



Peacebuilding Portfolio *– Pursuing Durable Peace*

Since its founding in 1994, Interpeace has served those affected by conflict by amplifying the voices of communities, building trust in divided societies, and nurturing the conditions for sustainable peace.

The following pages provide selected examples from past and ongoing work, highlighting our impact and the change we seek to achieve through our *Strategic Framework 2026-2030: Navigating Political and Civic Space – Peacebuilding in an Era of Heightened Instability*.



Table of Contents

The Change We Seek	3
<i>Preventing & Transforming Violent Conflicts</i>	4
<i>Peace Responsive Interventions</i>	5
<i>Influencing Policy & Practice</i>	5
<i>Women at the Frontlines of Peace</i>	6
A Legacy of Dialogue	7



The Change We Seek

Working alongside communities and in partnership with our peers, we seek to enable lasting, durable peace.

Our Impact

The public and key actors are more engaged and forceful in demanding peace

International stakeholders develop more effective approaches to peace practices

Economic actors invest in projects that build social cohesion and increase common resources

HDP Nexus actors develop and implement a shared agenda for peace

Institutions are more responsive to people's rights and needs

Traumas and injustices are equitably addressed by institutions

Governance systems are more participatory

Policy outcomes are more inclusive and equitable

Individuals are better able to speak out for themselves and their rights

Disenfranchisement linked to extreme poverty is reduced

Communities demonstrate greater tolerance and are more trusting

Individuals are better able to cope with past and present trauma

Programmatic Focus

Resilience and transformation | Peace responsive action | Durable political solutions

The multilateral system furthers peaceful prevention and resolution to conflicts

Actors across sectors become effectively engaged in building peace

State institutions cohesively promote peace across sectors

Institutions are perceived legitimate and trustworthy

Governance systems better prevent and transform conflicts

Root causes of conflicts are better addressed

Outcomes

Peace is better anchored and sustained | Societies are more resilient to conflict and violence

Mission

To build sustainable peace in conflict-affected societies by overcoming divisions in non-violent and non-coercive ways

Preventing & Transforming Violent Conflicts

Durable peace is built and owned by those impacted by crises. In order to enable our mission, we accompany and reinforce the capacities of communities in their efforts to advance peaceful solutions before, during, and after conflict.

Our holistic approach especially across the **Horn of Africa**, the **Great Lakes Region**, and **West Africa** seeks to address underlying grievances, enhance robust processes, and create credible, sustainable peace. Our in-country presence roots us to the contexts we work in, whilst being integral for our impact in diplomatic hubs across Abidjan, Nairobi, Geneva, Brussels, and New York.

Supporting Local Peace Agreements & Inclusive National Structures

Sustained, community-led peacebuilding is key to addressing grievances and preventing recurring cycles of violence. In **Kenya**, locally negotiated ceasefires reduced community tensions and strengthened social cohesion, allowing economic development. As regional conflicts and climate shocks accelerate, we continue to expand our research initiatives across the Horn of Africa, to root prevention and dialogue into conflict management mechanisms, whilst scaling and interweaving local solutions into national structures.

KENYA

7 Ceasefire Monitoring Commissions facilitated
6 peace accords and 16 peace agreements supported
4 million people impacted

Adaptive Peacebuilding Enabling Reconciliation and Transitional Justice

In order to end destructive conflict cycles, we support peacebuilding efforts that ensure redress, reconciliation, and resilience. In **Rwanda**, the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi continues to strain social cohesion – especially as perpetrators return to communities. To enhance the just and sustainable reintegration of prisoners, we developed a standardised rehabilitation curriculum and disseminated it through training-of-trainers programmes, coupled with intergenerational dialogues. In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, a history of violence corroded trust between communities, security actors, and armed groups. To change the status quo in Kivu, we supported the demobilization, disarmament, and reintegration of former combatants and facilitated ceasefire agreements with armed groups. In Ituri, an insider mediation initiative resulted in armed groups allowing the resumption of free movement and economic activity that had been stalled for years.

