

Peace begins with people

LIFE & PEACE INSTITUTE
ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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This report highlights some of the efforts made and supported by LPI in 2018. It provides examples of the work of partners and people engaging for peaceful change.

The information presented in this report builds on monitoring and evaluation processes in each of LPI’s programmes. Reflection and learning workshops conducted with partners and staff towards the end of the year have also informed the insights presented here.

Front cover: Two community civil society leaders during a Community Dialogue, Eastleigh, Kenya.
This page: Community Dialogue participants during peace action, Kamukunji, Nairobi, Kenya.

Foreword

As I reflect on LPI's journey over the past years – and in particular 2018 – I am reminded about what really matters in our work. The contexts where we work – the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region – experienced dramatic transitions during this past year. This had both positive and negative impacts upon the partners and communities we engage with. At times it has felt very much like a roller coaster ride as we experienced anxiety, euphoria, joy, and relief almost simultaneously. I am humbled by the efforts and achievements which have happened on that ride.

Of vital importance, the engine of our work, are the relationships we build with our partners in civil society, academic and policy spheres. I am particularly proud of the diversity of partners we have the privilege to work alongside – some new in 2018, some who have been with us on the journey longer.

Another aspect that really matters is perseverance – that even when things are difficult, we maintain a long-term view. Ethiopia, certainly, is one example. Building relationships over years and identifying small spaces for change are now critical seedlings for our continued work as space opens and peacebuilding challenges manifest in new ways. In Somalia, where we have also worked since the early 1990s, we have seen local actors join in new ways to break cycles of violence in their contexts. This is the fruit of years of tireless hard work, creativity – and bravery.

At the same time, LPI also ventured into new arenas in 2018. Although we have been present in Sweden since 1983, our focus has always been external. In 2018 we began to explore working more directly as a peacebuilding actor within Sweden. In addition, we sought to find out what added value LPI can bring to the global peacebuilding arena.

Meanwhile, we also re-organised internally, emphasising proximity to the contexts where our partners work, strengthening internal processes, and seeking to further enhance how we document, learn, and engage in policy work.

So, looking back, I am looking forward to how this oftentimes bumpy journey continues and what we will learn. I hope that the highlights from our work in the following pages give a glimpse into how peacebuilding is simultaneously both a struggle and a privilege.

With gratitude to our partners and staff,



Judy McCallum, *Executive Director*

Who we are

LPI was established in Sweden in the 1980s as the nuclear threat and the Cold War propelled peacebuilding, long practiced by local actors without much attention from the international community, into the limelight. Ever since, LPI has consistently worked to contribute towards a more peaceful world. **35 years later, the urgency and importance of peacebuilding is as great as ever.**

Participants at Sustained Dialogue event in Nairobi, Kenya.

In the past decade, armed conflicts have increased across the globe, and particularly in Africa. LPI has worked in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region for decades, witnessing both large-scale violence, and violence that gets less, or no, uptake in mainstream media in other parts of the world. When working in areas such as Kibra in Nairobi, Kenya, LPI also witnesses how structural discrimination and exclusion from economic and political power are identified as key sources of insecurity by people living there. For years, LPI has been concerned with the closing of civic space in the Horn of Africa. This limits political freedoms and makes it very difficult to find conducive spaces to share, listen, and work together constructively.

In 2018, we have witnessed unexpected change in the Horn of Africa, with both positive and negative repercussions. The peaceful transition of power and ensuing reforms in Ethiopia opened new windows for weaving the strands of transformational peace. At the same time, however, people further from the capital Addis Ababa experienced outbreaks of ethnic violence which has displaced millions (Ethiopia being the country with the highest number of new displacements in 2018).¹

Violent conflict remains a central feature for millions of women, men, girls, and boys in Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, and the broader Horn of Africa Region. In our experience, these same people hold the knowledge, expertise and capacity to address violent conflicts through non-violent means. Peace begins with people, and LPI's work is geared towards creating spaces and avenues for local people to transform their communities and societies into inclusive and peaceful ones. Recognizing that conducive structural conditions and policy responses are needed to allow such processes to thrive, LPI's programmes seek to affect change at multiple levels.

¹ <http://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2019/>



Sustained Dialogue moderator training in Nairobi, Kenya.

Our partnerships

At the very core of LPI's work is the emphasis on partnership with a diversity of actors in civil society, academic, and policy spheres. In 2018, LPI worked with more than 50 such partners to support communities in the Horn of Africa who experience violent conflict. Together we engaged a broad variety of decision makers to seek structural responses to conflict issues.

Alongside partners, LPI accompanies community-based and grassroots actors to support civil organising in spaces often unreachable by traditional development aid. This unleashes new potential for genuinely locally-owned peacebuilding. LPI's approach includes financial and capacity enhancement support, mentorship and accompaniment on specific activities or processes, networking and exchange through convening forums, meetings and discussions, support to research and analysis, and facilitation of connections with policy makers and international actors.

In 2018, LPI partnered with a diversity of local, regional and international actors including CSOs, universities, peace centres, research institutions, and regional policy bodies. Further, either directly or with partners, LPI engaged a variety of individual change agents and informal civil society groups such as theatre and dance groups, student associations, women groups, community peace platforms, and elders.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN FOCUS



Ahfad University
for Women (AUW)

Centre for Christian-
Muslim Relations of
Eastleigh (CCMRE)



Friends of Lake
Turkana (FoLT)

Mandera Peace
and Development
Committee (MPDC)



Peace & Development
Studies Centre (PDSC)
at the University of
Dalanj

Public universities
in Ethiopia



SWSC

SOMALI WOMEN'S
STUDY CENTRE



Please see Annex 1 for
short descriptions of LPI
core partners in 2018

Top: Workshop in Sweden with staff from the Kenya programme sharing their experience.

Bottom: Round-table discussion with young women in Somalia.

We are our people

In 2018, we continued our journey to becoming an effective, adaptive, and decentralised organisation thanks to the efforts of over 60 staff and about 15 interns, associates, and volunteers.

Without their talent, skills, creativity, heart, and soul, LPI's work would not be what it is — and for this contribution, we are deeply grateful. Welcoming new staff, we made use of this period of organisational change to invest in team-building and delve into vital questions about our LPI identity. An All-Staff Retreat in Mombasa, Kenya, provided an ideal space for these discussions.

LPI staff at retreat in 2018.

Where we work

SUDAN

LPI has been supporting peace initiatives in Sudan since early 1990s. Partnerships with Ahfad University for Women (AUW) in Khartoum State, and the Peace & Development Studies Centre at the University of Darfur (UoD) in South Kordofan State contributed to building constructive relations between youth.

DRC

LPI has been present in Eastern DRC since 2002, adapting to the conflict dynamics to apply a variety of peacebuilding approaches. Together with civil society partners, LPI facilitated in-depth conflict transformation processes through Participatory Action Research with communities in conflict. In 2018, after a period of reorientation, LPI designed a collaborative evaluation process of the broader peacebuilding sector in DRC, which will be carried out in 2019 and 2020.

SWEDEN

In 2018 LPI began the journey of rediscovering Sweden, framed by our experience in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes. Seeking to promote inclusive and peaceful societies does not pertain to specific regions only – these are global challenges. This universality and interconnectedness recognised in the Global Goals and their implementation has been a central impetus and reference framework for LPI in Sweden.

ETHIOPIA

LPI has supported peace work in Ethiopia since 1991. Through partnerships with traditional leaders, NGOs, and church-based institutions, locally-driven peace-building initiatives have been supported over the years. Since 2009, LPI continued to work within the available – yet small – space to promote dialogue processes at universities, in close partnership with the Peace and Development Centre (PDC).

SOMALIA

Engaged in Somalia since the mid-1990s, LPI works with four strong civil society organisations to address protracted local intra- and inter-clan conflicts in South Central Somalia through encouraging active participation of local stakeholders. Additionally, the programme focuses on the inclusion of women and youth in peacebuilding processes.

KENYA

LPI has been operational in Kenya since 1986, initially as a regional hub for activities across the Horn of Africa. Recognising compounding challenges that produce violence, LPI developed partnerships with both established and emerging informal civil society to promote new spaces for dialogue, joint action and constructive engagement with government actors.

HORN OF AFRICA

LPI's Addis Ababa-based Horn of Africa Regional Programme (HARP), launched in 2013, builds on our long-standing engagement in the Horn, and seeks to link local peacebuilding initiatives and structures with policy debates taking place at the regional level – in particular with the African Union (AU) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

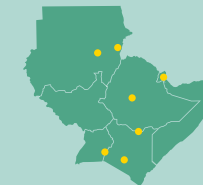
Major locations where programmes have implemented activities in 2018



DRC: 1 location
Bukavu



ETHIOPIA: 7 locations
Addis Ababa, Ambo, Bahir Dar, Gondar, Haramaya, Jimma, Eastern Hararge Zone



HORN OF AFRICA: 9 locations
Addis Ababa, Djibouti, Nairobi, Busia on the Kenyan and Ugandan side, Moyale on the Kenyan and Ethiopian side, Kassala, Khartoum



KENYA: 16 locations
Eastleigh, Majengo, Mlango Kubwa, Kibra, Korogocho, Mathare, Mandera East, Rhamu, Wajir township, Griftu, Dujis, Mansabubu, Modogashe, Garissa Township, Turkana South, Turkana East



SOMALIA: 16 locations
Mataban, Bergadid, Balambale, Herale, Guriel, Jowhar, Kismayo, Qandhal, Beledxawo, Luuq, Dolow, Dhobley, Garbaharey, Baidoa, Mogadishu, Merca



SUDAN: 3 locations
Khartoum, Kassala, Darfur



SWEDEN: 3 locations
Uppsala, Jönköping, Stockholm

How we work

As with many peacebuilding organisations, attention to relationships runs through LPI's work – from dialogue groups in Dalanj (Sudan) to regional policy spaces. LPI and our partners draw on a mix of peacebuilding methods and tools which are used and applied depending on the conflict issues at hand and contextual opportunities for engagement. Importantly, **we seek to build on the local knowledge and skills of people experiencing conflict** in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes region.



Dialogue:

Dialogue is the art of bringing people with different experiences and perspectives together to listen and share. The first and foremost outcome of dialogue is broadening and deepening understanding, which may change relationships and catalyse joint action to address conflict. Dialogue is a core ingredient across LPI's programmes. We and our partners work with different models of dialogue, including Sustained Dialogue (SD), community dialogues, women-to-women dialogues, and dialogues that build on traditional methods of conflict resolution. In most cases, dialogue is geared towards facilitating new agreements and collective action, to scale up collaborative relations from dialogue participants to the broader community, and/or to address identified conflict issues jointly.



