Executive Summary

The Division for Peace at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is fully ambitious for the new year. As a leading provider of capacity development and knowledge services, UNITAR is committed to supporting and empowering individuals and organizations in achieving their sustainable development goal and the Division is more determined than ever to pursue its core ambition to provide learning and training opportunities to allow people and organizations to be agent of change to better work for peace, at all levels, in today’s constantly evolving world.

This quarterly report covers the period from January to March 2023 for the Division for Peace. During this period, the Division focused on advancing its mission of promoting peace, fostering reconciliation, conflict prevention, and sustainable development through capacity-building and knowledge sharing. The Division’s activities were mainly articulated around three thrusts:

**Capacity Building:**
The Division confirms it is a leading actor in this area as it conducted several capacity-building activities, including online seminars, courses, workshops, to enhance the skills and knowledge of stakeholders in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Notably, the Division organized a training workshop to develop creative solutions for peace for government officials in Africa and an eLearning Training of trainers to on the Foundations of Effective Training Design. Remarkably, the Division pursued its important work to disseminate critical knowledge on peace via its three Master’s degrees.

**Building partnerships:**
The Division forged new partnerships with organizations working in the field of peacebuilding and conflict prevention, including universities, non-governmental organizations, and regional organizations. These partnerships helped to expand the reach and impact of the Division’s work.

**Raising awareness:**
Faithful to its mission to promote peace and reconciliation, the Division tirelessly works to bring a certain number of issues to the public’s attention by supporting reconciliation initiatives in Libya and addressing the challenges to the return of peace in the Sahel.

Overall, the Division for Peace has reached 1,596 participants via its trainings and events during the first quarter.

As we embark on a new year, UNITAR is poised to continue driving impact and advancing global development efforts in the coming quarters to enshrine its position as a key player in empowering leaders of the world and a catalyst for peace.

Evariste Karambizi
Director, Division for Peace
Impact Strategy and Goals

As a new year of challenges unfolds, the Division for Peace has defined its new strategic objectives for the year in line with the New Agenda for Peace and its overall vision to contribute to a world of peaceful, just and inclusive societies which enable individuals, institutions and organizations to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace.

1. Working on the peace continuum
   - Expand the reach of the Division’s work, particularly in regions affected by conflicts and fragility and those in process of stabilization and recovery
   - Diversify the products and services of the Division to cover new thematic areas and ensure stronger alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16) targets and indicators and the objectives of the New Agenda for Peace.

2. Working together
   Reinforce institutions and networks to sustain peace and security efforts locally, regionally, and globally.

3. Working inclusively
   Reduce obstacles to full, equal and meaningful participation for all, both across its initiatives and within its team.
Individuals Trained during Quarter I: 1,596

- Face-to-face: 836
- Online: 660
- Blended / Other: 100

Training Events: 56

- Face-to-face: 24
- Online: 30
- Blended / Other: 2
Gender breakdown of beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>1,077</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Beneficiaries from 73 different nationalities

Quarter 1 in numbers
Quarter 1 in numbers

Event type
- Side event
- Retreat
- Webinar
- Course

Event Partnership type
- Non-governmental Organisations
- Academia
- Government

Not associated with learning outcome
- Non in partnership

Events with/without learning outcome
- Associated with learning outcome
- Not associated with learning outcome

Events with/without partnerships
- In partnership
- Not in partnership
13

Training of Trainers Events

3

Events delivered by former Training of Trainers participants
Strategic Objective:

Working together
What?

Training institutions and learning hubs, at national, regional, and international levels, play a crucial role in building the capacity of all actors involved in peace and security. They provide the necessary knowledge, skills, and resources to build, sustain, and preserve peace. To achieve the ambitious objectives outlined in the New Agenda for Peace, these institutions must strategically position themselves and remain responsive to the ever-evolving global peace and security landscape. Our project addresses this need by focusing on institutional capacity building. By strengthening the capabilities of these institutions, we ensure they can effectively contribute to the realization of global peace objectives.

