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.

Over the recent years, UNITAR has consolidated its offer in the thematic area of Women’s Empowerment in Fragile Contexts. Recognising the synergies between SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and in support of the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda (UNSCR 1325), UNITAR aims to empower groups of women to meaningfully take part in peace processes, at all levels and in all capacities.
Digital Solutions for Young African Women Mediators

Women already form an integral part of sustaining peace efforts by acting as mediators in their direct environments, but without having access to tools that can support them in their mediation/negotiation efforts. To address these gaps, UNITAR is bringing together young African women as well as male allies to create innovative solutions to support young women mediators on the African continent through harnessing digital possibilities.

African Women’s Leadership Network (AWLN)

In April 2019, the members of the African Women’s Leadership Network (AWLN) Steering Committee expressed the need for a systematised, multilevel Knowledge Management Platform (KMP) to support the operationalisation and good functioning of the Network. AWLN has since asked UNITAR to help achieve the overall goal of enhancing the effectiveness, visibility and outreach of the Network by designing and cultivating a KMP focused on documenting inspirational female leadership stories, sharing best practices through cross-generational engagement, and generating new knowledge.

Women’s Leadership for Peace

Recognising the importance of having women in positions of leadership and the critical role that women must play in efforts to promote stable and lasting peace, UNITAR has launched a new Women’s Leadership for Peace programme, supported through UNITAR’s Strategic Framework Fund. The Women’s Leadership for Peace programme is designed to address the problem of women being significantly underrepresented in international peace and security contexts, aiming to improve gender balance in peace and security settings as women’s voices remain critical to achieving sustained peace.