



PEACEBUILDING FUND INVESTMENT IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MAY 2019



United Nations



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Foreword

Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals goes hand in hand with sustaining peace. Sustaining peace is about enhancing coherence of international engagement in support of country-led efforts to build peaceful and resilient societies. The changing nature of violent conflict—the fact that it is more protracted, with more complex drivers, and many more non-State actors—only serves to underscore the need for more comprehensive and coherent approaches. This means bringing together our work in peace and security, development, human rights and humanitarian action in support of nationally-owned initiatives to meet identified needs across the peace and conflict continuum.

This pamphlet shows how the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund has contributed to accelerating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by addressing different drivers of conflict, taking into account the needs of all segments of society, including marginalized groups, minority populations, persons with disabilities, women and youth.

Sustainable development, based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is the paramount goal of the United Nations in support of Member States. The Peacebuilding Support Office is committed to supporting Member States and the United Nations system in this endeavor, and to supporting the commitment of Member States to build and sustain peace.

Oscar Fernández-Taranco

Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support

Executive summary

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits the international community to promote peaceful and inclusive societies in support of national development priorities. As stated in the Secretary-General's 2018 report on peacebuilding and sustaining peace (A/72/707-S/2018/43), "inclusive and sustainable development not only is an end in itself but also happens to be the best defence against the risks of violent conflict" (para. 5). Many drivers of violent conflict can be addressed through the Sustainable Development Goals. Addressing inequalities and exclusion, making institutions more inclusive, and ensuring that development strategies are risk-informed, are central to prevention.

The 2030 Agenda and the resolutions on the peacebuilding architecture review that articulate the sustaining peace approach, represent system-wide frameworks that focus on the prevention of violent conflict and aim at building societal resilience. The sustaining peace framework complements and reinforces the 2030 Agenda, shaping a common global vision of a sustainable and peaceful future. Both agendas strongly stress the interdependence of the issues we are confronting and the comprehensive approaches required to address them.

Building on the conviction that sustaining peace and sustainable development are complementary and mutually reinforcing, the Peacebuilding Support Office embarked on a portfolio review of projects funded by the Peacebuilding Fund from 2015 to 2018 to assess their contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. This pamphlet presents the key findings from that study.

During the period 2015 to 2018, the Peacebuilding Fund contributed 83 per cent of its total budget to the Sustainable Development Goals. The Peacebuilding Fund's investment in the Sustainable Development Goals goes beyond the objective of SDG 16 and covers different aspects of peaceful, just and inclusive societies that are included across several Goals.

The Sustainable Development Goals are universal, interlinked and integrated. As many as 36 targets across the 2030 Agenda are directly related to peace, justice or inclusivity, for example:

- SDG 4 on education includes reference to discrimination in education, education on human rights and gender equality, promotion of a

culture of peace and nonviolence and safe and non-violent learning environments for all;

- SDG 5 on gender equality aims to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and ensure their full and effective participation in society;
- SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth aims to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking, secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, protect labour rights and achieve equal pay for work of equal value; and
- SDG 10 on inequalities aims to promote social, economic and political inclusion and safe migration.

Moreover, several Goals are critically important in our efforts to address the drivers and root causes of conflict, including SDG 11 on safe, resilient and sustainable cities and public spaces, SDG 6 on equitable access and management of water resources, SDGs 13, 14, 15 on management of natural resources and SDG 17 which aims to build stronger multi-stakeholder partnerships for the Goals.

This pamphlet highlights how, contrary to the assumption that investment in peacebuilding may divert funds from more traditional forms of development assistance, the Peacebuilding Fund's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals is complementary and adds to other development efforts. Furthermore, through its catalytic role, the Peacebuilding Fund's interventions tend to encourage further funding in development initiatives.

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UN photo/Phil Behan

Introduction

Sustaining peace and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Violence and conflict are the most important obstacles to sustainable development. Building peace, however, can protect development gains. Nearly half of all people living in extreme poverty reside in countries affected by conflict. That figure is expected to rise to 80 percent by 2035.¹ Violence and conflict often lead to “development in reverse”, by causing death, disease, deprivation, displacement, destruction, damage, as well as the absence of public services and limited access to resources, which in turn can provoke grievances resulting in mistrust and conflict. On the other hand, peace and development mutually reinforce each other; equitable and inclusive development can be an important factor contributing to sustainable peace.

The reality and threat of violence or conflict limit the freedom of movement, and economic and social opportunities of deprived and disadvantaged communities and groups, who experience crime and violence at greater rates and with more severe consequences than richer members of society.

Violent conflict tears apart the social fabric of societies, impacting generations of people often long after the conflict subsides. People living in landmine-affected areas, for example, may or may not become victims of explosive devices; but will most likely be hesitant to engage in agriculture, and endure poor or missing services, due to impassable roads, and/or the lack of teachers and health officers who are reluctant to move to the area. The impact of conflict can undermine the self-confidence of locals, reduce trust among people, create resentment and undermine the legitimacy of government.²

¹ Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), *States of Fragility 2016: Understanding Violence* (Paris, OECD Publishing, 2016). Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264267213-en>.

² United Nations and World Bank, *Pathways for Peace. Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict* (Washington D.C., World Bank, 2018). Available at www.pathwaysforpeace.org.

