



# ANNUAL REPORT

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









# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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



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## Outcome 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 24

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# Foreword



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Assistant Secretary-General  
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Bureau

United Nations Development  
Programme



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for Europe, Central Asia and  
the Americas, Departments  
of Political and Peacebuilding  
Affairs and Peace Operations

United Nations

In 2024, geopolitical tensions continued to escalate. Conflicts have doubled in the past five years and humanitarian needs broke records, far outpacing our ability to meet them. Amidst these challenges, it is of paramount importance to prioritize, invest in, and collaborate on conflict prevention and promote peace and development.

The cost of inaction is measured not only in lives lost and communities displaced, but also in reversals in hard-won development gains. The 2025 Human Development Report shows that development progress has slowed to a 35-year low, an unprecedented deceleration. Out of over a billion people experiencing acute poverty, around 40% live in countries affected by conflict. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is intertwined with preventing conflict and sustaining peace.

In the *Pact for the Future*, Member States reached a consensus on the need for a new, universally applicable, nationally owned and led approach to prevention and sustaining peace. The Pact emphasizes the responsibility of each Member State to address drivers and root causes of violence and conflict in its society. It further called on the UN system to be ready to support Member States' national prevention efforts, if and when requested.

The *Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention* was set up precisely because we recognized that prevention is more cost-effective than crisis response, and that, when driven by national stakeholders, prevention offers the most sustainable path to lasting peace, resilience and development.

Since 2004, the Joint Programme has been at the forefront of providing tailored support to nationally led prevention efforts, responding directly to national priorities and working closely with national counterparts and UN Country Teams to strengthen capacities and infrastructures for peace.

The benefits of prevention are immeasurable for the country concerned. In today's interconnected world, those benefits also extend far beyond national borders. Violence and instability spill over rapidly, through forced displacement, economic shocks, and transboundary threats. Preventing conflict in one country strengthens peace and resilience across entire regions.



In 2024, Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs) deployed by the Joint Programme worked with national partners, UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams in 70 countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean. This Annual Report highlights how, in ways specific to each context, PDAs helped address drivers and root causes of violence, anticipate and mitigate risks, and strengthen infrastructures for peace.

Our reporting shows that in 43 countries, such as Kenya and Mauritania, PDAs helped national stakeholders, at their request, develop prevention and peacebuilding policies and strategies. They worked to strengthen peace architectures in 33 countries, including Nigeria and Sierra Leone. They enhanced women's engagement in peace efforts in 51 countries, for example in Moldova, Tunisia and Venezuela. They strengthened young people's influence and participation in peacebuilding in 47 countries, including Armenia, Bangladesh and Guatemala. In 40 countries, they supported the peaceful conduct of elections.

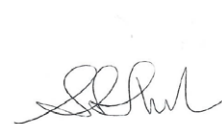
Through essential analytical, coordination, and facilitation support by PDAs, UN Country Teams implemented risk-informed peace initiatives, particularly in crisis settings such as Myanmar, Niger, Sudan, and Ukraine. PDAs also contributed to addressing evolving transnational challenges, such as climate impacts on peace and security in the Sahel and Pacific regions, and misinformation in the South Caucasus. They continued to steer UN programmatic engagements, including through the UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund. PDAs supported UN Country Teams in designing and implementing conflict-sensitive programming in 57 countries, including initiatives on social dialogue for peace in Sri Lanka, community resilience in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea, and voter education in Georgia.

As threats to peace and security intensify, and the importance of addressing tensions early—before they become costlier for all concerned—becomes more and more apparent, the demand for PDA support grows. However, financial support has not kept pace with the demand. A marked decline in donor contributions resulted in a 50% reduction in the international PDA cadre in 2024, significantly limiting the Joint Programme's ability to support to prevention efforts around the world.

We are steadfast in our commitment to ensure the Joint Programme continues to deliver impactful and flexible support to national prevention and peacebuilding efforts. Drawing on two decades of experience, the Joint Programme is ideally positioned to help operationalize the paradigm shift in prevention outlined in the Pact for the Future. The 2025 United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture Review now offers a critical opportunity to advance this vision politically at the global level but also very practically at the country level.

The Joint Programme stands ready to translate these commitments into support to member States for transformative, sustained action on prevention and peace.

**Shoko Noda**



**Miroslav Jenča**





# Thank you

The achievements highlighted here reflect the strong and longstanding commitment of the Joint Programme's partners. We thank **Canada, the European Union, Germany, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland**, and the **United Kingdom** for their generous financial and substantive support. We also appreciate the invaluable in-kind contributions we received from **Sweden's Folke Bernadotte Academy**, the **Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding**, **Germany's Center for International Peace Operations**, and the **Governments of Japan and the Netherlands**.

We remain grateful to national partners for their leadership, trust, and collaboration in advancing nationally led prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

We invite other Member States to join this impactful partnership. With your support, the Joint Programme can continue strengthening nationally led prevention efforts to build resilient, peaceful societies, advancing a proven approach to sustaining peace amid today's complex challenges.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our cadre of Peace and Development Advisors across the globe.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to the UN Development Coordination Office, UN Resident Coordinators, UNDP Resident Representatives, DPPA-DPO Directors and desks, and all participating UN agencies, funds, and programmes for their continued support and close collaboration.















# Overview

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The Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention combines the strengths of the UN's peace and security and development pillars to support nationally led efforts to prevent conflict and sustain peace around the world. At the heart of this work is the deployment of Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs), through which the Programme advances two interlinked goals: strengthening national capacities for conflict prevention and promoting more cohesive and effective UN engagement in sustaining peace.

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In response to requests from Member States, PDAs support nationally owned initiatives to address drivers and root causes of conflict, strengthen peace infrastructures, and respond to emerging challenges. Acting as bridge builders within the UN system, PDAs foster strategic, system-wide approaches that integrate peacebuilding with development, humanitarian, and diplomatic efforts.

In 2024, the Joint Programme supported 70 countries worldwide through the deployment of 119 personnel, including 55 international PDAs, 43 national Peace and Development Officers (PDOs), nine secondees, six UN Volunteers (UNVs), and six Regional Programme Specialists (RPS). In 36 of these countries, support was delivered through PDA teams that included international and national PDAs.

Amid an increasingly complex global landscape, the Joint Programme will continue to evolve its innovative model of agile and targeted support, to ensure it remains responsive and effective in advancing nationally led prevention efforts. Continued support from partners remains essential to sustain this critical instrument at a time of growing global need.

**“ The Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme is an excellent example of how small and targeted investments in capacities for peacebuilding can be catalytic and generate peace dividends far out of proportion to the costs involved.”**

H.E. Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway

**“ Peace and Development Advisors are simply indispensable. Indispensable for the effective and meaningful implementation of the Secretary General’s New Agenda for Peace.”**

H.E. Bahia Tahzib-Lie, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations








# Cadre of Peace and Development Advisors in 2024

In 2024 the Joint Programme deployed 119 personnel, including 55 international Peace and Development Advisors, 43 national Peace and Development Officers, nine secondees, six UN Volunteers, and six Regional Programme Specialists. These positions served at total of 70 countries. In 36 of these, Joint Programme support is delivered through PDA teams combining both international and national advisors.

## Legend

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

New York

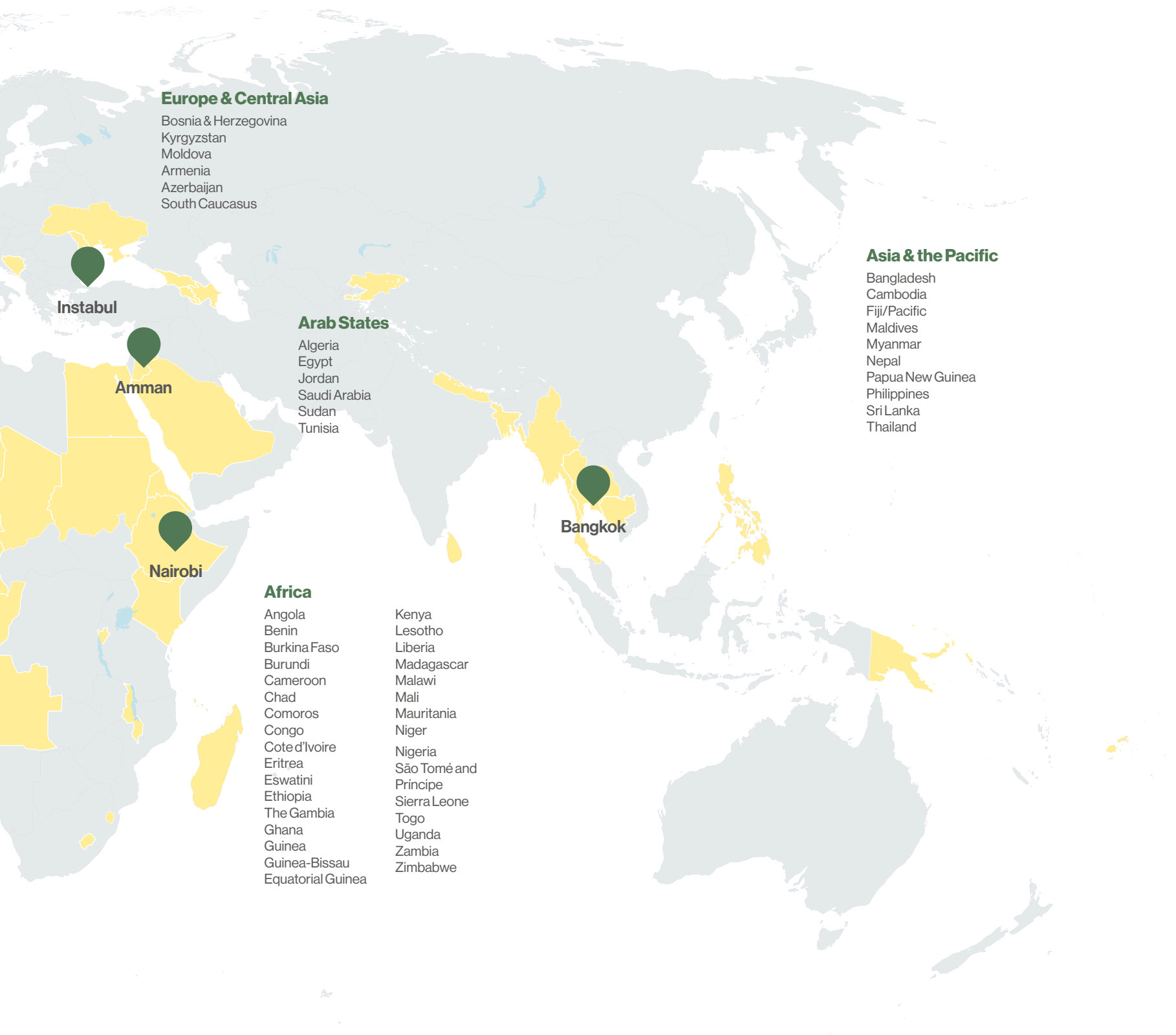
Panama

Dakar

## Latin America & the Caribbean

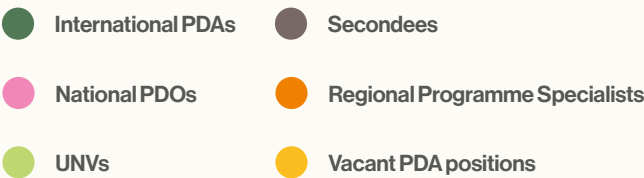
Bolivia  
Brazil  
Caribbean (Guyana/Suriname)  
Caribbean (T&T)  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Peru  
Venezuela





