



Matters
Annual Report 2018



Trust Matters

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Message from the Chairperson and the President

Trust is the bedrock of peaceful societies. It is fragile, quickly broken, and only regained through patient and persistent effort.

Generating confidence, mutual respect and understanding among individuals, and also between citizens and those who represent them, is at the heart of Interpeace's peacebuilding efforts around the world.

It is for this reason that we have chosen "Trust Matters" as the theme for Interpeace's 25th anniversary. While self-evident to some, the centrality of trustbuilding in nearly every domain is too often an afterthought. Recent crises such as the outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus in the Eastern regions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and the community mistrust and, at times, violent resistance, that have severely hampered response efforts, underscore the point. It is imperative that trustbuilding becomes a more central lens in shaping the interventions and assessment of policies and programmes in conflict-affected societies.

In addition to our peacebuilding engagements in the DRC, Libya, Mali, and other regions Interpeace is now assisting international organisations in the areas of security, development and humanitarian aid to become more 'peace responsive'. This entails the intentional and systematic delivery of their activities in ways that simultaneously address underlying conflict and peace dynamics. Through these engagements, Interpeace is supporting these lead organizations to become better



equipped when facing complex crises and challenges.

Given the changing peacebuilding environment, Interpeace took time during the past year to examine the organization's own resilience and future-proofing. We now place a greater emphasis on having staff based in the field at the country level in close proximity to the communities we serve and the partners with whom we work. We have also adopted a new approach to our programming and enhanced our systems for governance and transparency. The past year has also witnessed the recognition of Interpeace as an international organization, enhancing our position in the global peace and security architecture alongside our strategic partnership with the United Nations.

This report illustrates the rich variety and depth of our work. With over 80% of humanitarian crises being conflict-related, Interpeace's work is more



important and urgent than ever. We know, based on experience, that it is by harnessing a society's own resources and resilience that crises can be overcome, and that a more sustainable peace becomes possible. We greatly appreciate the continuing trust and investment from our partners and supporters and the hard work and commitment of our talented staff. We are delighted that our 25th anniversary has proved to be such a productive one which also augurs well for the years ahead.

Monica McWilliams Chairperson

Scott M. Weber President

About Interpeace

About us

Interpeace is an international organization that prevents violence and builds lasting peace. We have 25 years of experience working in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Violent conflict tears apart societies and colors all relationships. Interpeace builds trust as the glue that brings societies back together.

Many solutions to conflict do not last because they are imposed or

do not take fully into account the views and needs of those who are most affected. Interpeace works to have solutions designed and led locally, from the grassroot communities to the most senior decision-making levels.

In the heat of conflict, it can be difficult for people to see what connects them to others, rather than what drives them apart. Our approach seeks to help different parts of society come together to

identify and harness their common strengths for sustainable peace.

Everyone's contribution to peace matters, especially the international community together. Interpeace therefore also supports others by offering fresh thinking and expert advice about peacebuilding.

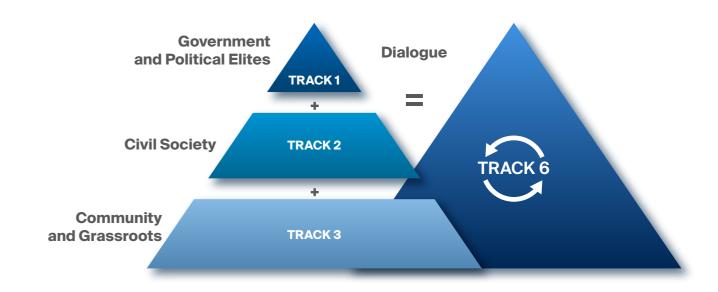
Our Track 6 Approach

In many countries the government, civil society and local communities often act separately to address problems they face. Our integrated Track 6 approach helps to ensure that high-level policies reflect local realities and benefit from local knowledge. This contributes to the policies' legitimacy and sustainability.

We help establish processes of change that connect local communities, civil society, governments and the international community - an approach we call Track 6.

In the peacebuilding field, initiatives that involve government officials and other high-level decision-makers are referred to as Track 1. Initiatives that work with influential actors from civil society are referred to as Track 2. Those that engage the local population at the community and grassroots level are called Track 3.

Interpeace works across all levels of society, connecting the three tracks: 1+2+3=6.



The Change We Seek

Building on our 25 years of experience working in conflictaffected regions of the world, we have identified three "impact goals" we seek to reach in order to achieve our mandate.

Impact Goal 1:

Reduced Violence and Enhanced Safety and Security

It is well-established in peacebuilding practice that without an end to direct forms of violence and fighting across society, it is very difficult, impossible or simply unsustainable to build peace. As a result, we aim to reduce violence and enhance safety and security by

- Transforming violent individuals and groups to become agents for peace
- 2 Enhancing community mechanisms to inclusively and non-violently manage safety and security
- 3 Strengthening the capacity of security and justice institutions to prevent violence and foster trust

Impact Goal 2:

More Resilient and Inclusive Societies

One of the most persistent drivers of conflict is exclusion - political, economic and/or social. At the same time, we recognize that all societies and individuals have capacities to overcome and transform conflict. Yet, these resilience capacities are often underestimated or overshadowed by too heavily focusing on what causes fragility or divisions among conflict affected communities. Therefore, we aim to help build resilient and inclusive societies by:

- 1 Strengthening trust between individuals and groups
- 2 Enhancing trust between societies and government
- 3 Addressing sources of marginalization and exclusion in society
- Ensuring that economic systems support inclusive peace

Impact Goal 3:

Greater Incentives for Sustainable Peace

To better identify and seize opportunities to enhance trust and social cohesion, there must be a more effective collaboration between governments, organizations and agencies engaged in any given context. Sustainable peace can only be achieved if their respective strategies and ways of engagement align around enhancement opportunities for peace. This includes working closely with the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding areas to help create greater incentives for sustainable peace by:

- 1 Generating better peacebuilding evidence to improve results
- 2 Enhancing the alignment of financing towards peacebuilding needs
- Increasing the adoption of peacebuilding principles
- 4 Improving international strategies for peace

Our Peacebuilding Principles

Local ownership

Putting local people at the heart of building peace

In order for peace to be sustainable, local people need to be at the center of defining their challenges and solutions. When people take part in defining the problem, they gain a sense of responsibility and ownership of the solutions. Together with our local partners, Interpeace ensures that priorities are determined locally and not imposed from the outside. We help to create spaces for dialogue and problem solving that pave the way for lasting peace.





Building trust

Trust is the keystone of peace

Trust is the foundation of society. Violent conflict tears the fabric of society and destroys the trust that binds relationships and gives institutions legitimacy. Interpeace works at all levels of society to develop a common vision for the future, helping to increase mutual understanding and rebuild trust.



Reaching out to all groups

Building peace involves everyone

Excluding or marginalizing certain groups in society can deepen their resentment and sow the seeds of renewed violence. Interpeace's inclusive approach engages all parties in a process of change, enabling them to move collectively towards moderation and compromise.

Long-term commitment

Building lasting peace takes time

The road to peace is rarely straight and nearly always long. Interpeace recognizes that success in local peacebuilding work hinges on support that is patient and consistent.

matters

Process The process determines the result

The urgent need to resolve a conflict can prompt a quick fix instead of the kind of holistic response that can truly strengthen the foundations of a divided society. At Interpeace, we recognize that the integrity of the process will in large part determine an initiative's success.

2018 Highlights

2018 marked an important milestone in Interpeace's history. Beyond our peacebuilding initiatives carried out in Africa, the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Latin America, Interpeace was officially recognized as an international entity by the Swiss federal government. This acknowledgement reaffirms the important role played by the organization in peace processes and further consolidates this role in the global peace and security architecture.

Fostering trust, promoting dialogue and empowering women to transform conflict and reduce violence were the key peacebuilding drivers in our programmes in 2018.

In Kenya's Mandera County, intermittent clan clashes and cross-border attacks aimed at the civilian population have caused the displacement of tens of thousands of people. In 2018, the peacebuilding team mobilized an inclusive, cross-clan peace process that brought together over 250 key stakeholders with the objective of brokering a ceasefire. This resulted in an agreement on the immediate cessation of hostilities, the handover of murder suspects to the authorities, and the safe return of 19,000 internally displaced persons.

The second largest Ebola epidemic Research under the Societal in recorded human history struck the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in August 2018. The response team, jointly coordinated by national authorities and the World Health Organization (WHO), struggled to secure support and trust from the locally affected communities, risking wider contagion within the country and beyond. In response, Interpeace conducted participatory research and brought together local actors, to build trust between community members and health response teams in the affected areas of Beni and Butembo.

Healing initiative implemented in **Rwanda** by Interpeace and its local partner, Never Again Rwanda, has shown that 25 years after the Genocide against the Tutsi, trauma is still present among the population, including youth born after the fact. The initiative also demonstrated that psychosocial group therapy modelled on peacebuilding approaches effectively reduces trauma by 25%, improves trust among participants by 57%, and reduces the proportion of participants thinking about suicide by 66%, indicating a transformative change.

Strengthening local peace **structures** in the conflict-affected areas of Galkacyo and Burtinle in the Somali Region, has contributed to the **de-escalation of tensions** among communities and an effective management of conflict with strong local leadership. Interpeace and local partners also contributed to **improving peace** responsive humanitarian action in Galkacyo by allowing diverse actors from divided communities, to inform aid delivery.

In **Libya**, Interpeace and its partners have worked to highlight the numerous, but sometimes less visible communities that have maintained stability in the face of the regional conflict and the highly factionalized political landscape. This effort helped community members to strengthen their cohesion and capacity to resolve conflicts peacefully, contributing to overall peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts in Libya.

Interpeace continues to **foster the** role of women in peacebuilding. In **Guinea-Bissau**, Interpeace and its local partner, Voz di Paz facilitated a national dialogue and debate on the role of women in decision-making. The discussion was instrumental in raising awareness on the issue of gender and giving previously voiceless actors the chance to express their opinions and concerns. In Mali, Interpeace and the Malian Institute of Research and Action for Peace (IMRAP) encouraged the inclusion of women in the armed forces as a key factor to restore trust between populations and security forces. And in Palestine, the Interpeace's Mustakbalna programme empowered young women to utilize the transformative potential of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 to better promote women's engagement with decision-makers.

Building on its traditional operations, Interpeace launched activities in several new locations in 2018. In Morocco, an initiative was launched to enhance social dialogue between civil society and national authorities, while Interpeace began exploratory processes for new programming in Zimbabwe and Burkina Faso to assess how the organization can contribute to peace and reconciliation efforts in the current



Trust:The Cornerstone of Peace

n 2018, Interpeace stands at the eve of its 25th anniversary, marking a quarter century of experience building peace in over 20 countries in Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Europe. Interpeace has over this period learned and applied several fundamental lessons about the nature of peace and conflict.

One truism that has consistently underpinned all Interpeace initiatives is the fact that only trust can bring lasting peace to bear. Fostering local ownership, mutual understanding and inclusive dialogue to build trust have formed the foundation of the organization's peacebuilding initiatives. This is because we have learned that trust is always the first element that is lost when conflict erupts, and the last to be regained for the successful resolution of a violent conflict.

Interpeace's President Scott Weber explains the place of trust in nurturing lasting peace.

"The heart of building peace in a sustainable way must have trust at its very core. Trust is critical for peace actors investing in their own societies, and critical for them in agreeing to work together towards a common objective. There is a saying in Kinyarwanda that if we cannot sweat together, we cannot live together. It is all about building a common future," says Mr. Weber. One of the reasons why trust is central to building peace is the difference between peacebuilding and mediation. In a mediation process, a third party helps the conflicting parties to reach the results that neither side is fully happy with, but that they can sufficiently accept. Peacebuilding is about the parties jointly developing a solution, rather than to try to get as much of their own agenda integrated as with the mediation process.

