

ISSUE >> #5

THEIR VOICES



PEACE IN THEIR EYES

GRASSROOTS APPROACHES TO **PEACEBUILDING**

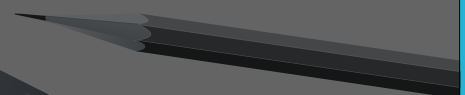
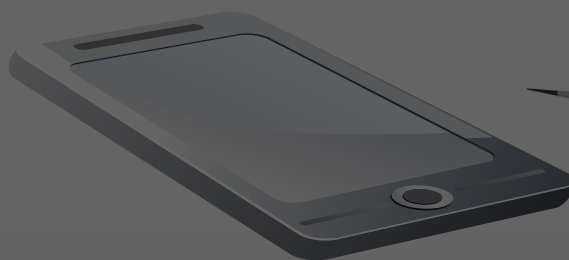
>>> THE CASE OF LEBANON

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Executive Summary | 02

PEACEBUILDING approach concerns transforming and detecting conflict root causes, through combined efforts on all levels; community, national, and international.

PEACEBUILDING, as a concept has been discussed amongst academics for the past 40 years; and later adopted by the UN in the 90's.

One of the advancements to **PEACEBUILDING** is the grassroots approach; a concept that aims to enhance peace through integrating communities with one another away from their differences.

Such approaches are critical and very sensitive to their contexts. That is to say, when directly dealing with communities, grassroots projects should tackle the needs of the locals, the nature of conflicts and the dynamics. The process of implementation in such practices and approaches, can be through various activities that should be inclusive and based on local ownership.

Grassroots **PEACEBUILDING** has various faces in Lebanon: Dealing with the Past, Dialogue Spaces, Community based Initiatives, Playback Theatre, Peace Camps, Dialogue Spaces and Story Telling with ex-combatants....

Acknowledging

the impacts of grassroots peacebuilding approaches, when applied strategically, raised the following questions:

- How can challenges of grassroots peacebuilding approaches be tackled?
- What scales up the impact of grassroots peacebuilding in Lebanon?

Based on field stories, observations, analysis, and through collected recommendations from two roundtables; this paper serves to discuss the two questions raised above.

HOPe's community-based initiatives' impact analysis, revealed that scaling up impact is influenced to a large extent by both the processes of planning and implementation.

Moreover, recommendations included in the paper were collected from roundtable discussions, with NGO members, local community, and activist participants, discussed ways of scaling up impact, and addressing challenges faced by grassroots peacebuilding approaches in Lebanon.

As the title states

“PEACE IN THEIR EYES”

this paper reflects grassroots perspectives about peacebuilding approaches in Lebanon through comparative analysis of a sample grassroots approach.



I. Peacebuilding Definition:



PEACEBUILDING concept is an elastic term, defined in various ways by stakeholders and scholars. It serves to encompass efforts on community, national, and international levels in order to transform and detect roots causes of conflict.

Peacebuilding aims to reduce the risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities at all levels for conflict management, and to lay the foundation for sustainable peace and development. It is a complex, long-term process of creating the necessary conditions for sustainable peace. Peacebuilding measures address core issues that affect the functioning of society and the State, and seek to enhance the capacity of the State to effectively and legitimately carry out its core functions.⁽¹⁾

+ ⁽¹⁾ <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology>

II. History of Peacebuilding:



The term Peacebuilding has originated in the field of peace studies over forty years ago in 1975; where Johan Galtung discussed the three approaches to peace in his work (Peacekeeping, Peacemaking, Peacebuilding).⁽²⁾ When discussing Peacebuilding, Galtung mentioned in his article the mechanisms of peace should be built in the structure of the society and the system. These structures thus remove causes of war and offer alternatives in situations where conflict exists. Galtung's observations constituted the predecessors of today's understanding of peacebuilding, it being an endeavor that aims to construct sustainable peace by tackling "root causes" of conflict and eliciting domestic efforts and capacities to resolve conflict and manage peace.

John Paul Lederach, another key scholar in peace studies in 1997, called for the expansion of the concept of peacebuilding. He mentioned that peacebuilding is a social construct, thus it involved various approaches, and sustainable processes to ensure conflict transformation⁽³⁾. Lederach, spoke of conflict transformation as a holistic and multi-faceted approach, that changed relationships from negative to positive. That is to say that tackling behaviors, attitudes, and structures, is essential to the human experience on all levels spiritual, social, economic, political, and military levels. Adding up international and local NGOs working on peacebuilding, had a major role in developing peace programs, and conduct research related to the topic.

