



Toolbox

Addressing Migration in Peace Policy and Practice

KOFF

Die Schweizer Plattform für Friedensförderung
La plateforme suisse de promotion de la paix
La piattaforma svizzera per la promozione della pace
The Swiss platform for peacebuilding

swiss
peace

Schweizerische Friedensstiftung
Fondation suisse pour la paix
Fondazione svizzera per la pace
Swiss Peace Foundation

First Edition

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the following organizations for their contributions to this project and the preparation of this toolbox. This publication would not have been possible without the sustained effort of the organizations that participated in the joint learning process and all the organizations and individuals who were interviewed and consulted. Special thanks to Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB) and Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation Bangladesh, HEKS/EPER in Ethiopia, the Swiss Embassy in Ethiopia, and the Ethiopian Red Cross Society for their hospitality and assistance during the field research in Bangladesh and Ethiopia, and to the swisspeace's Dealing with the Past team for their support to the work with the Colombian diaspora in Europe. We would also like to thank the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs for supporting and funding the continuous and constructive dialogue between state and nonstate actors engaged in peace and migration through this project.

Advisory pool

bicc - Bonn International Center for Conversion
DCAF - Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
Fondation Hironnelle
Geneva Call
Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GITOC)
HEKS
Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation
Initiatives of Change – Caux
International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Peace Brigades International (PBI)
Stiftung für Integrale Friedensförderung
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Human Security Division
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation
swisspeace
terre des hommes Schweiz

Principal Author and Project Coordinator

Andrea Grossenbacher, KOFF, swisspeace

Contributions to the Toolbox and Project

A special thanks to Anna Leissing, KOFF, swisspeace for providing moral, intellectual and project management support in the process and development of this toolbox; Luisa Franco, swisspeace, for sharing her experience and knowledge on the participation of the Colombian diaspora in the Colombian Truth Commission and Hannah Elias, KOFF, swisspeace for co-authoring this case study; Lara Ehrenzeller, Natalina Haller, Jonas Hinck for their research and project assistance; Matthias Boss, Tania Hoerler, Martina Santschi, all swisspeace, and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs for providing valuable inputs to the toolbox.

Front page illustration

Svenja Plaas

Copyedit and proofreading

Janet Macmillan, Member of Editing Globally, an international collective of communications professionals

Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in this toolbox are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the FDFA.

Table of contents

In short.....	4
Overview.....	6
How to use this toolbox.....	7
Part one: Why does migration matter in peace policy and practice?	8
Why migration matters to peace	8
Situating the peace-migration nexus: dilemmas, risks, and opportunities	9
Part two: How to analyze migration in peace policy and practice?.....	11
An integrated framework for analysis	11
Part three: How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?.....	15
Guidelines for conflict prevention.....	17
Guidelines for conflict resolution	25
Guidelines for dealing with the past.....	32
Part four: Case studies.....	37
Social cohesion and peacebuilding in the Rohingya refugee crisis in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh	37
Migration governance, peace, and conflict in Ethiopia.....	37
Participation of the diaspora in the Colombian Truth Commission	37
Conclusion.....	38
Annex	39
Glossary of key terms and concepts.....	39
Policy frameworks for migration and peace.....	42
Crosscutting issues	43
Detailed overview of initiatives.....	45
Bibliography	51

Abbreviations

ACISAM	Asociación de Capacitación e Investigación para la Salud Mental
ARRA	Agency for Refugee and Returnee Affairs
CRRF	Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework
CSEU	Civil Society Engagement Unit
CSSR	Civil Society Support Room
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
DSI	Durable Solutions Initiative
DWP	Dealing With the Past
FARK-EP	Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia-Ejército del Pueblo
FDFA	Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GCM	Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
GCR	Global Compact on Refugees
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
INGO	International Nongovernmental Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPI	International Peace Institute
JEP	Special Jurisdiction for Peace
KII	Key Informant Interview
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
NWoW	New Way of Working
OSE	Office of the Special Envoy
PRIO	Peace Research Institute Oslo
PVE	Preventing Violent Extremism
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
RIB	Research Initiatives Bangladesh
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIVJRNR	Comprehensive system of truth, justice, reparation, and non-repetition
TPLF	Tigrayan People's Liberation Front
UBPD	Unit for the Search for Persons Presumed Disappeared
UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNTOC	United Nations Convention against Transnational Crimes
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WHS	World Humanitarian Summit

In short

Background

From May 2019 to July 2020, KOFF—The Swiss Platform for Peacebuilding at swisspeace—facilitated a joint learning process on migration and peacebuilding, which explored the risks and potentials that migration offers for peacebuilding policy and practice. The insights from the process contributed to the development of this toolbox.

This toolbox offers guidance to peacebuilding practitioners and policy-makers working in or on contexts affected by migration and who are interested in minimizing the risks and leveraging the potential of migration for peace.

The following **key messages** and guidelines on **what to do** were elaborated in the process.

Key messages

- Migration plays an important role in shaping peace and conflict dynamics. It can contribute positively or negatively to the resolution and prevention of fragility and violent conflict. Hence, engaging with migration actors and dynamics is necessary to minimize the risks of migration for violent conflict and leverage its potential for peace.
- Migration is relevant in different phases of conflict and peacebuilding. An integrated analysis of migration and conflict enables peacebuilders to identify the risks and opportunities of migration for conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and dealing with the past.
- Peacebuilders can approach the risks and opportunities of migration for conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and dealing with the past by designing and implementing programs in three main areas of engagement: (1) social cohesion, (2) migration governance, and (3) participation/inclusion.

What can peacebuilders do to integrate migration in their work?

1. Conduct the three-step [integrated analysis](#) of the conflict & migration context
2. Contribute to [mitigating risks and leveraging potential of migration](#) for conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and dealing with the past

...by using five peacebuilding approaches:

- exchange and dialogue;
- information and media;
- advocacy and participation;
- documentation and archives;
- psychosocial support.

...in three main areas of engagement along the conflict cycle:

- Social cohesion;
- Migration governance;
- Participation/inclusion.

Background

Migration is linked to conflict in many ways. It can be a consequence or a driver of conflict, and it can contribute to peace. In some contexts, it can be a key element in the prevention and resolution of conflicts. Hence, migration offers—largely untapped—potentials for peacebuilding policy and practice. A better understanding of the interrelationships between migration and peacebuilding is helpful to deal with the complexity of migration in fragile, conflict, and post-conflict situations in a conflict- and migration-sensitive way. An in-depth knowledge of causes, drivers, and dynamics of migration adds value to peacebuilding by creating an enhanced understanding of the links between conflict, migration, and peacebuilding that feeds into peacebuilding tools and methods.

From May 2019 to July 2020, KOFF—The Swiss Platform for Peacebuilding at swisspeace—facilitated a joint learning process on migration and peacebuilding. It brought together governmental and nongovernmental organizations working at the intersection of peacebuilding and migration, including selected organizations from the fields of development cooperation, humanitarian aid, security sector governance, and human rights. During this process, participants exchanged ideas on challenges, opportunities, and good practices for peacebuilding resulting from migration, based on the systematization and analysis of experiences. The insights from this process contributed to the development of this toolbox.

A note on language: toward an inclusive view on “migrants” and “refugees”

In the context of international refugee protection legislation and advocacy, the view is promoted that migrants are a separate category comprised of those who change their place of residence without being refugees. The problem with this view is that it might have negative consequences for migrant’s access to protection. In addition, it creates a rhetoric of “two kinds of people,” which is troubling as it undermines humanitarian principles in emergency responses and reflects narratives of exclusion and inequality that are often at the center of the conflicts that force people to flee. Recognizing that anyone on the move may have a well-founded fear of persecution and be entitled to international protection does not undermine the protection that refugees are entitled to, yet it is key to ensuring that migration policy accounts for different protection needs. Against this background, this toolbox recognizes the value of the use of the phrase “displaced persons and other migrants” or “migrants, including refugees and IDPs”, to reflect an inclusive view.¹

However, for efficiency purposes, in this toolbox “migrant(s)” is used to refer to all “migrants, including refugees and IDPs.” “Refugee(s)” and “IDP(s)” are used when referring specifically to one or the other category of migrants.

¹ Carling, J. (2017) *Refugee Advocacy and the Meaning of Migrants*. PRIO Policy Brief. <https://www.prio.org/utility/DownloadFile.ashx?id=326&type=publicationfile>

This toolbox offers inspiration and knowledge and is a reference for those interested in the peace-migration nexus. It is part of an ongoing process towards better understanding the relevance of migration for peacebuilding and how to integrate migration into peacebuilding policy and practice. This first version of the toolbox introduces a framework for integrated analysis of migration and conflict, and outlines what could be done by peacebuilding policy and practice to mitigate the risks of migration and leverage its potential for peace in different phases of the conflict cycle. It proposes three key areas of engagement for peacebuilders: social cohesion, migration governance, and participation/inclusion. The toolbox provides theoretical and practical inputs, as well as illustrative examples from three case studies.

How to use this toolbox

This toolbox offers guidance to peacebuilding practitioners and policy-makers working in or on contexts affected by migration and who are interested in minimizing the risks and leveraging the potential of migration for peace. It does so by providing insights, reflections, and illustrative examples related to the following questions:

- (a) **Conflict analysis:** What do we need to look at in relation to migration when analyzing conflicts?
- (b) **Conflict prevention:** What are the issues related to migration that we need to take into account when aiming to prevent violent conflict?
- (c) **Conflict resolution:** What migration-related issues need to be addressed when solving violent conflicts, for example, in mediation, negotiation of peace agreements?
- (d) **Dealing with the past:** What issues related to migration should be taken into account in post-conflict situations?

Even though aimed at peacebuilding practitioners and policy-makers, the answers to these questions might also be useful to actors in related fields, including humanitarian aid, development cooperation, and human rights. The toolbox has four separate, albeit interrelated, parts. Users may choose to read whichever part is relevant to them, or indeed all the parts.

Part one provides an overview of dilemmas, risks, and opportunities of migration for peace and discusses its relevance for peacebuilding policy and practice.

Part two proposes an integrated framework for analysis of conflict and migration. The framework offers guidance on how to analyze and understand (a) the situation of migrants, (b) the context in terms of conflict and migration, (c) the risks and opportunities for conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and dealing with the past resulting from migration.

Part three provides guidance on how to address migration in different peacebuilding phases, that is, in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and dealing with the past. It offers guidelines and reflections, illustrative examples from the case studies, and concrete initiatives in the three main areas of engagement: social cohesion, migration governance, and participation.

Part four includes three case studies on (1) social cohesion in the Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh, (2) migration governance in Ethiopia, and (3) participation of diaspora in the Colombian Truth Commission. The case studies illustrate the relevance of migration for peacebuilding by drawing on concrete experiences in selected contexts.

In the **annex**, users will find a glossary of key terms and concepts, an overview of policy frameworks that are relevant for migration and peace, crosscutting issues and an overview of initiatives at the nexus.

Why does migration matter in peace policy and practice?

Labels and categories, and their relevance for peacebuilding

Definitions are used to create labels and categories upon which policies that award status and allocate rights are formulated. Thus, definitions, labels, and categories require careful consideration and an awareness of their normative dimension, as well as their political and legal consequences.

Peacebuilding actors engaging at the peace-migration nexus must be aware of the existence of diverse labels and categories of migrants in migration governance and the refugee protection regime. However, the starting point for any peacebuilding engagement at the nexus is not these categories—rather it is an assessment of needs, interests, and concerns of different groups of people in a given context, regardless of whether they are recognized as refugees, IDPs or migrants, and a conflict and migration context analysis, which enables actors to identify peacebuilding opportunities resulting from migration.

Why migration matters to peace

Migration plays an important role in shaping peace and conflict dynamics. Hence, a better understanding of the potential risks migration poses for peace is important for peacebuilding. The role of peacebuilding in the peace-migration nexus is to minimize the negative impact and to build on the positive potential of migration for peace.

Migration phenomena such as protracted displacement situations, diaspora networks, trafficking and smuggling of migrants, arbitrary immigration detention, and extortion of migrants are conventionally perceived as negative by-products of fragility and/or armed conflict that will vanish automatically once the underlying fragility is overcome or the conflict at the migrants' origin is settled. However, while the abovementioned migration phenomena are indeed originally consequences of conflicts and/or fragility, they can continue to have an influence on the fragile or conflict context that they originally result from. Hence, migration phenomena are often key elements of comprehensive and sustainable solutions to the fragility or conflict, which they are originally a result of, and they need to be approached as such by policy-makers and practitioners.

Further, migration can impact negatively on conflict dynamics and individual and collective resilience to cope with these risks in countries of origin, as well as in countries of transit and destination (e.g., broken social ties, legal insecurity, economic fragility, lack of accountability, etc.). In this context, migration can directly or indirectly increase the risk of violent conflict. Moreover, migrants can play positive or negative roles in these peace and conflict dynamics (see [case study on the Colombian diaspora](#)). They might, intentionally or unintentionally, become part of the causes and drivers of fragility and conflict, or play a positive role in creating a more peaceful environment in countries of origin, transit, or destination. Therefore, they should be perceived as integral parts of future solutions and

Why does migration matter in peace policy and practice?

actively be incorporated in the design of conflict transformation processes.

Moreover, a strategic integration of migration and engagement at the nexus strengthens peacebuilding policy and programming. Programming benefits from a better understanding of the interrelationships between migration, conflict, and peace dynamics, which adds value and relevance to conflict analysis and is key to conflict-sensitive approaches. Moreover, the peace-migration nexus provides an opportunity to engage in the triple nexus, that is, on the interlinkages between the humanitarian, development, and peace sectors, and to apply integrated analysis tools and lenses. Finally, engagement at the nexus increases the profile, relevance, and visibility of peace policy by demonstrating an innovative, progressive, and adaptive attitude to contemporary challenges and by contributing to shaping the narrative by humanizing and depolarizing the debate. Finally, the peace-migration nexus provides an opportunity to contribute to achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees.

