



DED's Involvement in the Civil Peace Service

Civilian Conflict Transformation and Peace-Building

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Preface

The role of peace-building and civilian conflict transformation in development cooperation (DC) activities has grown apace over the past number of years. Alongside the dismantling of structural causes of conflict, support for mechanisms of nonviolent conflict transformation is a key new challenge for the DC community.

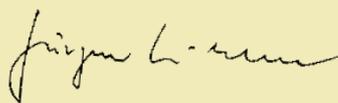
The German Development Service (DED) gives peace-building and civilian conflict transformation a central position in its mission statement. DED has been actively involved since 1999 in the design and implementation of the Civil Peace Service program spearheaded by the German government. In August 2002, DED launched a separate "Civilian Conflict Transformation and Peace-Building" sector to complement the work of its existing sectors and has been supporting projects in this area for three years now.

People often ask DED what exactly is meant by Civilian Conflict Transformation and Peace-Building and what activities DED undertakes in this area. These frequently asked questions prompted the publication of this brochure. It is an attempt to provide some insights into the DED's wide-ranging activities in this area and outlines the contexts in which DED peace workers work.

It is too early at this stage to assess the impact of specific projects. However, as this brochure will show, there are definite cases where a modest but significant contribution to peace-building has already been achieved.

Some of the projects presented here have changed – necessarily – during the time of writing in response to political events or evolving circumstances in a partner country. In any case, a publication like this would have had no room for a description of project evolution on the ground. As such, this brochure claims to be no more than a snapshot of DED-backed civilian conflict transformation and peace-building projects in the year 2002.

We hope this brochure will give the reader a glimpse of the often difficult but supremely important peace-building work of our governmental and non-governmental partner organizations and our German and local peace workers on the ground. These people constitute the capacities for peace and create a basis for sustainable development and a less violent future in many of our partner countries. They deserve our thanks and our tribute.



Dr. Jürgen Wilhelm
Managing Director



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1. Preventing crisis and promoting peace: new challenges for the development cooperation community

In many of our partner countries, sociopolitical conflicts are a serious hindrance to development and may endanger and wipe out achievements already accomplished. The tragedy of genocide in Rwanda is a case in point. It cost hundreds of thousands of human lives and, within the space of 100 days, set at naught the results of decades of development efforts. This event very clearly showed that development cooperation (DC) needs analytical tools for timely crisis recognition. "Crisis" as we use the term means a state in which existing sociopolitical structures and mechanisms are not, or will not be, equal to the challenge of solving conflicts without the use of violence. So-called crisis indicators will be used in the future as a kind of early warning system to identify whether an outbreak of violence such as happened in Rwanda in 1994 is possible or probable. What applies on a macropolitical scale applies equally at the project level: project planning will increasingly monitor the crisis potential in the project environment and factor it into forward-looking project management. Peace and conflict impact assessment (PCIA) indicators are being developed to this end.

Crisis indicators help to indicate the crisis potential in a partner country or project. They do not indicate how the development cooperation community can selectively help avoid violence or contribute to deescalation. That would call for an analysis of "peace constituencies" or capacities for peace. Peace constituency analysis facilitates goal-directed support of the players, institutions and structures that are committed

on a local level to the non-violent settlement of dispute and peaceful conciliation of conflicting interests. These new analytical tools are intended to help the deployment of "conventional" DC for crisis prevention and peace-building and, in this manner, provide a more secure foundation for the popular but barely validated "poverty reduction equals peace-building" formula. These instruments will allow DC for the first time to make a verifiable contribution to the identification and reduction of structural causes of conflict.

Crisis prevention as an objective of DC puts more of a spotlight on the political dimension in our partner countries. Political systems and structures are assessed in terms of their capacity for non-violent settlement of conflict, for example concerning land ownership and use of land. The aim of selectively reinforcing the mechanisms and structures of non-violent conflict transformation in DC also means trying out and using new options and approaches:

Promoting confidence-building and dialogue structures between conflicting parties

The communication and negotiating skills of conflicting parties are built up and reinforced. A party to the conflict may need support in learning to define and represent its interests. All parties involved should have the power to help shape their own lives and the social factors determining how they live (this is what is meant by empowerment). One of the crucial outcomes of the empowerment of individual groups should be to

strengthen the structures, where interests can be represented without violence and balanced out against the interests of others.

Overcoming the mental aftermath of collective violence

As time progresses, violent conflicts develop a momentum of their own which makes it ever more difficult to escape from an upward spiral of violence and counter-violence. Experiencing collective violence and passing on the memories to successive generations helps to produce and perpetuate prejudices. Educational and information policy operating on these principles gives armed conflicts a life of their own, with the result that merely remedying the original causes is ultimately not enough to resolve the conflict. Hate propaganda, prejudices, fears and aggressions lay the groundwork for future, self-perpetuating violence. Development cooperation work needs to accord significantly more importance to this aspect, in addition to the attention given to the structural causes of conflicts.

Promoting methods and mechanisms of nonviolent conflict transformation

In many cases, traditions of nonviolent conflict transformation exist which can be brought into play after the cessation of civil wars and collective violence. In other cases, it is possible to develop adapted methods and mechanisms of civilian conflict transformation in response to local circumstances and which address the specific nature of the conflict. This approach is less about transferring a specific

(western) package of methods than about reinforcing the ubiquitous basic desire, wherever it is possible to do so, to settle conflicts a) in harmony with local structures and traditions and b) without using violence. The feasibility of reinstating traditional structures (whose breakdown may have led to the outbreak of mass violence in the first place) and allotting them a future role in non-violent settle-

ment of conflicts needs to be critically reviewed case by case.

2. DED's peace-building and civilian conflict transformation activities

Since 1999, DED has supported local partner organizations in 12 out of 46 partner countries (see list on page 28-30) in civilian conflict resolution and peace-building. It has done so by sending out teams of experts, deploying local specialists and promoting local organizations. The delegation of expert teams is part of the "Civil Peace Service" (Ziviler Friedensdienst = ZFD) program sponsored by the German government. According to the ZFD mission statement, this program is intended to help dismantle structural causes of conflict and selectively promote nonviolent mechanisms for resolving conflicts.

The German Development Service's contribution to peace-building and civilian conflict transformation is intended to address the new DC challenges outlined above: support confidence-building, reinforce dialogue structures between conflicting parties, address the non-material aspects of conflicts, and promote locally adapted mechanisms of civilian conflict transformation. In keeping with its strategic guidelines "Concerning Civilian Conflict Transformation and Peace-Building (August 2002), the DED program is aimed at supporting local partner organizations in the six main fields presented below:

Reinforcing the local rule of law in partner countries

Neither a stable peace nor sustainable development is possible where there is no security for citizens. The judicial system and local structures for conciliation of disputes normally ensure that

conflicts are settled in accordance with duly defined procedures, which are equally accessible to all people and all parties. Regrettably, the judicial systems in many partner countries do not guarantee an acceptable degree of political and human safety and security. This increases the likelihood that "alternative structures", such as death squads and lynch justice, will arise to fill the gaps in the judicial system. Implementation of the rule of law by the application of democratic and civilian checks and balances in the security sector (police, military, judiciary), and due prosecution of criminal offences is an area in which DED intends to provide special support for local initiatives and projects. The reinforcement of local rule of law and proper prosecution of criminal offences helps to accomplish two goals at once: good governance and a more stable democracy.

A. Peace-Building and Civilian Conflict Transformation

Reintegration and rehabilitation of communities hard-hit by war and collective violence: community-based peace building

In the aftermath of civil wars, restoring peaceful coexistence in social structures (communities, villages, neighborhoods) is as important as repairing the physical damage. Specially in programs for the integration of former soldiers and refugees, when a large number of people need to find a living in a particular region – in many cases within a fairly short period of time – one objective, apart from offering material aid and job training, is to create structures for peaceful coexistence in a functioning social community embracing different population groups (community-based peace-building). This can be accomplished only if past events are dealt with in a manner acceptable to all parties and reconciliation between former enemies can be achieved - assuming of course that what has happened has been elucidated and acknowledged. This process is supported by the systematic recording and documentation of past atrocities by truth commissions, followed by conciliation between victims and perpetrators with reconciliation committees acting as mediators. Other essential elements are counseling for members of traumatized communities to help them come to terms with past events and support them in actively shaping their future. The target groups of these activities are former soldiers, refugees, women's groups and those particularly affected by political violence.