Building peace, expanding freedoms, improving well-being and increasing opportunities for participation in the socio-economic life of their country help fulfill the potential of each individual and their capacity to contribute to society as a whole.

On 27 April 2016, the General Assembly and the Security Council adopted substantively identical resolutions (the 2016 twin resolutions) on peacebuilding,³ concluding the 2015 review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture. Member States demonstrated their commitment to strengthening the ability of the United Nations to prevent the “outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of [violent] conflict,” address root causes and assist parties to conflict to end hostilities in order to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war”, as stated in the opening sentence of the Charter of the United Nations.

The 2016 twin resolutions introduced the term “sustaining peace”, which, rather than redefining peacebuilding, provides for an expanded scope. The resolutions recognize that development, peace and security, and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. Sustaining peace is broadly understood as a goal and a process to build a common vision of society, by ensuring that the needs of all segments of the population are taken into account. Sustaining peace encompasses activities aimed at preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict, by addressing root causes, assisting parties to conflict to end hostilities, ensuring national reconciliation, moving towards recovery, reconstruction and development, and emphasizing that sustaining peace is a shared task and responsibility that needs to be fulfilled by Government and all other national stakeholders. Sustaining peace should flow through all three pillars of the United Nations engagement at all stages of conflict, and in all its dimensions, and needs sustained international attention and assistance.

Leave no one behind to sustain peace

The 2030 Agenda pledges to “leave no one behind” and to “endeavor to reach the furthest behind first,” recognizing that failing to do so drives inequalities and undermines human rights, social cohesion, peace and sustainable development. Similarly, the 2016 twin resolutions emphasize the importance of inclusivity and taking the needs of all segments of the population into account.

³ See General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016).

With the promise of leaving no one behind, there is broad agreement by Member States that peace cannot be sustained without inclusive development, and peace and security is crucial in preserving development gains. A comprehensive whole-of-system response, including greater cooperation and complementarity among development, human rights, peace and security and humanitarian action, is fundamental to efficiently and effectively achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes the indivisibility of peace and sustainable development by placing peace as one of the five areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet. The Agenda also includes a dedicated Goal (SDG 16) focused on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice and accountable institutions. The 2030 Agenda further includes 24 targets under seven other Goals that are linked to this aspiration. A conservative count gives 36 targets across the 2030 Agenda that measure aspects of peace, inclusion or access to justice, with only a third of these found in SDG 16.⁴

The interlinkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals are of crucial importance to ensuring that the purpose and vision of the 2030 Agenda are realized. Therefore, efforts to achieve one Goal can be instrumental to the achievement of other Goals. For example, actions to address eradicating poverty (SDG 1), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), promoting quality education (SDG 4), achieving gender equality (SDG 5), addressing climate change (SDG 13), supporting peace and strengthening institutions (SDG 16) and promoting partnerships (SDG 17) can have mutually reinforcing effects.

Peacebuilding Fund's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

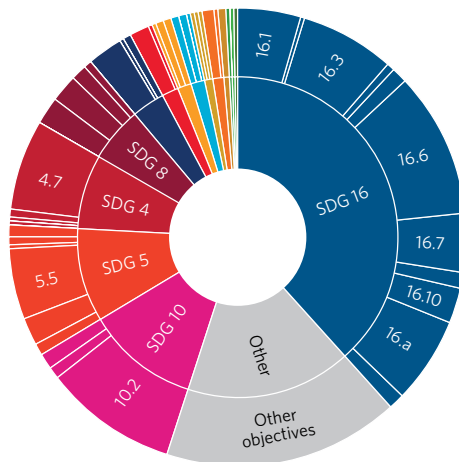
In 2018, the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office embarked on a process to map the contribution of the Peacebuilding Fund to the Sustainable Development Goals. Figure 1 illustrates that the share of the Peacebuilding Fund's investment to SDG 16 reduces over time. This signals a diversification of the Peacebuilding Fund portfolio, and an increasing tendency to address the roots of conflict in a multi-dimensional way.

⁴ See www.sdg16.plus.

The Peacebuilding Fund

The Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) is the organization's financial instrument of first resort to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk or affected by violent conflict. The Fund may invest with United Nations entities, governments, regional organizations, multilateral banks, national multi-donor trust funds or civil society organizations. From 2015 to 2018, the Fund allocated over \$368 million to 47 recipient countries. Since its inception, 58 Member States have contributed to the Fund, 33 in the present 2017–2019 Business Plan. The Fund works across pillars and supports integrated United Nations responses to fill critical gaps, respond quickly and with flexibility to political opportunities, and catalyze processes and resources in a risk-tolerant manner.