Situating the peace-migration nexus: dilemmas, risks, and opportunities

As the numbers of migrants rise, perceptions of migration as a threat to societal and state security dominate the public and political discourse in many regions of the world. This emphasis on state and societal security has different negative effects on the safety and rights of different groups of migrants.² It leads to securitized policies, which tend to create a narrow perspective on a highly complex phenomenon. Peoples' concerns and fears about immigration are used to mobilize and frame immigration as a security issue on the political agenda. Even though migration is not a new phenomenon, increasingly, politics and media treat migrants, fleeing from violence, persecution, or in search of better living conditions as a problem only, and one that poses a threat to states, including their culture and economy. This securitization of migration legitimizes the use of extraordinary measures. For instance, the strategy of externalizing refugee protection has led to a situation where the European Union is providing refugee protection beyond its borders but uses security forces to keep the same refugees from entering the European Union. This approach, the securitization of migration, has led to a polarization in politics and society about the issue of immigration in Europe. Recognizing the negative consequences of such approaches for migrants and for hosting societies, the international community has been calling for comprehensive approaches to migration governance rooted in principles of solidarity, human rights, and international humanitarian law and drawing on development and peacebuilding tools.

While this is an important step toward more humane responses to migration, it is important to recognize the limitations and risks of engagement at the peace-migration nexus, especially in the context of global trends toward securitized migration policies. This requires being explicit, clearly laying open dilemmas and clarifying the goals and limitations of peacebuilding engagement in relation to migration.

In the current context, peacebuilding risks being instrumentalized for political and/or security agendas, which can increase the vulnerability of individuals and lead to increased insecurity, instability, and the (re)emergence of conflicts at community and state levels. For instance, displacement is often used as a political tool by parties in conflict to channel humanitarian

² See for instance, Amnesty International (2017) *A Blueprint for Despair. Human Rights Impact of the EU-Turkey Deal*. London: Amnesty International. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur25/5664/2017/en/>

Why does migration matter in peace policy and practice?

aid, influence the ethnic composition, and achieve a redistribution of power, land, and other resources for their own benefit, or to weaken the support of the people for opposition parties. Hence, migration and resources provided by migration and humanitarian actors can be affected by corruption or become highly political and create conflicts (as is often the case with the durable solutions; i.e., return, integration, and resettlement). Conflict-sensitive engagement with migration is thus crucial.

Moreover, while suggesting that migration-sensitive peacebuilding leads to more effective ways of preventing and resolving conflicts, the reality is that its impact on global migration dynamics is limited. A variety of factors cause forced and irregular migration, including natural disasters and climate change, structural, cultural, and direct violence with high levels of inequality and human rights violations, and poverty and a lack of economic opportunities. The prevention of and protection from the negative consequences of involuntary and irregular migration is thus a global challenge, that requires coherent policies and coordinated approaches from different sectors (i.e., private sector, security, humanitarian, development, and human rights sectors), and at all levels (i.e. local, regional, international, and multilateral). Contributing to migration-sensitive peacebuilding it thus just one piece of the puzzle, and awareness of and clarity about these limitations are important to clarify expectations on all sides, including domestic policy-makers, international and multilateral organizations, and migrants themselves.

We therefore suggest that peacebuilding engagement at the peace-migration nexus focuses on addressing causes, drivers, and consequences of conflict, while building on existing resilience and capacities for peace, at different stages of migration. This requires focusing not only on situations of war or armed conflict, but also on addressing structural, cultural, and direct violence in contexts where minority groups are discriminated against, where there are high levels of inequality, where human rights violations occur, where people have no access to services or face threats to their livelihoods, and where there is a lack of political, economic, and structural change. In these contexts, short-term programs to stop irregular migration are not sustainable solutions. Peacebuilding engagement at the nexus therefore aims to strengthen conflict transformation and peacebuilding processes, rather than shaping or preventing migration. With this approach, peacebuilding might provide an alternative to securitized approaches to migration, which is better equipped to mitigate the risks and leverage the potential of migration for peace.

How to analyze migration in peace policy and practice?

An integrated framework for analysis

The very first and essential step in every peacebuilding intervention at the peace-migration nexus is a comprehensive analysis of the interlinkages among conflict, peace, and migration. This is a necessary step toward a conflict-sensitive approach in the development and implementation of peacebuilding programs, projects, and strategies that address migration, and lays the foundation for peacebuilding actors to identify entry points for peacebuilding engagement with migration. A participatory analysis is important, as it enables experiences of migrants, host communities, local government, practitioners, and policy-makers involved in migration governance to inform the analysis. To this end, we suggest the following integrated three-step framework for analysis.

Figure 1: Integrated framework for analysis of peacebuilding opportunities at the peace-migration nexus

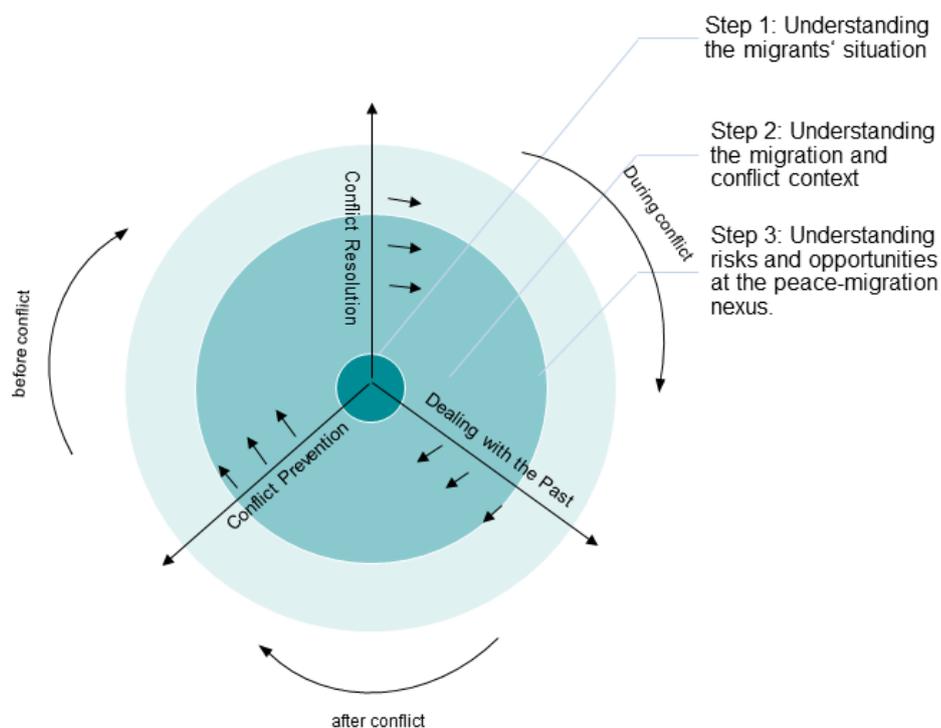


Figure 1: Integrated framework for analysis of peacebuilding opportunities at the peace-migration nexus

How to analyze migration in peace policy and practice?

Step One: Understanding the migrants' situation

The first step is mapping and assessing the situation, interests, and concerns of migrants who are at the center of initiatives at the peace-migration nexus. This ensures an understanding of the different groups of migrants in any given context, and their specific vulnerabilities, risks, and challenges related to conflict. We aim to understand how the migration journey intersects with conflict experiences at different stages, that is, in the countries of origin, transit, and destination. This enables a better understanding of the spectrum of migrant grievances and experiences, as well as the resilience and coping strategies of people at all the different stages. For this step, it is important to keep the following questions in mind.



Mapping: Who are the migrants involved? At which stage of the migration journey are they? What kinds of identities, positions, interests, capacities exist?



Intersectionality: How do the migrants' different gendered identities intersect with practices, policies, and norms and shape their experiences of migration?



Agency: How are migrants involved and meaningfully participating in decision-making processes that concern their lives? How much agency do migrants have over their own lives, both in the private and public spheres?



Protection: What kind of protection is available to migrants, and who benefits from it? What are the protection needs? Who is providing protection, and who is most suited to meet the protection needs?



Psychosocial dimension/resilience: What are the fears and concerns of migrants regarding their past, current, and future situations? What kind of psychosocial support is available to the migrants (including indigenous practices, social networks, etc.)?



Legal/human rights situation: What is the legal situation of migrants in the context they find themselves in? How can migrants claim their rights? What kind of human rights violations are impacting their lives? Who is providing legal support, and who has access to it?



Migrant journey/aspirations: When did the migration occur? What were the stages of the migratory journey? What drove people to move within or across borders? What experiences did the migrants have during and after the migration? What dreams or aspirations do the migrants have?

Examples of tools: needs assessment (e.g., UNHCR [Nare Checklist](#); [Participatory Assessment](#); IOM [Psychosocial Needs Assessment](#)); [human rights indicators](#); actors mapping and analysis.

How to analyze migration in peace policy and practice?

Step Two: Understanding the migration and conflict context

The situation of any group of migrants will be context specific, with specific patterns related to conflict, peace, and migration. These patterns are at the core of the analysis in the second step. It is important to understand the causes, drivers, and dynamics of conflict in the specific area, and how they do or do not interact with migration. Moreover, this step requires an analysis of actors, including conflict, peacebuilding, and migration governance actors, as well as host communities, returnees, and other actors affected by the conflict situation at the local, regional, national, or international level (depending on the context and level of the initiative). Finally, conflict analysis tools are useful to understand values, interests, and needs that cause and drive conflicts related to migration. The conflict and migration context analysis should be done in a participatory way, including various stakeholders, such as migrants and host communities, and must take into account the following issues and adapt them to the relevant level of engagement, that is, at local, regional, national, or international level.



Actors:

Who is affected by the migration, and how? Who is involved in the response? What are the needs and concerns of migrants, host communities and those involved in the response?



Dividers and connectors:

What are issues that divide and connect different groups of migrants, returnees, host communities and those involved in the response, across different levels in the society, and in the country of origin and/or the host country (depending on the focus of the initiative)? How do the dividers and connectors relate to migration? How has migration affected these issues?



Relationships:

How are the relationships within and between the migrant community and the host community? What level of trust is there between the people and between governmental and nongovernmental institutions? How do the conflicts at the country of origin, as well as pre-existing tensions and new conflicts in the host country, affect social cohesion?



Resources and capacities for peace:

What indigenous resources and mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, trauma healing, reconciliation, and psychosocial support exist in the different communities living in host country area, including in the migrant community?



Causes and drivers:

What are causes and drivers of conflict? How do conflict causes and drivers interact with migration dynamics? What migration phenomena are driving conflicts?



Narratives:

What narratives by people in the transit or host communities are shaping people's perceptions of migrants? What are the positive or negative effects of the narratives? Who or what is shaping the perceptions?



Participation: How are host communities and migrants included in decisions that concern their lives? How are they involved in formal and informal peace processes and peacebuilding activities?

How to analyze migration in peace policy and practice?



Solutions and processes:

What solutions and processes to deal with the migration are being discussed and to what extent are migrants and host communities involved and/or do the solutions reflect their desires? How do/might these solutions influence the conflict dynamics? Are they conflict-sensitive or do they add to the tensions?



Economy:

How is the conflict economy influencing migration? How is the migration economy influencing conflicts and peacebuilding? Who are the stakeholders? Who is affected positively or negatively by these dynamics?



Policy frameworks:

What migration and peace policies are in place that might positively or negatively affect the lives and rights of migrants and host communities? Which migration or peace policy frameworks provide entry points for peacebuilding initiatives related to migration?



Geopolitics:

How is the response to migration influenced by national and international politics and power dynamics? How are resources for the response to migration allocated, who benefits from them, and how does this affect political and/or armed power struggles in the region?

Examples of tools:

[actors mapping](#) and analysis; dividers and connectors analysis; the [onion](#); the [iceberg](#) or [conflict tree](#).

Step Three: Identifying risks and opportunities at the peace-migration nexus

The previous analysis enables a better understanding of the need for engagement at the peace-migration nexus. On the basis of this knowledge, we can choose to take action or adapt our initiative. Hence, the third step is an assessment of the interaction between the migrant's situation (step 1), the migration and conflict context (step 2), and the planned or implemented initiative at the peace-migration nexus. This step provides a better understanding and mitigation of the risks and challenges related to peacebuilding engagement with migration ("do no harm"). This requires an understanding of how the organization, partners, stakeholders, and the initiative itself might influence conflict and migration dynamics, or impact on the lives of migrants as well as the lives of other people affected by the migration, such as host communities and returnees. Moreover, the aim of the third step is to move beyond "do no harm" and to identify entry points resulting from the peace-migration nexus for activities that leverage the potential of migration for peace.

Relevance for peacebuilding practice

Building on a better understanding of the migration and conflict landscape, donors and practitioners may identify opportunities and entry points for peacebuilding engagement at different stages of the conflict cycle, that is, before conflict/conflict prevention, during conflict/conflict resolution, and after conflict/dealing with the past. Moreover, the acquired knowledge about other peacebuilding and migration governance actors and activities, as well as stakeholders in the conflict, is key to identifying partners and interlocutors. Initiatives should build on indigenous knowledge and capacities for peace, complement ongoing efforts, and potentially make use of synergies with ongoing formal or informal peace processes or peacebuilding initiatives. Additionally, a continuous adaptation of the intervention is key to minimizing negative side effects, particularly in dynamic environments such as migration contexts.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Areas of engagement

The following guidelines are structured according to the three conflict and peacebuilding phases: conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and dealing with the past. These phases are not linear and often overlap. Hence, the suggested guidelines might be relevant at all three stages, before, during, and after conflict. Moreover, the guidelines are not listed in a particular order and often complement each other.

The guidelines build on practical experiences and insights gathered from the joint learning process and the [three case studies](#), which suggest that there are three main areas of peacebuilding engagement at the peace-migration nexus.

Peacebuilders can contribute to the overall objective by designing, implementing and supporting activities in these areas:

Objective: Contribute to mitigating risks and leveraging the potential of migration for conflict prevention, conflict resolution and dealing with the past.		
Area 1: Social cohesion	Area 2: Migration governance	Area 3: Participation/ inclusion
Improve and transform conflictual relationships between and among different groups of migrants, host communities, government(s), service providers, and international or national nongovernmental organizations in migration affected contexts, including in countries of origin and destination.	Engage with migration actors and policies to minimize the risk of migration governance leading to conflict and to enhance its positive impact for peace.	Ensure meaningful participation of migrants and include migration phenomena in peace processes.
Approaches: exchange and dialogue; information and media; advocacy and participation; documentation and archives; psychosocial support.		