Presentation during Sustained Dialogue Symposium at Ahfad University for Women, Khartoum.

Sustained Dialogue (SD) is a methodology for dialogue developed by the late Dr. Harold Saunders, president and founder of the International Institute for Sustained Dialogue (IISD), to promote positive long-term changes in attitudes and to raise the level of tolerance in society. SD is a process that enables adversarial relationships to change through meeting and engaging in meaningful dialogue over time. A safe space makes it possible for people from different sides of an issue to address their problems by providing a framework to think critically about the obstacles they face as they strive to improve their relationship. The process is driven by the participants and facilitated by trained group members. SD is relevant for settings where a diversity of groups interact, such as universities. The SD method is not 'just talk'. Further into the process, the dialogue groups engage in scenario-building to discover pro-active steps and positive solutions to pressing issues that have been discussed. Then they act together to implement the solutions. The power of Sustained Dialogue lies in that it is an on-going process. Each meeting builds on the previous, meaning that the group can (1) develop a cumulative agenda, with questions sharpened and carried from one meeting to the next; (2) build a common body of knowledge that participants can test between meetings; and (3) learn to talk and work analytically together. Gathering with a small group of 10-15 over a set period allows participants to build relationships and understanding, to grow together, and to develop a network of allies who are committed to making a change in their community.



Conflict analysis, research, and evidence generation:

Local knowledge is a cornerstone of conflict transformation processes. It is only through deep and nuanced understanding of conflict that strategic engagement with its transformation can begin. Developing this understanding can be a transformative act in and of itself. A diversity of analysis, research, and evidence-generation processes are employed in LPI's work. We draw on our history of supporting peacebuilding responses through research – and seek to innovate when needed. Generating insights is most powerful when it inspires LPI, partners, community stakeholders, and policy actors to act differently. For many years, LPI has worked with Participatory Action Research (PAR) as a vehicle to bring new perspectives and understanding into dialogue processes and peaceful collective action on conflict.

Participatory Action Research (PAR) for Conflict Transformation aims to identify and develop non-violent solutions to conflict. PAR differs from classical research and other interventions because it establishes a new relationship between research and action, theory and practice, and researcher and conflict stakeholders. The process produces knowledge at the same time as it transforms reality. All parties involved in a destructive or intractable conflict are engaged in the process of analysing a range of interpretations of the causes and consequences of conflict, as well as in identifying constructive future actions.



Using the arts, innovation, and technology for peacebuilding goals:

Art can expand the views of individuals and communities by challenging and changing assumptions about oneself and others. Artistic practices can increase understanding of different perspectives, creating greater empathy and inclusion. Some of the artistic methods utilized in our programmes include painting, theatre, poems, songs, dance, and traditional ceremonies. Use of skits, spoken word and longer performances highlighting alternatives to violence helped reach more people in urban settlements in Nairobi. Theatre has provided a channel through which a broader cross-section of the community can both observe and participate. These methods allow for self-expression and self-reflection, and prompt the visualisation of alternative ways of acting in the face of conflict. Technology, from the use of mobile communication and social media to geospatial mapping and virtual reality, can be resources for peacebuilding and help connect disparate stakeholders – such as borderland communities and policy makers – in new ways. Over the last few years, LPI and partners have explored the use of technology for peacebuilding as part of innovation efforts – particularly in the Horn of Africa Regional Programme.

Achievements 2018



52

formal partners in the
Horn of Africa and Sweden and over
a dozen international organisations



36,000

community participants including
approximately 18,000 women



584

dialogue processes



53

programme locations

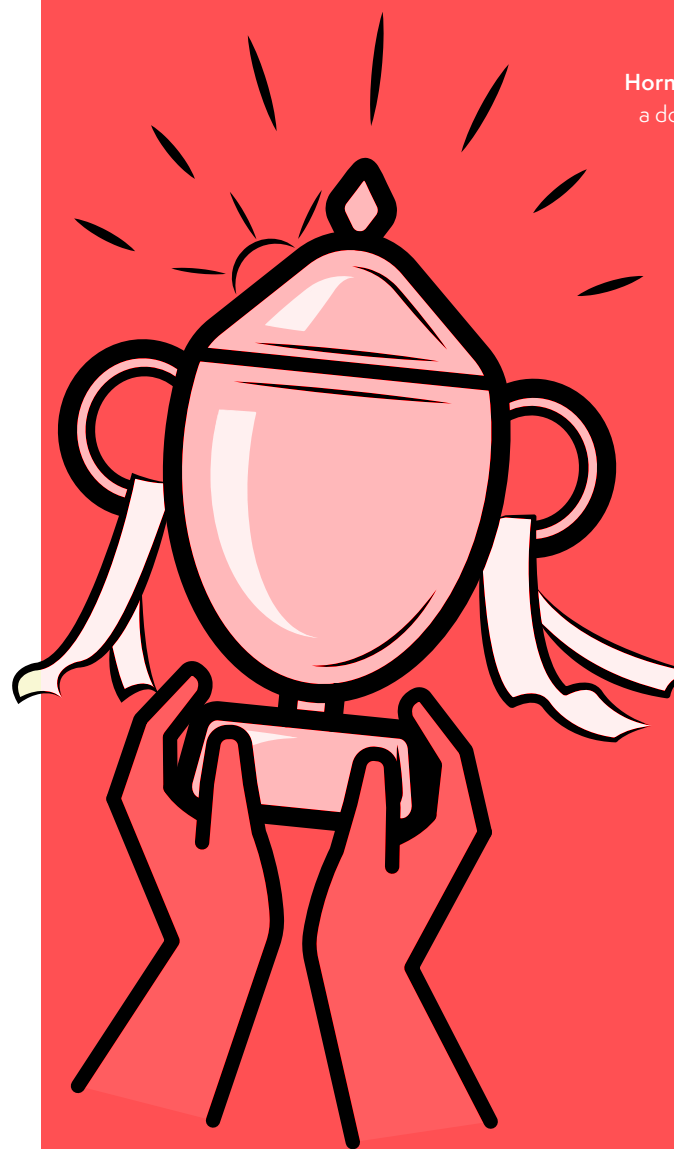


Approximately
10,000 hours
of dialogue in Kenya, Sudan,
Somalia and Ethiopia



85

Peace Actions organized
programme participants



Sustained Dialogue

... A safe space makes it possible for people from different sides of an issue to address their problems by providing a framework to think critically about the obstacles they face as they strive to improve their relationship...

Contributions to Change

LPI worked with **52** partners in 2018

Collectively, our work has contributed to work towards our vision that peace, justice and non-violent relations prevail through people's active work and commitment.

Across our programmes, we have seen changes in the following domains:

Strategic Priority 1: Civil society support and inclusive engagement for peace



Strengthened civil society engagement



Built understanding and trust between community members



Enhanced inclusivity in peacebuilding



Facilitated agreements and actions handling conflict non-violently

Strategic Priority 2: Policy engagement and awareness-raising



Made policy more responsive to people experiencing conflict



Created constructive relations between civil society and policy actors

Strategic Priority 3: Knowledge and learning to enhance practice



Reflected, questioned and learnt along the way



Gathered and shared analysis and from multiple perspectives



Inter-community dialogue in DRC.



Students planting trees during Peace Actions in Ethiopia.



Community members celebrating Peace Actions in Kenya.



Workshop for young peacebuilders in Sweden.



Youth leader addressing peers during Sustained Dialogue event in Kenya.



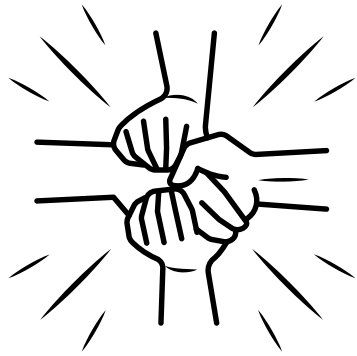
Clan dialogue meeting in Somalia.



Reflection meeting with regional partners.



Community members celebrating re-opening of road after inter-clan dialogue, Somalia.

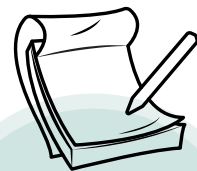


Strategic Priority 1: Civil society support and inclusive engagement for peace

Civil society actors play key roles in all societies bringing people from different walks of life together. They often create spaces where different perspectives and ideas can be discussed and translated into action. Civil society engagement for peace is an essential building block of inclusive communities and draws upon a wide array of capacities. LPI strives to help develop this versatility through flexible and supportive relationships. In practice, this capacity support includes sharing and learning along the way. This learning process is mutual – LPI adds value to the work of partners, and vice versa.

Joint engagement for peace is an integral element of LPI's civil society support. This engagement is shaped by the priorities of partners, as identified through joint analysis. Exchange and networking spaces offer opportunities to create connections, grow networks, and support the organization of civil society for peace.

in 2018



101
Training Events



3160
Participants

Civil society actors in conflict settings work continuously to adapt their strategic positioning to challenging contexts. They extend and nurture relations with stakeholders, mobilise resources, build strong organisational structures and culture – all while responding to ever-changing conflict dynamics. The examples from LPI partners in 2018 below demonstrate how investment in civil society strengthening makes positive contributions to peacebuilding.

”

Before my visit to Dalanj town, I did not know about marginalisation and lack of representation that contributed to the conflict in South Kordofan. (...) Now, I realise how much we need to work together to build peace in Sudan through dialogue between all parties to reach a common understanding. “

– Sustained Dialogue Participant from Afhad University for Women, Khartoum State



“We are all this, and more” Body Mapping as Journeys of Self-Reflection, LPI 201.

Examples of individual and organisational change

Self-exploration through Body Mapping in Kenya

The Body Mapping method brings together lived experiences and visual artistic expressions. Artistic activities are interwoven with personal storytelling, meditative and reflective exercises, deep listening, and group discussion and dialogue. The primary purpose of Body Mapping is to enable self-exploration and the sharing of personal experiences about life and the surrounding environment in a safe and confidential group setting.

In 2018, in the framework of a broader dialogue process, Body Mapping workshops were held for youth change agents from Dujis, Garissa township, Mansabubu, and Modogashe, Kenya. The participants were young women and men from diverse communities. They traced their bodies on canvas, and coloured them in. These Body Maps

became visual representations of their histories, hopes, aspirations, visions, and desires for their community and themselves. The success of this type of experiential learning highlights the importance of arts and creativity in self-expression, sharing deep feelings, and group bonding. Moving beyond these workshops, youth participants applied art-based methodologies in their dialogue sessions. They explored identity, inclusivity, and ways to move towards national cohesion through drawing, poetry, song, dance, and drama. Body Mapping enabled participants to (re) discover themselves as a source of strength and healing through sharing – the best moments, worst moments, their sense of belonging to Kenya, hopes, and aspirations.