Cooperation with information and communication structures

Independent media may play an important role in the articulation of interests and conflicts and in building peace constituencies. Improving the training of journalists and public relations professionals contributes to informing and raising public awareness. The publication of positive examples of cooperation and compromise between former or current conflicting parties helps counteract the often prevailing view that conflicts can be solved only through war and violence.

Peace education

Young people in particular should be exposed to concepts centering on the nonviolent pursuit of interests. Recognition of the fact that young people have their own rights and interests should be linked with the educational goal of appropriate representation of those rights. According to UNESCO, peace begins in people's heads. That is why DED accords special attention to education in its peace policy efforts. Firstly, DED cooperates with teacher training colleges, curriculum development agencies and peace multiplier training facilities. Secondly, it is DED policy to support youth projects that promote values such as respect and defense of human rights, nonviolent conflict transformation, counteracting prejudices and stereotypes, and democratic rights.

Training the basics of civilian conflict transformation

The interest in locally adapted methods of nonviolent conflict transformation is increasing despite the disparity of value systems in the various partner countries. DED supports organizations which transmit these methods to target groups such as local decision-makers, non-government organizations (NGOs), professional associations, teachers, journalists, and interest groups. It is hoped that teaching negotiation techniques and civilian conflict transformation methods will enhance the ability of these target groups to effectively represent their interests without resorting to violence. These methods are becoming more important in the wake of decentralization initiatives in many partner countries, and are accessible to government and non-government organizations alike.

Support of locally adapted mechanisms and civilian conflict transformation organizations

Traditional structures and mechanisms of nonviolent resolution of conflicts remain useful tools provided they are compatible

with human rights principles. Local initiatives frequently endeavor to settle conflicts on the basis of dialogue involving all parties, especially in disputes over resources. Supporting these initiatives – conciliation committees and round tables, for example – is a promising ap-

proach. DED supports such approaches as well as the documentation and publication of examples of this sort. Most local disputes DED deals with in this area center on conflicts over natural resources, especially land.

3. Working principles in DED peace-building

All basic development cooperation principles apply to the area of peace-building and civilian conflict transformation: subsidiarity, helping people to help themselves, a minimum intervention policy, and sustainability. Compliance with the principles of nonviolence, all-partisanship, empathy and understanding conflict as opportunity is also called for.

Non-violence

The definition of violence embraces all forms of armed conflict, threats to impose violence (duress), and the unauthorized taking possession of property or objects, e.g. through blockade or occupation. Violence also includes the exercise of political discrimination and deprivation of political freedoms and political participation on grounds of differences of religion, language, culture, ethnicity, nationality, gender and class (structural violence). DED does not fund projects which in any way

All-partisanship

All-partisanship means taking all sides into account (including those representing the government), entering into dialogue with them and attempting to involve them. It is not incompatible with partiality in the sense of lobbying in favor of and supporting a party to a conflict.

Empathy

An ability to understand the perceptions, points of view, interpretations, anxieties and needs of different parties to a conflict is fundamental to the work. External experts and the members of partner organizations must be able to put themselves in the position of the different conflicting parties even if they do not share their opinions, values or interpretations.

Understanding conflict as an opportunity

Conflicts, although unwelcome and troublesome, are an integral part of social and political life and an impetus toward development and progress. Pursuing the principle of nonviolence is therefore not about maintaining the status quo, nor is it about denying the existence of conflict or creating a sham peace. The objective is to support peaceful change. This process requires the articulation of interests. Nevertheless, the perceived incompatibility of interests that gives rise to a conflict must be acknowledged before constructive conflict transformation can take place.

4. Profile of DED partner organizations and experts

Peace workers in ZFD are part of the DC effort. They are treated equal to development workers in the DED. They are expected to display intercultural open-mindedness, sensitivity and communication skills. Emotional stability is paramount given the pressures of working in a tension-ridden, violently charged environment and confronting what may be highly traumatized people. Other necessary features are social skills including an ability to handle personal tension and emotions and display constructive behavior in coping with conflict. Experts, however, are not usually required to be mediators in a specific process of mediation. Instead, they support a process in the six areas

of activity described above, during which the analytical tools referred to will increasingly be put to use.

DED works in collaboration with government and non-governmental organizations in the reinforcement and realization of peace constituencies, provided that these organizations subscribe to principles of nonviolence, all-partisanship, empathy and understanding conflict as opportunity.

Partner organizations should

- Be legal (if NGO) and/or be sufficiently accepted by the various conflicting parties and the authorities
- Respect principles of democracy and nonviolence
- Strive to achieve dialogue and effect compromise between the conflicting parties, with no underlying agenda of their own
- Present a high degree of transparency inwardly and outwardly as regards their goals, measures and modus operandi.

5. Framework and limits of DED's peace-building efforts

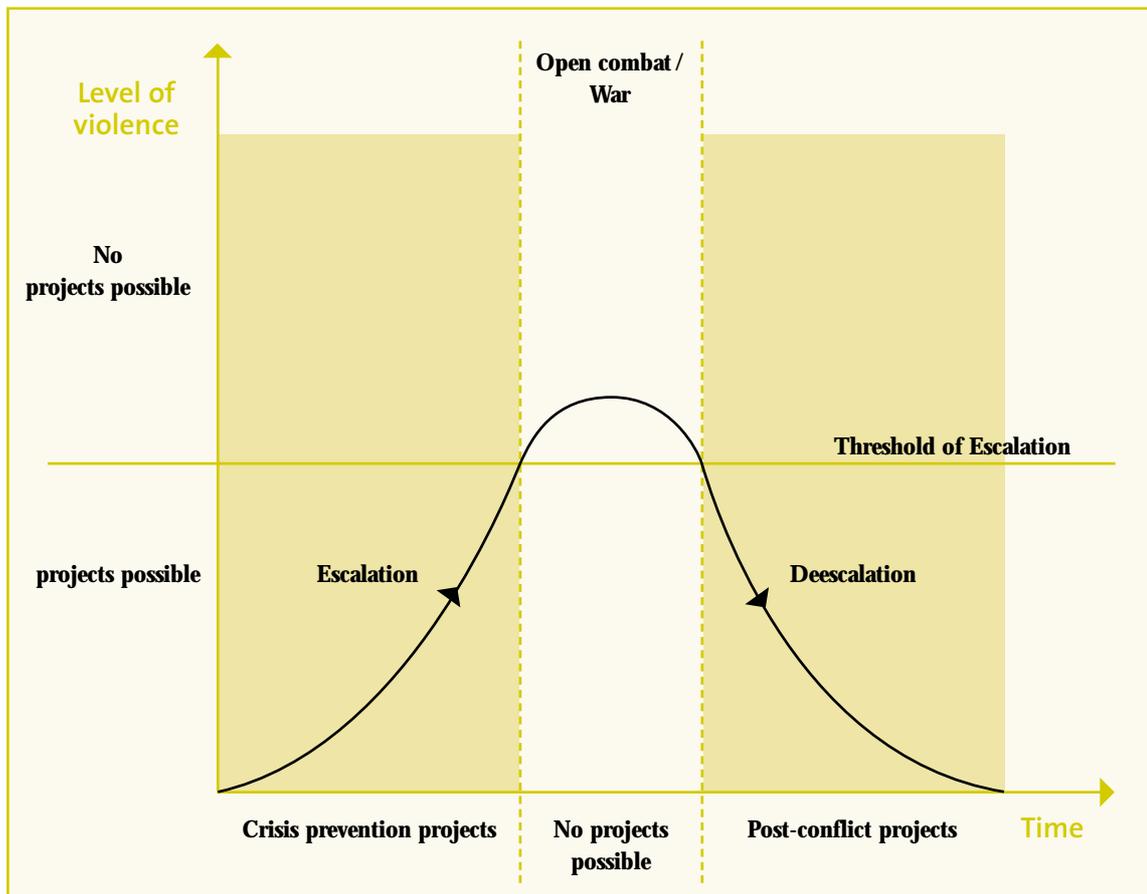
Responsibility for conflict-handling basically rests with the parties concerned in the partner countries. DED – like other external players – can assume no more than a supporting role in crisis prevention and promotion of civilian conflict transformation. If there is not sufficient willingness on the part of the conflicting parties or politicians in the partner country, DED is neither willing nor able to send peace workers to remedy this deficit. Initiatives on the ground are influenced to a large degree by political will locally and higher up, while the security situation naturally imposes limits as well.

DED input is directed at building structures and facilitating long-term change. These structures can only be set up after a

certain period of confidence-building. Short-term or fire-fighting-like interventions are not within the scope of personnel support such as sending peace workers.