Since the creation of the United Nations, it had a vital role in reducing conflicts in various regions around the globe through the mediation of peace agreements and ensuring their executions. Moreover, in 1992, the Agenda of Peace was published by the UN, making post-conflict peacebuilding official in the UN missions.

⁽²⁾ Johan Galtung, "Three Approaches to Peace: Peacekeeping, Peacemaking, and Peacebuilding," in *Peace, War and Defense: Essays in Peace Research*, Vol. II, ed. Johan Galtung (Copenhagen: Christian Ejlertsen, 1976), 297-298.

⁽³⁾ John Paul Lederach, *Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Institute of Peace Press, 1997), 20

III. What is grassroots peace building? 04

Grassroots peace building is a bottom-up approach, that aims to enhance peace through integrating communities with one another, despite their differences. Thus it is related to the context where it is operating, people's relationships, environments, and resources. Although considered more challenging than the liberal way (top-down) approach to peacebuilding; grassroots peacebuilding can be more sustainable when applied correctly and strategically.

Grassroots peacebuilding focuses on local ownership and actors rather than external ones. That is to say that incorporating stakeholder local communities in peace processes and initiatives, contributes to peacebuilding on a national level, through the spread of knowledge and actions.⁽⁴⁾ Such peacebuilding strategies empowers individuals, and creates environments that are prone to maintain peace. Moreover, it fosters new relationships between interacting groups recovering from conflict or existing in possible conflicting areas.



Community mobilization is an essential part of grassroots peace building, where it creates better conflict analysis and resolution mechanisms, and increases awareness. Thus community mobilizing techniques can continue to be effective even after programs end;⁽⁵⁾ through encouraging public participation, and allowing local communities to acknowledge needs and resources available.

Local community inclusion in conflict transformation processes is essential for it aids in self-sufficiency and sustain development on the long run, were participants become owners of the process. Through the help of implementing bodies whether non-governmental organizations, governmental, etc... participants gain needed knowledge, skills, and capacities through trainings to conduct peacebuilding activities on grassroots level.

Strategic peacebuilding does function on various levels, incorporating all stakeholders that complement each other. Therefore, this creates an environment supportive of peace and its sustainability. In other words, working on laws and regulations is essential; however, not efficient without tackling conflict's root causes and integrating the society through dialogue processes.

As for implementation techniques, programs often network with local actors such as NGOs or community groups or centers.

Lebanon hosts the largest number of refugees per capita (UNHCR,2019)⁽⁶⁾. Being a small country with poor infrastructure, heavy economic burdens, and scarce resources; Lebanon hosts Palestinian, Syrian, Iraqi, Sudanese, and other nationalities. Thus, there exists diversified cultures and traditions between these parties from one end, and a scarcity of resources from the other. This in turn created a heavy burden on the Lebanese host communities; that is to say that factors such as these mentioned, promote conflicts and increase tensions on community levels where these parties interact. Moreover, Lebanese and Syrians share history, in which unfortunate events occurred in during the Lebanese civil war. Therefore, perceptions and perspectives stigmatized the relationship between both nationalities, also promoting tension. Adding up, Lebanese communities still suffer from the effects of the civil war, and tensions still exist between sects and areas.







V. | Grassroots peace building experience in Lebanon

Peacebuilding and Social Stability are two significant intervention sectors in Lebanon tackling tensions between local host communities and refugee communities that have increased over the years, since the start of the refugee crisis. Therefore, shifting perspectives between conflicting interacting groups and entities decreases tension in communities and allows for better relationships to be established. Hence, grassroots peacebuilding is a strategic intervention technique, characterized by spreading the message of peace, acceptance, and providing dialogue spaces, which in turn transforms a society gradually and connects people.

