

Activity Report 2014



The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a joint project of four institutions:



Acknowledgements

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would like to thank all its funders and event partners. The Platform also expresses its gratitude to over 3,000 network members for following its activities.

Special thanks go to the **Department for International Organizations of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs** to contribute to the Platform's core funding, and to the **United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)** for a strong collaboration on the Geneva Peace Talks, the Geneva Peace Week, and several public events.

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would like to thank all **event partners** for their continuous support:

- Canton of Geneva
- Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
- City of Geneva
- Conciliation Resources
- Fondation pour Genève
- Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
 - Applied Research Seminar (ARS)
 - Executive Education Programme
 - Latin American Student Association
- Permanent Mission of Canada in Geneva
- Permanent Mission of Switzerland, New York
- Quaker United Nations Office, New York
- United Nations Development Programme
- UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme
- UNOG-Library

Thanks also go the **staff of the four core partners** of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, without whom the networking, events, and outreach of the Platform would not be possible.

What is the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform?

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is an inter-agency network that connects the critical mass of peacebuilding actors, resources, and expertise in Geneva and worldwide.

Founded in 2008, the Platform has a mandate to facilitate interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors, and to advance new knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding issues and contexts. It also plays a creative role in building bridges between International Geneva, the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in New York, and peacebuilding activities in the field.

The Platform's network comprises more than 3,000 peacebuilding professionals and over 60 institutions working on peacebuilding directly or indirectly.

The Platform is managed as a joined project of four institutions: The Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies; the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP); Interpeace; and the Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva (QUNO).

Website: <http://www.gpplatform.ch>.

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Summary

The year 2014 was a rich and inspiring year that saw many different types of activities unfold throughout the year: another round of the Geneva Peace Talks, a pilot of a Geneva Peace Week, the multi-stakeholder process of the White Paper on Peacebuilding, the first Annual Meeting in the newly inaugurated *Maison de la Paix*, and a series of public and informal meetings on cutting edge peacebuilding issues and contexts.

In numerical terms, the Platform's networking achievements in 2014 were:

- **27 events in Geneva, New York, and Medellin**, involving 14 practice briefings, 3 informal meetings, 1 workshop, 5 consultations and a retreat for the White Paper on Peacebuilding, as well as the Geneva Peace Talks, the Annual Meeting and Advisory Board meeting.
- **Over 2,400 registered participants** (up from 1,700 in 2013). The Geneva Peace Talks led with 860 registrations, followed by the Annual meeting with 376 registrations. Expert workshops had an average participation of around 20 and practice briefings between 50-70 attendees.
- **17 event partnerships** across a broad range of institutions and sectors (see 'Acknowledgements').
- **3,181 contacts on the distribution list**; up from 3,111 in 2013, 2,300 in 2012, and 636 in 2011.

The Platform implemented these activities through an intensive collaboration of its four core partners and many other partners from International Geneva and beyond. The collaborative way of working has become a trademark of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and is essential to achieve its mandate to network peacebuilding resources in Geneva and worldwide.

2014 also marks the end of the first three-year programme cycle of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, and included its first independent evaluation. Both efforts informed the new 2015-2017 Programme and consolidated the Platform as a hub for practical peacebuilding expertise and know-how that draws upon field experience and research.

This report summarises the Platform's results for 2014 within the framework of the strategic goals of the 2012-2014 Programme. These goals are to strengthen the networking of peacebuilding resources in Geneva and worldwide, and to advance new knowledge and practice in five focus themes. The report also provides an overview of the implementation of the White Paper on Peacebuilding and highlights other thematic work, including the work on the prevention of violent conflict, and on peacebuilding in the city (Boxes 1 and 2). The report closes with a brief summary of the achievements of the 2012-2014 Programme.

All activities in 2014 were implemented with a core budget of CHF 135,000.- and a separate project funding for the White Paper on Peacebuilding amounting to CHF 178,000.- in 2014.

1. Strengthening the networking of peacebuilding resources

The Platform is mandated by the four partner institutions to advance new knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding issues and contexts, and to facilitate the interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors. The overall goal of this mandate is to nurture the networking of peacebuilding resources in Geneva and worldwide; and build bridges between International Geneva, the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in New York, and peacebuilding activities in the field.