Our project enhances the institutional capacity of training institutions and learning hubs. We empower them to deliver high-quality programs that meet the evolving needs of peace and security practitioners. This enables individuals and organizations to acquire the knowledge, skills, and expertise necessary to address the complex challenges they face in the field.

Our project also fosters a culture of innovation and adaptability. By encouraging these institutions to strategically position themselves, we promote responsiveness to the changing global peace and security landscape. This allows them to develop and implement new methodologies, integrate emerging technologies, and stay ahead of the curve in training practices. As a result, actors in the peace and security field can effectively navigate the challenges they encounter, leading to more sustainable and impactful peacebuilding efforts.

Our donors and partners

Our project holds significant relevance for the donor, Germany, as it aligns closely with Germany’s commitment to international peace and security. By supporting institutional capacity building, Germany actively contributes to the development of strong and capable training institutions and learning hubs. This investment ensures that actors in the peace and security field have access to high-quality training resources and expertise, leading to enhanced effectiveness and impact.

Ghana: Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC)

Mali: École de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin Beye de Bamako (EMPABB)

Tanzania: Tanzania Peacekeeping Training Centre (TPTC)
Building key capacities for peace in Central Africa

What?

**Negotiations are key to peace.**

UNITAR’s sub-regional training programme focused on interest-based, problem-solving process of negotiation, seeking to analyze and understand the underlying needs and concerns of different parties, and engage in creative problem-solving to achieve mutually beneficial solutions to help build trust and a long-term cooperative relationship between parties, better enabling them to work together in the future to prevent and resolve conflicts.

In line with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Office for Central Africa’s speech stressing the need for intensified ownership by governments, the training programme began in January 2023 with preliminary readings and questions to reflect upon.

The intensive live and online sessions were conducted from 6 to 15 February 2023.

The third phase involved follow-up work throughout March on the UNITAR Learning Platform.

Who?

Mid and senior-level female and male officials from Offices of the President and Prime Minister, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, staff from the African Union, sub-regional organizations, from UN and African Union (AU) peace missions from six countries - Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Republic of Congo - and from civil society.

Our donors and partners

**The people of Japan**

This programme was funded by the people of Japan through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan which made it possible to carry out this highly requested French language programme.

UNITAR enjoyed a close partnership with the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and the International Organisation of the Francophonie (OIF).
What?

Libya has been facing a myriad of challenges in its transition to democratic rule in the aftermath of the 2011 revolution, necessitating action to rebuild social ties at all levels for the country to progress along the path of sustained peace and increased prosperity.

Against this backdrop, this project aimed at supporting five Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to increase their capacity through dedicated methodological tools that helped Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to support youth to recognize their own potential to become a peacebuilding actor and to use their energy for implementing peacebuilding and reconciliation measures in their direct environments.

During this first quarter, the community multiplication trainings and community sensitisation events paved the way for transformation by supporting the implementation of youth-centred responses to the fundamental changes required in a conflict-affected context, through the leading role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in strengthening youth-led conflict resolution, resilience, and reconciliation processes in Libya.

Who?

Civil society organisations on the ground in Libya working with communities, particularly youth.

Our donors and partners

The Japanese Foreign Policy focus on Africa’s forward-looking initiatives toward peace and stability, owned and led by African countries.

“The project is essential in reinforcing the cooperation between local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and putting the involvement of youth at the forefront which is something our organization has always sought to promote. We learned many interesting things with UNITAR’s training and ourselves and those taking part in the multiplication trainings will really benefit from it. Every Civil Society Organization (CSO) and every region in Libya face its own challenges, however, we appraise cooperation among the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) since we all share the same goal which is social cohesion and peace in Libya.”

Al Hassan Bakkar, Program Manager at Perpetual Peace Foundation for Development, a local young civil society organisation based in Benghazi.