⁽⁶⁾<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/UNHCR-Lebanon-Operational-fact-sheet-January-2019.pdf>



Grassroots peacebuilding projects are diverse in Lebanon. Some of the interventions shared through Round Table discussions were the following:

-  **Dealing with the Past (Memory of War):** providing dialogue spaces for communities and youths, through working with teachers and civil society, to discuss the past conflicts in Lebanon in order to increase acceptance for different opinions and experiences regarding this topic.
-  **Fighters for peace:** characterized by ex-fighters in the civil war and other armed conflicts, sharing their experiences during the war in dialogue sessions with communities, working on improvisation theaters, and raising awareness regarding the risks of holding arms.
-  **Playback theatres** are improvised and interactive theatres, where audience share their personal stories in a safe space that are recreated on the stage by actors and artists. This platform and re-enactment has a cathartic effect on the person, whether sharing social, personal, past, conflict, or any type of story.
-  **Social peace initiatives:** characterized by the implementation of an initiative having a message of peace for the community, by the community. Initiatives are based on group efforts tackling the needs of the society, in order to spread peace and harmony.
-  **Peace Camps** with youth or children, are conducted when a group of youth volunteer to establish a camp having various activities from awareness sessions, recreational games, reflection exercises, and arts, over the span of a week. These camps promote engagement between the participants.
-  **Dialogue spaces:** characterized by providing safe spaces for communities to interact. It has different faces, can bring together local and host communities to tackle topics that interest both, or can be through town hall meetings between public sector and communities.

The information above, represents some examples of grassroots peacebuilding projects in Lebanon.

VI. HOPE's approach to grassroots peacebuilding:

This paper serves to analyze HOPE's approach to grassroots peacebuilding as a sample, in order to reflect on practices that attend to increasing the impact of grassroots peacebuilding approaches in general, and tackle the challenges faced. HOPE's implementation strategy to grassroots peacebuilding, begins with outreaching participant groups through partner local and international NGOs in different areas. Groups attend a three-day social peace workshop, in which they focus on the context of the area where they reside, analyze peace & conflicts, and reflect on personal peace. At the end of the workshop and through dialogue sessions, participants brainstorm social initiatives based on the available resources from one side, and the needs in their area from another side. The common aspiration of all initiatives is to create dialogue spaces for people from all backgrounds to interact.

Syrian initiative participant- Bar Elias: "The most beautiful thing was the integration and familiarity that was between the Lebanese and the Syrians on various trips. The two sides were afraid at first to spend a day with each other, but then we danced the "Dabkeh" and it brought us together in addition to the exchange of ideas and common customs; thus, we became friends."

A. Theory of Change:

The grassroots peacebuilding methodology, as mentioned above, is implemented with local communities (host & refugee), through conducting Social Peace Workshops (levels 1, 2, ...) by HOPE's team.

The workshops thus provide a safe space for participants to analyze their contexts and reflect together on their perceptions about peace. Moving on from here, participants thus, experience a shift in the way through which they perceive peace, and their capacity to enhance it in their society. After experiencing the shift in this regard, participants identify personal and group resources to develop their own peacebuilding initiative.

Through initiative advancement process, HOPE conducts Initiative Building activities and Dialogue sessions with participants, where space is created for people from different backgrounds to meet and dialogue.

Therefore, local community groups experience, as a result of their own implemented initiatives, a positive transformation either at an individual level or community one. As a result, social peace is enhanced within local communities in intervention areas around Lebanon.

B. HOPE's Activity Statistics:

In the past four years, HOPE has conducted the following Social Peace Activities:

- Number of conducted Social Peace Workshops (level-1): 79
- Number of conducted Social Peace Workshops (level-2): 6
- Number of participants exceeded 845 people.
- Number of initiatives was 37 in four governorates where HOPE is operating
- Number of beneficiaries from the communities exceeded 4000 people.

C. Comparative Analysis:

Lebanese Initiative participant- Adwe: "We are now recognized as women who have a role in the society."

Implemented community-based initiatives supported by HOPE, differed from each other based on the following characteristics:

- Type,
- Description and purpose,
- Areas of implementation,
- Budget,
- Participants' age groups and sex,
- Implementation duration,
- Beneficiaries' backgrounds.

The level of achieved impact varied from one initiative to another. Therefore, comparing different initiatives' impacts vis-à-vis their different characteristics, in order to identify determining factors that contribute to the increase or decrease in impact level, is fundamental in this paper.

Taking into consideration that the context where an initiative was held and the circumstances surrounding it, have a tremendous influence on its impact; it is notable to mention that most of the initiatives were implemented in relatively similar contexts.

As long as this paper aims to answer questions related to scaling up impact and tackling challenges in grassroots peacebuilding approaches, it will look at a comparative analysis of HOPE's initiatives as a sample of grassroots approach to peacebuilding.