Figure 1
PBF investment in the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, 2015–2018



83 per cent of PBF investment can be directly linked to SDG targets:

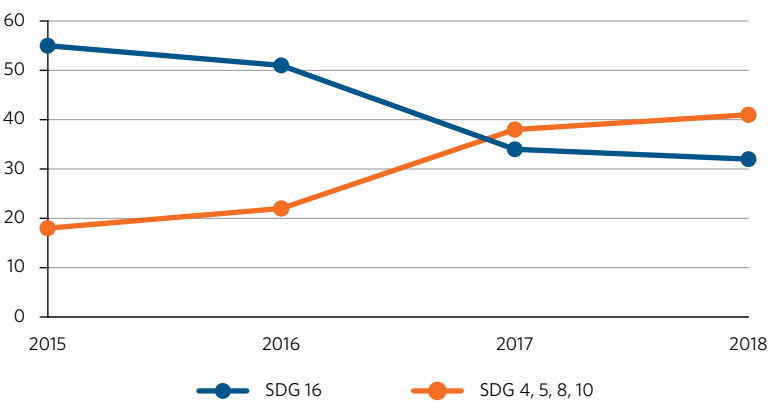
- 38 per cent towards targets under SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions;
- 11 per cent towards targets under SDG 10 on reducing inequalities;
- 10 per cent towards targets under SDG 5 on gender equality;
- 8 per cent towards targets under SDG 4 on quality education;
- 5 per cent towards targets under SDG 8 on decent employment and livelihoods;
- 11 per cent toward targets under other Goals.

17 per cent of PBF investment is linked to other objectives.

The inner circle of the pie-chart shows the percentage of PBF investment in the Goals for 2015 to 2018.

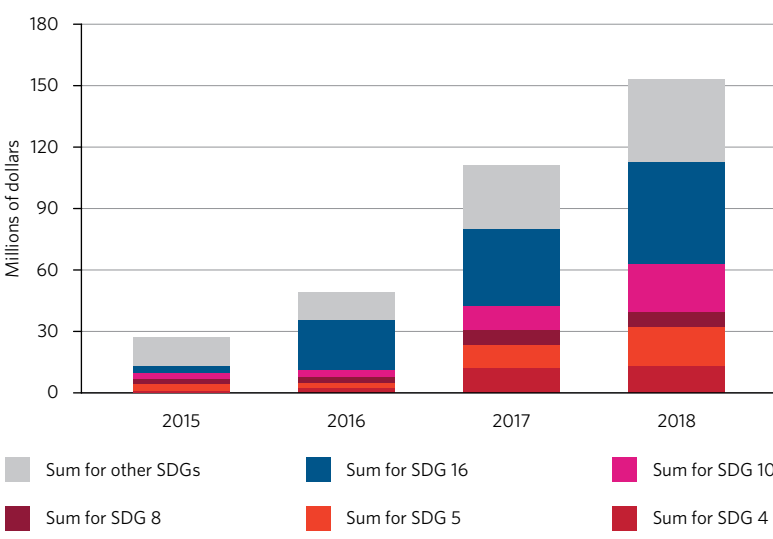
The outer circle shows the share of PBF investment allocated to specific targets under each Goal.

Figure 2
Share of Peacebuilding Fund investment portfolio by year



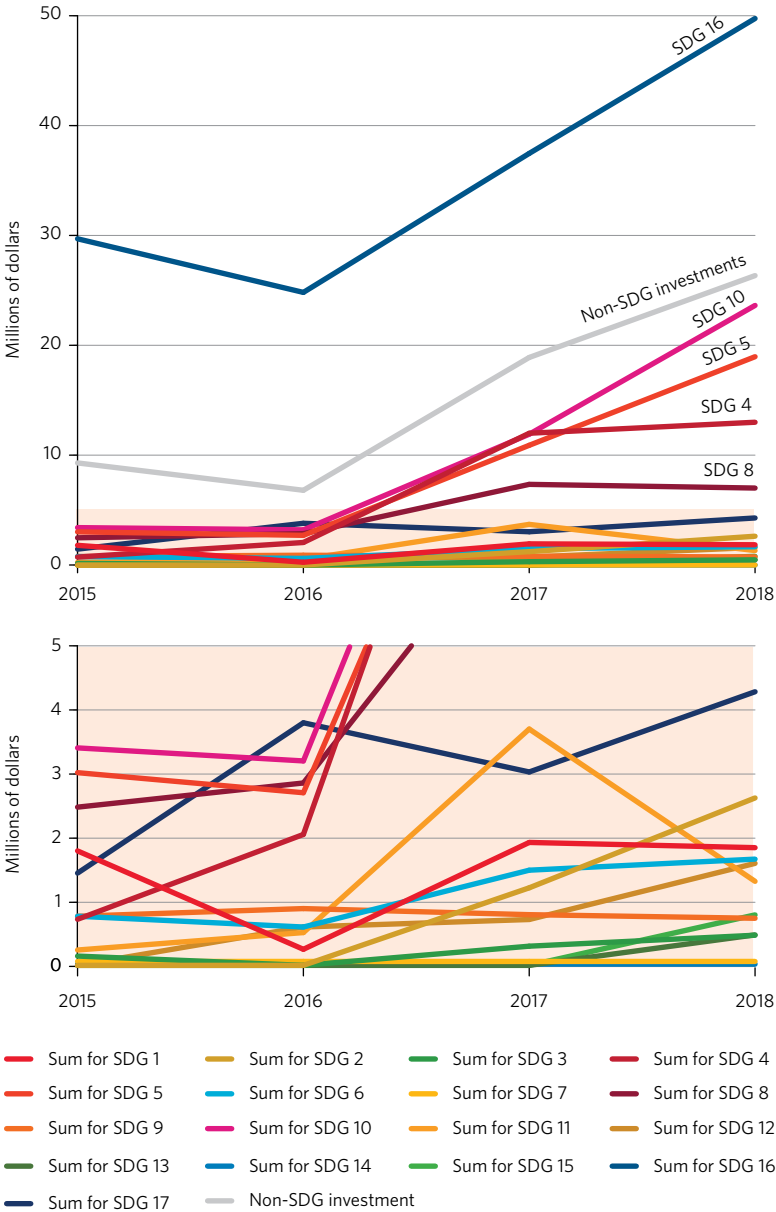
The figure shows how, over the years, the share of PBF investment in SDG 16 decreased, while the share of cumulative investment in other Goals increased.