"Like the saying in Kinyarwanda infers, it is the act of working together to build a better future that builds trust," Mr. Weber adds. "As our former Chairman Martti Ahtisaari used to say, a peace agreement is just a piece of paper. The real challenge of building peace often starts after you have signed an agreement,

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The breakdown of trust is consistently one of the most persistent drivers of conflict.

because you now face the difficult task of actually building a future together. That is why trust lies at the core of peacebuilding."

Evidence from Interpeace's work has demonstrated that the breakdown of trust—whether it be between governments and citizens; security forces and local communities; or between communities themselves—is consistently one of the most persistent drivers of conflict. Given the close link between mistrust and exclusion, Interpeace places particular emphasis on inclusion and dialogue as the primary tools for

building sustainable, locally driven peace, anchored on trust

In addition to trust, Interpeace recognizes that there is always a sliver of hope or capacity—a resilience factor or some other unseen building block—which is specific to a particular conflict situation, and which can be shaped into the cornerstone of a new peace, founded on trust.



Long time Commitment to Building Trust for Sustainable Peace

Despite the constantly shifting priorities within the international community, Interpeace has maintained its long-term commitment to building peace in some of the most fragile states in the world. This is because of Interpeace's strong conviction and understanding that building peace takes time, and no matter how intractable the nature of the conflict, its process and approach must be tailored to the context.

"Interpeace's greatest achievements have involved helping societies to not only overcome their biggest challenges in statebuilding, peace and reconciliation, but to do so in a way that local actors take ownership of the processes and feel a sense of pride in having made the achievements themselves. Interpeace has over the last 25 years established a precedence for sustainable solutions that local actors can say, 'We did this.' This is critical, and that is part of the success of our work," says Mr. Weber.

An example is in the Somali region, where Interpeace has supported statebuilding and peacebuilding processes for over two decades. Interpeace has made significant contributions to Somalia's state reconstruction since the collapse of the country's central state in 1991, right from the organization's earlier incarnation as the War-Torn Societies Project (WSP).

Interpeace has worked in close partnership with the authorities at the federal and various state levels, as well as its longstanding national partner organizations—the Academy for Peace and Development (APD) in Somaliland, the Peace and

Interpeace's current programme in Somalia, Talo Wadaag, seeks to deepen sustainable peacebuilding and democratization by strengthening citizen and stakeholder engagement in governance and conflict prevention through a widely accepted social contract based on trust.

Interpeace's approach centres around the notion that peace must be built from within societies. It is in this regard that Interpeace continues to further anchor local ownership into peacebuilding processes in the Somali region, ensuring that local people can drive their own peacebuilding processes.

Development Research Center (PDRC) in Puntland, and the Interpeace Peacebuilding Team (IPT) in south-central Somalia. Through the programme and its strong local ownership, Interpeace has contributed to strengthening local peace structures in various parts of Somalia.

Interpeace's approach centres around the notion that peace must be built from within societies. It is in this regard that Interpeace continues to further anchor local ownership into peacebuilding processes in the Somali region, ensuring that local people can drive their own peacebuilding processes. The "Pillars of Peace" programme, established in 2009, sought to build trust and social cohesion in the communities of Somaliland, Puntland and southern and central Somalia. It paved the way for the "Democratization" programme, which approached state reconstruction and governance processes in the Somali region from a peacebuilding perspective, seeking the participation of the widest possible stakeholder spectrum. Together, these two programmes played a considerable role in nurturing trust between local communities and their leaders.

Interpeace supported the Transitional Puntland Electoral Commission (TPEC) in the process leading up to the passing of a revised constitution in 2012, which laid the foundation for local council elections in which vote outcomes were accepted by both the contesting parties and the voters, signifying an increase in trust. In Somaliland, Interpeace supported the successful completion of the biometric voter registration process, with the production of a trusted, credible voter list and a successful presidential election on November 2017.

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It is evident that Interpeace has remained committed to supporting locally-driven peacebuilding and statebuilding in the Somali region, despite the varying levels of interest and shifting geopolitical realities that characterize the international system.

"The Somalis have been able to establish entities of governance out of the chaos that was the 1991 collapse, by first carrying out reconciliation processes generally at the inter-clan and or sub-clan levels, and then consolidating the peace with systems of governance that are legitimate to them," Mr. Weber explains. "This has proven in the cases of Puntland, Somaliland, Galmudug, and other parts of Somalia, where the Somalis have established sustainable governance systems. Interpeace played an important role in helping the Somalis to be able to do this, and to feel the pride in the impressive strides they have made."



Supporting National Actors to Consolidate Peace

Interpeace's mandate involves delivering high quality peacebuilding at the community and national levels, and assisting the international community to play a more effective role in supporting peacebuilding and violence prevention efforts at the global level. This is especially crucial in parts of the world where internal conflicts can easily seep across borders into neighbouring countries and entire regions.

Interpeace and its local partners have worked in Libya since 2011, with the aim of building an architecture for peace in the divided country. The 2011 Libyan Revolution resulted in continued political and social tensions and the widespread attrition of trust among communities that previously co-existed peacefully. As the communities began to resurrect historical wounds, the situation deteriorated in 2014 when active violence erupted between various Libyan political camps vying for power. Interpeace continues to invest in supporting national actors to identify the many communities that have remained relatively stable despite the overall conflict. Interpeace's goal is to work with these communities to strengthen their cohesion and capacity to resolve conflicts peacefully, contributing to overall peacebuilding and reconciliation efforts in Libya by highlighting examples of how maintaining trust can help secure the peace.

At the beginning of 2012, Mali experienced an unprecedented political and security crisis. Since then, some steps have been taken to stabilize the country and restore peace, particularly the 2015 Algiers Peace Agreement. The implementation of the Agreement has nonetheless been glacial, and it is widely

acknowledged that significant efforts are still needed to address the structural problems that triggered the 2012 crisis.

Interpeace has been working in Mali since 2013, with its local partner, the Malian Institute of Action Research for Peace (IMRAP). One of the priorities for peace is rebuilding trust between the security and defense forces and the population. This came out of the concern by the Malians that it will not be possible to guarantee their security without the establishment of trust and collaboration between the security sector and the population. Since 2017, Interpeace and IMRAP have been building bridges of dialogue and mediation between the population and the various defense and security agencies, such as the army, police, gendarmerie and national guard. The sustainability of these bridges fosters lasting trust and peace at the local and national levels.

The military authorities have lent their cooperation to these efforts by Interpeace and IMRAP, and in addition, Interpeace's IPAT team trained the staff of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) to adapt a peacebuilding approach to peacekeeping. Interpeace is becoming the main point of reference in Mali regarding peace responsive programming, while IMRAP has acquired a unique position in Mali, both in terms of its access and the trust it has developed with the defense and security agencies—right from the top echelons to the foot soldiers—as well as with communities affected by insecurity.

Interpeace's mandate involves delivering high quality peacebuilding at the community and national levels, and also assisting the International Community to play a more effective role in supporting peacebuilding and violence prevention efforts at the global level.



Promoting a Peace Responsive Approach to Global Challenges

In line with Interpeace's mandate, to leverage the international community's impact in conflict affected contexts, Interpeace has developed a wide set of partnerships with key UN and international NGO partners to advance their peace responsiveness capabilities. In 2018, a renewed policy and learning agenda, and a better articulated change framework have enabled Interpeace to better recognize the footprint and possible contribution to peace that other international actors can have in their own scope of intervention, ranging from humanitarian aid, to development, human rights, and other fields. Partnering with this wide set of actors so that peace dividends can be scaled up in conflict affected societies is at the core of Interpeace's aim to leverage impact. This strategy of engagement calls for a peace responsive international system and is in line with the United Nations' Sustaining Peace agenda.

An important example is Interpeace's work with the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Since 2018, the DRC has been afflicted by the second largest Ebola

outbreak in recorded human history. The response team, jointly coordinated by the national authorities and WHO, has struggled to secure support, let alone trust, from locally affected communities to embrace the philosophy of the health response. This climate of mistrust poses a risk of wider spread of Ebola, both further afield in the country and region, and potentially to other parts of the world. In response to this conflict, Interpeace sought to bring greater understanding regarding the challenges to the health response. Activities included carrying out research and bringing together key local actors to help build trust between members of the communities in the outbreak epicentres of Beni and Butembo on one hand, and the health response teams on the other.

In another example, Interpeace and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) have partnered to develop and test tools that will enable more systematic and robust conflict-sensitive programming - while ensuring they are practical and can become embedded in FAO's programmes in support of its Member States.

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Through Interpeace's Advisory Team (IPAT), the two organizations are working together to develop and test tools, tailored to and rooted in FAO's work, that will enable more systematic and robust peace responsive programming—while ensuring they are practical and can become embedded across FAO's goal of eradicating hunger. This collaboration recognizes the reality that conflict is a major driver of food insecurity and malnutrition, as well as the fact that most severe hunger crises occur in situations affected by violent conflict. Together, Interpeace and FAO seek to further discussion on and highlight policy and programmatic linkages between food, agriculture, natural resources and peacebuilding, in support of FAO's Corporate Framework on sustainable peace.

As can be deduced from Interpeace's collaborations with WHO and FAO, Interpeace seeks to promote a cross-sectoral approach, contributing a much-needed peacebuilding angle to the ambitions of UN Member States to "leave no one behind" through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda in general. Although Interpeace's mandate most closely resonates with SDG Goal 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, the organization has boldly embraced the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, which encourages peace responsiveness of the international system and in all states – developed and developing alike.

This peace responsive approach fosters more cohesive collaboration among organizations and agencies

working in the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding areas, with the aim of better identifying and seizing opportunities to enhance trust and social cohesion.

"Our understanding is that peacebuilding should not be seen as a sector of its own. Peacebuilding is essentially how you do everything else properly, so that you have a sustainable peace," Mr. Weber explains. "It is how you do governance in a way that people feel it is legitimate. It is how you do justice in a way that people feel it is fair. It is how you do development in a way that it is equitable."

In Interpeace's definition, peacebuilding is therefore an approach to all aspects of life that brings various people and groups to contribute towards building solutions together. That is why Interpeace has an intense role to play in helping more technical agencies that are bringing food security, humanitarian assistance or other development objectives. Interpeace's role is to ensure that those interventions also contribute to building peace."

This approach is conceptually linked to Interpeace's conviction that everything should have a peacebuilding "bottom line". For instance, designing health interventions in a way that actually builds trust, rather than erodes trust. That is why Interpeace works with these technical agencies to make sure that building peace is something that everyone is contributing towards. This is also in line with Interpeace's vision that everyone has a role to play in building a more peaceful society.

Ultimately, peacebuilding becomes a natural way of working in a well functioning society. And it is often most needed when the society is dysfunctional. That is why Interpeace always tries to see how it can go beyond the contribution of its own programming, to helping others, through their programming in various sectors to also contribute to building peace. All those different sectors need to become more peace responsive in their work.

Increasing the Role of Women and Youth in Peacebuilding

In keeping with Interpeace's values and principles, fostering trust and empowering women, youth and other, often-excluded groups in transforming conflict are core aspects of the organization's peacebuilding approach.

Since exclusion breeds mistrust and conflict, Interpeace continues to advocate a greater role for women and youth in building peace, in this way promoting a "whole society" approach to peacebuilding. In Guinea-Bissau, Interpeace and its local partner, Voz di Paz, fostered the participation of women in decision-making. A national dialogue and debate on the role of women in decision-making was launched in 2018, giving voice to actors that would not ordinarily have the chance to express their opinions and concerns, and raising awareness on the issue of gender. In Mali, Interpeace and its partner IMRAP, encouraged the inclusion of women in the armed forces as a key factor in restoring trust between populations and security forces.

The case is not too different with the youth, who, like women, suffer exclusion in many societies.

"Basically, we have learned that at the heart of most conflicts in the world there is some form of exclusion–political, social, or economic –and a sense of injustice that it creates. And there is no group more excluded in society than women, and now increasingly youth," says Mr. Weber. "In most of the countries in which we work, the youth population constitutes about 70% of the population, yet they do not have a voice in the life of the society."