Download
[Body Mapping
as Journeys of
Self-Reflection](#)

Peace and Development Centre:
Critical peace actor in a changing Ethiopia

Against the backdrop of rapid changes that followed the election of a new Prime Minister in April, LPI's long-term partner in Ethiopia – the Peace and Development Centre (PDC) – demonstrated its capacity as a respected peace actor in 2018. The political shifts and fast-paced reforms indicating a democratic opening were accompanied by social unrest and an increase in communal-level violence across the country. PDC and LPI have partnered since 2009 to create space for Sustained Dialogue (SD) on university campuses. SD addresses divisive issues among students, and reached five public universities by 2017 – Ambo, Jimma, Haramaya, Bahir Dar, and Gondar.

PDC has also launched an initiative in East Haraghe Zone to build the capacities of different stakeholders to address land-related issues and strengthen customary institutions for the sustainable and non-violent resolution of land-related conflicts. With support from other partners, PDC has been engaging communities across the country by creating spaces for dialogue – expanding the geographic scope to include Afar, Gambella, Somali, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' (SNNP) regional states. PDC has received requests to provide mediation support from diverse sides of the political spectrum in 2018 – true testament to its recognition as a peacebuilding resource in Ethiopia.

Community peacebuilding platforms:
Somali clan groups organise to jointly address conflict

Zamzam Foundation and the Somali Women's Solidarity Organisation, with support from LPI, have worked to bring clan groups together to address conflict. Together, they draw on the strengths of traditional conflict resolution systems while also striving to make them more inclusive and better adapted to today's conflict dynamics. Previously divided communities have agreed to establish cross-community peacebuilding platforms to lay foundations for sustainable peace.



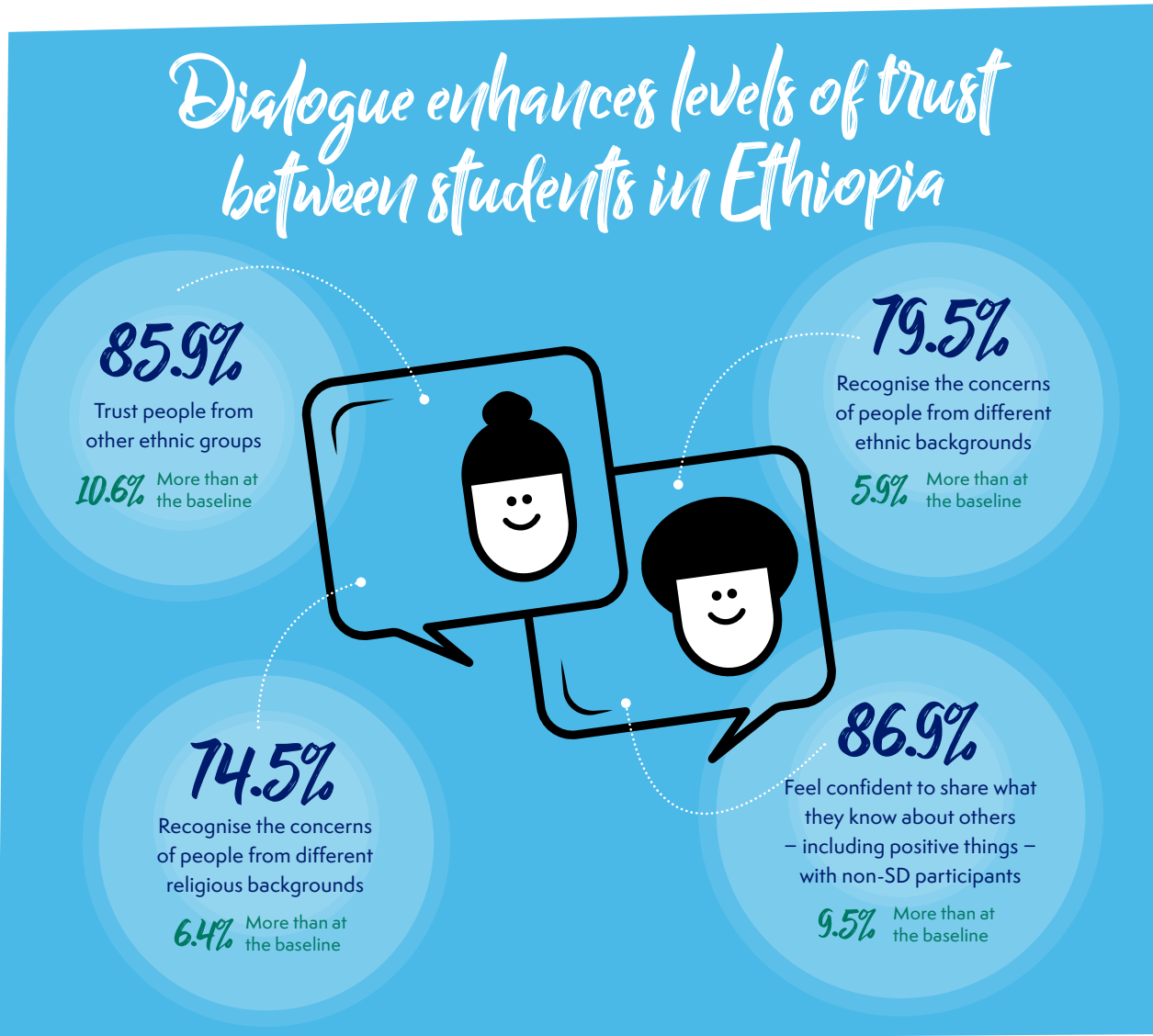
Somali elders during a community dialogue, Somalia.

” The project has increased the conflict resolution skills of the platforms through the training workshops— skills such as focusing more on the way forward rather than on what has happened in the past, and the ability to be patient and persistent. “

— Local facilitator from Somalia

Examples of building understanding
and trust between community members

More Sustained Dialogue participants say they trust others after dialogue. Peace requires people to meet each other in new ways, listen, learn, and challenge each other. In Ethiopia, participants confirm that Sustained Dialogue participation correlates with increased levels of trust, as perceived by participant. Interestingly, the degree of change was higher in female Sustained Dialogue participants. In other words, there were less young women than men who started out trusting, yet there were as many – and in some cases more – young women who trusted others after the dialogue processes. Focus group participants have suggested that Sustained Dialogue is a particular source of empowerment for young women.



*Source Baseline and Endline Data, Sustained Dialogue project of the Peace and Development Centre and LPI, in collaboration with universities in Ethiopia.

Types of peace actions



Public awareness-raising and community-building through collective actions in the community (such as clean-ups), collective walks, and information sharing



Dialogue and townhalls with government actors, including security actors or candidates running for election



Using the arts, including drama, art exhibitions, and traditional ceremonies such as coffee and Hanna ceremonies



Creating or renovating physical spaces for dialogue on university campuses, such as creating a Peace Umbrella, Sustained Dialogue Park, and Peace Center



Using sports such as volleyball or football tournaments to bring faith communities or security actors and youth together

Beyond survey data, LPI and partner staff have observed various examples of behaviour change through dialogue. In Kenya, female and male youth realised that, despite their differences, they faced similar challenges and should work together to address them and develop relationships across divides. In Nairobi, for example, members of the Sustained Dialogue groups shared that they had developed genuine friendships through the dialogue process, meeting each other outside of the dialogue setting and attending weddings and funerals together.

Somali Peace Line and LPI launched Sustained Dialogue in Somalia in 2018. Participants who did not know each other before have visited sick relatives, attended funeral ceremonies, supported people in need – including orphans – and women participants have even gone so far as to attend the births of each other's children.

Dialogue processes create new opportunities for joint actions across groups. Through such 'Peace Actions', the participants embody the values and importance of collaboration while also reaching more people in the broader community.

Examples of facilitated agreements and actions to handle inter-group conflict non-violently

Personal and inter-personal changes must be nurtured and supported to contribute to transforming conflict in the broader community. During 2018, communities that LPI and partners worked with moved towards different ways of relating to each other.

Developing agreements for addressing conflict non-violently

In Garissa, Kenya, in partnership with the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims, 288 dialogues were conducted in Garissa Township, Dujis, Modgashe, and Mansabubu in north-eastern Kenya. Participants came from diverse ethnic, clan, economic, and socio-political backgrounds to discuss insecurity linked to land and boundary issues, rising cases of sexual and gender-based violence, scarcity of resources (water, grazing lands), camel rustling, private sector development, and violent extremism.

“ We didn't know each other. We are people from different ethnic groups coming together to discuss key issues affecting all of us, this is in itself a huge success. **”**

– Change agent engaged by the programme, Garissa, Kenya.

After dialogues in Dujis, participating groups agreed to establish a joint water committee with representatives from both communities to preserve the resource and share it evenly in the dry season. They also agreed to distribute food aid fairly. The community members are working closely with the local administration towards safeguarding these agreements, which are currently holding.

In Somalia, LPI and Zamzam Foundation have engaged communities in regions of protracted clan conflict in intra- and inter-clan dialogue and joint actions. As a result, agreements to address issues non-violently have been negotiated. While initially successful, in a context of quickly changing political dynamics and governance challenges, some have not been sustained. Reasons include violent incidents by individuals or groups not involved in the dialogue or validation efforts. Delays in implementation can also open space for breaches. Moreover, agreements often fail to spell out implementation mechanisms and how communication of progress will be assured in a strong enough manner.

Notwithstanding, several agreements have held over extended periods of time. With improved relationships and increased levels of trust and understanding, the levels of tension have been reduced. Critically, those involved have begun to address conflicts through non-violent responses.

” Before this peacebuilding project, the power of the militia was the only thing believed to solve problems, none of us would have ever thought of having an alternative and less costly way. (...) I wouldn’t have ever dreamt of receiving any compensation for the death of my son or even [another clan’s] elder coming and saying sorry. This project has enlightened us and put hopes in our heart that we can solve our disputes peacefully. “

– Member of a peacebuilding platform, Somalia.

During 2018, clan relations began to show shifts towards increased collaboration following peace agreements, including the creation of a joint security force, renewed economic and social ties. Examples were the resumption of free movement of goods and people between areas previously disconnected, intermarriages, and cooperation between business actors to deal with claims of abduction or loss of goods. Another significant change is that the reach of dialogues has expanded by involving neighbouring clans. In certain cases, neighbouring clans not directly involved with the original conflict, were willing to pay compensation on behalf of other clans to ensure broader peace.