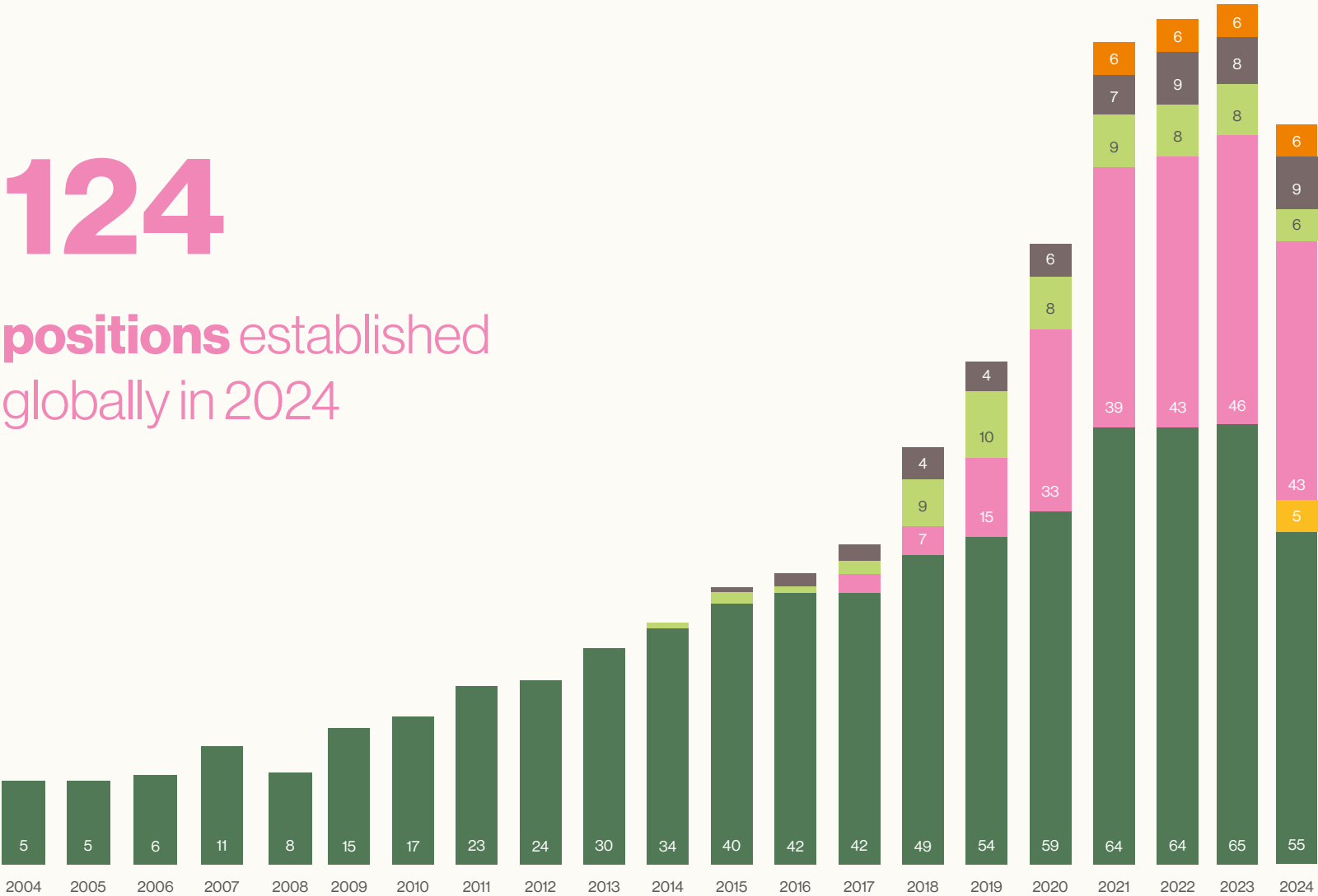


# Size of the global PDA cadre



124

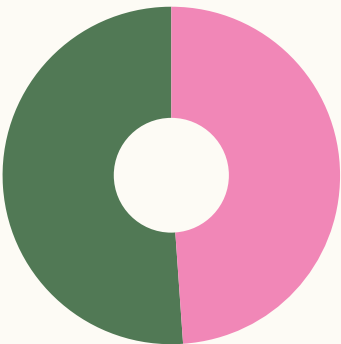
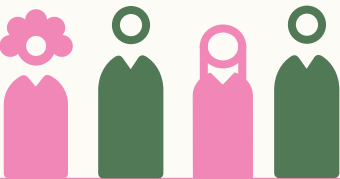
positions established globally in 2024





**119 Advisors in post**

including international  
and national PDAs, UNVs  
and secondees.

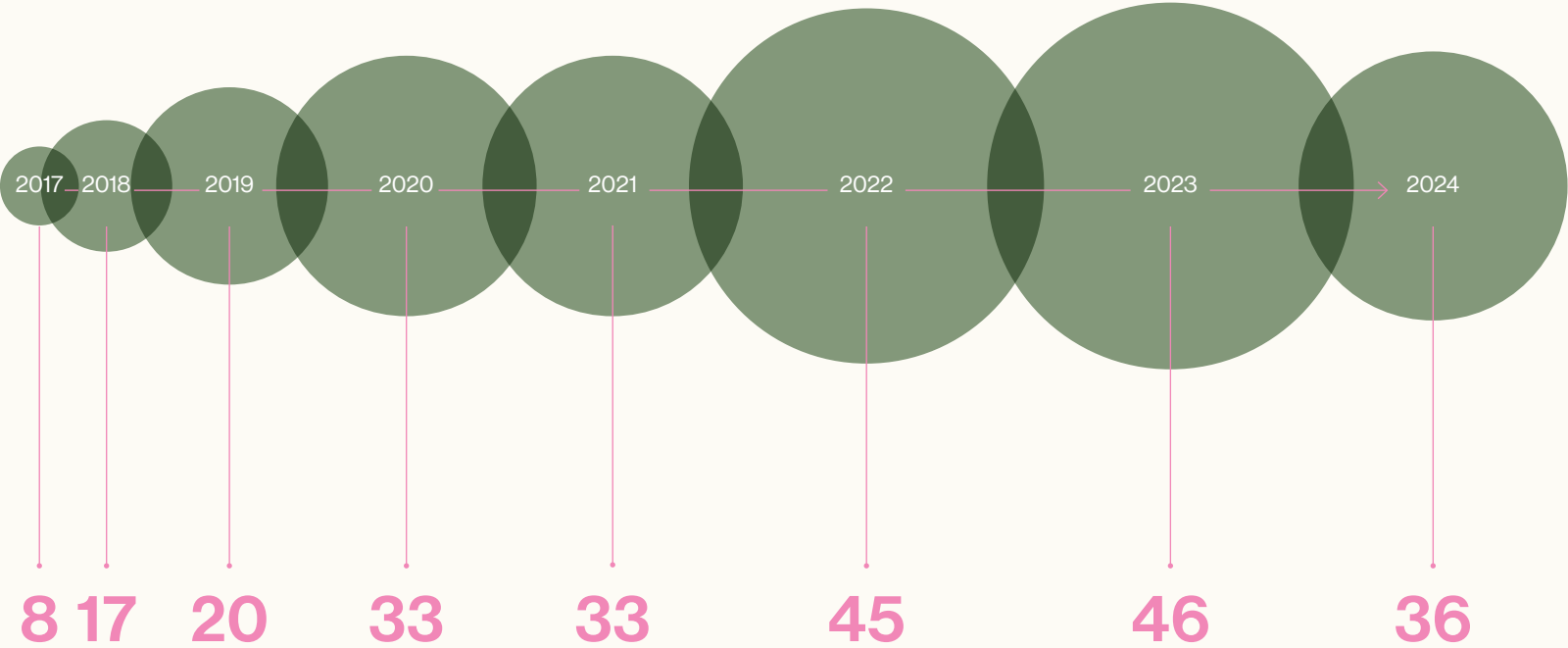


**48% of Advisors are women**

52% men

- Women
- Men

**Deployment of PDA teams\***



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



# Financial overview 2024

## (In US Dollars)

The Joint Programme team is grateful for the generous support of eight donor partners who contributed to the Programme in 2024.

DONOR	Income	Expenditure*
Canada	1,891,900	1,885,100
Germany	2,169,200	7,676,100
Kazakhstan	50,000	-
Netherlands	5,730,700	6,119,750
Norway	667,000	619,700
Sweden	1,846,210	2,343,300
Switzerland	1,330,000	1,340,900
The United Kingdom**	2,126,400	1,222,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,811,410</b>	<b>21,207,150</b>

\* Certified financial reports are issued by UNDP centrally on 30 June each year (these figures are preliminary).

\*\* UK International Development (UK Dev)

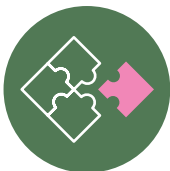


# 2024 Highlights

## Key areas of engagement\*



**Outcome 1:**  
National capacities for conflict prevention and infrastructures for peace strengthened



**58%** of PDAs supported national peace architectures



**82%** of PDAs supported inclusive regional, cross-border, national or local dialogue efforts



**75%** of PDAs supported national policies and strategies for conflict prevention



**89%** of PDAs made a focused effort to enhance the participation of women



**65%** of PDAs supported preventive diplomacy, good offices, mediation and dialogue



**82%** of PDAs made a focused effort to enhance the participation of youth

\*The figures in this report related to PDA engagement are based on the Joint Programme's Annual Survey of PDAs and/or PDA teams in each programme country. In 2024, a total of 57 responses was received from PDAs/PDA teams (one response per country).





## Outcome 2:

UN capacities for conflict prevention, peacebuilding and conflict sensitive programming strengthened



**100%**

of PDAs supported the CCA in countries where it was underway

**100%**

of PDAs designed or facilitated peace and conflict analysis



**100%**

of PDAs supported UNCT or its members on conflict sensitivity

**93%**

of PDAs supported UNCT programming efforts explicitly address peace and conflict issues

### In 2024, PDAs worked on



Elections and electoral violence prevention in  
**40 countries**



Climate security in  
**33 countries**



Mis- and disinformation in  
**23 countries**



Social unrest and protests in  
**19 countries**



Displacement in  
**18 countries**



Mental health and psychosocial support in  
**12 countries**



Disarmament, small arms reduction, and DDR in  
**10 countries**



Violent crime in  
**6 countries**



# From commitments to action: leveraging the Joint Programme to deliver on the Pact for the Future

A key achievement of the [Pact for the Future](#), adopted by Member States in September 2024, is its shared commitment to a renewed, nationally owned and led approach to conflict prevention and sustaining peace — one that is inclusive, responsive to local contexts, and universally applicable.

The Joint Programme is a proven, flexible, and cost-effective initiative that directly delivers on this vision. By aligning its support with national systems and priorities, and fostering inclusive, locally owned processes, the Joint Programme serves as a vital instrument for translating the Pact's high-level commitments into concrete action at the country level.

## **Translating commitments into practice: a field-tested offer for prevention and sustaining peace**

The Joint Programme supports national stakeholders in advancing prevention and sustaining peace through three interconnected areas of work:

### **1. Tailormade support to national strategies and approaches for prevention**

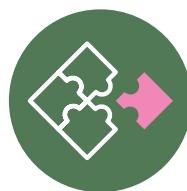
Recognising that there is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach, PDAs support national partners to design and implement prevention strategies and approaches that reflect national priorities and respond to local dynamics. These efforts are rooted in inclusive approaches and driven by Member State demand.

In 2024, PDAs supported:



**National strategies and policies  
for conflict prevention**

**43 countries**



**Nationally led capacities and  
infrastructures for peace in**

**33 countries**



In **Malawi**, the PDA team and UNDP are supporting the National Peace and Unity Commission prepare its violence prevention strategy ahead of the 2025 elections, and update Malawi's national Peace Policy to reflect a shifting political landscape. In **Kenya**, the PDA team provided strategic and operational support for the national review of Kenya's peacebuilding architecture, resulting in a new **National Agenda for Peace**. In March 2024, Kenya shared its prevention experience at the Peacebuilding Commission, alongside Norway and Timor Leste. In **Mauritania**, the PDA team is providing technical and operational support to develop a national prevention strategy — a key step in the eligibility requirement for the World Bank's Prevention and Resilience Allocation (PRA). In **Chad**, the PDA team is supporting the Office of the General Mediator (Médiateur de la République) to develop a national strategy for social cohesion and peace consolidation to strengthen conflict prevention, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) processes, and reconciliation efforts.

**2. Strengthening partnerships between the UN and international partners in support of national prevention efforts**

PDA's play an important role in ensuring that UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and international partners deliver coherent, strategic support for nationally led prevention. They provide conflict-sensitive analysis, advise on programme design, foster inter-agency coordination, and help mobilize resources for peacebuilding, including through the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF).

PDA's also collaborate with development partners, including international financial institutions (IFIs), to align efforts and maximize synergies between national strategies and external support. In **Burundi** and **Papua New Guinea**, PDA's support helped harmonize UN and World Bank engagements, unlocking new resources and enhancing coherence across peace and development portfolios.

