

Acknowledgements

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would like to thank all its funders and event partners. The Platform also expresses its gratitude to over 4'000 network members for following its activities.

Special thanks go to the **United Nations and International Organizations Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs** for their contribution to the Platform's core funding, and to the **United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)** for the strong collaboration on the Geneva Peace Talks, the Geneva Peace Week, and several public events.

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would also like to thank **17 partners** for their continuous support:

- Canton of Geneva
- City of Geneva
- Fondation pour Genève
- Friedrich Ebert Foundation
- Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
 - Applied Research Seminar (ARS)
 - Executive Education Programme
- International Labour Organization
- Institute for Economics and Peace
- Municipality of Corregidora, Mexico
- Municipality of Bogota, Colombia
- Permanent Mission of Canada in Geneva
- Permanent Mission of Switzerland in Geneva and New York
- Quaker United Nations Office, New York
- UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- World Vision

Special thanks go to the **staff of the four core partners** of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, without whom the networking, events, and outreach of the Platform would not be possible.

What is the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform?

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is an inter-agency network that connects the critical mass of peacebuilding actors, resources, and expertise in Geneva and worldwide.

Founded in 2008, the Platform has a mandate to facilitate interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors, and to advance new knowledge and understanding of peacebuilding issues and contexts. It also plays a creative role in building bridges between International Geneva, the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in New York, and peacebuilding activities in the field.

The Platform's network comprises more than 4,000 peacebuilding professionals and over 60 institutions working on peacebuilding directly or indirectly.

The Platform is managed as a joined project of four institutions: The Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies; the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP); Interpeace; and the Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva (QUNO).