This situation calls forth two important points. Firstly, it emphasizes the importance of working in an inclusive manner. But more importantly, even, it calls for a focus on the sources of exclusion in society, and the need to actually break down the barriers to inclusion that were often deliberately put in place by some groups.

The potential role of the youth in building trust and inclusion is illustrated by a recent experience in Kenya's Mandera County, where Interpeace has worked since 2014 in partnership with the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC). Mandera County has historically experienced violent inter-clan clashes leading to the death and displacement of local populations in their tens of thousands. After four years of gradual trust building, a clan conflict erupted in 2018. The Interpeace Peacebuilding Team—with a dominant composition of



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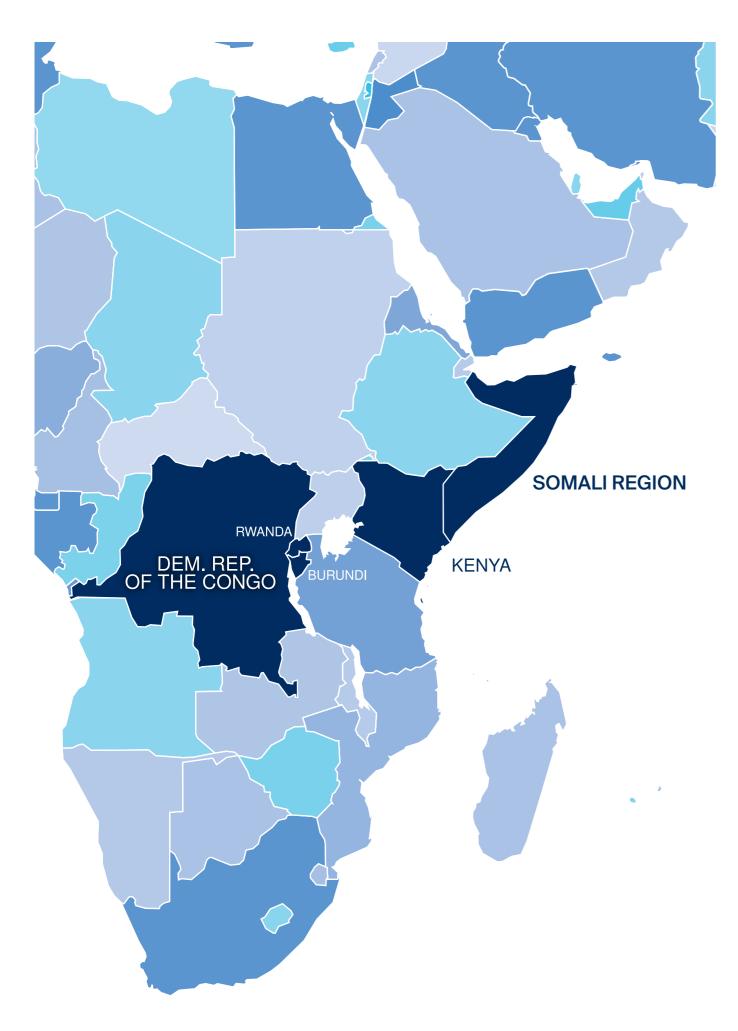
local youth from the various clans-quickly mobilized an inclusive, cross-clan peace process that brought together over 250 key stakeholders. This resulted in an agreement on the immediate cessation of hostilities, the handover of murder suspects to the authorities, and the safe return of 19,000 internally displaced people. The handover of murder suspects, who are presently undergoing trial, was a significant step forward because unlike in the past, their clans did not try to protect them from facing justice. This testifies to the level of trust that has become ingrained in Mandera, whereby the assailants were identified as lawbreakers rather than shielded by their clan affiliation. This shows the transformation and leadership that youth can show when allowed a chance.

As Mr. Weber aptly puts it, peace is relative, and inclusivity is key to building trust for often excluded groups such as women and youth.

"Everyone says they want peace, but generally what they mean is their peace, and my peace excludes you," says Mr Weber. "The key is therefore to not just focus on trying to steer a peace objective as though it is naturally inclusive, because often peace is actually exclusive in the minds of many. As such, we have to work deliberately, and with a focused attention on the sources of exclusion in society, if we want to overcome these challenges."



2018 Achievements



East and Central Africa

Kenya

The "Track-Capture-Kill" approach to Countering Violent Extremism, has largely proved counterproductive and has led to further radicalization.

Mandera is a county that faces significant peace, security and development challenges. Located in Kenya's North Eastern Region, along the border with Ethiopia and Somalia, Mandera County has intermittently experienced clanbased clashes. Interpeace and local partner, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) began to implement a joint pilot peacebuilding programme in Mandera in 2014.

The security situation in Mandera County, Kenya has improved recently in spite of ongoing interclan clashes and cross border terror attacks exacerbating what is an already fragile environment. The terror attacks are predominantly carried out by the militant group, Al Shabaab, which opposes Kenyan military involvement in Somalia.

Mandera County in conjunction with the national government has put in place several measures to ameliorate the situation in the county including enhanced collaboration between security services and the local population. However, the "Track-Capture-Kill" approach to Countering Violent Extremism (CVE), being pursued by Kenyan national security institutions, has largely proved counterproductive and has led to further radicalization.

Looking ahead Interpeace will continue its peacebuilding work in Mandera County in partnership with the NCIC, and expand into the North Rift Region which has also experienced frequent waves of tribal violence among local pastoralist communities.

Interpeace's programme in Kenya works closely with local partner NCIC, a government agency mandated to foster lasting peace and cohesion between Kenya's various ethnic communities.

Together with NCIC, the Mandera Peacebuilding Programme seeks to transform grassroots communities into agents of peace, capable of managing conflicts through non-violent means. Significantly, programme activities include advocacy with national leadership to ensure the enactment of policies addressing root causes of the conflicts.

reduction through cross-clan collaboration

Violence In April 2018, fighting broke out between the Degodia and Garre clans in Banisa Sub-County, leaving 32,000 persons displaced. The Mandera Peacebuilding Programme immediately mobilized a cross-clan peace process bringing together 252 stakeholders to broker a swift ceasefire. The agreement resulted in an

immediate cessation to hostilities, the hand-over of murder suspects to the authorities, and the safe return of some 19,000 displaced. The successful agreement was largely possible due to recognition of the NCIC-Interpeace team as neutral peace mediators.



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Fostering the role of women and supporting youth platforms in peacebuilding processes

The Mandera Peacebuilding Programme included promoting the role of women in the process. The peacebuilding team mobilized 25 women opinion leaders to take part in the Banisa conflict intervention. The active participation by women in the peace discussion was widely recognized as a positive development.

The NCIC-Interpeace team is working as well to strengthen local youth leadership for peace and

reconciliation, via the Mandera County Vital Voices Network (MCVVN). The network is viewed as a valuable platform for peace and is a leading voice on key questions such as the radicalization of vulnerable youth.

Addressing violent extremism

The Mandera Programme has been the lead agency steering discussions around the development of the Mandera County Action Plan on CVE based on its recognized expertise in

Participatory Action Research (PAR). The Plan includes efforts to improve relations and trust between security agencies and the local communities - and particularly the youth community.

Burundi

There are many signs that point to the increasing instrumentalization of ethnic narratives both through "fake news" and polarizing political discourse aimed at increasing fear, suspicion and hatred.

As Burundi heads towards general elections in 2020, the country environment is one of political impasse between a dominant ruling party and a fractured and weakened opposition – a dynamic heightened since contested 2015 elections. Demonstrations by the opposition and an attempted military coup, followed by a crackdown from state security forces, resulted in arrests and violence, radicalization and the flight of thousands of Burundians.

The political situation has led to a severe economic strain, with major development partners leaving the country after 2015 and only now looking for avenues to re-engage. For a country already dealing with high rates of poverty, the withdrawal of international assistance has been particularly difficult. Recent changes to law governing non-governmental

organizations (NGOs) and crackdowns on civil society have led several international NGOs to close their programmes in Burundi. Although the economy has improved marginally since 2015, Burundi ranks 184th out of 188 countries on the Human Development index.

The fact that the country has not descended into widespread violence can be attributed in part to the steadfast efforts of actors working to build community resilience and strengthen collaborative relationships across political and social divides.

Yet, there are many signs that point to the increasing instrumentalization of ethnic narratives, both through "fake news" and polarizing political discourse aimed at increasing fear, suspicion and hatred.

The programme's goal is to contribute to building a peaceful future for Burundi by strengthening the resilience capacities for peace among youth and promote inclusive decision-making in pursuit of a common vision. Interpeace, together with partner Conflict Alert and Prevention Centre, (CENAP), works with local and national political leaders, youth affiliated with political parties and communities at risk of conflict. The positive engagement of these groups is essential towards achieving sustainable peace in Burundi.

In the current Burundian context where divergent perspectives and political differences are often unwelcome, and where space for civil society engagement has narrowed, this open and respectful exchange is a significant step towards reinvigorating political pluralism.

"May you have roots, may you have a future"

The current programme, *Gira Iyo Uva N'iyo Uja* (May you have roots, may you have a future) builds upon youth consultations to develop a new, long-term vision for a peaceful Burundi.

In August 2018, Interpeace and CENAP facilitated a dialogue among national political leaders and national elected representatives - from ruling and opposition parties - focusing on the concerns of youth as captured in CENAP's research publication, Youth Aspirations for a Future Burundi. The CENAP research is based on a series of consultations with young people from diverse political, community and religious backgrounds, to identify key concerns, develop joint initiatives and engage decision-makers on solutions building. The dialogue was among the few national fora since 2015 bringing together

actors from across the political spectrum.

In the current Burundian context where divergent perspectives and political differences are often unwelcome, and where space for civil society engagement has narrowed, this open and respectful exchange is a significant step towards reinvigorating political pluralism.



Rwanda



Individuals maintain a significant level of psychological wounds not properly addressed through existing reconciliation policies and programmes.

More than two decades after the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, Rwanda has made substantial progress in the social, economic and political realms. The country has developed a viable multiparty system, while the determined efforts of numerous state and civil society initiatives are gradually leading the country towards peaceful coexistence between individuals and diverse groups. Despite these impressive gains, however, challenges to sustainable peace remain, stemming from both the period before and after the Genocide.

Individuals maintain a significant level of psychological wounds not properly addressed through existing reconciliation policies and programmes. Aside from primarily clinical approaches, there has been an absence of structured and community-based healing processes. As a result, the level of trust and cooperation within Rwandan society remains a challenge to the creation of the sustainable social cohesion required for a thriving society.

Interpeace's programme aims to contribute to the consolidation of a peaceful and inclusive Rwandan society, empowered to overcome the wounds of the past, peacefully manage conflicts and diversity, and to influence policies responding to citizen priorities. This vision is implemented through two axes: healing and participatory governance.

Supporting trauma healing processes

Trauma healing remains a pressing public health issue in Rwanda. Local partner Never Again Rwanda (NAR) and Interpeace have contributed towards addressing this challenge by implementing a psychosocial support group programme entitled Healing Spaces, fostering both individual healing and social cohesion.

After four years of programme implementation, an end-line report on Healing Spaces has demonstrated that trauma is still heavily present in the population, including among youth born after the Genocide. However, the report also outlines the overall positive impact of the group therapy. Data from the report shows the programme has successfully reduced the effects of trauma among participants by 25%; group participants also reported a reduced likelihood to seek revenge through violence. Significantly, over the course of the programme, the number of participants with regular suicidal thoughts dropped by 66%.

The report has raised significant interest from State institutions and other stakeholders responsible for issues of social cohesion, reconciliation and mental health.

Trauma healing is increasingly becoming an important element in peacebuilding processes in post-conflict countries and Interpeace together with NAR and other partners, intends to widely disseminate the report findings.

