

JOINT UNDP-DPPA PROGRAMME ON BUILDING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

United Nations Development Programme | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs



Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme
on Building National Capacities
for Conflict Prevention



Photos on the cover

- © UNDP Armenia—Jodi Hilton
- © UNOPS Nepal
- © IWRM AIO SIDS
- © UNOPS Ghana
- © UNDP Honduras—Rafael Rivera
- © UNDP Philippines
- © UNDP Peru
- © UNDP Liberia
- © UNDP Georgia

JOINT UNDP-DPPA PROGRAMME ON BUILDING
NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

United Nations Development Programme | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	6
----------------	---

1. OVERVIEW OF THE JOINT UNDP-DPPA PROGRAMME 10

Cadre of Peace and Development Advisors in 2021.....	12
Financial overview 2021	14
Expansion of the PDA cadre globally.....	15
2021 highlights – key areas of engagement	16

2.SUPPORTING NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS TO LEAD CONFLICT PREVENTION EFFORTS 18

Policies, strategies and infrastructures for peace.....	20
Increasing inclusion of national stakeholders in peace efforts.....	24
Promoting women’s meaningful participation in peace efforts	25
Promoting youth participation in peace efforts.....	27
Promoting inclusion of indigenous peoples	29
Support to preventive efforts and dialogue	30
Facilitating cross-border prevention and peacebuilding efforts.....	34
Promoting human rights.....	36
Climate-related security risks	37

3. SUPPORTING UN SYSTEM CONFLICT PREVENTION EFFORTS..... 38

Informing UN engagement through quality analysis.....	42
Support to the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and the Common Country Analysis (CCA) process	46
Mainstreaming conflict sensitivity for effective and responsive action.....	48
Supporting relevant, timely and high-quality programming	52
Seed funding for innovative prevention initiatives	54
Regional Programme Specialists (RPSs)	56
Partnerships for conflict prevention.....	58
Regional and sub-regional organizations	60
International Financial Institutions.....	61
Diplomatic community engagement.....	62

4. FOSTERING COLLABORATION AND LEARNING AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL 64

2021 milestones: continuous learning, peer-exchange, strategic partnerships and collaboration at the regional and global level	66
Thank you	67
List of Acronyms	68

FOREWORD



Asako Okai

Assistant Secretary-General
Assistant Administrator and
Director

Crisis Bureau United
Nations Development
Programme



Miroslav Jenča

Assistant Secretary-General
for Europe, Central Asia and
the Americas

Department of Political
and Peacebuilding Affairs
and Peace Operations
United Nations

In 2021, the deteriorating global environment tested the resilience of societies and institutions around the world. A convergence of crises has exacted a heavy toll, hindering the ability of Member States to achieve peace, security and sustainable development: the continuing aftershocks of the COVID-19 pandemic; the increasingly tangible impacts of climate change; violence, conflict and civil strife; violations of human rights; lack of progress towards gender equality; and rising levels of poverty and inequality. Against this backdrop, strengthening the ability of Member States to manage crises and prevent conflict – including by promoting social cohesion, public participation and inclusive dialogue – remained as important as ever.

In this unpredictable context, the *Joint Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention* continued its work to strengthen the capacity of Member States to prevent conflict, sustain peace and realise the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), in close collaboration with the United Nations Development Coordination Office (DCO), the Joint

Programme is widely perceived by national actors and UN partners alike as an extremely valuable “system asset” that delivers unique, integrated and high-impact analytical, advisory and capacity support necessary for prevention and sustaining peace, in line with the objectives of the Secretary-General’s “Our Common Agenda”.

The Annual Report highlights key accomplishments that the Joint Programme enabled our partners to achieve across the world in 2021. This work was undertaken by an expanding cadre of 119¹ peace and development experts based in over 67 countries, comprised of international and national Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs), UN Volunteers and secondees, as well as six Regional Programme Specialists. These professionals provided much needed expertise and support to national partners and United Nations Country Teams to help reinforce national and local capacities for conflict prevention, dialogue and peacebuilding. Efforts toward reaching gender parity in the PDA cadre led to the deployment of more women, by end of 2021, 37% of the international cadre were women compared to 33% the previous years.

1 At the end of 2021, 97 out of the 119 positions were filled.

The Joint Programme's work is uniquely context-specific, and PDAs provide expertise tailored to the needs and socio-political context of their host countries. In Malawi and The Gambia, for example, the Joint Programme supported the strengthening of National Peace Infrastructures that play an important role to address sources of tension. In Liberia, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Venezuela, PDAs supported conflict prevention and dialogue efforts – led by the UN and by other actors – to help prevent and reduce instability and conflict. In Bolivia and Tunisia, PDAs supported the holding of online digital dialogues, illustrating new ways in which innovation and technology can contribute to more inclusive peacebuilding efforts.

PDAs also led conflict analyses processes in-country, supporting UNCTs in framing and developing Cooperation Frameworks, and ensured that UN strategies and programming are conflict-sensitive. They also worked closely with national stakeholders to help increase the participation of women, youth and indigenous people in political and social processes that help define the future of their countries. PDAs in Central Asia, West Africa and the South Caucasus, helped develop joint, multi-country and regional preventive and peacebuilding analyses and responses to threats that go beyond the confines of national borders – demonstrating an important strength of the Joint Programme in broadening the perspective of UN engagement from the national to the regional level.

As the Joint Programme continues to expand and evolve, the implementation of key recommendations of a Mid-Term Review that covered the period between 2018-2021 will be important to help strengthen its impact and ensure its sustainability.

We are grateful for the support of all the donor partners of the Joint Programme, which is critical to the success of our joint efforts. We thank the European Union (EU), Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom for their generous contributions and substantive engagement. We greatly appreciate the collaboration and human resource capacity contributions from Finland, as well as the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) of Sweden, and the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding.

Asako Okai



Miroslav Jenca



“

Preventing conflict requires addressing the links between conflict, fragility and sustainable development. The Joint Programme is a flagship, cross-pillar initiative that combines political engagement and sustainable development action. Complemented by humanitarian efforts, it is uniquely placed to support countries as they prevent conflict, engage in inclusive dialogue processes, and strengthen social cohesion.”

Deputy Secretary-General, Amina J. Mohammed



“



Our Peace and Development Advisors are natural bridges between the United Nations peace and security pillar and its development system. These talented women and men show through their daily work that lasting peace, social and economic development and people’s right to have a say in the matters that concern them are inextricably linked.”

DPPA Under-Secretary-General, Rosemary A. DiCarlo

“



Peace and Development Advisors deployed by the programme have helped to forge and maintain the critical partnerships that are sometimes needed to set the conditions for peace. They are never singular actors but embedded in a national process, embedded in the UN family, that is present both at national level and globally, they can become exceptionally useful resources.”

UNDP Administrator, Achim Steiner



OVERVIEW OF THE JOINT UNDP-DPPA PROGRAMME

In 2021, the international system faced numerous and complex challenges. The social and economic consequences of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have laid bare and worsened inequalities, both within societies and at the global level. The increasing impacts of climate change are disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable, threatening to leave many behind on the path to sustainable development. Governance institutions are struggling to respond adequately to the pace and scale of the challenges they face, while political polarization, often catalyzed by emerging technologies, threatens the cohesion of a growing number of societies. As countries recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and look ahead to the future, the need for strong, creative and inclusive mechanisms for conflict resolution and sustaining peace has never been greater.

The United Nations is working to deliver the coherent multidimensional responses demanded by these complex challenges. The Joint Programme and the Peace and Development Advisor (PDA) teams (PDA) it deploys form an integral part of this offer. Since its inception in 2004, the Programme has grown from a small-scale initiative supporting five countries to a UN flagship programme that now engages and supports 67 countries. A professional cadre of 119 international and national Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs) are at the forefront of the Programme's efforts to assist national partners in strengthening mechanisms and capacities for conflict prevention. PDAs support local stakeholders and UN leadership in-country to identify entry points for prevention and sustaining peace initiatives, design inclusive dialogue processes, and respond to emerging or on-going complex political situations.

The work of the Joint Programme and of PDAs remains focused on two overarching objectives: i) to build national capacities for conflict prevention and sustaining peace; and ii) to support UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in developing conflict sensitive strategies and programmes that sustain peace. The two are inextricably linked, and the support provided to UNCTs is often a necessary precondition for effective and significant support to national capacities.

This Annual Report showcases examples of such work, highlighting notable achievements in 2021. The examples also demonstrate how significant national-level outcomes are often the result of many years of PDA engagement, sometimes across consecutive PDA teams. In countries where PDAs have been recently deployed for the first time as part of the expansion of the Joint Programme to meet increasing demand, the results reported here will inevitably be the first steps on a journey towards a bigger goal.

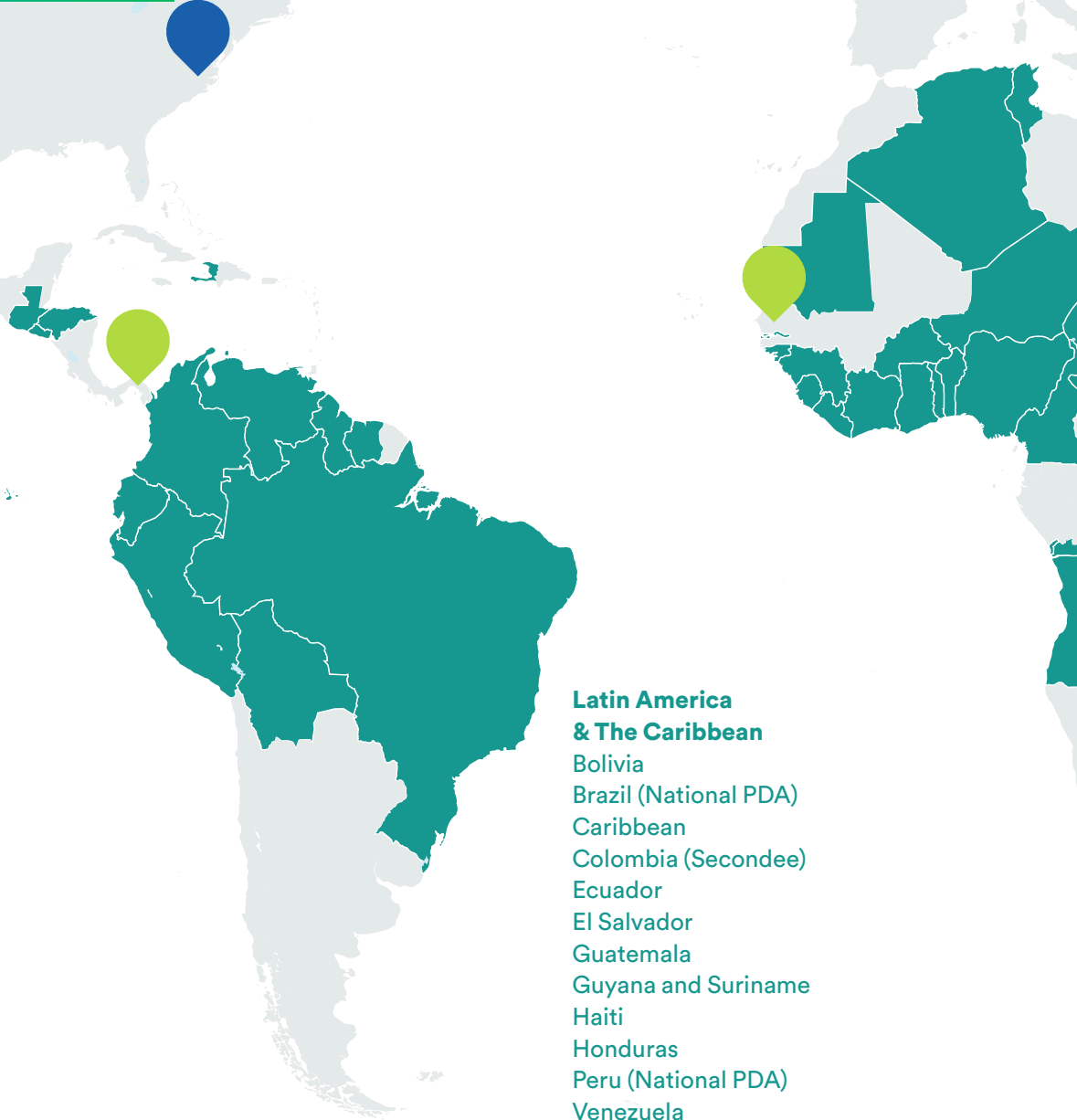
The Joint Programme underwent a Mid-Term Review during the second half of 2021 covering the period 2018-2021, the first half of its current 2018-2023 programming phase. The Review found that at outcome level, the Joint Programme is meeting and often exceeding expectations; and that there is simply no other UN capacity, other than PDAs, positioned and capable to carry out cross-pillar and integrated analytical and advisory support necessary for advancing the sustaining peace and prevention agendas. The Review makes six core recommendations that the Programme will be addressing in the upcoming years, as described in greater detail in the [Mid-Term Review report](#).

