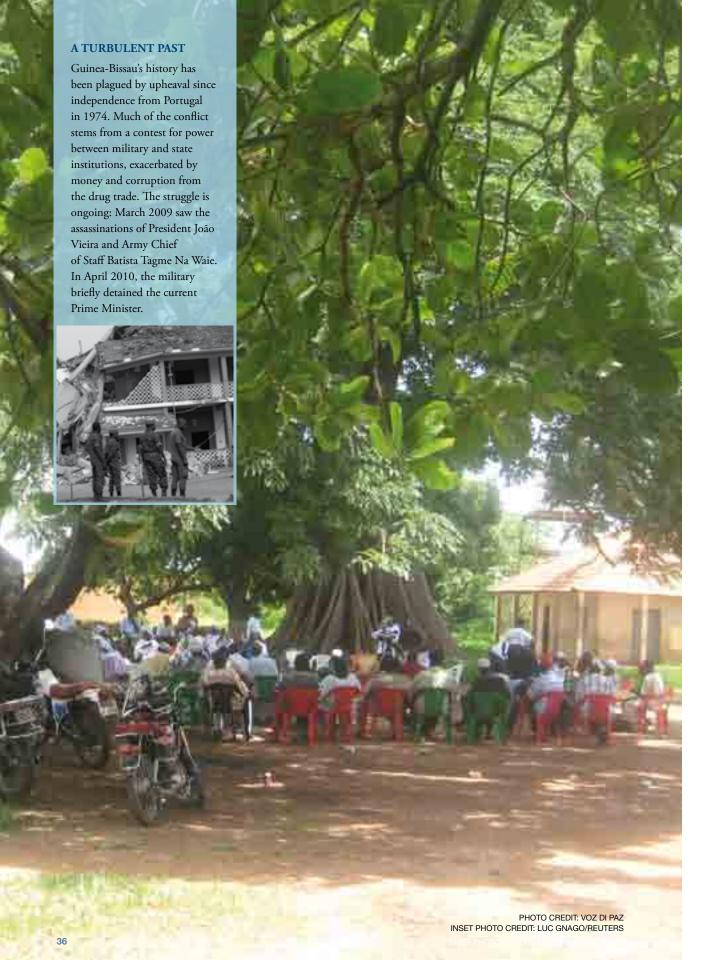
#### **Including the Military**

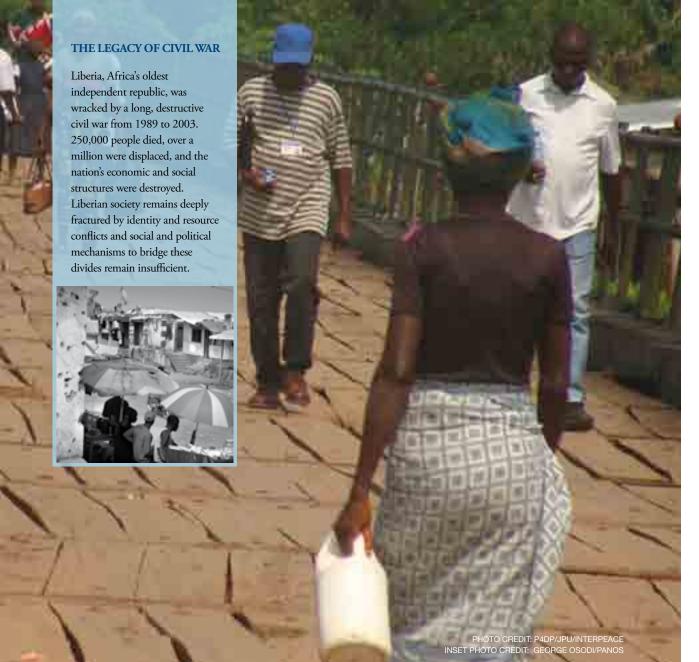
Voz di Paz is one of the few organizations that have been able to get close to the military, earning enough respect to involve the security sector in the national dialogue process. The programme now regularly creates 'dialogue spaces' around specific activities to facilitate rapprochement between civilians and the military. On 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2010, over 3,000 people participated in a social event where civilians interacted with the country's largest infantry unit, something that was unprecedented in the country.

#### Quenching the Thirst for Dialogue

Voz di Paz has set up 10 Regional Spaces for Dialogue, covering the eight regions. Used as safe spaces for dialogue, mediation and reconciliation they are proving effective environments for resolving issues and conflicts at the local level, enabling people to address their pressing issues peacefully, avoiding the use of violence.

Compared to events of 2009, 2010-2011 was a more tranquil year for Guinea-Bissau. Despite some moments of uncertainty due to power struggles in the army, on the whole Guinea-Bissau shows clear signs of recovery and willingness to move beyond the status quo.





Since the end of the war the country has made great strides towards stabilization and development. In 2010, after President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf reached an agreement on cancelling Liberia's US \$ 4.9 billion in debt, global investment has soared. Although violence does occasionally flare up and tensions over some issues, particularly land, remain high, Liberians are generally more inclined to resolve their differences through dialogue and negotiation than through fighting.

## **AFRICA**

## LIBERIA

#### PEACE FOR LIBERIANS, BY LIBERIANS

Interpeace has been involved in Liberia since 2006. The central programme is the Platform for Dialogue and Peace in Liberia (P4DP), supported by the Joint Programme Unit for UN/Interpeace Initiatives and working in partnership with the Liberian Ministry of Internal Affairs and eight Liberian civil society organizations. It seeks conflict resolution through collaborative action, creating safe dialogue spaces nationwide that incorporate all sectors of Liberian society.

## HOW LIBERIANS SEE THEIR PROBLEMS

P4DP consulted 10,800 Liberians from 273 communities nationwide, representing all segments of society, to get Liberians' views on the issues facing the country. Five key challenges to peace have been identified:

- Disputes over land ownership and boundaries, sometimes combined with tensions between ethnic groups;
- Poor local governance due to corruption, abuse of power, and the marginalization of youth, women, and disabled people from decision-making processes;
- Insecurity due to the incapacity of security institutions and of the formal justice system to deal with violence;
- Inter-ethnic confrontations, religious discrimination, and tensions between traditional culture and modernity; and
- Unemployment, uneven distribution of resources, and a lack of social services for the majority of the population.

#### TRANSFORMING CONSULTATIONS INTO ACTION

#### Engaging with the Government

In September 2010, Interpeace's Governing Council Chairman, President John Kufuor, presented the results of P4DP's research to President Johnson Sirleaf. She intends to use the report's findings and recommendations to help guide government policy and advance the cause of peace.

#### **Strengthening Local Capacity**

The eight local partners have been trained on issues of Participatory Action Research, methodological issues, gender mainstreaming, and on lessons learned from the Nimba County pilot project of 2008. They are now better prepared to lead participatory, grassroots-based peacebuilding efforts as the programme moves forward.

#### WHAT'S NEXT

#### **Presidential Elections**

The second presidential elections after the end of the war are due in October 2011, posing a significant test for the country's social and political institutions.

#### **Developing Solutions**

The results of P4DP's research project will be presented to a National Forum of approximately 200 people from all walks of Liberian life. The forum will identify the main priorities for peace in Liberia and lead an effort to find solutions to them.

#### **Continuing Dialogue Efforts**

Dialogue efforts will continue at the county level to better connect Liberian citizens with their leadership, through the facilitation of local dialogue platforms.

## Looking at the Border with Côte d'Ivoire

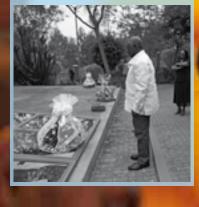
The Liberian team has also assessed the situation created by the massive influx of refugees and armed elements from the Ivoirian crisis, and the harmful effects it can have on the security situation and on the electoral process. Interpeace will propose an intervention to address these issues.

## INTERPEACE'S LIBERIAN CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS

- Foundation for International Dignity
- Initiative for Positive Change
- Inter-Religious Council of Liberia
- Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation
- Liberia Democratic Institute
- Peace Building Resource Centre
- West Africa Network for Peacebuilding
- Women NGO Secretariat of Liberia

## TESTING THE COUNTRY'S STABILITY

The last 12 months have seen several significant tests for Rwanda's stability and cohesion. Even though the presidential election of August 2010 went peacefully, many stresses were evident in the months preceding the poll, including grenade attacks in the capital, Kigali, and tensions between the government and opposition parties.