Figure 2: Three main areas of peacebuilding engagement at the peace-migration nexus

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Approaches

While providing guidance on what can be done to minimize the risks and leverage the potential of migration to prevent and resolve violent conflicts and deal with the past, the best ways of how to do it are manifold and vary from context to context. This toolbox aims to reduce complexity, and suggests the following five (clustered) approaches to address the issues raised in the guidelines.

1. **Exchange and dialogue:** This approach aims to enhance mutual understanding and trust, foster relationships, as well as assist coordination and cooperation at different levels. This might include exchange and dialogue among migrant communities, between migrant and host communities, or with local authorities, state institutions, and service providers. It further entails multistakeholder initiatives aimed at enhanced coordination and cooperation of different sectors and policy areas, including humanitarian, development, security, and the private sector.
2. **Information and media:** This approach aims to provide and share information, as well as address discourses and narratives related to migration. It entails information campaigns for and from migrants to help them access services and to counter rumors and stereotypes, and includes storytelling in print or audiovisual media, including social media networks, and participatory artistic projects, for instance the theater of the oppressed, exhibitions, or mural painting.
3. **Advocacy and participation:** This approach refers to initiatives that bring migrants and their rights and demands to the table. It might include supporting existing migrants' organizations, such as diaspora groups, or organizing "migrants' peace tables" to collect and discuss issues to use and consider in an ongoing peace process, a transitional justice initiative, or policy reforms in the country of origin or destination.
4. **Documentation and archives:** This approach aims to support the documentation, monitoring, and redressing of human rights violations along the migration journey, in order to support formal or informal dealing with the past mechanisms, and in some cases, judicial accountability. It also entails technical support to state institutions and/or civil society organizations to improve access and usability of archives for official transitional justice mechanisms, such as truth commissions or criminal courts.
5. **Psychosocial support:** In support of the other approaches, psychosocial support aims to address migrants' experiences of violence stemming from conflicts and/or structural, cultural, or direct violence in the country of origin and/or during the migration journey. It includes different types of psychosocial support, ranging from professional psychological treatment to traditional forms of trauma healing, building on existing capacities and resources in migrant and/or host communities.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Guidelines for conflict prevention

The ability to anticipate and prevent armed or violent conflict has become a priority in the international peace agenda. Under the new framework of sustaining peace, adopted in General Assembly 70/262 and Security Council Resolution 2282 in 2016, prevention is central.³ A positive understanding of conflict prevention provides an entry point for peacebuilding engagement on migration, as it emphasizes the need for proactive and continuous efforts in policy and practice, as well as inclusive, locally owned, multisectoral approaches that build on the existing capacities for peace, including in areas not affected by conflict.⁴

In international migration policy and discourse, activities that contribute to conflict prevention are usually associated with tackling the root causes of migration. The assumption that preventing armed or violent conflicts will automatically reduce the numbers of people who flee or migrate disregards the fact that migration is driven by multiple factors that jointly lead to the decision or compel individuals and groups to leave their home and move within and across borders. In addition, it fails to account for the fact that violence and violent conflicts occur at different stages of a migrant's journey. While an investment in conflict prevention, including early warning and early action, is needed as a basis to address the root causes of conflicts and prevent forced migration, the examples in this toolbox illustrate the need to move beyond a narrow focus on conflict prevention and root causes of migration. Conflict prevention is relevant at all stages of migration. Hence, peacebuilding programming and policy making should not focus exclusively on providing alternatives to migration in the country of origin. The goal should be to reduce the risk of conflict turning into violence and to build on the positive potential provided by migration for sustaining peace, at all stages of migration. In this sense, a strategic engagement with migration offers opportunities for conflict and violence prevention and contributes to sustaining peace.

The following section provides guidelines for peacebuilding actors' engagement with migration in the area of conflict prevention.

3 UN General Assembly (2016) Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 27 April 2016 70/262. Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture. https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_70_262.pdf;

United Nations Digital Library (2016) Resolution 2282 (2016) / adopted by the Security Council at its 7680th meeting, on 27 April 2016. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/827390?ln=en>.

4 Conflict prevention continues to be mostly defined negatively by its symbiotic relationship to conflict. A more positive definition has been formulated by the International Peace Institute (IPI), which states that prevention is "an explicit and deliberate policy objective for all states, not just those affected by conflict; an ongoing exercise grounded in existing capacities for peace; an endogenous process requiring strong and inclusive national ownership and leadership; and a multi-sectoral, all-encompassing 'meta-policy' deserving attention at the highest levels of national government." See: International Peace Institute IPI (2017) Sustaining peace: what does it mean in practice? https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/1704_Sustaining-Peace-final.pdf.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Conflict prevention		
Guidelines (what)	Approaches (how)	Area of engagement
Counter harmful narratives through a broad and comprehensive approach to conflict prevention	Exchange and dialogue Information and media	Social cohesion Migration governance
Address beliefs, behavior, and attitudes	Exchange and dialogue Information and media Psychosocial support	Social cohesion
Address social relationships across horizontal and vertical levels	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Social cohesion Participation
Increase participation in political decision-making processes and peacebuilding	Advocacy and participation Information and media	Social cohesion Participation
Support conflict-sensitive migration policies	Exchange and dialogue	Migration governance
Facilitate dealing with the past processes	Exchange and dialogue Information and media Documentation and archives Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Social cohesion Participation

Table 1: Overview of guidelines and approaches on how to address migration in conflict prevention

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Counter harmful narratives through a broad and comprehensive approach to conflict prevention

According to the Berghof Foundation, conflict prevention happens at different stages: Primary violence or conflict prevention targets anybody, whereas secondary prevention strategies focus on conflict and violence potential within a particular group or for an individual. Tertiary prevention targets people who are radicalized or who have been involved in violent actions.⁵ Similarly, violence or conflict prevention activities in situations of migration should adopt a broad and comprehensive approach, including preventing direct, structural and cultural violence, as well as strengthening norms and institutions.⁶ Moreover, as violence is caused by multiple factors, prevention measures should also focus on the environment affecting both perpetrators and victims. In migration-affected contexts, such an approach to violence or conflict prevention is required to avoid a narrow focus on certain groups of people (e.g., radicalized youth in refugee camps) and the risk of reinforcing stereotypes and harmful narratives, or neglecting the potential of conflict and violence among and between other groups in the area.

Illustrative example from the Bangladesh case study

In Bangladesh, international and national organizations are concerned about the risks of “Preventing Violent Extremism” (PVE) programming focusing on young, male Rohingya refugees as it might further stigmatize and reinforce a negative image of Rohingya vis à vis international and Bangladeshi society and politics. Moreover, a narrow focus on potentially radicalized Rohingya youth runs the risk of neglecting other—perhaps even more pressing and interrelated—types of violence that the same and other groups of Rohingya women and men, as well as host communities in the area of Cox’s Bazar, face (e.g., human trafficking, sexual and gender-based violence, domestic violence, violence of the Myanmar state against Rohingya, tensions between Rohingya and host community members, etc.). In fact, neglecting other types of violence could potentially contribute to an escalation of violence or radicalization. Women’s organizations and women human rights defenders in Bangladesh are particularly vocal about the need to address various types of violence, including violence at the domestic level, in order to prevent an escalation of violent intra- and intercommunity conflict.⁷



Initiative

Area of engagement:
social cohesion

Radio Naf is a Bangladeshi community radio station in Cox’s Bazar that broadcasts socioeconomic and development-related information. Its objective is to empower marginalized people, promote social justice, and ensure people’s right of access to information and technology. In the Rohingya refugee crisis it has also been hosting a programme that provides information to Rohingya refugees in the camps. In 2018, through radio booths situated in the camp, and listener clubs run by Rohingya refugees, Radio Naf was providing both information and entertainment to the refugee community. This is not only important to help Rohingya refugees get information, it also enables other listeners to hear about the situation and challenges of Rohingya refugees.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Information and media; Advocacy and participation

⁵ Berghof Foundation (n.d.) Publications. Glossary. Preventing Violence. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/publications/glossary/preventing-violence/>.

⁶ *Ibid*

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Address beliefs, behavior and attitudes

In migration-affected contexts, behavior and attitudes toward and among migrants are often influenced by negative images of the “other” and perceptions of a threat to one’s own identity, culture, and livelihood within the host community. While challenges and problems can indeed arise in and around migration-affected contexts, often the negative attitudes build on perceptions rather than facts. However, beliefs, behavior, and attitudes can change and subsequently play a positive role in creating an environment that is conducive to peaceful coexistence. Initiatives that work toward behavioral and attitudinal change are hence important to prevent violence and conflict among and between different groups affected by migration.

Addressing polarizing and divisive narratives, as well as providing factual information that is non-partisan, is key in this context. Moreover, being able to debate with other components of society, to hear the viewpoints, problems, and needs of others, or question politicians, public service organizations, and economic representatives, allows migrants to feel heard and respected. Against this background, working with media, providing information, challenging predominant narratives and collectively forging new ones, telling positive stories, and creating platforms for inclusive debates and dialogue on issues that arise in a crisis are examples of how to prevent the escalation of conflicts and violence by addressing beliefs, behavior and attitudes in migration-affected contexts.⁷

Illustrative example from the Bangladesh case study

The case of the Rohingya refugee crisis in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, shows how behavior and attitudes can change over time. Over the course of two years, the attitude of Bangladeshi host communities toward Rohingya refugees in the area gradually shifted from being welcoming and empathetic, to more suspicious, intolerant, and at times hostile attitudes. Latter build on negatively connoted beliefs about the Rohingya. The perceptions of host communities and different groups (e.g., generations) of Rohingya are influenced by public discussions and representations disseminated through media and by political figures. However, it is also important to recognize the impact of a protracted economic crisis and lack of services affecting host communities and refugee communities on perceptions, beliefs, and attitudes. Hence, alongside fostering dialogue and changing behaviors, improved access to livelihood opportunities and services are measures that are essential in these contexts.



Initiative

Area of engagement:
social cohesion

Fondation Hironnelle initiated a radio project in the Jamtoli refugee camp in Cox’s Bazar Bangladesh in 2018, in which refugees created and conducted radio programmes for other refugees, providing information about life in the refugee camps, as well as issues that are key to peaceful coexistence within their community. Topics such as women’s safety, education, psychosocial challenges, or livelihood issues were discussed. This project was expanded to include the host communities in the area in 2019; however, it is currently paused. Fondation Hironnelle’s work aims to contribute to the resourcefulness and resilience of refugees and the host community, and strengthen social cohesion between the groups.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Information and media; Advocacy and participation

⁷ More on “escalation” and “radicalization”: Berghof Foundation (n.d.) Publications. Glossary. Working on Conflict Dynamics: Escalation & Radicalisation. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/publications/glossary/conflict-dynamics-escalation-radicalisation/>.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Address social relationships across horizontal and vertical levels

According to conflict transformation theory, transforming horizontal and vertical relationships in a society is key to preventing conflicts from turning violent. In situations of migration and displacement, both vertical and horizontal relationships are tested, including in contexts not affected by violent conflict. Hence, a comprehensive understanding of social cohesion as encompassing relationships between and among migrants, and citizens of the host country, between citizens, migrants, and local, regional, and national authorities, as well as international and national aid organizations is key to preventing the escalation of conflicts. In addition, in line with the shift toward preventive and sustainable solutions, interventions addressing social cohesion must be funded and implemented early on in a migration crisis, and continuously at all stages of a migration route.

Another key element to healthy relationships in a society is the availability and accessibility of basic services, and the fulfillment of basic human rights, including the right to health, food, shelter, education, etc., both for migrant and host communities. Good relationships between all involved actors could contribute to solving specific socioeconomic grievances by enabling a constructive interaction between duty bearers and rights holders.

Respectful, trusting, and accountable relationships between and among different groups and institutions are important elements for the resilience of a society in the face of violent conflict. Therefore, enhancing social cohesion by addressing relationships across horizontal and vertical levels in migration-affected contexts is a key element in conflict prevention.



Initiative

Area of engagement:
social cohesion; participation

In 2019–20, Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB), a Bangladeshi nonprofit organization that specializes in participatory action research with marginalized communities, conducted a project aimed at building capacities of local communities to mitigate challenges created by the Rohingya refugee crisis in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. For the first time, RIB worked not only with Rohingya refugees, but also with host communities. Dialogue sessions were facilitated separately among Rohingya, host community members and local service providers, NGOs and authorities. Thereby, RIB provided a space for both sides to express their concerns and grievances and come up with potential solutions to their problems. The process led to a sense of agency and inclusion among people who often feel excluded from development activities and decision-making processes that concern their lives. Building confidence and empowering both communities to claim their rights is a crucial step towards enhancing social cohesion.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Information and media; Advocacy and participation.

Illustrative example from the Bangladesh case study

In Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, despite widespread awareness of the heightened risks for social tensions in the area following the arrival of almost a million refugees in a short time span, funding was initially primarily directed toward humanitarian aid. With an increase in tensions from 2019 onward, the focus has shifted toward the relationships between host and refugee communities. According to local human rights and nongovernmental organizations, the shift in priority among international donors and the national government came as a reaction to an escalation of tensions in the area. A

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

more proactive approach would have built on the initial positive attitudes of the host communities toward Rohingya refugees. To prevent further escalation, there is a need to address socioeconomic grievances among refugee and host communities in Cox's Bazar, to engage in a dialogue that addresses perceptions of the other group, and empowers citizens and refugees to demand their rights and accountability from governmental authorities and international organizations. Programming on social cohesion in this context should however not be defined in narrow terms, but rather address different conflicts across horizontal and vertical lines (e.g., between Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi citizens and local authorities; among different groups of Rohingya and Bangladeshi citizens; and between Rohingya refugees or Bangladeshi citizens and international organizations).

Increase participation in political decision-making processes and peacebuilding

Participation of migrants in political decision-making processes is a particularly sensitive and complex issue. Especially in countries that host many refugees and IDPs and are going through a political transition phase, issues of political representation and participation are relevant for conflict prevention. It is important that the people who are affected by migration, including displaced persons or other migrants, returnees, and host community members, be involved in decisions that affect their lives.