The intervention options differ greatly depending on the stage of conflict (see chart on page 9): Cooperation is possible in the initial lag period before violence breaks out. As the situation escalates and the first violent attacks occur, the security risk increases and the willingness of the conflicting parties to pursue their interests without violence declines. In the so-called „hot phase“ associated with systematic and massive violence, the logic of war prevails. DC peace promoting measures are now impossible and ineffective.

Chart:
Peace-building options in various phases of a violent conflict



A certain cooling-off period is necessary before the conflicting parties and target groups may become willing to embark on peace-building efforts. In parallel, the security situation must be such as to permit the sending of peace workers. DED verifies both criteria on a continuous basis on the ground.

DED has built up working relationships with 38 different partner organizations in just three years. The following review introduces the partner organizations at work in the various areas and their projects, and shows how DED contributes to their activities.

1. Reinforcing the local rule of law

Guatemala Dealing with the past for a peaceful future

Since the signing of the peace accord in 1996 in Guatemala, the documentation and punishment of crimes committed during the civil war has been a fundamental task that has not yet been fulfilled. Thirty-six years of war and terror have taken a horrifying toll: more than 160 000 people murdered, 40 000 missing ("disappeared"), 500 000 refugees and displaced persons. Dealing with the past is essential to national reconciliation and to foster confidence among the Guatemalan population in their political institutions and public safety. DED supports the organizations "Alianza Contra la Impunidad" (ACI, "Alliance Against Impunity") and the "Centro de Análisis Forense y Ciencias Aplicadas" (CAFCA, Forensic Center) in their efforts to deal with the past and protect human rights.

Chronicling the civil war

ACI, an alliance of 25 non-government organizations (NGOs) and individuals in Guatemala, was set up with the aim of encouraging the criminal prosecution of politically motivated atrocities and crimes against human rights. ACI thus functions as a civil society control system but also acts in support of the Guatemalan courts.

ACI informs the population of the recommendations of the United Nations-appointed Truth Commission and apprises members of the public of their rights to pursue the prosecution of crimes that do not fall under the general amnesty. At the same time, ACI conducts studies aimed at elucidating the impact on Guatemalan society of impunity for crimes against humanity in the past and present. Finally, ACI intends to work on a political level to ensure that the culprits are held responsible for their crimes. DED supports ACI with two peace workers.

One peace worker advises Alianza members on research methods, public relations and training activities. The aim is to publicize Truth Commission recommendations and raise public awareness of the Commission and the Peace Accords. One primary objective is to mobilize public debate on the issue of impunity and to exert pressure on political decision-makers. Seminars are conducted on the issue of impunity and its underlying

reasons. Opposition and public relations strategies are devised. A database with records of persons who went missing in the war provides evidence to back up Alianza members during court trials. The peace worker also launched a system for monitoring compliance with human rights.

A second peace worker works together with the ACI's Investigation Department. He provides advice in the coordination of research work and systematization of the results. Interviews with witnesses and workshops on human rights violations that have gone to trial are used to inform the public. It is hoped that investigation of exemplary cases of impunity will forge a critical understanding of the development and consequences of the firmly rooted culture of violence – and ultimately end that culture. The study "Consequences of Impunity in Guatemala", written with the peace worker's involvement, investigates cases of impunity and provides guidance for actions to overcome it.

Forensics helps promote criminal prosecution

"Where and how did my loved ones disappear?" This is a question thousands of Guatemalans have been asking themselves in the aftermath of the civil war. This uncertainty breeds conflict and aggression, in many cases within small village communities and between next door neighbors.

Many of those left bereaved by the civil war take action on their own initiative and make an official police report. The Forensic Center CAFCA is keen to record and elucidate human rights violations and performs exhumations to this end if necessary. Exhumations provide important and necessary evidence on which to base a trial. Compliance with international standards for exhumations ensures that the quality and reliability of the evidence is up to scratch, thus helping to ensure that justice is done and cases are solved. This is where the peace worker comes in. He supports CAFCA in the qualification and training of members of the exhumation team, making sure that the pertinent standards are applied in the planning and conduct of exhumations. Fifty-one investigations have been conducted to date, with 197 skeletons unearthed, analyzed, documented and reburied.



Photo: CAFCA

Exhumations attract huge public involvement.

CAFCA does not stop at investigating human rights violations during the civil war. In cooperation with local organizations, CAFCA supports the relatives of the identified persons when it comes to reburial. In some cases, the contact between CAFCA and village communities is of many years' standing; a period during which CAFCA

provides investigative support as well as grief and trauma counseling in workshops and personal one-to-one sessions.



Photo: CAFCA

A CAFCA staff member interviews the mother of a victim.

B. Peace-Building on the Ground

Rwanda: Support of the Gacaca trial system

In the aftermath of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, the prisons are overcrowded with perpetrators and alleged perpetrators. Prison conditions are catastrophic. The adoption of a law to prosecute crimes against humanity was necessary before the first trial took place in late 1996.

The judicial institutions cannot meet the challenge of conducting swift trials. In response, the government revived the Gacaca trial principle. The preparation, monitoring and evaluation of this traditional form of jurisprudence is intended not just to ease the load on the judicial system, but also as an element of reconciliation. The Gacaca system is an attempt to actively involve the population in dealing with the genocide. Each village appoints a court in which lay judges, in accordance with a specially defined code of practice, determine the extent of the perpetrator's guilt in public assemblies.

Depending on the severity of the offence, the judges may lay down the type of punishment themselves in consultation with the village council. Severe offences are passed on to a regular court of law. The conduct of a Gacaca trial in keeping with technical and humane standards calls for broad popular participation in the dispensation of justice.

For that reason, the umbrella association of Rwandan human rights organizations, "Collectif des Ligues et Association de Défense de Droits de l'Homme au Rwanda" (CLADHO) initiated a project to increase the awareness among members of the public of their rights in the

Gacaca system. The organization is supported by a DED peace worker. A campaign to inform the public of the purpose and effects of Gacaca trials has been in effect since 2000. Gacaca members were trained in applying this traditional judicial tool. In the future, the peace worker's tasks will more strongly concentrate on the grass roots level.

Peru: Improving the rights of indigenous populations

The Peruvian constitution officially acknowledges the legal customs of the indígenas (native peoples) and their culture, yet the indigenous peoples of the central forest (Selva Central) live in a state of legal uncertainty. There is major uncertainty both on the part of the indígenas and on the part of government representatives as to the application of law and order in the indigenous territories. The result is a head-on confrontation between the consuetudinary law of the indígenas and the official legal norms of the Peruvian State when it comes to settling disputes. This creates a lack of understanding on both sides and is a source of conflict in a region that is already rife with discrimination and lingering conflict from the days when terrorism was at its most acute.

The "Defensoría del Pueblo" (ombudsman's office) drafts bills for parliament and the President that are supposed to guarantee consistent application of laws within the culturally autonomous system of the indígenas. The primary concern is the upholding of the special legal system of the indígenas. Conversely, indígenas are sup-

posed to become more receptive to aspects of modern jurisprudence, for example – in the context of their own indigenous laws - to individual and human rights. A DED peace worker is involved in a Defensoría program on the rights of the Asháninka. A study on the legal system of these people will provide a basis for drafting bills and, more importantly, will contribute to fostering greater understanding and tolerance for the legal customs of indigenous populations among the representatives of formal jurisprudence, especially judges.

The study is being carried out in close consultation with the Asháninka. This was an opportunity for the Asháninka to analyze their own legal system and identify elements in it consistent with the concept of human rights.

Peru: Promotion of human safety and security

The government-run "Centro de Promoción y Desarrollo Poblacional" (CEPRODEP), the "Center" for the Promotion and Development of the Population" represents an attempt to tie in local socioeconomic development with peace-building. In the Selva Central, a region hit hard by terrorism, CEPRODEP supports the physical reconstruction efforts of the people, especially the highly underprivileged group of widows and orphans. The Center also helps people to cope with the aftermath of years of violence and the associated brutalization that greatly compounds the difficulty of living together in peace after the abatement of the armed struggle between rebels and government troops.

Although collaboration between CEPRODEP and DED was initially focused on rebuilding social structures, the peace worker now advises the partner in matters of urban security. The "Seguridad Ciudadana" program is aimed at reinforcing political and social safety and security in Ayacucho, a region heavily marked by terrorism and government counterinsurgency efforts. The population is made aware of the risk of a resurgence of terrorism and violence directly and via local institutions and schools. There are plans to set up a local information and communication system (radio, newspapers) on the issues of political violence, conflict transformation and crisis prevention. A local conciliation center for incidents of violence in the family and community is intended to contribute toward a more peaceful coexistence.