## **AFRICA**

## **RWANDA**

#### **SEEKING SOLUTIONS**

Interpeace and its local partner, the Institute of Research and Dialogue for Peace (IRDP), have been working together in Rwanda since 2001. The goal is to engage Rwandan stakeholders in a locally-owned search for answers to ongoing issues of governance, economic reconstruction, and social cohesion so that unity and peace can be made sustainable.

## STRENGTHENING IDENTITY AND GOVERNANCE

In 2010, IRDP completed and presented research on issues of ethnic identity and social cohesion, and public participation in decision-making. The process involved participatory focus groups combined with quantitative surveys.

#### Addressing Ethnic and National Identity

Forging a common Rwandan identity remains a challenge. The government's objective to gradually build national identity can be seen through several reforms, including the fact that ID cards and official documents no longer bear mention of a citizen's ethnicity. However, more work is needed to combat

ethnic stereotypes, build a common national memory, and reinforce social cohesion. To address these, recommendations include:

- Create a social mechanism to bring Rwandans together to resolve ongoing contentious issues and to start a dialogue on the importance of social cohesion.
- Organize frank debate sessions on the issue of ethnicity with a special focus on youth as a means to promote social cohesion.

#### **Tackling Governance Challenges**

The research suggested a low level of citizen participation in planning and evaluation of policies and programmes, both nationally and locally. However, radio was found to be the best medium for connecting with Rwandans on governance issues. Recommendations to improve citizen participation include:

 Initiating and supporting a framework through which civil society organizations will regularly analyze key legislation and policy proposals, as well as communicate their contributions to authorities before action is taken.  The promotion of critical thinking through spaces of open debate amongst Rwandans, both youth and adults. Particular emphasis should be placed on the education system's role and audio-visual media.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

In early 2011, IRDP carried out a new round of consultations with Rwandans at home and abroad to get an update perspective of the remaining obstacles to a lasting peace. This analysis will enable IRDP and Interpeace to focus their efforts on areas and issues where they will be most effective.

## FOSTERING A CULTURE OF DIALOGUE

The lack of public dialogue and debate lies at the core of many of the country's critical issues. Interpeace and IDRP have worked hard to correct this:

- 900,000 Rwandans aware of the initiative to date;
- 1,500 and 1,200 Rwandans engaged in debates on the issues of social cohesion and public participation, respectively;
- Over 400 people in eight dialogue clubs in rural areas debate about peacebuilding challenges every month; and
- More than 50 debate clubs in secondary schools nationwide and at Kigali Independent University meet monthly to discuss major issues.

Since the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi, which destroyed Rwanda's economy, institutions, and social fabric, the country has made great progress towards long-term peace, but much work remains to be done.

## **AFRICA**

## **SOMALI REGION**

## A HISTORY OF GROWING INVOLVEMENT

Interpeace first became involved in the Somali region in 1996, when it helped establish the Puntland Development Research Center (PRDC), located in Garowe. Three years later, the Academy for Peace and Development (APD) was set up in Hargeisa, Somaliland. The year 2000 saw the creation of the Center for Research and Dialogue (CRD) in Mogadishu. Each has grown into a respected organization, led and staffed by Somalis. Interpeace works with these local partners to support the interlinked processes of peacebuilding and state formation.

#### PILLARS OF PEACE

Launched with its partners in 2009, Interpeace's main initiative in the region is currently the 'Pillars of Peace' programme. Through extensive processes of public consultation, the programme seeks to bring local communities, civil society representatives, political leaders, and other key actors together to identify the main issues standing in the way

of peace and how to address them. The three pillars are focus areas; taken together, progress in all of them will go a long way towards making a stable, lasting peace possible. They are:

#### Democratization

 Interpeace and its partners are committed to helping all Somalis achieve democracy for themselves, institutionalizing open, constructive, dialogue-based processes that enhance understanding of and commitment to their society and its governance.

#### Decentralization

 Local issues are frequently the ones that most directly impact people's lives. By encouraging citizen involvement in municipal policy-making through dialogue and oversight, Somalis' senses of ownership and belonging to their communities are improved, and satisfactory policy outcomes become more likely.

#### Social Reconciliation

• Divisions between many Somalis run deep, reinforced by decades

of oppressive dictatorial rule and vicious civil war. Lasting, stable peace will only be possible when Somalis can overcome their past, learn to trust each other, and start working together for the common good of all Somalis, not just the narrow interests of their particular clan or group.

#### **ENGAGING THE DIASPORA**

The Somali programme team continued its efforts to connect with the Somali diaspora in Europe and North America, particularly in the UK, Canada, and the United States. The personal investment of many members of the diaspora in bringing peace and stability to their homeland, their transnational perspective, and their ability to contribute material and social resources to the peacebuilding process, are great assets to the Somali regional programmes. Further connections were made following the Mombassa conference in December, 2009 - members of the diaspora who participated in that conference used their networks to enable gatherings of senior figures from all parts of the Somali region for the first time.

Today the words 'Somalia' and 'failed state' have become virtually synonymous in the minds of many, but this common label hides incredible variation, nuance, and dynamism in peace and development processes throughout the Somali region, comprised of Somaliland in the northwest, Puntland in the northeast, and South-Central Somalia. In several areas, Somalis have established viable political and administrative structures to manage conflict and govern territory, while in many places Somali entrepreneurship has worked to revitalize the economy.



## AN ONGOING TRAGEDY South-Central Somalia has yet to attain the level of peace and stability enjoyed by Puntland or Somaliland. The ongoing conflict pitting the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), its African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) allies, and moderate Islamic factions against the Al Shabab insurgents supported by foreign jihadists has seen countless innocent victims caught in the crossfire. The numbers of IDPs and refugees who have fled abroad continue to increase rapidly. The humanitarian crisis is daunting in scale, and continues to worsen. SET PHOTO CREDIT: FINBARR O'REILLY/REUTERS

## **AFRICA**

## SOUTH-CENTRAL SOMALIA

#### A PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE

Interpeace first became involved in South-Central Somalia in 2000. It works closely with its local partner, the Center for Research and Dialogue (CRD), to pursue dialogue-and consensus-based, democratic solutions to the region's ongoing problems.

## CREATING SECURE SPACES FOR OPEN DIALOGUE

Creating safe, secure spaces where Somalis can air their true views and engage in dialogue with each other can be difficult in the context of South-Central Somalia. Nevertheless, CRD and Interpeace have achieved significant successes in this area:

#### Town-Hall Style Public Forum in Nairobi

• In November 2010, CRD partnered with Universal TV to gather several key actors from South-Central Somalia to address some of the most pressing challenges facing the region, including piracy, the sustainability of a large Transitional Federal Parliament, and the region's chronic instability. Those attending included former Somali Prime Ministers, students,

representatives of women's and youth groups, the business community, and civil society organizations, amongst others. Somalis were able to participate via telephone, email, or instant messaging. Tens of thousands of Somalis watched the forum via satellite TV, and just as many followed it via a streaming internet feed. CRD has also partnered with Universal TV to produce a series of televised public dialogue programmes on pertinent Somali issues, which have also gained a wide following.

#### **Engaging Somalis**

 Following an assessment of security conditions in the central regions, CRD brought dialogue processes to Somalis in the South Mudug and Galgaduud regions. Over 370 Somalis participated in focus groups and/or individual interviews on the challenges to peace in South-Central Somalia.

## REUNITING COMMUNITIES DIVIDED BY VIOLENCE

At the request of the Galgaduud community, CRD organized a youth soccer tournament in May 2010 to enhance regional community

reintegration. Hundreds of supporters and nearly 150 players turned out for the event, which brought together people from communities that have been disconnected by conflict for over 20 years.

#### 2011

2011 will see the presentation of the outcomes of CRD's 'Pillars of Peace' mapping exercise in the South Mudug and Galgaduud regions at the regional stakeholders meeting for discussion and endorsement.