In 2024 PDA analysis and advice supported:



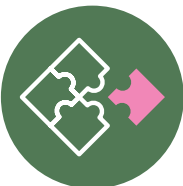
**Common Country Analysis processes in all countries where they were deployed**



**Peace and conflict programming in all countries where they were deployed**



**UN PBF processes in all countries where they were deployed**



**UN programming and engagement across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus in 32 countries**



### **3. Deepening learning and knowledge sharing on national prevention strategies and approaches**

The Joint Programme continues to drive learning, innovation, and policy development across the UN system through targeted reflection, peer exchange, and thought leadership.

In **February 2024**, the **seventh Montreux Workshop** brought together UN Resident Coordinators, UNDP Resident Representatives, PDAs, senior UN officials, Member State representatives, and development partners to share lessons and explore innovations in UN support for national prevention strategies and peace architectures.

The Joint Programme also conducted **Reflection and Learning Missions (RLMs)** in **Cambodia** and **Fiji** in 2024, generating actionable insights and good practices for national-level prevention.

By providing context-specific support, fostering UN system-wide coherence, and generating insights from the field, the Joint Programme offers a ready-made platform for operationalizing the *Pact for the Future's* vision — helping Member States move from commitments to meaningful, sustained action in preventing conflict and building lasting peace.

**“ PDAs have been able to work very closely with host governments such as ours, they have the ability to work with civil society groups, with the academy, with the private sector, and bring everybody around the table, and thereby be able to be instrumental in enabling countries and governments such as my own, to detect and respond to early signs of conflict.”**

H.E. Ekitela Lokaale, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations

**“ The Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention is a vital component of the UN’s support to Angola’s Peace Leadership on the African Continent. The presence of the Peace and Development Advisor in Angola... has played a crucial role, serving as the connective tissue between the UN’s role within the country.”**

H.E. Tété António, Minister of External Relations of Angola









# Outcome 1

Strengthening national policies, strategies, and infrastructures for prevention and sustaining peace

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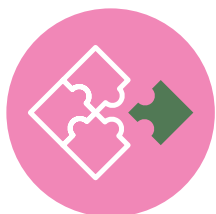
The Joint Programme's first outcome area focuses on building and reinforcing national capacities for conflict prevention and sustaining peace. PDAs provide tailored, context-specific, and demand-driven support to nationally led prevention efforts—offering technical expertise, strategic advice, and facilitating key partnerships to advance national strategies and approaches. Rooted in national priorities and processes, this support ensures both relevance and long-term impact in strengthening national capacities for prevention.

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In many contexts, the sustained presence and accompaniment of PDAs have gradually strengthened national mechanisms, processes, and architectures for peace. This long-term engagement has contributed to significant prevention and peacebuilding milestones in recent years, such as the development of a new **National Agenda for Peace** in Kenya, the launch of **The Gambia's five-year plan** to implement the recommendations of the **Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission**, and the establishment of the **National Peace and Unity Commission** in Malawi. These achievements highlight the value of adaptive, strategic, and sustained UN support for nationally owned peace efforts.

In 2024, PDAs supported the development of peace infrastructures in **33 countries** and the design of conflict prevention policies and strategies in **43 countries**. They facilitated inclusive dialogues and consultative processes in **Georgia, Guatemala, and Venezuela**; supported preventive diplomacy, good offices, and dialogue in **Chad, Ghana, and Equatorial Guinea**; and led conflict-sensitive election-related initiatives in the **Maldives and Moldova**.



**58% of PDAs**  
supported national peace  
architectures



**75% of PDAs**  
supported national policies and  
strategies for conflict prevention



**65% of PDAs**  
supported preventive diplomacy,  
good offices, mediation and dialogue  
initiatives







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# Mauritania

## Supporting pioneering approaches to prevention and resilience

Increasingly recognized for its efforts to foster stability and resilience, Mauritania has developed a nationally led approach to conflict prevention that combines religious dialogue, security sector reform, and efforts to address poverty and social exclusion. The UN has been a key partner in this approach, with the PDA team playing a central role in promoting inclusive methods, shaping integrated programmatic responses, and mobilizing partnerships to reinforce national led efforts.

One of Mauritania's flagship initiatives is its **network of Mourchidates**—women religious leaders working to counter radicalization and violent extremism. With support from a joint UNODC–UNESCO initiative, the PDA team provided capacity-building assistance to strengthen women's leadership in community dialogue and violence prevention. Trained to identify and respond to early signs of radicalization, the 50 Mourchidates have reached over **7,500 people** through outreach in schools, prisons, mosques, and youth centres, offering alternative narratives and practical tools to foster resilience.

To support Mauritania's re-eligibility for UN PBF financing in 2024, the PDA team led comprehensive national consultations, bringing together government stakeholders, civil society, women's and youth groups, and UN entities to jointly identify peacebuilding and prevention priorities. PDA-led risk analysis informed a **USD 32.7 million PBF allocation (2019–2024)**, including programming focused on climate-related risks to peace. With technical input from the PDA team, new PBF-supported initiatives are now active in **178 village committees**, promoting social cohesion and peaceful water resource management in border areas with Mali.

The PDA team also supported cross-border efforts with **IOM** and **UNODC**, engaging the **Network of Mayors of the Senegal River Basin (RMBFS)** to advance inclusive development and regional security cooperation. As a result, the **Integrated Territorial Development Scheme (2025–2029)** of the RMBFS now prioritizes youth and women's inclusion in border communities across Mauritania, Mali, and Senegal, with specific actions to strengthen consultative processes and support local peacebuilding and development initiatives.

Despite its successes, Mauritania remains attuned to remaining fragilities and emerging risks, including growing insecurity in the Sahel. At the government's request, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) and the PDA team facilitated Mauritania's engagement with the **UN Peacebuilding Commission** in March 2024. The country has since initiated the development of a national prevention strategy aligned with the *Pact for the Future* and aimed at securing eligibility for the **World Bank's Prevention and Resilience Allocation (PRA)**. Throughout the process, the PDA team has provided continuous analytical, operational, and coordination support—helping align UN and international technical input, including from the **African Development Bank** and the **European Union**. The team also facilitated meaningful civil society engagement to ensure the integration of human rights, and the inclusion of women's and youth priorities.

Mauritania's experience illustrates how nationally owned and led processes that bridge peace, security and development efforts can foster long term resilience and stability. It also underscores that prevention and peace are not one-off achievements but require continuous attention and commitment. The UN, with the close engagement of the PDA team, remains a committed partner in supporting Mauritania to safeguard its peacebuilding gains, manage risks, and advance a sustainable, nationally driven path to long-term peace.







# Nigeria

## A consistent partner in building Nigeria's capacities for peace

For over a decade, consecutive PDA teams have played a sustained, catalytic, and multifaceted role in strengthening Nigeria's peace infrastructure. Nigeria's complex security landscape is shaped by overlapping and regionally distinct drivers of conflict, including land disputes, identity-based tensions, and organized criminality. With a focus on national ownership, policy and legislative advocacy, institutional strengthening, and technical support, PDA teams have helped design and reinforce diverse peace architectures — both governmental and independent — tailored to local contexts while promoting coherence at the national level.



PDA Nigeria meeting with Amb. Ibrahim Waiya, Head of Secretariat of the Kano State Peace Committee, on strengthening capacities and skills for sustaining peace

At the national level, the PDA team and the UN have advanced peacebuilding through strategic legislative and policy engagement — particularly by supporting the Office for Strategic Preparedness and Resilience (OSPRE) and the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) in developing early warning systems and peacebuilding networks across the country. In 2024, the technical assistance and advocacy efforts of the PDA team contributed to the **establishment of a Committee on Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion at the National Assembly** of Nigeria. The Committee is expected to advance legislative and policy coherence for Nigeria's diverse peace architectures, especially updating and bringing the long envisioned National Peace Policy and National Peace Commission into existence.

At the subnational level, the PDA team and UNDP have supported the development of peace infrastructures in **Kaduna, Plateau, and Benue**, with emerging structures in **Taraba, Adamawa, and Nasarawa**. These efforts include the establishment of conflict early warning systems and dialogue platforms, particularly to address recurring herder-farmer tensions. As these local architectures mature, they are playing an increasingly important role in preventing the escalation of localized disputes.

PDAs have also served as critical conveners and connectors across Nigeria's peacebuilding efforts. A **Peacebuilding Community of Practice**, co-chaired by OSPRE, IPCR, and



the PDA team, brings together government actors, the UN, and international non-governmental organizations to advance shared priorities and foster collective learning. The team chairs the **Peace and Security Working Group**, which engages donors and UN partners on peacebuilding funding strategies, and the **Peacebuilding Coordination Forum**, which aligns the efforts of civil society actors to enhance coordination and delivery of peacebuilding initiatives.

PDA support to independent national mechanisms has been equally vital. Since 2015, successive PDA teams have supported the development and operationalization of the **National Peace Committee (NPC)**—an informal body of respected national figures established under the **Abuja Peace Accord for Peaceful Elections**. The NPC has played a pivotal role in promoting peaceful electoral processes and mediating political tensions. Since its founding, it has led state-level peace dialogues and supported the signing of peace accords by political parties and candidates across multiple election cycles. The PDA team has continued to support the NPC through capacity-building, dialogue facilitation, and good offices, including training for **15 state-level peace committees**, monitoring high-risk areas, and supporting stakeholder dialogues convened by **UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS)** and funded by **DPPA** in **Kano, Kaduna, Benue, Imo, and Rivers States**.

Together, these efforts reflect critical contributions to Nigerian-led, inclusive and adaptive peacebuilding approaches across all levels of government and society. Engaging strategically with government institutions has opened space for political dialogue and increased the potential for sustainable change. At the same time, support to independent mechanisms and civil society actors has fostered trust and demonstrated impartiality across a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

## Key milestones in Nigeria’s peace architecture

2000		<b>Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution</b> established
2012		National Peace Policy drafted but not yet ratified
2015		The <b>National Peace Committee</b> established and supports the creation of state-level peace committees during elections  The Abuja Peace Accord for Peaceful Elections signed
2016		<b>Plateau Peacebuilding Agency</b> established
2017		<b>Kaduna State Peace Commission</b> established
2018		Bill for ‘An Act providing for the Establishment of the <b>National Commission for Peace, Reconciliation and Mediation</b> ’ approved by the Senate
2022	 	NPC mandate transformed to cover broader conflict prevention, including strengthening of its sub-national peace and conflict early warning and early response capacities  <b>Benue State Peace Commission</b> established  <b>Office for Strategic Preparedness and Resilience</b> and its <b>National Centre for the Coordination of Early Warning and Response Mechanism</b> established
2024	 	Non-governmental <b>Independent State Peace Architectures</b> exist in 15 states: Adamawa, Akwa, Bauchi, Benue, Cross River, Enugu, Gombe, Ibom, Imo, Kano, Katsina, Kogi, Kwara, Nasarawa, Oyo and Taraba states  <b>National Assembly Committee on Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion</b> established



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# Sierra Leone

## Building bridges toward national unity

Over the past two decades, Sierra Leone has made notable progress in consolidating peace and advancing development following its civil war. In 2023, however, elections triggered a political and governance impasse that heightened internal tensions and deepened socio-political divisions. In this charged environment, the support, facilitation, and accompaniment of the PDA were pivotal in advancing internationally mediated dialogue processes that ultimately led to the signing of the Agreement for National Unity.

Throughout the process, the PDA played a central role in fostering trust and enabling dialogue among political actors. Drawing on long-standing relationships and sustained engagement with national institutions, the PDA supported quiet diplomacy efforts, helping to maintain open channels of communication and build confidence. The PDA's analysis and strategic advice informed the **good offices efforts of UNOWAS**, which served as the international guarantor of the process, and guided UN leadership through a complex negotiation and consensus-building effort. The **Agreement for National Unity** provided a framework for restoring political stability and led to the establishment of a **Cross-Party Committee on Electoral Systems and Management Bodies** tasked with proposing national electoral reforms.

With the UN co-chairing the Committee alongside government and opposition representatives, the PDA continued to support quiet diplomacy and dialogue among national and international partners on the reform process. Working closely with UNDP, the PDA provided technical and advisory support to the Cross-Party Committee secretariat. The completion of the Committee's report in June 2024 marked a significant milestone in rebuilding confidence in Sierra Leone's electoral system.

