



# 4. INCLUSIVE PEACE BUILDING

**21,846**

PEOPLE WE HAVE WORKED WITH DIRECTLY

**15** PARTNERS SUPPORTED



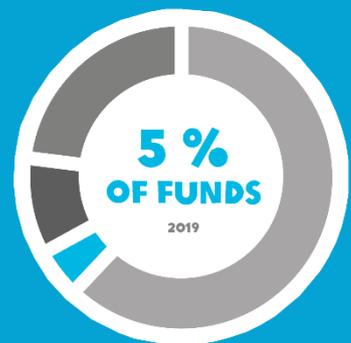
**43%**

WOMEN AND GIRLS



**18%**

YOUTH



**5** GENDER EQUALITY



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



**18** YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



Oxfam IBIS' programmes on Inclusive Peacebuilding seek to support civil society engagement in peacebuilding efforts at national and community level, and in peace negotiation processes (as relevant). Following learning from the previous year regarding the added value of Oxfam's contribution to peacebuilding, we decided to continue focusing our contribution to strengthen the participation of women and youth in peace initiatives. The number of countries supported grew in 2019 from five to nine countries, now including Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ghana, Niger, Mali, South Sudan, Uganda, and Yemen. This growth is largely due to demand and interest from partners and country offices to strengthen their capacity on peacebuilding in the face of challenges related to violent conflict.

2019 saw the portfolio consolidate implementation of inclusive and bottom-up peacebuilding initiatives. The aim is for Oxfam to play a key role in being a mediator leveraging on its regional and global presence to involve CSOs and community-based actors in national, regional and international peace initiatives. In this way, we made a deliberate decision to shift the focus for the programme ToC away from high-level engagement and policy change towards community level engagement and building links to national and regional levels. This builds on the shared aims under the Danida SP for inclusive institutions and democratic structures at community level. It underlines how we have enabled partner CSOs to contribute to SDG 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies and SDG 5 on eliminating violence against women.

The portfolio has contributed to promoting greater attention to women's rights in crisis and building partnerships for youth participation in peacebuilding processes, among other things through continued engagement under Oxfam's Rights in Crisis campaign. Here we were able to shape campaign priorities working through Oxfam International and ensure it contributed to achieving objectives related to women, peace and security. We were successful in bridging global campaign activities in New York, Geneva and Addis Ababa with national partnerships and campaign initiatives through the #IMatter campaign in Colombia and South Sudan. Similarly, we engaged country offices from Uganda, South Sudan, and Yemen in contributing to significant victories at the African Union (AU) and UN level by showcasing the work done at community level as part of high-level dialogues. At the AU level, this involved facilitating lobbying efforts from partner women's activists, which helped to ensure that the AU and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) pushed for the inclusion of accountability measures in the South Sudanese peace agreement. Similar collaboration

with women's activists in Yemen has created a platform for engaging with the UN Special Envoy mediating the peace talks to ensure women are more actively and meaningfully involved.

The increased advocacy work on women's participation in and influence on peace processes was also combined with increased programmatic engagement on meaningful involvement of women in peace negotiations and broader peacebuilding processes:

In **Colombia**, small scale reconciliation processes were supported around two demobilisation, disarmament, and reintegration (DDR) camps, working towards creating trust and joint collaboration between different groups of rural women including indigenous, ex-FARC fighters and afro-Colombian women. These reconciliation processes are a first step to connecting women at local level and then helping them to articulate their joint demands for inclusion at regional and national level going forward.

In **Yemen**, Oxfam IBIS supported women's participation in the peace negotiation process, as well as coalition building amongst women's organisations regarding common priorities and demands to be addressed through the negotiation process. This involved close consultations with the Office of the UN Envoy with a view to connecting partner women's rights and women-led peacebuilding organisations to the formal peace process.

In **South Sudan**, Oxfam with the support of Oxfam IBIS continued to advocate for and provide concrete support to civil society participation and influencing efforts in relation to the peace process. This included bringing partners to the AU to advocate for greater attention to women's participation, as well as building accountability measures relating to human rights abuses into the peace agreement. The diversity of the activities and initiatives undertaken towards women's meaningful involvement in 2019 across the portfolio was communicated by country/community-specific conflict analysis and the thus identified opportunities, challenges, risks, and possible entry points to move ahead on peacebuilding work. The fluid nature of working in situations affected by conflict means that it is critical to maintaining an ongoing dialogue with partners and country offices to adapt activities based on emerging challenges as well as opportunities.

Work also continued in 2019 towards strengthening youth participation in peacebuilding with the aim for youth to harness their own agency and shape their own opportunities to participate and build peace.