Despite great difficulties, lasting peace and stability is possible in South-Central Somalia, and Somalis know it. Incredible efforts have been made over the years to foster dialogue, conflict resolution, democracy, and social cohesion. This work has not been in vain – although the region has a long way to go on the road to peace, progress has been made.

## **AFRICA**

## **PUNTLAND**

#### **SUPPORTING PEACE**

Interpeace started its work in Puntland in 1996. It works closely with its local partner, the Puntland Development Research Center (PDRC), to create and implement strategies and initiatives to help Puntlanders forge a stable, lasting peace rooted in democracy.

## PUNTLANDERS' DETERMINATION FOR PEACE DISPLAYED

In 2009-2010, PDRC conducted a mapping exercise throughout Puntland to gain a picture of what Puntlanders believe to be the main issues standing between them and a stable, lasting peace. A 'Stakeholders' Meeting' was held in mid-2010 to validate the findings and to prioritize the challenges. Participants included key actors from the government, media, civil society, the diaspora, and many others. The third and final day of the meeting was suspended due to political sensitivities.

However, the suspension proved to be a watershed moment for the programme and the Puntland peace process. Puntlanders regionwide demanded to see the meeting's draft report. Popular support for the PDRC swelled; communities, several government ministers and members of the diaspora mobilized for the resumption of the meeting. Eventually, Interpeace and PDRC met with government ministers and the President of Puntland, Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Farole, to resolve tensions. The meeting was resumed and completed in late September.

## CONCILIATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND MEDIA

At the request of the government, in November 2010 PDRC organized a media workshop aimed at dispelling tensions between the government and independent media in Puntland. Opened by President Farole, the three-day event brought together 44 representatives from every Puntland radio station, as well as from leading newspapers, websites, ministerial officials, and members of the House of Representatives. It concluded with an agreement that the Minister of Information would draft a new media

Code of Conduct and ethics, and that the government would release a detained Puntland journalist.

#### **Engaging Youth Through Films**

In March 2010, PDRC launched a mobile audio-visual unit project that aims to use films to stimulate discussion amongst Puntland's youth to promote their engagement in peacebuilding and democratization. In June 2010, the Puntland Ministry of Education asked the project to provide video coverage of secondary school exams for 1,329 students, enhancing the credibility of the educational system.

#### **GOING FORWARD**

The year ahead will see continuing efforts towards democratization in Puntland, including the printing and launch of a new constitution, planning for a referendum or constituent assembly, and the establishment of the Puntland Electoral Commission. Interpeace and PDRC will continue to assist and promote the democratization process, helping Puntlanders achieve a more stable, peaceful future.

Puntland, which declared itself a Federal Unit of the Somali Republic in 1998, has made progress in attaining a relative level of peace and stability. However, inherent security challenges remain. The regional administration of Puntland is facing, for example, challenges in the disputed regions, and incidents motivated by radicals. These challenges and others, relate to the present social and political development stage of Puntland and threaten the stability of the region.





#### THE HOPE OF SOMALIS

Somaliland has made incredible strides in the 20 years since it declared independence from the Somali Republic. Comparatively stable, a significant amount of infrastructure has been rebuilt and credible government institutions have been formed. Democracy is also flourishing, establishing popular control over a vibrant political culture accompanied by a lively civil society, rooted in traditions of discussion and debate. The several free, fair and peaceful elections that have been held – especially the presidential poll in June 2010 – have served as inspirational models for the Somali region as a whole.

On 26th June, 2010, overcoming several challenges, including political upheaval just a few months previously, the need to renew confidence in the National Electoral Commission (NEC), threats from militant groups, as well as the

immense logistical demands of staging a large-scale election, Somalilanders went to the polls to elect a new president. International observers certified the vote as free and fair. The incumbent was defeated and stepped down without incident, allowing for the first-ever peaceful transition of power in the Horn of Africa. The elections inspired Somalis everywhere to continue to push for peace.

### STRENGTHENING THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The National Electoral Commission played a critically important role in the election. Although tarnished by previous difficulties, the Commission was reconstituted according to a six-point code of conduct agreed in September 2009. The NEC proceeded to conduct itself with professionalism. The flawed voter registration list was cleaned up and completed, over

5,000 NEC staff were trained, and 8,000 people were deployed by the NEC to conduct the election. The NEC coordinated well with other actors in the elections, including 5,000 political party agents, 600 civil society mediators, 800 local observers, and two teams of international electoral observers. Interpeace was the lead international organization supporting the NEC, and Interpeace's local partner, the Academy for Peace and Development (APD), provided consistent guidance and support.

PHOTO CREDIT: ANDREW MCCONNELL/PANOS FOR INTERPE PHOTO CREDIT: ANDREW MCCONNELL/PANOS FOR INTERPE

#### STRENGTHENING INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Recognizing the importance of trustworthy media, especially in the run-up to critical elections, APD organized a discussion and training exercise with independent and government media in April 2010. The discussion led to agreement on a

## **AFRICA**

## **SOMALILAND**

media Code of Conduct, including an oversight and enforcement mechanism, as well as reconciliation – for the first time – between private media and the government. The training and code of conduct provided the basis for relatively balanced coverage of the 2010 elections, ensuring journalist's access to polling stations and media restraint in announcing preliminary or speculative results.

#### **ENSURING A PEACEFUL VOTE**

The few incidents of physical violence were rare exceptions to overall calm. Threats by militants to disrupt the elections were counteracted by public vigilance, combined with responsive police and security forces.

## INTERNATIONAL INTEREST AND SUPPORT

Indicating how important the elections were to Somalis everywhere, the vote was watched intently by Somalis throughout the region and around the world via satellite TV and the Internet. Despite ongoing disagreements as to the political future of the Somali region, for the first time, the President of the Somali Transitional Federal Government, leaders in Puntland, elders in Mogadishu, and Somalis worldwide sent in messages of support.

### HIGH LEVEL OF WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT

Women played an active role in the elections, both as voters and supporters of the electoral process. Observers noted that the majority of voters appeared to be women and youth, and depending on the district or region, between 13% and 25% (18% on average) of NEC staff were women – a respectable number in a traditionally-patriarchal society. Overall, the elections provided Somaliland's women with a strong platform for future involvement in electoral processes.

## MAPPING ONGOING CHALLENGES

As a part of the 'Pillars of Peace' programme, APD consulted over 600 people in more than 15 locations throughout Somaliland in order to stimulate public dialogue about the pillars, as well as to gather Somalilander's views on the issues and how to address them. Key stakeholders, personalities and leaders were also interviewed, and concerted efforts were made to organize separate focus groups for under-represented groups in Somaliland society, especially women, youth, and minorities.

Continuing the process, APD held their National Programme Group Meeting in early October 2010. Over 120 leaders of Somaliland society, including ministers, civil servants, parliamentary committee chairs, traditional elders, representatives of youth, women's advocacy, IDPs, and minority groups, businessmen, NGOs, international observers, and donors attended. They validated the findings of the mapping exercise, prioritized solutions, and set up steering committees composed of key actors that will work to see the recommendations of the exercise translated in to real-world action.

#### **ENGAGING WOMEN**

Interpeace and APD provided institutional support for Women Peace Activists (WPA), a Somaliland NGO dedicated to incorporating women into the Somaliland peace process. Vital equipment was donated to the WPA office, and 26 women attended a capacity-building training programme organized by APD in October 2010, enhancing their understanding of conflict management techniques as well as teaching administration, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills.

#### **GOING FORWARD**

Over the coming year, APD and Interpeace will focus on addressing gaps in Somaliland's electoral legal framework, promote a national policy on decentralization, and work to strengthen weak police and judicial institutions. Local elections scheduled for the end of 2011/beginning of 2012 constitute another test for the region's democracy.

Interpeace first started working in Somaliland in 1999, where we work with our partner, the Academy for Peace and Development (APD) to pursue consensus-oriented, integrated approaches to peacebuilding. The programme is led and staffed by Somalilanders.



## **TIMOR-LESTE**

#### THE PATH TO LASTING PEACE

The process of building a new democracy has brought high hopes, but also frustrations, highlighting deep, persistent challenges to the consolidation of peace and stability. Political crises and cycles of violence have continued. More work is needed to establish a truly stable, lasting peace.

