

# INCLUSIVE PEACE BUILDING

687
PEOPLE WE HAVE WORKED WITH DIRECTLY
3 PARTNERS SUPPORTED

36 % Ti











As Oxfam IBIS' work on Inclusive Peacebuilding started up in January 2018, this was a foundational year and focused on establishing the team's structure, focus areas, and ways of working. The team focused on integrating a peacebuilding and conflict-sensitive lens across Oxfam IBIS' core areas of work, including on inequality, education, and humanitarian response, while also seeking to advance specific peacebuilding efforts at country level.

Through the Strategic Partnership with Danida, Oxfam IBIS' Inclusive Peacebuilding portfolio had an initial focus on five countries in two regions, the Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger) and the South Sudanese regional crisis response, which meant engagement in both South Sudan and Northern Uganda. In South Sudan, Oxfam IBIS' engagement complemented and expanded the work of the Oxfam Country programmes on peacebuilding by supporting local-level reconciliation efforts, while also supporting civil society engagement and advocacy in relation to the peace process. Conversely, much of the programmatic work in the Sahel is open to being defined and initiated mainly due to a refinement of the strategic goals and objectives for the thematic area. During 2018, Oxfam IBIS realized that our added value in the peacebuilding space would not start by engaging in systemic reform and dialogue efforts at the levels of the United Nations as originally planned, but rather focusing on

programmatic efforts at country and regional levels in order to involve youth and women in peacebuilding processes at these levels. This change allowed a stronger focus on practical engagement in peacebuilding efforts in the Sahel region.

Oxfam IBIS commenced its work at country level by supporting women, youth, and refugees in increasing their capacity to lead peacebuilding efforts and engage in peace negotiation processes. In South Sudan for example women activists were supported to participate in the peace process. Furthermore, strengthened CSOs participated in or led several peacebuilding initiatives and advocacy efforts in South Sudan, Uganda and Liberia. The approach has proven to be effective, both in terms supporting meaningful engagement participation in high-level peace negotiations, and peacebuilding community-level and reconciliation efforts.

Oxfam IBIS has also sought to strengthen the Oxfam Confederation's policy and programmatic engagement on inclusive peacebuilding, including through working closely with Oxfam Great Britain and Oxfam Novib (the Netherlands) who both have conflict and fragility expertise and a long-standing track record of programming in this thematic area. This has involved ongoing efforts to identify and develop relevant 'hooks' within Oxfam's broader work on inequality, poverty, and humanitarian

Table 3: Inclusive Peacebuilding							
Key performance indicators		Targets 2018-2021	Funding Source				
3.1.1 Number of multi-stakeholder initiatives in peace negotiations supported by Oxfam IBIS and/or partners to include women and youth, including refugees and displaced persons (high level formal peacebuilding)	2	40	SP				
3.1.2 Number of peacebuilding initiatives, such as multi-stakeholder dialogues, with participation of women and youth, including refugees/displaced persons (community or sub-national level)	1	25	SP				
3.1.3 Number of provisions, recommendations, or actions agreed in high-level negotiations and/or multi-stakeholder dialogues which specifically relate to the role of women and youth in peacebuilding	1	10	SP				
3.2.1 Number of changes in international stakeholders' policies, programming and practices related to peacebuilding at global, regional and national levels in selected fragile and conflict affected contexts		7	SP				
3.4.1 Percentage of partnership development plans improving partners' organisational, thematic and/or advocacy capacity	N/A	85%	SP				
3.5.1 Number of people worked with, who are engaged in the project/programme and/or directly benefit from a product or service	687	700	SP				

response to relate to the priority themes falling under our Inclusive Peacebuilding work. Some of the 'hooks' were detailed conflict analysis, knowledge generation (e.g. about peace and inequality) and support to community led activities, which helped to generate buy-in from partners and Oxfam Country programmes.

Both in Denmark and at programme level, Oxfam IBIS had a focus on strengthening the practical application of the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. This took place both at advocacy-level through Oxfam's influencing efforts and the coordination of civil society response into the review of Denmark's National Action Plan (NAP), and by gearing many of the country programmes towards strengthening the meaningful influence and engagement of women in peace negotiations and other peacebuilding efforts.

Oxfam IBIS developed partnerships with relevant external expertise, including organizations such as PeaceNexus, International Alert, the West African Network for Peacebuilding, and the Unyoke Foundation. Similarly, there has been progress in establishing partnerships at country level with civil society actors and other INGOs and UN agencies working on peacebuilding. In South Sudan, this has involved close programmatic coordination and joint activities together with the UN Mission (UNMISS).

#### Achieved results

Considering results in 2018, there have been some challenges in achieving the global strategic targets set out in the Global Results Framework for Inclusive Peacebuilding. However, measuring this against the context of building up and refining the strategic approach to a new thematic area, the overall progress is rated as satisfactory. The preliminary work comprising refined goals, establishment of partnerships, network, and relationships, definition of entry points to Oxfam and start-up of projects involving women and youth will ensure the portfolio is well positioned to achieve the targets identified over the duration of the strategy period. Table 3 gives an overview of Oxfam IBIS' results against the global strategic 2018-2021. The results targets for supplemented by change stories to illustrate the changes achieved and Oxfam IBIS' added value.