Figure 3
Sum of total budget for top five SDGs



The graph shows how PBF investment in the Sustainable Development Goals increased over time. Each column illustrates the share of PBF investment in the top five Goals and the percentage of cumulative investment in other Goals.

Figure 4
Trends in PBF investment in the Sustainable Development Goals, 2015–2018



The line graph shows the trends in PBF investment in each Goal for 2015 to 2018.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



38%

\$142 million

16.1

Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

16.3

Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

16.6

Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

16.7

Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

16.10

Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

16.a

Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

Out of all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, SDG 16 is most intuitively linked to sustaining peace.

In countries affected by violent conflict, creating more peaceful societies often means supporting inclusive dialogue and reconciliation and/or disarmament initiatives. The 2030 Agenda and the sustaining peace approach are people-centered, which means that, in the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements and in broader peacebuilding processes, it is crucial to develop effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, especially to deliver public services, including education, health care, food security, security and justice. This anchors State legitimacy, builds trust among people and between the State and society.

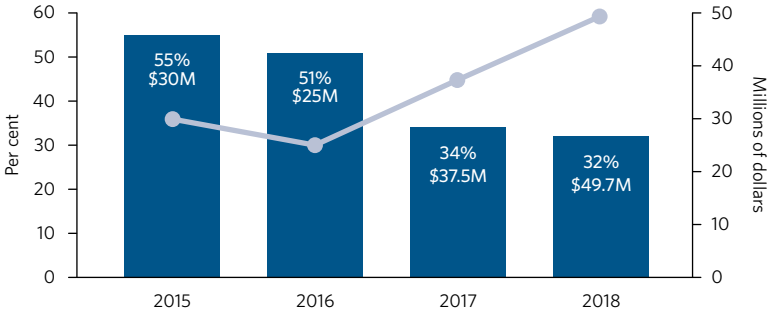
Providing access to justice, which is critical to maintaining peace, may require a focus on building formal or informal justice systems for

the peaceful resolution of conflict, focusing on transitional justice, ending impunity, or providing reparations for conflict survivors. Building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions is central to State-building. Ensuring that the needs of all segments of the population are addressed and ensuring that no one is left behind is critical to sustaining peace. People should be at the center of peacebuilding and development processes; communities should be involved in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of those processes.

Targets under SDG 16, while touching on distinct issues, are closely linked to all Goals. SDG 16 can be considered both as a Goal *per se*, as well as an enabler to achieve the other Goals in the 2030 Agenda. Several of the Goals have targets aligned to those under SDG 16.

Linkages among different sets of targets may also be observed from the point of view of the synergies among policies that seek to implement the overarching objectives of the 2030 Agenda, such as “leaving no one behind”, eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, combatting inequality within and among countries, preserving the planet, creating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and fostering economic, political and social inclusion.

PBF investment in SDG 16



The share of PBF investment in SDG 16 decreased overtime, demonstrating increased diversification of the PBF portfolio.

Niger: Establishing early warning mechanisms for conflict prevention at the local level (2016)

In 2016, the PBF funded a project in 8 rural communities, in the regions of Tillabery, Agadez and Tahoua in Niger, to foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence among men, women, boys and girls, including opinion leaders, Malian refugees living in the communities, and security and defence forces.

The project helped to strengthen collaboration among the population, particularly women and youth, security and defence institutions and local authorities. The project used different capacity-building activities, community-based initiatives and awareness-raising campaigns to improve the knowledge and skills of security personnel and the communities. Those activities resulted in the establishment of local peace and security committees for early warning and conflict prevention. The committees are composed of different members of the community. They seek to identify risks of social fractures and to address potential conflict triggers through mediation and other peaceful resolutions.

The project also facilitated the launch of a pilot initiative for the creation of local police forces in 8 target communities. In addition, the project involved members of the communities in various joint activities around, for example, water and sanitation, land rehabilitation, planting trees, sports, joint training, and awareness campaigns with the aim of improving technical skills for basic services and strengthening mutual understanding and trust within the communities.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10

Reduce inequality within and among countries



11%

\$42 million

10.2

By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

Growth and poverty alleviation are crucial but will not suffice alone to sustain peace. According to the 2030 Agenda, inequality is not just about the unequal distribution of income, but concerns multiple aspects of human development, including access to services, political voices and the capacity to influence decision-making processes. When socioeconomic inequalities are aligned with political exclusion and group identity, the risks of violent conflict becomes higher. Tackling horizontal inequalities is a key element in understanding and preventing conflict. Horizontal inequalities are inequalities between groups—which may be political, social or economic—that could be mobilized around identities and provide a basis for grievances, especially in areas with weak State capacity or legitimacy.⁵ Peacebuilding Fund investment in SDG 10 focuses primarily on promoting universal social, economic and political inclusion. Access to power, opportunities, services and security creates fertile ground for people to become agents of change and contribute to sustainable peace and development.