Cambodia: Consolidating democracy and the rule of law

In the aftermath of Pol Pot's dictatorship, Vietnamese rule and years of civil war, Cambodia now finds itself on the long haul toward consolidating its young democracy. The population, including its leading politicians, judges and opinion-makers, has not been, until very recently, familiar with the principles of democracy and law and order. The government's large-scale "Judicial and Legal Reform Project" will not be feasible over the coming years without a large pool of young, well-trained experts familiar with human rights standards, international conventions, the basic principles of democratic participation and the fundamental elements of a

system governed by the rule of law.

An NGO called "Khmer Institute of Democracy" (KID) was therefore set up with the goal of providing suitable training to young Cambodian university graduates, legal experts, journalists and members of parliament. The aim is to equip them to identify law-and-order deficits and table reforms in their future professions in the judicial system, press, parliament and NGOs of civil society. The KID intends to sponsor events to discuss current pertinent issues, in particular in association with new draft bills.

A DED peace worker with legal background and another peace worker from Germany have acted as advisors to the KID since August 2002 in preparing and implementing the project, conducting workshops, training KID staff, and drafting position papers on current legal requirements and democratic topics.

Cambodia: Publicizing the dangers of small weapons

In some regions of Cambodia where armed combat between military and resistance troops was commonplace until just a few years ago, almost 80% of all households possess at least one weapon. The nationwide figures range from 30% to 75%. Small weapons are cheap and easy to come by. They are partly responsible for the brutalization of a society in which, for many, resorting to weapons is the normal way to settle a dispute. This applies equally to domestic disputes; a study shows that weapons are used in 20% of all cases of violence against wives.

The "Working Group for Weapons Reduction" (WGWR) is an NGO whose objective is to reduce the number of small weapons in private ownership. It hopes to achieve this goal by monitoring weapons-associated violence in the country and forwarding the information to the relevant actors; also and more importantly through public relations activities.



"Flame of Peace": Weapon-burning in Cambodia.

A peace worker supports the WGWR in setting up a monitoring system in selected regions of Cambodia. This system tracks government efforts to disarm the population, monitors the security situation and watches out for weapons misuse. In local

field studies the WGWR investigates whether small weapons control has enhanced the safety of the country's citizens and thereby removed any basis for the possession and use of small weapons. The peace worker also supports the project owners in investigations of the impact of small weapons on local communities. Finally, the peace worker

and the WGWR jointly analyze the information, compile a database and forward the information to government offices, the media and the public.

2. Rehabilitation and reintegration of communities hardest hit by war and collective violence: community-based peace-building

Social integration of domestic refugees

Sudan

Sudan is affected by the longest civil war on the African continent. A consequence of this is a massive number of refugees, many of whom migrate to other parts of Africa's largest country. Since 2001, twenty-thousand internally displaced persons have a chance for a new beginning: the long-term prospect of living

in safety in a previously thinly populated area near Nyala in the state of South Darfur.

Four DED peace workers are working with the British organizations Oxfam UK and Save the Children Fund UK to support the resettling of 4000 Dinka families to the settlements of Sanaam-el-Naga and Al Tugga near the city of Nyala from 12 refugee camps in which many of them spent the last 8 to 12 years. In addition to income-

generating measures, agricultural advice and promotion of self-administration, DED has set itself the task of internal integration and integration into the surrounding community and settlement structure.

The focus on social integration is intended to counteract a frequently articulated objection to resettlement programs, namely that they cause more conflicts than they solve. This prompted DED to deploy a newly de-

Photo: Lothar Reist



The market in the settlement area of Sanaam-el-Naga offers settlers the chance to sell produce.



The community center in Sanaam-el-Naga was funded by the DED.

veloped tool for early identification of conflicts in the integration of new settlers. This tool is a social monitoring unit (SMU) made up of two people. The tasks of the peace worker and the local colleague is to monitor the project in all areas, in particular with regard to social developments and potential conflicts in the settlement area (early warning system), and integrate the information thus obtained in the project management process. They also support the settler communities and the local population in their self-organization efforts and help them to resolve resettlement conflicts in self-governance and by their own mechanisms.

Another two initiatives complete the DED contribution. An agricultural support unit (ASU), supported by a DED peace worker, endeavors to achieve higher-productivity agriculture that is both surplus-oriented and ecological. Two peace workers of the income generating unit (IGU) give refugee households access to a small loans program and sup-

port them in exploring sources of income.

Just over a year after it was set up, the SMU's first hands-on contribution (in addition to extensive monitoring and consulting) to the development of autonomous communities is now firmly installed: a community center in Nyala. Because it is the only suitable venue for events and training courses, it is in heavy demand from the population, peace workers and organizations on the ground. The structures for cooperation between old and new settlers introduced at the start of the project have proved their worth in the settlement of local conflicts. Issues of land allocation, land misuse by nomads and unscheduled arrivals of non-registered families are never-ending issues claiming the SMU's attention.

Only one-quarter of the scheduled number of settlers have arrived from the refugee camps. The construction of autonomous, feasible, and ultimately functioning communities will

not be complete until all settlers are in place. Nevertheless, the good neighborhood that has emerged to date is a promising first step.

A peace worker has been working on a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) project for the resettlement of internally displaced persons since early 2002. As with the SMU in Nyala, the focus of the cooperation is on conflict recognition and management. The peace worker evaluates ongoing resettlement projects in various provinces (White und Upper Nile, South Kordofan, South Darfur, Equatoria) and uses the experience gained here as a source of valuable information for designing new measures.

B. Peace-Building on the Ground

Photo: Roberta Wagner-Friedrichsen



The sale of home-made produce such as deep-fried pasties helps people in the refugee camps to earn a living.

Uganda

The mountainous Rwenzori region in western Uganda is an ideal retreat for Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) fighters. Up to 2001, the ADF recruited youngsters wholesale and arbitrarily attacked and plundered the civilian population. As a result, approximately 80.000 internally displaced persons are now holding out in poorly equipped refugee camps. In this postwar period, the main problems are traumatization of the refugees – which makes a return to the mountain regions difficult – and the existence of small weapons and land mines. An entire generation has grown up in this environment of insecurity, threats and violence. The people turn easily to violence and conflicts are often settled by violence. Values like peace, tolerance and reconciliation are to a great extent banished from consciousness in this environment.

The Kabarole Research and Resource Centre (KRC) and Kasese District Development Network (KADDE-NET) attempt to promote a better under-

standing of the various conflicts in the region and develop practically applicable measures for preventing violence and managing conflict. The two organizations have been supported in their work by a peace worker since mid-2001. Local leaders and administration workers of the five involved districts of Bundibugyo, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kasese and Kyenjojo are their target group. The aim is to waken at this level an awareness of the importance and opportunities of peace-building measures. A study compiled with the peace worker's assistance now gives precise information on quality of life in the camps. Another study provides a deeper insight into the various conflicts in the region. This information was made known to the public, including the responsible parties in the districts, and now forms a basis for adapted development planning.

Uganda: Reintegration of former rebels

The situation is similar in the north-west of the country. Various rebel groups engaged in a struggle with the central government wage severe attacks on the army and civilian population on a periodic basis. One group resolved to give up the struggle and accept an offer of amnesty from the government. A condition for UNRF II (Uganda National Rescue Front) rebels was the creation of an independent district. In this new district of Yumbe, a peace worker helps a non-government organization called PRA-FORD (Participatory Action for Rural Development) and Yumbe District Government to integrate the former fighters (including many child soldiers) back into society.



Photo: Barbara Winstel

DED data will help reintegrate former soldiers.

The aims of the cooperative venture are to prepare all the groups involved in the conflict for peaceful coexistence and to build up the necessary structures. In addition to the former fighters and the population they terrorized, these groups include soldiers of the Ugandan Army and organizations of civil society. Workshops are held to prepare them all for the new situation. Topics include information on the causes and effects of conflicts and possible non-violent conflict-solving mecha-

nisms, peace education, human rights and political education. The ex-combatants profit from special reintegration workshops. PRA-FORD supports the integration of former child soldiers by setting up a DED and UNICEF-funded training center for this specific group as well as for interested parties from the civilian population.



Photo: Barbara Winstel

Awareness workshops were held at the beginning of the peace process.

Close contacts between PRA-FORD members, the district administration and the former rebels create trust in the peace process. The DED presence also helps to build confidence. A milestone on the way to long-term peace was the signing of the peace accord between the Ugandan government and the UNRF II in December 2002.