D. Impact Analysis of Initiatives:

Assessing peacebuilding impact is generally subjective, influenced by the observations of the implementing team, in addition to the perceptions and personal experiences of the participants with whom the assessments were carried.

How is an impact measured?

Impact occurs on both personal and community levels. Personal changes are related to behaviors and attitudes towards the self or the other, while community changes are characterized by social relationships, interactions, and shift in perceptions. HOPE conducts impact assessments in forms of interviews with group members using the Most Significant Change- MSC impact assessment guide, in addition to asking questions that tackle challenges, personal changes, reflections, and grassroots' stories. Sample MSC question: "Looking back over the last month, what do you think was the most significant change that occurred in this community after the initiative implementation?" Moreover, beneficiaries are also interviewed to collect reflections, opinions, and stands on implemented initiatives.

Question raised by HOPE's observations: "How is sustainability achievable in grassroots peace building projects?"

VII. Analysis and Findings

A. Initiatives' Categorization:

In order to compare and analyze the initiatives conducted in the past four years; each one was classified under a given category. However, this categorization aims to simplify the analysis process, knowing that each initiative might combine more than one category.

Therefore, the classification is as follows:

Category/ Type	Sample Examples	Implementation Number
Recreational initiatives	activities, camps, entertainment	9
Goodwill Gestures initiatives	distribution of products, gratitude	6
Common Spaces initiatives	community halls, tents, gardens	5
Cultural initiatives	library, arts, cinema, media	5
Tradition Based initiatives	traditional food, sweets, tradition related	5
Awareness Raising Initiatives	maternal health, general health, gender studies	3
Livelihoods initiatives	vocational workshops	2
Skills Development initiatives	sewing, pottery, basic literacy	2

B. Examples of High, Low, & Sustainable initiatives:

High Impact Initiatives:

Name of Initiative	Peace Purvey – مونة السلام
Location	Tripoli – Jabal Mehsen
Duration	April 9 – August 23rd, 2019
Participants	Syrian & Lebanese women amongst them were mothers of martyrs in Jabal Mehsen.
Category	Goodwill Gestures

Initiative Description

The group, was very committed, interactive, and energetic. After attending the social peace workshop, participants' perceptions of how to interact with their community changed. They believed in the need to change the war environment in the area, not wanting other mothers to lose their sons or husbands. Their strong belief, motivated them to work on their personal peace plans and to implement a very organized initiative.

They decided to produce various kinds of food stock such as: rose water, apple cider vinegar, strawberry jam and olives; all to be placed in a basket and distributed to 200 families from areas around Jabal Mehsen (Bab al-Tebbene, al-Baqqar, Hay al-Tanak). The aim of this initiative is to create new relationship between these regions and break the stereotypical image of the civil war and issues of Tripoli.

Impact Description

Participants, expressed how they felt at ease after the whole process was over. They became a supportive group for one another, where they shared experiences, sorrows, and laughter. Moreover, the ladies expressed that how their personal peace plans made them feel alive again, and want to influence their families and friends to pursue it. The implemented initiative, allowed some of them to visit their old houses in the areas around Jabal Mehsen, before the war occurred. Also, they had the chance to talk to other mothers, and women from the surrounding areas, expressing peace messages, and a fresh start.

It is also notable to mention that women from Beb al-Tibbene area and Baqqar, have expressed their motivation and willingness to reciprocate the peace message they delivered. Adding up, the implementing group is planning of creating a small business from the products they are specialized in, being olives, Rose water, jam, ...)

Low Impact Initiatives:

Every effort is important and aids change; therefore, this section will not include the identification of the initiative or photos serving appreciation for all efforts made.

Location

North

Duration

May till July 2018

Participants

Syrian & Lebanese participants.

Category

Recreational

Beneficiaries

Syrian and Lebanese community



Initiative Description

The group consisted of both males and females from different age groups. Group expressed motivation, and commitment to the workshop. They had various resources within them; however, the recycling initiative they picked had only two people from the group who were well equipped with it, causing not all resources to be invested in. The Participants conducted activities in a Hall originally built by another SPW group. The group was doing recycling workshops for beneficiaries as part of environmental responsibility. It also included, recreational activities with children. Therefore, the initiative was only able to create an impact on the children of the school that was next to the implementing location. People from the community were finding it difficult to participate in the initiative, since the hall was relatively far and the road to it was not well paved. Adding up, the community, was not interested in this kind of initiative where they preferred to experience recreational activities to have fun. Thus, the group was demotivated after first reactions from community, that was not interested in attending these vocational workshops.