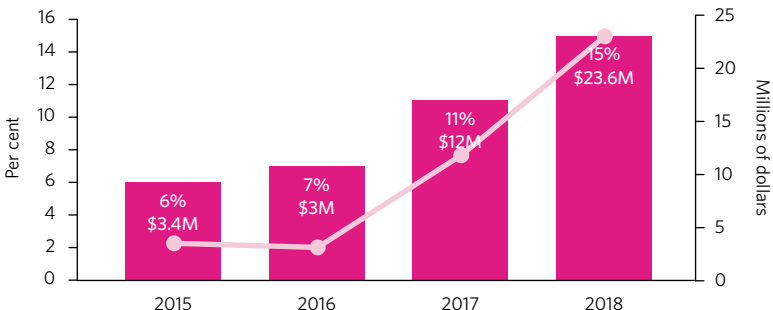
Preventing violence under SDG 10 means seeking inclusive solutions through dialogue, institutional reform and policies formulated through a participatory process, and responding to the needs of different parts of society in an equitable manner. Preventing violence requires departing from traditional economic and social policies when risks are building up or are high. It also means seeking inclusive solutions through dialogue, adapted macroeconomic policies, institutional reforms to core State functions and policies that increase inclusion.

⁵ Frances Stewart, “Crisis prevention: Tackling horizontal inequalities”, *Oxford Development Studies*, vol. 28, No. 3 (2000), pp. 245–262.

Fostering the participation of young people and the organizations, movements and networks that represent them is crucial. Women’s meaningful participation in all aspects of peace and security as well as in social and economic aspects of society is critical. Women’s inclusion in peace processes has been shown to have a direct impact on the sustainability of agreements reached.⁶

Societies that offer more opportunities for youth participation in the political and economic realms and provide routes for social mobility for youth tend to experience less violence. With the global youth population increasing, the ability to harness the energy and potential of youth presents a strong opportunity for this “unique demographic dividend”, as noted in Security Council resolution 2250 (2015).⁷

PBF investment in SDG 10



PBF investment in SDG 10 significantly increased between 2015 and 2018.

Sri Lanka: Youth participation in the peacebuilding process (2017)

This project worked with women leaders and political parties to increase female political representation through a system of quotas in local government elections. In addition, the project created platforms for women and youth voices to be heard through capacity building and advocacy campaigns addressing cultural stereotypes and civic engagement. Catalyzing women and youth participation in local governance and decision-making contributed to creating a sense of ownership and inclusiveness in the peacebuilding process.

⁶ United Nations and World Bank, *Pathways for Peace* (2018). Available at www.pathwaysforpeace.org.

⁷ United Nations, *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security* (2018). Available at www.youth4peace.info/system/files/2018-10/youth-web-english.pdf.

Youth, peacebuilding and the 2030 Agenda

Adopting the 2030 Agenda, Member States have committed to “leave no one behind” and include all segments of society in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those who are often excluded, such as young people. Young women and men have a significant role to play in the implementation, monitoring and review of the 2030 Agenda as well as in holding governments accountable. Provided with the necessary skills and opportunities, young people can be a driving force for supporting development and contributing to peace and security. *The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security* showed that if the right investments in youth are in place, and their peacebuilding work is recognized and nurtured, societies may reap a peace dividend.

The Peacebuilding Fund has been taking proactive measures to support young people’s critical contribution to peace and security at local and national levels, investing in programmes that foster their inclusion and participation in peacebuilding processes. Since 2016, the Fund has launched annually the Youth Promotion Initiative (YPI), a special funding window that seeks to advance the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018) on youth, peace and security. The Fund invested \$36.8 million through the YPI to support youth-inclusive peacebuilding processes during the period 2016 to 2018. The portfolio review of projects funded by the Peacebuilding Fund between 2015 and 2018 showed that 23 per cent of the project outcomes had a specific reference to youth, including the engagement of young women and men in political dialogues, the promotion of youth leadership and the empowerment of youth-led organizations. Overall, youth-focused projects supported by the Fund have mainly contributed to SDGs 16, 10 and 5, and to some extent to SDGs 4 and 8.



UN photo/Eric Kanalestein

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



10%

\$36 million

5.2

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

5.5

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

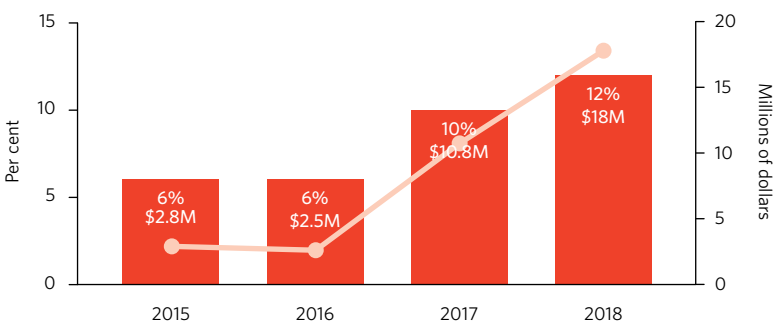
Projects funded by the Peacebuilding Fund tackle in particular two aspects of SDG 5: reduction in gender-based violence, and women's participation in political and socio-economic decision-making processes. Violence against women and girls is one of the most prevalent human rights violations in the world. Levels of sexual and gender-based violence often rise in crisis and conflict settings and remain high in the aftermath, where systems of protection, security and justice break down. During violent conflict, rape is often used as a military tactic to harm, humiliate and shame, and has been recognized as a crime against humanity.