Trauma counseling for women

Long-standing experience of violence often causes severe trauma, resulting in loss of self-esteem and brutalization. The willingness to apply violence also applies within the family. Mental rehabilitation is coming in for closer attention. Trauma counseling based on mental rehabilitation seeks to help affected groups and persons to cope with their mental wounds from a violent past, and in this way contrib-

utes to the consolidation of a peaceful coexistence. DED peace workers in Peru and Rwanda are involved in this type of work.

Peru

The project partner in the Selva Central, "Centro de Investigación y Promoción Amazónica" (CIPA, Center of Investigation and Promotion of the Amazon Region) addresses the issue of mental health in connection with political violence perpetrated among the Asháninka and Nomatsiguenga peoples. The indigenous population of Peru bore the brunt of violence in the civil war. Widows and orphans rank among the most traumatized victims of the civil war era. A DED peace worker was involved in a study on the correlation between mental health and political violence. The next step is to define treatment options to support the victims in coping with the mental aftermath of dispossession and abduction and help them find their way back to a life of self-determination.

Rwanda

In Rwanda the human rights organization Kanyarwanda (Association pour la Promotion de l'Union par la Justice Social) supports the women and orphans hardest hit by the genocide. The specially organized program CARVITORE (Centre Africain de Réhabilitation des Victimes de la Torture et de la Répression) is centered on giving victims psychosocial support. The organization is mainly active in remote rural areas. A peace worker supports Kanyarwanda in its work with traumatized people. She accompanies a local colleague on visits to victims and sets up

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discussion groups. The DED peace worker also trains Kanyarwanda staff in dealing with trauma victims. The case in Rwanda is compounded by a medical tragedy of horrifying dimensions: rape during the months of terror has left two-thirds of the adult female population infected with HIV. Kanyarwanda acknowledges

this problem with a special program to combat sexual violence and the spread of AIDS.

3. Collaboration with information and communication structures

Cambodia: Using the media to combat violence against women

In the wake of the dramatic events of the 1970s in Cambodia, women (in addition to their familial responsibilities) assumed an essential role in rebuilding the country in what is otherwise a strictly patriarchal society. However, these efforts did nothing to improve their status in society. Enormous differences in education and huge income gaps following the reestablishment of a market economy have reduced women to defenseless members of society who are helplessly exposed to violence at the hands of their fathers, husbands, bosses and officials.

The Ministry for Women and Veterans' Affairs has pledged to increase public awareness of the plight of women with the aim of improving their socioeconomic situation and promoting respect of their rights. A DED peace worker supports the ministry's information department in training female staff. The women learn to write the news, research articles and conduct interviews.



Photo: Susanne Müller

Workshop in Cambodia: "Generating Interest – what Makes People Want to Read a Newspaper Article?"

One outcome of the training measures was the production of a TV spot with a well-known actress on the topic of violence against women. With the help of the DED peace worker, the women also learned to produce a radio program. The entire production, from interview to digital editing on computer, was done by female staff. They produce a monthly program combating violence against women. Their aim is to show other role models. Although a radio program cannot prevent violence, it can show some escape routes from the spiral of violence. In the long term, the ministry hopes not just to improve the

situation of the country's women but also enhance and harness the role of women as multipliers of nonviolent interaction in the community and society.

Cambodia: Information on the effect of small weapons

The Working Group for Weapons Reduction (WGWR) also uses the media in its struggle against the misuse of small weapons. The WGWR trains its staff, and members of other institutions dealing with the issue of small weapons in cities and rural areas, in PR techniques. Advised by a peace worker, the WGWR devises campaigns and tests materials – posters, flyers, radio and TV spots – dealing with weapons possession and its consequences. This material is then made available to the government and NGOs. In this manner the WGWR attempts to create a general awareness of the fatal consequences of unregulated widespread possession of small weapons.

The organization reaches out to schools on issues like weapons misuse, disarmament, peace and peaceful settlement of conflict with its "Peace and Disarmament Project in Schools". Peace education classes are devised,

materials designed, and further training is offered to teachers and students at teacher training colleges.

Uganda: Media support for peace efforts

Public relations is a major factor on the path to peace in the regions of Uganda playing host to rebel forces. The Kabarole Research and Resource Centre has developed a wide-ranging set of tools. Puppet shows, radio spots, and video clips show, for example, the living conditions in the domestic refugee camps set up in the aftermath of rebel attacks. A peace worker assists in setting up the various tools and training journalists. The latter activities help improve the quality of the peace reports broadcast in the media. The no-holds impact of the media is best illustrated by radio. Following the broadcast of a government amnesty offer in a radio spot, rebels in the west of the country opted to abandon their struggle and accept the offer.

Source: Working Group for Weapons Reduction



A poster spells out the consequences of possessing weapons.

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Niger: Audio and visual materials reinforce peace constituencies

An NGO called "Association nigerienne pour la dynamisation des initiatives" (Karkara) attempts to act as a peace broker in the conflict between various groups of animal farmers and between livestock farmers and tillage farmers in the east of the Republic of Niger. The NGO also supports village organizations in their rural development activities. The aim is to prevent escalation, create platforms for discussion between the two groups and hence maximize any existing capacities for peace.

DED intends to deploy two peace workers to support these activities. In addition to training

native colleagues, one of the peace workers will analyze the conflicts and traditional conflict-solving mechanisms. A second peace worker will take that information and use it to develop new mechanisms for conflict transformation and revive traditional ones. The next step will be to publish the results in local languages on audiocassettes and videocassettes and by pictorial representations. These are important media for the universal dissemination of information in a territory where people have no access to formal education. The final step will be to develop training materials for the educators and advisors.

Peru: Documenting violence as a prerequisite for conflict transformation

A peace worker working in collaboration with a government aid program called "Programa de Apoyo al Desarrollo de Zonas de Emergencia" (PAR) in Peru provides advice in connection with the first "Censo Para la Paz" (Census for Peace) in communities hit by terrorism. The aim of the census is to show the real extent of the atrocities perpetrated in Peru. Documentation of violence is to serve as a basis for the design of possible development programs and preventive action. Widespread publication of the results of the census and disclosure to the Truth Commission will lend a voice to the unheeded and forgotten victims.

Posters publicize the „Census for Peace“.



4. Peace education

"If we want to save our children's future, schools are the best place to start". (*"Peace is in our hands" project, a DED-supported initiative in Uganda*)

Peace education in educational institutions

Uganda

Three peace workers support peace education in communities and schools in the respective areas of Uganda in an extensive project whose name says it all: "Peace is in our hands". The five organizations KRC (Kabare Research and Resource Centre), PRAFORD (Participatory Action for Rural Development), AMNET-R (Anti-Mine Network-Rwenzoris), TIP (Teso Initiative for Peace) and AHURICA (Action for Human Rights and Civic Awareness), all from different regions of the country, are part of the project. They train teachers, support peace clubs and organize peace days and public performances. "Peace is in our hands" simultaneously constitutes a network for regional sharing of experience and information. Outreach concepts have been devised in order to bring issues of peace and peaceful conflict transformation to the schools. Peace education classes are developed, materials designed and teachers trained.

Rwanda

In the aftermath of genocide in Rwanda, the question about the contribution that the country's youth can make to the emergence of a civil society, whose members are to trust in peace and have confidence in the government, still needs to be tackled. Human rights education plays an important role in this context, as it is seen as a powerful tool for preventing future violence. A DED pedagogue has advised the staff of the "Education and Awareness Department" of the national Human Rights Commission since early 2002 and has also worked in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education. Reflecting the Ministry's view that human rights and peace education are to be underlying topics, the entire curriculum for political education in secondary schools was revised. While working groups devote their efforts to including human rights issues more prominently in the study plans, the peace worker focuses on the dissemination of methodology and the revision of teaching materials such as textbooks, brochures and comics.

Extracurricular peace education

Rwanda: Support for training and youth centers

Peace education in schools has its limits in countries like Rwanda where only 20% of children finish primary school and considerably fewer go on to attend secondary school. The gap needs to be filled by non-school education, e.g. in youth centers and job training centers. The coupling

of peace work with training programs to improve youngsters' chances of a good life works doubly by stopping idle youth from drifting into a criminal existence and helping to counteract violence.

In recognition of these facts, a peace worker working together with the Butare provincial government focuses on orphans and street dwellers, paying close attention to female youngsters. The peace worker is setting up a joint marketing and production training center with street children and helps them to establish contact with the existing job training centers.