Seeking non-violent solutions when tensions rise

Partners, change agents, and community actors built on their skills, networks, and relational gains, and intervened when tensions mounted.

In Turkana, Kenya, LPI collaborated with communities and a consortium of six local and international CSOs. Together, we sought to identify conflict risks related to oil and gas exploration and extraction, and engage with county, national, and private sector actors to safeguard environmental, health, and livelihood interests. The work focused east and south of Turkana County, where communities were impacted by oil extractive operations. In June 2018, when the Early Oil Pilot Scheme (EOPS) launched and transported stored crude oil drawn from testing

oil wells, there was still lack of clarity and agreement from the part of government on the grievances raised by the community. Communities launched peaceful protests and blocked trucks transporting crude oil to Mombasa from Lokichar. Community members indicated that through their engagement with LPI, their outlook and approach to demonstrations had shifted towards a non-violent expression of their grievances.

The University of Dalanj is situated in South Kordofan State, Sudan, close to the border with South Sudan. In this conflict-affected area, the University campus is one space where ethnic and religious divisions come to the fore. LPI has worked with the Peace and Development Studies Center (PDSC) at the University for some years now. The Center is an important counterpart and leader of Sustained Dialogue processes on campus. PDSC plays far more than an academic role. In January 2018, following the eruption of a violent conflict on the campus, PDSC proactively acted as a mediator between different Dalanj community groups. The Center invited community leaders from the city after the escalation of hate speech against students of a certain group. The administration of the Center provided space for all opinions to be heard, and emphasised the necessity of putting an end to hate speech. Also, PDSC stressed the right to education for all students at the University, as Sudanese citizens in any part of their country. By the end of the meeting, participants agreed on taking proactive actions to mitigate hate speech in Dalanj community and support efforts of University stability.



Sustained Dialogue exchange, Sudan.

Examples of enhancing inclusivity in peacebuilding

Women as leaders for peace:
Kismayo Women Platform mediating inter-clan conflict

In March 2018, the newly established Kismayo Women Platform – which brings together 39 women from across multiple clans – mediated an inter-clan conflict in a village about 18 kilometres outside Kismayo town in Somalia. Together with the Somali Women’s Solidarity Organisation, they collaborated with the local administration and led separate talks with each clan before calling both sides and requesting them to halt violence until a lasting solution could be found. These measures enabled the clans to stop fighting and address their issues non-violently through two separate day-long intra-clan dialogues aimed at understanding the causes of the conflict and identifying non-violent means to address them. The two separate intra-clan dialogues were then followed by an inter-clan dialogue.

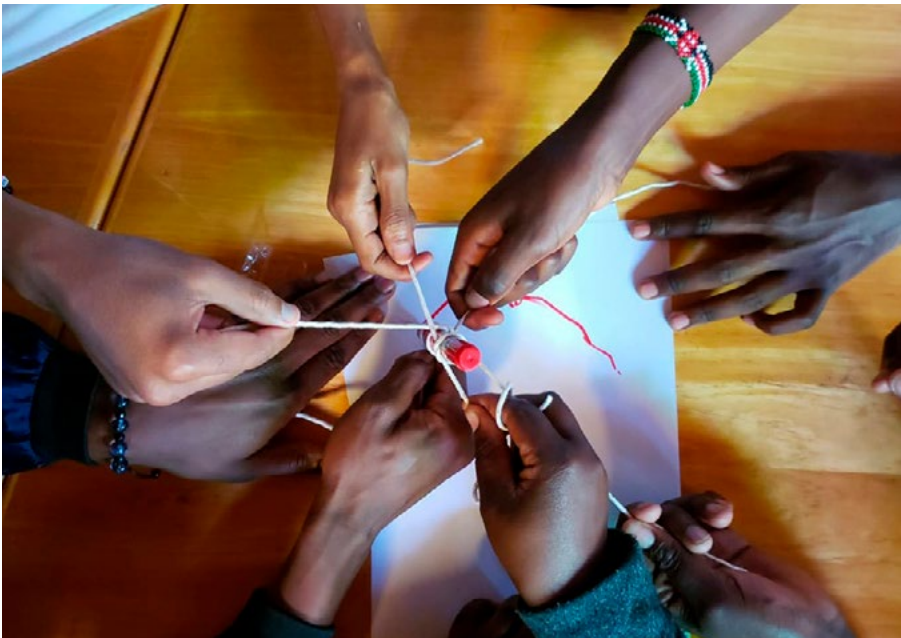
This women’s initiative is unprecedented in the area, as conflict mediation has been the sole responsibility of male elders. In this case the women themselves brought the elders together, rather than the more common process whereby LPI and partners negotiate with elders to give space to women in the process. In August 2018, the Platform and Jubbaland Ministry of Internal Affairs convened a second dialogue resulting in a peace agreement.

” You are women who have skills, knowledge, and ability to figure out the cause of the conflict. I liked the way you handled the discussion and you have milked all the information we have without any difficulties and now we have accepted all your requests and are saying 'guide us, and we will follow you'. “

– Ugas (Crown Elder), thanking the Kismayo Women Platform members after intra-clan dialogue, Somalia.



Kismayo Women Platform (with white scarves) and local administration during intervention in inter-clan conflict outside Kismayo.



Youth leaders practicing teamwork during a reflection workshop, Kenya.

Steps towards increased youth inclusion in decision-making structures and processes in Kenya

Youth are not only the largest age group in Kenya, but also disproportionately affected by violence – both as agents and victims. Beyond ensuring young people’s perspective are heard and accounted for, participation also contributes to changing perceptions that youth are ‘the problem’, when in fact they can lead positive change in their communities if given the support. The *Promoting the role of youth in peaceful elections in Kenya* project – in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion and Saferworld – lobbied for the inclusion of youth representatives in government peace structures, and sub-county peace committees. In Nairobi, this resulted in two young men and one young woman being selected (in Kibra, Korogocho and Mathare) with one chosen as deputy chairperson of the Peace Committee. Meet-ings with the Nairobi County Commissioner and the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management (NSC) were also conducted to restart conversations on how peace committees countrywide can be more inclusive of women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

” We are open to the idea of recruiting youth and women to the Kibra Sub-County Peace Committee. We can see now that they have a lot of value to add.³ “

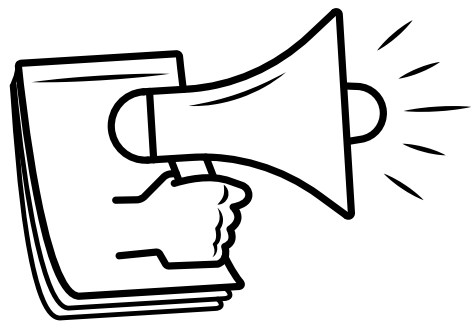
– Peace Committee member, Kibra (Nairobi), Kenya
(Extract from Final Project Evaluation Report)

³ Final Evaluation of the ‘Promoting the role of youth in Peaceful Elections in Kenya’ Project, implemented by Saferworld, Life & Peace Institute (LPI) and Humanity & Inclusion (HI). Evaluation led by Mikewa Ogada, independent consultant.

Harnessing the connecting power of sports

... using sports such as a
volleyball tournament between
faith communities, or football
tournament between security
actors and the youth ...

Football match between youth and security actors,
(between Majengo and Eastleigh), Nairobi, Kenya.



Strategic Priority 2: Policy engagement and awareness-raising

Building from the strong foundation of engagement with community actors, LPI engages with policy actors – alongside our partners and others – to motivate and support them to play constructive roles in the promotion of peace and justice. Policy engagement seeks to deepen understanding of complex conflict dynamics and the multiple perspectives and priorities of people experiencing conflict. Depending on the issue and context, policies and policy actors on local, sub-national, national, regional, and global levels are addressed. One aim is to link these levels and include civil society actors in decision-making. Facilitating face-to-face engagement with policy actors is a key ingredient of doing so, as is forming networks and coalitions around shared priorities.

One approach to enhance debates on current peace and conflict issues in LPI's programme areas is the publication of the Horn of Africa Bulletin and the Horn of Africa Bulletin Forums. Evidence generation to enhance knowledge is another ingredient of policy engagement, integrating different types of evidence, such as Life Stories, with data from participatory focus group discussions and academic studies.

A wide range of policy actors were engaged in 2018, including government representatives from line ministries, governmental committees and local authorities, international and regional organisations (including IGAD, AU, United Nations), traditional authorities (elders and religious leaders) as well as security actors.