Moreover, promoting the participation of migrants and other people affected by migration, such as host communities, in peacebuilding activities is another key element in conflict prevention. It can be an opportunity to use existing skills and resources for conflict prevention, and to further develop capacities of individuals and groups to deal with conflict without resorting to violence.

Hence, being heard and being able to contribute to debates that shape the future of the country and one's own future is key to avoiding an escalation of tensions and potential eruption of violence. Even more, it can be an opportunity to find creative and suitable solutions that benefit the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in a society, while at the same time building trust and strengthening vertical and horizontal accountability among actors at different levels. This requires initiatives, such as the Durable Solutions Initiative (DSI), that provide refugees and IDPs with access to decision-making processes and ensure their meaningful participation in decision-making processes at different levels in society.



Initiative

Area of engagement:
social cohesion; participation;
migration governance

The DSI is a joint endeavor between the Government of Ethiopia, the United Nations, international and national nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and donors. This initiative provides a principled operational framework and platform to design and implement durable solutions in support of IDPs in Ethiopia and host communities at locations of return, relocation, or local integration. Its aim is to facilitate collective action and cooperation between the Ethiopian government authorities at national, regional, and local levels and the international community. The DSI in Ethiopia takes political and conflict analysis as a starting point as it aims to address immediate needs, while tackling issues related to

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Illustrative example from the [Ethiopia case study](#)

In Ethiopia, a country that hosts a large number of refugees and IDPs while itself going through a political transition phase, there were concerns about the 2019 national elections, as a large part of the residing population in Ethiopia would not be able to vote. Refugees and IDPs are rarely involved in decisions that affect their lives directly, be it at the level of national politics or local processes of migration policy making. However, there are a few good examples of initiatives that work toward including their voices, needs, and concerns. For instance, in 2019, the DSI organized an event in the Somali region of Ethiopia at which they included regional and local authorities, international organizations, and IDPs to discuss “a menu of options” regarding durable solutions for IDPs in the area. The idea was to provide the opportunity to IDPs to suggest durable solutions that they would welcome. The event was successful in terms of bringing different actors together and having a dialogue about needs and solutions.

governance, development, and coexistence, and understanding what kind of disputes are related to displacement (e.g., rural-urban, pastoralist, urban-urban, etc.). Peacebuilding elements include community-based planning (i.e., asking communities about their priorities), participatory and inclusive approaches, identification of sources of conflict (e.g., lack of services or land issues upon return), conflict sensitivity, knowledge about past conflicts and prevention of new conflicts, reconciliation activities, and identifying peacebuilding gaps. This initiative is a good example of an effort to integrate humanitarian, development and peacebuilding approaches into responses to displacement.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Advocacy and participation.

Support conflict-sensitive migration policies

Migration policies can have positive or negative impacts on conflict and peace dynamics, and therefore potentially contribute to tensions and the emergence of new conflicts. Promoting policy frameworks that are conflict sensitive and that enable the use of existing resources and skills are important elements in conflict prevention. Peacebuilding actors engaged in conflict prevention can in turn benefit from engagement with migration actors and policies to understand migration and displacement patterns and consequences and incorporate this knowledge in their contextual conflict analysis. A better understanding of migration dynamics is important for the ability to anticipate conflict and build on the positive potential for sustaining peace.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Illustrative example from the [Ethiopia case study](#)

The implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Ethiopia has been slow. In theory, the CRRF promises progress in terms of protection of rights of refugees and has, therefore, created high expectations among refugees. The fact that these expectations remain unmet has led to frustration that could escalate already existing tensions and impact negatively on trust in institutions. It is equally important to consider the host communities' rights and access to protection. In fact, a discrepancy in access to protection can potentially lead to tensions between migrants and host communities. For instance, in Gambella in Ethiopia, there is a sense that refugees are receiving more aid and support than the host community, which leads to tensions between refugees, host communities, international organizations, and the government.

Facilitate dealing with the past processes in countries of origin and destination

Preventing tensions from (re)escalating into violent conflicts is relevant in host countries as well as in relation to the conflict at the origin of the displacement. For instance, in Bangladesh, the relationship between the Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh and the state of Myanmar remains conflictual. Hence, conflict prevention in this area might include working across borders in both countries. Depending on the context, tensions might persist in exile, as conflict lines do not necessarily dissolve once the country and conflict of origin is left behind. Moreover, the experiences of violence in the country of origin and on the migratory journey might impact negatively on people's resilience and ability to integrate in the host country. However, initiating dealing with the past processes, including addressing restitutions and reparations, initiating truth-telling efforts, collecting testimonies, or providing psychosocial support and trauma healing, might be key to preventing the reemergence of violence in the country of origin and in the host country. They are rooted in the context, available at the local level, understood and known to community members, and grounded in culture, while foreign approaches are often not welcomed or available at the village level.



Initiative

Area of engagement:
social cohesion

In El Salvador, Terre des Hommes (Switzerland and Germany) supports La Asociación de Capacitación e Investigación para la Salud Mental (ACISAM), in working with youth who have been deported from the US to El Salvador. In addition to providing psychosocial support to young people who have been returned, the project aims to create awareness in their communities and the media about what these children are going through and to recognize and live up to their role in supporting them. Evidence from the program's intervention demonstrates that community members show solidarity and support to the child when they understand what pushed them to migrate and the violence and discrimination he or she suffered on the way to and upon reaching the US.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue;
Information and media; Psychosocial support.

Guidelines for conflict resolution

In the past two decades, the politics of development have shifted toward integrated understandings of development, security, relief, conflict resolution, and migration. Building on the perception that development is not possible without stability, and security is not sustainable without development, this new approach has been a major institutional challenge to the international community.⁸ Moreover, with the focus on the migration-development nexus in the past decade came an awareness of the correlation between migration and conflict, that is, the fact that violent conflicts produce displaced persons and migrants, and that people on the move may contribute to conflict. It is important to note that the correlation does not imply causation. Migration does not necessarily lead to conflict, nor does conflict always lead to migration. However, the relationship between migration and conflict suggests that migration is relevant for conflict resolution. In fact, the examples in this toolbox illustrate the role that displaced persons and migrants can play in contributing positively to the resolution of conflicts. Neglecting the needs and interests of displaced persons and migrants can in turn hinder the resolution of conflicts. In this context, it is important to adopt a broad understanding of conflict resolution that includes mechanisms to resolve conflicts at different levels, including at the grassroots or “track three” level, and addresses direct, structural, and cultural violence.

The relationship between migration and conflict is often perceived to make conflict resolution difficult “because it exacerbates and confuses the underlying issues of a conflict, making it exceedingly difficult to resolve.”¹⁰ Hence, addressing migration in international peace mediation is challenging. Moreover, mediators have limited power to put migration on the agenda as they can facilitate the process and encourage the parties, but they have no ownership over the content being negotiated. In fact, a mediator should not forcefully negotiate with parties on agenda items.¹¹ As a result, migration is discussed when the parties involved in the process bring it up. In addition, migration is often one of many sensitive issues in a conflict. Addressing migration could jeopardize the process, depending on whether the time was ripe to talk about it or who brought the issue to the table. When exploring the interrelationships between conflict resolution and migration, it is therefore important to understand under what circumstances and in which format migration can and should be addressed when resolving conflicts, and subsequently adapt initiatives to ensure a conflict-sensitive approach to integrating migration. Despite posing real challenges for peace processes, examples from contexts such as [Colombia](#), [Bangladesh](#), and [Ethiopia](#) show that addressing migration is a key element in resolving conflicts and crucial to laying the foundation for sustainable peace and prevention of future violence.

⁸ Nyberg-Sorensen et al. (2002) *The Migration-Development Nexus: Evidence and Policy Options*. IOM.

https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mrs_8.pdf.

⁹ Andre, J. (2017) *Internal Migration & Conflict*. Medium. <https://medium.com/@Goodsvejk/internal-migration-and-group-conflict-422c1f214dfe>.

¹⁰ Federer, J. P. (2016) *Navigating International Norms in Peace Mediation*. <https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/navigating-international-norms-in-peace-mediation/>.

¹¹ Watson, S. (2015) *The criminalization of human and humanitarian smuggling*. *Migration, Mobility & Displacement*. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305289621>; Molenaar et al. (2018): *Caught in the middle*. Clingendael. <https://www.clingendael.org/pub/2018/caught-in-the-middle/>.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Conflict resolution		
Guidelines (what)	Approaches (how)	Area of engagement
Engage with migration policies and actors shaping migration governance and migration dynamics	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation	Migration governance Participation
Promote migration-sensitive peace agreements and implementation	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Migration governance Participation
Support local conflict resolution in migration-affected contexts	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Participation
Enhance meaningful participation of displaced persons and migrants in conflict resolution	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Participation Social Cohesion

Table 2: Overview of guidelines and approaches on how to address migration in conflict resolution

Engage with migration policies and actors shaping migration governance and migration dynamics

Understanding the history, politics, and current realities of migration patterns and dynamics can strengthen the effectiveness of a conflict resolution process and the sustainability of peace agreements. Moreover, analyzing and engaging with migration policies and (formal or informal) actors that regulate and shape migration can provide important entry points. For instance, it might help to identify migration actors that could play positive or negative roles in a conflict resolution process (e.g., returnees, human smugglers, border security, diaspora organizations, etc.). In certain conflict or post-conflict contexts, for example, human smuggling networks may be stakeholders to consider having at the table when resolving conflict or at least keeping them in mind in structuring resolution processes. When including such actors in conflict resolution processes it is important to keep in mind that human smuggling is varied and more complicated than how it is often depicted in media, academia, and politics.¹¹ It can range from international criminalized networks solely interested in maximizing their profit to networks of humanitarian smugglers who facilitate the crossing of borders for migrants. Hence, when addressing migrant smuggling and trafficking of persons in conflict resolution processes it is important to take into account who the actors are, what power relations exist, and how they influence the political economy, especially in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Knowing that migration policies can impact on conflict dynamics is key to understanding the importance of engaging with migration actors and policies to minimize the risks of jeopardizing important strides made in peace processes or the implementation of a peace agreement. In fact, aligning peace and migration policies might increase the probability of achieving sustainable peace, for instance, by preparing for post-conflict return of migrants to their place of origin. Finally, involving migration actors that work on the ground may be an opportunity for any peace process because they often have a wealth of knowledge about the local realities, an understanding of patterns of migration, and experience working closely with people.

Promote migration-sensitive peace agreements and implementation

Peace policies, including peace agreements or security measures that aim to end violence, can impact negatively on the situation of migrants and make it difficult to resolve conflicts or to implement a peace agreement. Knowledge about causes, drivers, and consequences, as well as opportunities arising from migration, is key to preparing peace agreements that are migration- and conflict-sensitive and minimize the risk of relapse into conflict. A migration-sensitive peace agreement would, for instance, take into account the challenges and opportunities related to the return of migrants to their place of origin in the post-conflict phase, and propose measures to do so. Often, in situations of return, challenges arise regarding land restitution and rights, changed gender relationships and roles, existing trauma, or unresolved intergroup tensions.

Illustrative example from the [Colombia case study](#)

Understanding the migration journey of the Colombian diaspora adds value to the implementation of the peace agreement and the Colombian Truth Commission as it highlights their unique experiences and perspectives on the conflict, hence contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the consequences of the conflict and their specific needs. Moreover, it enables the Colombian government and civil society to build on their experience to resolve potential conflicts that arise in the post-conflict context.

11 Watson, S. (2015) *The criminalization of human and humanitarian smuggling*. *Migration, Mobility & Displacement*. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305289621>; Molenaar et al. (2018): *Caught in the middle*. *Clingendael*. <https://www.clingendael.org/pub/2018/caught-in-the-middle/>.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Illustrative example from the [Ethiopia case study](#)

Since the signing of the Ethiopia-Eritrea peace agreement, there has been a shift toward more restrictive policies for Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia, impacting on their ability to receive prima facie refugee status and leading to the closure of registration centers for asylum seekers at the Eritrean-Ethiopian border, as well as a refugee camp in Tigray, in the north of Ethiopia. These are negative side effects of the peace deal that could in turn have a negative impact on the successful implementation of the deal and overall stability and peace in the area. It might also contribute negatively to the already unstable political situation in Ethiopia, if frustration among Eritrean refugees continues growing. This is happening against the backdrop of continued tensions between the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF), and the Ethiopian and Eritrean government. In fact, host communities and local authorities in Tigray have indicated that they will stand with the refugees should they be treated unfairly by the Ethiopian government. This could potentially aggravate the already tense relationship between the area and the government of Ethiopia.

Similarly, the state of emergency that was declared in the south of Ethiopia, in Borana, is another illustration of negative side effects of a policy that was put in place to end violence. Following the ethnic violence that led to internal displacement, restrictive policies associated with the state of emergency have been put in place that limit the ability of IDPs and returnees to move freely and to gather in groups. This also impacts negatively on the ability of people to resolve conflicts and reconcile, hence impacting on their ability to rebuild their lives.



Initiative

Priority area:
participation

Since January 2016, swisspeace and NOREF have been implementing partners of the United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for Syria (OSE) to facilitate the participation of civil society in the intra-Syrian talks in Geneva through the Civil Society Support Room (CSSR). The main objective is to render the peace process more inclusive. The project seeks to strengthen the participation and contributions of Syrian civil society actors to the official talks. In this effort, swisspeace and NOREF cooperate with Syrian individuals and civil society organizations inside and outside of Syria. This enables the inclusion of voices and experiences of people who have been displaced internally or externally in the negotiations.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Advocacy and participation.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Support local conflict resolution in migration-affected contexts

Conflicts are not only one of the main causes of displacement globally, new conflicts can also arise during the displacement and the following phase of protracted displacement, integration, resettlement, or return. Understanding the dynamics that contribute to new conflicts and how they relate to preexisting tensions and the conflict at the origin is key to resolving conflicts sustainably. In addition, understanding the positive potential resulting from migration to resolve conflicts provides opportunities for conflict resolution.

Moreover, working on resolving conflicts that arise at different levels following migration is important. This might include working on resolving intercommunal tensions at a grassroots level, as well as supporting diplomatic negotiations between the country of origin and the host country. It is important to link these efforts to ensure the inclusion of migrants' voices at the grassroots level, facilitate an exchange between actors at different levels, avoid jeopardizing ongoing processes, build on synergies, and complement each other's efforts.