321 participants

Libya

60% Men

40% Women

Watch video about the project
Master in Electoral Policy and Administration (MEPA)

What?

The online Master in Electoral Policy and Administration (MEPA) aims to provide advanced learning on electoral processes for current and aspiring election professionals through a network of field practitioners and world-leading academics and electoral experts. Responding to a global structural demand for qualified electoral professionals, the program is based on a systematic and comprehensive approach to the professional development of those enrolled and places emphasis on the importance of advancing equal career opportunities for men and women in this sector, including in senior positions.

The program has enhanced electoral stakeholders’ leadership, conflict, and quality management capacities and contributed to the digitalization of electoral processes. The program has provided a dynamic and interactive platform where election professionals have deepened their knowledge and developed their skills on electoral processes.

The program is available in English, French, Portuguese, and Arabic.

Who?

The Master’s diploma focuses on the development of electoral professionals, i.e., professionals who share a common set of norms, behavioral standards, and qualifications to assume specific roles and responsibilities in the area of electoral policy and administration.

Our donors and partners

The Master is designed, delivered and implemented by the Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).

“Given my experience of more than 10 years in political consultation, I can say that the Master in Electoral Policy and Administration has efficiently shaped my way of acting. My understanding of electoral management has changed broadly but specifically as Ambassador in my day-to-day work the Master in Electoral Policy and Administration methods have helped me significantly because it is a meticulous program with different theories for strengthening and consolidating the democratic system. I convened my knowledge with the achievements of Master in Electoral Policy and Administration which is both theoretical and practical.”

Roudy Stanley Penn, Ambassador of Haiti to Republic of China

Watch testimonial
Master in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding (MAHAP)

What?

The Master focuses on the triple nexus and addresses humanitarian action and peacebuilding from a holistic, all-encompassing yet open perspective. It contributes to the capacity-building of individuals, empowers relevant stakeholders and institutions focused on building sustainable peace and draws attention for the importance of including local actors and communities in the implementation of humanitarian, peacebuilding and development programs and projects and provides tools for a positive impact in their interventions.

The program responds to practitioners working in the fields of humanitarian action, peacebuilding and development needs, but is also open to personnel working in related fields (military and police officers deployed or to be deployed in field operations, civil servants – including diplomats – in charge of humanitarian affairs, academics teaching humanitarian affairs, journalists, etc.) who seek to develop a more holistic understanding of critical issues related to humanitarian action, peacebuilding and development. The program also addresses practitioners working in other professional sectors, willing to explore opportunities in the triple nexus fields.

Who?

The program is directed at practitioners working in the fields of humanitarian action, peacebuilding and development, but is also open to all professionals working in related fields seeking to understand critical issues related to humanitarian action, peacebuilding, and development.

Our donors and partners

Designed, delivered, and implemented in partnership with the Centre for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP), Oxford Brookes University (OBU).

“Being a development and humanitarian worker, I was looking for a master’s course that is meant for practitioners already working in developing and conflict-affected contexts to gain a deeper understanding of theories, concepts, tools, and strategies that work in real-life situations in field. Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding was just the course for me as it has been designed and is being delivered by professionals from the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with rich experience working in various countries along with Oxford Brookes University. Overall, it is a perfect blend of theory and practice.”

Nishu Chaudhary
MA, Country Director of BBC Media Action in Ethiopia.
**Master in Conflict, Peace and Security**

**What?**

The Master in Conflict, Peace and Security Studies is a unique opportunity that is designed to enhance the understanding of conflicts in all their dimensions and to explore innovative approaches to their management, resolution, and transformation. Dealing with violent conflicts is imperative; but it is important to deal with them in the correct way to decrease the risk of conflicts recurring. Therefore, it remains equally important to explore both the contributions made by Peace and Security studies to conflict analysis, conflict resolution and conflict transformation. The modules that compose the Master provide professionals with solid knowledge and the ability to handle the most complex professional challenges.