The Platform engaged in the following efforts to strengthen its networking mandate in 2014:

- **The Geneva Peace Talks** is an annual public event organized on the occasion of the International Day of Peace (21 September) by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), Interpeace and the Platform. The theme of the *Geneva Peace Talks 2014* was "Let's talk peace!" Speakers related their own personal stories about how overcoming barriers to communication can open spaces for resolving conflict and making peace, in every-day life and on a global scale. The event, in its entirety, is available online: http://peacetalks.net/peace_talks/geneva-peace-talks-2014/
- **The Geneva Peace Week** was piloted from 17-21 November 2014. It occurred under the patronage of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. The Geneva Peace Week consists of a mixture of public meetings, restricted expert meetings, as well as networking events. The objective of the Geneva Peace Week is to open a space for exchange about peace across institutions and sectors. By synchronizing meetings on different topics related to the promotion of peace during one week, the Geneva Peace Week maximizes synergies between organizations in Geneva and focuses on the cross-cutting nature of resolving conflict and building peace. The evaluation of the Geneva Peace Week among participating partners was positive and the initiative will be repeated in 2015.
- **'What next in Peacebuilding?'** Initiated in 2012 as an informal exchange on peacebuilding issues at the Quaker House in New York, 2014 has seen an effort to make this exchange an annual occurrence targeted at bringing perspectives on peacebuilding practice from elsewhere to the New York peacebuilding constituency. The event also reflects the strong collaboration between the major peacebuilding networks and their expressed need to exchange on practice trends and emerging issues. For the Platform, this meeting is important with respect to its bridging function between Geneva and New York – with the QUNO Office in New York serving as the convening entry-point.
- **Ensuring the voices of local peacebuilders are heard:** The Platform continued its conscious effort to reach out to a greater number of local peacebuilders by involving them as speakers and participants in its activities. Platform activities included speakers from China, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, Mexico, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Sierra Leone, Syria, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe. The inclusion of speakers from

the field is the outcome of better coordination and synergy creation between the partners with respect to practitioners visiting from the field.

- **Maximizing Geneva's potential for effective meetings and conferences:** Change International and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform initiated an exchange among key Geneva actors about event format innovation. The objective of these efforts was to update and raise the awareness about innovative meeting or process designs, with the intention of testing these throughout the year.
- **Revision of the contact database:** Throughout 2014, Platform staff reviewed and updated the database of contacts. This effort was important as some contacts in the database were no longer valid or had moved on from Geneva and asked the Platform to be removed from the database. This revision explains why in 2014 there was no equivalent increase in the number of people registered. The effort was also important to prepare the database for a move to a different information management system in 2015, to facilitate the Platform's outreach.



Audience of the Geneva Peace Talks 2014

(Credits: UN Photo/Violaine Martin)

Geneva Peace Talks 2014: "Let's Talk Peace!"

<p>19 September</p>	<p><i>Susan Guerra</i>, Teacher. Mediation Programme, Collège de Sécheron, Geneva <i>Ines Daccord</i>, former student. Mediation Programme, Collège de Sécheron, Geneva <i>Doris Baretto</i>, Peacebuilder Caracas, Venezuela <i>Jeremy Brickhill</i>, Peace mediator. Director, Zimbabwe Peace and Security Programme, Harare, Zimbabwe <i>Andrew Brookes</i>, Interpreter. Former interpreter at the UN in Geneva <i>Nik Dahlström</i>, <i>Judson Webb</i>, <i>Kjersti Webb</i>, Acting group. Based in Sweden <i>Randa Kassis</i>, Activist. Franco-Syrian politician <i>Monica McWilliams</i>, Peacemaker. Former Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission <i>Rafael</i>, Youth gang member, El Salvador <i>Eman Mohammed & Mati Milstein</i>, Photo journalists. Currently in the US but originally from Gaza & Israel <i>Jean Plantureux</i>, alias 'Plantu', Cartoonist <i>Gunilla von Hall</i>, Journalist. UN Correspondent. Based in Geneva</p>	<p>Event partners</p> <p>UNOG</p> <p>Interpeace</p> <p>Fondation pour Genève</p> <p>City of Geneva</p> <p>Canton of Geneva</p> <p>FDFA.</p>
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What Next in Peacebuilding?

