

PeaceNexus Foundation Strategy: 2018 – 2020

Executive Summary



PeaceNexus is a Swiss-based Foundation established in 2009 that provides a range of capacity building services with the objective of strengthening the effectiveness of organisations that play a role in building peace.

Our vision is of a world in which governments, civil society organisations and businesses contribute to developing inclusive and peaceful societies, including through their collective efforts to co-develop solutions and build trust.

Our mission is to strengthen the competencies and collaboration of organisations to increase their effectiveness and contribution to building peace.

PeaceNexus' 2018 – 2020 Strategy has three organisational **Objectives**:

1. **Organisational Development:** Helping peacebuilding champions become more effective

Some of our governmental, multilateral or NGO partners have a core peacebuilding mandate. We believe that if these partners have **systems and practices** in place **in key competency areas**, then their interventions will be delivered more effectively and they will achieve more relevant, inclusive and sustainable contributions to peace. Our support is tailored to each partner's needs and the context in which they are working, and aims to build organisational competencies that are particularly important for conflict transformation.

We provide our partners with a range of support through the services of organisational development professionals to strengthen leadership, including through coaching and training, and provide technical advice and mentoring.

Core competency areas we aim to strengthen:

Conflict Analysis: the systematic ability to understand the context and identify pathways to transform conflict drivers and to identify and mitigate conflict risks.

Direction: the ability to create strategies with strong organisational alignment around objectives and high levels of commitment and mutual accountability.

Collaboration: the ability to build relationships, facilitate multi-actor processes or to constructively engage in them for the purposes of influencing or problem solving.

Learning and Adaptation: the ability to adapt operations based on learning and innovation.

2. **Conflict Sensitivity:** Helping organisations working in conflict settings to be better able to contribute to peaceful change

We also work with non-governmental, governmental and business partners operating in conflict affected areas who work towards humanitarian, economic development or business objectives. These partners seek to maximise their contribution to preventing conflict and promoting social cohesion. We believe that if these partners have core **conflict analysis** and **learning and adaption** competencies, they will be better able to function in a way that reduces the risk of unintentionally exacerbating tensions and increase their impact on social cohesion. We also recognise that institutionalising these capacities requires strong **direction** and **collaboration**.

We provide our partners support to develop systems to better analyse the context they are working in, help them identify and respond to conflict risks, and to be more accountable and responsive to the communities they are working in and with.

3. **Inclusive Dialogue with Business:** Supporting collaborative solutions to local peacebuilding problems

Economic development has a high potential positive impact on peacebuilding, but it is also often a source of conflict. In complex contexts, these challenges cannot be resolved by a single actor, but require a collective response that brings companies, communities and governmental actors together. We believe that that if we strengthen the **quality of the process** and the **capacity of participants to engage in informed dialogue**, we will create the pre-conditions for participants to co-develop solutions and increase the sustainability of the decisions reached.

We provide our partners with facilitation, mediation and process design skills for convenors and facilitators. We help community representatives to engage in dialogue processes, to build stronger links with their constituencies and present their perspectives effectively, and support joint fact-finding research as part of a dispute resolution process. We advise national initiatives or international organisations who support multi-actor dialogue and dispute resolution processes.

Our Regions

We work with a mix of international partners and local partners in four regions of West Africa, Western Balkans, Central Asia and South-East Asia. All regions have a history of violent conflict and all remain fragile to re-lapse or new threats. At the same time we choose to work in places where we can add value. This means that the areas in which we work have a local ecosystem of committed organisations and that there is sufficient political space for them to play a meaningful role. We also choose areas that are under-served by donors and/or where we can fill a niche that complements the work of other actors. Two thirds of our projects are currently with local partners, and we expect this proportion to increase. From 2018 to 2020 we aim to have (had) 50 local and 25 international partnerships.

We work to strengthen the capacity of selected international organisations that have a strong peacebuilding impact in a number of fragile states and are well positioned to influence the policy of donors and multilateral organisations. We see these partnerships as critical to improving international support for local peacebuilding efforts.

The regional risks we aim to address:

In *West Africa*, we aim to support partners to reduce conflict risks associated with natural resources management, youth marginalisation and violent extremism, and to promote inclusive development and governance.

In the *Western Balkans* we aim to strengthen partners to counter the trends of fragmentation and exclusion and to mobilise support for inclusive development, reconciliation and regional initiatives.

In *Central Asia* we aim to support our partners to reduce the risks associated with inter-ethnic and cross-border tensions and violent extremism, and to promote transparent and inclusive governance.

In *South East Asia* we aim to ensure that key actors working on economic development in conflict-affected regions are able to do so in a way that is conflict sensitive and supports the peace processes.

Our organisational capacity

PeaceNexus is funded through an endowment which is invested according to ethical criteria and in line with our mission. We will be able to operate for over ten years with our current capital, and for longer with other financial support.

We maintain a core staff of 10 in Prangins, and will scale up to six local staff in regional offices by 2020. We also draw on a core team of associates and consultants that we work with in each of our competency and geographic areas.