The program also offers an interdisciplinary and practice-oriented approach, developed by academics and practitioners from different institutions. The programme is strongly based on real-life experiences and is meant to allow learners to reflect as much as possible on their current professional practice. It therefore represents a valuable resource for all individuals working or aspiring to work in this specific domain.

**Who?**

The Master in Conflict, Peace and Security and related qualifications (Postgraduate Certificates and Specialization courses) are designed for professionals working in conflict-prone environments within the framework of international, regional, governmental, or non-governmental organizations, and for graduate students, young researchers or other academics interested in enhancing their understanding of conflicts and acquiring skills to better address them.

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**Our donors and partners**

Designed, delivered, and implemented in partnership with the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC).

“I enrolled in the Master’s Programme to enhance my professional profile, deepen my knowledge, strengthen my skills within the United Nations system and expand the foundation I have already acquired through my work at the International Organization for Migration. [...] Through the master’s I was able to develop negotiation and critical thinking skills, see the ‘bigger picture’ and cross-cutting issues, challenge my own beliefs and biases, and understand the background and role of the media in current international conflicts.”

The free and open online courses are designed for anyone willing or needing to get familiar with the basic concepts and topics in the areas of conflict, peace, and security as well as other thematic areas addressed by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including gender equality (SDG 5), climate action (SDG 13) and peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16).

The 25 self-paced courses are offered in English, French and Spanish and topics range from Confronting Trauma and Gender to Environment, Natural Resources and UN Peacekeeping Operations, Protection of Civilians and Conflict Analysis and Resolution. These courses can be accessed at any time suitable for participants with no prior knowledge required to provide an inclusive and equitable quality learning opportunity for all interested.

These courses provide participants with tools for analyzing, understanding, and exploring concepts and frameworks on various themes and through different interesting and creative asynchronous methods.

“I am an International Relations activist and a research writer from the past 2 years in my academia and graduated in International Relations subject (16 years of education) and now working on my published articles. This course really meant to me, as the e-learning is related to my course work and relevant to my professional career […] and this will enhance my skills as well as learning capacity […] on e-learning.”

Participant in the Open Online Course: Conflict series: 3. From Conflict to Peace [PTP.2023.03E], 16/02/2023

Who?
The courses are designed for the general public interested in learning more about peace-related issues.

What?

25 Massive Open Online Courses

1,770 participants

52% Men

46% Women

537 badges issued

2% Other

Working together

Online Learning and Education

Online Learning and Education
Strategic Objective:

Working on the peace continuum
Effective preparation of police officers prior to deployment is essential for the success of United Nations (UN) peacekeeping missions worldwide. It ensures that UN personnel are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to maintain law and order, protect civilians, and support the host country’s efforts in building a safe and secure environment. Addressing the lack of standardized and comprehensive training programs for UN police personnel, our project contributes to the implementation of the UN Police Strategic Guidance Framework, providing harmonized training for Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPUs) deployed in peacekeeping missions.

Our project directly contributes to the effectiveness and credibility of UN peacekeeping operations by improving the overall performance and conduct of UN police officers and enhancing their ability to engage with local communities, foster trust, and address security challenges effectively. Ultimately, we enable UN police personnel to better serve the mandate of peacekeeping missions, thereby making a positive difference in conflict-affected areas.

Support to the implementation of the UN Police Training Architecture

Who?
Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPUs) deployed in peacekeeping missions.

Our donors and partners
The project holds particular relevance for the donor, Germany, as a leading contributor to UN peacekeeping efforts. Germany has consistently demonstrated its commitment to promoting global peace and security and reaffirmed its dedication to enhancing the capabilities of UN police personnel, thereby strengthening the overall effectiveness of peacekeeping missions. This, in turn, aligns with Germany’s broader foreign policy objectives, including promoting stability, human rights, and the rule of law in conflict-affected regions.
In conflict-affected regions, timely access to quality healthcare is often limited or non-existent, making the provision of medical services a vital component of peacekeeping operations. However, deploying medical personnel without comprehensive training undermines their ability to effectively respond to complex medical challenges in these environments. Our project addresses the need for standardized and specialized pre-deployment training programs for medical and paramedical personnel. By equipping them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and understanding of the unique challenges they may encounter in peace operations, we ensure that medical teams are prepared to deliver essential healthcare services, saving lives and promoting stability in conflict zones.