At the end of 2021, the Joint Programme had 119 personnel based in 67 locations and supporting 67 Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams across five regions: Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. This includes 32 Peace and Development teams involving national PDAs, UNVs and secondees working with international PDAs, as well as six Regional Programme Specialists (RPSs) that have been deployed since 2020. The scale of programme expenditure has increased over the last decade, totalling USD 20,109,732 in 2021.




A recruitment process to improve and replenish the roster of PDAs has been underway since 2020 and is expected to conclude in 2022. This will significantly expand the roster of highly qualified, vetted and approved potential PDAs and enable the Joint Programme to be even better placed to respond to increasing demands from UNCTs for the high-quality expertise and experience for which PDAs are renowned.

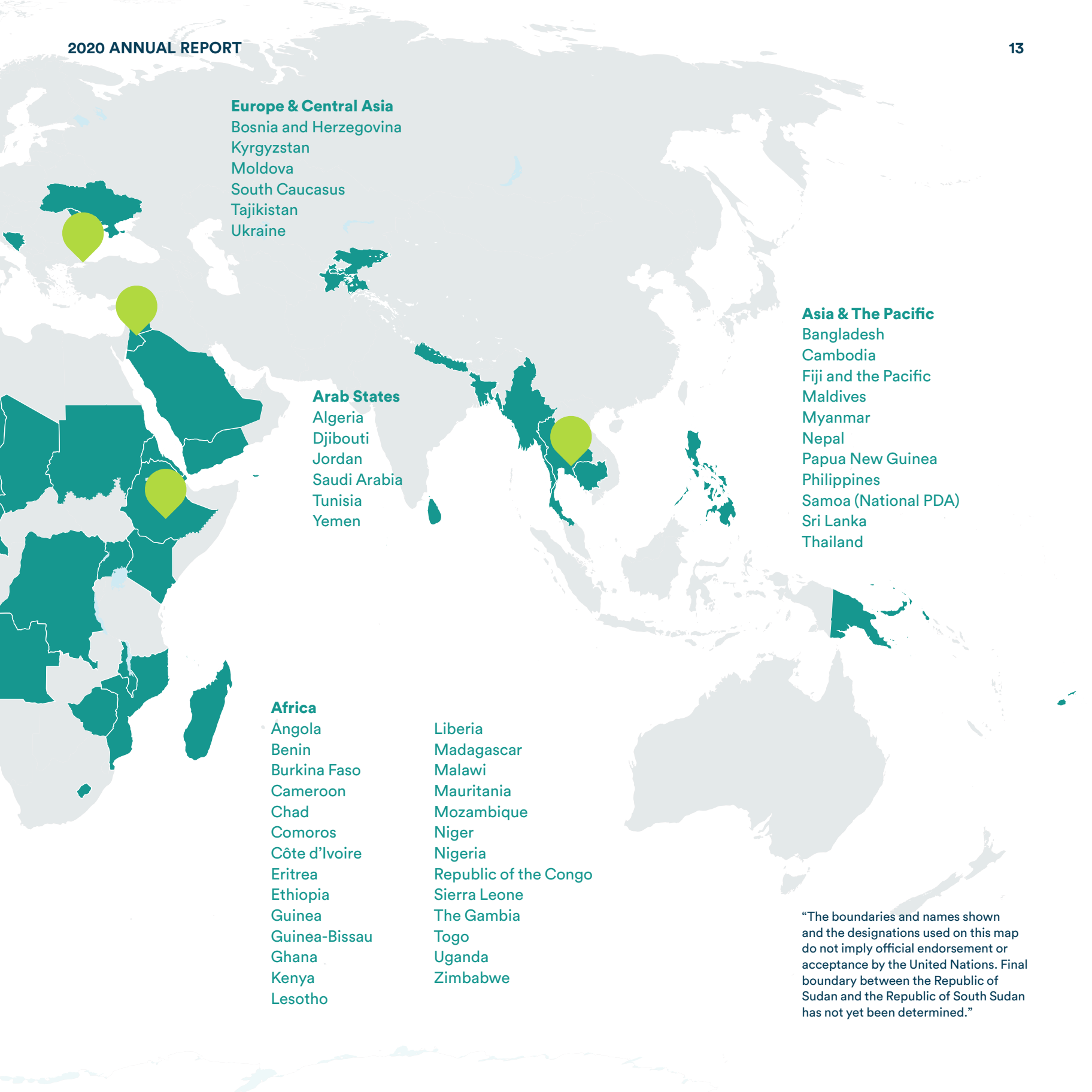
CADRE OF PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ADVISORS IN 2021

In 2021, the PDA cadre continued to grow and diversify. The full cadre included 119 positions including international PDAs, national PDAs, United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) and secondments from member states. The number of national PDA positions continued to grow to 39 from 34 the previous year. Notable progress was also made towards increasing gender parity within the cadre: by the end of 2021, 37% of the international PDAs were women compared to 33% the previous years.



Legend







-  Peace and Development Advisor positions
-  Regional Programme Specialists
-  Joint Programme Secretariat



“The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.”

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2021

(IN USD)

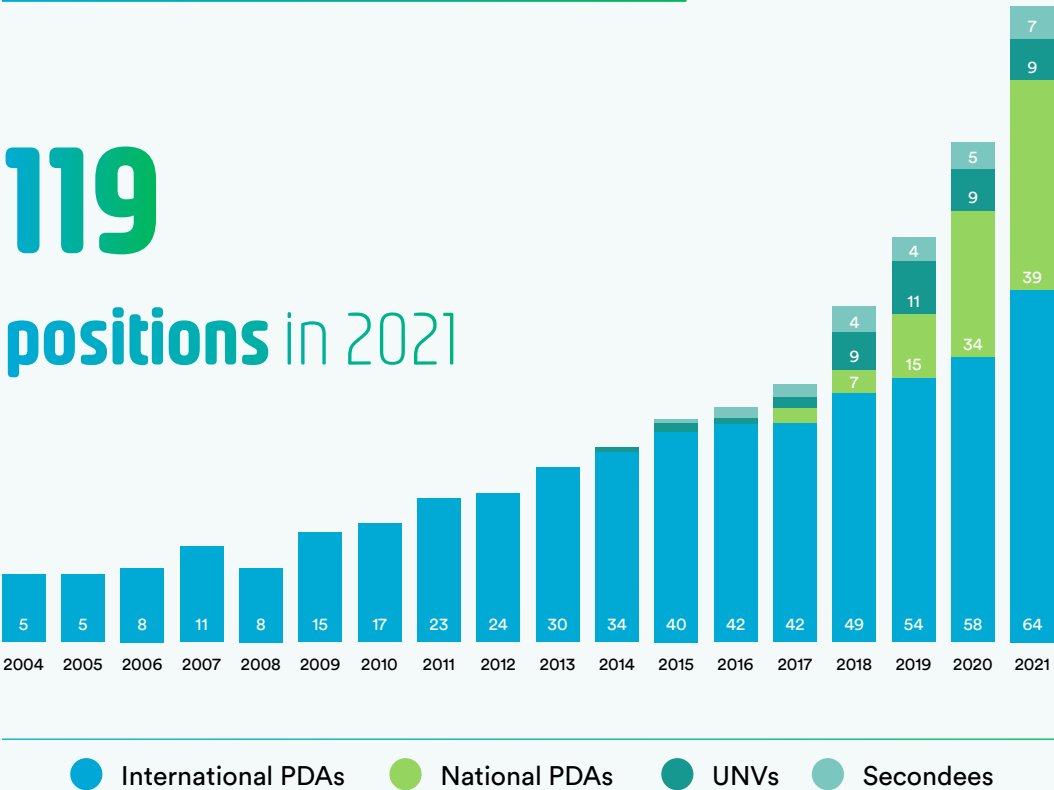
	DONOR	Income	Expenditure
	Germany	6,756,757	6,239,612
	Norway	803,103	385,038
	Sweden		4,908,853*
	Switzerland	1,081,081	2,290,456**
	The Netherlands	5,630,631	4,923,215
	United Kingdom	5,111,591	1,325,558
	TOTAL	19,387,163	20,109,732

* The contribution from Sweden was received in 2020 and spent in 2021

** The expenditures for Switzerland are higher than the income because expenditure of funds received in 2020 are included

EXPANSION OF THE PDA CADRE GLOBALLY

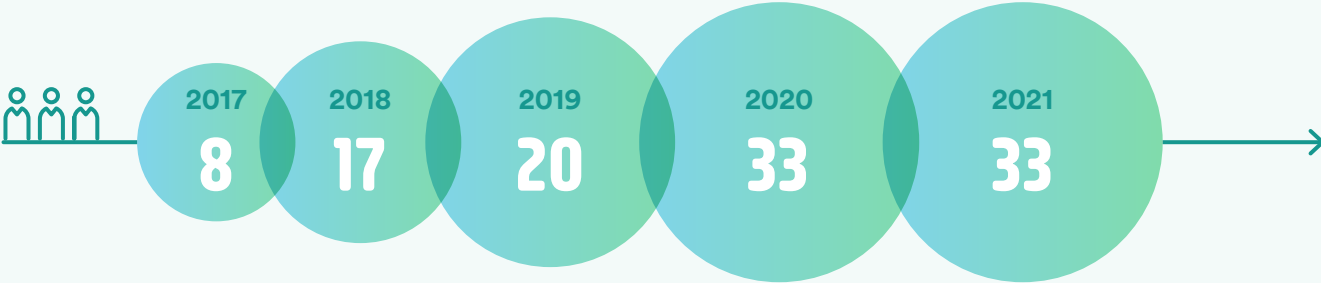
119
positions in 2021



Out of 119 positions, 97 PDA positions filled
(including international and national PDAs, UNVs and secondees)

37% of PDAs are female
(compared to 33% in 2020)

EXPANSION OF PDA TEAMS*



* Peace and Development teams could include international PDAs, national PDAs, UNVs and secondees.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

KEY AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT*



Outcome 1: Targeted initiatives and national capacities that are more effectively contributing to conflict prevention and sustaining peace

% of PDAs *



55% supported national peace architectures



60% made a focused effort to enhance the participation of women



79% supported national policies and strategies for conflict prevention



76% made a focused effort to enhance the participation of youth



66% supported the capacity development of national governments



76% supported strengthening prevention capacities of civil society



81% supported preventive diplomacy, good offices, mediation or dialogue

*The figures in this report related to PDA engagement are based on the annual survey conducted by the Joint Programme at the end of 2021 as part of its monitoring and evaluation responsibility. A total of 58 responses were received from individual Peace and Development Advisors and Peace and Development teams.



Outcome 2: UN Country Teams have strategies and programmes that are increasingly conflict sensitive and are leading partnerships on sustaining peace

% of PDAs



100%

supported the Common Country Analysis in countries where such a process was underway

77%

designed or facilitated peace and conflict analysis in the last three years



95%

supported conflict sensitivity in UN programmes

95%

supported UN programming for conflict prevention

In 2021, PDAS engaged in the following trending areas:



59%

Addressed hate speech



41%

Supported efforts to prevent electoral violence



38%

Supported reconciliation and transitional justice



31%

Worked in the context of popular protests



33%

Supported the prevention of violent extremism



41%

Worked on climate-related security risks



SUPPORTING NATIONAL
STAKEHOLDERS
TO LEAD CONFLICT
PREVENTION EFFORTS

POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND INFRASTRUCTURES FOR PEACE



© OCHA Niger

79% of PDAs

supported national policies and strategies for conflict prevention

55% of PDAs

supported national peace architectures

A key role of PDA teams is to work with national governments and other national stakeholders as well as the UN System to develop and improve national policies, strategies and infrastructures for peace. This priority is based on two clear theories of change:

- If a country or government has clear national policies that explicitly address conflict prevention, peacebuilding and the underlying drivers of conflict, then national resources are more likely to be effectively directed towards sustaining peace.
- If a country has a national architecture (institutions, structures and organizations) with clear mandates around sustaining peace that are properly resourced, then it is more likely to be effective in preventing and managing conflict.