<p>4-5 March (New York)</p>	<p>Panel 1: What's next in Peacebuilding? 4 March 2014, 12:00 -14:00 <i>Melanie Greenberg</i>, President, Alliance for Peacebuilding <i>Achim Wennmann</i>, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform <i>Catherine Woollard</i>, Director, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office</p> <p>Panel 2: Emerging Issues in Peacebuilding & Prevention 5 March 2014, 13:00 – 15:00 Andy Carl, Executive Director, Conciliation Resources Peter van Tuijl, Executive Director, GPPAC Matthew Scott, Director, World Vision International</p> <p>Informal sessions: Brainstorm on peacebuilding 4 March 14:00 - 18:00; 5 March 10:30 - 12:00 All speakers of Panels 1 and 2 as well as: <i>Andrew Tomlinson</i>, Director of QUNO-NY <i>Camilla Campisi</i>, UN Representative, QUNO-NY <i>I. Pereira</i>, GPPAC New York <i>Anita Ernstorfer</i>, Co-Director, Reflecting on Peace Practice, CDA</p>	<p>QUNO - New York</p>
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Geneva Peace Week

<p>17-21 November</p>	<p><u>Monday, 17 November</u></p> <p>Intelligence Squared Debate, organized by Interpeace on the occasion of its 20th Anniversary (17.30-19.00, MdP, Auditorium Ivan Pictet)</p> <p><u>Tuesday, 18 November</u></p> <p>Peacebuilding: Critical Concepts in Political Science, book launch organized by the UNOG Library and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform (12.30-14.00, Palais des Nations, UNOG Library)</p> <p><u>Wednesday, 19 November</u></p> <p>Broadening Participation in Peace Processes: Does it Contribute to Sustainable Peace? organized by the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform (12.30-14.00, MdP, Auditorium Ivan Pictet)</p> <p>Global Gangs: Understanding the Evolution and Organization of Street Gangs around the World, book launch organized by the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) (17.30-19.00, MdP, Auditorium Ivan Pictet)</p> <p><u>Thursday, 20 November</u></p> <p>Maison de la Paix: An Opportunity for Peace and International Geneva, organized by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) (9.00-11.30, MdP)</p> <p>Israel and Hamas: Summer of 2014 War, Graduate Institute lunch-time conference by Prof. Riccardo Bocco (12.30-13.30, MdP, lecture theatre A2)</p> <p>The Promotion of Peace: The Role of the United Nations System in Geneva, organized by UNOG and Permanent Mission of Costa Rica (16.00-17.00, Palais des Nations)</p> <p><u>Friday, 21 November</u></p> <p>Annual Meeting of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform: What Future for Peacebuilding? Needs, Policy, Action (8.30-17.00, MdP, Auditorium Ivan Pictet).</p>	<p>UNOG</p>
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Selected lunch updates

08 December	<p>Public Discussion: "Crisis in the Fertile Crescent" <i>Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou</i>, Deputy Director and Academic Dean at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute and CCDP Faculty Associate <i>Nadje Al Ali</i>, School of Oriental and African Studies <i>Gerard Prunier</i>, Former Director of the French Centre for Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa <i>Caty Clement</i>, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy</p>	GCSP
17 September	<p>Venezuela: Cuáles son las oportunidades para la paz? <i>Doris Barreto</i>, Community Project Coordinator for Peace in the Community of Catuche, Caracas, Venezuela</p>	
21 May	<p>South Sudan in Turmoil <i>Caty Clement</i>, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) <i>Mukesh Kapila</i>, Special Representative of Aegis Trust & Former UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan <i>Gerard Prunier</i>, Former Director of the French Centre for Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa</p>	GCSP
29 April	<p>Public Discussion: "What is happening in the Central African Republic?" <i>Caty Clement</i>, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) <i>Kwesi Aning</i>, Director, Faculty of Academic Affairs and Research, KAIPTC <i>Gerard Prunier</i>, Former Director of the French Centre for Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa <i>Robert Rotberg</i>, Founding Director of the Program on Intrastate Conflict and Conflict Resolution, Harvard University</p>	GCSP

2. Advancing knowledge and practice

The Platform was able to advance its five focus themes in 2014 through public events that were organized in collaboration with several event partners.