The programme has successfully reduced the effects of trauma among participants by 25%; group participants also reported a reduced likelihood to seek revenge through violence.

Somali Region

It is crucial to ensure that critical statebuilding and peacebuilding processes are as participatory and inclusive as possible.

After a period of relative optimism and progress, critical statebuilding processes in the Somali Region have stalled due to an impasse in reaching consensus among different stakeholders at the federal and state levels. At the same time, progress made towards agreement on certain key transitional tasks – such as the electoral model, constituency type, resource sharing, and the constitutional review – has been undermined by these tensions. It is crucial to ensure that critical statebuilding and peacebuilding processes are as participatory and inclusive as possible, to provide the much-needed legitimacy and acceptance that will ensure sustainable progress in the region.

For over 20 years, Interpeace has worked in the Somali Region supporting statebuilding and peacebuilding processes. Working with and through Somali partners, the Academy for Peace and Development (APD) in Somaliland and the Puntland Development & Research Centre (PDRC) in Puntland, Interpeace has played a major role in bridging the gap between and among local communities and their leaders at all levels.

Interpeace's overall objective is to foster sustainable peacebuilding and democratization by strengthening citizen and stakeholder engagement in governance and conflict prevention through inclusive, participatory, and citizen-centered processes and mechanisms.

Fostering social cohesion

The Somali Peacebuilding and Democratization Programme, Talo Wadaag (2017-2021) has helped create opportunities for collaboration and convergence between different stakeholders, to advance peacebuilding processes across the Somali Region. Through accompanied capacity building and strategic oversight provided by Interpeace, the level of willingness for cooperation in support of reconciliation has increased.





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Strengthening local peace structures in Galkacyo and Burtinle

The conflict affected areas of Galkacyo and Burtinle, are representative of the wider Somali conflict. Interpeace's engagement in both areas has therefore created a strategic position for future peacebuilding efforts elsewhere in the region. With local partner PDRC, Interpeace has provided technical support to strengthen the Joint Peace and Early Warning Committees. This includes training sessions on mitigation and early warning techniques, and capacity-building on context-appropriate communication mechanisms for conflict prevention. The collaboration facilitated by Interpeace has allowed local team members to bridge the conflict divide and effectively engage their respective communities in peacebuilding efforts.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

After two years of uncertain electoral processes in the DRC, opposition candidate Felix Tshisekedi won national election in December 2018. Despite irregularities in the process, Tshisekedi's inauguration marked the first peaceful transfer of power in the DRC's history and gives some hope for change and national

reconciliation. The elections however, overshadowed the second largest Ebola outbreak in recorded human history, centered in the eastern provinces of North Kivu and Ituri. Since its outbreak in August until December 2018, the epidemic caused an estimated 326 deaths according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

The elections of 2018 have been overshadowed by the second largest Ebola outbreak in recorded in human history.

Together for Beni

In 2018, Interpeace entered a consortium named *Ensemble pour Beni* ("Together for Beni") with four other organizations in the Beni Territory of North Kivu Province to engage local communities and the authorities in a self-analysis around challenges, opportunities, and potential solutions for peace in the Beni Territory. The territory is one of the epicenters of the Ebola outbreak in the DRC, and also the site of violent conflicts perpetrated by different armed groups, which has hampered efforts to contain the disease.

The consortium brings together the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Interpeace, Search for Common Ground, World Vision, and the Christian Bilingual University of Congo (UCBC), with the support of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO).

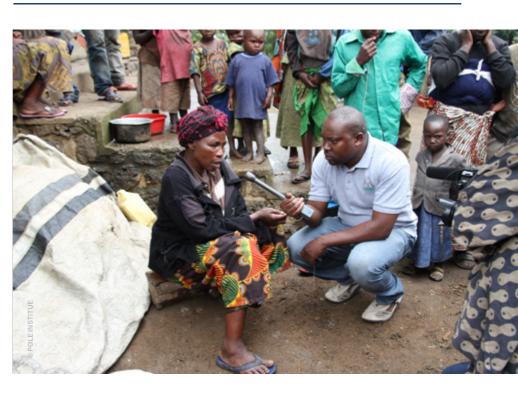
The overall objective of Interpeace's work in in the DRC is to harness research, dialogue and collective action to help build trust between communities in conflict, as well as between communities, national authorities, the private sector and the international community. We aim to strengthen the capacities of key actors, in effective prevention, management and transformation of conflicts to enable them to promote sustainable peace.

Strengthening trust between the population and Ebola response team

The Beni and Butembo territories have borne the brunt of the DRC's ongoing Ebola epidemic, and response teams coordinated by the national authorities and the WHO have experienced mistrust from the local communities, undermining Ebola response efforts. The lack of trust between key actors in the face of the Ebola outbreak threatens to exacerbate the epidemic, potentially affecting the entire Great Lakes Region and beyond.

To address this, Interpeace launched a project to help restore trust between Ebola response workers and members of the local community. The project undertook a participatory action research (PAR) process to understand the underlying reasons for the mistrust, successfully gaining the interest of the national government, which expressed a willingness to work more closely with Interpeace on the Ebola programme.

Interpeace launched a project to help restore trust between Ebola response workers and members of the local community.



Restoring trust in the Kasai Region

In the Kasai region, Interpeace has launched a trust-building programme following a resurgence of conflict between local militants and national security forces in 2016. The conflict has caused mass population movement in the region, driving tens of thousands across the border into Angola and leaving hundreds of thousands internally displaced. The Interpeace

programme in Kasai seeks to facilitate dialogue and mediation for reconciliation, as well as social cohesion among the local communities, the authorities, and the security forces. The programme is of crucial importance in a region where customary power is seen as superseding that of the national authority.

Great Lakes Regional Programme

The Great Lakes
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and Rwanda.

Over the past year, the Great Lakes Region has witnessed socio-political developments with significant repercussions for peace, owing to the interdependence of Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda. Many of the conflicts in the region have been fueled by the manipulation of identities and stereotypes, which has contributed to the breakdown of trust. Strong mistrust and suspicion have as a result emerged as fundamental obstacles for sustainable peace among the peoples of the three bordering countries

In Burundi, a constitutional referendum held in May 2018 allowing for the extension of presidential term limits, was approved by more than 70% of voters amid a climate of political repression. In addition, the Government of Burundi announced a three-month ban on international NGOs operating within the country and outlined measures to increase control over activities of national Civil Society Organizations.

In the DRC, presidential elections were held on 30 December 2018 leading to the declaration of an opposition candidate as winner. Although this declaration triggered protests and claims of massive electoral fraud, no major outbreak of violence was reported. The Ebola crisis continues to afflict the DRC's North Kivu province claiming over 1,500 lives as of June 2019 and undermining the health security of the Congolese population.

The volatility of the current situation in Burundi and the DRC has led to mass population movements. According to UNHCR, hundreds of thousands of Burundians and Congolese have sought refuge in neighbouring countries.

Rwanda remains the most stable country in the region.
Nevertheless, while the DRC has relatively stable relations with its two neighbours, those between Rwanda and Burundi are strained and these regional dynamics have the potential to weaken all three countries.

Interpeace's Cross-border Dialogue for Peace in the Great Lakes Region programme seeks to create and promote peace, stability and social cohesion through strengthened resilience capacities for peace and reconciliation throughout the region. It aims to engage community members and decision-makers in creating safe spaces for inclusive dialogue between diverse actors in the region, conduct research that prompts debate and influences policy formulation, promotes a regional approach to peace education, and integrates peacebuilding approaches in youth entrepreneurship initiatives.



In 2018, the Bukavu-Kamembe cross border permanent dialogue helped create an exchange mechanism for communication between Rwandan and DRC authorities.

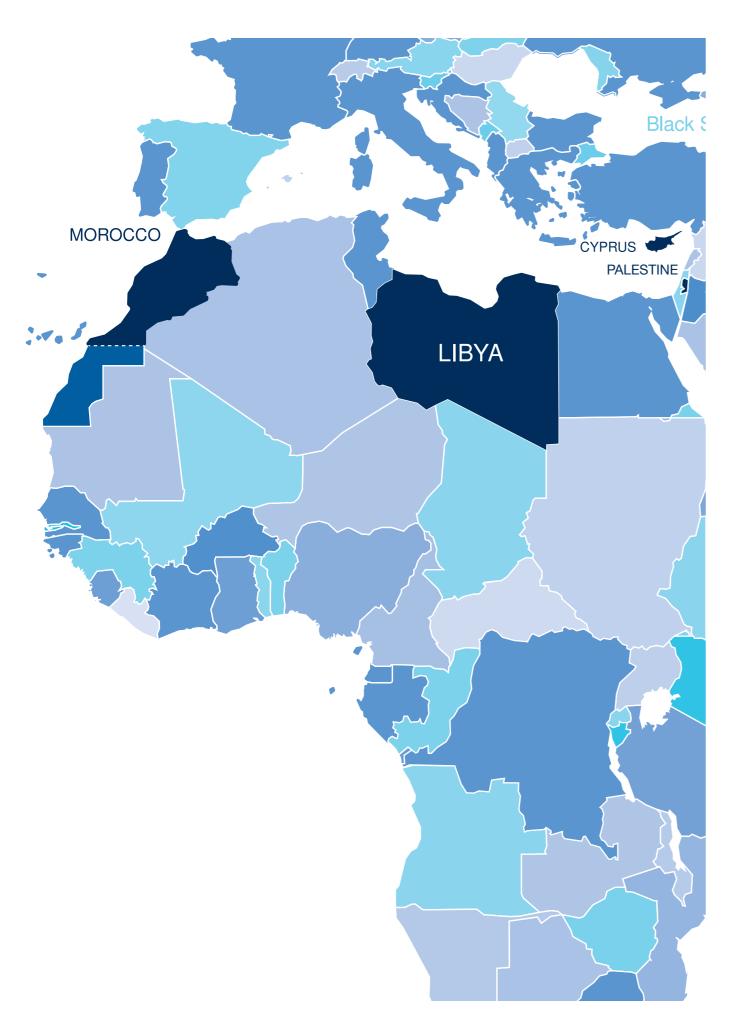
Cross-Border Dialogue for Peace in the Great Lakes

In 2018, the Bukavu-Kamembe cross border permanent dialogue group with the support of Interpeace's partners in Rwanda and the DRC's South Kivu Province, helped create an exchange mechanism for communication between Rwandan and DRC authorities.

Another such example comes from the Rwanda-Burundi frontier. Despite ongoing diplomatic tensions between the countries, the Bugesera-Kirundo permanent dialogue group, with the support of Interpeace's partners in Burundi and Rwanda respectively, demonstrated a welcome solidarity. Following the expulsion of Burundians from Rwanda and the separation of families, Rwandan members of the dialogue group advocated for the rights of the expelled Burundians.

Local Ownership

Importantly, there are encouraging signs of increased autonomy among the permanent dialogue groups. For example, the Bugarama-Kamanyola-Cibitoke tripartite permanent dialogue group led independent peace education initiatives in the Rwanda-Burundi-DRC tri-border area, with Interpeace partner organizations invited as participants.



Middle East and North Africa

Cyprus

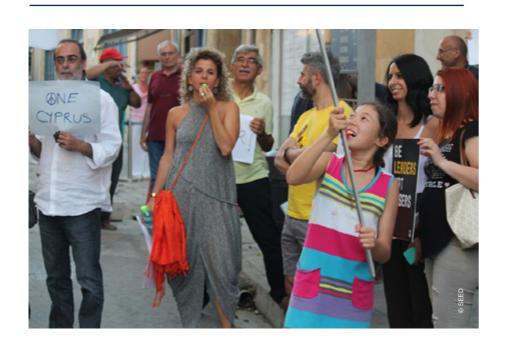
As of 2018, the political climate in Cyprus remains unconducive to the resumption of formal negotiations to reunify the island. Fifteen months after the closure of UN-backed talks in Switzerland, the two Cypriot leaderships continued to blame one another for the failure of the negotiations and their communities appear as distant as ever.

