



THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEBUILDING ARCHITECTURE



“Building peace is about much more than ending war. It is about putting in place the institutions and trust that will carry people forward into a peaceful future. We often have a limited window of opportunity in which to do this.”

- Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Our collective goal: to help countries build sustainable peace and prevent relapse into violent conflict

Peacebuilding — the most frequent needs

- Safety and security, including rule of law
- Support to political processes and reconciliation
- Basic services such as water, health and primary education
- Institution building and public administration
- Economic revitalization, including jobs and livelihoods

Essential features of peacebuilding

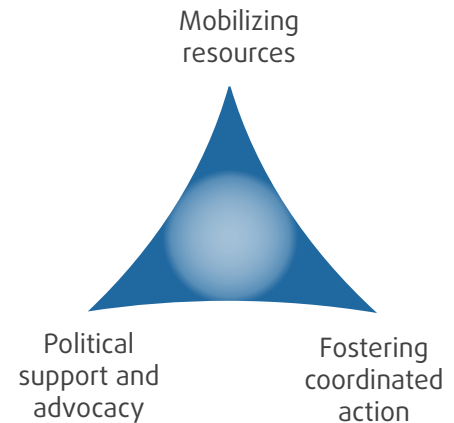
- An early start: Peacebuilding starts when violent conflict ends, or even before. The risk of relapse means the first two years are crucial for long-term success.
- National ownership: Peacebuilding is primarily a national challenge and responsibility. Developing national capacity is a priority from day one.
- Common strategy: Nationally owned and based on a country’s needs, a common strategy sets the priorities for action.

Most components of the United Nations system have a role in peacebuilding. In 2006 the United Nations peacebuilding capacity was strengthened by the creation of

- the Peacebuilding Commission
- the Peacebuilding Fund
- the Peacebuilding Support Office

THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

- The intergovernmental UN body that supports peacebuilding in countries emerging from conflict and advises the General Assembly and the Security Council
- Uniquely broad and diverse, its members come from the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and top financial and troop contributors. The European Union, the IMF, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the World Bank participate in all meetings
- The lynchpin of the UN's peacebuilding architecture



Key features

- Helps identify clear peacebuilding priorities for the countries on its agenda – Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone
- Encourages national ownership, partnerships and mutual accountability
- Networks closely with the UN system at headquarters and in the field, with the Secretary-General's senior representatives and UN country teams
- Raises funds for peacebuilding through donor conferences and public advocacy – particularly for countries that attract less donor interest

The Peacebuilding Commission – its impact on the ground

Burundi: The Commission has (i) improved dialogue among political parties and civil society on the country's peace priorities; (ii) mobilized funds for peacebuilding, particularly through the 2007 Donor Conference – which generated \$570 million in pledges – and the Commission's role in breaking the impasse over the IMF's sixth replenishment review; and (iii) facilitated a dialogue to ensure free, fair and peaceful elections in 2010 to which the Commission's members contributed \$27 million.

Central African Republic: The Commission has mobilized international support and financial support for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme and the elections scheduled for January 2011. The Commission has also succeeded in getting new partners involved in the country, such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union and CARITAS.

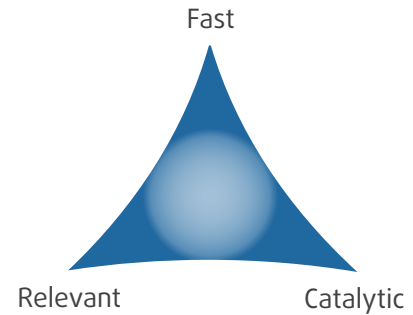
Guinea-Bissau: The Commission has contributed to peace consolidation by (i) mobilizing financial support for elections in 2008 and 2009; and (ii) actively encouraging national dialogue among all key stakeholders as a means of resolving their differences in the difficult national context since 2007.

Sierra Leone: The Commission has (i) helped to coordinate international assistance in support of a single, nationally owned peacebuilding strategy, the Agenda for Change; (ii) fostered UN integration behind one single Joint Vision for Sierra Leone; (iii) fostered the coordination of youth employment programmes that aim to create 106,000 jobs; and (iv) provided political support to the Executive Representative of the Secretary-General as he brokered negotiations between the two main political parties after political violence broke out in March 2009, negotiations which produced a Joint Communiqué and put an end to the most serious threat to peace and security.

