The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) – a specialized training agency of the United Nations – supports the (re-)establishment of peaceful, just and inclusive societies (SDG 16) by enabling individuals and organizations to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace.

With almost 60 years of experience in capacity building, we provide customized, creative and results-based learning solutions, carefully crafted for countries and communities emerging from conflict and facing specific development needs. At the core of our success is our specific methodology that allows for the creation of powerful and inspiring spaces, products and services (online and face-to-face) for high-quality learning and collaboration.

Our training programmes have mentoring and coaching as their key ingredients and promote participation, dialogue, local ownership and multiplication of knowledge for sustainable impact and behavioural change.

Thematic Areas
- Community and individual resilience.
- Stabilization and reconstruction.
- Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR).
- Weapons and Ammunition Management.
- Economic and political recovery.
- Mediation.
- Violence prevention.
- Early warning.
- Recovery.
- Locally-led reconciliation.

Our Services
- Training and facilitation.
- Coaching & Mentoring.
- Training of Trainers (ToT).
- E-learning & Online Facilitation.
- Online Courses & Master Degrees.
- Advisory.
- Advocacy.
- Learning Support Materials.
Flagship projects

Stabilization Facility for Libya – Stronger for Libya (SFL2) Output 3: Local Peace Structures and Conflict Management Capacity. Support to Libyan CSOs

The project aimed to support Libya’s efforts to make the transition from the initial period of humanitarian relief towards medium and long-term structural and sector-specific support. UNITAR supported UNDP in the delivery of Output 3: Local Peace Structures and Conflict Management Capacity, which focused on strengthening the capacity of 32 Civil Society Organisations to provide and update expertise in conflict analysis, conflict mapping, conflict monitoring, conflict management, and conflict reduction to support the local peace structure.

Effective Weapon and Ammunition Management in Changing DDR Context

Since 2018, UNITAR has been supporting the UN Department of Peace Operations and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs in building capacities of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) practitioners to increase effectiveness of arms control in DDR contexts, in the framework of the new UN Approach to DDR and the new challenges faced in current conflict contexts. In addition to the annual blended training course, UNITAR also launched the WAM & DDR Hub, an online Community of Practice to connect WAM and DDR practitioners with specialists and experts for the exchange of resources, best practices and lessons learned.


UNITAR, together with the World Bank, has been supporting the African Union (AU) in intersecting fields of conflict prevention and response, more specifically early warning systems and DDR related activities in priority contexts. In 2022, UNITAR’s particular role has focused on the dissemination and operationalisation of the AU Operational Guidance Notes on DDR with two different focuses: weapons and ammunition management; and counter violent extremism.

Towards locally-led stabilization and reconciliation in Libya

This project aimed to support five Civil Society Organisations to build their capacity through dedicated methodological tools that supported youth in the recognition of their own potential to become peacebuilding actors (agency) and to use their energy for implementing peacebuilding and reconciliation measures in their direct environments (empowerment).

Youth-led Peace and Reconciliation in Colombia: A Transformational Approach

This project aimed to enhance the capacity of youth to be peacemakers in their own lives and communities. It included three interrelated components: preventing the recruitment and re-recruitment of at-risk youth and supporting the reintegration of former child soldiers; strengthening the capacity and agency of young people in marginalised communities; and supporting the reconciliation process in Colombian society.

Our mission

To build and enhance capacities in conflict and post-conflict contexts to create and (re) construct a “society for all”, UNITAR supports stakeholders in addressing the root causes of conflicts and building mechanisms meant to accommodate the different social actors and ensure equal opportunities so every individual can achieve their full potential in life.

Our approach focuses on:

- South-South and triangular cooperation
- Gender mainstreaming
- Human rights mainstreaming
- Focus on impact on the ground

“This project is a new opportunity to learn from UNITAR. Initiatives such as this are important because they help to put the spotlight on those who need it and give them a voice. There is a need to create a network in civil society to improve cooperation between organisations, especially in Libya. Our work allows us to interact with people from all over the country and creates a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our national identity and cohesion.”

- Eimani, Project Officer, Solidarity