The Kimisagara youth center in the Kimisagara district of the capital, Kigali, doubles as a training center and meeting point for young people. It is funded by the Ministry for Youth, Culture and Sport and by the National Youth Council, elected representatives of Rwanda's young people. While the members of the cooperative project "Supporting Youth Training" of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit, GTZ) and the State of Rhineland-Palatinate are engaged in the support of practical vocational training, a ZFD psychologist is putting on a program with a Youth Center colleague that is intended to integrate practicable and exemplary methods of conflict transformation and forms of reconciliation in addition to sport, music and drama activities. Sport is used here deliberately for peace work – for example through the sport educational version of "football for peace" from Colombia, introduced by the ZFD peace worker. In the

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mixed teams playing on a small pitch, only the girls or women are allowed to score goals. The boys and men taking part bring the females into the game. New rule number two: There's no referee. The players themselves are responsible for observing the rules and developing a culture of fair play.

An important element with mass appeal is the "Gacaca Mobile", a traveling youth culture program whose primary aim is to raise the awareness of young people in rural areas of the Gacaca system (a traditional form of judicial authority). The performances by acrobats, musicians, dancers and actors of the youth center, who have begun to make a tour of Rwanda, are meant to make young people familiar with the Gacaca concept. With the crisis regions in the neighboring countries of Burundi, Congo and Uganda in mind, the parties involved are eager to expand "Kimisagara" into an International Center of Peace Education.

Cambodia: **Standing up for the right to education**

The importance of young people as a target group for peace work has also been recognized in Cambodia. The "Khmer Youth Association" (KYA) is active throughout the country and is aimed at familiarizing the younger generation, young women in particular, with issues such as democratic rights, peace development and civic responsibility. The aim is to empower them to take an active part in political life. The KYA reaches out to schools and universities and acts vis-à-vis parliament as a young people's advocate, for example with regard to their right to education. Other activities include literacy courses in rural areas and monitoring of human rights violations at schools.

The DED peace worker's task will be to assist KYA staff in the design of courses and further training programs. Already existing course concepts will be revised and improved under the aspect of nonviolent conflict transformation and education for peace. The peace worker will provide support in the selection of suitable forms for hands-on teaching of democratic values, nonviolent conflict transformation methods and elements of peace policy education. These elements will be designed for various target groups, young women in particular. The peace worker will also provide advice in the establishment of suitable structures for monitoring and documenting human rights violations and cases of corruption, especially against students. The goal here is to improve KYA's qualifications to act as the young

people's advocate. In a bid to reinforce interaction and information-sharing between young Cambodians themselves and with young people from other countries, the KYA will organize publicity campaigns, discussion forums, workshops and conferences with DED support.

Peru: **Promoters for peace**

Ayacucho is one of the regions of Peru hardest hit by the violent conflicts between the military, civil society and terrorism of the 1980s and early 1990s. The hostilities resulted in large-scale displacement of local populations. Resettlement of the former emergency zones is a major problem now that the situation has finally stabilized. Social networks are destroyed, people are traumatized, and a climate of violence prevails.

The government program PAR (Programa de Apoyo al Repoblamiento y Desarrollo de Zonas de Emergencia) mentioned above supports the communities and sections of the population hardest hit by political violence: internally displaced persons, returnees, war orphans and widows.

One of PAR's main concerns in Ayacucho is peace education and work with traumatized young people. In addition to training PAR staff in this area, a peace worker with a qualification in pedagogy, social work and psychodramaturgy has designed a program to train "peace promoters" with an emphasis on psychodrama. The first group of sociology graduates from the University of Ayacucho has completed their training. The peace worker now accompanies

and supports their voluntary activities.

The peace worker also plans to support a postgraduate qualification in street pedagogy at the University of Ayacucho. The

peace education program launched by him has a good chance of taking effect beyond the confines of the region: PAR plans to devise a national program for peace education.



Photo: Reiner Ort

Demonstration of the "Association of Loved Ones of Peru's Disappeared People".

5. Training the basics of civilian conflict transformation

Cambodia: Civilian conflict transformation training

Civil war and despotism caused the deaths of more than two million people in Cambodia and created a climate in which nonviolent forms of conciliation are forgotten and conflicts – at home, at work, everywhere – settled using violence, including the force of arms.

SILAKA, an organization which grew out of a volunteer project in 1997, aims to help disseminate nonviolent strategies for solving conflicts by offering training in methods of civilian conflict transformation.

Especially in remote rural areas, local coaches integrate this approach in the work of NGOs and government offices.

A peace worker provides situation advice on situation analysis and the development of "tailor-cut" courses. The training program set up on this basis, called "Methator-Conflict Transformation Program" ("methator" means empathy, love, forgiveness in Khmer), involves three projects designed in response to the needs of the target groups:

- Training for local NGOs, Buddhist monks and development committees on conflicts in communities and families
- Training for local NGOs and provincial governments on conflicts concerning the management of natural resources
- Training for community councils, local NGOs and village elders on decentralization, conflicts and conflict transformation.

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Zimbabwe: Promoting a new beginning

The first land reform in Zimbabwe took place back in the 1980s and resulted in the launch of resettlement programs. An example is Nyamazura, a project set up in 1981 involving 15 villages. Nyamazura presents social, economic and political problems typical of resettlement projects. Social networks are young and unstable, and unregistered settlement to the area creates conflict between settlers and the local population concerning allocation of tillage land.

The Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE) works with communities and aims at generating income through sustainable agricultural and horticultural use of the available natural resources (soil, water and woodland). A related aim is to set up a market network. Another goal is to supply households with fresh water and socially compatible improvement of agricultural irrigation. The project also aims to facilitate organization of the body politic.

A peace worker supports SAFIRE as a community development

advisor in the quest to improve communication and cooperation inside and between communities by raising the partner organization's level of awareness for the new issue of conflict transformation. The means employed to this end are mutual group visits between new settlers and incumbent communities with theater shows and other performances. The peace worker also trains decision-makers, authority figures in the communities – women and men – and staff of the partner organization in civilian conflict transformation techniques. Finally, method training also includes analysis of the impact of the project work on conflicts.

A second peace worker backs up these efforts with the introduction of adapted technologies for irrigation and improving the hygienic situation.

Inventorization and requirements planning for sanitation and irrigation is done in consultation with the target group. Thus, an effort is made right from the outset to involve all concerned parties in the planning of activities that are so crucial to health-care and economic development.

Theater shows are a popular and effective means of pointing out things that are wrong in society.



Photo: Claudia Roos

6. Support of locally adapted mechanisms and civilian conflict transformation organizations

Bolivia: Reinforcing confidence building and conflict transformation

Indigenous peoples in Norte de Potosí, Bolivia, were traditionally able to solve most of their conflicts by means of ritual battles. Sociocultural change, massive job losses in the once so important mining industry, and, more importantly, escalating land and water conflicts have compounded the region's problems to the point where bloodshed has been increasing for the past number of years. Traditional mechanisms of peaceful resolution of conflict are starting to lose their efficiency.

Economic decline and violent conflict went hand in hand. Unclear ownership rights and blurry borderlines were a breeding ground for outbreaks of violence between Ayllus (the term used to designate indigenous communities with territories of their own) and a bone of contention between Ayllus and government authorities.

The "Defensoría del Pueblo" (ombudsman's office) is a public organ set up under the Bolivian constitution, whose function is to investigate human rights violations perpetrated by representatives of the State. The head of office (defensor or defensora) is elected by the Bolivian parliament. The Defensoría has set up regional offices where complaints are received and checked. The regional office in the city of Llallagua is concerned, among other matters, with resolving land conflict in Norte de Potosí. A peace worker supporting the work of the Defensoría in Llallagua has been in place since early 2001, working for example with the Peace Council ("Consejo de la Paz") which has

members representing all the indigenous conflicting parties. In order to avoid creating an impression of partiality, the peace worker worked from the outset not just from the Llallagua office but also from a base near neighboring rival Ayllus in Challapata. The peace worker helped to get the Peace Council members to meet. This was a very difficult undertaking at first. Talks, festivals and sporting events such as football matches (where the peace worker acted as referee) were used to initiate contact between the feuding parties, efforts which eventually resulted in regular meetings.

A second peace worker has been working on the ground since 2002 in cooperation with the GTZ to improve decision-making structures among the Ayllus for better early warning of impending conflicts. The teaching of appropriate negotiation and dialogue techniques is hoped to strengthen the Ayllus' position vis-à-vis other agencies, including those of the State.