1. Peacebuilding, peacemaking, and political transitions

18 November	<p>Peacebuilding Concepts, Actors and Institutions <i>Ruth Hahn-Weinert</i>, Officer-in-Charge, UNOG Library <i>Vincent Chetail</i>, Professor of International Law and Director of the Graduate Institute's Global Migration Centre (GMC) <i>Oliver Jütersonke</i>, Head of Research, Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) <i>Michael von der Schulenburg</i>, Former Executive Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Sierra Leone <i>Renée Larivière</i>, Deputy Director-General for the Development and Learning, Interpeace</p>	UNOG Library
16 May	<p>Time to React: The Efficiency of International Organizations in Crisis Responses <i>Heidi Hardt</i>, Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Texas at Arlington <i>Rashid Khalikov</i>, Director of OCHA Geneva <i>Achim Wennmann</i>, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform <i>Thomas Biersteker</i>, Curt Gasteyger Chair in International Security and Conflict Studies at the Graduate Institute</p>	UNOG Library, the Graduate Institute's Executive Education Programme, CCDP
20 March	<p>Citizen Security: Diagnostics and Propositions from Latin America <i>Neil Buhne</i>, Director, Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR), Geneva Liaison Office, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). <i>Sara Sekkenes</i>, Adviser, Conflict Prevention and Recovery – Partnerships, BCPR-UNDP. <i>Javier Sagredo</i>, Advisor on Democratic Governance and Citizen Security of Regional UNDP Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBLAC). <i>Anna Alvazzi</i>, Research Director, Small Arms Survey</p>	UNDP
26 February	<p>Addressing conflict mediation's blind spot: criminal agendas in peace processes <i>James Cockayne</i>, Head of Office, United Nations University, New York <i>Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou</i>, Deputy Director and Academic Dean at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute and CCDP Faculty Associate</p>	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue

	<p><i>Renée Larivière</i>, Deputy Director-General for Development and Learning, Interpeace</p> <p><i>Katia Papagianni</i>, Director for Mediation Support and Policy, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue</p>	
27 January	<p>The Post-2015 Peace and Stability Agenda: Whose Voice Matters?</p> <p><i>Paul Okumu Odongo</i>, Head of Secretariat, Africa CSO Platform on Principled Partnership, Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p><i>Luigi De Martino</i>, Coordinator, Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Small Arms Survey</p>	UNOG

2. Peacebuilding and prevention

18 December	<p>What Went Wrong in the Central African Republic? Rethinking International Engagement</p> <p><i>Genta Akasaki</i>, <i>Emilie Ballestraz</i> and <i>Matel Sow</i>, Masters Candidates in Development Studies, The Graduate Institute</p>	ARS-Graduate Institute
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3. Peacebuilding and the environment

18 March	<p>Oil Sparks in the Amazon: Local Conflicts, Indigenous Populations and Natural Resources</p> <p><i>Patricia I. Vásquez</i>, Independent energy expert, former Jennings Randolph Senior Fellow at the U.S. Institute of Peace and Advisor on energy and sustainable development issues</p> <p><i>Oliver Jütersonke</i>, Head of Research, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP)</p>	CCDP
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4. Monitoring, evaluation and learning in peacebuilding

27 March	<p>'City Labs' for Safer Cities: Towards an Integrated Approach to Urban Safety and Peacebuilding</p> <p><i>H.E. Elissa Golberg</i>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva</p> <p><i>Charlotte L. Warakulle</i>, Chief of Section, Political Affairs and Partnerships Section, Office of the Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva</p> <p><i>Juma Assiango</i>, HSO/Lead - Global Network on Safer Cities (GNSC), Safer Cities Programme, Local Government and Decentralisation Unit, UN-Habitat, Nairobi</p> <p><i>George Deikun</i>, Director, UN Habitat Geneva Office</p>	UNOG, UN-HABITAT, Permanent Mission of Canada
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5. Sustainable peace and justice