Gender-based violence undermines the health, dignity, security and autonomy of its victims and poses significant obstacles to the achievement of lasting peace and sustainable development. Gender-based violence is not only a violation of individual women's and girls' rights; the impunity enjoyed by perpetrators and the fear generated by their actions have an effect on all women and girls and societies at large. It also takes a toll at the global level, stunting the contributions that women and girls can make to international development and peace.

To create lasting peace, women's voices are needed. Women's meaningful participation in peace processes increases the likelihood that an agreement will last longer than 15 years by as much as 35 per cent. But participation extends beyond just representation and quotas. Meaningful participation means that women are at the table when negotiations are

taking place; women’s interests and lived experiences are fully reflected in peace processes; women are participating equally; and women are considered in recovery efforts after conflict.⁸

PBF investment in SDG 5



PBF investment in SDG 5 increased between 2015 and 2018.

Central African Republic: Promotion of women’s political participation and female leadership in the peacebuilding process (2018)

In 2018, Peacebuilding Fund support led to the revision of the Central African Republic Electoral Code in anticipation of the 2020-2021 elections, making it possible to lay the foundation for better involvement of women and girls in decision-making processes. The project enhances women’s and girls’ leadership and engagement in the national dialogue and public life in Central African Republic. The project recognizes the critical contribution that women make in national planning in Central African Republic, including the implementation of reconciliation and recovery activities.

⁸ For more information on the statistics, see Marie O’Reilly, Andrea Ó Súilleabháin and Thania Paffenholz, “Reimagining peacemaking: women’s roles in peace processes” (New York, International Peace Institute, 2015), pp. 12-13.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



8%

\$28 million

4.7

By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.

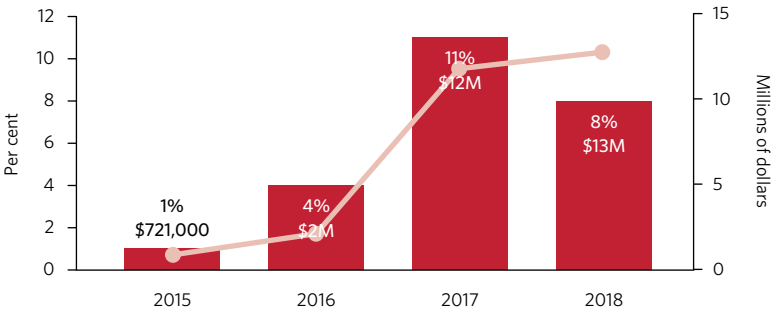
Peacebuilding Fund investment in SDG 4 is focused mainly on target 4.7, education for sustainable development and peace. Education can break the cycle of poverty because it means better jobs and higher incomes for individuals and families, and it increases national productivity and economic growth. Education also means that people have the power to make good, informed decisions in different areas of their lives, including influencing decision-makers in taking a stronger stance for peace.

Through quality education, the values of tolerance, respect, empathy, mutual understanding and non-violent ways to address conflicts are fostered. Developing knowledge about common history, past experiences and roots of existing conflicts can alleviate inter- and intra-communal grievances, increase a sense of belonging and strengthen national identity. Learning about human rights, the rule of law and peaceful means to settle conflicts can contribute to decreased violence.



Sven G. Simonsen

PBF investment in SDG 4



PBF investment in SDG 4 significantly increased between 2015 and 2017.

Kyrgyzstan: Increase community resilience to violent ideologies (2017)

In 2017, the Peacebuilding Fund funded a project in Kyrgyzstan focusing on women and men, boys and girls in target communities, taking a more critical stance on ideologies that instigate violence. Through the project, schools, civil society and religious leaders received capacity-building and became partners to provide alternative, positive messages and build meaningful dialogue, encouraging people to gain a better sense of belonging to their community and to participate in local development.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



5%

\$20 million

8.3

Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

8.5

By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

8.6

By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

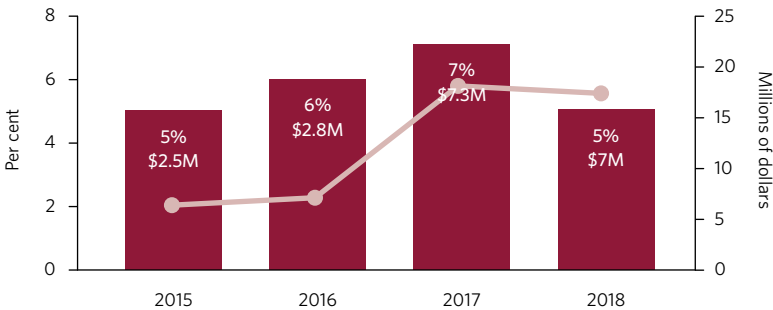
Conflicts undermine peoples' livelihoods and create further impediments to decent work. Investing in job creation, training and labor market policies can contribute to positive peace by fostering mutual understanding, providing opportunities for dialogue among social groups, addressing exclusion and grievances and reducing the incentive to engage in violence as a means of making a living.⁹ Sustaining peace efforts linked to SDG 8 go beyond recovery and reconstruction and focus also on prevention, preparedness and resilience. Transition from conflict to peace can be an opportunity for social and economic change, including employment creation, which should be managed equitably to benefit the entire population.