Following this achievement, the PDA provided technical and analytical support to help operationalize the proposed reforms. This included capacity-building for the **Political Parties Regulation Commission** and political parties themselves, with an emphasis on promoting dialogue, negotiation, and constructive political engagement. Beyond resolving the immediate post-election crisis, the electoral reform dialogue has catalyzed broader efforts to reinforce Sierra Leone's governance systems and institutional resilience.

The work of the PDA has been central to sustaining this momentum, illustrating that prevention is not a one-time intervention but a continuous process. The **Agreement for National Unity** was not the result of a sudden breakthrough, but the culmination of sustained, behind-the-scenes efforts—often led or supported by the PDA—to build trust, foster dialogue mechanisms, and strengthen Sierra Leone's nascent peace infrastructure. These efforts have helped foster an environment where tensions can be defused and differences resolved through dialogue, laying the groundwork for more resilient and inclusive governance.







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# The Lake Chad Basin

## Supporting pathways to peace, security and stability

Spanning parts of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria, the Lake Chad Basin faces a complex and protracted crisis fueled by violent extremism, community level violence, conflicts over natural resources, longstanding socio-economic challenges, and climate change. National governments, regional organizations, the UN and international partners have worked together to stabilize and secure the region, with PDAs in all four countries providing multifaceted support.

### Supporting political dialogue and regional cooperation

PDA teams in Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria have played a significant role in supporting multi-level political dialogues and cooperation in the region. Their analysis has informed the engagements of Special Representatives of the Secretary-General (SRSGs) for the UN Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and UNOWAS, while also guiding UN engagement in the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) Governor's Forum—a key platform for dialogue among national governments, regional organizations, civil society groups, and international partners on advancing locally driven solutions to common peace, security and development challenges. These efforts have not only strengthened regional cooperation but also fostered greater alignment between national priorities and UN support.

### Advising UN engagement and programming on stabilization and peacebuilding

The UN has been a key partner to Lake Chad Basin Member States in DDR and Disengagement, Dissociation, Reconciliation and Reintegration (DDRR) initiatives. In all four countries, PDAs have provided technical assistance to national efforts, working closely with UN agencies leading programmes on DDR and DDRR. PDA facilitation and inter-agency coordination has also enhanced coherence across UN strategies and programming in the region.

In **Cameroon**, the PDA is coordinating UN support to the National Commission on DDR in developing a national DDR strategy aligned with the LCBC's Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience of the Boko Haram-Affected Areas in the Lake Chad Basin Region. The PDA team in **Nigeria** worked with UNDP, IOM, UNODC, and UNICEF to convene dialogues between federal and state-level authorities to harmonize DDRR initiatives. The team has also provided essential technical assistance for a PBF-funded initiative supporting the state-led Borno Model for managing mass exits from armed groups, reconciliation and reintegration. In **Chad**, the PDA team has supported the operationalisation of DDR processes, and has worked with national counterparts to connect these efforts with peace and reconciliation initiatives, as part a comprehensive national strategy for social cohesion and peace consolidation. The strategy aims to identify, develop, and connect capacities at multiple levels for conflict prevention and dispute settlement across the country.

Following the unconstitutional change of government in **Niger**, the PDA team's analysis was vital for steering the UN's political and strategic engagement with transitional authorities and international partners. In a sensitive political context, the team has led the development of a comprehensive conflict analysis, in cooperation with government counterparts, to support coordinated and strategic peacebuilding efforts in the country.



## Catalysing resources for humanitarian response, peacebuilding and development

The Lake Chad Basin continues to face a large-scale humanitarian crisis, with over 3 million refugees and internally displaced persons, and widespread humanitarian needs. PDA teams in the region are providing analysis and programming advice to Technical Coordination Committee of

the Regional Stabilization Facility, as well as the Board of the Nexus Funding Facility for the Lake Chad Basin, which provides flexible, multi-year funding to enhance resilience, development and peace across the region. In Nigeria, the PDA team played a pivotal role in the establishment of a One UN Offer that garnered USD 12 million in additional support for reintegration efforts in Borno state.

**“ PDAs are indispensable assets and tools within the Resident Coordinators’ Offices. As strategic advisors to the Resident Coordinator and UNCT, they help navigate sensitive and complex political contexts and create a link with peace and security agendas.”**

Issa Sanogo, UN Resident Coordinator in Cameroon





# PDA's supported peaceful and inclusive elections

PDA's supported national partners and the UN to foster environments conducive to peaceful and inclusive elections in 40 countries.

In **Bolivia**, **Côte d'Ivoire**, **Ghana**, and **Malawi**, PDA teams collaborated with UNCTs to strengthen capacities of national institutions to identify and address risks ahead of elections, including mis- and disinformation and risks of electoral violence. In the **Maldives**, PDAs worked with national and local institutions to boost women's participation and representation in elected bodies and electoral management roles. In **Cameroon**, **El Salvador**, and **Moldova**, PDAs' in-depth analysis and scenario planning

enhanced UN efforts to support peaceful and credible electoral processes. In **Mauritania**, the PDA team collaborated with UNDP and OHCHR to register 1.9 million new voters, provided advisory services to UNDP for the training of over 13,000 electoral officials, and strengthened a network of women journalists working to enhance transparency in electoral processes.



In 2024,  
**PDA's**  
supported electoral violence  
prevention initiatives in  
**40 countries**





# Ghana

In the context of the 2024 presidential and parliamentary elections, PDA-led analysis informed a series of targeted UN initiatives focused on building trust and consensus among electoral stakeholders, combating mis- and disinformation, and enhancing the capacity of national institutions to peacefully resolve potential disputes.



To strengthen early warning and early response capacities, the PDA team supported the National Disaster Management Organization to conduct 17 pre-election simulation exercises, enhancing preparedness and risk management during the election period. Partnering with the Ghana Journalists Association, the National Media Commission, UNESCO and UNDP, the team supported capacity building among Ghanaian journalists to identify and address hate speech, and mis- and disinformation. With Joint Programme seed funding, the PDA team partnered with the **National Peace Council—set up in 2011 with support from preceding PDAs—to launch the “I Pledge for Peace” campaign**, focusing on mobilising Ghana’s political leaders, traditional authorities, civil society groups and citizens to disseminate messages of peace throughout the electoral period.

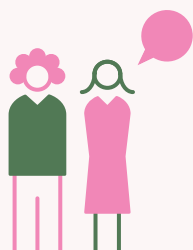
The team provided analytical and facilitation support for preventive diplomacy and good offices engagements which included a series of five regional dialogues convened by Ghana’s National Peace Council, for which the PDA team coordinated engagements by the UNCT, UNOWAS, and DPPA. Through advocacy and technical support, the PDA team also promoted the representation and active participation of women and youth groups in the discussions. The dialogues played a pivotal role in fostering trust among political actors, helping to prepare the ground for the **signing of the Presidential Elections Peace Pact by all candidates** and parties ahead of the polls.



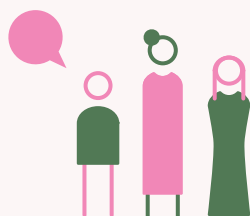
# PDA's enhanced inclusion in prevention and peace efforts

Promoting inclusivity in nationally led prevention and peace efforts is at the heart of the Joint Programme. PDAs provide wide ranging support to elevate the voices, experiences, priorities and aspirations of women and young people as well as indigenous groups and other under-represented

communities in peacebuilding. They deliver capacity building support and accompaniment, advise on national policies for greater inclusion, and support mechanisms for dialogue and consensus building among diverse groups of actors in society.



In 2024,  
**PDA's**  
made a focused effort to enhance the participation  
of women in peace initiatives in  
**51 countries**



**PDA's**  
made a focused effort to enhance the participation of  
young people in peace initiatives in  
**47 countries**



## How PDAs enhance inclusion in prevention and peace efforts

### Delivering capacity building support and accompaniment

In **Benin**, the PDA supported the establishment of the **Benin National Youth Coalition**, expanding opportunities for youth-led peacebuilding initiatives. In **Guinea**, the PDA strengthened the capacities of the newly established **National Youth Council**, through training in conflict resolution. In **Kenya, Moldova, and Tunisia**, PDAs supported **women mediators' networks and dialogues**, reinforcing their capacity to engage in conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

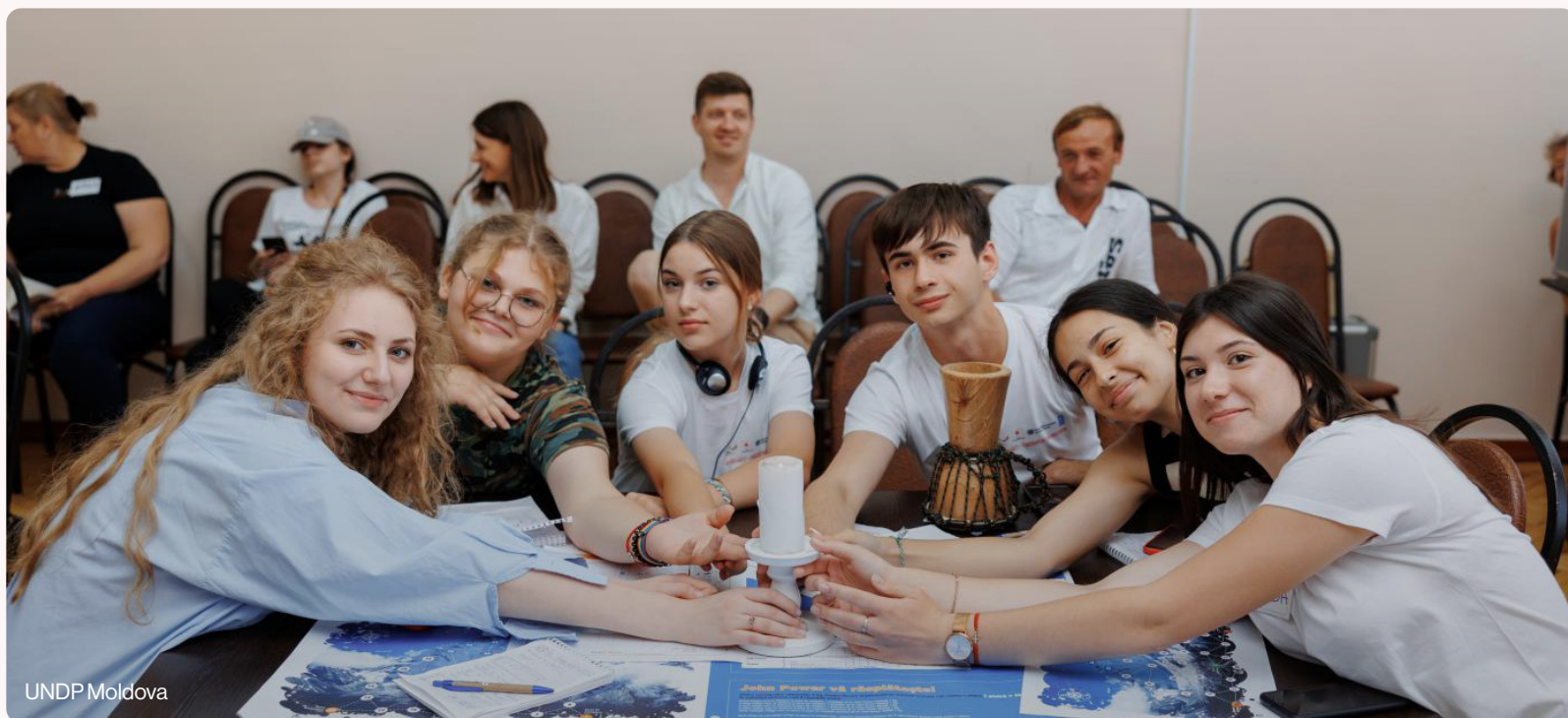
### Supporting platforms for networking, collaboration, and dialogue

In **Ukraine**, the PDA provided essential support for convening the Women's Regional Dialogue in Kharkiv, bringing women's groups together to identify key recovery priorities, and formulate policy recommendations for greater inclusion of women in Ukraine's recovery. In **Suriname** the PDO supported platforms for dialogue and collaboration between the

government, the UN, and indigenous and tribal peoples, as part of the Leave No One Behind joint programme. In **Armenia, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, and Kenya**, PDAs promoted youth participation in consultative forums, where young people could contribute to policy discussions.