THE PEACEBUILDING FUND

The Peacebuilding Fund focuses on projects in four priority areas

- Respond to imminent threats to the peace process, or support peace agreements or political dialogue
- Build or strengthen national capacities to promote coexistence and peaceful resolution of conflict
- Stimulate economic revitalization and generate peace dividends
- Re-establish essential administrative services



Key features

- Results-oriented, with focus on monitoring and evaluation
- Broad donor base: 48 donors have contributed
- Can fund crucial early interventions through its Immediate Response Facility (decisions within three weeks) as well as longer term programmes through the Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility
- Direct links to senior UN leadership - both at headquarters and in the field
- Inclusive - national and international stakeholders sit on Project Steering Committees established in country
- Broad participation of UN agencies as implementing partners, drawing on their comparative advantages

Achievements of the Peacebuilding Fund, as of mid-2010

- Raised about \$360 million since its launch in 2006
- Allocated \$180 million to 142 projects in 16 countries
- Apportioned 6% of its funding to projects aimed at gender equality

Future Goals

- Invest \$100 million per year in peacebuilding
- Replenish fund by end 2011
- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation of performance and impact
- Increase proportion of funding for projects that benefit women

The Peacebuilding Fund in operation

The Fund has supported activities such as disarming, demobilizing and reintegrating ex-combatants, improving prisons, strengthening police forces, fighting corruption, eliminating impunity and denial of basic human rights, promoting the private sector, creating youth employment, rebuilding infrastructure and providing safe drinking water and proper sanitation.

Burundi: 15,000 military staff removed from populated areas and now housed in 14 rehabilitated barracks; economic opportunities provided to 14,000 high-risk youths through public works, employment activities, skills training, awareness of conflict management and 1,100 microcredit projects

Côte d'Ivoire: socio-economic reintegration of 3,500 ex-combatants and youth at risk through 1,000 micro-projects

Sierra Leone: establishment of a dedicated Reparations Unit, enabling the registration of about 29,000 war victims for purposes of compensation, over 7,000 of whom have received medical, educational and psychosocial support

Central African Republic: support to the organization of the December 2008 Inclusive Political Dialogue that produced a common set of national peacebuilding priorities

PEACEBUILDING SUPPORT OFFICE

PBSO: its main functions

- To support the Peacebuilding Commission by providing strategic advice and policy guidance
- To administer the Peacebuilding Fund and help raise funds for it
- To foster a coherent, coordinated approach to peacebuilding throughout the UN family
- To spread lessons learned and good practice on peacebuilding in the UN and beyond

Future goals

- To increase the value added of the Peacebuilding Commission at country level
- To strengthen the Peacebuilding Fund's performance and identity as a source of fast, relevant and catalytic funding for peacebuilding
- To improve the quality of civilian support to peacebuilding through a successful outcome to the international review of civilian capacities led by PBSO
- To play a more effective role in knowledge management, through deepening the technical expertise of PBSO, strengthening links with UN and non-UN partners and spreading lessons learned and good practice more actively
- To ensure that the recommendations in the Secretary-General's reports on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict and on women and peacebuilding are fully implemented – including meeting the goals for women's participation in peacebuilding

“Building lasting peace after conflict is at the heart of the United Nations’ mission and purpose. From peacekeepers to civil servants, from lawyers to police, from humanitarian staff to development experts, all parts of the UN family are engaged in peacebuilding.”

**- Assistant Secretary-General
for Peacebuilding Support,
Judy Cheng-Hopkins**



UN Photo/Allison Cooper

Case study: Nepal – coordinated UN support to peacebuilding

- The PBF has supported \$10 million worth of activities, responding quickly to a funding gap and catalysing contributions from other donors for the UN Peace Fund for Nepal
- PBF funding has enabled UN support to expand into new areas including youth employment, transitional justice, promotion of women's rights and gender equality. This is a coordinated UN effort to support agreed peacebuilding priorities – including a UNICEF project that has reintegrated 4,000 minors associated with combat into their communities and given them education and training
- The UN country team and local donors, with inputs from PBSO, have crafted the “Peace through Development” strategy – a common platform for the UN and the international community's support to peacebuilding in Nepal

<http://www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding/pbso.shtml>