

RIGHT TO PEACE



FCA Finn Church Aid



FCA is committed to empowering people and communities in fragile situations in their efforts to create just and resilient societies. FCA sees the rights related to **peace, quality education and livelihood**, and combining the three, as having the potential for a wide-reaching, sustainable impact.



A Women's Peace Committee was formed in Pibor, South Sudan, after a severe outbreak of violence in 2016. The group mediates disputes preventing minor incidents from escalating. In three years, the occurrence of incidents has decreased significantly.



PHOTO BY SURY SAOURINI

OUR VISION

The vision for FCA's Right to Peace efforts is

- to achieve inclusive, just and sustainable peace in our programme countries and
- to advance impact-oriented collaboration among peace actors through the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers (the Network).

All of FCA's peace work is designed to empower people and local communities in fragile situations in their efforts to create just and resilient societies, to contribute positively to preventing conflict and building sustainable and just peace, and to strengthen peace support structures at all levels in our programme countries.

We understand **inclusive peacebuilding** as a **long-term, transformative process that seeks to (re)build societies on a basis of justice and the realisation of human rights.**

WE PROMOTE

- ✓ Inclusivity and whole-of-society approach,
- ✓ local and national ownership, and
- ✓ long-term commitment to support locally-led and -owned solutions to build sustainable and positive peace on the foundation of justice.

In Somalia, after many international attempts to bring peace and stability, FCA started advocating for leveraging the existing traditional structures and mechanisms for conflict transformation and peacebuilding. While the civil war had resulted in the collapse of the state and weakening of social structures, religious leaders and clan elders still had an important role, legitimacy and respect in the society.



PHOTO BY JARI KIVELA

WHO DO WE WORK WITH?

FCA focuses on groups who in many contexts are central in preventing conflict and building inclusive and sustainable peace, but who are often excluded. These groups are women, youth, people on the move, as well as traditional and religious actors. Our efforts are guided by UN's Sustainable Development Goal #16 (peaceful and inclusive societies for all), and by UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 (women, peace and security) and 2250 (youth, peace and security).

All these actors and groups have a role in conflicts, are affected by them, and have a role to play in solving them. However, these groups face differentiated dynamics of exclusion and their efforts continue to lack recognition and support.

We work closely with duty-bearers at different levels to promote inclusive decision-making and governance. By strengthening duty-bearers' capacity to promote the realization of human rights for all, we are able to address the dynamics of exclusion and deprivation of rights that lead to and maintain conflicts.

PHOTO BY TATU BLONQVIST



FCA's partner in Myanmar hosts a peace project for 18-35 year olds, training them in communication skills and to work as mediators in peace processes. The first training in 2018 was completed by 40 people. Naw Moe Mo, 25, is from Mon State, and belongs to Karen ethnic group. She will share what she learned in the training in her home community.

HOW DO WE WORK?

FCA is present in fragile and conflict affected countries. Our work takes place across conflict prevention, conflict resolution to sustaining peace and state formation efforts.

At the community level, we support community-based action and dialogue so that communities can come together, identify and address issues affecting them. At the local and national level, we support dialogue between communities and duty-bearers and support community and civil society efforts to shape decision- and policymaking. At the international level, we support in bringing the voices of local peacebuilders to the international arena.



PHOTO BY SUMY SAOURINI

HOW DO WE DO OUR WORK?



- 1. We enable local civil society and community-based action for positive change.**
 - We provide comprehensive support to community-based civil society actors and organisations.
 - To support an enabling environment for positive change, we bring people together for dialogue and we strengthen duty-bearers' capacities for inclusive governance.
- 2. We connect efforts and promote collaboration and coordination among different actors.**
 - We support civil society actors to partner with national and international actors in our programme countries.
 - We promote collaboration among peace actors through hosting the Secretariat of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers (the Network).
- 3. We amplify the voices of our local partners at national, regional and global processes and contribute to evidence-based advocacy.**
 - We support local community and civil society advocacy efforts at different levels.
 - We are committed to strengthening evidence-based research and advocacy on Right to Peace. We partner with in regional and global level advocacy.

NETWORKS AND PARTNERS

At FCA, we believe that collaboration strengthens our impact. In our Right to Peace work, we have partnerships at all levels; we work together with civil society and community level actors, governments and other public sector actors, as well as the private sector.

As a sign of confidence to FCA's work, the UN asked FCA to establish The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers in 2013. FCA has since hosted The Network's Secretariat. The close to 50 members of the Network represent an array of actors, including inter- and intra-governmental agencies, regional bodies, academic institutions, international and national organisations, civil society, and most importantly religious and traditional peacemakers.

The Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers



peacemakersnetwork.org



PHOTO BY USAID

Finn Church Aid (FCA) is the largest Finnish NGO in international aid. FCA specialises in supporting local communities in three priority areas: Right to Livelihood, Right to Quality Education, and Right to Peace.

FCA is certified against the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS). FCA is founding member of ACT Alliance, a global coalition of faith-based organisations.

FCA is a long-time partner of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, and has a framework partnership with the European Commission Director-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection ECHO.

FCA is a member of the Global Food Security Cluster and Global Education Cluster, working in close partnership with several UN agencies. We also have a growing number of local and international partners.

FCA is a rights-based actor. Our action is guided by the standards and principles of human rights. Equality, non-discrimination and accountability are at the core of our work.

Annually, FCA provides assistance in excess of €40 million.

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PHOTO BY SUNNY SADURNI