The establishment of a university of the Ayllus (called "Universidad Indígena") with a syllabus embracing a range of disciplines is part of an integrated development plan – drawn up by Ayllus who were enemies until recently – with the objective of collectively combating their poverty while preserving their identity. Subsequent to the confidence-building stage, DED is now supporting efforts to implement the development plan devised by the formerly hostile Ayllus to collectively build a better future for themselves and for their region. DED hopes in this way to make another contribution toward consolidation of peace in Norte de Potosí.

Peaceful resolution of land conflicts

Ecuador

The Ecuadorian coastal region of Esmeraldas is one of the country's most diverse regions, economically, socially and ethnically. On the one hand, this diversity is a potential source of wealth. On the other hand, it is a source of crass imbalance between black, indígenas and settler communities. The former two in particular are seeing their living space invaded by companies from the timber industry, accompanied by an influx of workers. Large-scale cultivation of oil palms has made inroads into the primary forest and traditional living space that has been in the possession of Afro-Ecuadorian and indigenous communities for generations. Small farmers and their communities are not strong enough to assert themselves vis-à-vis large landowners. Their negotiating position is further weakened by internecine strife. DED's partner is the "Unidad Coordinadora para el Desarrollo Forestal Sostenible de la Provincia de Esmeraldas" (UC = Coordinating Unit for Sustainable Development of the Esmeralda Forest). This non-government consortium embraces 15 member organizations from civil society, private enterprise and local administration. Its aim is to support forest communities to ensure that sustainable land use is practiced. A basic requirement is that the users live together in peace. The DED peace worker adds a conflict transformation component to the UC's activities. One task is to support and train village community representatives and

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equip them to act as facilitators in conflict transformation.

Their job will be to mediate between communities engaged in land conflicts. Other target groups include the timber industry and local government. They too would stand to benefit from learning and applying new forms of conflict transformation. Specific action strategies have been developed and facilitators from the communities have been selected. Training modules are under development. Cases of conflict occurring in the meantime are managed directly by the UC and the peace worker.

Chile

The encroachment of private forestry is endangering the living space and very existence of the Mapuche people in Chile.

Although this ethnic group makes up the majority of the population in the region of Bio Bio in the south of the country, the Mapuche are not consulted in matters relating to development planning for their native region. This results in violent clashes with new plantation owners and the police. The Mapuche people are traditionally distrustful of the weak local government. The officials in their turn are prejudiced against the Mapuche and are somewhat at a loss as to how the Mapuche might participate in the development process. There is a realization that the conflicts with the timber industry require a collective solution – the only question is how.

It is necessary for the Mapuche to have their voice heard and achieve a degree of participation in local government decisions. It is also necessary to raise the awareness and receptiveness of local government officials to the concerns of this ethnic group. Private enterprise employees require coaching in methods of mediation and participation. All parties to the conflict need to be made familiar with methods of peaceful conflict transformation.

DED's partner is a regional community association called "Asociación Chilena de Municipalidades Cono Sur" (AChM). AChM supports three communities with more than 70 Mapuche groups in all issues concerning development. The two peace workers provide important assistance in issues of conflict

transformation. In addition to achieving the goals stated above, AChM, assisted by the peace workers, intends to set up a forum for dialogue which will offer the players in the conflict a "safe area" for discussion and mediation.

The first steps toward these goals have been undertaken. At four conferences organized by the two DED peace workers and their local colleagues, representatives of the government, industry and communities expressed their interest in the issues of conflict transformation, mediation and intercultural communication. The next step is for the peace workers to set up courses for teaching the respective techniques and methods.

The amalgamation of peace work and development work is reflected in the cooperation with the GTZ's regional development program. The peace workers integrate methods of conflict transformation into the zoning process.

Guatemala: Resolution of land conflict is key to reconciliation

In Guatemala, civil war, exodus and displacement not only destroyed social networks, uprooted families and communities and increased the population's process to resort to violence; they also provoked countless land conflicts. Uncertainty is pervasive in northern Quiché: returnees find their former lands occupied by the homeless, those who stayed behind are cultivating lands belonging to relatives who left, the same plot of land was promised to different people.



Photo: Betina Botgraele

Assembly of the northern Quiché community association.

Investigation and documentation of land conflicts as a key to their resolution – that, in a nutshell, is the task of a community-based movement called "Asociación del Movimiento Comunitario en el Norte de Quiché" (AMC-NQ). In collaboration with a delegated worker, four local peace workers with DED financial backing drew up and implemented plans for training events for "Movimiento" members in the areas of conflict analysis, land registration and documentation. A descriptive reporting system attuned to the mentality of Movimiento members was developed and dubbed "memoriales".

The increased level of competence of Movimiento members

in matters of land title allocation has already helped solve numerous land disputes. Moreover, Movimiento members are increasingly being requested as consultants by other organizations eager to apply their expertise in the resolution of conflicts.

Chad: Economic development, crisis prevention, preventing violence

The expansion of oil production is crucial to the Chadian economy. A consortium of various oil companies invests a total of USD 3.5 billion in production from the Doba Basin in the south-west of the country.

Recovery from these reserves and the construction of pipelines across Cameroon to the Atlantic since 2000 will have an enormous impact on local residents' lives. 1300 hectares of land will be taken from owners, 650 hectares of which may be returned for agricultural use upon completion of construction work. The land requirement during the construction period is even higher. Land conflicts and large waves of migration to the area are likely to occur.

To counteract the likely negative social, ecological and economic impact of the project and the associated social tension, the Chadian government has launched a "Fonds d'Actions Concertées d'Initiative Local" (FACIL) with the help of a World Bank loan. The FACIL development fund "for concerted actions of local initiatives" will be used to conduct small projects upon application. FACIL's activities cover the three areas of basic socioeconomic infrastructure (schools, healthcare centers, etc.), income-generating measures (loans to small and medium-sized

businesses), building skills and local development (vocational training and retraining, support for the local population in formulating development priorities). The fund is intended to encourage local NGOs and initiatives to devise appropriate projects themselves and apply for funding. A supervisory board consisting of a government representative, representatives of the civilian population and local NGOs decides which measures will be implemented in the end.

Four peace workers are working in Chad, three of whom are directly involved in the technical implementation department of FACIL. A peace worker advises the NGOs backed by the fund in matters of loan allocation procedure and trains them in matters relating to the financial and quality control of projects. The second peace worker supports the local population in the development of a regional development plan for the oil-rich region. The third peace worker's job is to improve communication structures between the players (local population, NGOs, private enterprise, government).

The fourth peace worker supports the "Office for Promotion of Grass Roots Organizations" (BAOBAB = Bureau d'Appui aux Organisations de Base) in identifying and facilitating networking between organizations that might make suitable partners. BAOBAB advises these organizations on drafting project applications to potential financial backers. In addition to FACIL, these are the World Bank, German projects and AIDS programs. BAOBAB also provides conflict transformation training and is involved in setting up appropriate structures in the oil-rich region.

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Cambodia: Demobilizing former soldiers, supporting participatory conflict transformation in local communities

In the provinces of Kampot and Kampong Thom in Cambodia, entire populations – land mine victims, widows, former rebels, ex-soldiers – bear the trauma of many years of war. The cessation of official pay to many former soldiers has escalated resource conflicts in many communities. To compound matters, the decentralization of political decision-making means that local governments are themselves responsible for the resolution of such conflicts. Regrettably, many local

governments and local civilian populations do not have the structures needed to address this new challenge.

DED cooperates with the "Provincial Departments of Rural Development" in Kampot and Kampong Thom in a collaborative venture with GTZ.

Though the two DED peace workers were initially part of a project concerning the demobilization of former soldiers, they are now actively involved in a GTZ project for participatory rural development. This program aims at strengthening basic infrastructures, setting up social services and development projects, and supporting the articu-

Overview:

DED's Involvement in Peace-Building and Civilian Conflict Transformation in the year 2002

Peru: Resettlement of refugees, promotion of traditional conciliation mechanisms, training of peace promoters, strengthening the rights of indigenous peoples.

Bolivia: Support for indigenous peoples in their effort to resolve land and resource disputes, advice in implementing a regional development plan.

Chile: Conciliation of land conflicts between various communities.

Guatemala: Dealing with civil war crimes; publicity against impunity for crimes during the civil war; dialogue fora and assistance in conciliating land conflicts.

Ecuador: Conciliation of land conflicts between various communities.



lation of interests and nonviolent conflict transformation in communities.

Discussion fora involving all players and traditional agencies of conciliation, such as monks and pagoda committees, will be consulted in attempts to resolve open and simmering conflict. Another important element is to train these traditional peace-building agents in the techniques of conflict transformation. The next step will be to support local self-help initiatives in the participatory planning and implementation of village and regional development projects in cooperation with provincial authorities, especially (and for the first time

in Cambodian history) with elected community councils, and others, for example the GTZ. This is an example of conflict transformation and decentralized development planning happening at once. Another important element will be the "Working Group on Decentralization".