PDA for the Pacific (middle) meeting women leaders in the community to discuss food security and climate related issues

MALAWI

In 2021, the Government of **Malawi** approved and submitted the Peace and Unity Bill to Parliament, which was then passed into Law in March 2022. The Bill provides an important framework for the institutionalization of national peace and conflict prevention capacities by establishing the Malawi Peace and Unity Commission and its District structures. The Commission will have the mandate to lead national dialogue around political, socio-economic and cultural issues, establish a national early warning and response system, and mainstream conflict sensitivity into national development planning. The Law is informed by the National Peace Architecture (NPA) and National Peace Policy (NPP). The new Law also ensures that the Commission and its district structures have a minimum of 40% representation of women in line with the Gender Equality Act. It also prioritizes the representation of youth and people with disabilities.

UNDP Malawi and the Joint Programme have supported Malawi on this journey. From 2012-2017, the UN Resident Coordinator and PDA advised and supported national consultations that resulted in the elaboration of the NPA and NPP and the creation of six District Peace Committees. Since then, successive PDAs have supported the implementation of the NPA and NPP, including through facilitating consultations as well as mobilizing the UN's convening power to generate broader buy-in for the creation of the Peace Commission. PDAs drew upon the global Joint Programme network to arrange visits for Malawian officials to Ghana and Kenya to learn from the experiences of Peace Councils in these countries.



The passing of the Peace and Unity Act is a big milestone in Malawi's pursuit for sustainable peace and transformative socio-economic development of its citizens. This has been the result of the excellent partnership between my ministry and the UNDP-DPPA Joint Programme on building national capacities for peace, and I look forward to continuing this collaboration as we mobilize support for operationalizing the law, especially the establishment of the Peace and Unity Commission and its decentralized structures."

Malawi Minister of National Unity,
Timothy Paganachi Mtambo

THE GAMBIA

In **The Gambia**, the PDA together with the UN Country Team has been supporting a number of complementary processes to develop the country's national peace architecture.

The Gambia has now formally adopted a roadmap towards a new infrastructure for peace, which will strengthen and improve the linkages among a variety of pre-existing peacebuilding resources in society – both civil society and governmental – and will provide a platform for ongoing social and political dialogue, including during elections. The peace infrastructure will include the National Human Rights Commission as well as the Inter-Party Committee that comprises all 18 officially registered political parties. A new Peace and Reconciliation Commission will also be created to act as an anchoring body to bring the various institutions together under one framework.

This process has been supported since its inception by successive PDA teams, commencing with the development of the first Conflict and Development Analysis undertaken in 2018. The Joint Programme provided seed funding to catalyse new ideas and initiatives, including a study tour by government officials and civil society representatives to learn from Ghana's peace architecture. The team provided expert technical advice to help develop the concept of a national peace architecture that is tailored to the country's needs. The UN also supported a series of consultations with both government and civil society actors that have generated broad support for the initiative. The final roadmap was validated by the Ministry of the Interior at the end of 2021. As UNDP continues its leadership with the Government and stakeholders to implement the roadmap, the PDA is leading engagement with the UNCT and the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) to ensure that long-term support for implementation of the roadmap is in place.

A key challenge in The Gambia has been to generate a shared understanding of what an **Infrastructure for Peace** actually entails. The final vision eschews the idea that an Infrastructure for Peace is a single institution, but instead envisages it as a network of people, communities, organizations and institutions working together to prevent conflict and sustain peace in the country.

In a parallel process, the UN has supported national efforts on justice and reconciliation as a key foundation for sustaining peace. At the end of 2021, the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) in The Gambia published its final report about human rights abuses during the 22 years of authoritarian rule between 1994 and 2017. This was the culmination of a three-year undertaking during which the Commission received 2,599 statements, held 23 publicly broadcast hearings and took 393 testimonies, most of them from victims of human rights abuses. In May 2022, the Government issued a White Paper accepting more than 99% of the Commission's recommendations.

The Gambian Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission honoured the UN (UNDP, OHCHR and PBF/DPPA-PBSO) with an award in recognition of the support it provided.

The UN, including through UNDP and DPPA, successive PDAs and the PBF, has supported the Commission from its inception with advice, capacity building and financing. They are now working to ensure that this support will also be available for implementing the Commission's recommendations. PBF financing is already in place to support implementation of the TRRC's recommendations, and the PDA is helping to mobilize resources to enhance social cohesion as the transitional justice process moves forward.

The transparent manner in which The Gambia organized the work of the TRRC was a key factor that contributed to the Commission's positive reputation in the country and abroad: All proceedings were carried out in public, and all testimonies were broadcast live on TV or on the internet.



In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the PDA team led an assessment of conflict dynamics and development challenges in the North-Eastern regions that have been affected by terrorist attacks. Informed by this analysis, the UN advised the Government of the need to further invest in social and human development in those regions which resulted in a focus on this part of the country in the Government social programme adopted in December 2021. The UNCT is now also increasing its support to address the multi-layered peace and development challenges in the North-East. In particular, a new cross-border project with Burkina Faso, targeting the northern regions, will be implemented by UNDP and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund). UNDP's Crisis Risk Dashboard (CRD) established with the support of the PDA, aims to provide a centralized and integrated monitoring platform to support all the UNCT programmes on peace.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, the PDA team has been supporting the Government in promoting the implementation plan for a Kyrgyz Civic Identity Policy, which aims to strengthen social cohesion in the country. The PDA team supported government efforts in coordinating with other members of the international community to coherently support the Policy's implementation and ensure that it was reflected in PBF programming. In **Georgia**, a series of workshops and seminars facilitated by the PDA team has led to the Government launching a comprehensive process to review a number of conflict-related policies, including a State Strategy for De-occupation and Peaceful Conflict Resolution.

INCREASING INCLUSION OF NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS IN PEACE EFFORTS



© IWRM AIO SIDS



60% of PDAs

worked towards enhancing the participation of women in dialogue and mediation

76% of PDAs

worked towards enhancing the participation of youth in dialogue and mediation

A critical area of work for the Joint Programme focuses on ensuring that peacebuilding processes are participatory and inclusive, based on the following theory of change:

- If a wide variety of people, of all genders and from all groups and segments of society, are able to participate in and influence policy, processes and architectures around sustaining peace, these processes are more likely to address the diverse needs and interests of society and thus be more effective in sustaining peace.



Civil society is essential to be included in sustainable peacebuilding programming. PDAs through their network and thanks to the seed funding at their disposal can actively engage with these local actors.”

Deputy Director-General and Vice Minister of the Netherlands, Birgitta Tazelaar.
Joint Programme Partner Event, February 2022

PROMOTING WOMEN'S MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN PEACE EFFORTS

The Joint Programme works to promote the meaningful participation of women, and the protection and enhancement of their rights, in all countries where PDAs are deployed. PDAs frequently provide gender-sensitive analysis to guide strategy and programme

design, and often support the development and implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs) on WPS in line with UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the broader Women, Peace and Security agenda.

GUINEA

In **Guinea**, women have organized powerful and vocal groups to gain visibility and parliamentary seats, in a context where women's representation is still below the 30% quota set in the 2020 Constitution and the country's Transition Charter. The PDA has supported a key women's civil society group – the *Coalition des femmes leaders pour la paix* - to develop its members' abilities to analyze the political context, map actors and design strategies, including through training support with Joint Programme seed funding. These skills have helped women from the Coalition gain public visibility which, they claim, has contributed to the appointment of three of their members to the National Transition Council.



PDA in Guinea (middle left)

MOLDOVA

In **Moldova**, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and UN Women signed memorandum of understanding to advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the country. In this context, the PDA team in Moldova helped to establish a Women's Advisory Board, which aims to ensure the inclusion of women in the country's OSCE-facilitated Transnistrian Settlement Process. The team helped design the methodology for the selection of the women leaders invited to join the Advisory Board and advised on capacity building approaches to enable Board members to more effectively engage during the settlement process.

PHILIPPINES

In the **Philippines**, a bill banning child, early and forced marriage (CEFM) was signed into law in January 2022. The legislative process, which has been supported by the UN since 2019, became the subject of renewed debate in 2021 when, during the final deliberations of the CEFM bill, some legislators advocated for an exemption, citing different religious and cultural norms in some parts of the country. In response, based on the advice of the PDA, and in consultation with the local Women's Commission and women leaders in relevant areas, a PBF funded project led by IOM, UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), and UN Women supported 123 dialogues on

gender-based violence and peacebuilding. The dialogues involved 147 communities across the region and close to 6,000 participants. In the aftermath, 50 women combatant leaders from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front also developed a policy brief to challenge CEFM. As a result of the women-led advocacy based on these initiatives, the CEFM-exemption campaign has stopped and dialogue on the issue is taking place instead.

COMOROS

The PDA in **Comoros** conducted a study on women's participation in politics in the country, and subsequently supported the organization of a debate at the national level with women political leaders and civil society leaders from the country's three main islands. At the dialogue, cultural, political, socio-economic, and geographic factors that limit women's participation were analyzed, with participants providing recommendations for an advocacy campaign to be developed with the support of the PDA. The PDA also supported UNDP in aligning its Governance portfolio with the objectives of fostering better citizen interaction with public authorities and promoting the direct participation of women in decision-making. At the request of the World Health Organization (WHO), the PDA trained nearly 150 CSO leaders from three islands on conflict sensitivity in the implementation of community health programmes that target women.

A new branch of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) has been established in the Philippines as a partnership between the UN and civil society. The Fund aims to enhance the institutional capacity of local women's organisations in the Philippines to sustain their work on WPS and the humanitarian-peace-development nexus by better integrating humanitarian and peacebuilding initiatives. The PDA supported UN Women and the Resident Coordinator in facilitating the establishment of the Fund in the Philippines through context analysis, programme design, and by negotiating the Fund's terms of reference, roles and responsibilities, coordination mechanisms with government, civil society, and UNCT programmes.



© UNDP Philippines

PROMOTING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN PEACE EFFORTS

UN Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) recognizes that “young people play an important and positive role in the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,” and identifies five key pillars for action: participation, protection, prevention, partnerships as well as disengagement and reintegration. The Joint Programme works with partners around the world to address some of the core challenges to the implementation of the YPS agenda.



[The PDA] has been a pillar of support and strength for us; motivating, encouraging, and supporting us in various ways, especially with our youth-related activities... he always provides positive and encouraging responses and solutions. He is genuinely motivated to support without discrimination or partiality and this in itself is a motivating factor.”

Stakeholder interviewed for the
Joint Programme Mid-Term review



TUNISIA

In **Tunisia**, UN-facilitated digital consultations with youth provided participants with an opportunity to share their views on how young people could enhance their participation in public life. The consultation allowed young people to raise issues of concern to them, including employment, education and civic engagement. It also created a space to discuss sensitive topics such as LGBTQI rights. The use of digital apps such as WhatsApp and Zoom enabled young people to contribute on their own terms and at times and in ways that suited them. The consultations were run by the PDA team in collaboration with DPPA's Mediation Support Unit and in partnership with independent technical partners. These initiatives produced lessons and ideas to promote wider participation, including of youth, in future dialogue and consultative processes.

In Tunisia, whilst welcoming greater inclusion and opportunities to contribute, young people stressed that they should not be regarded as a homogenous group: they felt that they carried too many different identities and diverse experiences to make youth a meaningful generic category.





Prevention is at the heart of the United Nations, and one example of it is precisely the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme, which we consider to be an important tool for both Member States and UN country teams that has the potential of better aligning two of the main pillars of our organization, peace and security and sustainable development.”

Deputy Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the UN, Joaquín Alberto Pérez Ayestarán.
Joint Programme Partner Event 2022



Workshop with women peacemakers organized by the PDA in Venezuela

VENEZUELA

In **Venezuela**, advancing the Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security agendas is a key priority for the PDA team. The team has continued its work with 19 young political leaders, who received training on leadership skills, the sustainable development goals (SDGs), negotiation, and dialogue with the support of Joint Programme seed funding. The PDA team also facilitated the expansion of dialogue spaces for women peacemakers, focused on addressing urgent humanitarian issues.