Our project improves the quality of healthcare services provided in conflict-affected areas. Well-trained medical and paramedical personnel can effectively respond to emergencies, provide essential medical care, and contribute to the overall well-being of both the local population and UN personnel. Their expertise in areas such as trauma care, infectious disease control, and mental health support is invaluable in promoting stability, building trust, and saving lives.

Our donors and partners

The project holds great relevance for the donor, Canada, as a committed supporter of international peacekeeping efforts. Canada has a long-standing tradition of contributing to UN peace operations and recognizes the importance of well-trained medical personnel in these missions. By supporting this project, Canada reaffirms its commitment to the health and well-being of both the local population and Canadian peacekeepers deployed in conflict zones.
Working on the peace continuum

Pre-Deployment Training and Advisory
The 2018 Report “Improving the Security of UN Peacekeepers” (also known as “Cruz Report”) emphasized the pressing need for enhancing the effectiveness and safety of peacekeeping missions and it highlighted the crucial role of pre-deployment training in ensuring the readiness and capability of military personnel. Responding to the recommendations, the Action for Peacekeeping and Action for Peacekeeping+ initiatives, launched by the United Nations Secretary-General, underscored the need for improving the overall performance and accountability of peacekeeping operations. By investing in pre-deployment training, we contribute directly to the objectives of these initiatives and enhance the preparedness, professionalism, and adaptability of military personnel. Our project ensures that peacekeepers are better equipped to protect civilians, support political processes, and maintain peace and stability in conflict-affected regions.

Our project ensures that military personnel receive comprehensive and standardized training before their deployment, ensuring a baseline level of competency and readiness. By addressing specific skill gaps identified through rigorous assessments, we empower peacekeepers with the necessary tools to navigate the diverse challenges they may encounter during their missions. Our project also promotes the development of critical skills, such as conflict resolution, mediation, and cultural sensitivity, enabling peacekeepers to build trust and forge effective relationships with local communities. By emphasizing the protection of civilians and the respect for human rights, we contribute to the creation of a safer environment in conflict zones.

Pre-deployment training of military personnel

What?

Who?

Medical and para-medical personnel

Our donors and partners

Our project holds significant relevance for the US Department of State - Global Peace Operations Initiative, aligning closely with their commitment to enhancing global peacekeeping capacity. By investing in pre-deployment training, the donor supports the United States’ broader foreign policy goals, including the promotion of international peace and security.

Who?

- Men: 96%
- Women: 4%

755 participants

Rwanda
Working on the peace continuum

Pre-Deployment Training and Advisory
The Roadmaps for Energy Access in Displacement Settings (READS) Programme, implemented by the Global Platform for Action (GPA) Coordination Unit and funded by the IKEA Foundation, aims to identify opportunities to increase sustainable energy in displacement settings. The programme will develop a “roadmap report” for ten countries. These reports will summarise the energy and displacement situation in each country, identify challenges, and propose project opportunities to increase sustainable energy access in displacement settings. To inform the development of these reports, the Roadmaps for Energy Access in Displacement Settings (READS) programme held a workshop in Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya.

These three events brought together diverse stakeholders including private companies, community representatives, refugee-led organisations, humanitarian organisations, and government authorities. The wide range of different perspectives represented by the participants were crucial to gaining a holistic understanding of the challenges and opportunities. The workshop generated valuable insights and promising ideas of how to promote sustainable and safe energy access in displacement settings which will be published in the roadmap reports.