Initiative

Priority area:
social cohesion

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in Ethiopia has been supporting peace committees from the host and refugee communities in and around refugee camps in the northern Tigray region of Ethiopia. The peace committee structures in the refugee community were initially established by the Administration for Refugee & Returnee Affairs in 2014 as a means for serving as focal points for dispute resolution within camps. Recognizing the potential under CRRF for these committees to serve as a link to strengthening community-based dispute resolution mechanisms among refugees and host communities, the DRC also established peace committees in collaboration with the local administration. These structures work on peaceful coexistence within and among their communities, including resolution of disputes.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Advocacy and participation

Illustrative example from the [Ethiopia case study](#)

In Shire, northern Ethiopia, the refugee and host communities have peace councils, composed of the male elders in the community and women's groups, who are responsible for resolving conflicts between the two groups. This work is not only highly relevant to resolving conflicts at a grassroots level and to preventing local outbreak of violence, it is also crucial to minimizing the destabilizing effect that multiple local pockets of violence could have on the entire region. Moreover, the knowledge that these peace councils and women's groups have about the internal dynamics, organization, concerns, and needs of the communities is valuable to broader peace processes. The inclusion of representatives from these local institutions might provide an opportunity to ensure an inclusive peace process that is widely supported.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Enhance meaningful participation of migrants in conflict resolution

The extent to which and manner in which the views and needs of parties to conflict and other stakeholders are represented, heard, and integrated into a peace process is key to achieving lasting peace. Experience has shown that broad-based inclusion leads to more public support and greater legitimacy for any process and resulting agreement. Therefore, it makes sense to take into account the views of different groups of migrants in formalized conflict resolution processes. Migrants often have a stake in conflicts, either in the conflict that led to their migration, or in new conflicts following the migration. Their involvement becomes essential to the resolution of the conflict, especially when they constitute a critical mass. Examples of such conflicts include Colombia, Syria, and Sri Lanka. Hence, their experiences, views, and needs should be included in conflict resolution processes in the countries of origin, as well as in transit and destination countries.

Yet, creating inclusive processes can pose a challenge to the coordinators of the processes and the migrants themselves, including risking retraumatization, exacerbating underlying intercommunal tensions or excluding of certain groups (see [case study on Colombia](#)). Another issue that must be taken into consideration is the politicization of migrants, and the resulting impact on conflict dynamics or the ability to resolve a conflict. The politicization can lead to an escalation by exacerbating tensions or creating new tensions that make it more difficult to identify causes and drivers of the conflict. When displaced persons and migrants become part of a political game they might, intentionally or unintentionally, themselves become drivers of conflicts.

Moreover, when working with the diaspora, it is crucial to keep in mind that conflict lines do not necessarily dissolve once people arrive in the host country. In fact, positions may not change over time, or even harden while in exile.

However, their involvement also offers opportunities, such as new knowledge about conflict causes and drivers. Moreover, in situations where it is impossible to access civil society in the country of origin, peacebuilding actors can work with people and organizations living in exile. Yet, when working with the diaspora, it is crucial to keep in mind that conflict lines do not necessarily dissolve once people arrive in the host country. In fact, positions may not change over time, or even harden while in exile.



Initiative

Priority area:
participation

The Danish Refugee Council's Civil Society Engagement Unit (CSEU) commissioned Maastricht University to conduct a research study to investigate the conditions that influence the space and actions of Syrian civil society organizations in Lebanon, Turkey, France, Germany, Denmark, and the United Kingdom. The Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, together with GIZ, supported the publication of the study, in the framework of DRC's work on the diaspora. The study yielded a range of practical considerations relevant to stakeholders who seek to engage with Syrian diaspora actors whose aim it is to play a part in the social and political transformations inside Syria and to respond to pressing needs of Syrian people both inside and outside the homeland.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Information and media; Advocacy and participation.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Illustrative example from the [Ethiopia case study](#)

In the case of the Ethiopia-Eritrea peace deal, while grassroots processes of people-to-people reconciliation in the borderlands between Eritrea and Ethiopia had been underway for years, the political rapprochement was disconnected from the people-to-people reconciliation. The formalized peace process was elite driven. If peace is to last, the voices of the people affected in the borderlands and the issues related to their displacement have to be included. In addition, the Tigray region, which has the longest border with Eritrea, needs to play a constructive, active role in the peace process. However, as the local government in Tigray remains at odds with both Ethiopia's federal government in Addis Ababa and the Eritrean government, this has not happened. Two years after the deal was signed, its support among Eritrean refugees living in Tigray and Tigrayans is decreasing, as they are feeling negative side effects of the deal, such as more restrictive refugee policies toward Eritreans and a less porous border.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Guidelines for dealing with the past

In the aftermath of war, armed conflict, and violence, large groups of people are often left traumatized, and there are contradictory views about past events, as well as propaganda and conflict supporting narratives that glorify or victimize perpetrators. In these contexts, “if traumatic experiences are reproduced and views and attitudes that have led to the escalation of violence are not reflected upon critically and redefined in a public manner, there is a high risk that the conflict is kept alive under the surface, ready to escalate anew in the presence of trigger factors.”¹²

If working through the consequences of violence in post-violence settings is important to reach a robust state of coexistence and reconciliation, then it is clear that dealing with the past must address migration that occurred during the conflict or impacted on the conflict. The question is how injustices associated with migration can be addressed effectively as part of dealing with the past processes?

Migrants often have a stake in transitional justice processes, as these have the potential to contribute positively to efforts to uphold their rights and well-being. Especially when migration is linked to large-scale human rights violations—which it often is—the concerns of migrants should be incorporated into transitional justice efforts. Yet, despite a few examples of transitional justice processes that actively included migrants and diaspora (such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia), transitional justice processes have not traditionally engaged in depth with the concerns of migrants. There is, therefore, a need to better understand how transitional justice measures should address migration and include migrants in their processes.¹³

¹² Berghof Foundation (n.d.) *Dealing with the Past*. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/featured-topics/dealing-with-the-past/>

¹³ Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement & ICTJ Research Unit (2012) *Transitional Justice and Displacement*. <https://ictj.org/sites/default/files/ICTJ%20and%20Brookings-LSE%20Transitional%20Justice%20and%20Displacement%20Report.pdf>.

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

Dealing with the past		
Guidelines (what)	Approaches (how)	Area of engagement
Enhance meaningful participation of displaced persons and migrants in dealing with the past (DWP) processes	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Participation Social cohesion
Address grievances of migrants in DWP processes		
Engage with migration actors and policies in the host country	Exchange and dialogue Advocacy and participation	Migration governance
Deal with conflict and migration history of migrants	Exchange and dialogue Information and media Advocacy and participation Psychosocial support	Social cohesion Participation Migration governance
Document atrocities that happened in country of origin, during transit, and in the host country	Exchange and dialogue Documentation and archives Psychosocial support	Participation
Make sure the psychosocial aspects and trauma are dealt with professionally	Exchange and dialogue Psychosocial support	Participation Social cohesion

Table 3: Overview of guidelines and approaches on how to address migration in dealing with the past

Enhance meaningful participation of migrants in dealing with the past processes

Including migrants in dealing with the past processes is one important element of transitional justice. It is in fact key to truth and reconciliation efforts because migrants' stories, experiences, and trajectories are part of the truth about the conflict. Moreover, while living abroad means that they are no longer physically present in the country of origin, this does not mean that they do not exert (positive or negative) influence on conflict and peace dynamics in their country of origin through political, social, and economic transnational activities. In addition, conflicts sometimes are exported as intergroup tensions can persist in the diaspora. People who have fled their coun-



Initiative

Priority area:
participation

The Colombian Truth Commission demands in its mandate to work with refugee and migrant communities in host countries and to look at the aspects of exile. In doing so, it is the first truth commission to establish independent coordination offices outside the country of origin. Supported by the Swiss Federal Depart-

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

try during war often feel marginalized in many ways, including because they were persecuted by their own country or fellow citizens, and are excluded from political processes in countries of origin and destination. Hence, their inclusion in reconciliation is crucial to ensuring that this often large part of the society can also deal with its violent past. This is key to preventing a relapse into conflict or the emergence of new tensions. In addition, dealing with the past processes can also provide an opportunity for enhancing social cohesion among different groups in the diaspora, as well as between the diaspora and the people who stayed behind in the country of origin. It might lead to an awareness of the injustices and grievances experienced by both groups, as well as an exchange of new ideas and knowledge generated during and after the migration that can be helpful for the reconstruction of the country and society post-conflict.

ment of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), swisspeace along with partner organizations has been tasked by the Colombian Truth Commission to coordinate the collection of testimonies in Switzerland. The project “Acompañamiento a la Comisión de la Verdad con la población colombiana víctima en Suiza” (2019–2020/21) provides space for victims to give testimonies in a safe and anonymous way. The interviews cover all phases of exile and aim to understand patterns, dynamics, and important events. Further, swisspeace has been supporting the Truth Commission by doing outreach, meeting with representatives of the Truth Commission, collecting information on the specific context, and informing diaspora communities about the process.

Approaches: Exchange and dialogue; Advocacy and participation; Documentation and archives; Psychosocial support.

Engage with migration actors and policies in the host country

Migrants’ lives are shaped by their migration experience and the related policies that define their status and rights in a given context. When engaging with migrants in a dealing with the past process, it is important to keep in mind that they are often at the same time involved in other legal and social processes related to their status as migrants, such as asylum or (re)integration processes in the host country. These processes often create emotional stress, are costly and time consuming for the people affected. Hence, a good understanding of the situation of migrants in the host country, as well as the legal and political hurdles that might impact on their ability to engage in a dealing with the past process, is helpful to design truly inclusive processes. Moreover, understanding how their participation in the dealing with the past process will affect their lives, including their legal, political and socio-economic status and social relationships in the host and the country of origin is key to a ‘do no harm’ approach.

Illustrative example from the [Colombia case study](#)

For instance, in the Colombian Truth Commission, members of the Colombian diaspora expressed personal dilemmas and challenges regarding their involvement in the transitional justice process in their country of origin and integrating in the host country at the same time. One process requires looking back and reliving the past, while the other requires being in the present and contributing to the growth of a society. Both processes are emotionally draining and time consuming. Moreover, people fear that their involvement in a political process in the country of origin might have negative side effects for the political process of integration in the host country. Hence, a better understanding of migration policies in the host countries and their impact on people’s lives, as well as exchange between the migration and the dealing with the past actors, is important to ensure broad participation

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

and a better understanding of who might be excluded from participating. This enables peacebuilding actors to advocate, adapt, and create suitable conditions for a more inclusive process. To this end, dealing with the past processes, and peacebuilding actors supporting them, benefit from engaging with migration actors as it opens up the space for exchange about challenges on both sides and, most importantly, for the victims and survivors of the conflict who are engaged in a dealing with the past process while at the same time dealing with processes related to their status as migrants.

Deal with conflict and migration history of migrants

Understanding how migration and conflict experiences overlap and create multiple traumas is important when dealing with the past. People who migrated or were displaced usually deal with the psychological and physical effects of conflict, as well as the social, cultural, and individual consequences of the physical relocation on their lives, relationships, and bodies. In addition, migration is complex. It can be temporary or lead to permanent settlement in a new place, and some people migrate, or are displaced, several times in their life cycle. These migration stories might be, but are not necessarily, separate from the experiences related to the conflict. Hence, interviewers collecting testimonies from migrants for a truth commission for instance must be aware of how their questions or framing of the conversation allows for these stories to be told, and how they are reflected at the level of that truth commission. From these stories, peacebuilding actors can learn more about the impact of the peace-migration nexus on people's lives and develop methods to approach the peace-migration nexus in peace and dealing with the past processes.

In addition, transitional justice can play a positive role in supporting (re)integration in various ways. Whether migrants voluntarily return, remain where they sought shelter, or resettle elsewhere, (re) integration can be significantly hindered by legacies of past abuses, which can affect both individuals and their societies. Hence, a focus on dealing directly with past abuses and their impact provides an opportunity for peacebuilding actors to complement the work of actors directly dealing with displacement in efforts to achieve a durable solution and prevent future conflicts.

Document atrocities suffered by migrants and support archives in country of origin, during transit and in the host country

In preparation for dealing with the past processes, documenting violations and atrocities suffered by migrants is important. In fact, inter-governmental and nongovernmental organizations with mandates and missions to monitor, observe, and document human rights violations produce records and archives highly relevant to dealing with the past initiatives. Hence, it would be important that the documenting institutions also develop strategies for preservation, maintenance, and access to support the participation of migrants in dealing with the past initiatives. Some of them, because of their long-term presence and degree of institutionalization, have built capacities for maintenance and pres-

Illustrative example from the [Bangladesh case study](#)

In the refugee crisis in Bangladesh the plight of the Rohingya refugees is not only of major concern because it is a human rights issue, but also because it is key to ending the displacement situation and ensuring that they can live in dignity. The risk of the humanitarian crisis that is unfolding in Bangladesh is that living in dignity, including the memories about the atrocities committed against the Rohingya by the state of Myanmar, receives less attention from the international and na-

How to address migration at all stages of the conflict cycle?

ervation of this captured information. Other organizations with less capacity have not yet established sound and thorough preservation strategies or are unaware of the potential of this documentation. Yet, especially in humanitarian displacement crisis situations, the focus of national and international development, humanitarian aid, and peacebuilding actors is often on short- and medium-term effects of the crisis, as well as new tensions or conflicts that arise in the context.

tional community involved in the response. In this context, collecting testimonies about past atrocities, as well as new ones, is important. While such a process might be emotionally stressful and triggering for the victims and survivors of the violence, it might also facilitate healing and closure if it is combined with professional psychological and psychosocial support measures, including indigenous and traditional practices of healing. In addition, ensuring that expectations are managed well and that the process is transparent is key, especially when collecting stories and testimonies of victims and survivors before a formal peace or transitional justice process has been put in place.