Website: <http://www.gpplatform.ch>

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1. 2015 in figures

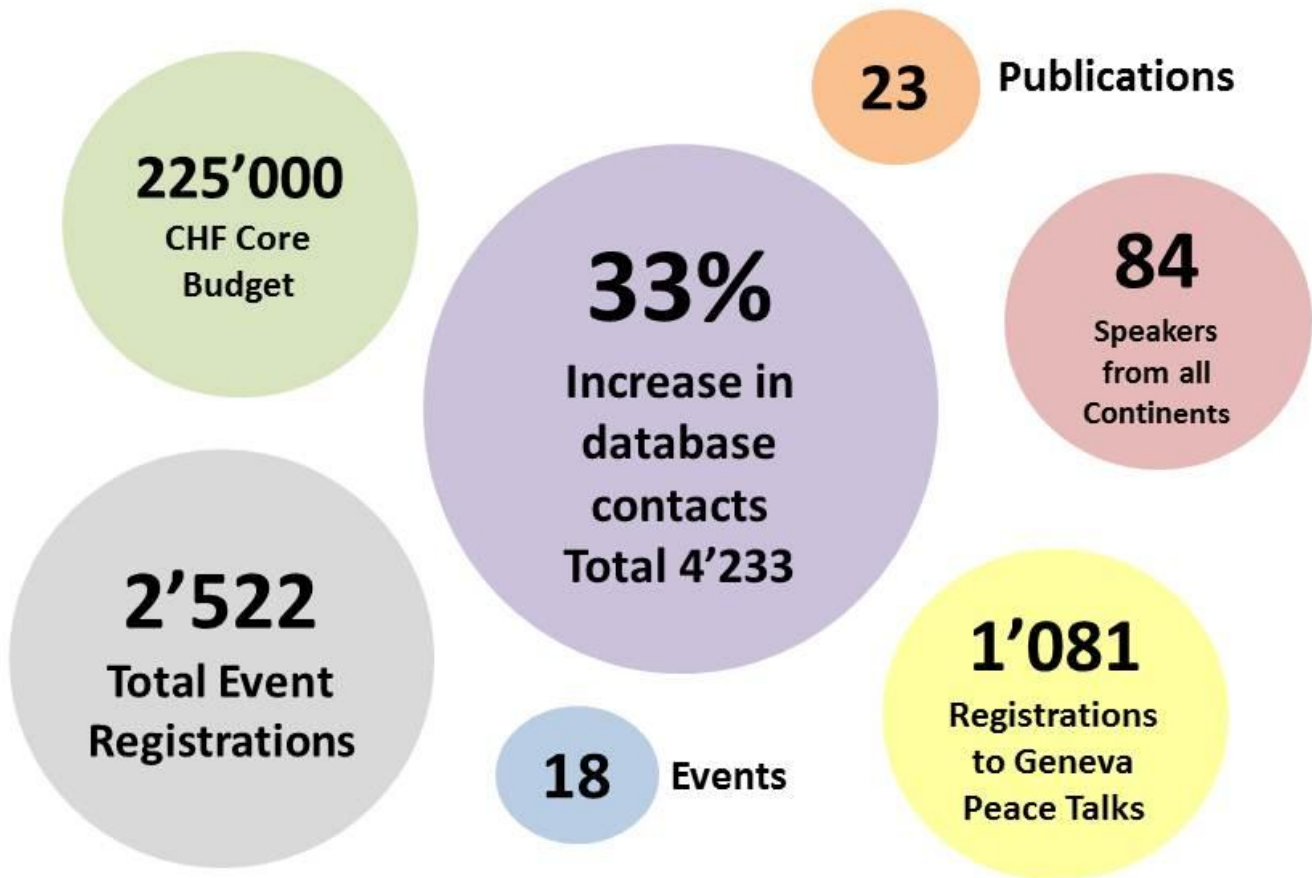


Table 1: Network growth, 2011-2015

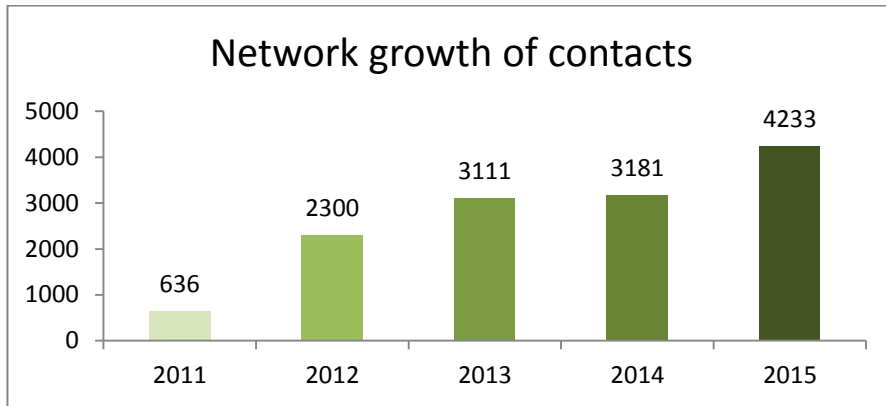
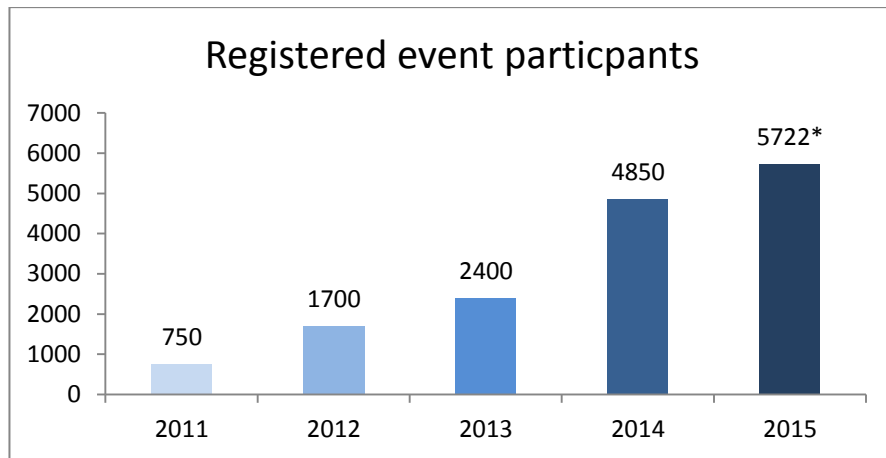
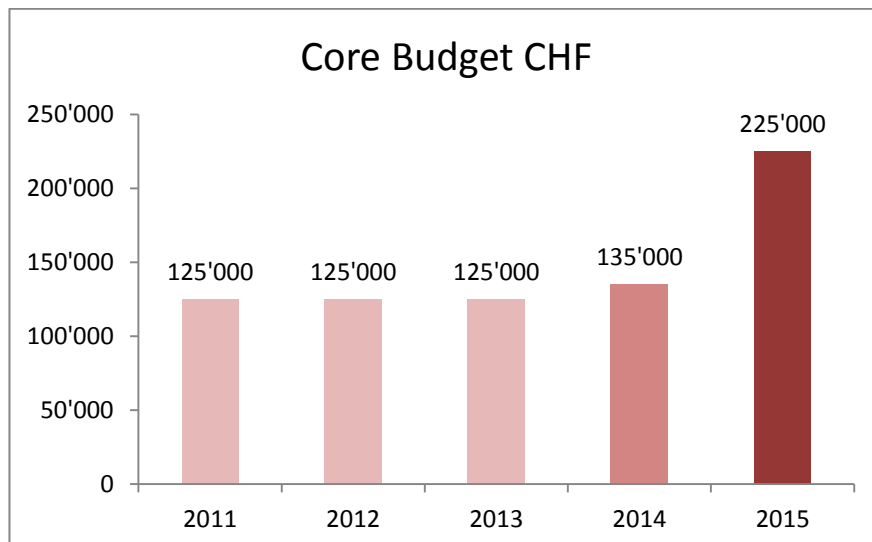