## A PARTNERSHIP FOR LASTING PEACE

In response to the violent crisis of 2006, Interpeace joined with the Centre of Studies for Peace and Development (CEPAD), a Timorese peacebuilding NGO, to start the Programme for Research and Dialogue for Peace (PRDP). Since 2007, PRDP has engaged citizens and key actors in a multi-sectoral approach, promoting a culture of dialogue in the search for ways to address some of the major challenges for a sustainable peace.

#### OBSTACLES TO PEACE

A nation-wide consultation conducted by PRDP from 2007-2009 highlighted four critical areas for peace:

- Preventing the promotion of individual or party interests over national interests;
- The ineffective judicial system and the culture of impunity;

- The need for a common historical narrative of the resistance and occupation; and
- Corruption, collusion, and nepotism.

#### ROOTING DEMOCRACY

Additionally, further work is needed to establish strong Timorese democracy. The consultations revealed that many citizens feel that democratic principles are not well understood and are interpreted arbitrarily. Moreover, there is a deep sense of disconnection between many Timorese and their leaders. Citizens want to get involved, but feel that the mechanisms and culture to enable them to do so are lacking, and so often see no other options besides violence and undemocratic options to address their concerns.

## PUTTING NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST

In 2010, PRDP launched the first working group, which is conducting in-depth research on the theme of the "promotion of individual and party interests over the national interest." A press conference was held at the end of the event with all major radio and television stations in attendance. The working group members quickly took ownership of the process and results will be available during the course of

2011. Initial findings show that while some aspects of the patronage system such as bad governance in the form of unaccountable political decisions are being addressed at the institutional level, many of the factors and causes identified are too sensitive because of their political nature.

#### PEACE HOUSES TO BRING TIMORESE TOGETHER

Responding to requests made by many Timorese that the programme works with, construction began on the three peace houses in the districts of Aileu, Baucau and Maliana. Built with traditional materials and methods, the house is built upon the local custom of bringing people together to resolve conflicts. It will serve as a neutral space for community dialogue on an ongoing basis.

#### **GOING FORWARD**

PRDP will create platforms for debate to give historically marginalized Timorese a voice, enabling their concerns to be heard by leaders and addressed in a peaceful, democratic context. Additionally, ahead of the 2012 elections the programme will conduct focus group discussions and inclusive dialogue to bring leaders together with society, encouraging constructive engagement on issues of high importance to Timorese.

Timor-Leste is now focusing on the transition from post-conflict to stable peace, as a springboard for the consolidation of democracy. Despite the numerous challenges it faces, many achievements can be noted over the past year, including the handover of policing responsibilities from the UN to Timorese authorities, the passage of key legislation, and the creation of the country's 2011-2020 National Development Plan.



# A HISTORY OF DIVISION The conflict began in the 1950s. It erupted violently with bloodshed and culminated in 1974 with the interventions of Greece and later Turkey that led to the island's current de-facto division. Since the partition of the island into Greekand Turkish-Cypriot zones in 1974, countless efforts have been made to bring the two communities back together, but the island remains divided by the 'Green Line' that is only passable in designated areas.

# EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

## **CYPRUS**

## FACILITATING RECONCILIATION

In 2009, Interpeace joined the United Nations Development Programme – Action for Cooperation and Trust in Cyprus (UNDP-ACT) to launch 'Cyprus 2015: Research and Dialogue for a Sustainable Future.' The programme is implemented through the Joint Programme Unit for UN/Interpeace Initiatives. It seeks to develop broadly-supported policy recommendations to contribute to the peace process.

### BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

#### **Unique Capacity**

'Cyprus 2015' is distinctive in its role as a connector of different levels in the political process for addressing the Cyprus issue. It has established good relations with the negotiation teams on both sides of the island and the UN Good Offices. The programme also works with the wider public through participatory opinion polls, media outreach, and stakeholder groups.

#### **Bi-Communal Solutions**

The programme has set up communal and bi-communal panels that have brought together individuals from a wide cross-section of Cypriot society to discuss and formulate policy proposals for issues that will be faced by a post-settlement Cyprus. These include sustainable development strategies, and how to overcome barriers to inter-communal trust issues to prepare for everyday life.

#### **HAVING AN IMPACT**

In April and October 2010, 'Cyprus 2015' published the results of two participatory public opinion polls. The polls were designed with the input of key actors in both communities, taking into consideration concerns from the negotiating table. The results have helped narrow the gap between the formal political peace processes and the wider public in both communities. The results of the participatory polls received widespread media attention – and have sparked significant public debate. Political officials and

international actors have also taken note – there is evidence that the results are influencing policy and negotiation decisions, especially regarding public concerns that were not as evident to leaders beforehand. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has mentioned the results in an interview.

#### **GOING FORWARD**

Although challenged to maintain momentum by limited funds, the 'Cyprus 2015' team remain determined to keep the pace and discussions are underway on how to continue to support the peace process.

## PARTICIPATORY POLLING FOR PEACE

Participatory polling combines participatory techniques with opinion polls. Key groups are involved in the process of both designing and analysing the results of the opinion polls. This helps to develop collaborative attitudes and ownership among those involved.

Despite past difficulties, there is cause for optimism. There seems to be general agreement amongst leaders on all sides that a solution has to be found, and constructive negotiations were restarted in 2008. The majority of Cypriots – both Greek and Turkish – favour a settlement, and there is broad agreement on the shape of a future unified, federal Cypriot state. Continuous efforts to build intra- as well as intercommunal trust, understanding, and awareness, improve prospects for the achievement of a sustainable resolution of the Cyprus issue.

# A NEED TO BROADEN THE **PEACE PROCESS** Despite great efforts over the years, progress towards a peaceful and just solution to the conflict has seen little progress. Polarization and violence persist, and many sectors of society feel disconnected from the process. Such conditions are not favourable for the creation of a sustainable peace. In order for peace to be made a reality, all sides need to have the chance to be heard. The process needs to be inclusive to be effective. PHOTO CREDIT: B4D/JPU7INTERPEACE NSET PHOTO CREDIT: RYAN ANSON FOR INTERPEACE

# EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

## **ISRAEL**

## GIVING A VOICE TO THE MARGINALIZED

Since 2004, Interpeace's Israel programme, Base for Discussion (B4D), has been working to incorporate the opinions of often marginalized groups in Israeli society into the wider dialogue on the peace process. This programme is implemented through the Joint Programme for UN/Interpeace Initiatives. Currently, it focuses on three communities: the Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel, the traditional religious population, and the Russian-speaking community in Israel.

## INVESTMENT IN THE PALESTINIAN ARAB COMMUNITY

The action plans being developed by the Palestinian Arab population following the publication of B4D's 'Future Vision' document in 2006 have yielded positive results.

#### **Public-Private Collaboration**

In February 2010, Pitango Venture Capital won a governmental bid and launched Al-Bawdir ('buds' in Arabic). The new venture capital fund will invest ILS 117 million in the Israeli-Arab community, with ILS 80 million provided by the Israeli government and the rest coming from Pitango and private investors.

#### Long-Term Government Investment

In March 2010, the Israeli government approved the investment of ILS 800 million over five years in 10 cities to support Israeli-Arab economic growth. Among other initiatives, ILS 220 million will be devoted to development programmes, and ILS 150 million will be spent to support the "city without violence" project in the target cities, which aims to improve services offered to residents and reinforce the ties between communities and law enforcement authorities.

#### SUPPORT FROM GLOBAL LEADERS FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ISRAELIS

In October 2010, the programme brought Russian-Israelis together with a group of The Elders, including former US President Jimmy Carter, former Irish President Mary Robinson, and pioneer in women's empowerment Ela Bhatt. Carter affirmed that the Russian-Israeli community represents a great asset to the peace process. The meeting was partially broadcast on

Israeli-Russian television and received significant coverage online

## WORKING WITH THE TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS POPULATION

Work with the traditional religious population has been possible through engagement with the SHAS movement. In 2010, it completed an 18-month educational programme for mid-level SHAS religious and political leadership, which exposed participants to the history of the conflict and past peace processes. The process has not stopped there. With the approval of the SHAS religious and political leadership, a rabbinical committee was created to draft a religious declaration for peace as well as concrete proposals to redress religious aspects of the peace process. A similar educational programme for SHAS women has also been developed.

