



# THE PEACEBUILDING EVALUATION CONSORTIUM

Improved Learning and Evaluation for Better Peacebuilding

The **Peacebuilding Evaluation Consortium (PEC)** is a field-wide effort to address the unique challenges of measuring results and learning from peacebuilding programs. The consortium includes the Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP), CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, Mercy Corps, and Search for Common Ground (SFCG) with support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The PEC convenes donors, scholars, policymakers, local and international practitioners, and evaluation experts in unprecedented open dialogue, exchange, and joint learning. The goal of the PEC is to strengthen monitoring, evaluation and learning practices and promote a strong culture of adaptive management throughout the peacebuilding field. The PEC fosters field-wide change through three strategic and reinforcing initiatives: 1) Developing Methodological Rigor in Peacebuilding Evaluation and Adaptive Learning; 2) Improving the Culture of Evaluation and Shared Learning; and 3) Promoting Evidence-Based Policy and Practice.

Peacebuilding and violence reduction programs are implemented in complex, fragile, and conflict-affected regions. In a time of rising violence and shrinking resources, we need a more nuanced understanding of how peacebuilding design, monitoring, and evaluation can help determine best practices for a growing field. The PEC has just received a third grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, with a focus on working with peacebuilding implementers, donors and policymakers to adopt improved rigorous practices leading to a strengthened culture of learning and evaluation throughout the peacebuilding field, and better alignment between technical M&E experts and program staff.

With its international networks and expertise in convening; consensus-building; and peacebuilding design, monitoring and evaluation (DM&E), the PEC has been: 1) creating innovative, effective, and practical solutions for peacebuilding DM&E; 2) facilitating vibrant communities of practice among evaluation experts, scholars, and peacebuilding practitioners on DME for Peace at [www.dmeformpeace.org](http://www.dmeformpeace.org); 3) complementing existing evaluation platforms by engaging a range of stakeholders on the unique challenges of peacebuilding DM&E; 4) creating safe spaces for the development and transparent sharing of evidence-based policy recommendations for sustainable peace and security; and 5) addressing the systemic challenges of peacebuilding design, monitoring, and evaluation.

## Developing Methodological Rigor

The PEC is bridging the gap between state-of-the art methodologies and resource-constrained peacebuilding programs by improving the range of methods, tools, and processes available for rigorous evaluation of impacts in peacebuilding. Key resources include:

- The updated [Peacebuilding Evaluation Online Field Guide](#)
- ['Wicked Problems' in Peacebuilding Evaluation Ethics, Determining What is Good and Right](#)
- [Conflict Sensitivity in Evaluation Processes](#)
- [Thinking Evaluatively in Peacebuilding Design, Implementation, and Monitoring](#)
- [Adaptive Peacebuilding Programming through Effective Feedback Loops](#)
- An update to [Designing for Results](#)
- [Supernatural Belief and the Evaluation of Faith-based Peacebuilding](#)
- [Meta-Review of Inter-Religious Peacebuilding Program Evaluations](#)
- [Faith Matters: A Guide on DM&E of Inter-Religious Action for Peacebuilding](#)
- [Applying DM&E Strategies to Programming on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism](#)

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- *Governance and Economic Development M&E Guide*
- *Econ-Conflict Survey Tool*
- *Media for Peacebuilding M&E Guide*

**CALL TO ACTION:** Are you sharing evaluation reports? Have you or your colleagues used these resources? What has resulted from applying these resources? Tell us what you have found!

## Improving the Culture of Evaluation & Shared Learning

Peacebuilding practitioners and evaluation professionals have varied experiences in tackling the unique challenges of peacebuilding evaluation and learning. The PEC is creating safe spaces for knowledge and idea exchanges around how to put stronger peacebuilding DM&E into practice. Key activities include:

- **Changing Systems.** The PEC has created and will collaboratively refine a [Systems Map](#) illustrating the opportunities and barriers to better DM&E in peacebuilding. Working with peacebuilding practitioners and donors, PEC will use the Map, together with DM&E Standards and Guiding Principles, to support experimentation and piloting of new and improved practices. Mercy Corps will be gathering evidence from program evaluations that use PEC tools to find what best supports higher quality evaluation.
- **Training and Coaching.** To support improved DM&E practice, PEC will develop a [Training Program](#) that builds on PEC tools and other available guidance. SFCG will continue growing and adapting the [Coaching for Peace and Development Mentorship Program](#), which links existing and emerging peacebuilding practitioners to learn from one another about implementing DM&E best practices in dynamic and complex environments.
- **Online exchange.** SFCG has developed a [12-part Webinar Series for Newcomers to Peacebuilding M&E](#), which covers basic M&E topics, incorporates adult-learning pedagogy, and lessons learned from other M&E courses. The PEC will develop an additional [Webinar Course](#) to build on this webinar series. SFCG continues to host bi-weekly [M&E Thursday Talks](#), which continues to be the most popular interactive activity on the DME for Peace website.

**CALL TO ACTION:** What support would be most helpful in improving peacebuilding DM&E? Are you connected with others in the peacebuilding community? Can you offer mentoring services? Do you have experiences to share through a Thursday Talk? Tell us how you want to engage!

## Promoting Evidence-Based Policy & Practice

The PEC fosters ongoing dialogue with and among key policymakers, donors, and practitioners about what defines success and impact in the long-term change context of peacebuilding practice. Key activities include:

- **Co-Design.** Building from the energy of the [Breaking Barriers Co-Design Workshop](#) in South Africa in December 2016, PEC is facilitating an 18-month engagement focused on change management among key practitioners, donors, and scholars in the US, EU, and Africa. This collaborative co-design process will solicit human-centered, innovative, practical solutions to improving peacebuilding DM&E that organizations will use to catalyze changes in their policies and practice.
- **Frontiers of DM&E policy and practice.** PEC continues to explore and incorporate lessons from cutting-edge movements, including adaptive learning, adaptive management, and cost-effectiveness. As part of this, PEC will create two [Subsector Evidence Reviews](#) in 2018 to assess the quality of evidence on violence reduction/prevention and reconciliation programming.
- **DM&E Standards and Guiding Principles.** PEC is working on a set of [DM&E Principles](#) for the peacebuilding field to support enhanced learning, higher quality evidence, and stronger practice.

**CALL TO ACTION:** Are you prepared to share your experiences, evidence of results, and evaluation reports with the PEC to support these endeavors? Are you interested in engaging in co-design? Contact the PEC!

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