SIERRA LEONE

The Government of **Sierra Leone** and the UNCT have increased efforts to address issues of youth employment and empowerment. Two new PBF projects have been initiated: the first focusing on youth at risk due to involvement with cliques and gangs; and the second on youth participation and inclusion in dialogue processes within their communities. The PDA supported the development of both projects by helping to analyze the context and defining conflict-sensitive strategies, building upon the work carried out with the UNCT, DPPA-DPO, and the Government in previous years to assess youth vulnerabilities. As part of the project, the PDA designed and facilitated a training course on conflict analysis and mitigation, in collaboration with the UNCT and the Ministry of Youth Affairs, targeting members of youth local councils and other youth leaders. The training provided the youth with new skills and tools to understand and respond constructively to key conflicts that were affecting their communities.

PROMOTING INCLUSION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



GUATEMALA

In **Guatemala**, after years-long outreach efforts to indigenous peoples supported by the PDA, the Indigenous Authorities of the Maya, Xinka and Garífuna Peoples presented a proposal for a dialogue mechanism with the UNCT. Similar bridge-building work with the Health Cluster helped the UNCT facilitate an agreement between Ancestral Authorities, the Ministry of Health and the Guatemalan Federation of Radio Schools (community radios) to raise awareness of the vaccination process and increase understanding of how this relates to traditional community methods of medical treatment.

ECUADOR

The PDA has supported deeper engagement with the indigenous movement in **Ecuador** by building relationships with key stakeholders, including relevant leaders of the indigenous political party, Pachakutik. This has included supporting dialogue initiatives that foster inclusive and constructive interaction with the Government. In round-table discussions, as part of a multisectoral dialogue process financed and led by a civil society partner, Fundación Esquel, the PDA supported discussions on the peace and development legislative agenda, including the law on communitarian rights. The development of this law has now been prioritized by the National Assembly's Commission on Constitutional Rights and Intercultural Issues.

SUPPORT TO PREVENTIVE EFFORTS AND DIALOGUE



© UNDP Georgia



79% of PDAs

supported early warning and
action mechanisms

81% of PDAs

supported preventive
diplomacy, good offices,
mediation or dialogue efforts

Through PDAs, the Joint Programme supports and strengthens processes of diplomacy, mediation and dialogue. These are often highly intertwined and complex, in which PDAs use their facilitation

skills and networks to support progress. This work is underpinned by a theory of change that contends:

Theory of change:

If country-level, regional, or internationally supported initiatives in support of conflict prevention are well designed and well managed, and if they are able to draw on robust analysis, comparative expertise and best practices, they are likely to yield more effective results for sustaining peace.

SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

In July and September 2021, **São Tomé and Príncipe** held presidential elections. Unlike the previous elections in 2018, the vote was violence-free, to which a range of measures put in place by national authorities with the support of the UNCT (through a UNDP project supported by the PDA) contributed. Based on a request from the Government for UN electoral assistance, the team provided capacity building of the electoral commission, judiciary, security forces and media; support to civic education, engagement with stakeholders including with representatives of the candidates; and procurement of voter registration kits and election materials. The engagement provided a valuable entry point for the UN to engage political parties on the prevention of election-related violence, including by encouraging the two candidates to sign a code of ethics and commit to non-violence, respect the election results, as well as the negotiation of key changes to voting and tabulation processes to increase transparency.

This intensive in-country work by the PDA and the UNCT was supported by high-level UN diplomacy, carefully coordinated between the Resident Coordinators Office (RCO), DPPA, the UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General in close collaboration with Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).



Our peace had the greatest threatening moment in the 2018 legislative elections, which...gave rise to riots and a degree of violence never recorded in the country. Our stability was on the verge of being disrupted, if it were not for the preventive action of the United Nations System... This time [2021] was different. With a wise intervention of prevention, United Nations developed an action plan to bring all parties together (including myself since I was one of the candidates) to reestablish mutual trust and assisted technically our electoral process in order to guarantee a free, fair and transparent election.”

Carlos Vila Nova, President of São Tomé and Príncipe.
Joint Programme Partner Event, February 2022

LIBERIA

In **Liberia**, the PDA's primary focus has been one of informal diplomacy. The PDA has built strong relationships with key members of the Government, including the Office of the President, and frequently provides advice and support on strategies for conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The PDA has also helped mediate key relationships amongst government officials and facilitate exchanges with UN. The PDA team supported the RC in coordinating diplomatic and development partners in Liberia to advance Liberia's peacebuilding priorities, resulting in a stronger shared understanding of issues such as transitional justice, social cohesion, gender empowerment and elections, the complementary roles of different actors and joint messaging. The PDA also played a key role in working with OHCHR to politically insulate the vetting and recommendation of candidates to help ensure that the Commissioners appointed to the new Liberian Independent National Commission on Human Rights by the President were of highest calibre and political impartiality.

VENEZUELA

The PDA team in **Venezuela** supports the UNCT to identify options for peacebuilding, including by engaging regularly with key national institutions and social actors. The team supported the planning and deployment of a UN Panel of Electoral Experts during the November 2021 regional and municipal elections in Venezuela, an important milestone in the country's political process in which opposition groups participated for the first time since 2015 and which hosted international observer missions for the first time since 2006. The Panel of Experts, which provided an independent assessment of the Venezuelan electoral system to the Secretary-General, was deployed following a request from national electoral authorities and after finding consensus amongst all key Venezuelan stakeholders about a UN role in the elections.



The Government of Liberia is profoundly grateful to the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme for its timely deployment of essential capacity in country, which is critical to our hard-won peace and advancing our development priorities, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals...under the leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Liberia”.

President of Liberia, George Weah,
at the Joint Programme Partner Event 2022



SIERRA LEONE

In **Sierra Leone**, inter-party dialogue promoted by the PDA has helped to reduce political tensions that have previously led to violence, particularly during by-elections. The PDA helped to deliver a training on negotiation and mediation for the Political Parties Registration Commission (PPRC) and political party leaders, including women and youth leaders. The training opened an entry point for inter-party dialogue and the PDA, in collaboration with the PPRC, designed a dialogue and trust-building strategy and mentored PPRC on its implementation. This led to multiple dialogues sessions that generated agreement on concrete actions to be jointly undertaken by the two main political parties to de-escalate political tension in a chiefdom that was affected by election-related violence.

GUYANA

In **Guyana**, the PDA has continued to support civil society leaders with low-profile dialogue on improving race relations. A civil society-led Advisory Group is discussing political developments and shared analysis on issues of race relations. The PDA provided impartial facilitation to the group and advised on comparative international experiences for helping improve race relations and on dialogue methodologies designed to help communities discuss how to address racial and ethnic divisions. As a follow-up, the PDA will be working on the development of a new PBF-funded project to support government – CSO engagement on policy matters and strengthen grievance mechanisms.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

In the run-up to the March 2021 presidential election in the **Republic of Congo**, the PDA supported the UNCT in a number of initiatives to help prevent election-related violence, including by facilitating a working group from the international community which coordinated interventions aimed at contributing to a peaceful environment before, during, and after the elections. The PDA used seed funding from the Joint Programme to train 102 journalists from nine of the twelve regions of Congo in conflict-sensitive reporting around elections. The national independent electoral commission subsequently commended the media's professional reporting during the March 2021 polls.

BOLIVIA

In December 2021, 260 people participated in **Bolivia's** first online Digital Dialogue, an initiative coordinated by the PDA. Drawn from a wide variety of social groups from across the country, the participants explored questions around the country's past, present and future, and possibilities for reconciliation. Using a technology developed by DPPA's Innovation Cell, the initiative provides an intuitive, quick and safe way for people to respond to questionnaires posed by a facilitation team through an artificial intelligence platform, whilst simultaneously seeing and responding to the replies of other participants. The participants singled out the economy and healthcare as the most pressing national issues, whilst also identifying factors such as 'cultural diversity' and 'joint struggles' (for justice, traditions, and ideals) that bring the country together. The UN, together with the Vice-Presidency, intends to continue the process of Digital Dialogues over the next three to four years, in the framework of the joint Program for Reencounter "*Programa de Reencuentro*."



COLOMBIA

To commemorate the five-year anniversary of the signing of the peace agreement in **Colombia**, the PDA led a communications campaign to support the long-term implementation of the agreement, including reincorporation of former combatants into society and reconciliation efforts. The campaign incorporated insights from behavioral sciences, using banners and advertisement on 30 buses of the main public transport system in Bogotá, guaranteeing exposure to approximately two million people per day. The communication activities were carried out in urban areas, where people on average hold more negative views of the peace agreement. The impact of this effort was reaching out to a wider public and breaking communication bubbles where the discussions about the importance of the peace agreement tend to get trapped.



Communication campaign organized by the PDA in Colombia

FACILITATING CROSS-BORDER PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING EFFORTS

WEST AFRICA

A key strength of the Joint Programme, and of PDAs, is the ability to analyze conflicts and develop actions in ways that go beyond the confines of national borders and the traditional country-based UN interventions. This has been particularly fruitful in places where PDAs have been able to mobilize and coordinate support from the PBF or the wider international community. For example, West Africa, PDAs in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Togo** collaborated on a multi-country initiative on the prevention of violent extremism with a focus on social cohesion, civil-military relationships, and the empowerment of women and communities.

SOUTH CAUCASUS

A **South Caucasus** Peacebuilding Innovation Platform has been established to link and support young civil society representatives from **Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia**. Convened and facilitated by a PDA team that works across the sub-region based in each of the three countries, the Platform provides digital peacebuilding training, and uses small grants to support initiatives that emerge from the discussions. It offers a forum to build participants' understanding of the social media landscape, to explore responses to disinformation across the region, and to discuss new approaches to peacebuilding. The group has also examined ways to make positive discourses more prominent and develop narratives that promote commonalities and co-existence.

TAJIKISTAN

In **Tajikistan**, the PDA helped design a new PBF programme to de-escalate inter-communal tensions around the Tajik-Kyrgyz border. Working with DPPA and other stakeholders, the PDA provided scenario analysis related to the Tajik-Kyrgyz and Tajik-Afghan borders and supported UN agencies with conflict sensitivity advice in the implementation of a youth prevention of violent extremism (PVE) project. The PDA also contributed analysis and input on fragility, conflict and vulnerability for the first-ever UN, World Bank and FCDO Regional Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRRA) in Central Asia. This helped the UNCT to inject a conflict prevention lens and mainstream peacebuilding in its new UN Cooperation Framework.



The Joint Programme and PDAs are without a doubt the best bit of the UN. They influence change.”

Stakeholder interviewed for the Joint Programme Mid-Term Review 2021



© UNDP Kyrgyzstan

KYRGYZSTAN AND UZBEKISTAN

In 2021 the Governments of **Kyrgyzstan** and **Uzbekistan** agreed on a joint set of priorities for promoting cross-border collaboration, to be supported by the PBF. The governments prioritized trust-building between communities on both sides of the border through economic cooperation and agriculture, with a particular focus on women and youth. The programme aims to support women-led small business and new climate-smart agricultural practices such as drip irrigation and artificial glaciers. It also promotes cooperation and dialogue between the two countries' local government institutions, businesspersons and farmers. The agreement on priorities was reached at a bilateral workshop between officials from both

governments, facilitated by the UN. A previous needs assessment led by the PDA team and inter-governmental consultations formed the basis for the discussion leading to the agreement. The PDA team coordinated the design of the programme, ensured collaboration between the RC offices in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, and continues to support the conflict sensitivity of the programme's implementation, strengthening synergies and jointness of field programming and communications.

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS



The PDA in Bangladesh at the 2021 Peace Day Event

Promoting and protecting human rights is a key element of sustaining peace. While PDAs work across the UN's peace and security and development pillars, they are increasingly engaging on human rights concerns, collaborating with partners to address conflict drivers rooted in injustice, human rights violations and disenfranchisement.

PDAs have supported the development of national institutions and processes to address human rights concerns as part of enhancing national infrastructures for peace, and have assisted countries in preparations for Universal Periodic Reviews (UPRs).

CAMBODIA

In **Cambodia**, the PDA team led the drafting and coordination of the first-ever Joint Human Rights Strategy, which promotes an integrated way of working across the three pillars of the UN to ensure that human rights are at the core of all UN System activities in the country. The Strategy further provides a framework to guide UN Cambodia's prevention work and the UNCT's joined-up engagement with the Government, civil society and the international community.

TOGO

In **Togo**, the PDA team collaborated with UNDP and OHCHR to provide technical support, guidance and expertise to the National Human Rights Commission in the development and launch of its first strategic plan in 2021, broadening the scope and volume of its activities. The new strategic plan is based on extensive internal and external consultations with Commission members, the Government, civil society and international partners, which were facilitated by UNDP with the support of the PDA.