#### **ONGOING GROWTH**

The coming year will see continued efforts at strengthening ties and capacity building in each community. In particular, efforts are underway to expand the educational programme to the Russian and Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel, further enabling leaders and members of each group to be active contributors to peace.

Israeli society contains a wide variety of views as to the best way forward for the peace process. Greater engagement with all segments of Israeli society will enable a process of constructive problem solving across the divides and for the development of visions that are more representative of the shared values, interests and goals of the society as a whole. Owing to their broad-based support, such visions are more useful in the search for a lasting peace.

## HINDERED BY DIVISION In addition to the consequences of the ongoing Israeli Occupation since 1967, the Palestinians faced a dramatic change in the internal scene followed by the internal political split, between the two leading political parties, Fatah and Hamas. Each has differing visions of freedom for Palestine and how best to achieve it. Mending the internal divide is a prerequisite for a viable agenda for peace shaped by all Palestinians, backed by the unified effort needed to make positive change a reality. OTO CREDIT: MUSTAKBALNA INSET PHOTO CREDIT: STEVE SABELLA FOR INTERPEACE

# EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

## **PALESTINE**

### BRINGING PALESTINIANS TOGETHER

Since 2004, Interpeace has been engaging Palestinians through the Mustakbalna ('Our Future' in Arabic) programme. Its activities are centered upon addressing a fundamental question: "What do Palestinians want and what is their vision for the future?" The answer will form the keystone for lasting peace and stability in the region. The programme aims to reflect wide consensus, supported by both Palestinian society and its leadership.

## ENGAGING KEY NEGLECTED DEMOGRAPHICS

#### **Empowering Future Leaders**

Young people represent over 30% of the Palestinian population, and will be responsible for building a peaceful, stable future in the years to come. In 2010, Mustakbalna conducted over 70 meetings for youth groups in the West Bank. Meetings included capacity building sessions

and workshops intended to provide youth with the skills and tools for positive change. Youth groups also took the lead in conducting activities to address and discuss key Palestinian issues. In January 2010, for example, 32 members participated in a political and legal workshop with international law specialists on the nature of a future Palestinian state.

## Realizing the Potential of Ex-Detainees

Due to their engagements and strong visions for the political development of Palestine, ex-detainees carry significant weight in the national discourse. Small group consultations held with ex-detainees in 2010, moved to an engagement at the national level. Two key National Meetings to discuss ex-detainees' roles and priorities in the Palestinian reconciliation process were conducted in February and April, with 40 participants at each meeting representing the spectrum of political parties and relevant institutions.

### EXPANDING THE PROGRAMME'S REACH

#### Working in Gaza

In March 2010, Mustakbalna consultants in Gaza completed an analysis of the overall political and social situation in Gaza and assessed the feasibility and needs required for implementing the programme's approach in the area. A pilot phase started in February 2011 and upon its completion, Mustakbalna will formulate its strategy for how it will work in Gaza as a whole.

#### Reaching Out to the Diaspora

The Palestinian diaspora makes up almost half of the Palestinian people. A future vision for the nation would not be representative without their input. Contingent on the security situation and financial capacity, Mustakbalna will resume visits to refugee camps in 2011/2012.

Inspired by the protests and uprisings elsewhere in the Middle East and North Africa, thousands of Palestinians in both Gaza and the West Bank have joined demonstrations since mid-March 2011, demanding an end to the intra-Palestinian divide. Their demands were met: in April 2011, Hamas and Fatah announced that they would reconcile their differences and form a unity government. While a welcome development, many underlying sources of tension between Palestinians remain.



# CENTRAL AMERICA

# CENTRAL AMERICAN YOUTH PROGRAMME

## A STRONG CULTURE OF VIOLENCE PREVAILS ACROSS THE REGION

In the post-conflict countries of Guatemala and El Salvador, as well as in Honduras where violence is also part of the social and political dynamic, the levels of violence are of major public and government concern. Torture and disrespect for life are not only characteristics of the security sector but also of the population.

#### CONCERN OVER GANG VIOLENCE DRAWING ATTENTION AWAY FROM OTHER CRITICAL VIOLENCE RELATED ISSUES

The context is further accentuated by the growth over the last five years of the number of youth groups in the region that are involved in violence. There is also evidence of repercussions in areas beyond the region and this includes Europe.

However, the concern regarding the phenomenon of youth gangs, also known as '*Maras*', is often concealing other forms of violence that are affecting and victimizing children, adolescents and youth and that require urgent attention.

#### 'MANO DURA' APPROACH IS NOT SUSTAINABLE

The current tendency to try and combat violence through repressive measures is not sustainable. Largely reactive, these official policies pay little attention to root causes of violence and prevention.

Taken too far, or left uncontrolled, they contribute to the undermining of state institutions, democracy and the rule of law in the region. Violations, notably the 'limpieza social', social cleansing through extra-judicial killings of socially disruptive groups and individuals, is just one example.

## CIVIL SOCIETY INPUT REQUIRES MORE ATTENTION

With the lack of political will from governments to include civil society input in policy development, there are limited spaces to harness their participation. Concrete proposals originating from participatory processes can support the development of holistic violence prevention policies.

#### STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO DEVELOP HOLISTIC POLICIES

Interpeace's Central American Youth Programme is working to fill the gap by strengthening the capacity of both governments and civil society across Central America to develop holistic and preventive policies. The programme is currently active in Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. The Youth Programme is also working at the regional level, with Central America's Integration System, SICA.

#### **HAVING AN IMPACT**

Regionally, the programme has been working for policy reform through SICA. Achievements include:

- The development of a strategic framework for the prevention of youth related violence in the region and associated interventions.
- The approval by the Interior and Security Ministers of the member states of a Regional Strategy for the prevention, reduction, treatment, and rehabilitation of minors and older persons at social risk or in conflict with the law. The strategy was adopted by the Presidents of the region.
- The creation and consolidation of a 'Regional Commission for the Prevention of Youth Violence.'
   Interpeace is providing technical assistance to what is now called the 'Regional Commission for the Prevention of Social Violence' in the area of violence prevention and youth employment.

Policy recommendations have been made for Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras with Belize, Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua to follow. In Guatemala, the recommendations have been included in the Youth National Policy (2010-2015). In Honduras and El Salvador governmental authorities showed interest in the proposals and expressed their will to adopt the majority of them.





Since 1994 Interpeace has gathered a wealth of knowledge and experience. As we share our local insights with policymakers from the international community and the United Nations (UN), we are continuing to see how we can improve upon this so even more people can access the knowledge and benefit from lasting peace.

## ANSWERING AN URGENT NEED

#### Constitution-making for Peace

We live in an era of constitution-making and refinement. Over 150 new constitutions have been created since 1975, and as many as 20 national constitutions are reformed or adopted each year. Recent months and the 'Arab Spring' of 2011 have proven that this development continues. But despite the

significance of constitution building processes, there are still limited resources for national actors, their advisors and their international partners. They are lacking guidance as they design, lead and implement national participatory exercises. By providing constitution builders with practical guides, webbased resources, advisory services and opportunities to share knowledge, best practice and experiences, Interpeace is seeking to fill this critical gap.

#### Constitution-making Handbook

The first ever handbook covering options for the process of building a constitution can be downloaded at www.interpeace.org. Interpeace's comprehensive handbook brings together the expertise of over 100 leading practitioners as well as significant research from all regions. It does not take a 'one size fits all' approach but provides practical guidance by discussing the experiences

## POLICY AND LEARNING

of constitution-making over the past forty years. It highlights opportunities and dilemmas posed by key challenges in a constitution-making processes as well as including practical tips.

## GIVING CIVIL SOCIETY A VOICE

#### Support for the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding

The International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding provides an opportunity for fragile states to engage in open dialogue and share experiences among themselves, with development partners and with civil society.

Interpeace's initial involvement was to bring the voices of over 50 civil society organizations to the first global meeting in Dili, Timor-Leste in 2010. Interpeace has been designated as the civil society focal point for the 'International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding'.