Impact Description

The initiative scored a low impact due to three main factors, the first being the location of the implemented initiative, which made it hard for participants in the workshops to arrive. Moreover, the group was not able to invest in the resources they identified in their group, which affected the activities' processes. Adding up the community was not interested in the performed activities, which also caused minimal attendance.

Sustainable Initiatives:

Name of Initiative	Generation of Knowledge
Location	North
Duration	May to July 2018 (ongoing!!!)
Participants	Syrian & Lebanese participants
Category	Cultural
Beneficiaries	Syrian and Lebanese men and women in the area

Initiative Description

The group consisted of males and females from the village, who were harmonious and creative. They believed in the desperate need for them to change the stereotypes in their communities regarding women roles & education, working children, close-mindedness, ... Their motivation was vivid during the SPW workshop, where they expressed excitement to the cause. The objective of their initiative was to create a safe space where they would be able to promote openness and shift perspectives.

Participants installed a public library and managed to get books for adults and children, in order to provide access to different types of books for the whole village. It also aimed to expand children's horizons by reading various good stories for them, and to offer interested people in literacy the push to start reading and writing. They also installed a video projector so that they could screen and discuss movies and documentaries. The initiative also gave the participants the support they needed to restore their center, which was in a very bad condition.

Impact Description

The library, is still functioning until today, in the center that became a kindergarten for children, providing a play area, and activities. The group was recognized for their efforts, and thus people have been encouraged to read again. Moreover, some people attended the library to learn basic Arabic literacy. Today, the village shows enthusiasm when this team works on a project, for they are proud that their daughters and sons are improving their village.

C. Initiatives impact Analysis:

NGO member- participant at RT discussion: “The duration of most implemented projects in PB is irrelevant to planting the seed for solid change in society. It demands flexibility in time.”

As mentioned earlier, all initiatives differed based on their various characteristics. Also, the level of impact was different from one initiative to another based on the conducted assessment. Hence, the question in hand is; which of these factors has influence on the achieved impact? To answer this question, different initiatives’ impacts had to be compared vis-à-vis their different characteristics:

TYPE

When looking at initiatives being assessed as high or low impact, we noticed that all categories are found in both; therefore, the type of initiative was not affecting its impact scale.

AREA

Observation of areas where high impacts occurred, included all four main governorates where HOPE operates, being: Beirut, North, Beqaa, & Mount Lebanon.

BUDGET

All initiatives’ budgets ranged from 700\$ to 6000\$. However, initiatives scoring high or low impacts had budgets that fell on the whole scale, from the lowest to the highest amount. Therefore, we can claim that the initiative budget doesn’t determine the level of its impact.

DURATION

Initiatives having a longer time duration notably had a high impact; however, some exceptions were made in short-term initiatives, where high impact was also scored.

SEX AND AGE GROUPS

In both high and low impact initiatives, participants were from all age groups and both sexes.

BENEFICIARIES NATIONALITIES

Beneficiaries were coming from diverse nationalities with a majority of Lebanese, Syrian, and Palestinian; and from all age groups.

What scales up impact, then?

After conducting the given analysis, and according to HOPE's team experience in implementing community-based initiatives using the grassroots peacebuilding approach, the following has been deduced:



It is all about the **PROCESS**.

This section means to address the “process” that begins with the conducted workshops, considering the dynamics of the group, until the planning and implementation phases of the initiatives. HOPE field team observed some specific points that emphasize the importance of the process. These points include inter alia:

- Investing in participants' existing resources (skills, connections, materials...).
- Participants strong beliefs in the concepts of social change and volunteering.
- Attentiveness to initiatives details given by the participants.
- Accessibility to the initiative's location by the participants and the beneficiaries.
- Commitment of partner NGOs.
- Motivation sparked in participants, after early reactions from their communities.

Hence, the impact of implemented initiatives is determined not only during the implementation phase, but throughout the whole journey; from the very beginning of the process when participants meet and conduct context and conflict analysis; until the very end when they celebrate their achievements.

Lebanese Local Community beneficiary in initiative- Beb al-Tibneh: “I think it is important for us to take a similar step forward and implement an initiative towards Jabal Mehsen and surrounding areas.”

VIII. Challenges:

Syrian local community-participant at RT discussion: “People here gave up on change, and do not fully trust NGO work more.”