Types of policy actors reached



UN Special
Representative of the
Secretary General for
Somalia

IGAD CEWARN

IGAD Member States

AU Commission



Regional-level ministries
National committees
and commissions



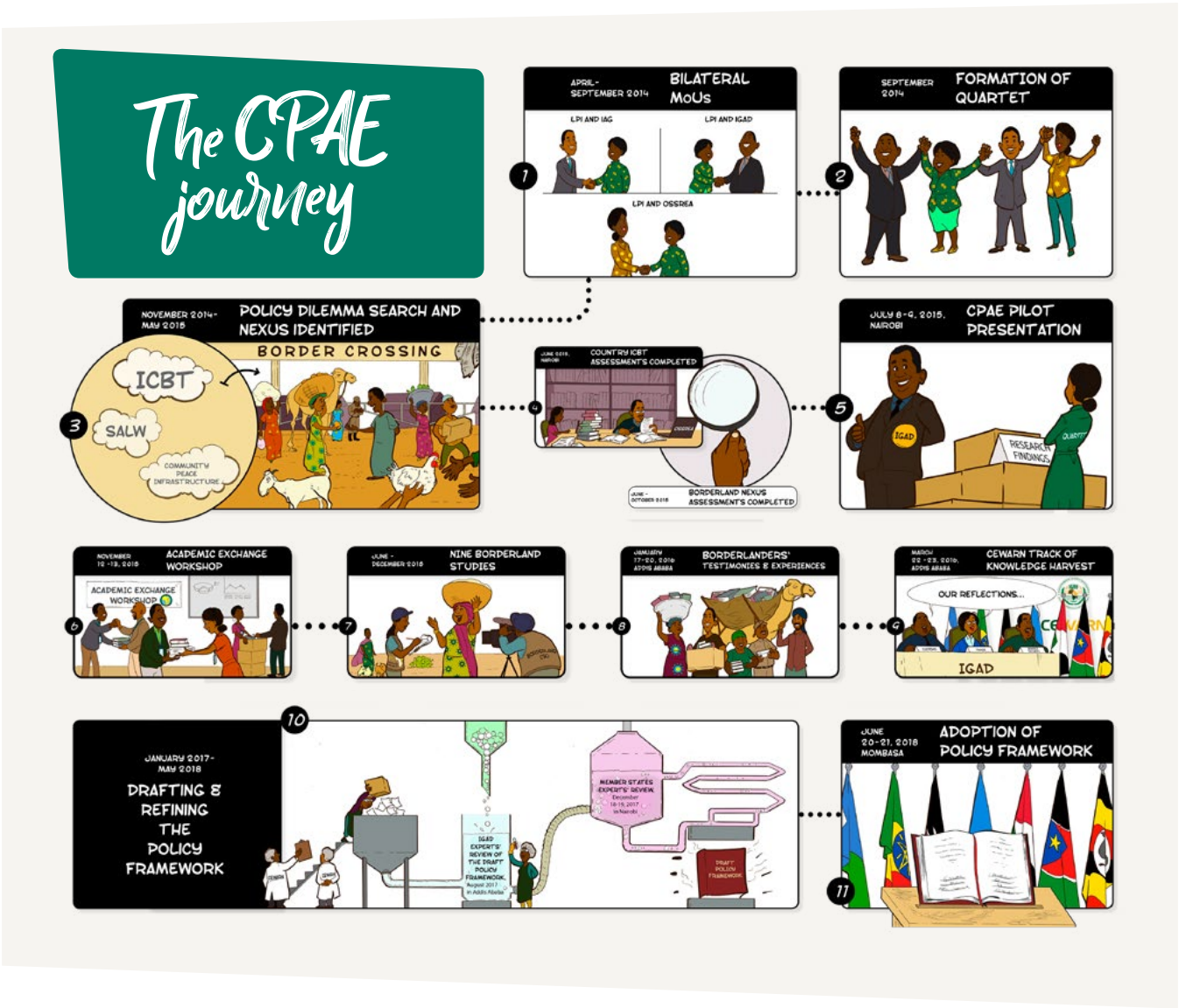
Examples of increased policy responsiveness to people experiencing conflict

IGAD Policy Framework on informal cross-border trade creates pathway to strengthened human security

In a joint initiative launched in 2014, LPI was one of four organisations – the Quartet⁴ – that facilitated a collaborative process to contribute to the human security of borderland communities and address challenges in security governance, and its links with informal cross-border trade. The process harvested

knowledge and experiences from local- and regional-level representatives of borderland communities, civil society actors, academics, civil servants, and regional member states, including experts in the policy realm. The process paid particular attention to the contribution of the primary stakeholders, i.e. borderland communities. It culminated in June 2018, when Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) member states signed a new Policy Framework on the Informal Cross-Border Trade & Cross-Border Security Governance Nexus.

The adoption of the Policy Framework signifies a key milestone towards increasing regional integration and cooperation by advancing economic integration and facilitating integrated border management.



⁴Testing new ways of engaging in regional policy arenas, LPI through the Horn of Africa Regional Programme (HARP) convened partners from civil society, regional policy bodies and academia into one joint platform for action. It was dubbed the “Quartet” and includes: The Inter-governmental Authority on Development’s Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN), InterAfrica Group (IAG); Organization for Social Science in Research In Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) and LPI.

Female traders benefit from opportunities to raise their concerns at the regional level.

M. is an informal cross-border trader and in the eyes of some, a prominent ‘smuggler’ on the border between Uganda and Kenya. For eight years, she was known as such by immigration officials and law enforcement along this border. During her time as a ‘smuggler’, M. was very vulnerable. Not only was she unable to accumulate capital because of the barriers to cross-border trade, but the work also exposed her and her peers to physical risks and harassment.

M. is now a successful activist and peacebuilder at the local and continental levels. She participated in a number of activities in the framework of the Horn of Africa Regional Programme. M. attests that informing traders about trade regulations and integration, linking them to trade fairs, and exposing them to bigger markets have led to real impacts on the ground.

M. was also invited to Addis Ababa with representatives of CSOs from IGAD borderlands, to present evidence to inform the IGAD policy framework on informal cross-border trade and security governance. Their testimonies helped shape the final document, adopted by IGAD in June 2018.

LPI also encouraged M. to join the Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-Africa), which convened its first General Assembly in Algeria in December 2017. Meeting other inspirational women peacebuilders and realising their common mission re-invigorated M.’s efforts at home. She returned to Busia and made an appointment with the Office of the District Commissioner sharing her story and he finally agreed to her request for a women’s desk in the Busia One Stop Border Post (OSBP). Follow-up was slow, so M. delivered her message again during a meeting with the Ministry of Trade in Kampala. Her request was approved by the Ministry.

“Before the meeting was over, they had called Busia to say, “Give M. a key!””

M.’s story is one of persistence, demonstrating how community actors can create tremendous change. After the Women Cross-Border Traders opened their office within OSBP, they sensitised the community, spread information, grew its membership and now work as a cooperative to buy and sell goods collectively, taking advantage of economies of scale and helping members to build capital. They can now reach more women and families and work effectively and directly with customs officials. This is also a story of borderland actors advocating for their own priorities – linking communities to policymaking institutions. Having lived the life of a ‘smuggler’, M.’s deep understanding of the issues was an invaluable resource for her efforts. Her membership in FemWiseAfrica has enabled her to share her wisdom and experience with new audiences. In October 2018, she was invited by the African Union to mediate a border dispute between Malawi and Tanzania, employing her expertise from the borderlands in a continental-level peace process. This is a testament to the wealth of knowledge and understanding yet to be tapped for policy improvement across the continent.



Busia Border Post, Kenya and Uganda.

Examples of constructive relationships between civil society and policy actors

A critical component of policy engagement is to bring actors together, particularly across sectors. This reflects broader peacebuilding principles – placing emphasis on listening and understanding multiple perspectives to find responses to conflict. Forming coalitions and seeking to create new spaces where diverse stakeholders can interact constructively with each other is critical in this regard.

Civil society coming together for collective policy influencing

In 2018, major strides were made with a coalition of borderland CSOs in the framework of the Horn of Africa Regional Programme. LPI works with Act, Change, Transform! Kenya (ACT!), InterAfrica Group (IAG), and the Eastern Africa Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) in the joint initiative *Improving policies for conflict prevention: Civil society engagement to transform borderlands in Africa*. The project seeks to place day-to-day human security concerns on the continental policy agenda on cross-border cooperation. It focuses specifically on the experiences of the seven million estimated residents of Moyale town on the Ethiopia-Kenya border, Busia town on Kenya-Uganda border, and Kassala, Sudan. The 26 CSO members of the borderland coalition met frequently and have now merged their borderland-specific plans into an aggregated Coalition Advocacy Plan for the African Union Niamey Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation⁵ and other peace and security issues, including reduction of border conflicts, human trafficking and child protection, and labour issues. During the coalition’s second visit to the African Union Head Quarters in November of this year, Ambassador Gateretse-Ngoga appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Coalition. He also stated that since the first visit, the AU Conflict Prevention and Early Warning Division (CPEWD) had been “*trying to adjust [their] programmes to [borderlanders’] needs*” as expressed in that first meeting.

Interface between community and local governance actors

Facilitating increased interaction between communities and local governance actors constitutes a key component across LPI-supported programmes. In north-eastern Kenya, change agents that we and our partners support have proactively engaged security actors to address insecurity. This is a significant result considering the strained relationships between community and security actors in these areas. As an example, dialogue participants decided to approach the Deputy County Commissioner who oversees administration and security in their community. They were concerned that security actors pursued only one particular community when crimes were committed, and engaged with the Commissioner to find ways to address this problem.

In Somalia, peacebuilding platforms, partners, and LPI consistently engage local authorities across programme locations. This engagement ranges from initial ‘buy-in’ meetings at the start of new processes, to authorities’ participating in key moments such as during intra- and inter-clan dialogue, when agreements and

⁵ Further information on the Niamey Convention (also known as the African Union Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation) is available here: <http://www.peaceau.org/uploads/niamey-convention-quick-sheet-english.pdf>

...Facilitating increased interaction between communities and local governance actors constitutes a key component across LPI-supported programmes...

Participants in forum on cross-border cooperation in Kassala, Sudan.

decisions are being reached and key issues for follow-up emerge. The dynamic of local governance and political conflict in Somalia has been challenging, as it involves overlapping administrations, contested political authority, changes in key government positions, and high levels of insecurity. Despite these challenges, collaboration between local administrations and platforms has been fruitful in several cases. Improved relations also trickle down to communities, as demonstrated by cases of communities engaging authorities constructively in response to conflict.

Creating space for civil society's role in peacebuilding

In many environments in the Horn of Africa, the role and space for civil society and nature of relationships with authorities are complex. They can be characterised by caution, wariness, and on occasion, mutual suspicion. This sometimes impacts the possibilities for peacebuilding. Transparent communication, trust-building, and engagement can result in expanded civil society space.

In Ethiopia, local administrations – and the Ministry of Federal & Pastoral Development Affairs responsible for their oversight – have supported local youth-led peace projects within the framework of the ‘Peace Incubation’ initiative connected to the Sustained Dialogue processes. They were pleased to see young people leading peacebuilding initiatives. For example, the woreda administration in Sekoro town allowed them to use the meeting hall free of charge and participated in panel discussions, providing opening remarks as well as attending the art for peace stage performances. The administration then provided LPI a letter of permission for the initiative to build peace in Sekoro town. Nationally, the ministry also wrote support letters to the peace and security departments of Amhara, Oromia, Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region, Gambella, and Benishangul-Gumuz regional states to support the students as needed during the implementation of their local peace projects.

In Sudan, in collaboration with IGAD, a forum on cross-border cooperation was organised in Kassala with participation from the Head of the Humanitarian Affairs Commission (HAC), the Police Commissioner, Minister of Trade, several ambassadors, director-level officials, representatives from Kassala University, and local civil society from Kassala. The two days of presentations and discussions culminated in a set of recommendations presented to the presiding Minister of Trade. These recommendations focused on support of cross-border cooperation – in particular cooperation with civil society through appropriate legislation. They also recommended replication of the project in similar border areas elsewhere in Sudan. The Minister of Trade responded positively and the meeting laid solid foundations for subsequent advocacy by borderland CSOs to the Minister and relevant officials.