Table 2: Trend in participation, 2011-2015



*Includes all Geneva Peace Week participants

Table 3: Budget trend, 2011-2015



2. Summary of achievements

This report summarizes the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform's activities and achievements in 2015. The year saw a positive start to the implementation of the Platform's 2015-2017 Programme with significant evolution in major event series and targeted networking among non-traditional peacebuilding actors, especially at the city level and with the business community. Key highlights of 2015 are:

Network growth: The Platform's contact database grew by 33% from 3'186 in 2014 to 4'233 in 2015 (see Table 1). This growth resulted from drawing larger participation across 18 events in 2015 and closer collaboration with partners from International Geneva and beyond. Overall, a total of 4'572 participants attended events under the umbrella of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform (including all Geneva Peace Week events). 2'017 participants attended events organized or co-organized by the Platform. There were over 1'000 registrations for the Geneva Peace Talks and almost 3'000 for Geneva Peace Week (see Table 2).

Consolidation of event series: With the 3rd edition of the Geneva Peace Talks, the 2nd edition of Geneva Peace Week and the 8th Annual Meeting, and 7 update events, the Platform and its event partners consolidated important contributions to Geneva's events calendar in the peacebuilding field.

Practical innovation: The Platform advanced innovation on peacebuilding by focusing on practice. It launched the White Paper on Peacebuilding and 20 background papers, and two papers on conflict prevention – or its failure – in Kenya and the Central African Republic. It also advanced work on an integrated approach on urban safety and peacebuilding practice, and on conflict-sensitive business.

Increased recognition: The Platform receives an increasingly broader recognition “for providing an important umbrella for Geneva-based peace activities all year round” as noted by Michael Møller, Director-General of UNOG, in his closing remarks of Geneva Peace Week 2015. The launch of the White Paper on Peacebuilding, the Geneva Peace Talks, and Geneva Peace Week, as well as the peacebuilding updates fostered this recognition.

Modest budget, collective action: All Platform activities in 2015 were implemented on the modest resource base of a budget of CHF 225'000. All activities involved intensive collaboration of its four core partners who demonstrated leadership in selected activities, as well as many other partners from Geneva and beyond. The collaborative way of working has become a trademark of Platform activities and emphasizes the value of combining existing resources, skills and expertise to obtain a better outcome than any institution would achieve on its own.

An emerging 'Geneva lens' on peacebuilding? Activities in 2015 have consistently emphasized that each and every person, actor and institution has a role to play in building peace, and that it is important to work outside the silos that all-too-often characterize the international community to enable more creative responses in a variety of contexts. These two elements emerge as parts of a lens on peacebuilding practice that distinguishes Geneva from other policy capitals such as New York, Washington D.C., Brussels, or Vienna.

3. Networking traditional & non-traditional actors in peacebuilding

In line with the five activities outlined in the 2015-2017 Programme under the rubric of networking traditional and non-traditional actors in peacebuilding, the Platform engaged in the following efforts in 2015.

3.1 Geneva Peace Talks

- The Geneva Peace Talks is an annual public event organized on the occasion of the International Day of Peace (21 September) by UNOG, Interpeace and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform with the generous support of the Swiss Confederation, the Canton and City of Geneva and the *Fondation pour Genève*.
- The theme of the *Geneva Peace Talks 2015* was "It's time for peace!". 13 speakers shared their personal stories of peace to an audience of 850 on how they are making a difference in peacebuilding efforts.
- #GenevaPeaceTalks was the number 1 trending hashtag on Twitter in Switzerland at the start and end of the Geneva Peace Talks.
- All talks are available at http://peacetalks.net/peace_talks/geneva-peace-talks-2015/
- Within the Platform, the Geneva Peace Talks are led by Interpeace.