The plan, covering the period 2021-2025, has led to several changes in approach to human rights in the country. The Commission shifted from its traditional focus on a narrower set of political rights issues such as arbitrary detention, to a wider consideration of human rights including those around healthcare, land, and the rights of disabled people. The government has prioritized increased communication of both its ambition and the work that it is doing, enabling more effective engagement with citizens, national stakeholders and development partners.

Results of this important work are already emerging. Since the launch of the strategic plan, progress has been made on the adoption of core instruments relating to the promotion and protection of human rights that will allow for greater enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The branches of the Commission in five regions outside of the capital are much more active and engaged at a community level; because of this public trust in the body is expected to increase.

86% of PDAs

reported including human rights considerations in conflict analyses in the last three years

In 2021, PDAs and Human Rights Advisers worked closely together in 21 countries where both were deployed.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the PDA team and the Human Rights Unit (HRU) worked closely together to ensure strong complementarity in the peace and security, development and human rights pillars of the UN's in-country work. This included efforts to ensure coherence across initiatives in support of reconciliation efforts in select municipalities where local leaders and citizens sought international support, as well as efforts to combat hate speech and help advance some aspects of transitional justice, notably around joint

commemorations and memorialization. They also helped develop joint advocacy and messaging by the UNCT and international actors around sensitive issues such as the glorification of war criminals, the denial of genocide and war crimes, negative memorialization, and revisionist positions running contrary to verdicts delivered by international justice institutions. In 2021, the PDA team and HRU jointly supported the development of a UNCT Hate Speech Action Plan.

CLIMATE-RELATED SECURITY RISKS

THE PACIFIC

The PDA for **the Pacific** based in Fiji, and the Regional Peacebuilding Specialist based in Bangkok, have supported and coordinated the implementation of the UN Secretary-General's Climate Security initiative in the region, ensuring effective UN System support for national and regional actors. This has included facilitating a series of dialogues on climate security in Asia-Pacific in partnership with the UN Climate Security Mechanism. The dialogues covered climate security risk assessments, climate security and gender, and good practice programming. As a result of support from the PDA and the UN System, Pacific countries are building stronger linkages between initiatives on climate change, security and peacebuilding in recognition of the interconnectedness of these issues.

BANGLADESH

In **Bangladesh**, the PDA team provided research, analytical, and advisory support to advance the climate and environmental agenda at the national level. This included a particular focus on the post-conflict Chittagong Hill Tracts, a politically sensitive area that is also uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and environmental variation. The Peace and Development Specialist organized and facilitated a field visit led by the RC, with the UNDP Resident Representative, FAO staff, and the British High Commissioner, to assess UN climate and environmental programming and to explore entry points to address climate-related security risks and issues relating to environmental injustice.



Sweden is proud to be a pioneer in support of the joint program which is an important contribution to meeting the growing need for conflict prevention and peacebuilding. [...] We must strengthen our understanding of and ability to respond to climate related security risk. The PDA programme can play a crucial role in placing the climate and security links at the forefront of UN activities in fragile settings. ”

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Ann Linde.
Joint Programme Partner Event 2022



SUPPORTING UN SYSTEM CONFLICT PREVENTION EFFORTS

SUPPORTING UN SYSTEM CONFLICT PREVENTION EFFORTS

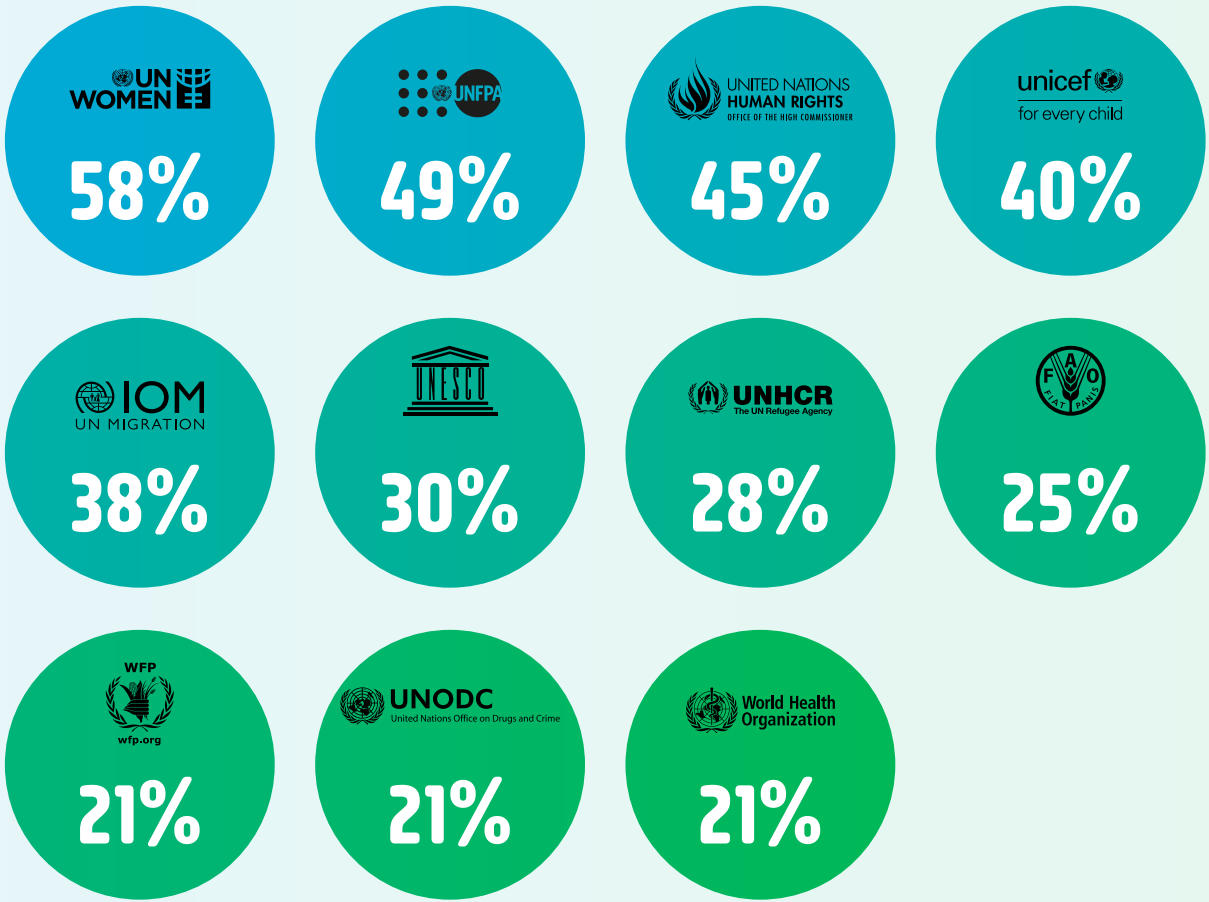
The second key aim of the Joint Programme is to support UNCTs and RCs in developing and implementing strategies and programmes that are conflict sensitive, including through wider partnerships on sustaining peace. PDAs do this through supporting high-quality analysis and early warning, supporting teams to implement conflict sensitive programming approaches, advising on the development of new programmes, including PBF projects; and facilitating the development of broader partnerships for conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

PDAs frequently play a key integrator role, helping the UNCT respond collectively to the challenges of sustaining peace and conflict prevention. As part of this role, PDAs facilitate strategic collaboration, helping to break down silos, and building/strengthening connections among UN actors and national partners. In many cases, this cross-system collaboration and the strengthening of UN capacities are key pathways to achieving the national-level results set out above.

Theory of change:

If 'in-house' analytical capacities are placed more systematically at the disposal of UN Country Teams and the UN leadership, and UN entities are incentivized to engage in joint analysis and planning processes, and staff are supported in developing skills in sustaining peace, then the UN and its partners will be better placed to ensure that the analysis effectively informs UN strategy and programming in support of national efforts on sustaining peace and advancing development.

TOP UN ENTITIES SUPPORTED BY PDAS *



*Percentage of PDAs that reported supporting the UN entities listed

INFORMING UN ENGAGEMENT THROUGH QUALITY ANALYSIS



77% of PDAs

designed or facilitated peace and conflict analysis in the last three years.

Throughout 2021, PDAs have led, convened, facilitated, and contributed to a wide range of peace and conflict analyses. In doing so, they have worked closely with colleagues from the UNCT and often with a broader set of stakeholders from government and civil society to generate analysis that is deep, robust, and participatory. The analysis produced has then informed the strategy, programmes and actions of the UN actors and national partners.

The type of analysis undertaken by PDAs varies. Most frequently, the analysis considers peace and conflict dynamics within a particular country, but PDAs have also led cross-border and regional analysis processes. PDAs have also led conflict analysis with a particular thematic focus such as around climate change or tensions around election processes. PDAs regularly support UNCTs in ensuring that the analysis is gender sensitive.



The Mid-Term Review of the Joint Programme concluded that PDAs are playing a crucial role by providing advice and analysis that is not normally available in development settings.”

Independent Joint Programme Mid-Term Review 2022



PDA in Kenya at a press briefing

KENYA

In **Kenya**, the PDA team led an Leave No One Behind (LNOB) analysis to identify groups that experience intersecting vulnerabilities and are most left behind or at risk of being left behind in the country. The LNOB analysis was officially launched by the President of Kenya in May 2022. It concluded that the urban settlements as well as the north and north-eastern parts of the country are amongst the most left behind on counts of geography, climate-related issues and other historical grievances. Specific subcategories which appeared in other parts of the country included women, the elderly, people living with HIV and with disabilities, members of the LGBTQIA community and people with albinism. The analysis also

identified gaps in data, UN (and partners) programming, and deliberate strategies for addressing these inequalities. These findings have fed into and framed the CCA and have become the basis for an innovative Cooperation Framework, which is organized around the findings of the LNOB study. Through the study, the PDA team influenced the fundamental principles of UNCT Kenya’s programming as all the UNCT programmes will need to be aligned with the findings of the study.



The expert analysis, advice and facilitation that the Kenya PDA provides to UN Kenya and to Kenya’s impressive national peace infrastructure is literally indispensable. We are all the stronger for it.”

Stephen Jackson, UN Resident Coordinator in Kenya



© UNDP Sri Lanka

SRI LANKA

In **Sri Lanka**, the PDA team completed the Sri Lanka Conflict Risk Analysis with seed funding from the Joint Programme. The analysis was designed to inform the UN System response to changing conflict drivers in Sri Lanka, including issues of democratic governance, human rights and increasing economic fragilities. The analysis became an anchor for the UN System's deliberations both within the country team and at Headquarters level. In timing the CRA prior to the development of the UN's mandatory CCA and subsequent UN Cooperation Framework for 2023-27, it also provided the evidence base to define a conflict-sensitive CCA with an extensive peace chapter, and subsequently translated the same priorities identified into strategic priorities for the Cooperation Framework for Sri Lanka.

SURINAME

In **Suriname**, the PDA team initiated a Conflict and Development Analysis (CDA) in 2021 which aims to strengthen UNCT gender and conflict sensitive programming, with a focus on LNOB and human rights considerations. The CDA will be finalized in Summer 2022, after which the PDA team will use the result to launch an outreach effort with a diverse group of stakeholders to examine what the results mean for their organization and how they work to mitigate risk and strengthen resiliencies that were identified in the CDA. The analysis will also be used to strengthen the capacity of UN and national stakeholders in mainstreaming conflict and gender sensitivity through various initiatives.

PERU

In **Peru**, ahead of the two rounds of presidential elections that were held in April and June 2021, the UNCT established an interagency working group on elections to facilitate political analysis and risk assessments and to identify potential entry points for preventive engagement. The national Peace and Development Officer (PDO) played a key role in the establishment of this group. The main results include the development of three Situational Reports, which identified key areas of concern from presidential candidates and political parties' platforms and public statements. Enhanced UN engagement with presidential candidates and parties was achieved. Joint messages to promote the SDGs were prepared by the UNCT members and shared through various media.

SAUDI ARABIA

In **Saudi Arabia**, the PDA led a research study on the country's national reform agenda and regional and global positioning and its implications for the UN's engagement with the country. Conducted in partnership with the Saudi-based Gulf Research Centre, this series of eleven research papers offered analytical insights to better understand the Saudi perspective at a time when the country is undergoing a historic social and economic transformation and repositioning itself in the region. Additionally, the study highlights the impact of the reforms implemented under the Saudi 'Vision 2030' on the Kingdom's social contract and their contribution to building a more inclusive development model from a 'leaving no one behind' perspective. It also analyses the potential implications of the ongoing change for the UN's work in the country and suggests avenues to adjust it accordingly.