### Advising on national policies and strategies for greater inclusion

PDAs supported the development of **Women, Peace and Security (WPS) national action plans in Bolivia, Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago and Zimbabwe**. In **Chad**, the PDA provided technical support to the Ministry of Youth in developing the country's first national **Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) strategy**, convening government, civil society, and youth networks to ensure inclusive policy discussions. In **Georgia**, sustained advocacy by the PDA and the UN Resident Coordinator contributed to the Ministry of Education including a dedicated YPS chapter in the National Youth Strategy, strengthening institutional support for youth engagement in peacebuilding.



UNDP Moldova



# Guatemala

Through policy advice and facilitating platforms for dialogue and collaboration, PDA-led initiatives in Guatemala have helped ensure that the priorities of women, young people, and indigenous groups shape the country's path towards lasting peace and development.

With some of the highest rates of gender-based violence in the region, supporting the prevention of violence against women and girls has been a key priority. The PDA's analysis and advocacy has enhanced the UN and national actors' understanding of links between patterns of violence against women and the unresolved legacies of the country's internal conflict, contributing Guatemala's National Security Council's recognition of violence against women as a key security priority.

The PDA also led efforts to develop and strengthen platforms for dialogue and collaboration among groups often under-represented in policy debates. The PDA and DPPA's Innovation Cell co-designed Guatemala Joven Conversa, in partnership with the civil society organization Fundación Esquipulas. This initiative brought together almost 1,000 young people from all 22 departments of Guatemala in a series of AI-powered digital dialogues. A majority—64%—of participants were women and 42% self-identified as indigenous. These dialogues offered an interactive platform for young people to voice their concerns, ambitions and solutions relating to pressing governance issues, including corruption and electoral reforms. Insights from the dialogues informed the development of Guatemala's **forthcoming National Youth Policy** and planned legal reforms to increase youth representation in local development councils.

Indigenous peoples make up almost half of Guatemala's population. The PDA has supported regular dialogues between indigenous authorities and the UN. These exchanges have informed a national agenda for indigenous rights and autonomy that is being discussed by the indigenous authorities with the government. While the government and indigenous stakeholders are steering the process, the UN, through the PDA, continues to provide technical support.

As initiatives like Guatemala Joven Conversa demonstrate, women, youth and indigenous peoples are keen to participate in and shape national agendas but still face barriers. By fostering spaces for dialogue, trust-building, and joint action, PDA-supported initiatives are amplifying their voices in national political discourse—contributing to a more resilient civic space and more inclusive peacebuilding processes.









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# Kenya

As Kenya continues to advance its peacebuilding agenda, successive PDA teams have supported the strengthening of inclusive national peace infrastructures that reflect the needs of diverse groups and adapt to evolving challenges.

With nearly 80% of the population under 35, Kenya's youth represent a powerful force for change—as demonstrated during the mass 'GenZ' protests of 2024. The PDA team has played a critical role in amplifying young people's voices in national peace and development efforts. During preparations for the UN Summit of the Future in September 2024, the PDA team partnered with the UN Futures Lab and Shujaaaz Inc.—a network of social ventures across Kenya—to conduct foresight consultations, inviting Kenyan youth to envision their future and their aspirations for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This initiative mobilized five million young Kenyans through cyber cafes and social media, culminating in 5,000 'letters to the future' generated during 'Letter-writing Parties.'

As the GenZ protests unfolded, this initiative became a vital tool for understanding and connecting with the aspirations of Kenya's young people. It culminated in the creation of a **Youth Foresight Report**, which documented the hopes, priorities and recommendations of a diverse group of young people. Recognizing the need for more sustained youth engagement, the PDA team spearheaded the design of 'zKe'—a platform providing both digital and physical spaces for young people to engage

in policy debates, monitor government actions, and contribute to policy development. In its initial phase, young people from across Kenya were invited to collaborate in shaping the platform's vision and strategy for promoting youth-led dialogue and initiatives.

The PDA team has also supported efforts to enhance women's leadership in peacebuilding. In partnership with the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya and UN Women, the PDA team helped strengthen the capacity of the **Women Mediation Network** and the **National Peace and Mediation Team**. Over 250 young women received training in mediation at the national level and in three hotspot counties, contributing to the development of four mediation action plans in Lamu by women community leaders, and the acceptance of two women members in the Wajir County Peace Committee.

“Sustaining peace is the indispensable foundation for UN support to countries pursuing the SDGs – and consequently, the expertise and engagement of PDAs under the Joint Programme is simply vital for Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams.”

Stephen Jackson, UN Resident Coordinator in Kenya













# Outcome 2

## Enhancing UN prevention analysis, strategies and responses

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The Joint Programme's second outcome area focuses on strengthening **conflict-sensitive UN strategies and programmes**, leveraging the analytical, programmatic, and cross-pillar coordination expertise of PDAs. Through their support, UN prevention and peacebuilding efforts are made more **risk-informed and responsive to local contexts**, which enhances both effectiveness and long-term impact.

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A main added value of PDAs is their **timely, context-specific analysis**, which helps guide UN engagement overall and strengthens the relevance, conflict sensitivity, and strategic direction of UN programming. Drawing on deep contextual knowledge and political insight, PDAs provide **gender-responsive and cross-cutting analysis** of political, social, and conflict dynamics. They lead and contribute to key analytical processes such as the **UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)**, **CCA**, and **UNCT conflict prevention strategies**. By advising on programme design, facilitating inter-agency coordination, and linking humanitarian, human rights, peacebuilding, and development work, PDAs help drive **cohesive, impactful programming** across the UN system.

In 2024, PDAs led or supported conflict analysis and CCAs in all countries where they were deployed. They supported inter-agency and cross-pillar collaboration across the HDP nexus in 32 countries, including in **Chad, Colombia** and **Myanmar**. They contributed to the development and operationalization of Crisis Risk Dashboards (CRDs), a UNDP platform to analyse multidimensional risks and enable evidence-based prevention and sustaining peace efforts.

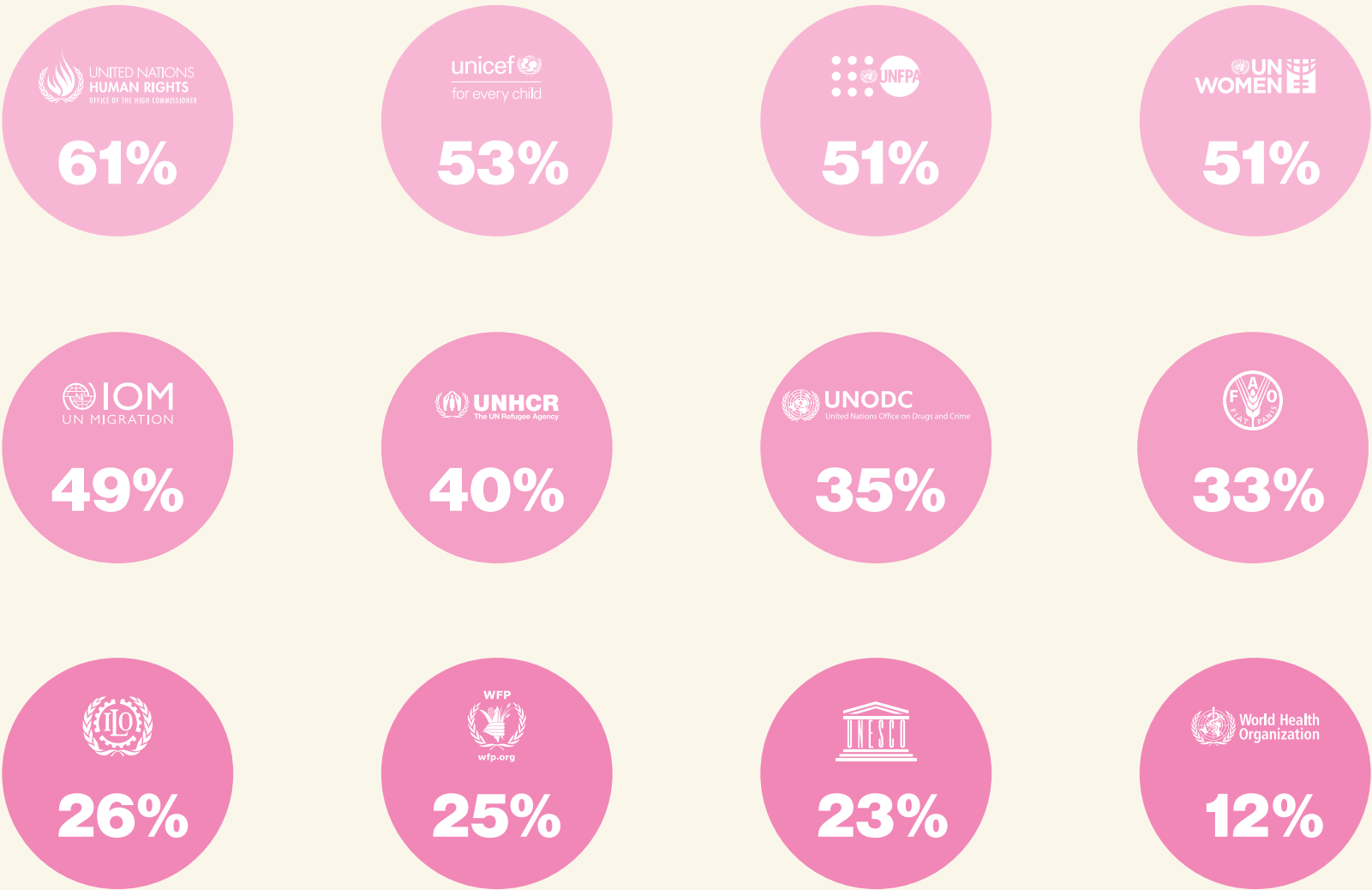
In **Kyrgyzstan** and **Papua New Guinea**, PDA advice and analysis supported UN programming engagements addressing the linkages between climate, peace and security. In **Eswatini, Honduras** and **Sri Lanka** PDAs supported the development of early warning mechanisms and integrated data platforms to anticipate and respond to emerging risks. In **Bangladesh** and the **Maldives**, PDA teams supported UNCT-wide strategic foresight exercises, aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of evolving contexts and trends.

“ *Having a PDA team in place makes a real difference, bringing invaluable analytic expertise that strengthens UNDP’s strategic programming approaches in the Maldives. With a strong grip on country context, including macro-economic indicators, they seamlessly complement the work of our Economist and Governance teams, providing crucial insights that make them an essential asset in shaping our engagement.* ”

Enrico Gaveglia, UNDP Resident Representative in the Maldives



# Top UN entities supported by PDAs\*



\*Percentage of PDAs that reported supporting the UN entities listed, outside of UNDP and DPPA



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# The Caribbean

## Advancing an evidence-based approach to violence prevention

In a region where security-oriented responses have traditionally been at the forefront, PDA-led initiatives are helping shift the focus toward evidence-based, preventive approaches that address the underlying societal drivers of violence in all its forms.

Since 2021, successive PDAs have spearheaded the development of a **Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index (SCORE)**, covering **seven Caribbean countries**, in collaboration with the **Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development**. Finalized in 2024, the SCORE Index offers a robust dataset and predictive models that identify key drivers of conflict and social cohesion across both national and subregional contexts.

The introduction of the SCORE Index has catalyzed a new regional conversation on violence prevention. The PDA has led discussions in more than **50 forums** involving government officials, UN actors, international financial institutions, the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**, academia, and development partners. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, the PDA and UNDP co-led the **“We Ting” Community Caravan**, which engaged **seven communities across the country** in grassroots dialogues on peace, gender, and social cohesion, using SCORE findings as a basis for community-level reflection and discussion.

The SCORE findings have spotlighted **resilience factors** such as institutional trust, inter-group harmony, cultural dynamics, mental health, family relationships, and economic dignity—highlighting their critical role in reducing violence. These insights have provided UNCTs and agencies across the Caribbean with an **evidence-based foundation** to design more targeted and context-sensitive prevention programmes.

Building on this momentum, and in collaboration with CARICOM, the PDA is now leading efforts to **monitor resilience and risk factors** related to violence. This initiative supports more effective tracking of prevention outcomes and aims to quantify the **cost benefits of investing in prevention**, shifting the narrative from reaction to long-term risk reduction.

The PDA continues to play a strategic advisory and convening role, fostering collaboration across **national governments, regional organizations, and the UN system**. In 2025, **Trinidad and Tobago launched the Caribbean’s first national action plan on WPS**, with technical support from the PDA and UN Women. Drawing on SCORE data, the PDA is also supporting UN Women-led efforts to develop WPS national action plans in **Guyana, Jamaica, and Barbados**.