Who?
The workshop targeted a variety of stakeholders working on the topic of energy access in displacement settings: private energy companies, refugee and host community representatives, refugee-led organisations, humanitarian organisations, development agencies and government authorities. Each workshop was attended by 35-40 participants with between 20 and 25% community representation.

Our donors and partners
The Roadmaps for Energy Access in Displacement Settings (READS) Programme is funded by the IKEA Foundation and contributed towards their objectives of gathering evidence on energy needs for refugee livelihoods.
Working on the peace continuum
All Strategic Objectives combined:

- Working on the peace continuum
- Working together
- Working inclusively
What?
Effective training events are essential to the success of organisations, and designing and implementing such events is a complex skill set. This course empowers individuals and institutions to take ownership of their training programmes and multiply impact in different contexts. This Training of Trainers course is specifically designed to help trainers and institutions to become more effective and engaging, allowing them to transform the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the individuals they work with.

The course provides a deep understanding of UNITAR’s approach to training design which is grounded in principles of adult learning theory and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through a comprehensive learning experience the course combines theoretical knowledge with practical application, equipping learners with the necessary skills to design and implement effective training events.

Who?
The course is aimed at trainers, educators, learning specialists and facilitators who want to learn and apply UNITAR’s approach to training design in their work. It is also for leaders and professionals working towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) who wish to improve their training skills. In addition, anyone interested in discovering UNITAR’s unique approach to training, regardless of their professional background, can benefit from this course.

Institutions and organisations looking to upskill their teams or collaborators in training, to maximise the impact of their projects also benefit from this course.

“For me it feels good to have achieved another certification in Training, but this time from UNITAR. Done with my certification in Training of Trainers - The Foundations of Effective Training Design (Training of Trainers). This was a rewarding course, which sharpened my knowledge and skills in designing and implementing high-quality and effective training events. The most impressive part for me is the Inclusivity and Gender Mainstreaming, that makes me feel equipped with the knowledge and skills to reduce the barriers to learning and create a training environment where every learner can thrive.”

Nahed Abduljalil

*(Launched in March 2023)*
Can Peace Ever Return to the Sahel?
Exploring actions to help building resilience in a region of opportunities

Advisory Board Side Event organized on March 29th, 2023.

What?
After more than ten years of conflict and countering terrorism, the situation in the Sahel region remains unstable, putting thousands of civilians at risk, causing massive suffering, and forcing millions of people to flee and leave their homes.

At the root of this situation, multidimensional challenges such as Human Rights violations, injustices, weak governance, poverty, climate change, food insecurity and increasing tribalization, combine in a complex interaction which increases the instability in the Sahel which the armed terrorist groups know how to exploit to their own benefit.

The discussion aimed at raising awareness and giving visibility to the region in a dense international context, improving the understanding of drivers of conflict and violence to counter them and stop the spread of violence and bringing together high-level experts and actors to discuss solutions in favour of the prevention of conflict and violent extremism for the return of peace in the Sahel.

The discussion was followed by a musical performance from Nigerien band Etran de l’Aïr.

“We need to move beyond looking at terrorism only from a terrorism lens, but also from a conflict prevention lens, to address underlying grievances better.”
Tanya Mehra

“The crisis feeds itself on the weakness of governments. We need to invest in humanitarian assistance, think long-term and anchor discussions between parties and the government (elected or not).”
Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah

“It is a social and a value battle. But it is not a matter of exporting values into the Sahel. It is about intercultural dialogue to look for synthesis of values and how to interpret and behave in ways to win this battle.”
Fabrizio Lobasso

“Commitment needs to be created inside of communities and especially with youth and women, to create a sense of value where target actors know that they are actors for change.”
Abdoul Kassim Fomba

The discussion is aimed at the general audience to raise awareness on the necessity to bring peace in the Sahel, a region which is key to Africa’s development aspirations.

Who?
The discussion is followed by an online and face-to-face participation.
QUARTERLY IMPACT REPORT I

2023

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