BUILDING CAPACITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) – a specialized training agency of the United Nations – supports the (re-)establishment of peaceful, just and inclusive societies (SDG 16) by enabling individuals and organizations to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace.

With almost 60 years of experience in capacity building, we provide customized, creative and results-based learning solutions, carefully crafted for countries and communities emerging from conflict and facing specific development needs. At the core of our success is our specific methodology that allows for the creation of powerful and inspiring spaces, products and services (online and face-to-face) for high-quality learning and collaboration.

Our training programmes have mentoring and coaching as their key ingredients and promote participation, dialogue, local ownership and multiplication of knowledge for sustainable impact and behavioural change.

VISION AND MISSION

To build and enhance capacities in conflict and post-conflict contexts to create and (re)construct a "society for all", UNITAR supports stakeholders in addressing the root causes of conflicts and building mechanisms meant to accommodate the different social actors and ensure equal opportunities so every individual can achieve their full potential in life.

Our approach focuses on:

- South-South and triangular cooperation
- Gender mainstreaming
- Human rights mainstreaming
- Focus on impact on the ground

OUR SERVICES

- Training and facilitation
- Coaching & Mentoring
- Training of Trainers (ToT)
- E-learning & Online Facilitation
- Online Courses & Master Degrees
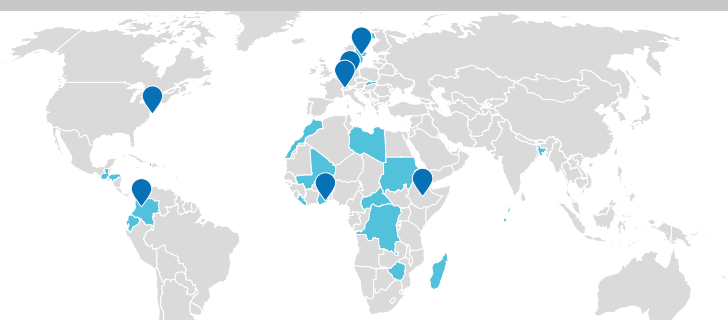- Advisory
- Advocacy
- Learning Support Materials

THEMATIC AREAS

- Recovery
- Community and individual resilience
- Stabilization and reconstruction – including Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)
- Weapons and Ammunition Management
- Economic and political recovery
- Mediation
- Violence prevention
- Early warning

2018-2019 IN NUMBERS

443
Beneficiaries

- Countries with implemented projects
- Donor and partner countries

Towards National Reconciliation in Libya. Network of Mediators Workshops (Phase II)

UNITAR is supporting UNDP to increase the impact of local Libyan mediation efforts by strengthening a Network composed of 125 local mediators from different regions. For that purpose, UNDP and UNITAR are developing and delivering a tailored training programme – composed of face-to-face trainings, educational videos and online participatory trainings - to build and develop the capacities of individual members of the Network and of the Network collectively.

Stabilization Facility for Libya – Stronger for Libya (SFL2) Output 3: Local Peace Structures and Conflict Management Capacity. Support to Libyan CSOs

The project seeks to support Libyan efforts to transition from the initial period of humanitarian relief towards mid- and long-term structural and sector-specific support. The intervention has been designed to strengthen national unity and reinforce state authorities for all Libyans. UNITAR is supporting UNDP in the delivery of Output 3 activities on Local Peace Structures and Conflict Management Capacity, which aim to enhance the capabilities of 32 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to provide and update expertise in conflict analysis, conflict mapping, conflict monitoring, conflict management, and conflict reduction to support the local peace structure.

Youth-led Peace and Reconciliation in Colombia: A Transformational Approach

The project Youth-led Peace and Reconciliation in Colombia: A Transformational Approach aims to enhance the capacity of youth to be peacemakers in their own lives and communities. The project includes three interrelated components: "Painting the Future" focuses on preventing the recruitment and re-recruitment of at-risk youth and supporting the reintegration of former child soldiers through the use of visual storytelling; "The Superhero's Journey" strengthens the capacity and agency of young people in marginalised communities; and "Perspectives of Peace" supports the reconciliation process in Colombian society through storytelling and historical memory building. In 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project was complemented by a fourth component - "Returning Home", designed specifically to address the challenges related to the global health crisis.

Effective Weapon and Ammunition Management in Changing DDR Context

Since 2018, UNITAR has been supporting the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO) and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in building capacities of DDR practitioners to increase effectiveness of arms control in DDR contexts, in the framework of the new UN Approach to DDR and the new challenges faced in current conflict contexts. In addition to the development and delivery of the annual blended training course, UNITAR also launched the WAM & DDR Hub, an online Community of Practice to connect WAM and DDR practitioners with specialists and experts for the exchange of resources, best practices and lessons learned, as well as to create a learning reinforcement mechanism for the training course participants.

UNITAR/BICC Advanced Online Training of Trainer Course on DDR

Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC) and UNITAR, in cooperation with the IAWG-DDR co-chairs, DPO and UNDP, are currently developing an online advanced/ training of trainers course on DDR. The course will build on an already existing UNITAR online course "The UN Approach to DDR". The first step of the training design consisted of a participatory online workshop involving DPO, UNDP, the AU, the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding, the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the Colombia Agencia para la Reincorporación y la Normalización, and International Alert.

COVID-19 and Conflict-Sensitive Communication in Libya

UNITAR supported UNDP Libya Communication Unit, WHO and the Government of Libya in improving the capacities of Libyan communication officers and representatives from different municipalities on conflict sensitive reporting, strategic communication as well as ethics and communication standards. It did so by supporting the design and delivery of two comprehensive participatory online training courses for representatives of municipalities from all over the country and their communication officers.

World Bank support to African Union Programme

UNITAR is collaborating with the World Bank in the implementation of its support programme for the African Union. Its focus is on the intersecting fields of conflict prevention and crisis response using early warning systems and DDR-related activities. The programme aims to leverage the collective capacities of the AU and UN established and enhanced at the headquarters levels and cascade them down into priority operational contexts, where the WB and its UN and AU partners are currently engaging or about to deploy conflict prevention instruments.