The stalled process has also brought to the fore simmering tensions between the Greek Cypriot government and Turkey, regarding jurisdiction over offshore oil and gas reserves in the Eastern Mediterranean.

In his latest report to the Security Council, the UN Secretary-General has reiterated the

availability of his good offices for a new round of talks, should the leaders commit to enter them in a spirit of compromise. The meeting of Cypriot leadership for the opening of new island checkpoints, in October, was seen as an encouraging step in that direction. Arguing that prospects for a settlement remain alive, the Secretary-General encouraged the involvement of civil society groups and political parties in building a constituency for peace. The fate of a settlement negotiation resumption depends as much on the ability of all sides to remobilize the disenchanted population around a shared vision of the future, as on leadership's political will.

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Interpeace with partner, the Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development (SeeD), has focused on connecting Track 1 level negotiations - involving government and political elites - with civil society and the wider population. The programme aims to promote the eventual agreement and implementation of a comprehensive settlement, through application of global peace process best practices and support to key Cypriot organizations.

Promoting women's inclusion in the peace process

The Security Dialogue Initiative (SDI), implemented by SeeD, focuses on investigating gender-based insecurity and women's inclusion in the peace process.

Research findings show a close relationship between so-called

"toxic masculinity" and women's exclusion in decision making and intergroup relations. In response, outreach was conducted on the findings including wide dissemination among relevant UN parties, international and local actors.

Interpeace has focused on connecting Track 1 level negotiations with civil society and the wider population.

Fostering mutual understanding through the Cyprus Dialogue Forum

Interpeace programming also provided support for the Cyprus Dialogue Forum (CDF), a permanent dialogue platform bringing together policy makers and civil society from diverse sectors of the two Cypriot communities. In the period following the talks in Switzerland, CDF succeeded in maintaining and even increasing its inter-communal work, thus playing a valuable role as a "safety net" to the peace process in the absence of Track 1 progress.

Libya

The focus on the national-level political track fails to grasp the magnitude of socio-political rifts tearing Libyan communities apart

The Libyan political stalemate endured throughout 2018 despite the attempts of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and other actors of the International Community to reach a political settlement. Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) Ghassan Salamé led several rounds of talks and initiatives aimed at resuming dialogue on the stalled Libyan Political Agreement (LPA), signed in Morocco in December 2015. At the same time, military operations intensified in the battle for Tripoli between General Khalifa Haftar, supported by his self-styled Libyan National Army, and Al-Sarrai supported by the Governement of National Accord (GNA) and local armed groups. Recent infighting has highlighted again how the country's national priorities are decided and dictated by a small fraction of Libyans. The focus on the national-level political track fails to grasp the magnitude of socio-political rifts tearing Libyan communities apart and rendering any top-down approach unlikely to solve the current crisis. Internal social cohesion within most Libyan

communities has been subject to immense pressures as community members attempt to make sense of the fast-evolving political climate and alliance dynamics.

Such internal communal divisions render the potential for success of track-one level dialogue increasingly difficult over the short-term. The space and means for collaboration and public participation in decision-making have diminished from both the local sphere up to the higher political level where the quest for power has become the main impediment for achieving national unity and reconciliation.

With this intensity of militaristic competition and political monopoly, the situation presents urgency for the promotion of social cohesion and conflict transformation as it does not only act as a prevention mechanism from further confrontation and escalation of violence, but crucially for advancing piecemeal good governance and dialogue practices locally and nationally.

The programme seeks to strengthen intraand inter-communal social cohesion by strengthening internal capacities for conflict management, fostering state-society relations through constructive exchanges between central authorities and local communities, and contributing to the emergence of cohesive communities.

Reducing levels of conflict and violence

In 2018, Interpeace successfully established a network of change agents, consisting of more than 50 community leaders/influencers from 12 communities in the West and South of Libya. The agents were trained in conflict analysis and transformation, dialogue facilitation, and conflict resolution. The community leaders have since engaged in conflict and violence reduction efforts, as well as in strengthening intra- and inter-communal cohesion.

Following training, the community leaders have engaged in conflict and violence reduction efforts, as well as in strengthening intra- and inter-communal cohesion.



Palestine

2018 was particularly turbulent for the Palestinian community, owing to heightened tensions in the Gaza Strip and a series of political setbacks to the peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Beginning March 2018, Palestinians in the Gaza Strip undertook persistent demonstrations along the border with Israel, demanding an end to the siege and the right to return to their homes and land.

Palestinian political efforts were complicated and weakened by continuing internal divisions. The two dominant political parties/movements, Fatah and Hamas, failed to reunite their interests and move towards national reconciliation. Despite the rapidly deteriorating situation, the year was marked by an overall decline in attention from the international community with regard to the Palestinian cause, in addition to the tendency towards normalization of relations between some Arab States and Israel.



The year 2018 was particularly turbulent for the Palestinian community, owing to heightened tensions in the Gaza Strip and a series of political setbacks to the peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Interpeace's Mustakbalna Programme has worked to promote constructive dialogue and greater stability within the Palestinian community as well as to enhance civil peace. The underlying rationale has been to strengthen the coherence of the Palestinian community so that its representatives can more effectively engage in future negotiations to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on a common vision for Palestine.

Through the programme, young women were connected with decision-makers, women leaders and local civil society actors to foster a shared understanding of the challenges faced by young women

Strengthening the role of young women as advocates of peace and security

The Mustakbalna programme together with its partner, The Freedom Theatre, assisted young women to leverage the transformative potential of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, to advocate for a greater role for themselves in community security processes in the West Bank. Funded by the Folke Bernadotte Academy, the programme empowered young women to stand up for their rights by pairing technical knowledge about UNSCR 1325 with training on leadership and advocacy. Through the programme, young women were connected with decision-makers, women leaders and local civil society actors to foster a shared understanding of the challenges faced by young women and as a basis for continued engagement and participation.

Re-invigorating youth in Gaza to promote messages of unity and reconciliation

During 2018, Mustakbalna conducted a training workshop for youth on the use of mobile technology and social media platforms to promote Palestinian unity and reconciliation. The training helped foster a sense of national unity among youth and reinvigorated in them a desire to find solutions to end internal divisions amongst Palestinians.

Morocco

One year after the end of the Hirak movement, the Moroccan Government and civil society have yet to identify solutions to address the socioeconomic and political grievances voiced by thousands of citizens across the country.

Morocco has often been presented by observers as one of the exceptions of the "Arab Spring". In fact, its governement was able to pre-empt and stave off popular protests by promulgating a new constitution that paved the way for political and economic liberalization. However, the reforms failed to address a portion of the population, which identified themselves as economically and socially marginalized. By 2016 a new wave of popular protests, known locally as the Hirak, brought hundreds of thousands of discontented citizens to the streets.

One year after the end of the Hirak movement, the Moroccan Government and civil society have yet to identify solutions to address the socio-economic and political grievances voiced by thousands of citizens across the country. The arrival of a new government in 2017 has favoured the resumption of dialogue, but tripartite

discussions throughout 2018 between trade unions, employers and the government did not reach any agreement.

In the current stalemate, longestablished political parties, unions and non-governmental organizations, traditionally perceived as the main mediators with the government, have been struggling to provide innovative solutions to unlock social dialogue. In parallel, new civil society actors and movements – especially popular among youth – emerged in the margins of the traditional sphere during the Hirak protests.

In this context, it is crucial for traditional and new civil society actors to join forces and promote constructive dialogue with the government, in order to reach peaceful and viable solutions.

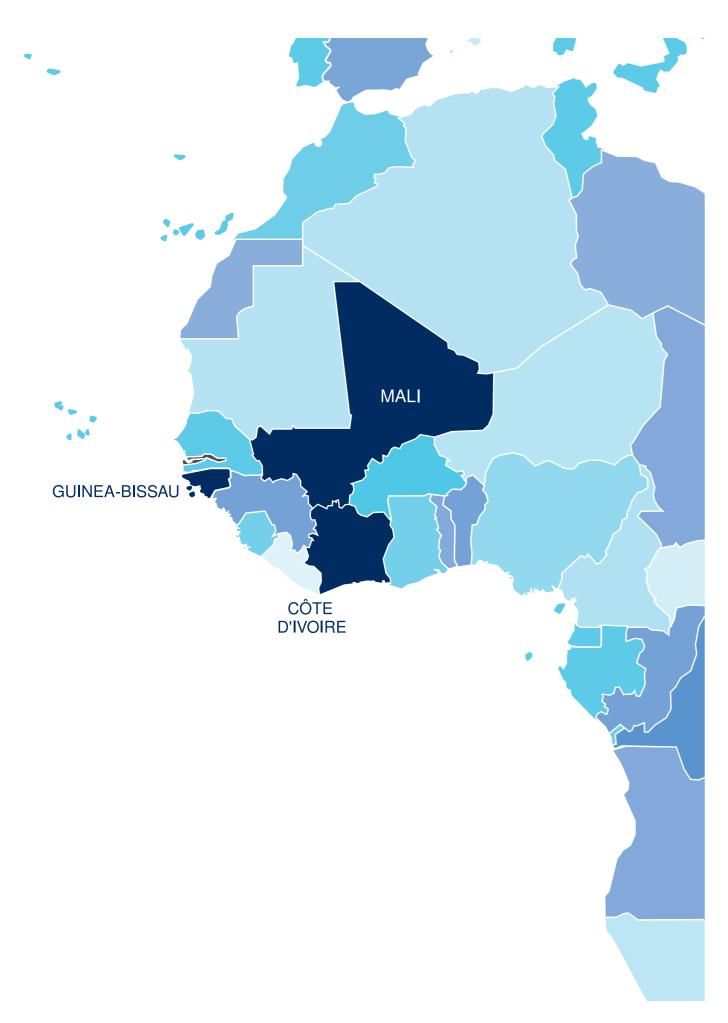
In November 2018, Interpeace launched a new initiative aimed at enhancing social dialogue between Moroccan civil society and authorities through the strengthening of conflict transformation capacities.



Participants will increase their knowledge of, and ability to apply key conflict transformation approaches and tools, with the goal of enhancing social dialogue in Morocco.

Strengthening Conflict Transformation Capacities

The Interpeace initiative brings together civil society actors, social media influencers, and select group of government stakeholders, to strengthen their conflict transformation capacity. Through a series of focused workshops and dialogue sessions culminating in 2020, participants will increase their knowledge of, and ability to apply key conflict transformation approaches and tools, with the goal of enhancing social dialogue in Morocco.



West Africa and Sahel Region



Côte d'Ivoire

Faced with inequalities, marginalization and a lack of opportunities, youth are particularly vulnerable.

Despite the government's narrative and stated objective to position Côte d'Ivoire as an "emerging economy," deep socio-economic inequalities persist, and many challenges remain to be addressed in order to ensure sustainable peace and development.

Faced with inequalities, marginalization and a lack of opportunities, youth are particularly vulnerable and can be subject to political manipulation. In urban contexts, some youth in search of social recognition have joined youth gangs –so-called "microbes" – that perpetrate violence which leads to equally violent counter-reactions from communities and authorities.

A profound educational crisis is also affecting families, schools and communities in Côte d'Ivoire. The proliferation of youth enrollment in Quranic schools represents a risk but also an opportunity in this environment. Quranic schools can be a source of positive resilience with a high degree of legitimacy and acceptance in communities. Nevertheless, there could be instances when ill-intentioned masters may use the strong authority they have over their students (talibés) to incite them towards violence.

Together with its partner organization Indigo Côte d'Ivoire, Interpeace seeks to promote social cohesion, with a strong emphasis on conflict management around land and youth violence.

Helping re-shape A significant number of children who national policy on **Islamic Education Structures**

attend unofficial Islamic education structures do not simultaneously attend public schools. Interpeace is supporting the Ivorian Ministry of Education in shaping the development of the "National Strategy on Integration of Islamic Education Structures", in the formal education system in Côte d'Ivoire.