Working with UNCTs and RCOs, the PDA is advancing the development of a **regional conflict prevention strategy** aligned with CARICOM’s ambition to adopt a **public health approach to crime and violence**. This strategy will be grounded in empirical evidence, informed by regional expertise—including CARICOM, academia, and the UN—and strengthened by nationally driven initiatives such as WPS national action plans. With PDA support, prevention is being reframed as a **proactive, long-term investment** in peace and resilience, rather than a reactive security measure.





PDO Caribbean facilitating the 'Have Yuh Say' corner as part of the UNDP Trinidad and Tobago 'We Ting' Community Caravan



# Georgia

## Enabling agile and adaptive UN engagement in a dynamic context

In the context of the 2024 parliamentary elections in Georgia, the PDA team played a critical role in supporting agile and responsive UN engagement during a period of heightened tensions. The team's adaptive approach—anchored in timely analysis, strategic advice, continuous dialogue, and programmatic support—helped the UN navigate the evolving context and mitigate risks of political polarization during a sensitive electoral period.



UNDP Georgia

Prior to the elections, the PDA team had led efforts to deepen understanding of polarization in Georgian society, producing a widely circulated analysis on *The Nature of Polarization in Georgia and Its Interplay with Official Development Assistance*. Recognizing the importance of civic engagement in a polarized environment, the PDA team in close collaboration with UNDP, UN Women, and OHCHR, developed a project to strengthen inclusive participation in elections. Through voter education, the project successfully engaged and mobilised large numbers of first-time voters, youth, women, minorities, and persons with disabilities. The PDA team's analysis was instrumental in securing funding for the initiative, and the team continued to advise the project's Steering Committee through the implementation period.

Throughout this period, the PDA team's analysis and facilitation support strengthened the UN's ability to provide a trusted and impartial platform, creating space for constructive engagement among political actors, including party leaders and the diplomatic community. With PDA support, the Resident Coordinator convened a series of dialogues involving political parties, the Central Election Commission, and bilateral and international actors, to build mutual understanding of electoral priorities and conditions. In the politically sensitive post-election context, the PDA team has continued to support the UN's role in supporting dialogue amongst various stakeholders on issues of concern.



# Chad

## Strengthening UN engagement on peace and resilience

The PDA team's analysis, technical assistance, and coordination have significantly strengthened the coherence of UN support to peace consolidation in Chad—aligning initiatives on prevention, political dialogue, national reconciliation, social cohesion, and transitional justice. The team played a key role in shaping the UN's strategy to stabilize Chad's eastern provinces, aiming to prevent the spillover of violence from Sudan and bolster the resilience of local communities.



The team's analysis and strategic advice contributed to the scaling up of prevention-related programming, including the design of a joint programme to promote stabilization and resilience in the eastern provinces of Wadi Fira, Ouaddaï, and Sila, and the development of PBF-supported initiatives to foster social cohesion among host communities, returnees, and refugees. The support also helped create conditions for DDR in line with the Doha Peace Agreement.

The PDA team also provided critical support to the Chad Emergency Task Force led by the UN Deputy Secretary-General, ensuring timely coordination and strategic alignment across the UN system. Contributing to sustained investment in Chad's peace infrastructure, the team supported the country's successful application for PBF re-eligibility, helping secure USD 7 million in funding to strengthen national peace architectures and improve natural resource management in the face of growing climate-change related insecurity.

The PDA team continues to offer technical leadership to the UN's joint programme aimed at building the institutional capacity of the Office of the General Mediator (Médiateur de la République)- supporting Chad's long-term conflict prevention and resolution efforts.



# Supporting UN response to crises

In 2024, PDAs played a pivotal role in informing the UN's engagement in a number of crisis-affected contexts through political analysis, risk assessment, and strategic planning, enhancing cross-pillar coordination and working effectively across the HDP nexus. PDA analysis informed senior UN leadership and shaped UN decision-making processes such as the Regional Monthly Reviews (RMRs). By facilitating joint, inter-agency analytical processes, PDAs helped foster a shared understanding of conflict dynamics, aligning political and programmatic strategies and identifying timely entry points for engagement.

## ○ Haiti

Working in close collaboration with the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), the PDA team provided analytical and advisory support that enhanced the coherence, agility, and responsiveness of UN engagement in a highly volatile political environment. The team facilitated analytical processes to develop a unified UN approach in support of Haiti's transitional authorities and their stabilization efforts, while also guiding the adaptation of the CCA to reflect rapidly evolving conditions on the ground.

The team's political analysis also helped inform the strategies of key international development partners, including the **World Bank-led Rapid Crisis Impact Assessment**, contributing to a more coordinated and risk-informed international response.

supported the rollout of a Peer Review Mechanism and developed a risk library to facilitate operational planning in hard-to-reach areas.

The team has worked with agencies to pursue more localized, conflict-sensitive approaches, particularly in contested areas. As Technical Co-Chair of the Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting, the PDA helped revitalize cross-UN engagement on Children and Armed Conflict issues, leading to the successful negotiation for the release of over 90 persons recruited as children from military service, a milestone in protection efforts.

## ○ Myanmar

In Myanmar, the PDA team has played a central role in helping the UN navigate complex and rapidly evolving risks while maintaining principled engagement in a highly volatile political environment. Working closely with the Office of the Special Envoy and the UNCT, the team developed forward-looking conflict scenarios to inform strategic planning and contributed to the drafting of a **Transitional Cooperation Framework**, aligning humanitarian and development priorities.

Through broad consultations with UN agencies, civil society, and development partners, the PDA team led the revision of the **UNCT Engagement Guidelines**—a cornerstone of risk-informed decision-making in a violently contested context. They also



UN leadership South Sudan with PDA meeting Abyei Chief





## Sudan

Following the withdrawal of the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), the PDA team has provided critical support to recalibrate UN humanitarian, political, and development engagements. The team's political analysis and early warning have informed UN decision-making at both country and headquarters levels, helping to align Track 1 diplomacy with Track 3 community-level peace efforts.

The PDA team directly supports the engagements of the Office of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, through analysis, actor mapping, and media monitoring to inform diplomatic engagement and strategy. At the same time, the team has led efforts to identify and connect national and local networks, initiatives, and actors with the potential to contribute to peace and resilience. By mapping national peace architectures, strengthening engagement on WPS, and deepening the UN's understanding of local peacebuilding efforts, the PDA team has helped shape more coherent, inclusive, and contextually grounded UN engagement.



## Ukraine

In Ukraine, the PDA team has provided ongoing analysis, programmatic foresight, and advisory support to shape strategic UN engagement and ensure conflict-sensitive programming amid the ongoing war. The team's in-depth analysis of conflict dynamics, social cohesion, and women's political participation—drawing on multistakeholder and field-based consultations—has deepened understanding of major recovery and development issues in Ukraine.

To help ensure that recovery and peacebuilding programming reflects the needs and priorities of affected populations, the PDA team has convened a series of sub-national dialogues with communities directly impacted by the conflict. These dialogues have engaged a wide range of stakeholders, including women and youth organizations, veterans' groups, and local authorities, fostering more inclusive and locally driven approaches.

Working closely with other UN agencies and the RCO Gender Advisor, the PDA has facilitated continuous dialogue and partnership building for catalysing gender-responsive recovery. In 2024, these efforts included support for the Women's Regional Dialogue in Kharkiv that brought together affected women's groups, volunteers and front-line responders and regional authorities in the Eastern Ukraine to identify key recovery priorities, needs, and gender-responsive solutions.



PDA Ukraine consultation with civil society in Odessa



# PDA's supported UN engagement and programming on migration and its links to peace and development

PDA's supported national and UN efforts to address migration issues in **34 countries** in 2024.

In **Ethiopia**, the PDA contributed to UN-wide engagement on human mobility issues, such as the Regional Migrant Response Plan, by supporting analysis on the drivers of migration and advancing HDP nexus approaches. In **Equatorial Guinea**, the PDA under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator collaborated with national authorities, UNHCR, UNICEF, and the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Africa, to support high-level dialogues on the development of a formal national mechanism for processing asylum applications, with the aim of strengthening national migration governance. In **Togo**, the PDA supported UNICEF and UNODC in the development of a cross-border programme with Gabon to combat irregular migration and human trafficking.

In **Egypt**, the PDA has facilitated more coordinated, inclusive, and impactful UN support for migrants, refugees, and host communities under the Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees, a joint initiative of the Government of Egypt and the UN. Providing strategic advice, technical expertise, and operational support, the PDA worked closely with UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF and WHO to deliver coordinated assistance to host communities and populations displaced by crises, including from Sudan. The PDA has led in-depth contextual analysis, including through close consultations with women and youth, to guide UN programming for over one million migrants and refugees, focusing on access to services, food security, human rights, and social cohesion. By promoting an area-based approach targeting neighbourhoods with high concentrations of migrant populations, the PDA has helped shape more locally grounded, inclusive, and targeted UN support.



**PDA's**  
supported national and  
UN efforts to address  
migration issues in  
**34 countries**



**PDA's**  
enhanced conflict  
sensitivity in UN  
programming in  
**57 countries**



# PDAs designed and supported UN peacebuilding programming

PDAs enable UNCTs to deliver timely, relevant and effective programming that addresses conflict risks and leverages opportunities to strengthen peacebuilding efforts in complex and dynamic contexts. Equipped to respond across a wide spectrum of needs, PDA teams facilitate programme design and operationalization, provide high-quality and timely analysis to inform programming approaches, and serve as a connector for inter-agency and cross-pillar work.

Through capacity building and guidance for UNCTs, PDAs enhanced conflict sensitivity in UN programming in 57 countries, such as **Armenia, Guinea, and Kyrgyzstan**. PDA teams in **El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras** helped design programming by UNDP and FAO on managing cross-border water conflicts. PDAs advised and supported UNDP programming on community violence reduction in **Haiti**; on empowering

bike riders as agents of peace in **Sierra Leone**; and on strengthening social cohesion in **Venezuela**. PDAs supported UNCTs in integrating the Sustaining Peace Marker—an indicator that tracks the extent to which programme activities contribute to peacebuilding outcomes—into programming frameworks in **Bolivia, Moldova, and Nigeria**.

PDAs worked on PBF processes in all countries where PBF initiatives were ongoing, including on programme design and quality assurance. They supported applications for PBF eligibility in **Congo, Georgia, and The Gambia**. Their involvement in conflict-sensitive programming aided the implementation of PBF projects, including on peace infrastructures in **Kyrgyzstan**, and social dialogue for peace and conflict prevention in **Sri Lanka**.





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# Papua New Guinea

## Shaping the Future of the Highlands Joint Programme

In Papua New Guinea, the PDA team has played a leading role in shaping the second phase of the Highlands Joint Programme (HJP) — a multi-agency initiative focused on reducing violence and strengthening community resilience in the Southern Highlands and Hela provinces. Working closely with implementing agencies, the PDA team led consultations with key government and international partners, steered inter-agency collaboration, and ensured the programme's alignment with national prevention priorities.

Following the conclusion of the HJP's first phase in 2024, the PDA team facilitated a comprehensive planning process for the next phase, bringing together UNDP (the lead agency) and eight other UN entities. The team coordinated technical inputs across the UNCT, helped build consensus on programme priorities, and identified synergies across mandates. This process was grounded in continuous dialogue with national and provincial authorities, civil society, and community organizations, ensuring that the programme reflects local needs and realities. Analytical work and field missions to the Highlands regions, facilitated by the PDA team, brought a more comprehensive understanding of the region's evolving conflict dynamics, peacebuilding needs, and strategic opportunities, shaping the orientation of the new phase.

In parallel, the PDA worked with key government counterparts, the World Bank, and the International Finance Corporation to align the HJP with Papua New Guinea's National Prevention Strategy, adopted in 2025. This alignment helped unlock an annual USD 70 million PRA from the World Bank to support peacebuilding efforts nationwide. PDA advice and technical assistance have positioned the HJP as a key vehicle for delivering on the national strategy, with potential for expansion through PRA resources.