In many cases, PDAs have helped to broaden the analysis and perspectives of the UNCT and international partners, by developing analysis that considers cross-border and regional implications. The PDAs in **Malawi** and **Mozambique** led the development of a peace and conflict analysis focusing on the cross-border dynamics of conflict and prepared the ground for programming to address these issues. Building on previous exercises conducted in 2018

and 2019, the PDA teams in **Bangladesh** and **Myanmar** undertook a third joint scenario building exercise for a six-twelve-month period which strengthened the UN's collective understanding of the Rohingya crisis and helped provide an evidence-base for strategic decision-making and programming. The PDA teams facilitate regular meetings between relevant agencies of the two UNCTs to strengthen cross-border collaboration.

The Crisis Risk Dashboard (CRD) is an analytics platform developed by UNDP that helps monitor and analyze contextual risks for decision-making. The objective of the CRD is to help UNDP and the wider development, humanitarian, and peace community prevent and respond to crisis risks at global, regional, and country levels by providing an evidence base through relevant and timely data. PDAs have contributed to the development and operationalization of CRDs at the country and regional levels on behalf of the UNCTs where they are based.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the PDA team has led the development of the CRD to provide a centralized and integrated monitoring platform to support the entire UNCT. This will help monitor risks related to the electoral period, tensions between communities and several longer-term development indicators. The CRD now contributes significantly to political reporting, illustrates progress made in the



PDA in Cote D'Ivoire meeting with community members

PDAs in 27 countries

are now supporting UNCTs to use CRDs and are contributing to the CRD methodology

implementation of the UN Cooperation Framework, and helps track results and remaining challenges on social cohesion and human rights. It is also used as an early warning mechanism to monitor community violence and violent extremism.

TUNISIA

In **Tunisia**, the PDA team uses the CRD to help them monitor and understand protests across the country. This enabled the UN to become much better at understanding social movements, and the team has become a source of expertise on this for others in the country, including UN agencies and embassies.

SUPPORT TO THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK AND THE COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS (CCA) PROCESS

In 2021, CCAs were undertaken in 46 countries where PDAs are present. In all of these cases, PDAs contributed to the development of the CCA, which is the UN System's independent, impartial and collective assessment of a country situation. They form the basis for the development of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, which is the negotiated outcome with governments that outlines the sustainable development priorities agreed upon by both. The analysis contributed by PDAs focuses on, cross-pillar work between peace and security and development, including leading a joint conflict analysis and identifying existing and emerging multi-dimensional risks that impact development and peace.



RCs and UNCTs have demonstrated increased capabilities to navigate contexts characterized by, inter alia, violent extremism, fraught elections, ongoing internal and inter-state violent conflicts, humanitarian consequences of crisis/conflict, UN peace operations transitions, public protests and civil unrest... and ongoing peace/confidence-building processes.”

Independent Joint Programme Mid-Term Review 2022

The Mid-Term Review of the Joint Programme found that CCAs and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs) are ‘increasingly sensitive and better calibrated to the sustaining peace and prevention needs of challenging development contexts’ as a result of PDA involvement. In particular, PDAs have helped to promote a ‘bigger picture mindset’ of entry points and strategic issues regarding national and UN capacities for sustaining peace. They have often introduced new entry-points or priorities, and have been instrumental in facilitating research and analysis, especially LNOB.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the PDA team supported the UNCT in developing one of its four priority pillars of work in the 2021-2025 UN Cooperation Framework around strengthening social cohesion and reconciliation within and between the various communities in the country. Working closely with the RC and UNCT, the team developed a peacebuilding and political analysis framework with key issues and entry points that address the priorities, action points and recommendations laid out in the UN Cooperation Framework and based on headquarters strategic guidance and visits of senior UN officials to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The PDA team is a key strategic contributor to the UNCT Social Cohesion Results Group which guides the work of the UN around this pillar's priorities and around its support to local prevention partners.

AZERBAIJAN

In **Azerbaijan**, as a result of the contribution of the Peace and Development team to the CCA, the government and the UNCT included the sustaining peace agenda for the first time in the UNSDCF for 2021-2025.

MADAGASCAR

In **Madagascar**, the PDA contributed to the cooperation framework process, including consultation with national counterparts in selecting strategic priorities, and the operationalization of key principles of the UN Cooperation Framework, including the humanitarian, development and peace nexus.

CARIBBEAN

The new UN Multi-Country SDCF (2022-26) covering the English and Dutch Speaking **Caribbean** highlights citizen security and social cohesion in the Caribbean region as a formidable challenge for governments given the high levels of crime and violence in some countries. This includes gender-based violence and social inequalities that are sometimes influenced by illicit external flows and corruption. Enhancing citizen security and social cohesion is a priority for governments as reflected in the SDCF. As such, the PDA contributed to the development of this SDCF, including drafting narrative, outcome statements, outputs, and relevant indicators specifically supporting safety, security, rule of law and sustainable peace.

JORDAN

In **Jordan**, the PDA led on the inclusion of multi-dimensional vulnerabilities and the governance analysis in the CCA, supporting 17 focus group discussions with various stakeholders and leading on the ones with women's groups, CSOs, academia and think tanks. These discussions led to the identification of priorities by the UNCT for the UN Cooperation Framework. The PDA also engaged with the Royal Committee for Political Modernization in Jordan and facilitated a meeting with the UNCT and the Committee to ensure the integration of a rights based approach and inclusivity, as well as strengthening accountability in the decision-making process moving forward. The series of talks led to a joint workplan that is aligned with the core principles of the Prevention strategy in Jordan.



MAINSTREAMING CONFLICT SENSITIVITY FOR EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIVE ACTION



© UNHCR Jordan

100% of PDAs

supported conflict sensitivity
in UN programming

PDAs play a significant role in contributing to high quality, responsive UN programming in country. They frequently help improve the conflict sensitivity of key programmes and approaches – ensuring that, at a minimum, they do no harm and, wherever possible, make a positive contribution to sustaining peace. PDAs do this through training, process design, provision of technical advice as well as accompaniment on both programme design and implementation. PDAs are delivering regular insights and analysis into both long-term underlying causes and drivers of conflict and rapidly developing dynamics and scenarios.

In 2021, PDAs continued to provide a range of programme development support, helping UN agencies to operationalize their strategies in politically sensitive contexts.

Theory of change:

If UN Country Teams and their staff are supported to become more knowledgeable and skilled in conflict prevention and sustaining peace, conflict sensitive approaches to programming will become more common, dedicated conflict prevention programming will become more sophisticated, and the collective efforts of the UNCT towards outcomes one and two will be more likely to yield results.

MYANMAR

In Myanmar, the PDA team was engaged in the development of the UN's Socio-Economic Resilience Response Plan, ensuring that the strategy and programme response reflected a conflict sensitive approach that responded to the changing context after the February 2021 coup. The PDA team supported the UNCT in the drafting, adoption and implementation of a set of engagement guidelines. These guidelines are the framework under which the UNCT has pivoted its interventions in Myanmar to ensure a conflict sensitive and human rights-based approach when responding to the increased needs for humanitarian and essential development assistance.





NEPAL

In **Nepal**, the PDA is serving as the UN focal point for the Basic Operating Guidelines– a set of principles on conflict sensitivity, human rights and humanitarian action that have been agreed by the UN, eleven development partners and the body coordinating international non-government organizations in Nepal. With the UN co-chairing the group, the PDA helped finalize a 2022 plan to re-energize the group (including UN agencies), and to develop a curriculum and initiate education and advocacy to bring attention back to the principles.

THAILAND

In **Thailand**, in response to youth-led protests, the PDA team managed a ‘Tracking Thailand’ group which included OHCHR, DPPA, the Department for Safety and Security (DSS), and UNICEF, to monitor political dynamics and to analyze political, security and developmental implications of the protests. With support from UN Headquarters, the team developed a best practices paper on UN positioning around protests, that informed engagements by the RC with senior security officials, while UNICEF hosted a forum on the youth dimension within the protests. Separately, the PDA team supported UNDP in developing an approach to SDG localization that promotes inclusive processes and structured dialogues, bringing decision-making closer to citizens at the local level.

“

With the finger on the political pulse in Thailand, the Peace and Development team is an essential resource for myself, and the UNCT, providing timely and authoritative analysis and leading on outreach to key stakeholders.”

Gita Sabharwal, UN Resident Coordinator in Thailand




PDA in the Maldives (middle) supporting a campaign to bring awareness to the SDGs

EL SALVADOR

In **El Salvador**, the PDA team mainstreamed conflict prevention and conflict sensitivity in UN planning processes including the CCA and UN Cooperation Framework. The team also established an inter-agency analytical group which, among other things, provided advice on conflict sensitivity during the election period. The PDA team also helped to successfully leverage UN expertise and convening power to support the Food System Summit dialogues (25 in total) that led to a government roadmap towards sustainable food systems. The roadmap envisions different laws and policies that will support risk prevention in regard to food security. The effort included all regions of the country and engaged a diversity of stakeholders (indigenous population, Afro-descendants, women, youth, children, business sector, older adults, and people with disabilities) with a focus on leaving no one behind.

HAITI, THE CARIBBEAN, AND COMOROS

Training in conflict sensitive approaches for UN staff and partners is often an important part of a PDA's engagement with the UNCT. In **Haiti**, dozens of UN staff were trained on conflict-sensitive approaches, and as a result a group of UNCT members are now mapping civil society organizations and capacities for conflict prevention and peace consolidation. This interagency work has led to the design of a peacebuilding project aiming to establish the foundations for a national peace infrastructure in Haiti, relying on the participation of networks of youth and resource persons from academia and civil society. The project will be jointly implemented by UNDP and OHCHR in close partnership with key governmental institutions and civil society. Elsewhere in the **Caribbean**, the PDA developed and implemented a training workshop on conflict sensitivity for the UNCT in Trinidad and Tobago. In **Comoros**, the PDA provided training on integrating conflict sensitivity and a human rights-based approach for programme managers, evaluation experts and the members of the Gender and Human Rights Thematic Group.



SUPPORTING RELEVANT, TIMELY AND HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMMING



© UNDP Eurasia Armenia—Jodi Hilton

95% of PDAs

supported UN programming
for conflict prevention

PDA play a crucial role in ensuring relevant, timely and high-quality programming by the UNCT in response to conflict risks and peacebuilding opportunities. The Mid-term Review of the Joint Programme found that the Joint Programme demonstrates its best added value when it helps UN agencies operationalize strategies through their programme interventions. Several examples earlier in this report are also examples of programmatic support provided by the PDA teams.

Frequently, PDA teams support UNCTs to mobilize resources from the PBF by supporting conflict analysis and programme design, and then support teams in managing those programmes, including through providing nuanced insights into the context and technical expertise on peacebuilding interventions. 95% of PDAs in countries where PBF process was ongoing provided support, including on eligibility, programme design, and quality assurance.



© UNDP El Salvador

UGANDA

The PDA in **Uganda** supported the design and development of work on Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Reintegration, and Resettlement and other non-military measures to support the eradication of armed forces in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the region. In addition, the PDA in collaboration with OHCHR, UNDP and UNFPA supported the PBF project ‘Harnessing the Youth Potential for Peace in Central and Western Uganda’. The non-military measures in Eastern DRC fostered improved relations between the neighbouring countries. The support in the implementation of a PBF project during an election year for Uganda significantly contributed to a relatively peaceful electoral environment and meaningful participation in the electoral process by women and youth in Uganda.

ANGOLA AND HONDURAS

The PDA in **Angola** provided technical advice and helped facilitate the joint Angola-Democratic Republic of the Congo task force for the finalization of a PBF cross-border project with UNHCR and IOM. This included providing input on the conflict analysis that informed the project. In **Honduras**, the PDA supported two successful applications to the PBF from UNICEF, UNESCO (United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), UNHCR and UN Women and guided the team in its implementation and increased the portfolio in the country.



When I first arrived, many in the UN offices considered the host country’s politics an entirely separate arena: we just give technical support. They were nervous of getting involved with the political process, including elections. Through conversations we were able to reach a collective understanding that development won’t work here unless we also pay attention to the pillar of peace, stability and politics.”