Perceptions and attitudes towards the so called "microbes", have notably improved in the Abidjan districts of Abobo and Yopougon.

Fostering sustainable social cohesion

In the Western District of "Les Montagnes," Interpeace and Indigo Côte d'Ivoire successfully fostered collaboration and increased trust between local authorities and informal "Peace Committees" in nine localities. By strengthening conflict management skills among members of these Committees, this project helped to successfully decrease social tensions within these communities.

Destigmatizing the so-called "microbe" youth

Perceptions of and attitudes towards the so-called "microbe" groups have notably improved in the Abidjan districts of Abobo and Yopougon with the narrative around these youth becoming more humanized and less stigmatizing.

Interpeace's and Indigo Côte d'Ivoire's efforts included working with journalists to promote fair and informed media coverage regarding youth gangs. Indigo also engaged directly with respected local community volunteers to foster the social reintegration of youth gang members, thus ensuring local ownership and sustainability of this social change process.

Mali

Communities often lack trust in government institutions and their representatives, such as the defense and security forces (DSF).

Malians continue to be faced with generalized violence on a daily basis. Despite being at the heart of the implementation of the Mali Peace Agreement signed in 2015, the regions of Timbuktu, Gao and Kidal in the North have been subject to regular attacks by various armed groups. Regular conflicts often involving inter-communal violence, are also ongoing in the regions of Mopti and Ségou, in central Mali. At the same time, presumed terrorist groups have extended their influence into the centre of Mali and have acted against the interests and presence of the State.

Implementation of the 2015 Peace Agreement is slowly moving forward however, in spite of these challenges. Interim authorities have been put in place in the northern regions of Gao, Kidal and Timbuktu and mixed patrols known as Operational Mechanisms for

Coordination (MOC by their French acronym) were instituted under the Peace Accord, and are now present and semi-operational in all three regions of the North. The MOC are armed units comprised of the representatives of the three former belligerent groups and signatories of the Accord. Their primary mandate is to protect Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-integration (DDR) sites.

One of the main obstacles to peace in Mali, is that communities often lack trust in government institutions and their representatives, such as the defense and security forces (DSF). In addition, women are lacking participation in governance and decision-making spheres. Paradoxically, it is especially women who play a key role in fueling and resolving conflicts in Mali, particularly outside the formal spheres.

Interpeace's overall goal in Mali is to promote and achieve participatory and inclusive dialogue, particularly aimed at rebuilding trust and facilitating collaboration between communities and the defense and security forces. This includes supporting the participation of women in security and defense forces, as well as facilitating dialogue to foster reconciliation between conflicting parties in the central and northern regions.

Interpeace and its partner organization IMRAP have supported structural changes for the effective inclusion of women in the armed forces.

Supporting the Our research shows that it is inclusion of women in the armed forces

essential to improve women's participation in Mali's security apparatus in order to foster trust between civilians and DSF.

Interpeace and its partner organization IMRAP have supported structural changes for the effective inclusion of women in the armed forces by providing evidence-based recommendations informed by the results of a Participatory Action Research (PAR) process. These have taken the form of a) changes in the age limit criteria for candidates to the Police Force, b) gender trainings for the Gender Focal Points in the Police Force, and c) IMRAP assistance in drafting the national Security Sector Reform (SSR) strategy with an emphasis on addressing gender in this important guiding document.



Track 6 engagement within the **Security and Defense forces**

Authorities from the security and military sectors have adhered to and lent their support to Interpeace and IMRAP initiatives. IMRAP has taken the lead in developing relationships with the State Security and Defense Forces, carefully navigating the complex relationships within the military and security hierarchy. These relationships were developed thanks to inclusive, judgement-free dialogue.

Supporting the implementation of the 2015 Peace **Agreement**

In the Gao Region, the MOC are perceived by the community as the main driver of insecurity and tense relations with local populations have aggravated the conflict. To address this, IMRAP has launched a trust-building process between the MOC and local populations which has led to the realization of joint community-led and owned actions. Interpeace and IMRAP have also supported the production of explanatory video-clips about the mission and mandate of the MOC, which have aired on national television in Mali, to help increase awareness and reduce tensions between the population and the MOC.

Guinea-Bissau

The exclusion of women remains as a structural and cultural problem that inhibits inclusive and sustainable peacebuilding.

For the last two decades, Guinea-Bissau has experienced major political turmoil, with successive coups and recurrent confrontations between political authorities and the military. State dysfunctionality has a strong negative impact on the country at large, including on international support for civil society institutions, inhibiting sustainable peacebuilding and development.

The ongoing political impasse (since 2015) has further offset gains in women's participation in leadership and decision-making,

which is at an all-time low. Women continue to be underrepresented in key positions or levels of decision-making across all societal sectors. In the last legislative elections (March 2019) only 14 women out of 102 deputies have been elected in the National Assembly. The exclusion of women remains as a structural and cultural problem that inhibits inclusive and sustainable peacebuilding. Strong resistances to the promotion of women's participation pose a threat to the gains already made for wider peacebuilding in the country.

Interpeace's programme in Guinea-Bissau, implemented together with local partner Voz di Paz, aims to stimulate citizen engagement for good governance and peacebuilding, with a special focus on the most excluded groups of society. On gender, the programme aims to increase women's participation in governance and conflict resolution. Concerning justice, we aim to foster an active citizenry for an effective intervention to improve the governance of justice.



Increasing the participation of women in desion-making

Interpeace and Voz di Paz are promoting the inclusion of women in governance and contributing to laying the foundations for a more peaceful society, by strengthening the role of women in conflict resolution. Throughout 2018, newly trained women mediators were integrated in Voz di Paz's Regional Spaces for Dialogue (RSD) – local structures for peace across the country – with the percentage of female members increasing from 24% to 46%.

The Interpeace and Voz di Paz programme fostered a national dialogue and debate around the role of women in decision-making. The dialogue gave voice to actors that would not ordinarily have the chance to express their opinions and concerns and raised awareness on the issue of gender. In March

2018, the programme published the report Fala di Mindjer (The Voices of Women), to highlight the barriers to women in decision-making while, during the year, radio spots and TV programmes highlighting the issue were broadcast more than 3,000 times and public debates held with over 180 participants in all regions of the country.

Furthermore, the capacity of key actors to advocate for gender in peacebuilding was strengthened through training held in Guinea-Bissau's eight regions, with more than 250 women and men leaders, as well as journalists and members of the Defense and Security Forces.

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Promoting active citizenry

The initiative aims to create new mechanisms and build capacities for an active citizenry that is empowered to monitor, evaluate and advocate for adequate public policies in the justice sector, and to integrate traditional justice into the justice sector through a peacebuilding lens.

An essential component of the programme is the Participatory Barometer, which is the first ever to be used in Guinea-Bissau. The

use of such a participatory tool is aimed at providing citizens an instrument to demand changes to the justice system. Notably, this is done through dialogue and discussion, aimed at informing the government of citizen expectations in relation to the justice system and the reform process. The results of the Barometer provide quantitative and representative information on the local governance of justice in the eight regions of Guinea-Bissau.





Other Programmes

Colombia

Social conflict and violence in Colombia are often interlinked with a series of conditions including the lack of a State response to social demands in territories highly affected by armed conflict.

In September 2016, the Final Agreement ending the decadeslong conflict between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC-EP) was signed to great acclaim. The National Police of Colombia, in anticipation of new post-conflict challenges, created the Police Unit for Peacebuilding – UNIPEP – which seeks to promote peaceful transformation of conflicts, as part of its institutional policies.

Social conflict and violence in Colombia are often interlinked with a series of conditions including the lack of a State response to social demands in territories highly affected by armed conflict; the presence of organized criminal groups; and illicit economies and natural resource disputes. In this context, the National Police is tasked with preserving security and peaceful coexistence and restricting violence. However,

there exists a lack of non-coercive methods to prevent and avoid the escalation of the violence that emanates from social conflicts.

At the same time, a high incidence of gender-based violence among rural populations in Colombia, and the multiple obstacles faced by individuals in accessing prevention and care services, has also been identified as a critical concern affecting girls, women and the LGBTI community in the country.

Interpeace and Alianza para la Paz (APAZ) seek to increase the capacity of the State, specifically the National Police to prevent violence and transform conflict. Specifically the programme aims to prevent and address genderbased violence, as well as build capacities in the National Police to prevent and manage violence emanating from social conflicts.

The programme aims to prevent and address gender-based violence, as well as build capacities in the National Police to prevent and manage violence emanating from social conflicts.

Contributing to prevent gender-based violence

In 2018, over 170 police officers in seven selected municipalities received training on applying a gender perpective in their work. The APAZ-Interpeace progamme also helped facilitate coordination between public institutions and civil society organizations, to develop

joint initiatives against genderbased violence. Several police stations in selected municipalities were equipped to better prevent and respond to violence against women and the LGBTI community.

Building national capacities to prevent and manage violence

In 2018, Interpeace and APAZ, launched the Conflict Transformation and Territorial Peace programme to help build National Police capacities to prevent and manage violence originating from social conflicts as well as gender-based violence.

Through Participatory Research Processes, the programme

developed a diagnostic tool and conditions for dialogue in selected regions. The initiative includes up-to-date procedures, norms, protocols and programmatic training contents related to social conflicts, from a human rights and peacebuilding perspective.

The APAZ-Interpeace progamme has helped facilitate coordination between public institutions and civil society organizations, to develop joint initiatives against gender-based violence.



Sweden

Prominent national dialogue has included public debate about the country's asylum and immigration policies and the national approach to social integration.

Following the general election in September 2018, Sweden's political environment has been complicated by the absence of a clear majority for any single political party. Prominent national dialogue has included public debate about the country's asylum and immigration policies and the national approach to social integration. The debate has been impacted by a discernible increase in violent gang crime in the suburbs of Sweden's larger cities, where many gang members are either first- or second-generation immigrants.

Interpeace's work in Sweden has centred on empowering marginalized communities in and around major cities, such as Stockholm and Malmö.

Bridging the gap between marginalized youth and decision-makers

In 2018, the project, Hear me out! - a platform for young voices, implemented in collaboration with the City of Stockholm (Kista library), worked to strengthen confidence and communication skills, improve understanding of democratic norms and processes, and build

trust between youth and decisionmakers. Through capacity building workshops and dialogue platforms, the project fostered effective youth leadership for change, as well as mutual respect and understanding between youth and decisionmakers.



Timor Leste

Timor-Leste has experienced an extended period of political instability and uncertainty since the July 2017 Parliamentary and Presidential Elections.

The deadlock reflects the country's weak leadership. However, the President's anti-corruption effort has been welcomed in a country where corruption is still a major issue and is perceived as an impediment to peace by most citizens.



Interpeace's primary goal in Timor Leste is to continue to support the efforts of the Centre of Studies for Peace and Development (CEPAD) to address Corruption, Collusion and Nepotism (KKN by its local acronym), by focusing on awareness raising, encouraging government accountability and transparency, and providing citizens with the tools and understanding to prevent and combat KKN for socio-economic and political advancement.

The strategic partnerships established with the Anti-Corruption Commission, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Ombudsman's Office, are a testament to CEPAD's effective intervention building on its partnership with Interpeace.

editors in investigative journalism

In 2018, 26 people were trained on critical thinking and ethical, objective approaches to investigative reporting, to enhance their understanding of ways in which the media can address and report on issues concerning common forms of corruption. A training module on investigative journalism was developed and distributed to all media institutions for future reference. The intervention has a broader impact since media and journalism play a critical watchdog role in society, anchoring and deepening democracy.

Training journalists and Partnering with State institutions to support anti-corruption policies

Interpeace partner CEPAD continues to enjoy a nation-wide reputation for the quality of its inclusive engagement methodology on anti-corruption. The strategic partnerships established with the Anti-Corruption Commission, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Ombudsman's Office, are a testament to the organization's effective intervention.

