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Quaker United Nations Office



Financing for Development in the HDP Nexus: Locally-led Approaches Towards Peaceful, Just, and Inclusive Societies

A side-event at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)

Co-hosted by the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, the Quaker UN Office, the Transparency, Accountability & Participation (TAP) Network

When: Monday 30 June 1:15 - 2:45 PM

Where: [AC Hotel Sevilla Forum, Spain \(C. Luis Fuentes Bejarano, 45, 41020 Sevilla, Spain\)](#)

REGISTER HERE: <https://bit.ly/HDPFfD4>

Background

As the global financing landscape evolves amidst intersecting crises — record-breaking levels of violent conflict, a worsening climate crisis, and rising inequalities — the international community faces growing pressure to deliver on the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and leave no one behind. The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) offers the opportunity to take stock of current challenges and inadequacies and think creatively to meet the challenge of addressing the drivers of fragility and instability through integrated, conflict-sensitive, and peace-oriented approaches.

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda made note of these challenges in 2015, and the FfD4 Outcome provides the opportunity to build on this precedent through the inclusion of references to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus. Despite commitments to the HDP Nexus, peacebuilding and conflict prevention remain regrettably underfunded as standalone efforts, and principles to be integrated across all sectors of assistance. Moreover, resources too often fail to reach local communities and civil society actors who are on the frontlines of delivering transformative, sustainable peace and development outcomes.

This event will explore how the FfD framework, donors, and other stakeholders can better reflect and support holistic, localized financing approaches across the HDP Nexus — with a particular focus on scaling up investments that maintain the integrity of, and funding commitments to, each individual pillar, while promoting peace, access to justice, accountable institutions, and locally-led development. In a constrained funding landscape, it is critical now more than ever to consider using funding in smarter, more integrated ways, including through the mainstreaming of SDG16 (peaceful, just, and inclusive societies) in financing mechanisms and programs. This also necessitates commitments to de-securitize and demilitarize peacebuilding and prevention programming.

Format: This event will take the form of a short panel discussion, followed by an interactive Q&A session.

Moderator: Ms Kavita Desai, UN Representative at the Quaker UN Office

Speakers:

- Ms. Elizabeth Mary Spehar, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support
- H.E. Minister Kenyeh Barlay, Chair of Group of Seven Plus (g7+)
- Mr. Matthew Cogan, Deputy-director Peace and Stability Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs Ireland (INCAF) - *will participate virtually*
- Dr. Mojisola Akinsanya, Executive Director of WOPEGEE & TAP Steering Committee Co-Chair
- Mr. Ajmal Ramyar, Executive Director Afghans for Progressive Thinking (APT)

Objectives

- Highlight the critical importance of financing for peacebuilding and conflict prevention within the context of the FfD4 agenda.
- Advocate for strengthened, locally-led financing mechanisms that ensure funding reaches civil society, especially at the local level, with particular focus on women and girls, youth, and other marginalized groups.
- Explore strategies to operationalize the HDP Nexus through inclusive, rights-based financing practices.

Key Themes and Questions

- How can financing mechanisms better support the HDP Nexus and strengthen synergies between humanitarian, development, and peace efforts, as well as support integration of peacebuilding across all arms of assistance?
- What are best practices and challenges in ensuring funding reaches local actors, especially grassroots civil society?
- How can the FfD4 outcome document better reflect the priorities of SDG16+, particularly around people-centered justice, accountable institutions, and peace?
- What role can transparency, accountability, and inclusive governance play in improving aid effectiveness and impact?
- Why is financing for peacebuilding and conflict prevention underprioritized, and what are the risks of maintaining the status quo?
- Amidst significant cuts to overall foreign assistance, how can peacebuilding and conflict prevention be prioritized as a strategic, cost-effective investment, particularly for locally-led peacebuilding efforts?