A Civil Society Advisory Group has been set as a network of civil society organizations. This network can be accessed quickly for insights and input to support the Steering Committee, Working Groups, and Global Meetings.

## SUPPORTING THE UNITED NATIONS

## Peacebuilding Workshop for the UN Team in Lebanon

The UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) and Interpeace brought together representatives from all the UN agencies operating in Lebanon for a peacebuilding workshop. Coming together they were able to develop the foundations for a Peacebuilding Priority Plan.

#### Input into the UN Report on 'Civilian Capacities in the Aftermath of Conflict'

Interpeace provided input from approximately 30 civil society organizations into the UN Report on Civilian Capacities. A large focus of the input was the importance of supporting national civilian capacities for peace.

## ENHANCING LEADERSHIP IN PEACEBUILDING

#### A Second Training Course

In partnership with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), and supported by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Interpeace implemented, for a second time, a senior level peacebuilding course. Bringing together 23 potential leaders and individuals in leadership positions, the four day training course addressed the role of leadership in relation to peacebuilding. A third course will be offered in 2011.

## ADVANCING THE PEACEBUILDING DOMAIN

#### The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

Interpeace is one of the four steering committee members of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. Working as the knowledge hub in peacebuilding for the Geneva area, the forum has a membership of over 700 individuals and more than 60 organizations from the area. Regular sessions are held to tackle relevant challenges in peacebuilding, so enhancing knowledge and driving progress in the area.

#### **World Economic Forum**

As a Young Global Leader, Scott M. Weber, the Interpeace DirectorGeneral has had the opportunity to participate in a number of World Economic Forum Regional Events. The organization has also had the opportunity to provide input into the agendas of selected regional events.

#### HARNESSING THE KNOWLEDGE ON YOUTH AND PEACE

Youth typically make up the largest sector of the population in the countries in which we work. They are also the most prolific victims and perpetrators during times of fragility and conflict. Youth are central to the peacebuilding agenda, but are often in danger of being as marginalized in the peace process as they were during conflict. In early 2010, members of the Interpeace family that work directly with youth came together with external experts to discuss the role of youth in fragile societies and share learnings. Participants left the session with a network of specialist across the world they could draw upon at any time, while also returning to their societies with new and fresh ideas to implement.

## LEARNING FROM EVALUATIONS

Reviews and evaluations are one of the main building blocks as Interpeace seeks to constantly improve and refine its programming around the world. Evaluations in 2010 including a mid-term review of Interpeace's programme on the development of public policies for the prevention of youth violence and an evaluation of the Burundi programme. The findings were positive and were included in the planning processes for the design of the following phases of work.



## **OUR FUNDING**

Interpeace is funded entirely through voluntary contributions. Interpeace is grateful to the governments, EU, UN and generous individuals that supported the organization in 2010. Their continued support and confidence in the organization enables Interpeace to pursue its mission.

In 2010, Interpeace received US \$ 18.9 million of funding for specific projects (restricted funding) and US \$ 4.3 million of unrestricted funding.

Interpeace receives both unrestricted and restricted funding support. Unrestricted funding is used towards the organization's programme of work. Restricted funding may be restricted either by region, by programme, by project or by specific earmarking within a project. Both types of funding are vital to Interpeace's ability to pursue its mission of building peace.

A total of 17 donor agencies including governments and intergovernmental donors supported Interpeace in 2010. Government contributions accounted for almost 95% of Interpeace's income and originate from either government departments such as Ministries of Foreign Affairs or development cooperation agencies. Interpeace is indebted to the governmental donors and their continued confidence and support of the organization.

# OUR GOVERNMENT AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL DONORS

As well as foundations and individuals, the following donors supported Interpeace in 2010. We are very grateful for their continued confidence and support.

Belgian Ministry of Foreign
Affairs, Foreign Trade and
<b>Development Cooperation</b>

Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)

**European Commission** 

Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Irish Aid

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs** 

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)

Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom Department for International Development

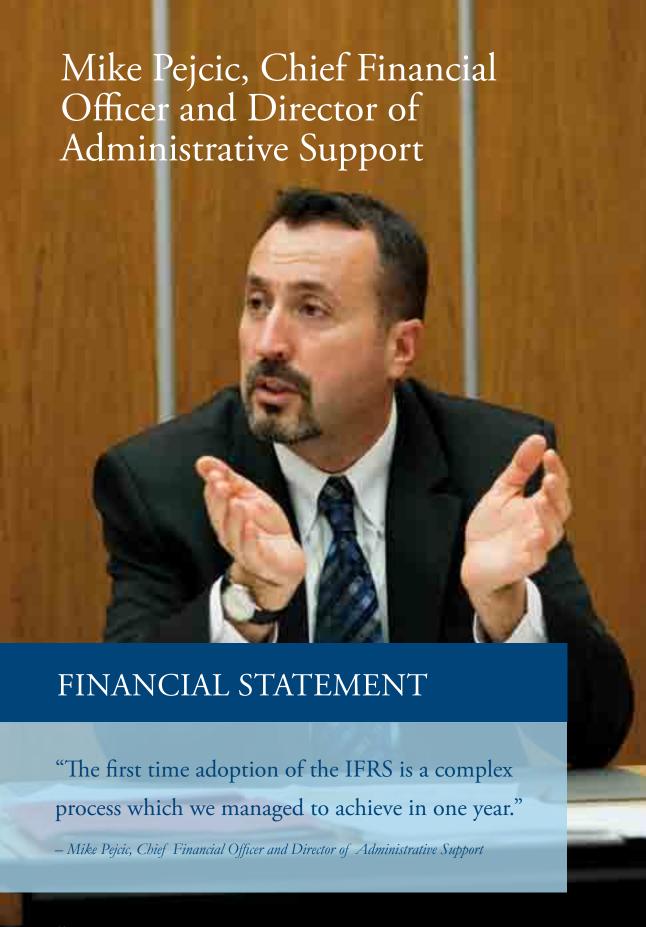
**United States Department of State** 

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPBF)

United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office (UN PBSO)



As was done for the first time in 2009, Interpeace prepared its financial statements based on the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in 2010.

Interpeace is the first and only Swiss non-profit organization so far that has achieved both the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and been awarded a seal of approval by ZEWO, a Swiss charity evaluator.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are a set of accounting standards that have been developed for the preparation of financial statements for publicly quoted companies. IFRS are the world's most widely applied accounting standards and represent the highest level of financial reporting.

Although not required by Swiss law, Interpeace took the initiative to adopt IFRS reporting as part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen our systems and internal controls as well as our accountability and transparency to our donors. Along with IFRS, our financial reporting gives our donors a more in-depth view of the structural, legal and financial situation at Interpeace and should provide them with a stronger basis upon which to judge the quality of our financial stewardship of donor resources.



In late 2010, Interpeace received the certification of ZEWO, the top Swiss charity evaluator. The ZEWO certificate stands for organizations which offer transparent information and true and fair financial reporting, have independent and appropriate control mechanisms, provide open communications and which procure their funds in a fair manner. ZEWO also evaluates the percentage of the funding allocated for administrative costs.

The complete audited statements are available upon request at: info@interpeace.org.



KPMG SA Audit 111, rue de Lyon

P.O. Box 347

Telephone +41 22 704 15 15 Fax +41 22 347 73 13 Internet www.kpmg.ch

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Consolidated Financial Statements to the Governing Council of

#### International Peacebuilding Alliance (INTERPEACE), Geneva

As independent auditor, we have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of International Peacebuilding Alliance (INTERPEACE), which comprise the statement of comprehensive income, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in reserves and notes for the year ended 31 December 2010.

#### Governing Councils' Responsibility

The Governing Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the requirements of Swiss law. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Governing Council is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards as well as International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2010 give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and comply with Swiss law.