List of Speakers

- **Michael Møller**, Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva (welcome)
- **Helena Puig Larrauri**, Co-founder of *Build Up*
- **Ebba Akerman**, Founder of *United Invitations*
- **Rashad Ali**, Senior Fellow at the Institute for Strategic Dialogue and Counter Terrorism, London
- **Father Greg Boyle**, American Jesuit Priest / Founder and Executive Director of *Homeboy Industries*
- **Alexia Bonato & Isabelle Zakman**, Youth Coordinator & Volunteer, Geneva Red Cross
- **Marina Peter**, *Brot für die Welt* (Bread for the World) & Chair of the Sudan and South Sudan Forum
- **Rim Turkmani**, Senior Research Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).
- **Eliezer Rabinovici**, Professor of Particle Physics, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel
- **Severin Yao Kouamé**, Research professor in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology from the University of Bouaké in Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Sean Altshuler and Tyler Wolf**, Co-founders of *Time-Peace*
- **Enrico Pacioni**, Lieutenant of the Italian Navy
- **Tareke Brhane**, Former refugee from Eritrea

Mariana Peter (left) and Tareke Brhane (right)

(Photo credits: Peacetalks François Wavre/ Lundi13 for Interpeace)



3.2 Geneva Peace Week 2015

- The 2nd edition of Geneva Peace Week attracted a total of 2'780 participants between the 41 events over a five day period. 50 organizations with a total of 165 speakers opened a space for exchange about peace across institutions and sectors.
- Geneva Peace Week was organized as a collective action initiative facilitated by UNOG and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. A 'collective impact' model allowed a cost-effective means of organizations with no additional resource mobilization.
- The Platform appointed a dedicated Focal Point which brought tangible benefits to the quality of the organization.
- #GenevaPeaceWeek was one of the leading trends on Twitter in the period 16-20 November 2015.
- The feedback from participants and organizations was largely positive but key improvements can be made for Geneva Peace Week in 2016 (see below).

Selected feedback

Positive feedback

- GPW showed de-facto convening power of institutions
- High quality of speakers
- Diversity of the peace themes covered and treated in Geneva
- Collective impact organization model worked
- Many GPW organizers reported value to be associated to GPW (esp. higher rates of attendance)

Challenges

- Room availability for events
- Overlaps of events
- Decentralized registrations procedure
- Access to Palais de Nations

Suggestions for 2016

- Design a more eye-catching logo
- Programme not user friendly; seek web-version or app; may need translation into French if Geneva more involved
- Create centralized interface for GPW info, programme and registration
- Cluster meetings around topics and develop a "fil-rouge" that goes through the programme
- Increase participation by IOs and missions through targeted outreach
- Geneva actors are invited to share outlook on activities in the peace field for next year to increase synergies
- Fundraise for a travel budget for speakers from developing countries
- Balance between substantive/professional component and social/cultural agenda
- Media visibility/press coverage
- Create better visibility of network interactions during GPW

See the full GPW programme: www.gpplatform.ch/geneva-peace-week-16-20-november-2015



Geneva Peace Week Logo 2014/15

3.3 Annual Meeting 2015

- The Annual Meeting “Building Peace 2030: Facing a new strategic landscape of conflict” underscored the urgency to prepare better responses for a new strategic landscape of conflict.
- Lead questions included *What is the outlook on conflict and risk trends for the next 15 years? What do peace builders have to offer as solutions to these conflict trends? What current innovation in peacebuilding practice can these solutions build on? What do different actors need to do now to strengthen peacebuilding practice in the future?*
- The Annual Meeting was part of the programme of Geneva Peace Week and had over 170 participants.
- The programme was collaboratively developed by the four core partners of the Platform drawing on their networks of contacts and expertise. For the first time, the Annual Meeting included three break-out sessions that were widely appreciated by participants as they allowed for broader substantive participation.

Clockwise from top left: Fiteu Agborsangaya-Fiteu, World Bank, Washington DC; Irene M. Santiago, #WomenSeriously; Cathy Clément, GCSP; Caroline Galvan, World Economic Forum

(Photo Credits: Annual Meeting / Eric Guillemot)



Speakers of the Annual Meeting 2015

Welcome and opening

- **Mirjana Spoljaric**, Ambassador, Head of the United Nations and International Organizations Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland
- **Carl Ungerer**, Head of the Leadership, Crisis and Conflict Management Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, on behalf of the Steering Committee of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform
- **Achim Wennmann**, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