In 2018, three results were achieved in the field of support to civil society and partners in high level formal peace negotiations and local level peacebuilding initiatives. One example was the support to the South Sudan Civil Society Forum and its engagement in the regional peace negotiations in South Sudan. Members of the

Forum were provided space through consultation with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Special Envoy, Ismail Weis, the parties to the conflict, and other key stakeholders, and highlighted the importance of an inclusive and transparent process. Another example is in Uganda, where Oxfam IBIS supported the locally held concert and campaign by CAFOT (Community Action for Transformation) in a South Sudanese refugee settlement. The campaign created a forum for CAFOT and other speakers to share messages about peace, which had not happened before.

One result was recorded on the indicator on provisions, recommendations, or actions agreed in high-level negotiations. As a result of the influencing work by the partner South Sudan Civil Society Forum, the provisions in the revised Peace Agreement for South Sudan included a strengthened role for women in national governance and for women and youth in peacebuilding at local and national levels.

Two changes were achieved in international stakeholders' policies, programming and practices as an outcome of Oxfam IBIS' contribution: In Uganda, UN Refugee Agency more consistently with communities in adjusting support to their needs, while also trying to be more agile in terms of supporting peacebuilding activities in response to tensions amongst the refugee community. In South Sudan, International NGOs (e.g. Norwegian People's Aid, Crisis Action, and CARE) strengthened coherence and collective outcomes by working together to get behind the South Sudan Civil Society Forum. This was key to ensuring the Forum was sustained and that division amongst civil society were not exacerbated. A perception survey initiative was supported to capture South Sudanese perceptions of peace and social cohesion, which will be conducted on an annual basis over the next four years to bring forward voices and perceptions on peace and social cohesion both at the community and national level of South Sudanese women, youth, and refugees.

Oxfam IBIS supported three civil society partners in 2018: CAFOT, the South Sudanese network, South Sudan Civils Society Forum, and a regional network, Strategic Initiatives for Women's Rights in Africa. Even though there was no capacity building plan as such with specific objectives established, Oxfam IBIS supported with training and collaboration, which increased exposure and visibility to and engagement with government authorities and international NGOs involved in peacebuilding activities and processes. Training

workshops were held for a group of civil society representatives in South Sudan on topics such as conflict analysis, scenario planning and capacity to engage with policy makers.

A total of **687 people participated** in Oxfam IBIS' peacebuilding programmes, which is more than expected. They participated in capacity building activities, policy dialogue and accountability fora. 36% of the participants were women. As the target was set too low, it will be revised upwards.

As an added value at Confederation level, Oxfam IBIS is taking the lead in bringing together key counterparts from affiliates and Oxfam International to strengthen work on peacebuilding, both from programming, policy and influencing perspectives. Oxfam IBIS has collaborated closely with Oxfam Great Britain and Oxfam Novib to establish a 'core team' of technical and strategic expertise on peacebuilding, conflict, and fragility, with a view to acting as a 'virtual service/support hub' for Oxfam Country Offices.

### Lessons learned

- As learned in Uganda, refugee groups can effectively mobilize their own communities in relation to big events and campaigns to a far greater extent than UN Refugee Agency or INGOs. Oxfam IBIS will investigate how direct support to refugee groups can be further explored and prioritized in the programmes.
- A growing number of Oxfam Country programmes are keen to establish or expand peacebuilding activities, or to ensure that their humanitarian and development activities are more broadly conflict sensitive. Though more time-consuming, the use of an initial conflict analysis has been particularly well received. Oxfam IBIS will continue using this as an entrance to collaboration with more Oxfam Country Offices on peacebuilding issues in the coming period.

# Change story

## Community action for peace South Sudan and Uganda

In Uganda, Oxfam IBIS undertook peacebuilding activities together with national and international NGOs, in order to inform advocacy on broader conflict and peace issues. As part of this effort, Oxfam IBIS provided support to CAFOT – Community Action for Transformation, a South Sudanese refugee-led organization based in

Imvepi settlement, Arua District in Northern Uganda. CAFOT conducted a peace concert, which contributed to a joint campaign launched in December 2018 under the theme #SSRefugees4Peace. The campaign brought together approximately 15 national and international NGOs to discuss and experiences about how South Sudanese refugees are contributing to building peace in their own communities in Uganda, as well as in South Sudan. Furthermore, the campaign - through its hashtag, activities, and media outputs - contributed to Oxfam's global Rights in Crisis campaign by amplifying voices of refugees and women engaged peacebuilding; highlighted the important contributions of refugee-led community based organisations in the refugee response; and raised the need for more support for refugee-led peacebuilding work.

SDG targets 5.2, 5.5,16.2, and 16.6.

# Change story

## Cross-border peacebuilding initiatives Burkina Faso and Niger

In the Sahel, Oxfam IBIS initiated cross-border collaborations for peacebuilding and responding to the sub-regional nature of the conflict dynamics. In an initial step towards creating opportunities to share experiences and discuss cross-border causes and dynamics of conflict, Oxfam brought relevant partners from the border regions of Burkina Faso and Niger and Country Office staff together in an initial "Participatory Conflict Analysis and Scenario Planning workshop" to jointly analyse country-specific conflict dimensions, while also sharing perspectives on regional and cross-border aspects of conflict. This peer-to-peer exchange not only informed and shaped the Oxfam programme going forward by identifying opportunities to support specific needs and ideas presented by partners such as community-level dialogues, but even linked those partners at the forefront of the peacebuilding work in the region closer together.

SDG targets 16.1 and 16.2