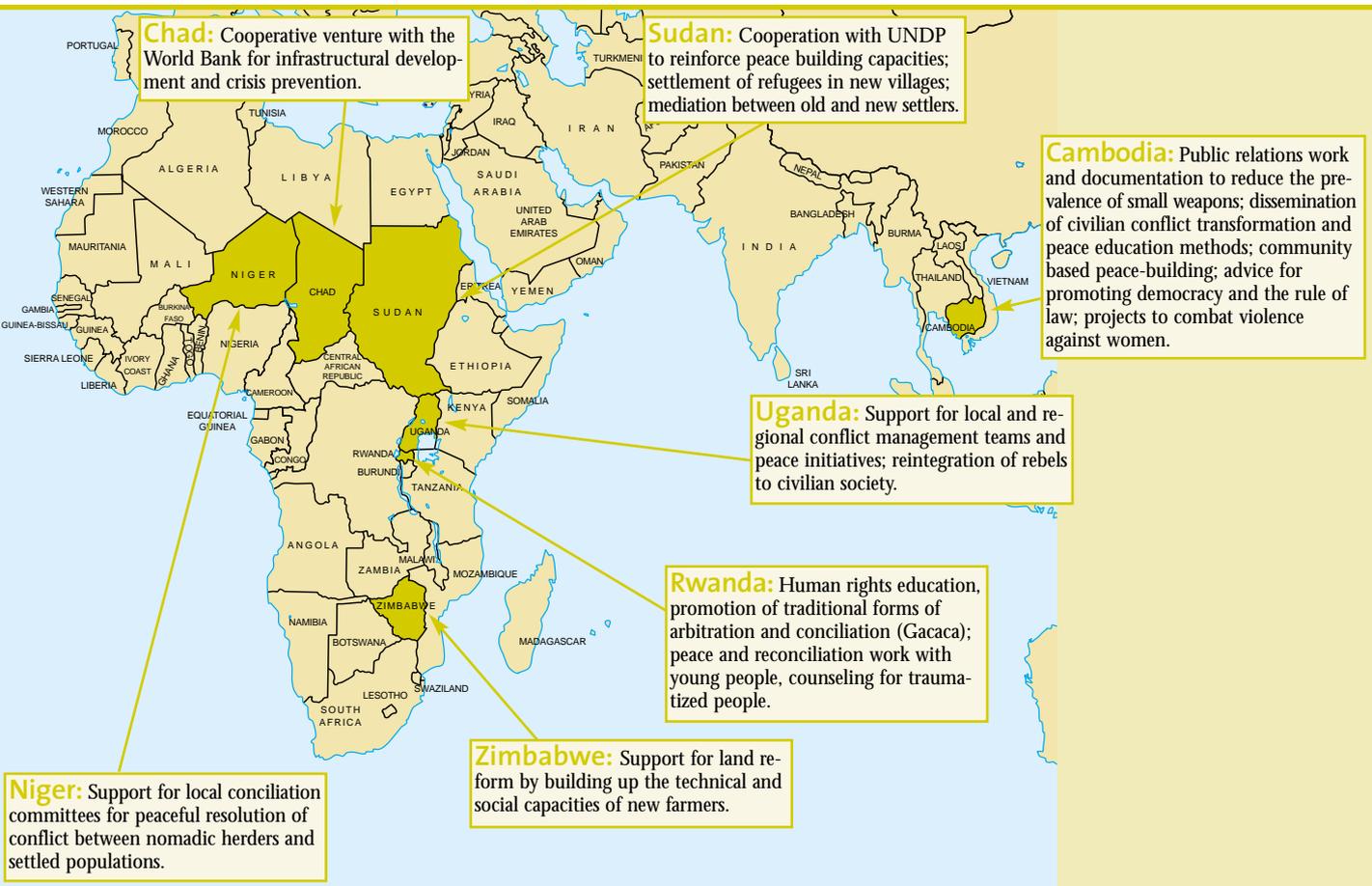
This alliance of various regional NGOs is aimed at achieving broad public participation in the implementation of the development process. One goal among others is to intensify collaboration between NGOs and community councils. A peace worker will be involved in setting up this working



Photo: Arnaldo Pellini

Monks are important mediators and conciliators for conflict transformation in Cambodia.

group and, again, will integrate elements of civilian conflict transformation.



DED's partner organisations in the Civil Peace Service

Africa

→ Niger

Association Nigerienne pour la Dynamisation des Initiatives Locales (Karkara)

→ Rwanda

Association pour la Promotion de l'Union par la Justice Sociale (Kanyarwanda)

Collectif des Ligues et Association de Défense de Droits de l'Homme au Rwanda (CLADHO)

Ministère de la Jeunesse, Culture et Sports (MIJESPOC)

Conseil National des Jeunes (CNJ)

Commission Nationale de Droits de l'Homme (CNDH)

→ Zimbabwe

Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE)

→ Chad

Association d'Appui aux Initiatives Locales de Développement (ASSAILD)

Bureau d'Appui aux Organisations de Base (BAOBAB)

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Cooperation Partners

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Save the Children Foundation United Kingdom (SCF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The World Bank

Asia

→ Cambodia

Khmer Institute of Democracy (KID)

Khmer Youth Association (KYA)

Ministry/Provincial Department of Rural Development (MRD/PDRD)

Ministry for Women and Veteran Affairs (MWVA)

SILAKA

Working Group for Weapons Reduction (WGWR)

Peace-Building and Civilian Conflict Transformation Terms

Peace-supporting, peace-building:

Supporting internal social and political forces in a crisis zone that are actively engaged in preventing, reducing or ending violence and thus committed to promoting civilian forms of conflict settlement which address the interests of all parties. Peace-building may be preventive (before violence breaks out) or responsive (after the violence has subsided or stopped).

Peace constituencies, capacities for peace:

Social or political communities or institutions who lay the emphasis on what different conflicting parties have in common and play down what divides them, thereby promoting dialogue or cooperation between the conflicting parties and contributing to nonviolent settlement of conflicts.

Crisis:

A sociopolitical situation of conflict in which traditional mechanisms of nonviolent conflict transformation appear to be failing to settle the conflict, resulting in an imminent danger of an escalation of violence. Previously existing possibilities of control decrease rapidly in a crisis situation.

Crisis prevention:

Timely, coherent action at various governmental and social levels to prevent an impending crisis, intended not to prevent conflicts as such, but to stop them from being settled by violence. Depending on the conflict dynamics stage that a particular conflict has reached, crisis prevention may be attempted before violence breaks out, during the hostilities or after they have

ended. Crisis prevention measures are directed at reducing capacities for violence and building up mechanisms of nonviolent conflict transformation.

Supervision:

A special form of regular professional advice to and support of peace officers by (ideally) an external person. Supervision is intended to help peace officers reflect on their own professional actions, thereby facilitating early detection of and response to any adverse effects of the job on the peace officer (burnout, secondary traumatization). Supervision comes in two forms: case supervision and team supervision. Case supervision is concerned with emotional respite and support for the peace officer and maintaining or improving job competence. Team supervision forefronts within-team interaction processes and the work situation.

Trauma:

Trauma in the psychological sense connotes a lasting shock produced in response to suffering physical or mental violence or experiencing a catastrophe with which individual coping mechanisms are unable to deal. The long-term devastation that is the legacy of such an event in individual or collective memory may produce an emotional or mental disorder not just in the primary subjects but also, by transference, to aid workers or those in the traumatized person's social environment (vicarious traumatization).

Trauma work, trauma counseling:

Professional support in dealing with individual or collective trauma.

Reconciliation work:

Reconciliation work promotes voluntary dialogue between conflicting parties with the aim of mutual recognition of the violence that has been perpetrated, of the role and co-responsibility of the respective parties in the development and outcome of the violence and in the search for solutions, and of the consequences of the acts of violence, in order to make it possible for the conflicting parties to live together in peace in the future. Proposals for conflict resolution in reconciliation work concern issues like punishment, amnesty, property return/compensation, and rehabilitation, and in many cases call for structural changes in policy, legislation (especially penal) and administration.

Civilian conflict transformation, conflict transformation:

The attempt, by non-military measures, to regulate, prevent and end violence by impacting the way in which conflict settlement is pursued (violence prevention) and at the same time work toward solutions that are acceptable to all parties involved in the conflict (inclusive solutions).

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