The Peace and Development Centre launched a new project focused on conflict-sensitive land administration in Ethiopia. They identified and partnered with local government actors to take part in the first phase of the participatory research. These actors include the Regional and Zone officials from the Security

and Administration, the Office of the Public Prosecutor, the Rural Land Administration, the Office of Natural Resource Protection and Climate Change Mitigation, and the District Court in East Hararghe Zone. By engaging these policy actors in conversations and participatory analysis, they were able to enhance a common understanding about the causes of land-related conflict. Government stakeholders validated the research findings, confirming both the urgency – due to the magnitude of land-related problems in the region – and the relevance of the approach to reframe the issue as socio-culturally embedded challenges. The local administration demonstrated clear political will to support better practice around the arbitration and management of land conflicts.



Dalwalba waxaa dhisa dadkiisa [“Every nation is built by its people”] Graffiti Art in Somalia. Photo by Deqa Abshir.

Examples of bringing insights, experiences, and analysis from multiple stakeholders to policy agendas

Download the publication [Being and Becoming A Peacebuilder](#)

From Sustained Dialogue groups to the Youth, Peace, and Security actors in the UN

In 2018, LPI received resoundingly positive feedback from the Youth, Peace, and Security Secretariat of the United Nations (UN) on the submission of its 2017 publication, *Being and Becoming A Peacebuilder* to the progress study on UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS). In an email to LPI, the YPS Secretariat stated, “(…) your paper was so insightful, we did use it quite extensively.”

The publication was based on LPI’s support of nearly ten years and over 20,000 hours of youth-led dialogue in Ethiopia, Sudan, and Kenya. It confirmed how LPI’s and our partners’ experience of supporting peacebuilding in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes can add value to global peacebuilding agendas.

4 key insights from *Being and Becoming A Peacebuilder*

1

Youth are not a homogenous group, and need to be engaged on the basis of a nuanced understanding of their specific – and diverse – needs;

2

The notion that there are ‘youth issues’ is misleading and unhelpful – youth want to, and can, contribute to the biggest challenges facing society as a whole;

3

Youth are current as well as future leaders, and should be meaningfully engaged and not only in a tokenistic fashion;

4

Youth need an enabling environment to act on their agency.

The study suggested policy and practice recommendations to help bring UN Resolution 2250 on YPS into operation. LPI attended the UN Security Council Open Debate on YPS between 23-27 April 2018 in New York, where we connected with global stakeholders – including Permanent Missions to the UN – and participated in the YPS Inter-Agency Working Group which drives the YPS agenda globally. Subsequently, the Global Coalition has adopted the LPI-suggested Y-Now – a youth-led accountability mechanism – as one of the key strategies taken on by the United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY).

Participation at UN High-Level Colloquium on Somalia

In February 2018, LPI participated in the High-Level Colloquium organised by the United Nations Somalia Mission (UNSOM) and Special Representative to the Secretary General. Among the papers presented were three LPI-commissioned papers: *Statebuilding Amidst Conflict: The Urgency of Local Reconciliation*; *AMISOM: Challenges of Influence, Impartiality and Disengagement*; *Beyond Principles: The Inclusion of Somali Women in Peacebuilding*.⁶ Participants deliberated on the national reconciliation effort in Somalia and gave recommendations, which the Minister of Interior of the Federal Government of Somalia and the UN promised to implement depending on priorities. LPI participated in a follow-up workshop later in the year which was organised by the Rift Valley Institute and CAN International in collaboration with UNSOM and the Ministry of the Interior. The goal of the workshop was to explore options for developing a Community of Practice on issues related to the colloquium and national reconciliation.

Download
The latest issue of
the HAB bulletin



The Horn of Africa Bulletin and Forum:
Analysis and new connections

Since 1989 LPI has published current analysis on regional peace and security issues in the Horn of Africa since 1989 through the Horn of Africa Bulletin (HAB). Leveraging its 30-year history and networks, the HAB Forum has brought HAB issues to life by convening relevant policy stakeholders and civil society around the latest issue of the HAB. The Forum encourages discussion and debates on themes affecting the region and contributes to enhancing the regional-level discussion.

⁶ The papers were published in the volume by Michael Keating and Matt Waldman, War and Peace in Somalia. National Grievances, Local Conflict and Al-Shabaab, Hurst 2018.

Horn of Africa Bulletin

Youthquake in the Horn:
UNSCR 2250 and Youth, Peace
& Security (February 2018)

Imagining Peace:
Ethiopia-Eritrea
Rapprochement
(October 2018)

**Maritime Insecurity
Dilemmas amidst a new
scramble for the Horn?**
(May 2018)

Transitions in the Horn:
Between Optimism
and Caution
(December 2018)



141
participants,
including **57 women**

95%
survey respondents from
across forums found the
events informative

78%
said they had created new
connections through liaising with
people that they would normally
not meet in their work

Students give input into Sweden's National Action Plan for the implementation of the Global Goals

Through its Let's Engage the Global Goals project in Sweden, LPI provided a platform for students from Uppsala and Jönköping to provide input into Sweden's National Action Plan (NAP) creation process in April 2018. When invited to the hearing arranged by the Ministry of Finance, LPI facilitated workshops encouraging participants to consider what they would want a NAP to contain for the implementation of the Global Goals in Sweden. LPI summarised youth input, validated it with participants, and then shared this at the hearing. Seizing the momentum, LPI continues to convene platforms for youth engagement and to discuss youth inclusion in Sweden. Core recommendations from these discussions are presented in LPI's policy brief *The Search for a Youth-Inclusive Sweden*. Students for Sustainable Action (SSA) from Jönköping also contributed to and validated the policy brief during the writing process.

Sweden Programme

Life & Peace INSTITUTE

The Search for a Youth-Inclusive Sweden

Produced by the Life & Peace Institute in collaboration with Students for Sustainable Action from Jönköping University

Download [The Search for a Youth-Inclusive Sweden](#)

Lack of inclusion in youth wing of pol. parties

Big groups of youth as suspects by the police (often with poor)

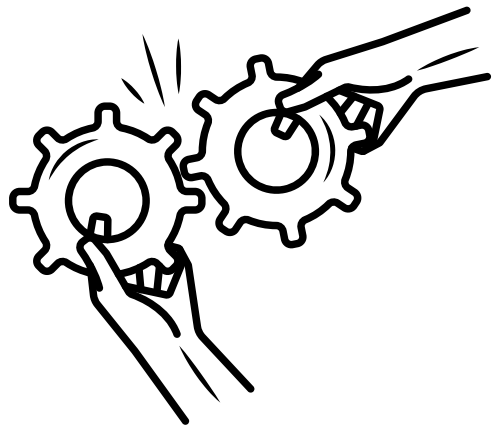
What can be done better to include youth

Need to find out in what way

Let's Engage the Global Goals project in Sweden.



Let's Engage the Global Goals project in Sweden.



Strategic Priority 3.

Knowledge and learning to enhance practice

LPI strives to continuously improve its peacebuilding work. This requires deep reflection and acknowledgement that conflict transformation processes are rife with setbacks and challenges, as well as occasional breakthroughs. LPI strives to make its knowledge and experience available to peacebuilding practitioners and research communities. This is done via strategic partnerships with relevant local and international researchers, academic actors, and peacebuilding practitioners. At the same time, LPI gathers relevant theories, research findings, and experiences from other contexts and organisations, and communicates them within LPI and to its partners.

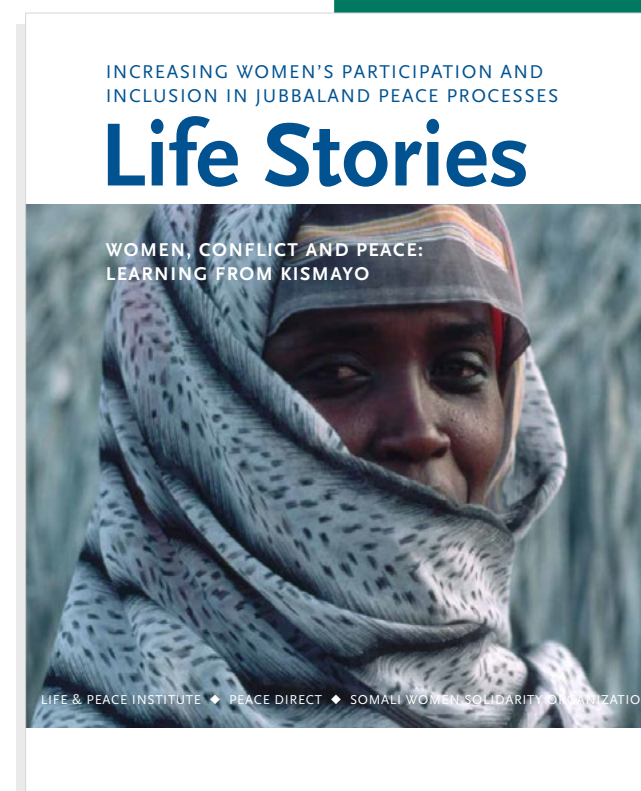
Knowledge and Learning serves as the glue for the work done by LPI and our partners, and this third priority links peacebuilding work with communities experiencing conflict on the one hand, and policy actors on the other. Learning in our programming happens when we come together and ask critical questions. Across programmes, this is supported by monitoring and evaluation activities.

Examples of gathering and sharing analysis from multiple perspectives

Evidence for understanding inclusion

A key theme in 2018 was inclusion, and particularly gendered roles in peace and conflict. This is best reflected in the work of the Somalia programme. Two publications – *Learning from Kismayo* and *Life Stories* – were published in

April 2018, based on several years of dialogue and an integrated research process conducted in partnership with Peace Direct and the Somali Women's Solidarity Organisation (SWSO). These publications were disseminated to over 250 key academics, policy actors, and civil society representatives over the course of the year. The evidence strongly points to the fact that the inclusion of women in peace processes is not just about fulfilling a policy requirement, but is, instead, essential to reduce conflict and improve the chances of achieving stability and sustainable peace. Women's systematic exclusion from, or tokenistic inclusion in, peace processes seems to contribute to the fact that the continuum of violence is never fully broken.



Life Stories from women in Kismayo

As part of the broader research project, LPI, SWSO, and Peace Direct gathered women's accounts of their journeys and experiences since 1991. Through these collected memories, we hear and see the war through the lives of six ordinary women who were young women or girls at the start of the war. In itself, each life story offers valuable insight into resilience. Remarkably, the common thread woven between each woman's testimony is a sense of self-discovery. Telling their life stories also seems to provide catharsis – a space in which to begin to release and share emotions about traumatic pasts. As these testimonies illustrate, trauma does not fit neatly into a black and white, victim versus perpetrator, dichotomy.