Make sure the psychosocial aspects and trauma are dealt with professionally

It is important to ensure that dealing with the past mechanisms and institutions, including the peacebuilding actors supporting them, are adequately equipped to provide psychological and psychosocial support to their own staff and the people who are involved in the process and who fled from a violent conflict. Alternatively, they can collaborate with professional individuals and institutions providing psychological and psychosocial support. When dealing with migration, psychosocial support is particularly important as people often are traumatized and isolated or have lost connection with social networks that can provide support. Hence, while psychosocial support is always important when addressing experiences of past violence and trauma, the issue is compounded by migration due to the lack of support systems available to migrants, the physical distance to their country of origin/home, the impact of the new environment, and the multiple levels of trauma experienced during the migration journey. The psychological as well as the social aspect are key to a person's mental health and resilience to shocks. In this context it is important to build on local knowledge and practices that might be available in a given context, including in the migrant community, to deal with psychological and psychosocial effects on individuals, families, and societies.

Address narratives that reinforce negative perceptions of displaced persons and migrants

Dealing with the past processes also provide an opportunity to rewrite narratives that were created before and during the conflict about the role of migrants in the conflict and society in general. The objective of such processes is to forge a common narrative of different groups about the past violence. The stories of women, men, boys, and girls who left their country or place of origin should be a part of this process and might contribute to new narratives, which highlight the complexity, challenges, and opportunities resulting from the migration.

Part four

Case studies

Social cohesion and peacebuilding in the Rohingya refugee crisis in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

Social cohesion has become a migration policy concern. Recent policy developments indicate a focus on the challenges of migration, as well as its opportunities, for social cohesion. One of the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) is to empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion. In order to reach this objective [...] [Learn more](#)

Migration governance, peace, and conflict in Ethiopia

Migration policies that fail to adopt holistic approaches increase the vulnerability of individuals and can lead to insecurity, instability, and the (re-)emergence of violent conflicts at community, state, and regional levels. As a result, the international community has been calling for comprehensive approaches to migration governance rooted in principles of solidarity, human rights, and international humanitarian law and drawing on development and peacebuilding tools. Yet, perceptions of (forced) migration as a threat to societal and state security [...] [Learn more](#)

Participation of the diaspora in the Colombian Truth Commission

Demands for greater recognition of the rights and agency of migrants stands out in recent scholarly literature, and increasingly in policy and practice. Key elements of recognition include the need to incorporate political rights and demands of refugees in dealing with the past process agendas, as well as the need to ensure the participation of migrants in political processes in their countries of origin and in their host countries. To achieve long-term and sustainable results [...] [Learn more](#)

Conclusion

This toolbox provides a basis for ongoing exchange and learning among different sectors interested in the peace-migration nexus. The next step in this process is testing the first version of the toolbox and sharpening the tools, which will be featured in an online version of this document. The current version of the toolbox gives inspiration and proposes guidelines for practitioners and policy-makers to engage more systematically and strategically with migration in their peacebuilding work. Finally, the toolbox is also an opportunity for multilateral actors such as the UN to take into account the implications of migration for their peacebuilding efforts by integrating migration more systematically into their peacebuilding approaches, including in their analysis, strategies, and projects.

Glossary of key terms and concepts

Migration

Displacement

Movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters.¹⁴

Displaced persons

Persons or groups who are forced to leave their homes or habitual residence, either across international borders or within a state.¹⁵

Host country and host communities

Country and communities in which IDPs, displaced persons and other migrants temporarily reside.¹⁶

Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

Persons or groups who are forced to leave their homes or place of habitual residence and remain within the borders of the state, that is who do not cross an international state border.¹⁷

Migration

Movement of persons away from their place of usual residence, either across an international border or within a state.¹⁸

Migrant

Umbrella term, which is not defined under international law, and reflects the understanding of a person who moves away from their place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons.¹⁹

Migration governance

Process in which the combined framework of legal norms and organizational structures regulate and shape how states act in response to international migration, addressing rights and responsibilities and promoting international cooperation.²⁰

¹⁴ IOM (2019) [Glossary on Migration. International Migration Law](#).

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ IOM (2020) [Key Migration Terms](#).

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²⁰ In 2015, the IOM developed a 'Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF)', which defines what 'well-governed' migration might look like, in the context of SDG 10.7. See: IOM (2019) [Migration Governance Indicators](#).

Migration policy

Law and policy affecting the movement of people, including travel and temporary mobility, immigration, emigration, nationality, labour markets, economic and social development, industry, commerce, social cohesion, social services, health, education, law enforcement, foreign policy, trade and humanitarian issues.²¹

Mixed migration movements

Cross-border movements of people with varying protection profiles, reasons for moving, and needs, who are moving along the same routes and using the same means of transportation or travel.²²

Receiving country

Country of destination for migrants, including refugees, or the place of destination for IDPs.²³

Refugees

People who are deemed to have a well-founded fear of being persecuted and fall within specific terms of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the following 1967 Protocol.²⁴

Returnees

People who have returned to their 'point of departure', including return within the territorial boundaries of a country or from a host country to the country of origin. The return may or may not be voluntary, and assisted or independent.²⁵

Peace and Conflict

Conflict

Perceived incompatibility of interests, needs and wants between individuals or groups. As in conflict transformation theory, it is understood as a necessary part of social change. However, conflict can and should be waged by nonviolent means.²⁶

Conflict cycle

Model offering an overview of the different and overlapping stages of a violent conflict and helping to understand the strategic entry points for peacebuilding engagement (e.g. conflict prevention, conflict resolution and dealing with the past).²⁷

²¹ Ibid.

²² UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (n.d.) *Global Focus*. [UNHCR Operations Worldwide. Glossary](#).

²³ Ibid

²⁴ UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2019) [The 1951 Refugee Convention](#).

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Berghof Foundation (ed.) (2012) Berghof [Glossary on Conflict Transformation](#).

²⁷ See for instance Swanström et al. (2005) *Conflict, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Management and beyond: a conceptual exploration. Concept Paper*.

Conflict prevention

A range of short-term as well as longer-term actions aimed at preventing armed or violent conflict, including structural and cultural violence. In this sense, conflict prevention implies the ability to anticipate potential conflict, indicating a need for foresight and the observation of conflict dynamics, and taking early action.²⁸

Conflict resolution

Focuses on causes of conflict, including structural, behavioral and attitudinal aspects, and aims to help parties explore, analyze, question and reframe their positions and interests as a way of transcending conflict.²⁹ Conflicts can be resolved at different levels and in a variety of ways, including through negotiation, mediation, and facilitation. Approaches that are used often include dialogue and multi-track diplomacy.³⁰

Dealing with the past processes

A long-term process that aims at establishing a culture of accountability, the rule of law and reconciliation. There are four pillars that inform a holistic approach to dealing with the past: the right to know, the right to justice, the right to reparations and the guarantee of non-recurrence.³¹ Various methods and approaches have been developed to cope with the memory and consequences of past violence, depending on the context.³²

Peace

Based on Johan Galtung's 'models of violence and peace', peace is understood as 'positive peace', as opposed to 'negative peace'. The latter is defined as the cessation of direct violence. 'Positive peace' includes the absence of direct violence, as well as the overcoming of structural and cultural violence.³³

Peacebuilding

Refers to any processes and measures contributing toward sustaining peace, including strategies aimed at peacefully transforming violent conflicts, and enhancing the resilient capacities of societies to prevent and address conflict in a constructive manner, at different levels (i.e. tracks 1-3).

Peace processes

A series of talks, agreements and activities designed to end war or violence between two groups. Peace processes may include formal and informal mechanism and involve a multitude of actors, often over a long period.³⁴

Tracks

Various levels of decision-making and links between conflict actors: Track 1 (official, governmental and decision-making level), track 2 (non-official, but influential and linked to decision-makers), and track 3 (grass roots and civil society).³⁵

²⁸ Ott, L. & Lühe, U. (2018) *Conflict Prevention: Connecting Policy & Practice. Working Paper.* swisspeace.

²⁹ See more on mediation and facilitation in peace processes: Mason, S. A. (2007) *Mediation and facilitation in peace processes. International relations and security network.* Center for Security Studies, ETH Zürich.

³⁰ See for instance Swanström et al. (2005) *Conflict, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Management and beyond: a conceptual exploration. Concept Paper.*

³¹ swisspeace (2012) *A conceptual framework for dealing with the past.*

³² Berghof Foundation. *Dealing with the Past.*

³³ Ramsbotham, O., Woodhouse, T. & Miall, H. (2016) *Contemporary Conflict Resolution. 4th edition.* Cambridge: polity press.

³⁴ Berghof Foundation (n.d.) *Publications. Glossary. Breaking Deadlocks: Peace Process Support.*

³⁵ Mason, S. A. (2007) *Mediation and facilitation in peace processes. International relations and security network.* Center for Security Studies, ETH Zürich.

Policy frameworks for migration and peace

Recent international policy frameworks, including reports, resolutions, and guidelines, have acknowledged the need for comprehensive approaches to address migration and displacement. These migration and peacebuilding frameworks jointly provide entry points for more strategic peacebuilding engagement on migration. In fact, addressing the peace-migration nexus is key to the successful implementation of many of these policies. Understanding the policy landscape within which this toolbox is embedded is important to ensure that the recommendations and potential follow-up initiatives tie in with existing debates at the political level and contribute effectively to shaping future debates. Moreover, the policies are important instruments for advocacy and lobbying with governments and donors to get support for initiatives at the peace-migration nexus.³⁶

- **Global Compact on Refugees**

On December 17, 2018, the United Nations General Assembly affirmed the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), after consultations led by UNHCR with Member States, international organizations, refugees, civil society, the private sector, and experts. The GCR is a framework for more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing and recognizes that a sustainable solution to refugee situations cannot be achieved without international cooperation. Moreover, it recognizes the importance of good relations and peaceful coexistence, and highlights this as an area in need of support. Finally, it is considered a unique opportunity to transform the way the world responds to refugee situations, benefiting both refugees and the communities that host them.³⁷

- **Global Compact for Migration**

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) was adopted by the majority of UN Member States in December 2018. It is the result of a recognition of the need for a comprehensive approach to human mobility and enhanced cooperation at the global level. It is also the first intergovernmentally negotiated agreement and covers all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. Although it is a nonbinding document, it presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development. One of its objectives is to empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion. To reach this objective, the GCM calls for a commitment to "strengthen the welfare of all members of societies by minimizing disparities, avoiding polarization and increasing public confidence in policies and institutions related to migration, in line with the acknowledgment that fully integrated migrants are better positioned to contribute to prosperity." It is guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which in turn includes a goal on peace.³⁸

³⁶ Other relevant policy documents, frameworks, and reports include: *Migration Policy Framework for Africa and Plan of Action (2018–2027)*; *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*; *2006 Great Lakes Protocol*; *2009 Kampala Convention*; *UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) 2010 Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons*; *UN Principles on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons (the "Pinheiro Principles")*; *World Humanitarian Summit 2016*; *the Grand Bargain*; *DAC recommendation on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus*; *the Peace Promise*; *UNSCR 2388 on Trafficking and Peace and Security*; *UNSCR 2474 on Missing Persons*; *UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security*.

³⁷ UNHCR *The UN Refugee Agency (2020) [The Global Compact on Refugees](#)*.

³⁸ IOM *UN Migration (2020) [Global Compact for Migration](#)*.

- **Agenda 2030**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, was adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 and provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries—developed and developing—in a global partnership. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is relevant to the peace-migration nexus because it highlights the need to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies, which are free from fear and violence. It declares there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development. Moreover, its principle to “leave no one behind” and to “reach those furthest behind first,” as well as the goal of reducing inequalities, is key to migration and sustainable peace. Further, it includes relevant SDGs, including SDG 16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions, and two other goals on safe, orderly, and regular migration (SDG Target 10.7) and promotes decent work for migrant workers, particularly women migrants (SDG Target 8.8). The 2030 Agenda emphasizes the relevance of working on the interlinkages of the different goals to achieve sustainable peace.³⁹

- **Sustaining Peace**

The concept of sustaining peace is introduced in two substantively identical resolutions issued by the UN Security Council and the General Assembly in 2016 (A/RES/70/262; S/RES/2282). Sustaining peace is understood as an overarching goal of peacebuilding processes aimed at building “[...] a common vision of society, ensuring that the needs of all segments of the population are taken into account”. It is a practice-oriented comprehensive concept to preventing violent conflict by addressing drivers of conflict, patterns of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and underlying root causes of conflict, including different kinds of exclusion, systemic discrimination and marginalization, based on joint analysis of conflict dynamics and joined-up strategic planning. As such, it constitutes a broadening of the largely outcome driven peacebuilding approaches rooted in the liberal peace agenda.⁴⁰

Crosscutting issues

The strategic and systematic engagement of peacebuilding on migration requires an understanding and mainstreaming of crosscutting issues that are relevant at all stages of a conflict cycle and migration journey. A holistic lens is required to capture the complexity of migration and build on its potential for the prevention, resolution and processing of a conflict. In addition to the following issues, it is important to keep in mind the issue of missing migrants, the complexity of return processes and cases of onward migration or renewed displacement and what specific implications these cases have on peace and conflict dynamics.

- **Conflict sensitivity**

It is important to ensure that institutions engaging in the field of humanitarian aid, development and peacebuilding are aware of the potential side effects of their intervention on the context. Keeping in mind that there are dividers (i.e., sources of tension, fault lines, cleavages) and connectors (i.e.,

³⁹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (n.d.) [Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

⁴⁰ UN General Assembly (2016) Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 27 April 2016 70/262. [Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture](#).

issues that unify and connect people) in every society and context, in and around displacement or migration crises situations of fragility, increased inequality, scarcity, polarization, inter-group tension and conflict are likely to arise. Hence, a conflict sensitive approach is crucial to avoid exacerbating tensions and build on the positive potential of initiatives to prevent and transform conflicts. A conflict lens must be built into all of the institution's considerations at strategic, operational, organizational and personal levels.⁴¹

- **Intersectionality**

In migration, gender relations and roles in the family and society, as well as structural characteristics of the country of origin and the host country determine people's access to information and resources, thus influencing their experiences and perspectives and shaping their needs. In addition, shifts in traditional gendered roles and responsibilities can occur through the migration. In combination with the effects of trauma and stress, this can create tensions. Assessing gender relations and roles is key to an awareness of different experiences of different groups of women, girls, boys, men, non-binary, intersex and transgender people.