Charting future conflict and risk trends

- **Caroline Galvin**, Practice Lead, Competitiveness and Risks, World Economic Forum, Geneva
- **Hugo Slim**, Head of Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva
- **Anna Leissing**, Project Officer, Centre for Peacebuilding (KOFF), Swisspeace, Bern
- Moderator: **Diane Hendrick**, Representative for Peace and Disarmament, Quaker United Nations Office Geneva

Innovation in peacebuilding practice

- **Rashad Ali**, Senior Fellow, Institute for Strategic Dialogue, London
- **Jason Tower**, Quaker International Affairs Representative Beijing, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Beijing
- **Katia Papagianni**, Director for Policy and Mediation Support, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Geneva

Break-out sessions

- Dealing with chronic violence and extremism
Facilitator: **Anna Alvazzi**, Research Director, Small Arms Survey, Geneva

- Conflict-sensitive business practice for large-scale investment contexts; Facilitator: **Brian Ganson**, Head, Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement at the University of Stellenbosch Business School, Cape Town, South Africa; Research Associate, CCDP
- Inclusiveness and participation in PB processes; Facilitator: **Achim Wennmann**, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

Getting ready to face future conflict trends

- **Claude Bruderlein**, Advisor to the President, International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva
- **Irene Santiago**, Lead Convener, Global Campaign on Women, Peace and Security, Davao, Philippines, Davao, The Philippines
- **Ozong Agborsangaya-Fiteu**, Senior Operations Officer, Fragility, Conflict and Violence, The World Bank, Washington DC
- **Henk-Jan Brinkman**, Chief, Policy, Planning and Application Branch Peacebuilding Support Office, United Nations, New York
- **Thomas G. Weiss**, Presidential Professor of Political Science, Director Emeritus, Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York
- **Michael Brown**, Professor of Practice in Natural Resources Conflict Mediation, McGill University, Montreal
- Moderator: **Caty Clément**, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Leadership, Crisis and Conflict Management Programme; Course Co-Director, Master of Advanced Studies in International and European Security, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

Concluding reflections

- **Michael Møller**, Director-General, UNOG

3.4. Update series

- In 2015 a total of seven meetings and exchanges took place with a variety of organizations. Events focused on a range of issues and contexts.
- Response to the update series emphasize that there is interest in the Geneva community in updates on peacebuilding issues.
- The event series also underlines the service of the Platform to organize events on a short notice and assuring high level of attendance and participation.
- Within the Platform, the update series are led by GCSP.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Speakers</u>	<u>Partners</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
18 Nov	<p>Tackling Insecurity in The City: Key Issues for HABITAT III <i>Achim Wennmann</i>, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform <i>Luciana Fadon</i>, <i>Alex Papadovassilakis</i>, <i>Anja Grob</i>, Applied Research Seminar, The Graduate Institute <i>Valeria Esquivel</i>, Research Coordinator on Gender & Development, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development <i>Marco Keiner</i>, Acting Director, Land and Housing Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe <i>Salman Bal</i>, Senior Political Coordination Adviser, Office of the Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva</p>	GPP,UNOG, UNECE	20
30 June	<p>MdP 'Getting to know each other' meeting Presentation of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform to organizations co-located in the Maison de la Paix <i>Achim Wennmann</i>, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform</p>	Various	15
26 June	<p>Quantifying Peace: Launch Event of the 2015 Global Peace Index Report <i>Steve Killelea</i>, Founder and Exec Chairman, Institute for Economics and Peace <i>Scott Weber</i>, Director-General, Interpeace <i>Caty Clément</i>, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow Leadership, Crisis and Conflict Management Programme, GCSP</p>	GCSP, Global Peace Index, Institute for Economics and Peace	50
05 June	<p>Conflict Analysis as Peacebuilding: Participatory Approaches to Large-Scale Assessments <i>Michelle Garred</i>, Associate Director of Peacebuilding at World Vision International, New York <i>Anca Padu cel</i>, Centre on Conflict Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute, Geneva</p>	World Vision	50

