

PaRD SDG 16 Scoping Study

*Partnering with Local Faith Actors to
Support Peaceful and Inclusive Societies*

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JOINT LEARNING INITIATIVE on
FAITH & LOCAL COMMUNITIES

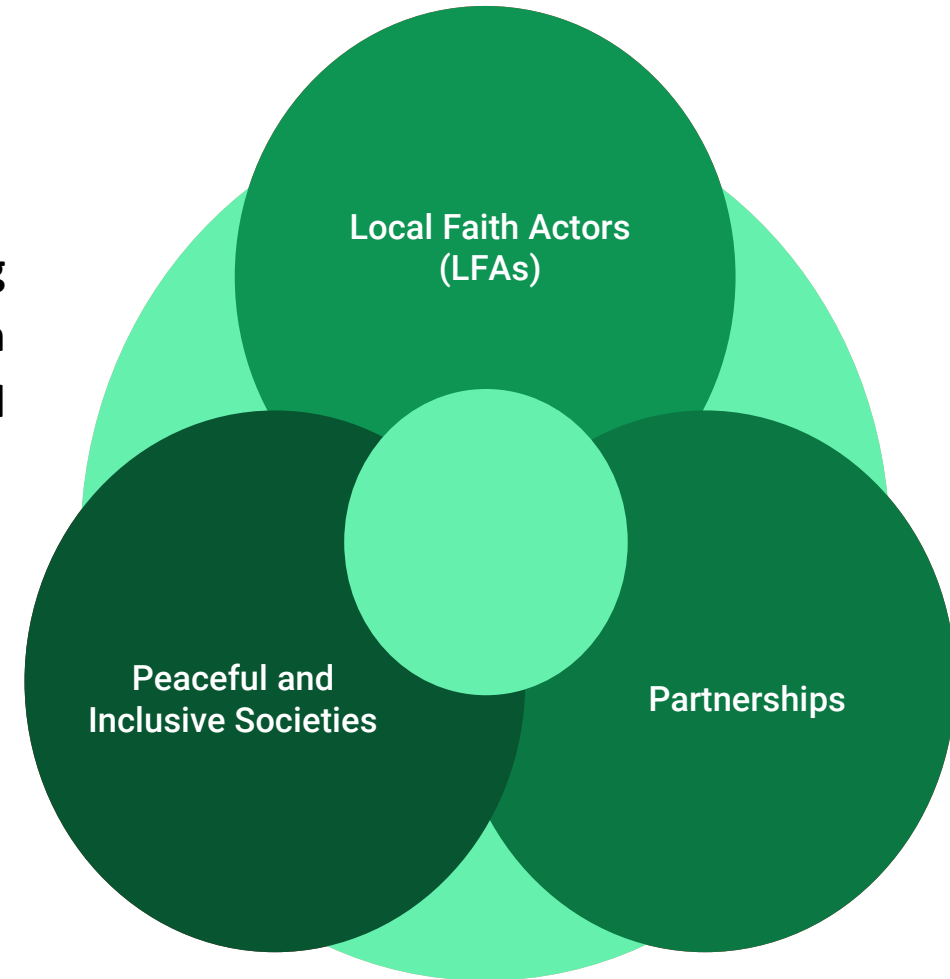
Scoping Study Focus

Problem Statement:

Faith actors play a fundamental role in fostering resilience, preventing violent conflict, and sustaining peace. At the same time, challenges remain to establishing fruitful partnerships between international actors and local faith actors (LFAs).

These include:

1. A lack or inaccessibility of documented and disseminated evidence, especially to synthesize disparate and diverse LFA initiatives worldwide
2. The lack of clear and coordinated efforts towards implementable actions to improve partnership between LFAs and international actors



Launched today!

**JOINT LEARNING INITIATIVE on
FAITH & LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

PaRD
International Partnership on
Religion and Sustainable Development

Partnering with Local Faith Actors to Support Peaceful and Inclusive Societies



A joint work of the Joint Learning Initiative on
Faith & Local Communities and the PaRD work-stream
on SDG 16: peace, justice and strong institutions

Work-stream co-leads:

K A I C I I D
CIID
D I A L O G U E
C E N T R E

The Network for
Religious and
Traditional
Peacemakers



OCRS
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

- 103 resources reviewed
- 10 case studies
- 2 areas covered in detail
 - South and Southeast Asia
 - Myanmar
 - Thailand
 - Bangladesh
 - Afghanistan
 - Lake Chad Basin
 - Central African Republic
 - Nigeria
 - Cameroon
 - Togo
- 14 interviews with key informants

Background Context

Policy

- Marrakesh Declaration
- Global Compact on Refugees: faith-based actors in conflict prevention and reconciliation
- Triple Nexus - humanitarian-development-peace
- Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that Could Lead to Atrocity Crimes

Projects and Research

- Interfaith Dialogue on Violent Extremism (iDove)
- Muslim-Christian Dialogue Forum, Nigeria
- Tradition- and faith-oriented insider mediators (TFIMs) as Crucial Actors in Conflict Transformation,
- CAR Interfaith Platform
- CRS' CIRCA (Capacity for Interreligious Community Action)
- EcoPeace Middle East's Jordan River Project
- United Refugee and Host Churches, Kakuma - distributive justice

Key Findings

- LFAs - both beneficiaries and partners. Default?
- Media literacy
- Inclusivity/participation
- Humanitarian-development-peace nexus
- Trust building
- Brokers
- Levels of engagement

Recommendations

- Contextualize! Contextual analysis, contextualisation of tools
- Capacity sharing



Case Study Examples: Media

Bangladesh

Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)

The STRIVE (Strengthening Resilience to Violence and Extremism through Community Radio) Program

- The STRIVE program is aimed at raising awareness around countering violent extremism in local, rural communities in Bangladesh and at strengthening community radios' skills in addressing violent extremism.
- 2017-2018
- The direct targets of the pilot project were **fifty young community radio journalists and broadcasters**, and 3,000 rural community people (youth and young women in particular), with an indirect target of around 20,000 listeners.
- **Online/offline approach**, so the activities include radio magazines and talk shows (with a phone line for the audience to ask questions) as well as gatherings in the communities (e.g., courtyard meetings, Community Radio Listeners' Club (RLC), Youth Clubs, discussions in schools).

Case Study Example: Youth Participation and Nexus

Cameroon

Local Youth Corner Cameroon

The Creating Skills for Peace program

- The target group consists of around **5000 young inmates**, of which 300 have been identified and trained as peer educators on a number of different skills, including fashion design and agricultural skills.
- The life skills trainings (which take place three times a week) also include peacebuilding activities with peacemakers from the community and religious leaders.
 - Sports
 - Education (Libraries, essay competition)
 - Trauma healing – **psychosocial and spiritual counseling**

Full report available on the website

JLI: www.jliflc.com

PaRD: <http://www.partner-religion-development.org/>