[Download Learning from Kismayo and Life Stories](#)

Building on the strong interest in the research and its usefulness to further refine gender-related programming, two additional evidence generation processes on women and youth's roles in peace and conflict were launched in 2018. Research was conducted on the role of women in conflict and peace in Gedo region and in Garissa, Kenya, and a similar research effort was carried out in Baidoa and Jowhar. These were broadened to incorporate perspectives from female and male youth.

⁷ Conflict Systems Analysis focuses on understanding the dynamic causal inter-relationships between conflict and peace drivers in a complex social system, in order to identify effective entry points for influencing change. For more information, see Designing Strategic Initiatives to Impact Conflict Systems: Systems Approaches to Peacebuilding. A Resource Manual. Cambridge, MA: CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, 2016. <http://cdacollaborative.org/publication/designing-strategic-initiatives-impact-conflict-systems-systems-approaches-peacebuilding/>

⁸ Outcome Harvesting is a monitoring and evaluation approach inspired by Outcome Mapping and utilisation-focused evaluation. Unlike other evaluation methods, it does not start with predetermined outcomes and measure progress towards them, but rather collects evidence of what has been achieved in the programme or project area and works backwards to determine whether and how the project or intervention contributed to the change. See: Wilson-Grau, R. (2015) Outcome Harvesting. Better Evaluation. Retrieved from http://betterevaluation.org/plan/approach/outcome_harvesting



Regional Conflict Analysis, HARP.

Reflected, questioned, and learned along the way

Analysing together

In 2018, LPI and partner teams came together twice across programmes for joint analysis. In a regional conflict analysis workshop 36 diverse participants from LPI and partners in Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, and DRC gained a strengthened understanding of regional conflict dynamics through a Systems Analysis methodology.⁷ LPI’s Kenya Programme partner, Wajir Peace and Development Agency, reported: ‘*The event helped shape our thinking and deepened our understanding of the challenges we face.*’

Later, a similar workshop explored shared experiences, approaches, and learning on regional and continental policy advocacy.

Reflecting together

Reflection happens in different ways across LPI – in teams, across teams, and with partners. LPI conducted internal annual reflection workshops at the end of 2018. Teams drew on Outcome Harvesting⁸ processes from throughout the year and created specific moments to document collective experience. An example is the Collaborative Policy Analysis and Engagement (CPAE) Pilot Quartet Retreat held in November in Bishoftu. The workshop clarified roles and initiated the all-important post-adoption planning process. Reflecting on and documenting the CPAE Pilot process was an important output and the reflection, analysis, and documentation has been invaluable in articulating a viable model for policymaking that may be replicated by LPI, its partners, or wider peacebuilding communities.

Adapting methods together

Exchanging about Sustained Dialogue: Sustained Dialogue is one of LPI’s core methods and practices differ between university and urban contexts. A December 2018 exchange in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia gave participants the chance to share and learn with each other about their diverse approaches. The exchange brought together 44 participants, including 29 student leaders (52% young women) from five universities in Ethiopia, two universities in Sudan, and three communities in Nairobi’s informal settlements. This group represented 14 ethnic groups, five nationalities, six religious identities, and more than 11 roles in the Sustained Dialogue process.



Sustained Dialogue Exchange in Ethiopia.

“ The gathering helped expose me to the best practice of my Kenyan and Ethiopian colleagues. Learning from peers in similar region countries can benefit Sudan Sustained Dialogue (SD) to avoid the same challenges in our implementation. I was also impressed by the Peace Actions creative idea as SD jingle which inspires me to come up with such new inventive ideas too. ”
– Sustained Dialogue project officer from Sudan



Policy lab: Testing new ways to design policy-influencing initiatives:

Given its high global policy priority and LPI's own interest in the Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) agenda, LPI experimented with a lab methodology to generate ideas for joint policy initiatives to influence the agenda.

Ultimately, three strong ideas came out of the lab and were virtually pitched to an external panel of seven experts. These experts ranging from an African Union official, to a social impact venture investor, to a youth leader from one of the informal settlements in Nairobi. Y-Now is one of these ideas taken up in the Global Coalition. It is a global youth approval certificate, similar to Fairtrade and Eco certificates. Y-Now would give young people a mechanism to validate and approve youth policies and programmes.

Besides the idea generation, the lab methodology is a safe space for experimentation, focused problem solving, solution creation, and innovation. Its success created appetite for experimenting more, including in LPI's Sweden engagement and the Global *Inclusive Peace in Practice* initiative.

” It truly felt like LPI was on the verge of breaking new ground, of recreation and of reinvention. There was a drive, a passion, in the room that was palpable. “

– LPI lab participant in the post-event evaluation



Global policy lab, Sweden.

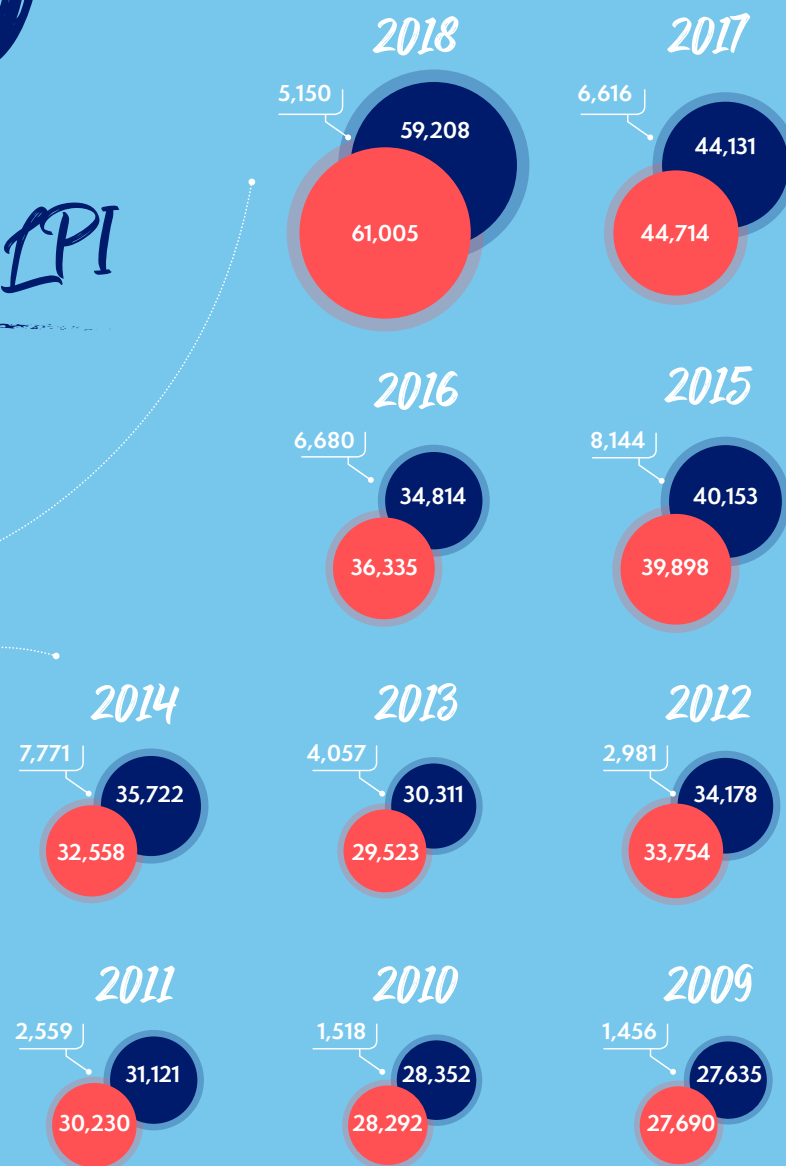
Our year

in financial terms

The financial development of LPI

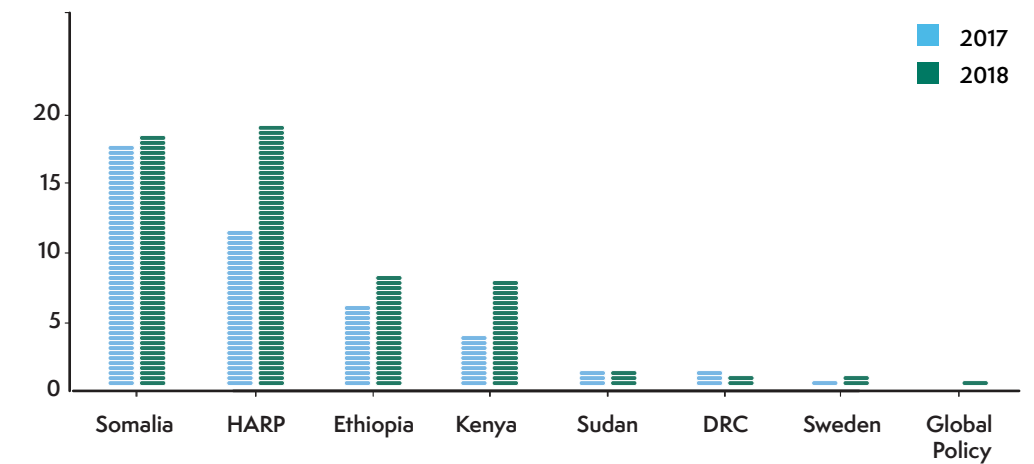
- Income
- Expenditure
- Equity

All figures in thousands SEK



LPI's full annual audited accounts can be found on our website life-peace.org/funding-and-finance

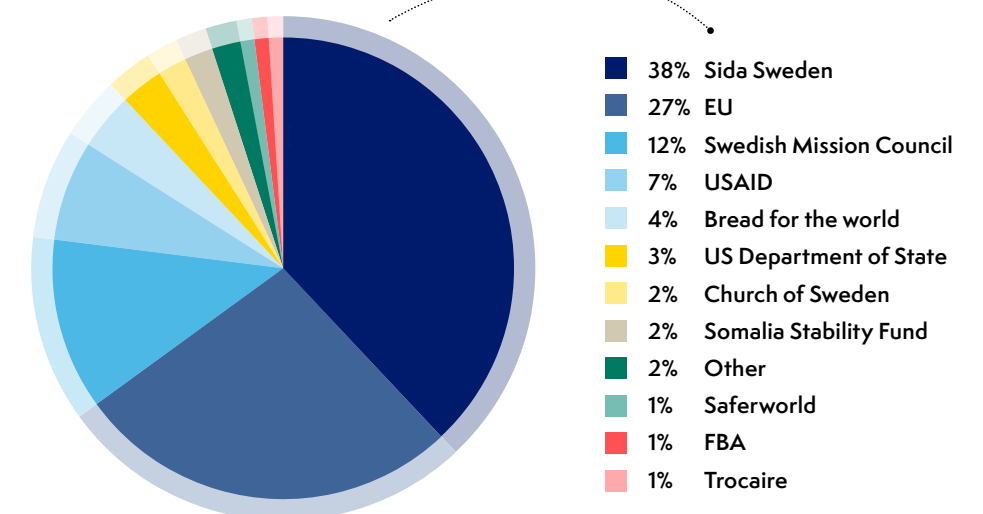
Spending per programme 2017 and 2018 compared in Swedish Kronor



Donors and partners

In 2018, LPI received funding from over a dozen institutional donors as well as a number of Swedish church congregations. LPI would like to express its warmest gratitude for those contributions, and importantly the support and dialogue on progress and challenges throughout the year.