An approach to conflict analysis that takes into account societal markers that place people in different positions of power, privilege, discrimination and exclusion (e.g. ethno-religious background, age, social class, sexual orientation, marital status, race, ethnicity, social capital and disability) enables a deeper understanding of the multiple intersecting identities that shape a person's migration and conflict experience.⁴²

- **Human rights**

Migration is linked to human rights violations in various ways. For instance, serious and widespread rights violations, such as mass killings, arbitrary arrests, torture, and rape can cause displacement. Other violations, such as the destruction of homes and property, can be aimed at making it impossible for people who left to return home. In fact, displacement is sometimes a deliberate strategy adopted by parties to a conflict and can constitute a war crime or a crime against humanity. Finally, migration under certain conditions leaves people vulnerable to other human rights violations (e.g. to human trafficking), without the basic stability provided by their homes, livelihoods, communities, and governance structures.⁴³

Taking into consideration human rights in the context of migration can be essential to peacebuilding engagement. This might require upholding and protecting human rights that are essential to peace. At the same time, in order to move towards a transformation of conflictual relationships and avoid the risk of jeopardizing gains made in a peace process, peacebuilding actors might not always be the right actors to hold duty bearers or perpetrators of human rights violations accountable. In this context, peacebuilding and human rights-based approaches can complement each other. Peacebuilding approaches are needed to move beyond positions, towards understanding interests and needs of conflict parties. This in turn might pave the way for addressing human rights while at the same time finding solutions that reflect the values of all (conflict) parties.

⁴¹ Read more about Conflict Sensitive Program Management here: [KOFF swisspeace \(n.d.\) Fact Sheet Conflict Sensitivity](#).

⁴² Conciliation Resources (2018) [Why does inclusion matter for peace?](#) Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement & ICTJ Research Unit (2012) [Transitional Justice and Displacement](#).

⁴³ Brookings-LSE [Project on Internal Displacement & ICTJ Research Unit \(2012\) Transitional Justice and Displacement](#).

Detailed overview of initiatives

Conflict prevention		
Initiative	Approaches	Relevance for peacebuilding
<p>Fondation Hirondelle initiated a radio project in the Jamtoli refugee camp in Cox's Bazar Bangladesh in 2018, in which refugees created and conducted radio programs for other refugees, providing information about life in the refugee camps, as well as issues that are key to peaceful coexistence within their community. This is done by discussing topics such as women's safety, education, psychosocial challenges, and livelihood issues.</p> <p>This project was expanded to include the host communities in the area in 2019; however it is currently paused. Fondation Hirondelle's work aims to contribute to the resourcefulness and resilience of refugees, and the host community, and strengthen social cohesion between the groups.⁴⁴</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Information and media • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes horizontally and vertically to social cohesion through community building among and between refugee and host communities.
<p>Radio Naf is a Bangladeshi community radio in Cox's Bazar that broadcasts socioeconomic and development-related information. The objective is to empower marginalized people, promote social justice, and ensure people's right of access to information and technology.</p> <p>In the Rohingya refugee crisis it has additionally been hosting a program that provides information to Rohingya refugees in the camps. In 2018, through radio booths situated in the camp, and listener clubs run by Rohingya refugees, Radio Naf provided both information and entertainment to the refugee community. This is not only an important way for Rohingya refugees to get information, it also enables other listeners to the local community radio to hear about the situation and challenges of Rohingya refugees.⁴⁵</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Information and media • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to social cohesion through fact sharing, community building, and entertainment among and between refugee and host communities. • Supports and stimulates participation by creating a platform for engagement and action for members of the refugee community
<p>Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation in Bangladesh designed a market project, which enables host communities and Rohingya refugees to collaborate and benefit from the market.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to social cohesion by addressing socioeconomic issues through a community-based initiative supporting (financial) inclusion

⁴⁴ Fondation Hirondelle (2020) Projects. Bangladesh. [Improving Access to Information for Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh](#).

⁴⁵ Based on KII's with journalists and representatives of nongovernmental organizations in Cox's Bazar, October 2019.

Radio Naf (2019) Listener Group Activities. <http://www.radionaf.com/17> ;

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2018) Community Radio Keeps Rohingya Refugees Connected. <https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/8/5b85077f4/community-radio-keeps-rohingya-refugees-connected.html>.

<p>In 2019–20, Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB), a Bangladeshi nonprofit organization that specializes in participatory action research with marginalized communities, conducted a project aimed at building capacities of local communities to mitigate challenges created by the Rohingya refugee crisis in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh.</p> <p>For the first time, RIB worked not only with Rohingya refugees, but also with host communities. Dialogue sessions were facilitated separately among Rohingya and host community members, including local authorities and national/international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). Thereby, RIB provided a space for both sides to express their concerns and grievances and come up with potential solutions to their problems. The process led to a sense of agency and inclusion among people who often feel excluded from development activities and decision-making processes that concern their lives. Building confidence and empowering both communities to claim their rights is a crucial step toward enhancing social cohesion.⁴⁶</p> <p>In another project, conducted in partnership with UNHCR, Rohingya refugees co-scripted and performed interactive theater in the Kutupalong and Nayapara camps. The play was called “Keno” (“Why?”) and explained the reasons for their flight to Bangladesh in 2017, highlighting issues such as the denial of citizenship and justice in Myanmar.⁴⁷</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Information and media • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to social cohesion through confidence-building, working on narratives and empowerment on both sides by creating an agency platform • Contributes to participation by strengthening a sense of agency and confidence among and between communities • Lays foundation for the identification of entry points for peace-building by creating a conflict-sensitive understanding of the migrants’ situation and the migration-conflict context.
<p>In El Salvador, Terre des Hommes (Switzerland and Germany) supports La Asociación de Capacitación e Investigación para la Salud Mental (ACISAM) in working with youth who have been deported from the US to El Salvador.</p> <p>In addition to providing psychosocial support to young people who have been returned, the project aims to create awareness in their communities and the media about what these children are going through and to recognize and live up to their role in supporting them.</p> <p>Evidence from the program’s intervention demonstrates that community members show solidarity and support to the children when they understand what pushed them to migrate and the violence and discrimination they suffered on the way to and upon reaching the US.⁴⁸</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Information and media • Psychosocial support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to social cohesion by working on narratives and creating a sense of empathy and therefore encouraging solidarity, based on awareness raising and information sharing • Contributes to conflict resolution and DWP objectives by providing psychosocial support for deportees to overcome past trauma • Contributes to participation by addressing trauma and reintegration in order to tackle future socioeconomic

⁴⁶ Based on KII’s with representatives of a nongovernmental organization in Dhaka, October 2019.

Research Initiatives Bangladesh RIB (2009) [Capacity Building Project](#).

⁴⁷ Research Initiatives Bangladesh RIB (2009) [The Play KENO \(WHY\)](#).

⁴⁸ Terre des Hommes (2019) [Supporting young migrants to reintegrate after being returned to El Salvador, Central America](#). [Shareweb. SDC Network on Migration & Development](#).

<p>In June 2020, KOFF – The Swiss Platform for Peacebuilding published a podcast on narratives about Venezuelan refugees in Colombia, in which different perspectives on the issue are highlighted. Thereby, KOFF contributes to a better understanding of the existing narratives, how they come about, and who shapes them. Moreover, it enables a critical reflection on the consequences of narratives for certain groups of people and in particular for migrants in many regions in the world.⁴⁹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to social cohesion by creating a sense of empathy and therefore encouraging solidarity, based on information sharing and reflection on social norms and cultural violence • Lays the foundation for the identification of entry points for peacebuilding by creating a conflict-sensitive understanding of the migrants' situation and the migration-conflict context
<p>The Durable Solutions Initiative is a joint endeavor between the Government of Ethiopia, the United Nations, international and national NGOs, and donors. This initiative provides a principled operational framework and platform to design and implement durable solutions in support of IDPs in Ethiopia and host communities/communities at locations of return, relocation, or local integration. Its aim is to facilitate collective action and cooperation between the Ethiopian government authorities at national, regional, and local levels and the international community.</p> <p>The DSI in Ethiopia takes political and conflict analysis as a starting point as it aims to address immediate needs, while tackling issues related to governance, development, and coexistence, and understanding what kind of disputes are related to displacement (e.g., rural-urban, pastoralist, urban-urban, etc.).</p> <p>Peacebuilding elements include community-based planning (i.e., asking communities about their priorities), participatory and inclusive approaches, identification of sources of conflict (e.g., lack of services or land issues upon return), conflict sensitivity, knowledge about past conflicts and prevention of new conflicts, reconciliation activities, and identifying peacebuilding gaps. This initiative is a good example of an effort to integrate humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding approaches into responses to displacement.⁵⁰</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to integrative and conflict-sensitive migration governance policies by combining humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding approaches into responses to displacement • Contributes to conflict resolution and DWP objectives by providing a framework on durable solutions for IDPs • Contributes to participation and migration governance by addressing all levels alike (community engagement, peace actors, authorities) • Contributes to conflict prevention by aligning policies, practices and experiences

⁴⁹ KOFF Ton-Träger (2020) [Folge 3: Migration, Narrative und Frieden](#).

⁵⁰ Based on KII's with peacebuilding and migration/durable solutions experts, Addis Ababa, February 24, 2020. Swiss Confederation (2020) *International Cooperation. Projects. Ethiopia*, IOM – [Durable Solutions](#).

IOM Ethiopia (2019) Press Room. Press Releases. *Ethiopia Launches National Durable Solutions Initiative for Internally Displaced Persons*. <https://www.iom.int/news/ethiopia-launches-national-durable-solutions-initiative-internally-displaced-persons>.

Conflict resolution		
Initiative	Approach(es)	Relevance for Peacebuilding
<p>The Danish Refugee Council in Ethiopia has been supporting peace committees from the host and refugee communities in and around refugee camps in the northern Tigray region of Ethiopia. The peace committee structures in the refugee community were initially established by the Administration for Refugee & Returnee Affairs in 2014 as a means for serving as focal points for dispute resolution within camps. Recognizing the potential under CRRF for these committees to serve as a link to strengthening community-based dispute resolution mechanisms among refugees and host communities, the DRC also established peace committees in collaboration with the local administration. These structures work on peaceful coexistence within and among their communities, including resolution of disputes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to social cohesion by facilitating community dialogue and community-based dispute resolution among and between refugee and host communities • Supports and stimulates participation by creating a platform for engagement and action for members of the refugee community together with the host community and local administration • Contributes to migration governance by creating an agency platform for refugee communities to collaborate with local administration
<p>Maastricht University was commissioned to conduct a research study by the DRC's Civil Society Engagement Unit (CSEU) to investigate the conditions that influence the space and actions of Syrian civil society organizations in Lebanon, Turkey, France, Germany, Denmark, and the United Kingdom. The Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, together with GIZ, supported the publication of the study, in the framework of the DRC's work on diaspora.</p> <p>The study yielded a range of practical considerations relevant to stakeholders who seek to engage with Syrian diaspora actors whose aim it is to play a part in the social and political transformations inside Syria and to respond to pressing needs of Syrian people both inside and outside the homeland.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Information and media • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposes conflict-sensitive approaches and analyses entry points for peacebuilding
<p>Since January 2016, swisspeace and NOREF have been implementing partners of the United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for Syria (OSE) to facilitate the participation of civil society in the intra-Syrian talks in Geneva through the Civil Society Support Room (CSSR). The main objective is to render the peace process more inclusive.</p> <p>The project seeks to strengthen the participation in and contributions of Syrian civil society actors to the official talks. In this effort, swisspeace and NOREF cooperate with Syrian individuals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Advocacy and participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to participation by facilitating multistakeholder dialogue and inclusion of grassroots initiatives, NGOs, women's groups, academia, etc.

51 Diker, E. and Ragab, N.J. (2019) *Diaspora Mobilization in Contexts of Political Uncertainties: Exploring the potentials, limits and future roles of the Syrian civil society in the Middle East and Europe*. Study commissioned by the Danish Refugee Council's Civil Society Engagement Unit (CSEU).

and civil society organizations inside and outside of Syria. This enables the inclusion of voices and experiences of people who have been displaced internally or externally in the negotiations.⁵²

- Contributes to migration governance by creating a platform for discussion and dialogue among civil society organizations
- Contributes to conflict resolution as well as DWP objectives by addressing cross-border forced displacement, both for people in the diaspora and in Syria, as well as immediate trauma of war

⁵² swisspeace (2020) *Projects. Mandate. [Civil Society Support Room](#)*.