19 November	<p>Broadening Participation In Peace Processes: Does it contribute to a more sustainable peace?</p> <p><i>Thania Paffenholz</i>, Senior Researcher and Project Coordinator at the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding</p> <p><i>Katia Papagianni</i>, Director, Policy and Mediation Support, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Geneva</p> <p><i>Roxaneh Bazergan</i>, Mediation Support Unit, UNDP, New York</p>	CCDP, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
03 July	<p>Legitimacy and Peace Processes: Recommendations for policy and practice</p> <p><i>Andy Carl</i>, Director, Conciliation Resources, London</p> <p><i>Véronique Dudouet</i>, Programme Director, Berghof Foundation, Berlin</p> <p><i>Katia Papagianni</i>, Director, Policy and Mediation Support, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Geneva</p> <p><i>Susanna Campbell</i>, CCDP Post-Doctoral Researcher, Graduate Institute</p>	UNOG, Conciliation Resources, CCDP

Box 1: Conflict prevention in the Central Africa Republic

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and the Applied Research Seminar (ARS) of the Graduate Institute conducted a joint research project on the lessons from failed conflict prevention in the Central African Republic (CAR). The project objective was to identify lessons about conflict prevention failure by analysing the case of CAR. Specific research questions were: (1) What measures have been undertaken to prevent conflict in CAR prior to the outbreak of violence in 2012? (2) Why have these measures failed? (3) What are the lessons of conflict prevention that can be useful for other cases? The overall finding is that CAR matters to the international community only to the extent that its internal problems affect the stability of the region.

Publication: Genta Akasaki, Emilie Ballestraz, and Matel Sow (forthcoming 2015) *What went wrong in the Central African Republic? International engagement and the failure to think conflict prevention*. Platform Paper No. 12.

Box 2: Building peace in the city

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform partnered with UNOG and UN-Habitat's Safer Cities Programme to advance an inception phase of a **Technical Working Group on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding** (TWG). The TWG brings together focal points on urban safety of cities with practitioners from the community of peacebuilding, peace mediation and conflict prevention in order to help craft solutions to the rapidly increasing risk of conflict and insecurity in urban settings. Over an 18-month period, the objectives of the TWG are to network urban safety and peacebuilding practitioners, to expand the evidence base of practice at the nexus of

urban safety and peacebuilding, and to develop an integrated approach on urban safety and peacebuilding. By achieving these objectives, the TWG contributes to major agenda-setting processes including the HABITAT III summit in 2016; the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016 and the implementation of the Post-2015 Dialogue and Sustainable Development Goals. The TWG also works in the context of the progress on city initiatives within the framework of the Global Network of Safer Cities (GNSC).

Key results of the inception phase were:

- The inception phase include an expression of interest with over 50 organizations and cities, a briefing for UN Members States and an inception meeting in Geneva.
- The inception phase confirmed the need and interest in the TWG on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding Practice. This need and interest was evidence by the response of 31 cities and organizations to an expression of interest and the participants of an inception meeting.
- The inception phase confirmed that there will be a sufficient level of practice and substance cities and organizations are willing to contribute to the TWG. There is also a need for conceptual clarification and for new practice and analysis in specific city settings
- The TWG will initiate evidence gathering in 4 steps: (a) clarify the meaning of 'the confluence of urban safety and peacebuilding'; (b) establish an annotated literature review and screening of existing practice; (c) draw together perspectives on scenarios to identify potential typologies of different contexts and responses; and (d) develop and online depository for tools and mechanisms.

07 November	<p>Corregidora: ¿Cuáles son las oportunidades para la paz en la ciudad?</p> <p><i>Luis Antonio Zapata Guerrero, Presidente Municipal, Municipio de Corregidora, Mexico</i></p>	Asociación de Estudiantes Latinoamericanos
05-06 November	<p>Inception meeting of the Technical Working Group on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding Practice</p>	UNOG, UN-Habitat's SCP
10 April (WUF, Medellin, Colombia)	<p>Peacebuilding in the City: Exploring the linkages between peacebuilding and urban safety</p> <p><i>Juma Assiago, HSO/Lead - Global Network on Safer Cities (GNSC), Safer Cities Programme, Local Government and Decentralisation Unit, UN-Habitat, Nairobi</i></p> <p><i>Oliver Jütersonke, Head of Research, Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP)</i></p> <p><i>Ana Glenda Tager Rosado, Latin America Regional Director, Interpeace, Guatemala</i></p> <p><i>David Gomez-Alvarez, Under-Secretary of Planning and Evaluation of Jalisco State Government, Mexico</i></p> <p><i>Luis Antonio Zapata Guerrero, Presidente Municipal, Municipio de Corregidora</i></p>	UN-HABITAT

3. White Paper on Peacebuilding

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform has coordinated the White Paper on Peacebuilding as part of its mandate to advance new knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding issues and contexts, and to build bridges between International Geneva, the UN peacebuilding architecture in New York, and peacebuilding activities in the field.