KPMG SA

gr-

Pierre-Henri Pingeon Licensed Audit Expert Auditor in Charge Karina Vartanova
Licensed Audit Expert

Geneva, 15 June 2011

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## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CALENDAR YEAR 2010 (US \$)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	2010	2009
Income	US\$	US \$
United Nations	965,234	1,567,725
Governments	21,942,927	16,270,892
Trusts & Foundations, NGO and Other	323,072	281,060
Bank Interest and Exchange Gains	12,961	84,709
Total Income	23,244,194	18,204,386
Expenses		
Personnel (incl. Consultants)	13,029,091	11,057,984
Travel and Related Expenses	2,140,947	2,205,951
Equipment Purchases	736,706	625,091
Depreciation	57,254	60,466
Office, Communications, Vehicle and Finance	2,149,357	2,137,852
Workshops, Reporting and Professional Services	4,518,113	1,992,906
UN Management Fees	154,129	169,191
Exchanges Losses and Actuarial Adjustments	205,869	124,912
Total Expenses	22,991,466	18,374,353
Net Income/Expenses	252,728	(169,967)
Carryforward from Previous Year	1,175,532	1,345,499
Closing Balance 31 December	1,428,260	1,175,532

BALANCE SHEET (as at 31 December)	2010	2009
Assets	US\$	US
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	114,181	88,16
Deposits	68,671	65,672
Current Assets		
Deposits	4,177	6,302
Advances to UN	153,915	337,310
Advances to Partners	284,362	238,75
Project Income Receivable	3,534,257	3,888,96
Other Receivables and Prepayments	303,257	138,98
Cash and Cash Equivalents	995,405	2,353,50
Total Assets	5,458,225	7,117,65
Liabilities and Reserves		
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provisions	67,631	32,16
Employee Benefits	365,270	314,78
Current Liabilities		
Provisions	0	160,74
Deferred Income	2,231,604	4,627,29
Amounts due to Partners	73,115	6,16
Income to be Repaid to Donors	181,314	92,87
Payables and Accruals	1,111,031	708,109
Total Liabilities	4,029,965	5,942,12
Unrestricted Reserves	1,428,260	1,175,53
Total Liabilities and Reserves	5,458,225	7,117,658

## 2010 EXPENDITURE

The overall expenditure for 2010 was US \$ 23 million, with 88% going towards programmes. This represents a 25% increase of total expenditure compared to 2009 (US \$ 18 million). One of the main reasons for the

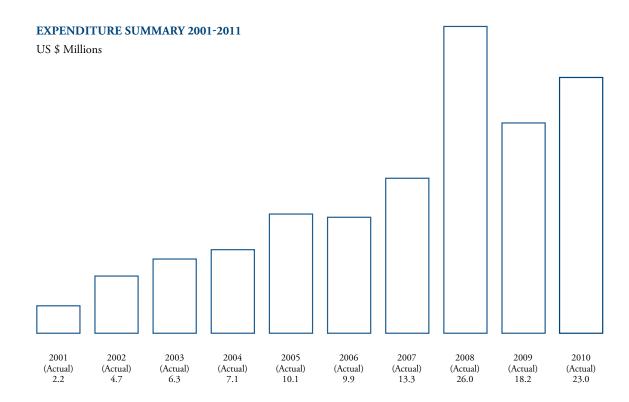
significant expenditure increase in 2010 was the Presidential Elections project in Somaliland which accounted for US \$ 7.5 million.

The unstable global economic situation continued in 2010 and was

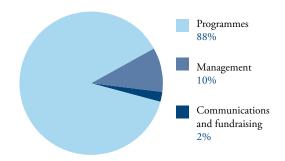
also reflected in the currency markets. As a result of volatile exchange rates during 2010, Interpeace recorded US \$ 135K of exchange losses in 2010.

Project expenses	US\$
Somalia Pillars of Peace	4,270,008
Somali Women in Peacebuilding	443,633
untland Mobile AV Unit	146,395
omalia Mediation Training	363,883
omaliland Presidential Elections	7,476,656
Rwanda	1,704,781
Burundi	680,944
Guinea-Bissau	654,622
atin America FOSS	6,284
Guatemala Initiatives for Peace	48,223
Poljuve - Youth Gangs	883,177
Aceh	7,791
Cimor-Leste	345,764
srael	459,035
Palestine	524,305
.iberia	353,243
yprus	707,338
Constitution-making Handbook	221,535
ivil Society Consultation - DFID	89,081
Civil Society Consultation - UN PBSO	22,424
udan Darfur	198,868
New Programme Development - Haiti	54,976
New Programme Development - Other	95,028
Total project expenses	19,757,994
ess management fees	(1,153,220)
rogramme Support	1,508,521
otal Programme	20,113,295
Communications and Fundraising	514,188
Management (	2,363,983
Total Total	22,991,466

## 2010 EXPENDITURE



#### 2010 EXPENSE RATIOS





## INTERPEACE GOVERNING COUNCIL



JOHN A. KUFUOR
(Ghana)
Chairman since 2009
Former President of Ghana; former
President of the African Union (AU);
former Chairman of the Economic
Community of West African States
(ECOWAS)



MATTHIAS STIEFEL
(Switzerland)
Member since 2005 and
Vice-Chairman since 2007
Founder and former President of
Interpeace



PADDY ASHDOWN
(United Kingdom)
Member since 2008
Member of the House of Lords;
former Member of Parliament and leader of the Liberal Democrats;
former High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina



ANTHONY TRAVIS
(United Kingdom)

Honorary Treasurer since 2005

Former Senior Partner, Cabinet
Gainsbury et Consort; former Senior
Partner, PriceWaterhouseCoopers



(Netherlands)

Member since 2010

Chief Executive Officer of The Elders;
Founder and Co-Chair of the European
Council on Foreign Relations; former
Advocacy Director of the Open Society
Institute



CLAUDE WILD
(Switzerland)
Member since 2010
Representative of the Host
Government on the Governing
Council; Head of Political
Division IV (Peace Policy), Federal
Department of Foreign Affairs



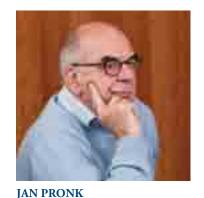
AL-THANI
(Qatar)

Member since 2008

Director of the Office of the Emir of Qatar, His Highness Sheikh Hamad
Bin Khalifa Al-Thani



OSCAR FERNANDEZ-TARANCO
(Argentina)
Member since 2010
Representative of the United Nations
Secretary-General on the Governing
Council; Assistant Secretary-General
for Political Affairs of the United
Nations



(Netherlands)

Member since 2004

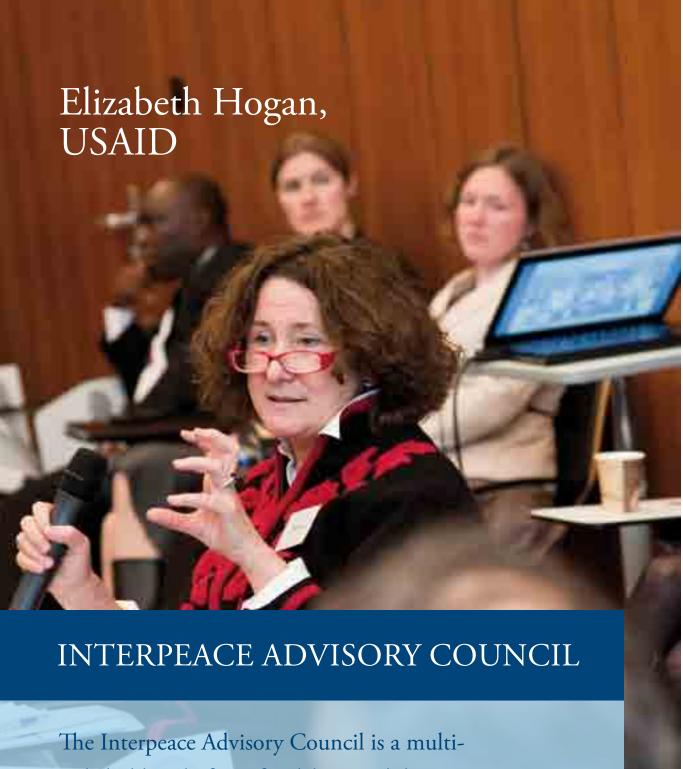
Currently affiliated with the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague; former Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Sudan; former Minister for Development Cooperation, Government of the Netherlands

The Interpeace Governing Council is the highest decision-making body and plays a key role in defining Interpeace's overall strategy.

PHOTO CREDITS: STEVE SIMON/PANOS FOR INTERPEACE: INTERPEACE.