The grassroots peacebuilding approach faces a various number of challenges. Some of these challenges have been identified during the roundtables:

- Ensuring the sustainability of projects is compromised by short-termism, as concepts and values are not well embedded.
- Lack of commitment and active engagement of some community groups.
- Assessing the sensitivity of topics, that may cause an emotional impact on participants, such as dealing with the past and the memory of war.
- Hopelessness when it comes to structural changes in the society.
- Participants outreach, recruitment, and achieving team's harmony.
- Lack of proper coordination between L/INGOs.
- Discriminatory measures taken by municipalities, in addition to predominant hate speech that compromise efforts.
- Constant public criticism to peacebuilding, and unpredictable reactions to such approaches from local communities.
- Limited resources to properly assess impact of programs.
- The slow incorporation of Conflict Sensitivity in projects' planning and implementation.
- Poor engagement of the public sector in the peacebuilding programs.

Activist- participant in RT discussion: “Peacebuilding is a utopian fancy concept for a community that doesn’t have its needs provided.”

IX. Scaling- up Impact and Overcoming Challenges

NGO body- participant in RT discussion: “We as NGOs don’t always have the resources to assess impacts of grassroots project on community levels, for change is gradual and not always tangible. Moreover, we should figure out tools to better assess personal impacts.”

Through roundtables discussions and based on field experiences, and stories collected from fellow NGOs, a set of recommendations have been gathered that serve to scale up impact of grassroots peacebuilding in its different approaches.

Recommendations: Scaling- up impact

- Promoting and looking into alternative creative approaches in programs’ designs and implementation strategies.
- Specifying the concept of volunteering, its conditions and roles before calling for volunteers.
- Encouraging dialogue sessions between communities and implementing NGOs to specify needs; “Listening with Humility”.
- Creating sustainable strategies based on context analysis and needs assessments.
- Identifying what a safe space is and creating ones that promote trust.
- Involving corporates from private sector to support NGOs’ work in order to increase efficiency of implementation.
- Feedback on process and follow up after projects implementation ends.
- Emphasizing on local ownership and full individual involvement, which enhances both the sense of belonging to the project, and the belief in the cause.

Recommendations: Overcoming Challenges

- Attentiveness to the effect of opening sensitive topics (e.g. dealing with the past), and thus planning projects accordingly taking into account psychological first aid.
- Mapping and in-depth context analysis, through possible cooperation with local NGOs in the areas of implementation.
- Town Hall meetings, to encourage communication between communities and NGOs to build trust and good relationships with targeted societies.
- Sharing responsibility with the private sector, encouraging and benefiting from Corporate Social Responsibility to ensure sustainability.
- Involving public sector in grassroots PB, and securing access to their facilities.
- Understanding target participants to secure full dedication (their needs, time, motivation, belief in change...).
- Skills development, time flexibility and increase in duration of implementation, in order for initiative’s goals to be embedded within the group and the community.

Lebanese civil society parties’ member- participant at RT discussions: “What assures us that conflicts will not return between vulnerable communities, when politics is involved?”

X. Conclusion

**“Change will not come from the top;
Change will come from mobilized grassroots.”- B.O.**

Community mobilization is an essential part of **grassroots peace building**, where it creates better conflict analysis and resolution mechanisms, and increases awareness. Grassroots peace building should be characterized by local ownership, where the community acts towards peace in their community, area, or country.

Grassroots peacebuilding, although considered to be a complementary approach, is an effective one when implemented critically. Although it faces many challenges especially those related to the context of its implementation, it is notable to mention that through partnerships and collaborations on different levels between working NGOs, results will be more sustainable.

Moreover, building trust with the community is the basis of grassroots peacebuilding, which encourages people to believe in change.

Hence, NGOs working on Peacebuilding ought to incorporate grassroots within their programs. Moreover, attentiveness to the process and duration, is an asset and a must, which assists to scale up the impact. Also working on group dynamics to establish harmony in the process, increases opportunities for better community impact results from one end and better personal changes on the other.

Adding up, sharing experiences and lessons learnt in this particular field is an asset for ongoing improvement and tools development. Moreover, collaboration with both the private and public sectors can ensure more sustainability of the projects and mitigate some of the challenges faced in the field.

Grassroots peacebuilding is essential to build peace and sustain it in communities who have suffered wars and conflicts, and who are longing for a future that reconciles with the past and its wounds.



Xi. Acknowledgements

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