The White Paper on Peacebuilding has been a collaborative process involving conversations with over 100 peacebuilding professionals from all regions working at the community, national and international levels; 20 background papers; and a variety of informal discussions and consultations. Throughout 2014, the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform coordinated this initiative supported by funding from the Swiss Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs (FDFA).

The White Paper on Peacebuilding has the purpose to stimulate a discussion about how countries and societies themselves can move towards sustainable peace and about the assistance the UN and other international and local actors can bring to such processes. As a starting point for this discussion, the White Paper on Peacebuilding creates a new evidence base about the global context of the peacebuilding field, and on the challenges, opportunities and the future of peacebuilding practice.

In order to implement this project, the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform established a Management Support Group to ensure the right level of information sharing and ownership of the White Paper process by Platform partners and the Swiss FDFA. The White Paper process involved outreach to peacebuilding practitioners from all regions. All individuals were identified collaboratively through the network of practitioners and diplomats of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and its partners.

Overall, the initiative collected data on challenges, opportunities and the future of peacebuilding along four avenues:

- **In-depth conversations with a variety of stakeholder communities:** 28 of over 80 individuals from different stakeholder communities agreed to an in-depth conversation conducted by Platform staff. Each conversation lasted between 30-60 minutes and followed a set of guiding questions.
- **Background papers offering regional perspectives:** The Platform commissioned 12 background papers that provide regional perspectives on peacebuilding. The authors' task was to provide an authentic and original analysis around three guiding questions.
- **Background papers offering thematic perspectives:** The Platform commissioned 8 papers with a focus on scholarly and policy literatures, the history of institutional peacebuilding dynamics, data and trends on risks to peace, and several specific themes.
- **Consultations, meetings and a retreat:** Over a 12-month period, the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform organized three consultations on the White Paper in New York (21 October 2013, 3 March 2014, 11 July 2014) and two consultations in Geneva (20 March 2014, 2 April 2014).

List of background papers

- No.1 West Africa, Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou
- No.2 Eastern Africa, Jok Madut Jok, Ken Menkhaus, and Nuur Mohamud Sheekh
- No.3 Central Africa, Thierry Vircoulon, Charlotte Arnaud, and Violette Tournier
- No.4 Southern Africa, Dimpho Motsamai
- No.5 Central America, Bernardo Arévalo de León and Ana Glenda Táger Rosado
- No.6 South America, Eduarda Hamman
- No.7 Central Asia, Anna Matveeva
- No.8 Northeastern Asia, Sachio Nakato
- No.9 Southeastern Asia, Ed Garcia
- No.10 Europe, Catherine Woollard
- No.11 Middle East, Riccardo Bocco and Souhaïl Belhadj
- No.12 North Africa, Souhaïl Belhadj and Riccardo Bocco
- No.13 Peacebuilding: A Review of the Academic Literature, *Vincent Chetail and Oliver Jütersonke*
- No.14 Peacebuilding: A Review of the Policy Literature, *Aminata Sow*
- No.15 Risks to Peace: A Review of Data Sources, *Aske Nørby Bonde and Achim Wennmann*
- No.16 The UN Peacebuilding Architecture: Institutional Evolution in Context, *Sarah Hearn, Alejandra Kubitschek Bujones, and Alischa Kugel*
- No.17 Understanding the Negotiations Towards the UN's Peacebuilding Architecture, *Jussi Hanhimäki*
- No.18 Peacebuilding: Evolution, Trends, Visions – Retreat Synthesis, *Achim Wennmann*
- No.19 Operational Field Perspectives on Peacebuilding, *Louis Hoffmann*
- No.20 New Technologies: The Future of Alternative Infrastructures for Peace, *Helena Puig Larrauri, Rodrigo Davies, Michaela Ledesma, and Jennifer Welch*