27 April	<p>Addressing South Sudan's Crisis</p> <p><i>Caty Clement</i> , Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Geneva Centre for Security Policy</p> <p><i>Gerard Prunier</i>, Former Director of the French Centre for Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa</p> <p><i>Joseph Bonsu</i>, Human Rights Officer, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)</p>	GCSP	100
05 February	<p>Le maintien de la paix dans la région des Grands Lacs : Perspectives et opportunités</p> <p><i>Ntumba Luaba</i>, Secrétaire Exécutif de la Conférence Internationale pour la région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL)</p> <p><i>Frank Okuthe</i>, Directeur du Centre Régional Levy Mwanawasa pour la Démocratie et la Bonne Gouvernance de la CIRGL</p> <p><i>Caty Clément</i>, Conseillère Principale de programme et Enseignante Principale, Programme sur le Leadership et la Gestion des Crises et des Conflits, Centre de Politique de Sécurité de Genève</p> <p><i>Peter Van Der Auweraert</i>, Chef, Division des biens fonciers et immobiliers et des réparations, Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations</p> <p><i>Cédric Dupont</i>, Directeur Formation continue, Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement</p>	Formation Continue (IHEID), CCDP	50
15 January	<p>Towards a Common Understanding? Employment and Decent Work in Fragile Settings</p> <p><i>Donato Kiniger-Passigli</i>, Fragile States and Disaster Response Coordinator, International Labour Organization (ILO)</p> <p><i>Oliver Jütersonke</i>, Head of Research, the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP)</p> <p><i>H.E. Yvette Stevens</i>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone, Geneva</p> <p><i>Azita Berar Awad</i>, Director of Employment Policy Department, International Labour Organization (ILO)</p> <p><i>Neil Buhne</i>, Director, UNDP Office in Geneva</p> <p><i>Isabel de Sola</i>, Associate Director, World Economic Forum</p> <p><i>Marije Balt</i>, Director, SpringFactor</p> <p><i>H.E. Amanda Ellis</i>, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of New Zealand</p> <p><i>David Chikvaidze</i>, Chief of Cabinet, United Nations Office in Geneva</p>	CCDP, ILO	117

3.5 Other activities

Closer connections to peacebuilding networks

- In 2012 the Platform and QUNO-NY initiated an informal exchange on “What's next in Peacebuilding?” at the Quaker House in New York. This meeting has become an annual informal gathering targeted at bringing perspectives on peacebuilding practice from different policy capitals to the New York peacebuilding constituency.
- The meeting series also reflects the strong collaboration between the major peacebuilding networks and their expressed need to exchange on practice trends and emerging issues. Participating networks included EPLO (Brussels), AfP (Washington DC), and ACCORD (Johannesburg), as well as organizations such as Interpeace, CDA, Conciliation Resources, and Pax.
- In 2015, the meeting occurred from 9-11 March in New York and involved informal discussion of current concerns of global policy makers regarding peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict.

Outreach in Geneva's business community

- The Platform has reached out to several business associations and networks for exploratory conversations including the *Groupement des Entreprises Multinationales* (GEM), the *Union des Associations Patronales Genevoises* (UAPG), and the World Economic Forum, and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). Contact to the Swiss Trade and Shipping Association is pending.
- Discussions revealed selected interest to get connected in International Geneva in peace, disaster, and humanitarian fields to develop a better understanding of complex markets as this will be markets of the future, especially in the case of medium-sized companies without the resources to open offices in many difficult markets.
- Specific activities included a site visit of ABB Sécheron SA and associated exchange on Geneva's comparative advantage on the Business-International Organizations axis. It also included a presentation of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform at a GEM Plenary Session 21 May 2015.
- The networking efforts were supported by the service of the Platform's Executive Coordinator on the WEF's Global Agenda Council on Fragility, Conflict and Violence, and attendance of the GAC Summit in Abu Dhabi, 25-27 October 2015.

Increase in social media presence and communication

- Due to funding constraints in 2015, this activity was postponed to 2016 and 2017.

4. Advancing innovative practice and thinking on peacebuilding

This second work stream aims at expanding the evidence base on policies and practice in environment and natural resource management, building peace in urban settings, leadership in peacebuilding and monitoring, evaluation and learning in peacebuilding.

4.1 Peacebuilding, environment and natural resource management (NRM)

- In 2015, this work stream started with selected events and networking within the business community in Geneva (see section 3.5)
- For the first time the Platform and UNCTAD joined forces to emphasize the issue of entrepreneurship related to NRM in a joint event as part of Geneva Peace Week and Geneva Entrepreneurship Week.
- The issue of 'conflict-sensitive business' was discussed in an expert meeting and as part of a break-out session of the Annual Meeting (see section 3.3)
- Within the Platform, QUNO leads this work stream.