In peacebuilding processes, economic and labour market policies should focus on improving labour market conditions, with particular attention to reducing inequalities for women, youth and marginalized

⁹ International Labour Organization, United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office, United Nations Development Programme and World Bank, *Employment Programmes and Peace: A joint statement on an analytical framework, emerging principles for action and next steps* (New York, September 2016).

groups. For communities and individuals, job creation and regular income can provide the means for survival and recovery. By breaking the vicious cycle of violence, poverty, illiteracy and social exclusion, job creation can also contribute to shaping one's identity, and giving a sense of purpose, belonging and value.

PBF investment in SDG 8



The share of PBF investment in SDG 8 remained almost constant between 2015 and 2018.

Colombia: Demining and reintegration of former combatants for local peacebuilding (2018)

This project established *Humanecimos DH*, a civil society organization composed of former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia–People’s Army (FARC-EP) combatants working on humanitarian mine action. Through the organization, 146 former combatants (women and men) are being reintegrated in their communities and will contribute to their socioeconomic development. *Humanecimos DH* will be supported with technical and operational capacity through partnerships with mine-action organizations with regional and international experience.

Thus far, several former combatants have received training in areas such as mine-awareness education, recognition of explosive devices, information management and mapping. They have also learned about the use and maintenance of mine detectors.

This project will contribute to peacebuilding at the local level, not only by giving former combatants an alternative source of income, but through its mine action focus, it will contribute to clearing parts of land, therefore increasing the security of communities and opening new opportunities for livelihood-generating activities.

**“I am swapping my weapons for demining equipment”
The journey of a former FARC-EP combatant
now working to clear his region of mines
and explosive remnants of war**

Edwin Correa joined FARC-EP when he was 13 years old. He fought with the movement for 22 years. At age 18, he lost both his hands in an accident while handling explosives as part of his guerrilla activities.

Edwin, however, kept a positive spirit, and believed that disability could be challenged with the power of the mind: *“No one is ever prepared for an accident like this, but you need to remain optimistic. Disability affects all aspects of my life, but I try to do things differently and do them in an easy way.”*

Today, Edwin is one of the trainees of the Humanitarian Demining programme, contributing to the work of the *Humanecimos DH* organization. *“For us as ex-combatants, getting to know demining is very important. The vast majority of people are unaware of this work and the sacrifices that it entails, such as being in the mountains, far from your family in order to clear the region and give it back to the villagers. When I was in the FARC-EP, I thought I was fighting for the most vulnerable people. Today, I am swapping my weapons for demining equipment to help people avoid accidents due to explosives. This job makes me very proud.”*

Edwin has a very clear vision of the future; he wants to become a humanitarian demining instructor: *“It would be very nice to become a demining instructor, to continue training people who want to work in this sector. This experience is really helping me to fulfill my goals and purposes. I can now dream of having a better future and a home of my own.”*



UN photo



UN photo

The Peacebuilding Fund also contributes to...



While governments have a leading role to play, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals depends on a whole-of-society approach. Civil society organizations are involved in multiple ways, as advocates, implementers and watchdogs. For its part, the private sector can also make an important contribution to efforts towards peacebuilding, inclusion, advancing the rule of law and eliminating corruption, which are fundamental to creating an environment conducive to development where business can thrive. Local government, parliamentarians and academia are other critical stakeholders in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Peacebuilding Fund projects that are linked to the aspiration of SDG 17 contribute in particular to target 17.9 to enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.



Peacebuilding Fund projects are linked to specific aspects of poverty alleviation, particularly those highlighted in target 1.4 to ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

Relevant peacebuilding initiatives helping to achieve this target focus in particular on supporting local and national institutions to guarantee equitable access to basic services for the entire population; developing appropriate legal frameworks on land ownership; applying the principles of consultation, engagement and participation, management and use of natural resources pertaining to local communities; and creating economic opportunities for the most vulnerable, including women, youth, indigenous people and other marginalized groups.



Recognizing that the lack of adequate, safe and affordable housing and access to basic services can contribute to alienation, marginalization and radicalization of individuals and communities, projects funded by the Peacebuilding Fund have worked to mitigate this by improving housing conditions of communities at risk, including in settlements for internally displaced persons and refugees, therefore contributing to progress towards target 11.1.

In addition, some Peacebuilding Fund projects work with local authorities and civil society organizations to enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization, building capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management (target 11.3) and delivery of public services.

Another component of peacebuilding work that contributes to the achievement of SDG 11 is the creation of safe public spaces in particular for women and children (target 11.7). Within these safe spaces, vulnerable individuals can be free from the fear of violence, find protection, make their voices heard and start their recovery from conflict-related psychosocial trauma.