Scene from the Annual Meeting 2014

4. Annual Meeting

What Future for Peacebuilding? Needs, Policy, Action

The Annual Meeting is the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform's yearly flagship event. This year the Annual Meeting focused on the questions: How does peacebuilding practice need to change today in order to be ready to face the future? What are the risks to peace we need to prepare for? What are the underlying principles of peacebuilding to guide policy and action? These questions had the objective to create a better understanding about the nature and scale of peacebuilding practice necessary to foster more prosperous and peaceful societies by 2025. The Annual Meeting opened a space for a frank exchange on key trends in peacebuilding practice, on our present knowledge of future risks to peace, and on the visions and foundations for peacebuilding practice over the next decade. The Annual Meeting showcased and discussed the preliminary findings of the White Paper on Peacebuilding – a multi-stakeholder process facilitated by the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform.

<p>21 November</p>	<p>Welcome and opening <i>Jürg Lauber</i>, Ambassador, Director of the United Nations and other International Organizations Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland <i>Scott Weber</i>, Director-General, Interpeace</p> <p>Peacebuilding: What spectrum of perspectives? <i>Yvette Stevens</i>, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone <i>Michael von der Schulenburg</i>, former Executive Representative of the UN Secretary General to Sierra Leone <i>Steve Killelea</i>, Founder and Executive Chairman, Institute for Economics and Peace, Sydney</p> <p>What does peacebuilding mean from a regional perspective? <i>Andrew Ladley</i>, Adjunct Professor, School of Government, Institute for Governance and Policy Studies, University of Wellington, New Zealand <i>Lei Xue</i>, Research Fellow, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, Shanghai, China <i>Louis Hoffmann</i>, Head, Transition and Recovery Division, Department of Operations and Emergencies, International Organization for Migration, Geneva <i>Renée Larivière</i>, Deputy Director General (Development and Learning), Interpeace</p> <p>What future for peacebuilding practice? <i>Michael Møller</i>, Acting Director General, United Nations Office at Geneva <i>Helena Puig Larrauri</i>, Co-organizer of Build Peace (an international conference on technology and peacebuilding) and Co-founder of Build Up (a social enterprise working at the</p>	<p>FDFA</p>
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	<p>intersection of technology, civic engagement and peacebuilding) Youssef Mahmoud, Senior Adviser, International Peace Institute, New York Mohammad-Mahmoud Ould Mohamedou, Deputy Director and Academic Dean at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute and CCDP Faculty Associate Susanna Campbell, CCDP Post-doctoral Researcher, the Graduate Institute.</p>	
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Samples of graphic recording by Gabriele Schlipf, MOMIK, Berlin



5. Evaluation

With the conclusion of the 2012-2014 Programme and 6 years after its foundation, Platform Partners and the Swiss FDFA agreed to conduct an independent evaluation. They jointly developed a Terms of Reference (ToR) specifying the 19 evaluation questions. The ToR was also the base for a public bidding process that led to 11 expressions of interests from which one candidate was chosen by the Swiss FDFA and Platform partners.

The evaluation had the objectives to assess the Platform's overall achievements since its creation in 2008, the implementation of the Platform's 2012-2014 Programme, and opportunities for the future development of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. The review included a preliminary desk study of key Platform documentation and relevant available contextual material, the gathering of primary data by means of semi-structured interviews and group meetings with a wide range of Platform members and stakeholders conducted over a five-day visit to Geneva (30 June – 4 July 2014), and by means of Skype conversations held at other times.

The evaluation was deemed by all involved to be fair and balanced. The evaluation process was inclusive and involved interviews with a wide variety of actors and the study of key documents. The evaluator provided a good outside view on the Platform which in turn stimulated reflection among the four partners. The evaluation, therefore, achieved its desired result to assist in the development of a new 2015-2017 Programme.

Platform partners welcomed the recognition that:

- The Platform and its mandate remain highly relevant to International Geneva and global peacebuilding policy and operations;
- The Platform is valued for its ability to engage related, but disparate actors on a wide variety of peacebuilding topics;
- The Platform is seen by actors outside of Geneva as a primary reference point for engaging with the peacebuilding community in Geneva and for gaining access to practitioners and civil society organisations; and
- The Platform has achieved much with relatively few human and financial resources.