RWANDA

230 inmates convicted of genocide crimes participated in psychosocial healing programs
45 correctional officers trained on reintegration of perpetrators
All national prisons adopted reintegration curriculum

DRC

22 ceasefire agreements supported
6 armed groups committed to allow the resumption of movement and economic activities
2 conflict transformation roadmaps created by security actors

Supporting Democratic Processes & Preventing Political Violence

For decades, **Côte d'Ivoire** saw episodes of electoral violence, fuelling a crisis of trust within and between communities and authorities. To reverse the trend, a participatory mapping unpacking the root causes of violence was implemented in eight localities. The findings catalysed community-led initiatives, 30 radio shows, and 35 meetings with authorities. No election related violence was reported in assessed locations, and findings are now being rooted into prevention and response mechanisms ahead of future elections. In **Somalia**, decades of dialogue facilitation between communities, traditional leaders, and state institutions revived inter-clan relations and strengthened citizens' participation and ownership of governance processes. The enhanced engagement and knowledge decreased tensions and was critical in ensuring legitimate and accountable election results.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

167 initiatives addressing political violence implemented
84% respondents expressed a better understanding of political violence and preventive measures following project

SOMALIA

72 electoral incidents reported and addressed
10500+ calls processed through early warning systems
9200+ people, of which 50% women, engaged in electoral peace processes

Peace Responsive Interventions

Peace is not built by peacebuilders alone. Peace Responsiveness ensures that interventions across the humanitarian, development, climate, and economic sectors are designed to foster peace and address the evolving nature of violence. Through cross-sectoral integration, conflict-sensitive planning, and strategic partnerships, we embed peacebuilding across institutional mandates and programmes.

4,500 Somali farmers and their communities supported through a peace responsive FAO intervention

1,300+ projects redesigned to integrate conflict and gender analyses thus embedding peace into practice

670+ technical engagements by bilateral focal points implemented strengthening country-level programmes

WHO, FAO, UNFPA, IOM and ILO integrated peace responsiveness into their strategies and operations

Financing Climate Adaptation & Resilience

The climate crisis increasingly fuels violence globally, with more than half of the most climate-vulnerable countries experiencing armed conflict. At the same time, these states receive only 1% of climate adaptation financing. Building on our *Economic Peacebuilding and Trade for Peace* expertise, we host the secretariat of the *Baku Hub*, a COP29 flagship initiative that aims to:

- > Unlock access to capital and enable climate finance to drive resilience, social cohesion, and peace
- > Design innovative investment structures that are sensitive to political and conflict dynamics
- > Strengthen local capacities, whilst aligning global finance mechanisms with community needs and national priorities



Influencing Policy & Practice

Legitimate and sustainable peace is rooted and informed by the realities, aspirations, and agency of those affected by conflict. Through our advocacy and partnerships, we ensure that peacebuilding frameworks reflect the lived experiences of those at the frontlines of conflict and peace.

125 civil society participants, 15 Member States and 10 UN agencies contributed to the '2025 UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review' through the CSO-UN Dialogue co-led by Interpeace. The event underscored the need to empower local actors, address financial challenges, and dismantle structural barriers necessary to ensuring effective peacebuilding.

The PeaceTalks Changing Global Narratives

As calls for war echo louder than those for peace, a narrative change is urgently needed. Founded by Interpeace, the UN Office in Geneva, and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, *The PeaceTalks* initiative amplifies voices promoting peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and practical, sustainable solutions to grievances.

- > The initiative has showcased inspirational stories from **230+ individuals** representing **60+ nationalities**
- > Events have been held in **8 countries**, attracting **10'000+ attendees**, and reaching **10 million online viewers** annually

Going forward, *The PeaceTalks* will be expanded into a global alliance for advocacy, action, and dialogue. Our goal is to create a powerful platform reaching new audiences in selected geographical hubs and decision-making fora. This will enable us to accelerate a shift from escalation to approaches enhancing the peaceful resolution of conflicts.



Women at the Frontlines of Peace

Gender-disparities remain among the most widespread forms of exclusion across the globe. At the same time, research has shown that inclusivity is integral for durable peace. In alignment with the *Women, Peace and Security* agenda, implementing gender-inclusive programming and understanding the gendered dynamics of peace and conflict are embedded into our approaches across the contexts we work in.

1.5million people reached through gender-inclusive leadership campaigns, increasing support for women's political engagement within families and communities in Burundi

50 trainings implemented and **2578** people engaged on gender sensitivity as well as women's leadership and role in peacebuilding and decision-making across Africa

44 women-led conflict resolution structures, **97** civil society organisations, and **7** government institutions focusing on women's inclusion supported internationally

In the **Great Lakes Region**, women trained in gender and leadership spearheaded initiatives addressing local needs, such as water sanitation and infrastructure, while promoting reconciliation across ethnic lines. Furthermore, many stepped into decision-making roles, with some preparing to run for political offices in upcoming elections.

In **Somalia** and **Kenya**, women-led peace committees addressed recurrent violence through cross-clan collaborations ensuring long-term, holistic solutions reducing tensions and strengthening local peace infrastructures.