Water is indispensable to human life. Population growth, increased demand for agricultural and industrial activities, climate change and environmental degradation can alter the regional and seasonal availability and quality of water. The resulting competition over water use may lead to conflict and sometimes violence over governance and management of water resources.

Therefore, in areas affected by such issues, peacebuilding interventions normally focus on establishing inclusive, participatory and sustainable processes for the sustainable use of water resources, ensuring that specific groups are not excluded from accessing water resources and the allocation of their benefits, and developing peaceful dispute-settlement mechanisms for conflict related to water management.

...as well as to...



Investment not directly linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (17%)

The Peacebuilding Fund contributes to project outcomes that are not directly linked to specific Sustainable Development Goal targets. This includes enabling functions such as interagency coordination, secretariat and other forms of technical support to governments, local institutions or United Nations entities to carry out peacebuilding initiatives.

Human rights, sustainable development and peace

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is anchored in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights treaties, and is informed by other instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development. The Sustainable Development Goals “seek to realize the human rights of all and are universally applicable to all people in all countries”. Importantly, the 2030 Agenda must be implemented in a manner consistent with international law. This means that human rights and the 2030 Agenda are mutually reinforcing, as many of the 169 SDG targets reflect core international human rights standards.

Where civil, economic, political, social and cultural rights are consistently violated, there can be no peace, and development cannot be sustained. Human rights apply to all people in all situations, in times of peace as well as war, prosperity as well as hardship. Human rights at their core promote equality and non-discrimination. Taking human rights into account helps actors to identify who is vulnerable or is being “left behind”, and ways in which they can be empowered to overcome their vulnerability. As the Secretary-General has said, human rights help us not only to identify the problems that, if left unaddressed, drive conflict, but also the solutions to address those problems.



UN photo/Jeffrey Foxx

Methodology

Identifying Sustainable Development Goal targets and credits

For the analysis in this pamphlet, 250 project documents, containing 572 different outcomes, were reviewed (see table below). The project documents can be found on the website of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Each outcome was linked to specific SDG targets based on the activities described in the project document. Many individual outcomes could be linked to several SDG targets and for each project outcome, between zero and five relevant SDG targets were identified. To allow for weighting the relevance of the different SDG targets and to indicate whether the outcome spoke only peripherally to a Goal, each of the SDG targets were assigned between one and five SDG credits. If an outcome did not appear to be directly related to any SDG target or was only somewhat related, the remaining credits were assigned to the “no-SDG” category. That category encompassed all other peacebuilding objectives and activities that could not be directly linked to any SDG target, and typically included activities such as coordination, conflict analysis or in-country Fund secretariats. For example, an outcome could be equally relevant to SDG targets 10.4 and 16.7, while also including a smaller component relevant to target 5.5, for which the weights 2, 2 and 1 respectively would be assigned. In order to attain a close approximation of funding per SDG target, the share of the outcome budget that can be attributed to an identified SDG target was calculated based on the weights assigned (see example below). That process allowed an assessment of the relevance (and with that, the budget share) of different SDG targets for each outcome.

Projects analyzed

Year	Number of projects	Number of outcomes	Dollars allocated (in millions)
2015	41	72	53.7
2016	35	76	49.3
2017	71	170	111.6
2018	103	254	154.4
Total	250	572	369.0

Example

Project Number 00105724—Guatemala

Total budget: \$3,325,000

Outcome 1: Strengthening capacities of the Attorney General's Office to provide access to justice by developing a differentiated system of attention to groups in focus, development of tools for criminal investigations and a network of organizations to support victims.

Budget: \$951,106

SDG targets, weighting and budget allocation

SDG target	16.3	16.6	17.18
Weight	3	1	1
Budget	$\$951,106 \times (3/5)$	$\$951,106 \times (1/5)$	$\$951,106 \times (1/5)$

Outcome 2: Consolidation of the process of transfer of capacities from the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) to the Attorney General's Office and strengthening of the Attorney General's special methods unit, decentralization of the scientific investigation, protection and femicide units, as well as the mechanisms for civil society to monitor high-impact cases.

Budget: \$2,373,894

SDG targets, weighting and budget allocation

SDG target	16.3	16.6
Weight	3	2
Budget	$\$2,373,894 \times (3/5)$	$\$2,373,894 \times (2/5)$

Scope and limitations

The analyses in this pamphlet are an approximation of the contribution of the Peacebuilding Fund's investments in the Sustainable Development Goals. The funding allocations were made based on declared and approved budgets in the project documents, not on real expenditure. The years refer to the start dates of the projects, even if a project covered more than one year. Furthermore, the analyses were based on the outcome budgets and thus, in most cases, exclude the support costs outside of the activities (e.g., for staff, overhead, indirect support costs, etc.). However, in cases where no detailed budget or no outcome budget was

available, the total budget was evenly divided between the number of outcomes. Regarding the version of the dataset from February 2019, approximately 16 per cent of total allocations fall outside of outcome budgets. If the Peacebuilding Fund was not the only donor, the percentage share for each of the outcomes was calculated to reflect the same share of the total budget.

“Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
is the world’s best defence against
violent conflict and instability.”

“We need to enhance the coherence
of international efforts in support
of national governments and their people.”

—SECRETARY-GENERAL ANTÓNIO GUTERRES