The partnership with the Unyoke Foundation continued throughout 2019, with the first cohort retreat of young South Sudanese refugee peacebuilders taking place in October 2019. By taking an emergent approach to accompanying and supporting young peacebuilders, Oxfam IBIS supported initiatives to transfer the power of shaping peacebuilding efforts to those who are directly affected by conflict. This has been complemented by establishing a small-grants mechanism for refugee-led peacebuilding initiatives amongst the South Sudanese refugee population in Uganda.

In **Burkina Faso**, work commenced to link youth leadership with peacebuilding and the use of audio-visual media towards supporting youth in creating and using spaces to express their own vision for peace. With a view to how to work towards regional youth collaboration, a “Peace Innovator” programme in the Sahel will be launched in 2020. The programme seeks to support youth leadership in transforming conflicts in their communities by using technology and to link youth involved in peacebuilding together across the three countries by providing continuous practical support.

Oxfam IBIS has supported a regional experience sharing and dialogue in the Sahel bringing together partners and other CSO’s from Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali, as well as youth, traditional leaders, women and local government leaders from the Liptako-Gourma region. In **Niger**, to enhance collaboration and conflict transformation at a sub-national level in the Tillabery region bordering Burkina Faso and Mali, an inter-community dialogue was hosted linking capacity building and conflict transformation for community leaders and local authorities. Niger’s High Authority for Peacebuilding also participated with a view to how experience shared may also inform and create synergies with nation-wide processes.

Collaboration with PeaceNexus has also been sustained, together with Oxfam Great Britain and Oxfam Novib. The collaboration has been key in bringing together colleagues from across the Oxfam Confederation to engage in and shape the Oxfam Strategic Planning process towards a greater emphasis on inclusive peacebuilding in the Oxfam Confederation, which, for the first time has placed an emphasis on addressing root causes of conflict and explicitly advancing the Women, Peace, and

**Table 3: Inclusive Peacebuilding**

Key performance indicators	Results 2018	Results 2019	Results 2018-2019	Targets 2018-2021 (cumulative)	Funding Source
3.1.1 Number of multi-stakeholder initiatives in peace negotiations supported by Oxfam IBIS and/or partners to include women and youth, including refugees and displaced persons	2	2	4	40	SP
3.1.2 Number of peacebuilding initiatives, such as multi-stakeholder dialogues, with participation of women and youth, including refugees/displaced persons	1	13	14	25	SP
3.1.3 Number of provisions, recommendations, or actions agreed in high-level negotiations and/or multi-stakeholder dialogues which specifically relate to the role of women and youth in peacebuilding	1	4	5	10	SP
3.2.1 Number of changes in international stakeholders’ policies, programming and practices related to peacebuilding at global, regional and national levels in selected fragile and conflict affected contexts	2	1	3	7	SP
3.3.1 Number of women and young peacebuilders’ organisations strengthened and enabled to participate in peacebuilding processes	N/A	10	10	50	Humanity United/ US, SP
3.4.1 Percentage of partnership development plans improving partners’ organisational, thematic and/or advocacy capacity (annual)	N/A	91%		85%	SP
3.5.1 Number of people worked with, who are engaged in the project/programme and/or directly benefit from a product or service	687	21,846	22,533	700	All Oxfam IBIS’ funding sources

Security agenda. The partnership has also accelerated efforts on conflict-sensitivity at country level, including in Burkina Faso.

## Results achieved

The overall progress in 2019 of our Inclusive Peacebuilding programmes measured against the objectives of the thematic area is rated satisfactory with good results achieved and moderate shortcomings. The achievement of results in 2019 was on track to reach cumulative targets by 2021. Table 3 provides an overview of Oxfam IBIS' results measured against the global strategic targets for 2018-2021. In the area of Inclusive Peacebuilding, this relates to support of the peacebuilding initiatives with participation of women and youth, as well as provisions and recommendations put forward relating to the role of women and youth in peacebuilding and the number of people and women- and youth-led organisations we worked with.

In 2019, **13 concrete peacebuilding initiatives with participation of women and youth**, including refugees/displaced persons, were supported, which constitutes good progress towards the target of 25 by 2021. It also underlines the value-added by Oxfam IBIS in bringing CSOs together and enabling them to design and drive their own peacebuilding efforts. These initiatives range from dialogues and chieftaincy dispute resolution, to inter-community trust-building and youth-led campaigns.