Programme Development

Zimbabwe

In late 2017, President Robert Mugabe's 30-year tenure ended when he was replaced by former Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa. The presidential and parliamentary elections called in July 2018 resulted in a close contest and victory by Emmerson Mnangagwa and were marked by violence that continued deep divisions between ruling and opposition party supporters. In late 2018, fuel as well as food and drug shortages reached new peaks following the announcement of unpopular tax

and currency policies, sparking country-wide protests. Government repression further weakened the already narrow political space for civil society and human rights organizations.

In 2018, Interpeace initiated an exploratory process in Zimbabwe to assess how it could contribute to peace and reconciliation efforts in the current context. In line with its Track 6 approach - connecting local communities, civil society, and governments - Interpeace held consultations

with representatives of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission; the Parliamentary Committee on Youth, Sports and Reconciliation; the Special Adviser to the President on Peace and Reconciliation; and, representatives of civil society, church bodies and youth organizations. These consultations were received positively and were further encouraged by all concerned in order to foster sustainable peace and development in the country.

Burking Faso

Burkina Faso has witnessed a dramatic increase in violence in the last five years. National and international institutions are investing heavily in the security response with little attention to the root causes of violence. Moreover, there is no known nationwide attempt to understand the multiple perspectives, needs and capacities of local populations in the context of these security threats. Youth are increasingly isolated from, and frustrated by, national decisionmaking processes. They are often influenced by unbalanced reporting driven by social and other media, and are particularly affected by security challenges including inter-communal conflict.

Interpeace carried several exploratory visits to Burkina Faso in 2018. Interpeace representatives met with governmental leaders, civil society organizations, researchers as well as international partners. The exploration process concluded that there are needs for "Track 6" initiatives enabling to better bridge local populations' views and perspectives with decision makers and informing policy making.

In 2019, Interpeace will seek to conduct an analysis of the drivers of violent conflict and factors of resilience in Burkina Faso. The approach is rooted in the assertion that supporting stakeholders through their participation in understanding conflict, contributes to the design of inclusive and locally owned peacebuilding processes. It will also develop a project in partnership with Fondation Hirondelle aiming to address these challenges by creating spaces for young people to develop mutual understanding, participate in public debate, and offer fresh, youth-oriented solutions to security challenges.

Influencing International Policy and Practice

Influencing International Policy And Practice

A renewed Policy & Learning Agenda

In 2018, Interpeace renewed its policy and learning agenda in order to strengthen and improve its own institutional effectiveness and coherence.

Peace Responsiveness and measuring resilience

The development of policy and programmatic partnerships with UN and international non-governmental organization partners, on two strategic concepts, marked a major achievement in 2018.

The first of these is the newly developed concept of "peace responsiveness", advanced through work with other international development, humanitarian, stabilization and business actors. Peace responsiveness aims to improve and move beyond notions of conflict sensitivity to encourage more proactive design, programming, monitoring and evaluation. Ultimately, peace responsiveness informs how technically-oriented development,

humanitarian, stabilization, peacekeeping and private sector actions can better contribute to sustainable peace.

The second area of advancement in 2018 was the development of measurement tools to better understand how actors and individuals can effectively draw on their own resilience in a peacebuilding context.

In these two areas of work, partnership was further expanded with the Food and Agriculture Organization, further solidified with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and a new partnership established with the World Health Organization.

Interpeace Advisory Team - IPAT

The Interpeace Advisory Team, IPAT, was created in 2013 to respond to an increasing demand from international and national actors wishing to benefit from the organization's experience and know-how in order to improve the impact of their own peacebuilding strategies, policies and processes.

Now in its fifth year, IPAT continued to administer its highly successful Effective Advising for Peacebuilding course. 2018 also saw the expansion of IPAT's network of associates (experts) that help deliver strategic advisory services.







Talks

Peace Talks is a joint initiative of Interpeace, UN Office at Geneva, and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform showcasing the inspirational stories of people who are making extraordinary contributions to peace. Through city-specific events, speakers come from different sectors and industries to share their personal stories, ideas and practical solutions to conflict resolution. In 2018, Peace Talks fostered a global discussion on people's solutions to conflict through events in Geneva and London.

Both events were organized under the theme "Peace Without Borders". The Geneva Peace Talks took place on 21 September at the Palais des Nations while the London Peace Talks were held on 11 of December in Salesforce Tower. The events were instrumental in bringing to the global stage, conversations on the diverse efforts of peace champions around the world. Speakers included young men and women from Syria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Colombia, Niger, Jordan and Lebanon.

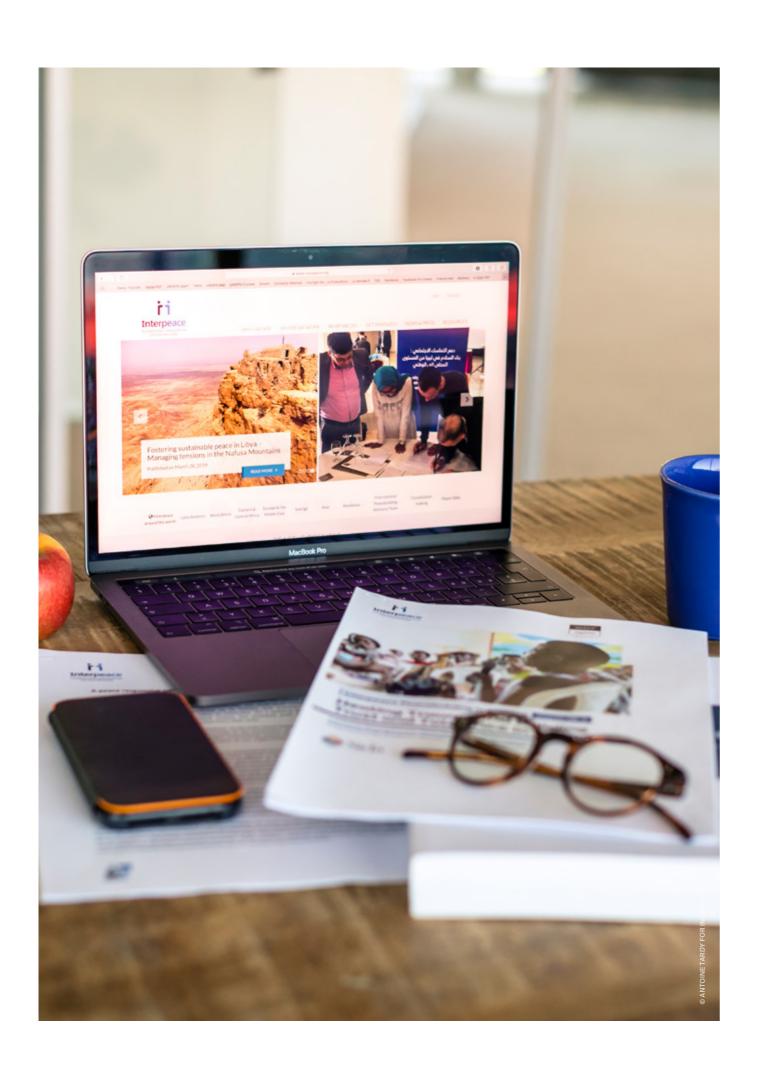
The events were instrumental in bringing to the global stage, conversations on the diverse efforts of peace champions around the world.











2018 Publications

Our participatory action research, multi-stakeholder dialogues, qualitative and quantitative research processes provide a foundation for the development of effective peacebuilding practices, which can in turn influence policies at a national and international level. This is a list of the resources published in the past year.

Research developed as a contribution to the Progress Study on Youth Peace and Security

The following reports were commissioned by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), as a contribution to the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security mandated by Security Council Resolution 2250. The research and consultations for the reports followed the key research questions and methodology developed for the Progress Study.

Interpeace and local partners led research processes in the Northern Triangle of Central America, Côte d'Ivoire, Palestine and Sweden.



Youth, Peace and Security in the Northern Triangle of Central America





Parole aux jeunes! Analyse croisée de leur engagement pour la paix et la sécurité en Côte d'Ivoire



Click here to read the full **report** in **French**



Click here to read the full **report** in **English**



Palestinian Youth Challenges and Aspirations





Youth perspectives from the global North





Challenging the Conventional: Making Post-Violence Reconciliation Succeed

This report addresses the design and implementation of reconciliation processes, based on studies in Guatemala, Northern Ireland, DRC and South Africa. It argues that reconciliation requires a tailor-made approach and lasting attention from all segments of society. The report was developed in partnership with the Kofi Annan Foundation.



Click here to read the full **report** in **English**

Burundi



Etude sur les Aspirations des Jeunes pour le Burundi de demain -Gira iyo uva n'iyo uja



Click here to read the summary in French

This report presents the findings of a participatory research process on the perspectives and visions of young people for a peaceful, economically dynamic Burundi with a competent education system and respect for the rule of law. Over 4,000 young people (aged 15-29) were consulted.

Côte d'Ivoire



« L'étranger ne peut pas venir se cacher derrière une termitière et vouloir que sa tête la dépasse »



Click here to read the full **report** in **French**

« The outsider cannot come hide behind a termite mound and wish that his head be taller »:



Click here to read the summary in English

Results of a participatory research process on the risks and opportunities for social cohesion in western Côte d'Ivoire. In particular, the research identified obstacles to social cohesion in the regions of Guémon, Tonkpi and Cavally. This report serves as a basis for the second phase of the current project, which aims to support the consolidation of sustainable frameworks of community gathering, building upon peace infrastructures and public authorities.



« Dans tout cá, moi je gagne quoi?»



Click here to read the full report in French

Participatory and inclusive study of the socio-economic and political context of Abobo and Yopougon, which aims to document the evolution of social cohesion dynamics in these two municipalities.

Guinea-Bissau







Click here to read the full report in English



Click here to read the illustrated synthesis in **English**



Click here to read the illustrated synthesis in French

Mali

and Bamako.

"From trial to success"



« D'un coup d'essai, un véritable coup de maître »

Women's participation in the defense and security

trust between women and the defense and security

forces and promoting women's participation in the

defense and security forces in Mali. More than 3000

individual interviews in the regions of Gao, Timbuktu

people were consulted through focus groups and



Click here to read the full **report** in **French**



Click here to read the illustrated synthesis in French



Click here to read the illustrated synthesis in English



Portraits Croisés - Analyse locale des dynamiques de conflit et de résilience dans les cercles d'Ansongo, Bourem et Gao

This report provides an in-depth analysis of the

current situation in the Gao Region, highlighting the opinions and perceptions of local actors. It provides



Click here to read the full **report** in **French**



Click here to read the illustrated synthesis in French



Click here to read the illustrated synthesis in

stakeholders with the opportunity to understand the views of the local population and how they perceive the initiatives put in place to solve the crisis, be they financial, technical or military. Click here to read the full report in Portuguese



Support, Funding and Expenditure

Our Partners and Donors

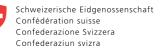
Our strategic partners

Building on its 25 years of supporting peace processes worldwide, Interpeace recognizes the importance of building strong partnerships with national as well as international actors, enabling to engage in political dialogues, align strategies and join forces to achieve common objectives.

Interpeace is particularly grateful to its governmental Strategic Partners - the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland- for their continued political and financial support. Their commitment has been critical in achieving the results presented in this report.