19 Nov **Entrepreneurship for peace (with UNCTAD and FES)**

James Zhan, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD

Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

Brian Ganson, Head, Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement and Extraordinary Associate Professor, University of Stellenbosch Business School, Cape Town

Riad al Khouri, economist and development researcher on Middle East, Jordan

Rina Alluri, Associate, Swisspeace

Ms. Patrice D. Juah, Director of Moie fashion textile company, Monrovia and founder of Miss Education Awareness Pageant, promoting and advocating for Girls' Education

Mr. Thomas Oloya's Fisheries – a case from UNCTAD's Empretec network

Mr. Juan Juan Andrés Cano, Value4Chain, Bogota, winner of the Oslo Business and Peace Award - a case from PeaceNexus network

Anuarite Ketu Chikwanine, Project Manager Dynamique Femme et Mines, South Kivu, DRC - The Gender Challenge for Mining Communities in Transition from Conflict to Post-Conflict

22 June **Promoting conflict sensitive business practice: Reflections on experience (with QUNO & Swisspeace)**

Jason Tower, Quaker International Affairs Representative Beijing, AFSC

Andreas Graf, Program Officer, Business and Peace, swisspeace

Diane Hendrick, Representative, Peace and Disarmament, Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)

4.2 Building Peace in urban settings

- Under the leadership of the CCDP, this work stream has been primarily advanced through the Technical Working Group on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding Practice (TWG). It brings together focal points on urban safety of cities with peacebuilding, peace mediation and conflict prevention practitioners in order to help craft solutions to the rapidly increasing risk of conflict & insecurity in urban settings.
- The objectives of the TWG are to network urban safety and peacebuilding practitioners, to develop a better understanding of practice at the nexus of urban safety and peacebuilding, and to contribute to developing an integrated approach on urban safety and peacebuilding. The TWG is a collective action exercise without dedicated funding.
- The TWG occurs in the context of the preparations of the HABITAT III summit as well as the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda. By creating more awareness about innovative practice across institutions and sectors, the TWG creates synergies within the UN System on urban safety and peacebuilding issues and the Sustainable Development Agenda, especially for the implementation of Goal 11 and 16.
- The TWG is co-facilitated by UNOG, UN-Habitat's Safer Cities Programme (SCP) and the Platform. It has been supported by a UNOG Internship and received research support from and Applied Research Seminar between the Platform & the Graduate Institute.

Key stock-taking points

- **Inception phase:** The launch of the TWG was based on the results of an inception phase from October to December 2014. This inception phase confirmed the need and interest in a TWG evidenced by the response of 31 cities and organizations to an expression of interest and the participation in an inception meeting.
- **Initiation** of TWG in January 2015 based on the results of the inception phase.
- **The 1st TWG meeting** took place in Corregidora (Quéretaro, Mexico) 23-25 March 2015 and brought together 33 senior experts on urban safety and peacebuilding practice (see Annexe).
- **The 2nd TWG meeting** took place in Bogota (Colombia), 21 September 2015 as part of the Second Steering Committee Meeting of the UNHABITAT's Global Network on Safer Cities.
- **Network building:** The TWG comprises focal points of over 120 city administrations, peacebuilding organizations or experts from academia or international organizations.
- **Gathering of promising practices:** 21 substantive inputs from network participants received, including from/on Aguascalientes, Bogota, Ciudad Juarez, Cape Town, Corregidora, Guadalajara, Johannesburg, Mexico City, Panama City, San Salvador as well as selected thematic expert inputs.
- **Integrated approach:** Initial TWG observations indicate that entry points for an integrated approach to urban safety and peacebuilding are on the one hand about the 'how' of urban safety and peacebuilding approaches, and on the other hand about specific themes that can illustrate the intersection and difference of urban safety and peacebuilding approaches.
- **Creation of a sub-group** on executive training on urban safety and peacebuilding with representatives of the World Bank, UNITAR, IdeaBorn Foundation, and CCDP.
- **Outlook:** All major achievements will be drawn together to be available for presentation at the conference Assessing the State of Safety in World Cities, 7-8 July 2016 which will be preceded by a TWG meeting on 6 July 2016.