Dealing with the past		
Guidelines (what)	Approaches (how)	Area of engagement
<p>In its mandate the Colombian Truth Commission demands to work with refugee and migrant communities in host countries and look at the aspect of exile. In doing so, it is the first truth commission to establish independent coordination offices outside the country of origin.</p> <p>Supported by the Swiss FDFA, swisspeace along with partner organizations has been tasked by the Colombian Truth Commission to coordinate the collection of testimonies in Switzerland. The project "Acompañamiento a la Comisión de la Verdad con la población colombiana víctima en Suiza" (2019–2020/21) provides space for victims to give testimonies in a safe and anonymous way.</p> <p>There are seven people taking testimonies in Switzerland. The interviews cover all phases of exile and aim to understand patterns, dynamics, and important events.</p> <p>Further, swisspeace has been supporting the Truth Commission by doing outreach, meeting with representatives of the Truth Commission, collecting information on the specific context, and informing diaspora communities about the process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange and dialogue • Advocacy and participation • Documentation and archives • Psychosocial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes to post-conflict social cohesion among diaspora and host communities by providing information • Contributes to participation by collecting testimonies of victims, feeding them into the formal process, and thereby giving voice to the experiences of the diaspora • Contributes to social cohesion by building trust and fostering reconciliation in different contexts and between different groups • Serves dealing with the past objectives by including people in exile

Bibliography

- Aall, P. & Crocker, A. C. (2019) Building Resilience and Social Cohesion in Conflict. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1758-5899.12681>
- Albert, E. & Maizland, L. (2020) The Rohingya Crisis. Council on Foreign Relations. <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/rohingya-crisis>
- Al Jazeera (2019) "Genocide Day": Thousands of Rohingya rally in Bangladesh camps. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/08/day-thousands-rohingya-rally-bangladesh-camps-190825055618484.html>
- Andre, J. (2017) Internal Migration & Conflict. Medium. <https://medium.com/@Goodsvejk/internal-migration-and-group-conflict-422c1f214dfe>
- Amnesty International (2017) A Blueprint for Despair. Human Rights Impact of the EU-Turkey Deal. London: Amnesty International. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur25/5664/2017/en/>
- Berghof Foundation (n.d.) Publications. Glossary. Preventing Violence. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/publications/glossary/preventing-violence/>
- Berghof Foundation (n.d.) Publications. Glossary. Working on Conflict Dynamics: Escalation & Radicalisation. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/publications/glossary/conflict-dynamics-escalation-radicalisation/>
- Berghof Foundation (n.d.) Dealing with the Past. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/featured-topics/dealing-with-the-past/>
- Berghof Foundation (n.d.) Publications. Glossary. Breaking Deadlocks: Peace Process Support. <https://www.berghof-foundation.org/en/publications/glossary/peace-process-support/>
- Berghof Foundation (ed.) (2012) Berghof Glossary on Conflict Transformation. https://www.berghof-foundation.org/fileadmin/redaktion/Publications/Books/Book_Glossary_Chapters_en/glossary_2012_complete.pdf
- Bhatia (2017) Diplomatic Dimensions of Rohingya Crisis. Gateway House. <https://www.gatewayhouse.in/diplomacy-of-rohingya-crisis/>
- Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement & ICTJ Research Unit (2012) Transitional Justice and Displacement. <https://ictj.org/sites/default/files/ICTJ%20and%20Brookings-LSE%20Transitional%20Justice%20and%20Displacement%20Report.pdf>
- Carling, J. (2017) Refugee Advocacy and the Meaning of Migrants. PRIO Policy Brief. <https://www.prio.org/utility/DownloadFile.ashx?id=326&type=publicationfile>
- Collins, T. (2019) International community overlooks Ethiopia's IDP crisis. African Business. <https://africanbusinessmagazine.com/region/international-community-overlooks-ethiopias-idp-crisis-for-abiy-reforms/>
- Comisión de la Verdad (2018) Actualidad. Noticias. Encuentros de trabajo con organizaciones de víctimas colombianas en el exilio y organizaciones europeas de derechos humanos. <https://comisiondelaverdad.co/actualidad/noticias/encuentros-de-trabajo-con-organizaciones-de-victimas-en-el-exilio-y-organizaciones-europeas>
- Comisión de la Verdad, JEP & Unidad de Búsqueda (2019) Comprehensive system of truth, justice, reparation, and non-repetition SIVJRN. https://www.jep.gov.co/Infografas/SIVJRN_EN.pdf
- Comisión de la Verdad (n.d.) Foro internacional de víctimas. <http://www.forointernacionalvictimas.com/>
- Conciliation Resources (2018) Why does inclusion matter for peace? <https://www.c-r.org/news-and-insight/why-does-inclusion-matter-peace>
- Conciliation Resources (2018) Navigating Inclusion in Peace Transitions: Beyond Elite Bargains. <https://www.c-r.org/accord/navigating-inclusion-peace-transitions>
- Conciliation Resources (n.d.) What we do. Truth, Memory and Reconciliation Commission of Colombian Women in the Diaspora. <https://www.c-r.org/where-we-work/truth-memory-and-reconciliation-commission-colombian-women-in-the-diaspora>

[an-women-diaspora](#)

- Creta, S. (2020) Ethiopia plans to close Eritrean refugee camp despite concerns. Al Jazeera. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/ethiopia-plans-close-eritrean-refugee-camp-concerns-200417165129036.html>
- De Vries, D. (2020) News highlights: Hitsats camp shutdown announced in Ethiopia. Europe External Policy Advisors EEPA. <https://www.eepa.be/?p=3676>
- Diker, E. and Ragab, N.J. (2019) Diaspora Mobilization in Contexts of Political Uncertainties: Exploring the potentials, limits and future roles of the Syrian civil society in the Middle East and Europe. Study commissioned by the Danish Refugee Council's Civil Society Engagement Unit (CSEU)
- Election Guide (2020) Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. <https://www.electionguide.org/elections/id/3330/>
- Federer, J. P. (2016) Navigating International Norms in Peace Mediation. Völkerrechtsblog. <https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/navigating-international-norms-in-peace-mediation/>
- Fondation Hironnelle (2020) Projects. Bangladesh. Improving Access to Information for Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh. <https://www.hironnelle.org/en/bangladesh-en>
- Fonseca X. et al. (2018) Social cohesion revisited: a new definition and how to characterize it. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13511610.2018.1497480?af=R>
- Habte, B. & Kweon, Y. J. (2019) Addressing internal displacement in Ethiopia. Forced Migration Review. <https://www.fmreview.org/GuidingPrinciples20/habte-kweon>
- Human Rights Watch (2019) Myanmar/Bangladesh: Halt Rohingya Returns. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/08/20/myanmar/bangladesh-halt-rohingya-returns#>
- ICVA Humanitarian Learning (2018) Learning Stream Navigating the Nexus. Topic 1: The “nexus” explained. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ICVA_Nexus_briefing_paper%20%28Low%20Res%29.pdf
- Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre IDMC (2019) Global Report on Internal Displacement. Ethiopia. <https://www.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/2019-IDMC-GRID-spotlight-ethiopia.pdf>
- International Peace Institute IPI (2017) Sustaining peace: what does it mean in practice? https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/1704_Sustaining-Peace-final.pdf
- IOM (2019) Glossary on Migration. International Migration Law. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iml_34_glossary.pdf
- IOM (2019) Migration Governance Indicators. <https://gmdac.iom.int/migration-governance-indicators>
- IOM (2019) Ethiopia Launches National Durable Solutions Initiative for Internally Displaced Persons. <https://www.iom.int/news/ethiopia-launches-national-durable-solutions-initiative-internally-displaced-persons>
- IOM (2019) IOM Ethiopia Publishes First Ever National Displacement Report. <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-ethiopia-publishes-first-ever-national-displacement-report>
- IOM Ethiopia (2019) Press Room. Press Releases. Ethiopia Launches National Durable Solutions Initiative for Internally Displaced Persons. <https://www.iom.int/news/ethiopia-launches-national-durable-solutions-initiative-internally-displaced-persons>
- IOM (2020) Global Compact for Migration. <https://www.iom.int/global-compact-migration>
- IOM (2020) Key Migration Terms. <https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms#Forced-migration>
- KOFF swisspeace (n.d.) Fact Sheet Conflict Sensitivity. https://www.swisspeace.ch/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/KOFF/KOFF_Documents/KOFF_Factsheet_Conflictsensitivity.pdf
- KOFF Ton-Träger (2020) Folge 3: Migration, Narrative und Frieden. <https://soundcloud.com/kofftontraeger/folge-3-migration-narrative-und-frieden>
- Maru, M. T. (2019) In depth: Unpacking Ethiopia's new refugee law. Africa Portal. <https://www.africaportal.org/features/depth-unpacking-ethiopias-revised-refugee-law/>
- Mason, S. A. (2007) Mediation and facilitation in peace processes. International relations and security network. Center for Security Studies, ETH Zürich. https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/30542/dossier_Mediation_and_Facilitation.pdf
- McPherson et al. (2020) China struggles in new diplomatic role, trying to return Rohingya to Myanmar. Reuters. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya-china-insight/china-struggles-in-new-diplomatic-role-trying-to-return-rohingya-to-myanmar-idUSKBN1ZJ0SY>

- Migration Data Portal (2020) Data. Migration Statistics. https://migrationdataportal.org/data?i=flows_abs_em-ig1&t=2013&cm49=170
- Molenaar et al. (2018): Caught in the middle. Clingendael. <https://www.clingendael.org/pub/2018/caught-in-the-middle/>
- Nigusie, A. A. & Carver, F. (2019) The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework. Progress in Ethiopia. <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/12941.pdf>
- Nyberg-Sorensen et al. (2002) The Migration-Development Nexus: Evidence and Policy Options. IOM. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mrs_8.pdf
- Ott, L. & Lühe, U. (2018) Conflict Prevention: Connecting Policy & Practice. Working Paper. swisspeace. https://www.swisspeace.ch/assets/publications/downloads/Working-Papers/e74e66efe2/Conflict-Prevention-Connecting-Policy-and-Practice-Working-Paper-18-swisspeace-lisa_ott-ulrike-luehe.PDF
- Perret, L. (2019) Operationalizing the Humanitarian–Development–Peace Nexus: Lessons learned from Colombia, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia and Turkey. IOM, Geneva https://publications.iom.int/fr/system/files/pdf/operationalizing_hdpn.pdf
- Radio Naf (2019) Listener Group Activities. <http://www.radionaf.com/17>
- Ramsbotham, O., Woodhouse, T. & Miall, H. (2016) Contemporary Conflict Resolution. 4th edition. Cambridge: polity press
- Reliefweb (2018) Ethiopia: Conflict Displacement Situation Report (23 January 2018). <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-conflict-displacement-situation-report-23-january-2018>
- Reliefweb (2020) Eritrean Refugees in Ethiopia: Tigray & Afar Regions. Situational Update (as of April 30, 2020). <https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/eritrean-refugees-ethiopia-tigray-afar-regions-situational-update-30-april-2020>
- Research Initiatives Bangladesh RIB (2009) Capacity Building Project. https://www.rib-bangladesh.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=252:building-capacities-of-local-communities-to-mitigate-problems-created-by-the-rohingya-influx-in-coxs-bazaar-bangladesh&catid=37:latest-activities&Itemid=55
- Research Initiatives Bangladesh RIB (2009) The Play KENO (WHY). https://www.rib-bangladesh.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=254:the-play-keno-why&catid=37:latest-activities&Itemid=55
- Riggan, J. & Poole, A. (2018) “We can’t go home”: What does peace mean for Eritrea’s refugees?
- African Arguments. <https://africanarguments.org/2018/08/01/cant-go-home-peace-eritrea-refugees/>
- Riggan, J. & Poole, A. (2018) Fear dampens hope among Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia. News Deeply. <https://www.newsdeeply.com/refugees/community/2018/08/16/fear-dampens-hope-among-eritrean-refugees-in-ethiopia>
- Roussi, A. (2018) Despite the peace deal with Ethiopia, Eritrean refugees are still afraid to return home. The World. <https://www.pri.org/stories/2018-09-13/despite-peace-deal-ethiopia-eritrean-refugees-are-still-afraid-return-home>
- Swanström et al. (2005): Conflict, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Management and beyond: a conceptual exploration. Concept Paper. http://www.mikaelweissmann.com/wp-content/uploads/Conflict_Conflict_Prevention_and_Conflic.pdf
- Swiss Confederation (2020) International Cooperation. Projects. Ethiopia, IOM – Durable Solutions. <https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/ethiopia/en/home/international-cooperation/projects.html/content/dezaprojects/SDC/en/2018/7F10148/phase1?oldPagePath=/content/countries/ethiopia/en/home/internationale-zusammenarbeit-projekte.html>
- swisspeace (2012) A conceptual framework for dealing with the past. http://archivesproject.swisspeace.ch/fileadmin/user_upload/archivesproject/Publications/DwP_Conceptual_Framework_October2012.pdf
- swisspeace (2020) Projects. Mandate. Civil Society Support Room. <https://www.swisspeace.ch/projects/mandate/civil-society-support-room>
- Terre des Hommes (2019) Supporting young migrants to reintegrate after being returned to El Salvador, Central America. Shareweb. SDC Network on Migration & Development. <https://www.shareweb.ch/site/Migration/sdcs-topics-in-migration/migration-and-development/mainstreaming-migration/supporting-young-migrants-to-reintegrate>
- The New Humanitarian (2020) Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia resist camp closure amid COVID-19 fears. <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2020/08/17/Ethiopia-Eritrea-refugee-camps-coronavirus>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (n.d.) Global Focus. UNHCR Operations Worldwide. Glossary. <https://reporting.unhcr.org/>

[org/glossary](#)

- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2019) The 1951 Refugee Convention. <https://www.unhcr.org/1951-refugee-convention.html>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2020) The Global Compact on Refugees. <https://www.unhcr.org/the-global-compact-on-refugees.html>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (n.d.) Operational Report. Refugee Situations. Refugee Response in Bangladesh. https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/myanmar_refugees#_ga=2.11837878.322539815.1594899011-1441729854.1585060871
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2018) Rohingya Refugee Emergency at a Glance. <https://unhcr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=5fdca0f47f1a46498002f39894fcd26f>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2018) Community Radio Keeps Rohingya Refugees Connected. <https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2018/8/5b85077f4/community-radio-keeps-rohingya-refugees-connected.html>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2018) Briefing Note. CRRF Ethiopia. <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/65916>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2020) Colombia. <https://www.unhcr.org/colombia.html>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2020) Emergencies. Rohingya Emergency. <https://www.unhcr.org/rohingya-emergency.html>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (2020) Fact Sheet Ethiopia. <http://reporting.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/UNHCR%20Ethiopia%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20February%202020.pdf>
- UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency (n.d.) Ethiopia. <https://www.unhcr.org/ethiopia.html>
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (n.d.) Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>
- UN General Assembly (2016) Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 27 April 2016 70/262. Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture. https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_70_262.pdf
- United Nations Digital Library (2016) Resolution 2282 (2016) / adopted by the Security Council at its 7680th meeting, on 27 April 2016. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/827390?ln=en>
- Watson, S. (2015): The criminalization of human and humanitarian smuggling. Migration, Mobility & Displacement. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305289621>
- Yarnell, M. (2018) Ethiopia: Abiy's Misstep on IDPs and how he can fix it. Refugees International, Blog Post. <https://www.refugeesinternational.org/reports/2018/10/25/ethiopia-abiy-misstep-on-idps-and-how-he-can-fix-it>
- Yarnell, M. (2018) The crisis below the headlines: conflict displacement in Ethiopia. Refugees International, Blog Post. <https://www.refugeesinternational.org/reports/2018/11/14/the-crisis-below-the-headlines-conflict-displacement-in-ethiopia>