The evaluation also highlighted key issues that Platform partners need to address. These include the 2015-2017 Programme, the business model, management, the Platform's web-presence and its perception by third parties. The management response focused on these five observations.

The evaluation will remain an important reference document with respect to the strategic orientation and internal governance of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform.

6. Management and staffing

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a partnership between four institutions with rich and diversified peacebuilding-related experience, which together represent a unique combination of skills and a long record of excellence in their specific sector. The Platform is managed as a joint project by a Steering Committee and a Management Committee. The day-to-day activities of the Platform are managed by a small staff team.

Steering Committee

- Christian Dussey, Director, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
- Keith Krause, Director, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute
- Scott Weber, Director-General, Interpeace
- Jonathan Woolley, Director, Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)

Management Committee

- Caty Clément, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Leadership, Crisis and Conflict Management Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy
- Diane Hendrick, Representative, Peace and Disarmament, Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva
- Oliver Jütersonke, Head of Research, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute
- Renée Larivière, Deputy Director-General for Development and Learning, Interpeace

Platform staff

- Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator (100%, January-December)
- Indhira Avilés, Assistant Coordinator (60%, January-December)
- Madeleine Evans, (100% January-May, SYNI programme)
- Adriana Rojas Saldarriaga (100%, August-September, SYNI programme)
- Anaïs De Kée (100%, October-December, SYNI programme)

7. Achievements of the 2012-2014 Programme

The 2012-2014 Programme set out a new strategy for the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. Specifically, the Programme had the goal to assist the Platform to effectively achievement its mandate to strengthen the networking of peacebuilding resources in Geneva and worldwide, and to advance new knowledge and practice. The Programme also had the objective to diversify the Platform's funding sources.

Overall assessment

- The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform "has successfully positioned itself as the main forum on peacebuilding in Geneva" (Ambassador Jürg Lauber, Head of the United Nations and International Organizations Division of the Swiss FDFA, letter dated of 3 December 2014)
- "In International Geneva, the Platform is valued for its ability to engage related, but disparate actors in discourse on a wide variety of peacebuilding topics. To stakeholders outside Geneva, the Platform is seen as the primary reference point for engaging with the peacebuilding community in Geneva and for gaining access to practitioners and civil society organisations." (Evaluation)

Strengthen the networking of peacebuilding resources in Geneva and worldwide

- **67 events** - 27 in 2014, 19 in 2013, 21 in 2012.
- **4,850 registered participants** 2,400 in 2014, 1,700 in 2013, 750 in 2012.
- **At least 30 event partnerships** with a diversity of organizations.
- **3,181 contacts** in the database, up from a baseline of 636 in 2011.
- **4 multi-stakeholder processes** including on business and conflict prevention, prevention across institutions and sectors, building peace in the city, and the White Paper on Peacebuilding.

Advance new knowledge and practice

- **20 publications**, including 9 Briefs and 11 Papers.
- **21 papers** through the White Paper process.
- **Substantive contribution** to discussion on peacebuilding and resilience, building peace in the city, business and conflict prevention, and the state of the peacebuilding field.

Diversification of income sources

- The Platform increased its annual budgets from CHF 210,000 in 2012, to CHF 239,000 in 2013, and to CHF 313,000 in 2014.
- Core funding from the Swiss FDFA remained stabled at CHF 75,000 pear year with platform core partners providing addition core funding or in-kind support.
- The Platform employed six candidates from a Swiss temporary employment scheme, SYNI, who assisted significantly in coordination efforts.



The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a network that connects the critical mass of peacebuilding actors, resources, and expertise in Geneva and worldwide. Founded in 2008, the Platform has a mandate to facilitate interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors, and to advance new knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding issues and contexts. It also plays a creative role in building bridges between International Geneva, the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in New York, and peacebuilding activities in the field. The Platform's network comprises more than 3,000 peacebuilding professionals and over 60 institutions working on peacebuilding directly or indirectly.

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a joint project of four institutions: The Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies; the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP); Interpeace; and the Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva (QUNO).

Contact the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

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