Drawing on lessons from the first phase and extensive consultations, the 2025–2028 phase of the HJP centres on community empowerment, peacebuilding and social cohesion, and climate change adaptation. Implemented jointly by IOM, FAO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and UN Women, the programme aims to strengthen local peace infrastructures, prevent gender-based violence, and promote inclusive, conflict-sensitive development planning. With PDA coordination, the programme secured USD 3 million in PBF support, with continued resource mobilization efforts underway.







# PDAs supported UNCTs in addressing emerging risks

Addressing climate-related risks to peace and security



In 2024, PDAs supported UN programming to address climate-related security and conflict risks in **33 countries**. PDAs identify entry points and opportunities for programming through climate risk analysis, support inter-agency collaboration on climate, peace and security programming, and promote regional cooperation to address climate security risks.

## Informing UN Programming through climate risk analysis

In **Nigeria**, the PDA team has played a pivotal role in embedding climate risk analysis into UN frameworks and programming, including in the CCA and the UNSDCF. The team's analysis and advocacy led to the establishment of the first ever climate, peace and security output area under the Peace and Security pillar of the UNSDCF. Their advisory support has enhanced PBF programming for addressing climate-related conflict risks, including an initiative to promote human rights and access to justice in natural resource management in the Northwestern region. The PDA team supported IOM in the development of a transhumance tracking tool to anticipate and prevent farmer-herder conflicts along migration routes in the Northwest of the country, through a PBF initiative. In December 2024, the PDA team, DPPA and the Climate, Peace and Security Advisors in UNOWAS and UNOCA, supported the first field mission to Nigeria by members of the Informal Expert Group of members of the Security Council on Climate, Peace, and Security (CPS), which focused on assessing how climate change has impacted peace and security in the Lake Chad Basin.



In **Mauritania**, the PDA team has advanced the UN's engagement on climate-related security risks by coordinating joint conflict and climate risk analyses across UN entities. Their analysis has informed both the CCA and UNCT programming initiatives, including PBF programming on advancing multi-sectoral responses to natural resource tensions and a transboundary water and climate security initiative aimed at peacebuilding and enhancing social cohesion in the border areas of Mali, Mauritania, and Senegal. By facilitating inclusive consultations with local authorities and civil society, the PDA team has also strengthened community participation in natural resource management and the engagement of youth and women in designing local climate risk analyses.

### Promoting inclusive climate, peace and security initiatives

In **Equatorial Guinea**, the PDA partnered with the Ministry of Youth to host youth dialogues focused on SDG 13 (Climate Action), where 22 young leaders used peace and conflict impact assessment tools to assess the effects of climate change and identify ways to link climate action with peacebuilding. In **Guinea**, the PDA convened community dialogues, including with women and youth groups, on resolving conflicts over water resources in the Milo River in Upper Guinea. The dialogues paved the way for the establishment of a joint mechanism for protection and management of the Milo River. In **Kyrgyzstan** the PDA team led an inter-agency exercise to take stock and adapt an ongoing PBF-supported initiative, resulting in a greater focus on enhancing women's participation in addressing climate-related security risks and supporting local authorities and communities in the Batken province to design climate adaptation strategies.

### Fostering partnerships to advance climate security initiatives

The PDA for **Fiji and the Pacific (Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu)** has played a key role in strengthening regional partnerships to advance climate-security-focused advocacy and programming, working closely with the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Secretariat and other regional stakeholders. A major milestone was the PDA's facilitation of a high-level climate security dialogue in partnership with the PIF, bringing together UN agencies, civil society organizations, and policymakers. This engagement reinforced regional cooperation, fostering a joint commitment to climate-security-focused advocacy and programming. The PDA helped facilitate a youth dialogue with the UN Secretary-General on the sidelines of the PIF Leaders Meeting in the Kingdom of Tonga, ensuring young people had a platform to engage in a high-level discussion on climate change-related sea-level rise in the region. The PDA is providing ongoing support to strengthen youth advocacy on climate security, amplifying their voices in regional and global forums.



“ I want to record Fiji's gratitude to UNDP and DPPA for the effort that's being invested in the country. It is a national need, and the United Nations flag is flying higher today because of that.”

H.E. Filipo Tarakinikini, Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations



## Addressing and preventing hate speech and mis- and disinformation

In 2024, PDAs worked to address hate speech in **30 countries** and mis- and disinformation in **23 countries**.

They supported the development of UN strategies and actions plans on hate speech in **Armenia, Burundi, Kenya** and **Zambia**. In **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia**, PDA teams collaborated with the Office of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG) to develop context-specific UN action plans on hate speech, informing UN analysis, advocacy and programming in-country. In the **Maldives**, the PDA team partnered with the Maldives National University and its student body on the challenges of hate speech and disinformation in the digital sphere. The partnership offered a platform for dialogue on issues such as gendered hate speech and information integrity, and practical approaches for addressing them into undergraduate course materials.

In **Bangladesh**, the PDA team helped steer a strategic shift from preventing violent extremism to a more systemic approach, addressing the root causes of hate speech, and mis- and disinformation. In partnership with OSAPG, the team facilitated the development of the

UN Bangladesh Hate Speech Action Plan, enhancing coordination across UN agencies and informing programmatic interventions. The PDA team supported UNESCO and the Bangladesh Community Radio Association in capacitating journalists and youth actors to identify hate speech and counter harmful narratives.

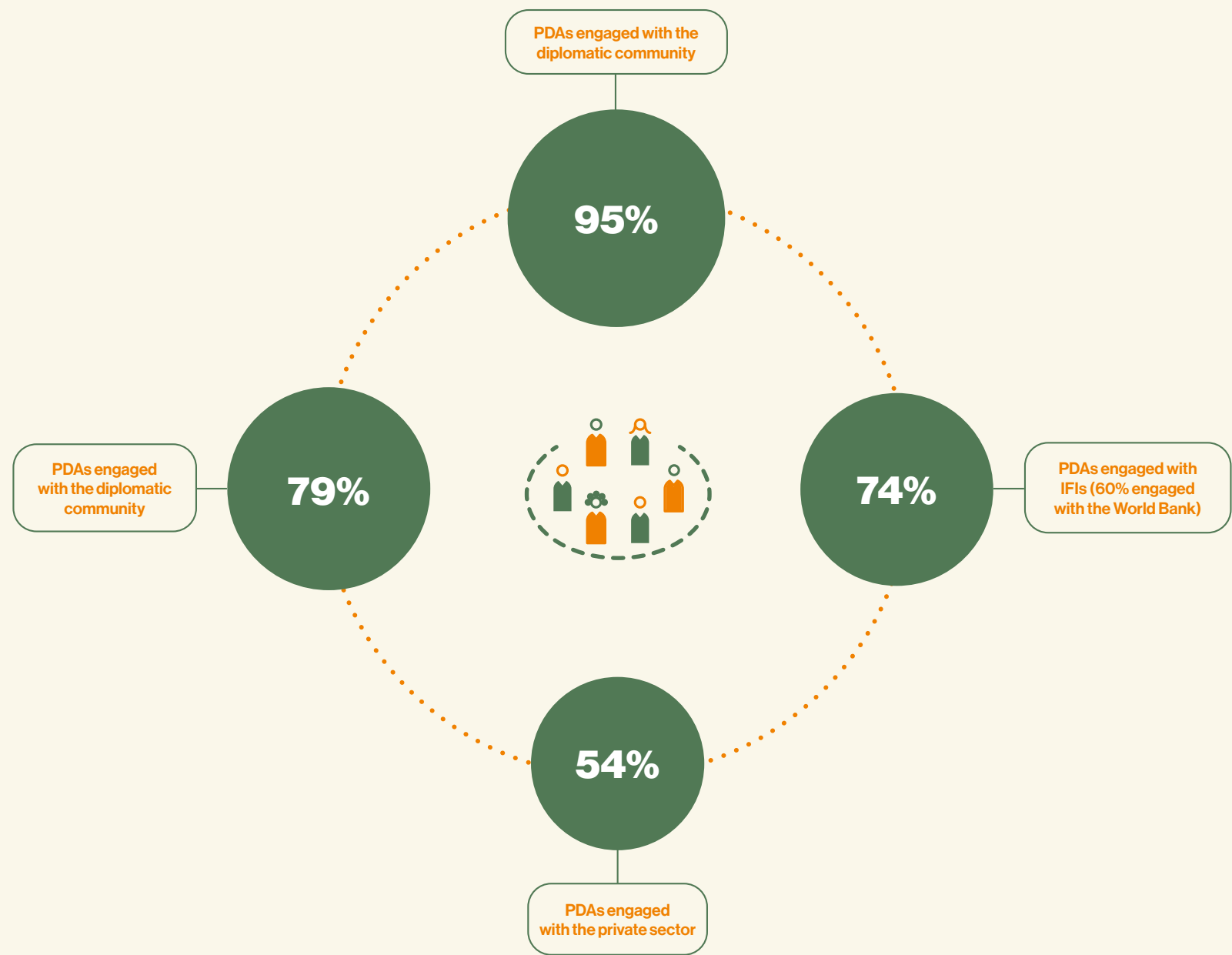
In the lead up to the 2024 presidential elections in **Venezuela**, the PDA team established and facilitated dialogues with civil society groups for exchanging best practices, deepening understanding, and identifying challenges and opportunities for addressing hate speech. Through these exchanges, these groups developed a shared work plan for strengthening community engagement, including through 'comidas de paz' (peace meals), to promote peaceful coexistence. This initiative contributed to enhancing community ties, fostering solidarity, addressing hate speech, and promoted a broader discourse on peace and coexistence in Venezuela.





# PDAs strengthened UN partnerships for prevention and peacebuilding

In 2024:





## Partnerships with International Financial Institutions

PDAAs strengthen the UN partnerships with IFIs in multiple ways, including by developing joint analysis, identifying opportunities for collaboration, and reinforcing working relationships on the ground. These engagements have improved coordination, complementarity and strategic alignment between the UN and IFIs. In 2024, 74% of PDAs engaged with IFIs, primarily with the World Bank.

PDAAs have played essential roles in supporting governments to access and effectively utilize Prevention and Resilience Allocation (PRA) financing from the World Bank. They support national counterparts in meeting eligibility requirements, particularly for the development of national prevention strategies, by providing rigorous analysis, facilitating coordination across actors, and offering targeted technical assistance. In **Mauritania** and **Papua New Guinea**, PDAs have closely supported processes to develop national prevention strategies, convening key stakeholders across government and civil society, and aligning UN and World Bank support. Their efforts have been instrumental in fulfilling PRA eligibility requirements and channeling international financing for nationally driven prevention efforts. In **Chad**, the PDA team provided essential analytical support for the Annual Review of the PRA, which informs the country's continued eligibility for financing to advance prevention efforts.

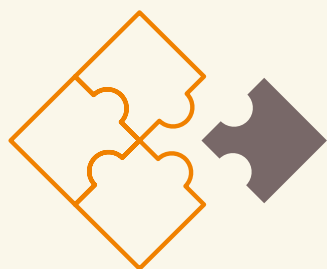
PDA teams engaged with IFIs to exchange analysis and better align strategies and programming in **Honduras, Guinea, Myanmar, and Sierra Leone**. In **Bangladesh**, the PDA team closely supported and facilitated Fragility and Conflict Assessment missions by the Asian Development Bank. In **Jordan** and **Cameroon**, PDA-led collaboration with the World Bank has contributed to shared understanding of prevention issues and stronger alignment between UNCT prevention strategies and World Bank fragility, conflict and violence engagements.

In **The Gambia**, the PDA team led ongoing joint UN-World Bank analytical processes, including an update to The Gambia's Conflict and Development Analysis. In **Burundi**, the PDA team continued to facilitate a longstanding UN partnership with the World Bank in support of the country's Peace Capitalization Strategy and collaborated on joint analysis with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

## Diplomatic community engagement

PDAAs play a key role in fostering collaboration between the UN and international diplomatic and development partners, contributing to more coordinated, strategic, and unified efforts to sustain peace. Depending on the context, PDAs facilitate a range of engagements—such as convening dialogue platforms and supporting high-level coordination—to align international support behind nationally led prevention and peacebuilding priorities.

In many settings, PDA analysis and convening power have deepened cooperation among partners on shared priorities. In **Ukraine**, PDA-led analysis and coordination have helped strengthen collaboration among international partners through the Head of Cooperation Group, co-chaired by the UN and the European Union Delegation.