4.3 Other activities

Launch of the White Paper on Peacebuilding

- **Lunch briefing in Geneva for journalists, 18 February:** The lunch briefing was an opportunity for journalists to receive embargoed versions of the White Paper and its 20 background papers and engage in a discussion with partners about the substance gathered. The briefing brought together 14 journalists from the international press corps and 4 project partner representatives.
- **Geneva launch, 27 February, Maison de la Paix:** The White Paper and all 20 background documents were launched and made publically made available at the Platform website. The launch was attended by 180 representatives from a cross-section of organizations and opened by Mr. *Michael Møller*, Acting Head, UNOG. It was followed by a panel discussion about key issues presented in the White paper by the Platform's Management Committee Members (Caty Clément, Diane Hendrick, Oliver Jütersonke, Renée Larivière). The launch concluded with a closing by *Mirjana Spoljaric*, Deputy Head of United Nations and International Organisations Division, Directorate of Political Affairs, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland.
- **New York launch, 11 March:** The Swiss Mission in New York hosted the launch event including all senior UN and mission representatives of UN peacebuilding such as ASG Fernandez-Taranco, Amb Olof Skoog (Swedish Ambassador presiding over the PBC), as well as Gert Rosenthal (Heads of the Expert Advisory Group of the 10-year review). Adviser Funmi Olonisakin was also present. Overall there were 52 participants.
- **Endorsement:** Gert Rosenthal provided a key endorsement of the White Paper saying that the expert advisory group evaluated the White Paper on three counts: if the White Paper compares to their own analysis, if there is any major issues related to language, and if the White paper can serve as a base for recommendations. He said the substance coincides to about 80-90% with the current views of the expert advisory group; there are only minor language issues and overall language is fine, and the White Paper represents a strong base for the formulation of recommendations for the expert advisory group.

Peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance

- The Platform facilitated an informal exchange for OCHA's World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) Secretariat on "The Relationship between Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Action", on 1 July 2015. The meeting resulted in a meeting report with the drafting support of OCHA Geneva.
- Key findings of the informal exchange and of the White Paper on Peacebuilding were presented in the WHS consultation in Geneva (14-16 October 2015) in the session "Complementarity between principled humanitarian action and sustained peace".

Publications on conflict prevention

- What Role of the Private Sector in the Prevention of Election Violence? The Case of Kenya, Pilar Rukavina de Vidovgrad.
- What Went Wrong in the Central African Republic? International Engagement and the Failure to Think Conflict Prevention, Genta Akasaki, Emilie Ballestraz, & Matel Sow

5. Management and staffing

- The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a partnership between four institutions with rich and diverse peacebuilding-related experience, which together represent a unique combination of skills and a long track record of excellence in their specific sector.
- The Platform is managed as a joint project by a Steering Committee and a Management Committee. The day-to-day activities of the Platform are managed by a small staff team.

Steering Committee

- Keith Krause, Director, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute
- Carl Ungerer, Head of Leadership, Crisis & Conflict Management Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
- Scott Weber, Director-General, Interpeace
- Jonathan Woolley, Director, Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)

Management Committee

- Caty Clément, Senior Programme Advisor and Senior Fellow, Leadership, Crisis and Conflict Management Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy
- Diane Hendrick, Representative, Peace and Disarmament, Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva
- Oliver Jütersonke, Head of Research, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute
- Renée Larivière, Deputy Director-General for Development and Learning, Interpeace

Platform staff

- Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator (100% January-August; 70% September-December)
- Indhira Avilés, Assistant Coordinator (60% January-July)
- Madeleine Evans, Assistant Coordinator (60% August-December)
- Silvia Nussbaumer, Focal Point Geneva Peace Week (20% May-November, volunteer)
- Jean-Christophe Barth-Coullaré, SYNI Programme Participant (80% January-June)
- Kamal Kant, SYNI Programme Participant (80% September-December)

6. Outlook 2016

- Shift from volume in the Platform's database to developing targeted constituencies.
- Renewal of the website and communications infrastructure
- What's next in Peacebuilding? 5-7 March, New York
- Thematic Conference: Technical Working Group on Urban Safety and Peacebuilding Practice and conference Reviewing the State of Safety in World Cities 6-8 July 2016
- Geneva Peace Talks, 21 September
- Geneva Peace Week, 7-11 November 2016, tbc
- Annual Meeting, November, 9 November 2016, 9.00-13.00, tbc

7. Contact

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Speakers on back cover from top left to right:

*Sean Altshuler, Ozong Agborsangaya-Fiteu, Irene Santiago, Ebba Åkerman, Séverin Yao Kouamé
Brian Ganson, Antonio Dovizio, Rim Turkmani, Tareke Brhane, Marina Peter
Henk-Jan Brinkman, Sarah Noble, Tyler Wolf, Michael Møller, Alexia Bonato
Isabelle Zakman, Caroline Galvin, Gabriele Schlipf (artist), Caty Clément, Thomas G. Weiss
Rashad Ali, Helena Puig Larrauri, Hugo Slim, Anna Alvazzi, Carl Ungerer, Jason Tower
Katia Papagianni, Michael Brown, Claude Bruderlein, Anna Leissing, Eliezer Rabinovici, Greg Boyle*

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