



PROJECT BRIEF

THE BRIDGES PROJECT: Promoting Peace through Community-based Conflict Resolution and Empowerment of Young People

TIMEFRAME: January 2021 to December 31, 2023

LOCATION: Maguindanao (30 barangays in the Municipalities of Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Datu Salibo, Datu Unsay, Shariff Aguak, Mamasapano and Shariff Saydona Mustapha)

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The project seeks to strengthen local capacity to resolve conflict through non-violent community-based, people-centered approaches and socio-economic empowerment programs for at-risk and dis-engaged youth in Maguindanao. The four interrelated key actions are:

- (1) strengthening local government capacity;
- (2) supporting economic empowerment of young people;
- (3) strengthening collaboration of various local actors; and
- (4) supporting the engagement and participation of children and young people, especially girls and young women in peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

This three-year project will work with 7,850 individuals who are expected to directly benefit from the project and indirectly reaching an estimated 30,000 more beneficiaries.

Plan International Philippines will be working with two partners, the Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) and Magungaya Mindanao, Inc. (MMI) to deliver this project.

The Project Component Activities and Expected Outcomes are:

Result 1. Capacity of BARMM local government including Peace and Order Councils (POC) to resolve conflict improved

Activities:

- 1.1. Capacity building/training of LGUs and local government agencies and mandated bodies to resolve conflict
- 1.2. LGU-led participatory/multi-stakeholder mapping of the triggers of conflict. (linked to Result 3).
- 1.3. LGU-led participatory/multi-stakeholder consultations, planning and development of platforms (forums) to address peacebuilding and conflict issues. (linked to R3)



- 1.4. Advocacy for the engagement and participation of young people, especially marginalized young women and young men in the development of Peace and Order Public Safety Plans (POPS)
- 1.4 Training and technical assistance to LGUs in communicating government programs and services to the communities.
- 1.5. Linkage building and networking among POCs, the Mindanao Commission on Women and other peacebuilding initiatives.

Outcomes:

- o 750 individuals, including 225 women (30%) from various LGUs at provincial, municipal and barangay levels trained and have enhanced capacities on peace building; child participation, conflict resolution; peace mediation; leadership; gender sensitivity; community-based sexual and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention; laws and issuances on children*
- o 4 participatory/multi-stakeholder conflict analysis that identify the triggers of conflict conducted and led by the POC, to inform planning and development of platforms to address conflict in the target project sites*
- o 3 functional platforms developed to address peacebuilding issues that started activities such as forums, dialogue sessions, public events*
- o 37 (1 province, 6 municipalities and 30 barangays) trainings and workshops conducted to support the DepEd in rolling out the National Policy Framework on Learners and Schools as Zones of Peace (LZOP).*
- o 30 Barangay LGUs integrating women's and children's issues and concerns into their Peace and Order Public Safety (POPS)Plans*
- o 30 POPS-Plans including specific provisions addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of youths, esp. young women*
- o 750 actors (POC, community leaders, religious leaders, youth leaders, and traditional leaders) who report increased, quality collaboration between formal and non-formal actors*
- o 6 networking events and other peacebuilding initiatives attended by young women and young to share lessons and experiences, build network, promote complementation of resources and scale-up practices on peacebuilding and conflict resolution*

Result 2. Dis-engaged and at-risk young men and young women including those who lost their jobs/livelihood due to the COVID-19 pandemic have access to non-shadow economy employment or income opportunities

Activities:

- 2.1. Mapping and identification of dis-engaged and at risk youth beneficiaries of the program.
- 2.2. Updating of market scan to establish labor market information and identify economic opportunities for post COVID19 recovery.
- 2.3. Establishing partnership with the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education to integrate gender and GbV prevention and conflict sensitivity into their existing life skills training program.
- 2.4. Provision of relevant, culturally- gender -and- conflict- sensitive education and employability skills to dis-engaged and at-risk young men and young women using YEE program standard and approaches (CBED, ALS, YES!Academy, TVET) including psychosocial support if needed.
- 2.5. Linking graduates to employment opportunities¹ including those emerging jobs created by the pandemic and other support services (i.e. credit, business services, post-training and pre-employment assistance, etc.)
- 2.6. Awareness raising and influencing for culturally, gender- sensitive and inclusive business practice as well as promotion of non-violence among employers and business owners.
- 2.7. Recognition of exemplary business practices (gender, culturally-sensitive and inclusive) in partnership with the private sector i.e. PCCI and the Ministry of Labor)
- 2.8. Promotion of Plan YES digital platform to support the blended training and education with the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education
- 2.9. Pilot Climate-Smart and market driven agriculture development (investment on skills, provisions of tools and inputs, and establishment of agriculture facilities)

Outcomes:

- o 1,500 young men and women who are not in education, employment or training (NEETs) referred through the ALS program or the OHSP*
- o 100 young men and women enrolled in technical vocational skills and linked to employment opportunities*
- o 150 young men and women trained on business skills training and provided with start-up business capital*
- o 50 at-risk young men and women who lost their jobs and livelihoods in the pandemic and linked to employment opportunities*



- o 100 employers and business owners take steps for more youth inclusive and gender-responsive workplaces*
- o 200 young men and women engaged in market-driven agriculture development or in climate smart agriculture initiatives*

Result 3. Collaboration strengthened amongst community members, including marginalized groups (male and female youth, women) in conflict resolution and awareness mechanisms

Activities:

- 3.1. Mapping of interfaith, tribal leaders and groups and key stakeholders within the target areas
- 3.2. Organizing and training of multi-stakeholder Community Protection Monitors (CPMs)
- 3.3. Provision of support to CPMs to facilitate peacebuilding and conflict resolution activities that promote understanding of cultural differences and harmonious co-existence among diverse ethnic groups
- 3.4. Establishment of child-and-women-friendly civilian protection early warning and early response (EWER) mechanism.
- 3.5. Partnerships with and use of social media to promote non-violence, prevent violent and hateful expressions and highlight stories of peaceful religious co-existence
- 3.6. Establishment of a child- and women-friendly feedback and complaints mechanism that will respond to issues and concerns of the communities and if necessary, refer or escalate complaints to the relevant levels.

Outcomes:

- o 30 target communities mapped to identify respected and influential individuals to be a potential member of the CPM.*
- o 450 individuals (disaggregated by sex, ethnicity and religion) from 30 target communities trained to be Community Protection Monitors (CPM). The project will work to ensure that the CPM is represented by at least 30 percent women as a starting point. The project will support to enhance this representation as implementation progresses and as confidence among the women is built in the process.*
- o —At least 315 out of the 450 trained CPMs confident to facilitate peaceful means of conflict resolution*
- o 450 CPMs mobilized and capacitated across 6 project sites (Shariff Aguak, Mamasapana, Datu Salibo, Pagatin, Datu Saudi Ampatuan and Shariff Saydona Mustapha) who will facilitate dialogues, forums and round table discussions to promote peaceful co-existence.*
- o 12 intergroup/inter-faith dialogues, multi-stakeholder peace forums and roundtable discussions conducted that promote understanding of cultural differences and harmonious co-existence among diverse ethnic groups*



- o At least 4 cases or conflicts reported and resolved in a non-violent fashion by the community and traditional leaders across all project sites*
- o 2 types of social media platforms (facebook and Twitter) used to prevent resurgence of violence and conflict*
- o 6 Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) mechanisms established across Shariff Aguak, Mamasapano, Datu Salibo, Pagatin, Datu Saudi Ampatuan and Shariff Saydona Mustapha.*
- o 30 child-friendly and gender-sensitive community feedback mechanisms established in all projects sites that receive, analyze and address reports from communities*
- o 2 types of social media platform used to promote peaceful co-existence, unarmed civilian protection and peaceful means of resolving conflicts and differences.*
- o At least 70% of community members who report that they are confident to report a protection violation to a reporting structure*

Result 4. Increased capacity and participation of male and female youth members to promote peace and conflict resolution

Activities:

- 4.1. Mobilization of children and young people as peace ambassadors
- 4.2. Training of children and young people, especially girls and young women on the development and production of key messages, information, education and communication materials on peace production and tolerance maximizing social media and other digital platforms
- 4.3. Conduct of youth-led school and community peace education/awareness raising and advocacy campaigns on children's rights (including birth registration), peaceful co-existence, tolerance, conflict resolution, stress management skills, gender and inclusion including adolescent sexuality and reproductive health and rights, and the importance of civic engagement;
- 4.4. Conduct of youth-led school and community cultural activities promoting peace, specifically involving children and female youth to provide opportunities for recreation and safe spaces for young people to participate and speak out
- 4.5. Participation of beneficiary youth (male and female) in national or international conferences related to conflict resolution or peace building



Outcomes:

- o 120 children and young people (disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity and religion) mobilized as peace ambassadors and trained on peace-building, conflict resolution, community engagement, advocacy and active citizenship.*
- o 60 youth-led school and community awareness raising, advocacy campaign on children's rights conducted in the project sites.*
- o 15 youth-led cultural activities promoting peace conducted in the project sites*
- o 8 information, education materials (i.e. short video clips on Tiktok, Vlog, social media feeds, etc.) developed by boys and girls and young women and young men bearing key messages on peace, conflict resolution, tolerance and other peace-promoting messages*
- o 1 national or international event participated by the youth to share their experience as peace ambassadors and peace advocates in their communities.*