Sources of funding 2018



Annex 1

Our partnerships in 2018

Below we list core partners in civil society, academic and policy spheres.

Civil society sphere

Ethiopia

Peace and Development Centre (PDC)
PDC is an independent national not-for-profit non-governmental organisation working for conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and development in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa. As one of the oldest local peace organisations in Ethiopia, PDC works both at the national and local levels, seeking to promote a culture of peace and development through proactive grassroots participation. PDC and LPI work together to create space for listening, dialogue, and joint action on conflict issues among communities, including with students on university campuses.

Kenya

Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations of Eastleigh (CCMRE)
CCMRE was established in 2010 as a community outreach wing of St Paul’s University in Nairobi. Located in the Eastleigh area of Nairobi, Kenya, the Centre aims to create a platform and open space for dialogue and joint engagement amongst Christians and Muslims. CCMRE strives to acknowledge and overcome stereotypes amongst different faiths while encouraging all parties (Christians, Muslims, non- and other-believers) to take part in their activities.

LPI and CCMRE have carried out joint action research in Kamukunji, Mathare, and Nairobi, and have engaged diverse community leaders in dialogue and actions for peace.

Friends of Lake Turkana (FoLT)

FoLT is a grassroots organisation that works in the greater Turkana Basin in Kenya to foster economic and social resource and environmental justice. FoLT works to protect the environment and advance human rights protection and advocacy through policy and practice. Additionally, FoLT strives to give voice to rural, indigenous people, and pastoralists who have historically been denied benefits accruing from extraction and use of their land and other natural resources within their territories. LPI and FoLT collaborated to strengthen community capacity in assessing and addressing conflict risks linked to oil exploration and extraction in Turkana.

Mandera Peace and Development Committee (MPDC)

MPDC is a community-based organisation that has coordinated, harmonized, and facilitated peacebuilding programmes in Mandera, Kenya, since 2000. MPDC’s goal is to support pastoral and urban communities moving towards long-term peaceful coexistence through peacebuilding, environmental, and human security programmes. LPI and MPDC engage communities in dialogue processes across Mandera County, focusing particularly on young people.

The Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM)
SUPKEM is an umbrella body of the Muslim organisations, societies, mosque committees, and groups in Kenya. Its mission is to guide the Muslim community members on their rights and responsibilities as Kenyan citizens. SUPKEM’s thematic areas of intervention are: 1) peace and conflict resolution; 2) governance and human rights; and 3) advocacy and public awareness on social issues. SUPKEM-Garissa Branch has a secretariat comprising of board members, staff, and volunteers. SUPKEM is the longest serving civil society organisation in Garissa and enjoys the trust of citizens and government alike. LPI and SUPKEM collaborate to strengthen cross-community dialogue in Garissa county.

Wajir Peace and Development Agency (WPDA)
WPDA has worked to increase participation and inclusion as a means of sustainable peace in north eastern Kenya since 1995. WPDA’s Strategic Theme 1 – Peacebuilding and Conflict Management – aims to enhance peaceful and harmonious coexistence of the people of Wajir. Among other things, WPDA has extensive experience in designing and implementing CBO-government collaboration platforms. LPI and WPDA work with young people to create space for dialogue in Wajir County.

Somalia

Somalia Peace Line (SPL)
SPL or Tubta Nabadda (“The Way to Peace”) was founded by a group of eight influential Somali scholars with the ambition to consolidate a ‘home-grown’ peace movement and support Somalia’s civil society in achieving peace. SPL started with five volunteers and participated in national peace and reconciliation processes – organising peace awareness campaigns and conflict prevention activities. SPL brought together warring parties and initiated dialogue and negotiations in eight different regions. One major success was the destruction of the

Green Line that used to divide Mogadishu in two. SPL and LPI have worked in partnership since 2008 on research and reconciliation initiatives.

Somali Women’s Solidarity Organisation (SWSO)
SWSO is a women-led community-based organisation established in 2006 to promote solidarity and increase women’s participation in peace and decision-making processes. It is active across the Federal Member State of Jubbaland, Somalia – with headquarters in Kismayo and field offices in Dhobley and Afmadhow. While SWSO works at the grassroots level to enhance the capacity of communities to understand and respond to insecurity, the organisation also advocates for the interests of these communities at both national and international levels. LPI and SWSO collaborate to enhance women’s meaningful participation in peacebuilding processes in Jubbaland.

Somali Women’s Studies Centre (SWSC)
SWSC is a women-led research centre established in July 2011 in Mogadishu and Kismayo to promote women and girls’ empowerment through research, capacity building, and advocacy. SWSC, Somali Women’s Solidarity Organisation, and LPI have been working with women and youth in 2018 on a peacebuilding initiative centred on gender equality and social inclusion in Jubbaland.

Zamzam Foundation (ZZF)

ZZF was founded in 1992 and operates across Somalia. As the largest humanitarian and development organisation in Somalia, it has its head office in Mogadishu and a number of offices and staff in other regions. LPI and ZZF have been partners since 2011, when LPI supported the organisation establish a peacebuilding unit as a means of bridging the peace and development nexus. Together, ZZF and LPI have been implementing a long term process of community reconciliation through dialogue, mediation, and negotiation in South Central Somalia.

Horn of Africa Regional Programme

Act Change Transform (ACT!)

ACT! is a leading Kenyan not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation involved in diverse peace and development initiatives. ACT!’s main programme focus areas are environment and natural resource management, democracy and human rights, and peacebuilding and conflict transformation. ACT! has partnered with LPI since 2017 to connect human security issues and people in borderlands to continental and regional decision-making bodies. ACT! is working in the border areas of Busia and Moyale, Kenya. ACT! and LPI are working together to promote cross-border cooperation and create links between borderland civil society and continental decision-makers.

East Africa Sub-Region Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI)

EASSI is a registered sub-regional CSO working in eight countries: Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and Tanzania. EASSI was established in 1996 after the Beijing Conference and is mandated to monitor the gender equality commitments of East African governments. The organisation’s mission is to contribute to the attainment of the Beijing and African Platforms for Action through policy engagement and demonstration of best practices for the advancement of women. EASSI has worked with LPI since 2017 to promote cross-border cooperation and to create links between borderland civil society and continental decision-makers.

Inter-Africa Group (IAG)

IAG is a long-established CSO in Ethiopia and long-time civil society partner for IGAD-CEWARN serving as the National Research Institute for CEWARN’s national unit (CEWARU). IAG works on peacebuilding, democratization, and sustainable development through research and creation of spaces for dialogue. IAG and LPI have collaborated to develop the policy framework on informal

cross-border trade and to promote cross-border cooperation, alongside ACT! and EASSI.

Borderland civil society coalition

LPI, IAG, EASSI, and ACT! collaborate with a 26-member strong coalition formed as part of the joint initiative *Improving policies for conflict prevention: Civil society engagement to transform borderlands in Africa*. Members of the coalition include:

- Moyale, Kenya: Alliance of Local Communities in Hardship Areas (ALCHA), Strategies for Northern Development (SND), Moyale Sub-County Peace Forum, Moyale Livestock Marketing Association, Bakalcha Self-Help Cultural Group
- Moyale, Ethiopia: Oda Robin Union, Hilak Milk Producing, Dorcas Aid, IDRUSS, Local Peace Committee Region 4, Local Peace Committee Region 5
- Busia, Kenya: Family Life Education Programme (FLEP), Busia County Beach Management Unit Network, Kenyan Women and Child Transformation Agenda (KEWACTA), Community Support Initiatives, Busia Cross-Border Traders Association
- Busia, Uganda: Amalgamated Transport and General Workers Union, Straight Talk Foundation, Busia Women Cross Border Traders Association, Busia District Farmers Association, Alliance for Sustainable Health and Wealth Kassala, Sudan: Friends of Peace & Development Organisation, East Sudan Cultural Centre, JASMAR, Talawiet Organisation, Sudanese Organisation for Research and Development.

Academic and research sphere

Ahfad University for Women (AUW)

AUW is the oldest and largest private university in Sudan, established in Omduraman in 1966 as a college for women. The goal of AUW is to prepare women from all parts of Sudan to assume responsible roles in their families, communities,

and in the nation. AUW encourages women to act as change agents in their families and communities and to assume leadership positions in society. LPI has a Memorandum of Understanding with AUW and has supported AUW to work with Sustained Dialogue on campus.

Peace & Development Studies Centre (PDSC) at the University of Dalanj

Dalanj University is a public university in South Kordofan State in Sudan and was established in 1995. In 1999, the PDSC was formed with the aim of conducting research and strategic studies associated with a wide range of peace-relevant topics, including governance, countering poverty, microfinance, rural and social development, demining, demobilisation reintegration and rehabilitation, and protection. LPI and PDSC collaborate to create spaces for dialogue on campus and the broader community.

Public universities in Ethiopia

Haramaya, Jimma, Ambo, Bahir Dar, and Gondar Universities have been key partners in Sustained Dialogue. These universities are public institutions and as such function under the Ministry of Education. They are critical actors in peace-building, as they conduct research on peace issues and are a civic meeting place for the countries’ young leaders.

Organization for Social Science in Research In Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA)

OSSREA brings together a strong, diverse, numerous, and geographically widespread network of researchers throughout East Africa. OSSREA and LPI collaborate in efforts to develop the policy framework on informal cross-border trade.

Policy sphere

African Union (AU)

Since 2014, LPI has a Memorandum of Understanding with the African Union. Currently, collaboration is centred around facilitating interactions between the African Union Borderland Programme and borderland communities.

Inter-governmental Authority on Development’s Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (IGAD-CEWARN)

IGAD-CEWARN was established in 2002. CEWARN is the principal regional platform or instrument for regional cooperation on conflict prevention and mitigation through data-based early warning and response in the Horn of Africa. CEWARN has a special focus on pastoralist conflicts in the borderlands of the IGAD region. IGAD-CEWARN and LPI collaborate in efforts to develop the policy framework on informal cross-border trade.



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