Swiss Confederation

Other partners and donors

Ben & Jerrys

Canada

CEPAD

City of Stockholm

Civi Pol Conseil

Denmark

Democratic Republic of Congo

European Commission

FAO

Free Press Unlimited

Folke Benedotte Academy

Germany

Humanity United

Inter Mediat

International Organization for Migration

Japan

Mirabaud Bank

MUCF

Norway

Queen Silvia Foundation

Robert Bosch Foundation

Sales Force

United Kingdom

UNDP

UNICEF UN PBF

United States Department of State

Letter from the Auditors



MAZARS SA Chemin de Blandonnet 2 CH-1214 Vernier

Phone +41 22 708 10 80 +41 22 708 10 88 TVA N° CHE-116.331.176

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Consolidated Financial Statements of International Peacebuilding Alliance (INTERPEACE), Geneva

The summary consolidated financial statements of International Peacebuilding Alliance (INTERPEACE), which comprise the summary consolidated statement of comprehensive income, summary balance sheet, summary statement of cash flows, summary statement of changes in equity and explanatory notes, are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of International Peacebuilding Alliance (INTERPEACE) for the year ended 31 December 2018.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary consolidated financial statements derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of International Peacebuilding Alliance (INTERPEACE) for the year ended 31 December 2018 are consistent, in all material respects, with those consolidated financial statements, in accordance with the basis of preparation described in note 2.

Summary Consolidated Financial Statement

The summary consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Reading the summary consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unqualified audit opinion on the audited consolidated financial statements in our report dated July 11, 2019.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary consolidated financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with (or are a fair summary of) the audited consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*

MAZARS SA



Franck Paucod Licensed Audit Expert (Auditor in charge)



Vincent Pichard US Certified Public Accountant

Geneva, July 11, 2019

Appendices:

Summary consolidated financial statements





Financial Statements

Calendar Year 2018 (In US Dollars)

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

Comprenensive income				
	2018	2017		
Income	US\$	US\$		
United Nations	1 448 087	1 070 143		
Governments	11 531 553	14 345 438		
Trusts & Foundations, NGO and Other	309 379	1 907 040		
Total Income	13 289 019	17 322 621		
Expenses				
Personnel (incl. consultants)	9 880 354	10 026 493		
Travel and Related Expenses	2 222 398	1 725 837		
Equipment Purchases	97 200	91 991		
Depreciation	45 180	59 618		
Office, Communications, Vehicle and Finance	1 825 320	1 772 887		
Workshops, Reporting and Professional Services	1 977 304	1 098 361		
UN Management Fees	92 555	107 755		
Total Expenses	16 140 311	14 882 942		
Finance (costs) / gains	(12 773)	115 983		
Other Comprehensive (loss) / income	28 120	38 748		
Net (loss) / income	(2 835 945)	2 594 410		
Carryforward from Previous Year	4 897 077	2 302 667		
Closing Balance 31st December	2 061 132	4 897 077		

Balance Sheet

(as at 31 December)		
Assets	2018	2017
Non Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	120 727	146 217
Deposits	121 082	109 147
Donor Income Receivable	13 035 705	8 980 126
Current Assets		
Deposits	5 520	7 016
Advances to UN	24 910	239 680
Advances to Partners	491 252	509 797
Donor Income Receivable	11 643 738	9 205 683
Other Receivables and Prepayments	223 724	199 735
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10 470 577	6 510 806
Total Assets	36 137 235	25 908 207
Liabilities and Reserves		
Non Current Liabilities		

Total Liabilities and	36 137 235	25 908 207
Unrestricted Reserves	2 061 132	4 897 077
Total Liabilities	34 076 103	21 011 130
Payables and Accruals	758 786	738 336
Income to be Repaid to Donors	616 305	380 825
Amounts due to Partners	6 314	35 582
Deferred Income	19 033 788	10 065 612
Current Liabilities		
Deferred Income	13 035 705	8 980 126
Employee Benefits	585 642	778 324
Provisions	39 563	32 325

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The consolidated summary financial statements are prepared using the same structured presentation and measurement basis but do not contain all disclosures required by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Reserves

Cash Flow	2018	2017
Unrestricted net (loss) / income for the year	(2 864 065)	2 555 662
Cash flow from operating activities		
Adjustments for		
Depreciation	45 180	59 618
Net finance costs / (income)	12 773	(115 983)
	(2 806 112)	2 499 297
Change in deposits	(10 439)	(8 183)
Change in advances to UN	214 770	(143 011)
Change in advances to partners	9 405	(149 847)
Change in donor income receivable	998 171	1 609 616
Change in accounts receivable and prepayments	(14 849)	132 161
Change in provisions and employee benefits	(144 235)	46 027
Change in deferred income	5 531 950	(785 624)
Change in amount due to partners	(29 268)	(16 878)
Change in Income to be repaid to donors	235 480	(423 768)
Change in accounts payable and accrued expenses	62 776	(397 518)
Net cash from operating activities	4 047 649	2 362 272
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest received	154	8 659
Acquisition of property plant and equipment	(19 690)	(20 302)
Net cash used in investing activities	(19 536)	(11 643)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Interest paid	(1 208)	(5 861)
Net cash used in financing activities	(1208)	(5 861)
Net Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	4 026 905	2 344 768
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	6 510 806	3 976 108
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash held	(67 134)	189 930
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	10 470 577	6 510 806

Changes in Reserves

Changes in Reserves					
	2018				2017
	Interpeace Headquarters Unrestricted Reserves	Interpeace Inc. Unrestricted Fund	Interpeace Sweden Unrestricted Fund	Total Unrestricted Reserves	
Opening Balance	4 869,068	26 840	1 169	4 897 077	2 302 667
Unrestricted net (loss) / income for the year	(2 860 576)	(3 440)	(49)	(2 864 065)	2 555 662
Items that will never be reclassified to profit or loss					
Remeasurements of defined benefit liability	41 209	0	0	41 209	73 676
Items that are or may be reclassified to profit or loss					
Foreign currency translation differences	(13 089)	0	0	(13 089)	(34 928)
Total other comprehensive (loss) / income	28 120	0	0	28 120	38 748
Total comprehensive (loss) / income for the year	(2 832 456)	(3 440)	(49)	(2 835 945)	2 594 410
Closing Balance	2 036 612	23 400	1 120	2 061 132	4 897 077

Our Structures and People

Our Governing Board



Monica McWilliams Chair United Kingdom

Professor of Women's Studies at the University of Ulster; former Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; Member of the Northern Ireland Legislative Assembly until 2003 and contributor to the peace negotiations leading to the Good Friday Agreement; co-founder of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition political party



Founder and former President of Interpeace

Matthias Stiefel Vice-Chair Switzerland



Martin Aked Honorary Treasurer United Kingdom

Former Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers and former International Treasurer of Médecins Sans Frontières



Cassam Uteem Mauritius

President of the Republic of Mauritius (1992-2002); Former Special Envoy of UN Secretary General and Head of the UN Electoral Observer Mission in Burundi (MENUB); Vice-President of the Club de Madrid; Board member of the Global Leadership Foundation (GLF); Member of the Africa Forum; President of ATD Fourth World



Necla Tschirgi Turkey

Professor of Practice, Human Security and Peacebuilding at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies at the University of San Diego; former Senior Policy Advisor to the Peacebuilding Support Office at the United Nations Secretariat; former Vice President of the International Peace Academy; former Team Leader of the Peacebuilding and Reconstruction Programme at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)



Staffan De Mistura Italy - Sweden

Former Under-Secretary and United Nations Special Envoy for Syria (2014 - 2018), Afghanistan (2010 - 2011), Iraq (2007 -2009) and Lebanon (2001-2004); Director of the UN Information Centre in Rome; Director of Fundraising and External Relations of the UN Office of the Coordinator for Afghanistan; Senior posts with UNICEF.



Alan Doss United Kingdom

Executive Director of the Kofi Annan Foundation; Visiting Fellow at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy; former Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; former Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Liberia



Andrew Gilmour United Kingdom

Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on the Governing Council; Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights OHCHR; Former Director for Political, Peacekeeping, Humanitarian and Human Rights affairs in the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General; Former Representative of the Secretary-General in Belgrade; Former Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General both in South Sudan and Iraq.



John A. Kufuor **Chair Emeritus** Ghana

Former President of Ghana; former Chairperson of the African Union (AU); former Chairperson of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); Chair of Interpeace Governing Council from 2009 to 2015.

Martti Ahtisaari Chair Emeritus and Special Adviser

Recipient of 2008 Nobel Peace Prize; former President of Finland; Chair of the Interpeace Governing Council from 2001 to 2009

Our Advisory Council

The Interpeace Advisory Council is a high-level intergovernmental, statutory body of Interpeace, whose mandate is to provide the organization with strategic advice and guidance on peacebuilding policy and practice. It is also a testing ground for new ideas and methods.



Ambassador Rosemary McCarney Canada



Ambassador Terhi Hakala Finland



Ambassador Michael Gaffey Ireland



Ambassador Socorro Flores Liera *Mexico*



Mr. Jelte van Wieren *Netherlands*



Ambassador Foo Kok Jwee Singapore



Ambassador Veronika Bard Sweden





Leadership

Interpeace's Leadership works alongside colleagues and partners to achieve our strategic vision and objectives.



Scott M. Weber President

Global Management Team



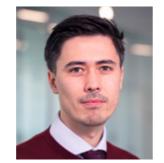
Simon Gimson Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer



Renée Larivière Senior Director for Programme Management



Almudena Bartayrés Arcas Senior Director of Global Operations and Chief Financial Officer



Daniel HyslopDirector of Policy, Learning and IPAT



Jean Paul Mugiraneza
Director of Programme
Development and Innovation



Alexandre Munafò
Head of Strategic Partnerships
and Communications





Remembering Three Great Peacebuilders

In 2018, the Interpeace family was saddened by the loss of three great peacebuilders, whose invaluable contributions have gone a long way towards helping shape the organization's work and positioning over the years. We wish to take this opportunity to pay tribute to these three men, who we greatly cherished.

Paddy Ashdown (1941 - 2018)

Paddy Ashdown, a former member of the Interpeace Governing Board, and a British politician who served as a diplomat, leader of the Liberal Democrats, a Member of Parliament, and later a Member of the House of Lords, passed away on 22 December 2018, aged 77.

Paddy was an exceptional speaker and political mind who did not hesitate to stand up to those he believed were abusing their power and oppressing their citizens. His varied career gave him a unique perspective and vantage point from which to view current events.

As a Board member, Paddy was always available, even on very short notice, to provide advice and to open doors as needed. He had admirable energy, always moving forward, always thinking about the next issue to tackle, the next book to write, a speech to give, or an op-ed to publish. His impatience was always a good reminder that we need to do as much as we can, in life, to make the world a better place.



Mohamed Sahnoun (1931-2018)



Mohamed Sahnoun, an Algerian diplomat and former member of the Interpeace Governing Board, passed away on 24 September 2018. Over the broad sweep of his career, he served as his country's Ambassador to France, Germany, Morocco, the United States, and the UN. He also served as Assistant Secretary-General of the African Union; Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League, and as Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to Somalia and the Great Lakes region of Africa.

Mohamed was remarkably gifted at persuading warring factions to sit down and talk. He was also a man who lived without rancour. As a young man, he was arrested and tortured by the French colonial authorities during Algeria's struggle for independence, but decades later as a diplomat he nurtured warm relations with French leaders.

A lifelong pacifist, Mohamed was always searching for more effective ways to bring peace. He played a key role in seeking common ground between the global North and South, and his contributions helped give rise to the UN's Responsibility to Protect (R2P). His wisdom will be sorely missed.

Philip Thomas (1965-2018)



Philip Thomas, a Senior Associate of Interpeace's International Peacebuilding Advisory Team (IPAT), passed away on 30 November 2018. Philip was a committed peacebuilder and a remarkable human being with a lifelong commitment to peace.

Philip was a peace advocate with over three decades of experience in conflict prevention, conflict transformation and peacebuilding. During this time, he travelled to more than 30 countries, working with heads of states, indigenous groups, community leaders and corporate entities, trying to encourage dialogue and implement peace.

An extraordinarily wise and humble man, Philip always challenged people to be a better version of themselves, and to discern the hidden ray of hope when all seemed lost.

) TO MOHAMED SAHNOUN BY FRANÇOIS WAVRE FOR INTERPEACE; PHILIP THOMAS BY INTERPEACE; PADDY ASHDOWN, UNKNOW



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