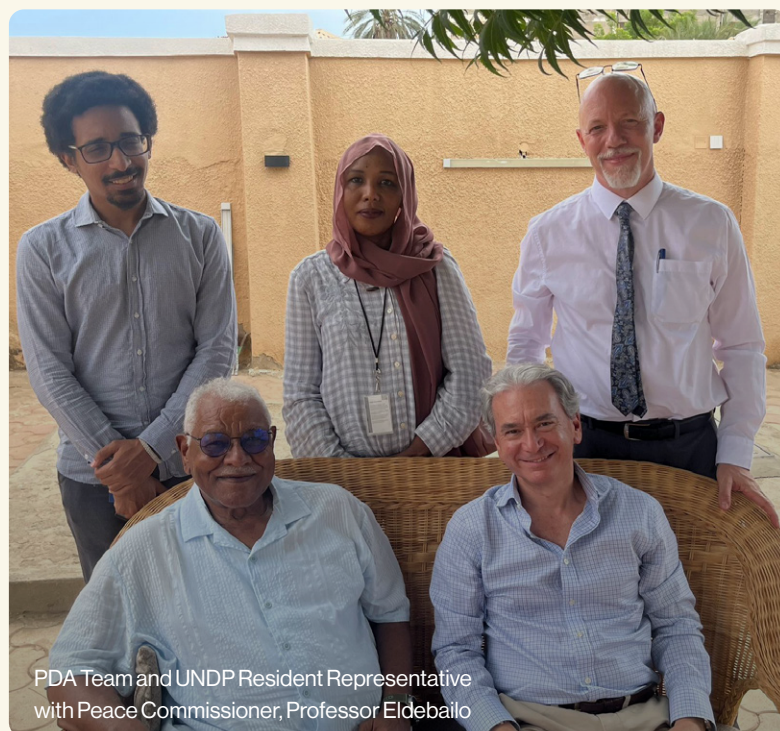
In 2024,  
**PDAAs**  
supported national and UN-IFI partnerships in  
**41 countries**



In **Niger** and **Sudan**, PDA teams have actively engaged the diplomatic community to share analysis and identify synergies in support of national peace efforts. In **Chad**, the PDA team helped initiate dialogue with the diplomatic community—particularly with Germany—leading to the creation of the **Nexus Funding Facility**, which supports integrated peace and development programming. PDA risk monitoring and political analysis have also informed diplomatic efforts in complex environments, including in **Equatorial Guinea, Honduras, Moldova, and Venezuela**.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the PDA supported the creation of a **Peacebuilding Steering Committee**, co-chaired by the Resident Coordinator and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, bringing together diplomats, civil society leaders, and regional organizations to advance reconciliation and transitional justice. In **Cambodia**, the PDA contributed to the **SDG–Human Rights Dialogue**, a platform linking the UN Country Team and the diplomatic corps to address peace and development concerns such as trafficking, hate speech, and genocide education. In the **Maldives**, the PDA team co-facilitated a Heads of Mission Dialogue as part of the UN's Strategic Foresight Exercise, which focused on joint advocacy for preventing violent extremism. In **Georgia**, the PDA continued to convene the **Joint Consultative Forum (JCF)** to promote strategic dialogue and collaboration between international partners and UN agencies.

Through these efforts, PDAs help ensure that international engagement is not only coordinated and conflict-sensitive, but also aligned with national priorities and local realities.



“ *By bringing national and local government representatives together with civil society, the UN system, international financial institutions, and the diplomatic corps, [PDAs] build a community to foster and sustain peace. They are the linchpin that connects nationally led processes with the international community.*”

H.E. Katja Keul, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany

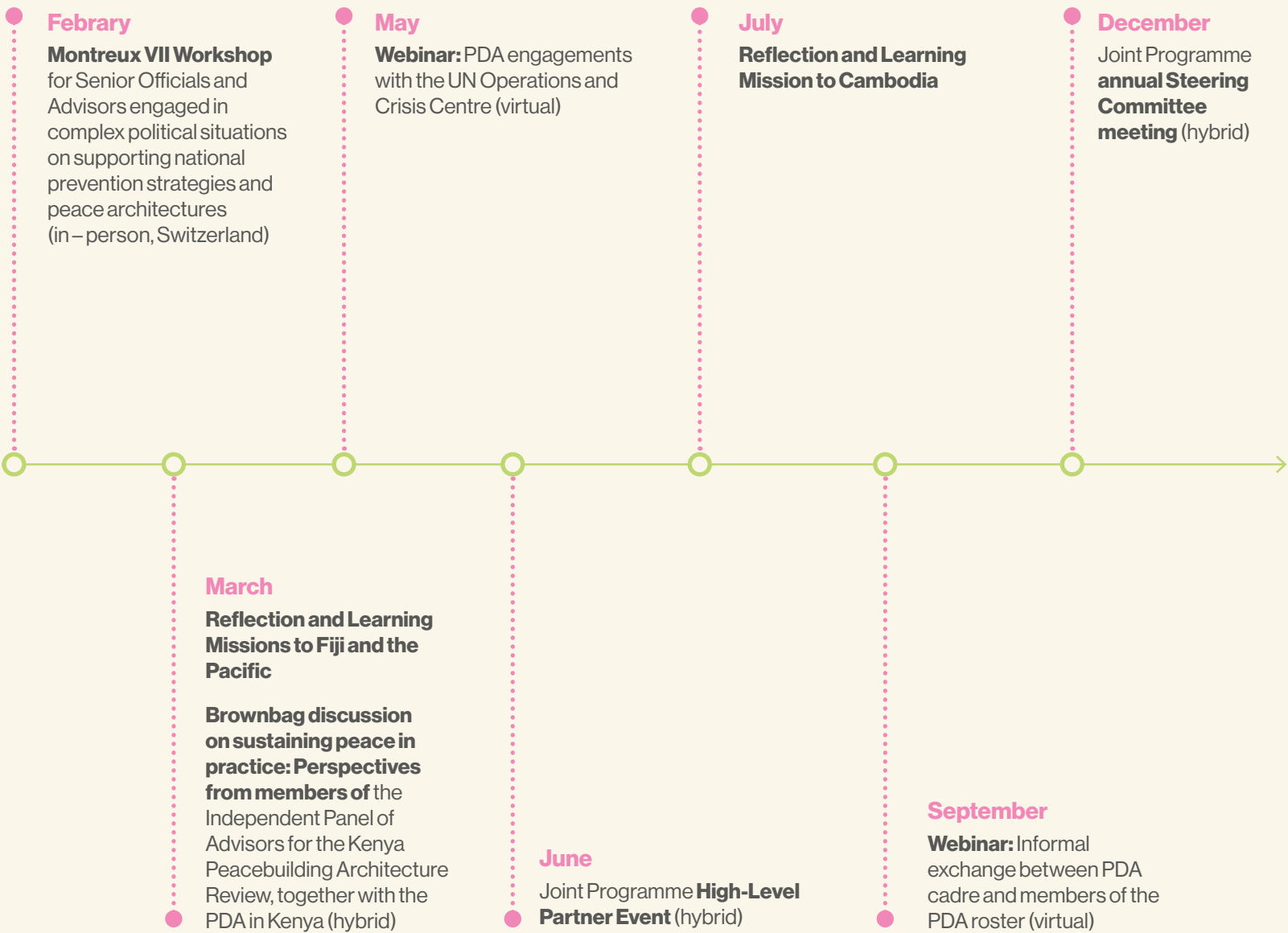




Participants at the Montreux VII Workshop



# 2024 Events





# PDAs and national actors: driving prevention together



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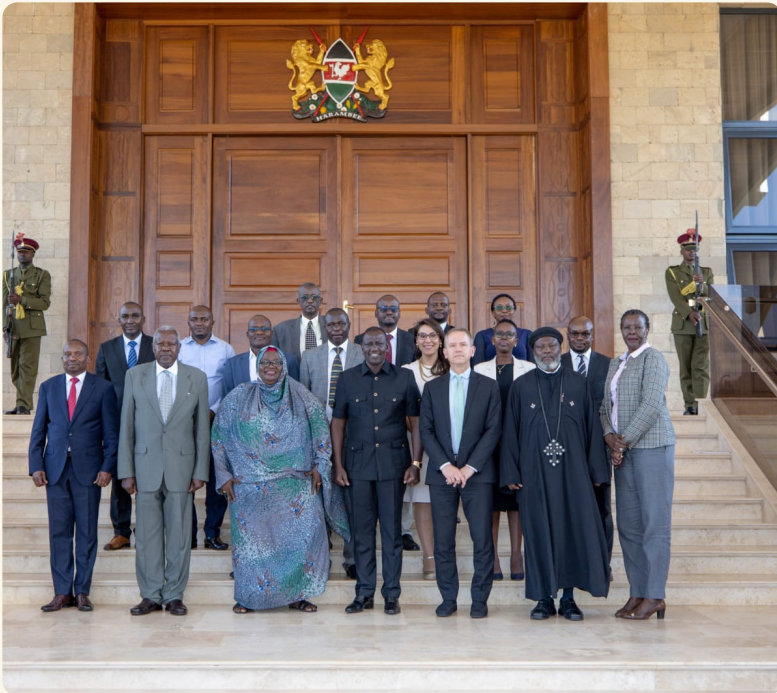


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- 1 PDO **Cambodia** engaging with civil society actors in Mondulkiri province.
- 2 PDA **Ecuador** and OHCHR colleague meet with assemblywoman from Indigenous Party.
- 3 Resident Coordinator **Malawi** at the Joint Programme's High Level Partner Event 2024.
- 4 PDA **Kenya** joins the UN Resident Coordinator for the presentation of the Final Report of the Independent Panel of Advisors on Kenya's Peacebuilding Architecture Review to the President of Kenya
- 5 PDA **Guinea** participates in the technical validation of the PBF-supported conflict analysis and mapping study.
- 6 PDA and Resident Coordinator in **Zambia** with UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression.





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7 PDO **Mauritania** during a field visit for a climate, peace and security study to Hodh Chargui.

8 PDA Team and Resident Coordinator in **Angola** with the Minister of Family, Social Action and Women Promoion.



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# Acronyms

<b>BINUH</b>	United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti
<b>CCA</b>	Common Country Analysis
<b>CPS</b>	Climate, Peace, and Security
<b>CSO</b>	Civil society organization
<b>DDR</b>	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
<b>DDRR</b>	Disengagement, Dissociation, Reconciliation and Reintegration
<b>DPPA</b>	Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>HJP</b>	Highlands Joint Programme (Papua New Guinea)
<b>IFI</b>	International Financial Institution
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>IPCR</b>	Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (Nigeria)
<b>JCF</b>	Joint Consultative Forum (Georgia)
<b>LCBC</b>	Lake Chad Basin Commission
<b>NPC</b>	National Peace Committee (Nigeria)
<b>OHCHR</b>	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>OSAPG</b>	Office of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide
<b>OSPRE</b>	Office for Strategic Preparedness and Resilience (Nigeria)
<b>PBF</b>	Peacebuilding Fund
<b>PDA</b>	Peace and Development Advisor
<b>PDO</b>	Peace and Development Officer
<b>PIF</b>	Pacific Islands Forum

<b>PRA</b>	Prevention and Resilience Allocation
<b>RCO</b>	Resident Coordinator's Office
<b>RLM</b>	Reflection and Learning Mission
<b>RMR</b>	Regional Monthly Review
<b>RPS</b>	Regional Programme Specialist
<b>SCORE</b>	Social Cohesion and Reconciliation
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SRSg</b>	Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General
<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Country Team
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNHCR</b>	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNITAMS</b>	United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan
<b>UNOCA</b>	United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa
<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>UNOWAS</b>	UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel
<b>UNSDCF</b>	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
<b>UNV</b>	United Nations Volunteers
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WPS</b>	Women, Peace, and Security
<b>YPS</b>	Youth, Peace, and Security



# Thank you

The Joint Programme expresses its sincere gratitude to the Governments of Canada (Global Affairs Canada), Germany, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden (SIDA), Switzerland and the United Kingdom (UK Dev), as well as the European Union, for their generous financial support and meaningful engagement that enable the Programme's work. We also deeply appreciate the ongoing collaboration and valuable capacity contributions from the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) of Sweden, the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding, Germany's Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), and the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands.

The achievements showcased in this report would not have been possible without the inspiring and innovative efforts led by PDA teams around the world. The Joint Programme team extends its heartfelt thanks to all PDAs for their dedication and tireless commitment to advancing local, national, and regional initiatives to prevent conflict and sustain peace.



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