(Finland)
Chairman Emeritus and Special
Advisor since 2009
Recipient of 2008 Nobel Peace Prize;
former President of Finland; Chairman
of the Interpeace Governing Council
from 2001 to 2009



The Interpeace Advisory Council is a multistakeholder platform for debate and discussion on key peacebuilding issues.

## MEMBERS OF THE INTERPEACE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Interpeace Advisory Council is made up of governments, multilateral and UN agencies.

Belgium

Canada

Denmark

Finland

France

Ireland

Japan (observer)

Netherlands

Norway

Portugal

Singapore

Slovenia

Sweden

Switzerland

United Kingdom

United States of America

UN Department of Political Affairs

(UN-DPA)

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

United Nations Children's Fund

(UNICEF)

United Nations Democracy Fund

(UNDEF)

United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Environment

Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Office for Project

Services (UNOPS)

European Commission

#### ADVISORY COUNCIL TROIKA

The Council is led by a leadership troika of former, current, and future Council Chairs, allowing for continuity in decision-making. Our current leadership troika is as follows:

Current Chair: United States

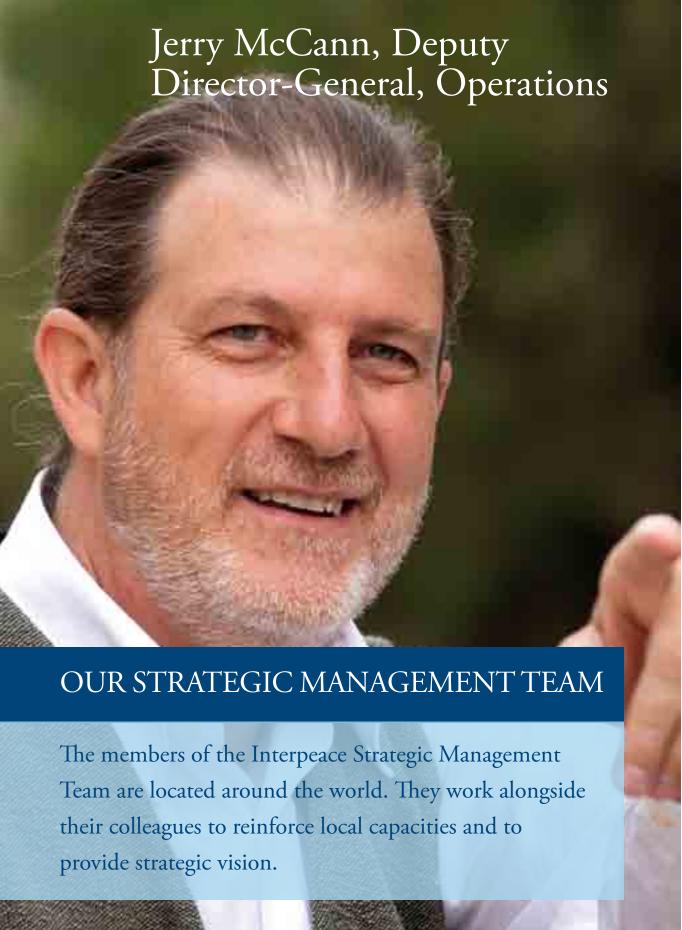
of America

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Former Chair: Netherlands

Future Chair: Sweden

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Scott M. Weber

Director-General

Bernardo Arévalo de León

Director, Joint Programme

Unit for UN/Interpeace

Initiatives (ex officio)

Jerry McCann

Deputy Director-General,

Operations

Renée Larivière

Director of Programme

Development

Sarah Noble

Chief of Staff and Director

of External Relations

Mike Pejcic

Chief Financial Officer and

Director of Administrative

Support

**Graeme Simpson** 

Director of Policy and

Learning

Johan Svensson

Regional Director for

Eastern and Central Africa

Ana Glenda Tager Rosado

Regional Director for

Latin America

PHO TO CREDIT: CIPS-VIDALUZ FOR INTERPEACE



The Interpeace 'US Board of Governors' champions the mission and mobilizes support for the organization.

Interpeace USA is supported by a number of influential friends, also known as the 'US Board of Governors', who champion Interpeace's mission and mobilize support for the organization.

The members of the 'US Board of Governors' include:

Giles Conway-Gordon

Robin Johnson

Jeffrey Lewis

**Howard McMorris II** 

Interpeace Inc. (USA) is an independent nonprofit organization in the US and is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization.

#### **BURUNDI**

Centre d'Alerte et de Prévention des Conflicts (CENAP)

**INTERPEACE** 

LOCAL PARTNERS

#### CENTRAL AMERICAN YOUTH PROGRAMME

El Salvador: Fundación de Estudios para la Aplicación del Derecho (FESPAD), Servicio Social Pasionista (SSP)

Guatemala: Instituto de Estudios Comparados en Ciencias Penales de Guatemala (ICCPG)

Honduras : Asociación Jóvenes Hondureños-Juntos Avancemos (JHA-JA), Unidos por la Vida, Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (CIPRODEH)

#### **CYPRUS**

UN Development Programme - ACT

#### **GUINEA-BISSAU**

Iniciativa para Consolidação da Paz (Voz di Paz)

#### **ISRAEL**

Arab Center for Law and Policy - DIRASAT

Center for Professional Arab Local Governance in Israel -INJAZ Center

The National Committee of the Heads of Arab Local Authorities in Israel

SHAS Social Movement

UN Development Programme-PAPP

#### LIBERIA

Foundation for International Dignity (FIND)

Initiatives for Positive Change (IPC)

Inter-Religious Council of Liberia (IRCL)

Kofi Annan International Centre for Conflict Transformation (KAICT)

Liberia Democratic Institute (LDI)

Peace Building Resource Centre (PBRC)

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Women NGO's Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL)

#### **PALESTINE**

UN Development Programme - PAPP

#### **RWANDA**

Institut de Recherche et de Dialogue pour la Paix (IRDP)

#### **SOMALI REGION**

Academy for Peace and Development (APD), Somaliland

Centre for Research and Dialogue (CRD), South-Central

Puntland Development Research Center (PDRC), Puntland

#### **TIMOR-LESTE**

Programme of Research and Dialogue for Peace (PRDP) currently hosted by the Centre of Studies for Peace and Development (CEPAD)

**CONSTITUTION-MAKING** FOR PEACE PROGRAMME



## CONTACT US

Interpeace Headquarters 7-9 Chemin de Balexert 1219 Châtelaine – Geneva Switzerland Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 8593 Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 8039 Interpeace Regional Office for Eastern and Central Africa P.O.Box 14520 - 00800 Westlands Nairobi, Kenya Tel: +254 20 386 2840/ 386 2842 Fax: +254 20 386 2845 Interpeace Regional Office for Latin America 11 Avenida 15-15, zona 10 01010 Guatemala City Guatemala Tel: +502 2381 9700 Fax: +502 2381 9797

Interpeace Representation Office in New York 7001 Brush Hollow Road, Suite 214 Westbury, NY 11590 Tel: +1 (646) 919-4812 Fax: +1 (516) 997-9080 Interpeace Europe 205 rue Belliard-Box # 5 1040 Brussels Belgium Tel: +32 (2) 230 3412 Fax: +32 (2) 230 3705 Joint Programme Unit for UN/ Interpeace Initiatives 7-9 Chemin de Balexert 1219 Châtelaine – Geneva Switzerland Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 8627 Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 8039

# MAKING PEACEBUILDING INCLUSIVE

With your continued support, Interpeace can assist societies trying to overcome conflict in non-violent ways. There are many ways to contribute from financial support, to making in-kind donations or offering some of your time.

To find out more about how your support can make a difference please send us an email at info@interpeace.org to let us know where and when we can reach you to talk more.

If you would like to make a financial donation please use the following bank details:

Bank Name: UBS (UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND)

**Address:** Palais des Nations, 8-14 Avenue de la Paix 1211 GENEVA 10. SWITZERLAND

**SWIFT Code:** UBSWCHZH80A

Beneficiary Name: INTERPEACE

Account No.: 279-213552.00G

**IBAN:** CH88 0027 9279 2135 5200 G



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www.interpeace.org