Gearing partner efforts towards advocating for more inclusive peacebuilding processes remained a high priority in 2019 and progress towards the target related to **recommendations, or actions agreed in high-level negotiations** and/or multi-stakeholder dialogues which specifically relate to the role of women and youth in peacebuilding is promising. In total, five results were achieved compared with the target of ten for the four-year period (2018-2021). For example, this included South Sudan, where Oxfam IBIS worked closely with the country office and Oxfam's Pan Africa Programme to facilitate partner engagement with IGAD and AU representatives, to call for greater political pressure on the political parties to implement the 35 % quota of women's representation in all Government institutions at national and State level, following intense advocacy on women's leadership from partners and Oxfam.

A total of **22,533 people participated in Oxfam IBIS supported peacebuilding**

**initiatives**, a number which by far exceeds the cumulative target of 700 by 2021. The high number is largely due to the establishment of community-led platforms and systems under different projects. These include the Community Conflict Monitors in Ghana that track and feed into a conflict early warning system in their region, which continuously engages a high number of people. It is important to note that Ghana was not initially supported through the portfolio when the global targets were framed.

Oxfam IBIS supported peacebuilding initiatives were driven forward in collaboration with **15 partners and networks**. The vast majority of partners with Partnership Development Plans in place reported a positive improvement in their thematic, organisational and advocacy capacities. A total of **ten women and youth peacebuilding organisations were strengthened** through training and accompaniment, which supported these organisations to position themselves and connect, share experiences and collaborate with other organisations. The regional youth forum in Burkina Faso for example supported youth-led organisation in strategy development for joint advocacy towards greater uptake of UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security in practice in the Sahel.

Through the global programme, Oxfam IBIS has promoted the agenda around women, peace and security across the Oxfam Confederation. This has led to added value for programme activities by integrating the approach in country programmes not funded by Oxfam IBIS. In the same way, the global programme leads a cross-Confederation WPS Policy Group which seeks to connect partners and programme activities to policy influencing efforts at the UN and AU, while also drawing on these platforms to communicate Oxfam's engagement with Danish civil society and the relevant ministries in relation to the Danish National Action Plan. Together, these examples further underline our role as a mediator in Denmark and globally on the WPS agenda within Oxfam, at country level, and at the UN and AU.

## Lessons learned

A number of the countries supported through the portfolio are either having or have had peace negotiation processes during the past two years. When the Danida Strategic Partnership was first conceived, there was an assumption that these processes would be ongoing and active, creating entry points for

Oxfam IBIS and/or partners to support meaningful engagement of women, youth, or other marginalised stakeholders such as refugees and displaced persons. This assumption also lies behind the formulation of results areas 3.1.1 and 3.1.4. With the peace negotiation process in Yemen stalled, and with the current peace agreements in South Sudan and Colombia currently on hold, there have not been immediate opportunities to achieve enough progress in these results areas. This illustrates one limitation of pre-defined results. For this reason, the team is set to pilot a participatory initiative seeking to identify “everyday peace indicators” which would ensure programmatic indicators are related to the experiences of conflict-affected communities.

## Change stories

### Support to the establishment of the “Women of Faith Network for Peace Burkina Faso”

In Burkina Faso, a training hosted by Oxfam together with West Africa Network for Peacebuilding on the theme of women’s role and participation in peacebuilding inspired some participants to form a “Women of Faith Network for Peace” in Burkina Faso, bringing together Muslim, Catholic and Protestant female believers with the vision of strengthening the role of women in building peace. Through continuous technical and capacity support provided by Oxfam, the network succeeded in formalising their existence by gaining organisational registration, which allows them to operate and implement their own activities. In addition, the network started working and taking part in advocacy and engaging in the development of the National

Action Plan on UN Security Council Resolution 1325, where decision-makers commit and operationalise concrete actions towards strengthening women's participation in peace and security. The network participated and collaborated with the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding in advocacy work - radio talks, banners, roundtable and digital communication - creating awareness of the need to adopt the National Action Plan resulting in validation by the Council of Ministers in Burkina Faso in late 2019.

SDG targets 5.1, 5.2, 5.5 and 16.3.

### Unlocking chieftaincy and land disputes

In Northern Ghana, Oxfam have worked with partners to engage young people in peacebuilding initiatives related to long-standing chieftaincy disputes. Young people are typically marginalised and excluded from such efforts, but through various community-based mobilisation efforts, leveraging social and traditional media, young people have been engaged as peace actors. Whereas previously, such efforts were almost exclusively the domain of elder men, such as chiefs or other influential actors, the Peace Committees and Community Conflict Monitoring Teams, which have played a crucial role in bringing an end to the chieftaincy conflicts are largely made up of youth. This has also been critical in ensuring that young people, including those who had previously engaged in violence, relate to and feel ownership of the “peace”. The move comes after Oxfam working closely with the sub-national peace committee to address long-standing chieftaincy land related disputes and training and mobilising young people in peacebuilding efforts.

SDG targets 16.1 and 16.2.