Peace and Development Advisor, interview for the Joint Programme Mid-Term Review 2022



SEED FUNDING FOR INNOVATIVE PREVENTION INITIATIVES

© UNDP Honduras

The Joint Programme provides PDAs with seed funding to support catalytic conflict prevention efforts. These initiatives enable PDAs to create entry points and facilitate analytical exercises and dialogue processes. The funding can generate entry points for larger-scale programmatic interventions or other longer-term engagements that the UNCT members will then carry forward. In 2021, 16 initiatives were approved compared to 11 initiatives in 2020.

The amount allocated to gender equality and women's empowerment reached 47% of the total seed funding provided for the year. This exceeds the Secretary-General's target of allocating a minimum of 15% of all peacebuilding funding to gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as the 28% of Joint Programme seed funding allocated to WPS in 2020.

16 SEED FUNDING INITIATIVES IN 2021



CONGO

A peaceful environment during the 2021 presidential electoral cycle

COLOMBIA

Supporting multi-stakeholder dialogue, analysis, and documentation of best practices in the context of the peace agreement

COTE D'IVOIRE

Supporting inclusive political dialogue and reconciliation processes for enhanced national capacities for conflict prevention

GUINEA

Addressing underlying causes of tensions through inclusive processes and the promotion of gender-sensitive analysis, linked to hate speech and resistance to the Ebola response in Forest Guinea

KENYA

Enhancing the UNCT's understanding of and response towards prevention and sustaining peace

KENYA

Establishment of a Kenya High-level Mediation Team and a Women's Mediation Network in support of peace and conflict prevention efforts

KENYA

Supporting electoral-violence prevention and confidence-building during the 2022 electoral cycle

LIBERIA

Promoting women's participation in public and peacebuilding processes and improving the quality of relations between the Krahn and Gio communities in Grand Gedeh and Nimba counties

MALDIVES

Exploring causes of radicalization in partnership with the Islamic University of Maldives

MAURITANIA

Development of a national peacebuilding strategic framework and strengthening capacity of UNCT and national stakeholders in conflict prevention and peacebuilding

THE PACIFIC

Supporting the creation of strategic platforms, mechanisms, and entry points for dialogue at the regional and national level

SAUDI ARABIA

Production of a series of research papers on the country's national reform agenda and regional and global positioning and its implications for the UN

SOUTH CAUCASUS

Supporting peace champions: Building national and sub-national capacities in utilizing Information technology for peace

SURINAME

Peace and development analysis for sustained peace


TUNISIA

Conducting nation-wide conflict analysis and establishing and building capacities of a network of women mediators

TUNISIA

WhatsApp consultation with young Tunisians: Using innovative tools to inform the design of a youth-focused dialogue proposal

REGIONAL PROGRAMME SPECIALISTS (RPS)



In 2021, the six Regional Programme Specialists based in Addis Ababa, Amman, Bangkok, Dakar, Istanbul and Panama, continued to provide support to PDAs and UNCTs on conflict analysis, conflict-sensitive programming and strengthening local capacities for conflict prevention. The specialists also provided surge expertise or short-term technical support to RCs and UNCTs in contexts where there are no PDAs, when urgent needs arose or when there was a gap between PDA deployments. They bring a particular focus on regional and cross-border dynamics, helping PDAs and UNCTs to develop a deeper understanding of these dynamics and to collaborate to respond to them.

ADDIS ABABA

The specialist for Eastern and Southern Africa convened regular virtual meetings of PDAs in the Horn and Southern Africa regions to facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges, enhance engagement with UN and non-UN stakeholders, and identify entry points for cross-border collaboration. The RPS is leading the development of a Joint Regional Analysis to provide an overview of key regional trends and emerging issues and the development of a dedicated Crisis Risk Dashboard for the Horn. The specialist also helped to establish a Technical Working Group on cross-border initiatives in the Mendera Triangle between the Resident Coordinator's Offices of Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia, UNDP's Africa Borderlands Centre and the Office of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Horn.

AMMAN

In 2021, the specialist based in Amman supported efforts to mainstream a prevention lens in the region's CCAs. This took the form of a series of engagements with RCs, RC Offices, and UN Peer Support Group members in the Arab States region, focusing on strengthening the interface of political, security and human rights analysis with the operational work of the UN Development System, including the application of the multi-dimensional risk assessment and conflict prevention mainstreaming. In addition, the RPS produced operational and analytical notes to support decision-making and programming at regional and country level, contributing to programming focused on a variety of topics including the humanitarian, development and peace nexus, and UN engagement in settings of limited statehood. The RPS also supported the launch and monthly regional protests monitor report for the Arab States region, a product of the Arab States Regional Crisis Risk Dashboard.

DAKAR

The specialist for Western and Central Africa, working closely with UNDP's Regional Hub in Dakar and DPPA, supported six country teams working on a regional conflict prevention initiative, 'Mali+5', that is working to build conflict prevention and peacebuilding capacities in six West African states, namely in Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger. The RPS facilitated regular monthly analysis sessions with PDAs from across the region, bringing together multi-country expertise to examine the evolving dynamics in the region. The RPS was also deployed to The Gambia for a month to support the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in their preparations for and response to the December 2021 presidential elections. The RPS provided input for the CCA and Cooperation Frameworks of several countries including Togo, Ghana, and Senegal.

BANGKOK

The specialist based in Bangkok provided conflict analysis support for nine UN Cooperation Frameworks in the Asia and the Pacific region and developed and tested an inter-agency regional Crisis Risk Dashboard. In addition, the RPS operationalized a five-country community of practice on hate-speech and organized virtual dialogues on climate security. The specialist's country specific backstopping included the formulation of UNDP Myanmar's engagement strategy with Ethnic Armed Organizations, the development of a conflict sensitivity brief for UNDP Timor-Leste's support to elections, the delivery of political analysis training for the Mongolia RC Office, and social cohesion assessments training for Pacific government and civil society partners.

In addition, the RPS contributed to Sri Lanka's and Fiji's submissions to PBF. To strengthen peer-exchange and learning, the RPS convening PDA peer events throughout the year.

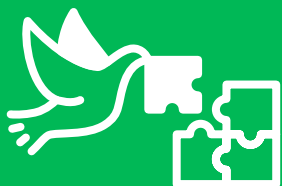
ISTANBUL

In 2021, the specialist for Europe and Central Asia provided regular support to RCs and UNCTs on mainstreaming conflict sensitivity in CCAs and Cooperation Frameworks, provided support to regional and cross-border peacebuilding programming efforts in the Western Balkans and Central Asia, and undertook several initiatives on scenario planning and foresight in light of emerging risks. In response to the crisis in Afghanistan, with significant impacts in Central Asia, the RPS co-led the development of a Regional Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRRA) for the Ferghana Valley and the Afghanistan border, in partnership with the United Kingdom and the World Bank. The assessment helped inform a common understanding of the key drivers of fragility and conflict and the risk and resilience factors in the two key subregions amongst the UNCTs, governments and international partners in the region. The RPS also established a regular dialogue with the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Asia and steered, in close collaboration with the DPPA, steered development for the Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan border.

PANAMA

The specialist based in Panama coordinated the Latin America and the Caribbean regional interagency prevention core group that fosters cross-pillar collaboration. The group worked to strengthen joint analysis and joint investments in prevention, including capacity development for RC Offices, country-based and cross-regional analyses, and developing UNCT prevention strategies and capacities. The RPS supported UNCTs in developing multidimensional risk analyses for CCAs and Cooperation Frameworks, as well as the UN's strategic positioning in Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Haiti, in collaboration with the UN Operations and Crisis Centre (UNOCC). The RPS supported the launch and monthly release of a regional protests monitor report for the LAC region, a product of the LAC Regional Crisis Risk Dashboard.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION



© WFP Malawi

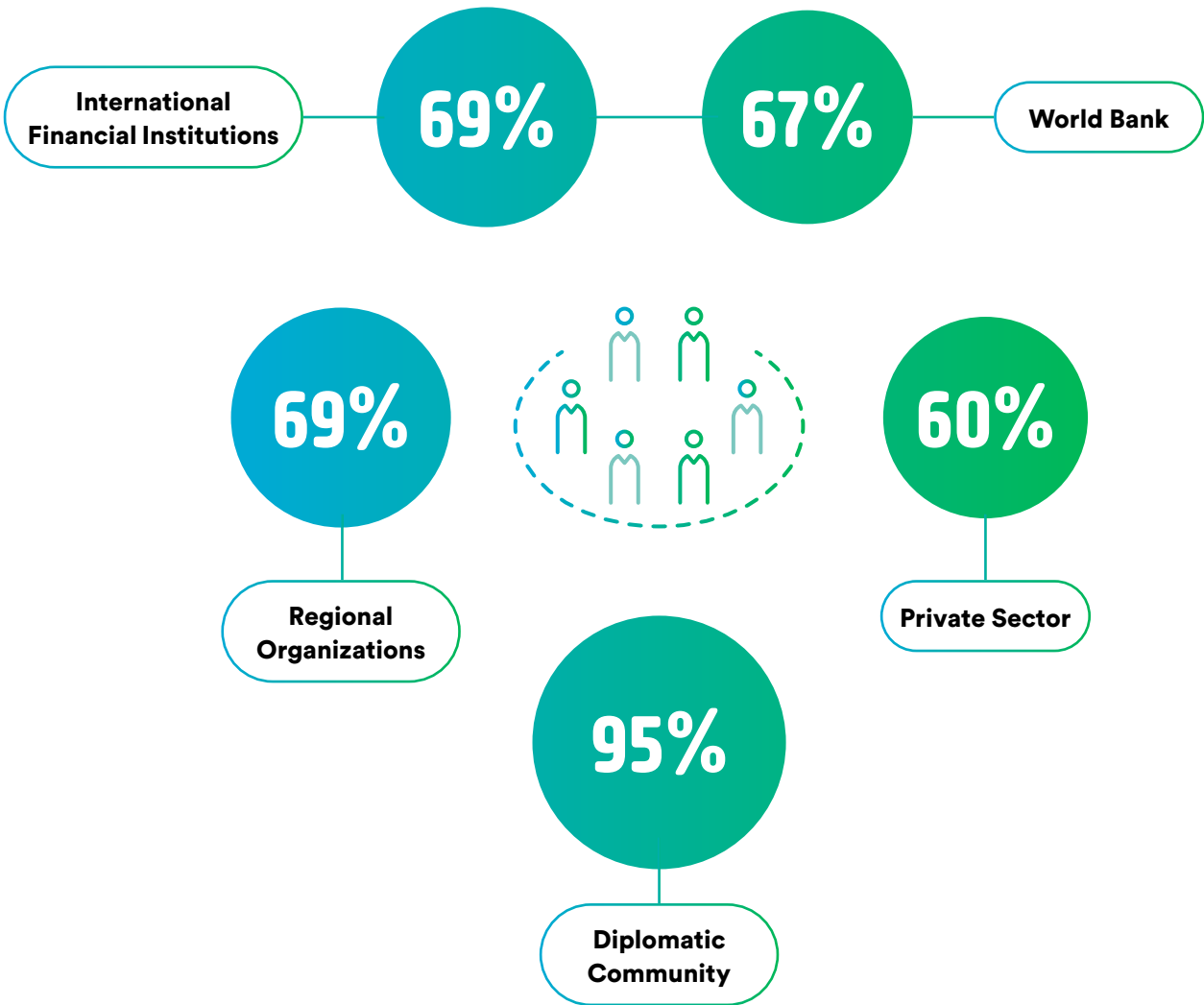
Theory of change:

If the Joint Programme – through partnerships, knowledge generation, experience sharing and the development of a community of practice on conflict prevention and sustaining peace – enables UNDP, DPPA and the broader UN System to continue to engage proactively in experience-based policy formulation and partnerships, then UN and wider international engagement and support in this area will be further refined and advanced.

The Joint Programme assists partners and the broader multilateral system in making conflict prevention efforts more effective, coherent and complementary. PDAs support RCs in convening regional organizations, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), diplomatic delegations, civil society and private sector, and engage them in exploring better joint approaches to conflict prevention.

ENGAGEMENT WITH PARTNERS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION

PDAs engaged with:



REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



We need a better evidence- base for action, and this is where we see the PDAs at the forefront: to help us develop models for preventive interventions that are effective. And while conflict prevention is often hard to prove or visualise, we support more rigorous monitoring and evaluation approaches. The PDAs can help us improve consistently by learning what works and what doesn't and where to put our resources."

Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, Tobias Lindner.
Joint Programme Partner Event 2022

PDAs worked closely with a broad range of regional and sub-regional organizations in their respective contexts, including the African Union (AU), ASEAN (Southeast Asian Nations), the Caribbean Community, ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States), the EU, the League of Arab States, OSCE, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Southern African Development Community. By doing so, they contributed to the goal of strengthening partnerships for maintaining international peace and security and promoting sustainable development. PDAs supported joint missions and assessments - particularly around elections, contributed to the design and implementation of the organizations' regional strategies, facilitated spaces for dialogue and exchange on specific issues, and sustained informal information-sharing and collaboration mechanisms.

CHAD

In **Chad**, as part of the UN-AU strategic partnership in support of the unfolding political transition in the country, the PDA provided technical support to the AU High Representative's Office in Chad and to the secretariat of the AU-led International Support Group. The PDA support helped the AU to be rapidly operational on the ground by providing technical assistance for the planning, hosting and conducting appropriate follow up of the meetings and substantive work of the Partners Group in Support to the Transition Chaired by the AU. The PDA also maintained cooperation with the World Bank, notably in the context of the Bank's Prevention and Risk Allocation to Chad.

MALAWI

The PDA and Resident Coordinator in **Malawi** supported the Government in hosting a meeting bringing together the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. It was organized in a blended format with both online and in-person participation in the context of COVID-19 travel restrictions. The RC and PDA subsequently supported the Government of Malawi in developing an agenda for their presidency of SADC, with a focus on building back better after the pandemic, and on regional peace and security.

BENIN

The PDA in **Benin** supported ECOWAS, the African Union and the International Organization of the Francophonie to build a common understanding of opportunities and challenges related to the presidential election process in 2021 and coordinate their messaging. This, in addition to the PDA and RC's engagement with traditional and religious leaders, contributed to a more peaceful outcome for the electoral process, despite continued political tensions in the country.

69% of PDAs
engaged with regional/
sub-regional organizations

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS



© UNDP Cameroon

69% of PDAs
engaged with IFIs in 2021

Greater collaboration on conflict prevention between the UN and IFIs is an important contribution to the sustaining peace agenda. For PDAs, this engagement included the development of joint conflict analysis (e.g. in **Burkina Faso** and **Ecuador**), collaboration through donor coordination mechanisms, and work towards a World Bank Prevention and Resilience Allocation, which provides enhanced support for countries at risk of falling into high-intensity or large scale conflict (e.g. **Cameroon**, **Chad**, and **Madagascar**).

TUNISIA

In **Tunisia**, the PDA team worked with the World Bank on issues related to the sustaining peace agenda. The World Bank joined the UN interagency support group for the ongoing conflict analysis process and provided their expertise on political economy, while the PDA took part in the peer review panel for the Systematic Country Diagnostic of the World Bank. 2021 also offered the opportunity for deeper engagement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the context of ongoing talks between the IMF and Tunisia on a reform and financing package. The PDA team shared a “Do-No-Harm” analysis with the IMF to help address potential risks related to proposed reforms, including particular risks faced by vulnerable groups.

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

In the **Republic of Congo**, the PDA team has worked with the World Bank, the IMF and the African Development Bank (AfDB), to conduct a political economy analysis. The team also collaborated with the World Bank on the development of the interagency community violence reduction strategy. Prior to the World Bank team resuming negotiations with the Government of Congo, the PDA briefed the Bank on key political economy issues, including potential reforms, entry points and obstacles.

CAMEROON

The PDA team in **Cameroon** provided inputs into the analysis underpinning the World Bank’s Prevention and Resilience Allocation (PRA). The team also contributed to the Regional Risk and Resilience Assessment for the Lake Chad Basin. The PDA, working closely with the World Bank Advisor, helped define the milestones of the PRA, and identified possible areas of synergy with the UNCT.

DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PDA teams play important roles in building and maintaining working relationships on behalf of the RC and the UNCT with international diplomatic and development partners around the sustaining peace agenda. The role of the PDA teams is highly dependent on the context, and includes a variety of engagements such as: providing substantive input into regular senior-level joint meetings with diplomatic missions, hosting and facilitating thematic working groups, providing insights into the context in the country and into particular thematic challenges (e.g. elections, governance or reconciliation), supporting the development of joint or complementary programmes, and mobilizing resources on behalf of the UN System.



PDA in Bosnia and Herzegovina

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the PDA team worked with the Resident Coordinator and UN agencies, in close collaboration with local and international peacebuilding stakeholders, to strengthen the work of “champions of peace” and communities actively working for peaceful co-existence. This entailed supporting local leaders, CSOs, associations and citizens working on bringing together divided communities and rejecting the ubiquitous rhetoric of division and mistrust emanating from the highest levels. Over the long-term, these initiatives can help create a nascent network of “sister cities” across the country. In addition, the PDA team continued to facilitate close collaboration with the OSCE, the EU and Council of Europe on supporting peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives. This multilateral group has joined up to help address the country’s prevention challenges with greater unity of purpose and action.

LIBERIA

The PDA team in **Liberia** participated in informal Ambassadorial-level group weekly meetings. They facilitated an informal discussion on the coordination of electoral support, which enabled the UN and donor partners to reach a shared understanding of the requirements for the 2023 national election, including for a greater focus on women’s participation. The PDA team helped the UN provide a service to the broader international community operating in a politically complex context and was also able to ensure that certain key normative issues stayed on the agenda.

95% of PDAs
engaged with diplomatic
community as a core part of
their work in 2021



MALDIVES

In the **Maldives**, the PDA chaired two working-groups on prevention of violent extremism, one with UN agencies and another with the diplomatic community. Both served to share information, identify gaps, and coordinate support to national partners. The PDA also facilitated a working-group on transitional justice that brought key UN and non-UN-agencies together to support the Office for Transitional Justice.

NIGER

In **Niger**, during the electoral period, the PDA acted as the secretary to a Troika group consisting of the EU Ambassador, the ECOWAS Representative, and the Resident Coordinator, and supported their engagement with candidates and in the preparation of three communiques, one of which was an UN-ECOWAS joint communique on peaceful elections.



FOSTERING
COLLABORATION
AND LEARNING AT
THE GLOBAL LEVEL

At the global level, the Joint Programme encourages and facilitates information-sharing and collaboration among its partners and promotes peer-to-peer learning and exchanges. Recognizing the importance of leveraging the capacities and comparative advantage across and outside the UN System, the Joint Programme continues to develop and pursue strategic partnerships.

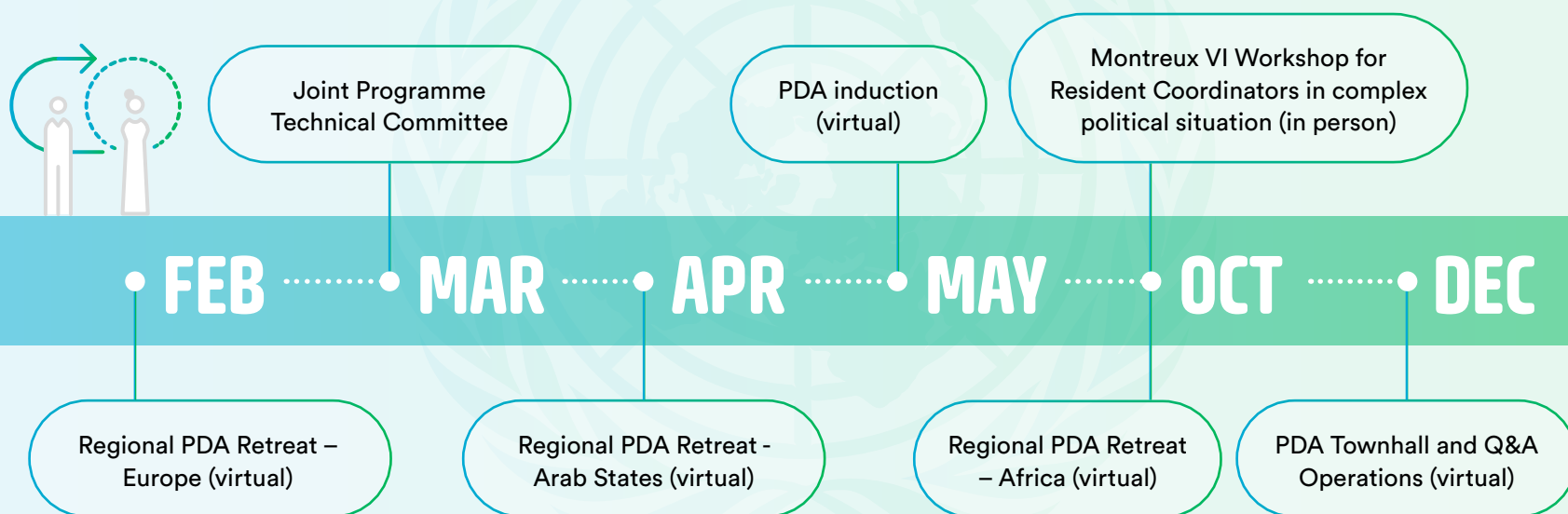
In 2021, most peer-to-peer exchanges and other events took place online as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to unfold globally and impact travel. Three regional PDA retreats were organized in virtual format for the PDAs based in Africa, Arab States and Europe and Central Asia. These events provided the opportunity to continue building a strong community of practice and learning and offered a platform to review and identify the linkages between regional and national conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

On 14-15 October 2021, the Joint Programme, in collaboration with DCO, organized its first major in-person event since the start of the pandemic. The sixth iteration of the Montreux Workshops for RCs engaged in complex political situations brought together 50 RCs that currently had a PDA deployed in their office, together with key UN and donor partners. RCs expressed strong appreciation for the support

provided by Joint Programme and exchanged perspectives on supporting national capacities for prevention and sustaining peace. Peer-exchange sessions focused on leveraging the peace, development and humanitarian nexus, transitions and social contracts, supporting mediation and inclusive dialogue processes, working with International Financial Institutions, and advancing the new area of climate security.

The Joint Programme continued to deliver on the commitment of continuous learning. A virtual induction programme was organized for 13 new national and international PDAs, in partnership with the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA). In addition, three new induction modules were developed on conflict-analysis and sensitivity, programming, and process design for inclusive mediation and dialogue processes. The Joint Programme supported the participation of 32 members of the PDA cadre, including 14 national PDAs, to 16 different online and in-person courses. This included the DPPA and FBA-led course on designing and supporting dialogue and mediation processes, UN Staff College courses on conflict analysis for sustaining peace, conflict-sensitive approaches to programming, and climate sensitive programming for sustaining peace. PDAs have also been invited to some of these courses as resource persons, through a growing collaboration between the Joint Programme and the UN Staff College.

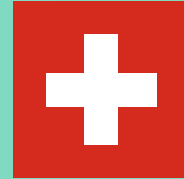
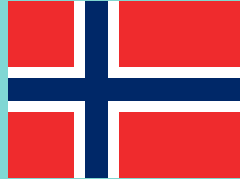
2021 milestones: continuous learning, peer-exchange, strategic partnerships and collaboration at the regional and global level



THANK YOU

The Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme would like to thank the Governments of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, as well as the European Union – for their continued support and generous financial contributions to the Programme. The Joint Programme also appreciates the continued collaboration and human capacity contributions from the Governments of Australia and Finland, as well as the Folke

Bernadotte Academy, Sweden, and the Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding, Switzerland. The work highlighted in this report would not have been possible without the inspiring and innovative work led by the PDA teams and RPS in the field. The Joint Programme team would like to express its appreciation to all Peace and Development experts for their efforts in supporting countries in sustaining peace.



List of Acronyms

AU	African Union	PDA	Peace and Development Advisor
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	PDO	Peace and Development Officer
CCA	Common Country Analysis	PVE	Prevention of violent extremism
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations	RCOs	Resident Coordinators Offices
CEFM	Child, Early and Forced Marriage	RCs	Resident Coordinators
DCO	Development Coordination Office	RRRA	Regional Risk and Resilience Assessments
DPO	Department of Peace Operations	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
DPPA	Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs	SADC	Southern African Development Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States	UN	United Nations
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	UNCHR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
EU	European Union	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
IFIs	International Financial Institutions	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IMF	International Monetary Fund	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
LNOB	Leave No One Behind	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	WHO	World Health Organization
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	WPS	Women, Peace and Security
PBF	Peacebuilding Fund	YPS	Youth, Peace and Security
PBSO	Peacebuilding Support Office		



Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme
on Building National Capacities
for Conflict Prevention