In West Africa

- > Women strengthened social cohesion and equality by participating in nationwide radio debates and community film screenings showcasing good practices in mitigating division in **Guinea-Bissau**. The initiatives reached audiences across genders, broke stereotypes, fostered dialogue, and underscored women's leadership in building social unity.
- > A training with women community leaders in **Burkina Faso** resulted in the dissemination of the *Peace Circles Dialogues* approach reducing displacement-related tensions and strengthening social cohesion.
- > Following multi-stakeholder exchanges on women's role in **Mali's** governance action plan, Malian women's groups created realistic and localized roadmaps enabling the enhancement of their civic engagement.

Youth Leadership for Peace

Over 600 million young people live in fragile and conflict-affected areas, facing forced recruitment, displacement, and lost opportunities. Despite being at the epicentre of conflict, young people are repeatedly excluded from decision-making and viewed as part of the problem. Recognising the potential, perspectives and energy of the youth, we ensure that the next generation is part of the solution.

4855+ young people trained in conflict prevention, management and transformation

2885+ young people trained on leadership, civic engagement, advocacy and governance

3470+ individuals engaged in intergenerational dialogues across Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Somalia



Youth Peace Mediation Programme – Rising from the Margins, Leading with Purpose

Interpeace serves as the secretariat for a one-year capacity-building initiative, implemented by the Foreign Ministries of Finland and South Africa, bringing together young peacebuilders from across the globe. The programme provides engaging mentorship, coupled with practical tools in conflict resolution, peace negotiation, and mediation through workshops and online sessions. Furthermore, the group will dive into the mechanisms and practices of diplomacy during study visits to the UN and African Union headquarters.

A Legacy of Dialogue

For three decades, Interpeace has worked alongside communities to build durable, credible peace. With initial programmes in Eritrea, Mozambique, and Guatemala, we have evolved with our peers, guided by those affected by conflict. We remain a committed advisor and a trusted partner even in contexts where our work has been completed. Looking ahead, we will draw upon our heritage, expanding programmes where our expertise and presence are requested, if not required, for the advancement of peace.

Accumulated Knowledge Ensuring Relevance Amidst Volatility

Interpeace began its engagement in **Guatemala** in 1997 as the country was emerging from three decades of armed conflict. By gradually bringing divided segments of society together to identify approaches towards sustainable peace, we were able to establish foundations for long-term collaborations. Our work resulted in context-specific policy proposals and fostered trust among factions. Building on the success of our initiatives, our engagements expanded to address security challenges, civic-military relations, and emerging obstacles, such as youth and gang violence. Focusing on the profound social inequalities and exclusions seen across Central America, our work opened doors to governments and advisory roles across the region.



Throughout the years, we adjusted our programmes to address the needs of our partners and the communities we worked with by identifying existing sources of resilience and intrinsic means to transform conflicts in non-violent ways. To this day, we remain rooted in Guatemala and provide accompaniment and analysis strengthening the work done to ensure that democracy holds.

Long-term Partnerships Expanding Impact Beyond Project Cycles

After gaining independence in 2002, a violent political crisis erupted in **Timor-Leste**. To end the violence and prevent re-escalation, we partnered with the Timorese Centre of Studies for Peace and Development (CEPAD) and launched a research initiative where affected communities co-created findings and identified concrete steps towards durable change. The insights gathered underscored the destructive impact corruption, collusion, and nepotism were having in Timorese society, as well as identified bottom-up, locally owned solutions. Furthermore, the project highlighted the importance of inclusive dialogues to address grievances. For more than a decade, we supported CEPAD by providing technical, financial, and capacity-building resources to further its work. Today, CEPAD is regarded as a leading national peacebuilding organisation and recognised for its impact in promoting inclusive democracy and community dialogue.

Moving the Spotlight from Conflict to Resilience and Peace

Interpeace began its engagement in **Libya** in 2011 by launching a nationwide research process identifying root causes, key stakeholders, and the steps needed to establish infrastructures for peace following the civil war. As a response to the re-escalation of violence in 2014, focus was shifted from conflict to resilience by initiating a *peace-mapping* project spotlighting communities able to maintain stability amidst volatility. The work identified entry points for stabilisation, resilience-building, and dialogue, whilst underscoring what is needed to enhance and support existing pockets of peace. In the course of a decade, Interpeace trained 200 Libyans and established a national network of community *Change Agents* equipped with conflict analysis and resolution, dialogue facilitation, and mediation tools and knowledge. Anchoring peacebuilding capacities across the country, this network has since become a critical framework for local infrastructures for peace.



Interpeace

Avenue de France 23, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland

+41 22 404 59 00

info@interpeace.org