

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND PEACEBUILDING AFFAIRS

Multi-Year Appeal

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

FOREWORD

In 2025, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) was able to sustain critical engagement in some of the world's most fragile and complex situations, thanks in large part to the continued commitment of our partners. Violent conflicts intensified and multiplied, driving unprecedented demand for United Nations preventive diplomacy, mediation and political engagement, even as the Organization faced mounting financial pressures. Notably, DPPA saw a marked drop in voluntary contributions. Against this backdrop, the flexibility and predictability of donor support proved decisive.

MYA funding enabled the Department to support dialogue and political solutions in contexts such as the Middle East, Sudan and Haiti; to provide timely, field based analysis that informed senior UN leadership and Member State decision making, and to respond rapidly to emerging risks through surge capacity and mediation support.

Donor contributions also helped advance credible and inclusive electoral processes. In 2025, UN electoral assistance supported peaceful elections and strengthened national institutions in diverse settings, while adapting to emerging challenges such as digital risks, shrinking civic space and heightened polarization.

MYA funding also allowed DPPA to continue investing in innovation and inclusion, expanding digital dialogues, data driven analysis and local peace initiatives that broadened participation and amplified the voices of women, youth and other groups often excluded from peace and political processes.

This Annual Report illustrates a clear lesson: preventive diplomacy delivers results when it is backed with sustained and flexible support. Contributions to the MYA are an investment in timely action, cost effective prevention and durable political solutions.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all donors whose support made this work possible. I hope we can count on your continued partnership to enable us to act early and remain engaged where it matters most to prevent conflict and build peace.



Rosemary A. DiCarlo

Under-Secretary-General for
Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

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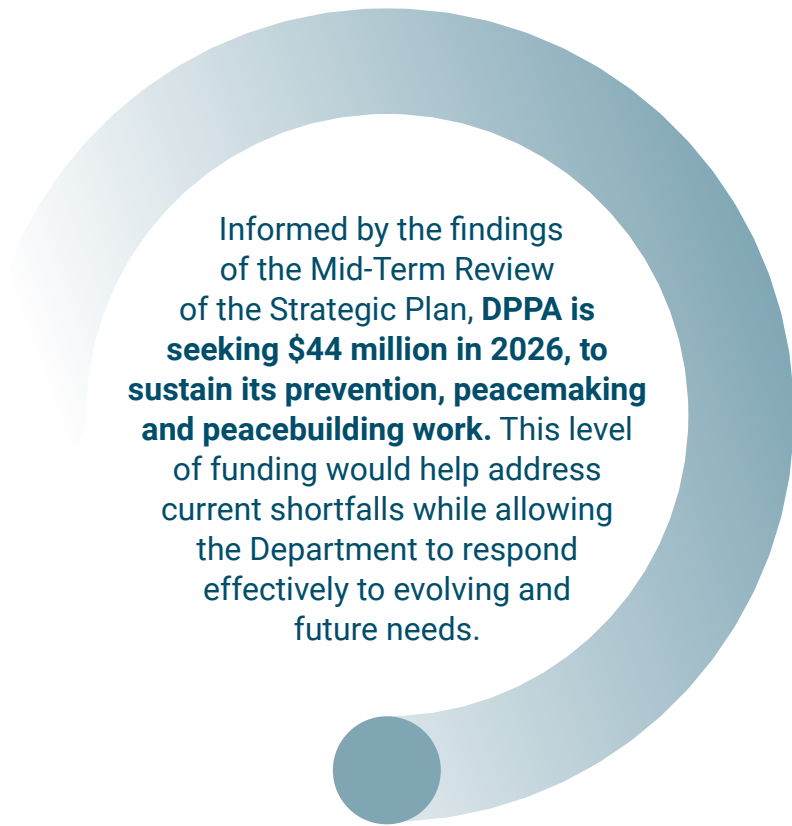
INTRODUCTION

In 2025, DPPA delivered on its mandate amid growing financial constraints on the United Nations. The Department was impacted in two distinct ways: by the liquidity and budgetary challenges facing the Organization; and by a significant decrease in the voluntary funding that makes much of its work possible. Thirty-three partners contributed a total of \$22.8 million to the Multi-Year Appeal (MYA), DPPA's main voluntary funding instrument. This represented a 21 per cent decrease compared to 2024 and was 47 per cent below the requested target of \$43 million. 2025 was also marked by a third consecutive year of declining annual contributions to DPPA's Multi-Year Appeal. This trend is expected to continue into 2026.

The reduction in funding was accompanied by a deterioration in funding *quality*, with a growing shift toward earmarked contributions, which now represent approximately 50 of the total funding.

At the same time, 2025 saw a sharp increase in demand for DPPA's support, driven by an ever-growing number of violent conflicts and crises requiring sustained engagement. The funding shortfall required difficult trade-offs, but careful prioritization and management of MYA resources nonetheless enabled DPPA to maintain targeted support in critical situations, contributing to de-escalation, crisis management and conflict prevention efforts.

In 2025, contingency measures limited impact at Headquarters, in the field, and across partnerships, including an overall 30 per cent reduction in activities (see [page 60](#) for details on the impact of the funding shortfall).



Informed by the findings of the Mid-Term Review of the Strategic Plan, **DPPA is seeking \$44 million in 2026, to sustain its prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding work.** This level of funding would help address current shortfalls while allowing the Department to respond effectively to evolving and future needs.

MYA funding enables DPPA to operate simultaneously at three mutually reinforcing levels, as highlighted in the Mid-Term Review of the Strategic Plan, ensuring coherence between global policy leadership, regional engagement and country-level support.

How MYA Boosts DPPA's Impact



HQ Advisory & Political Support

- Strategic Analysis
- Conflict Prevention
- The Secretary-General's Good Offices
- Security Council Support

Sustains Decision-Making to Avert Crises & Advance Solutions Globally



Surge Deployments

- Rapid Crisis Response
- Mediation & Electoral Support

Prevents Escalation & Supports Dialogue



Integrated Field Support

- Support for SPMs & Liaison Offices » Connects Field & HQ

Connects Field & HQ in Fragile & Conflict Settings

GOAL 1

PREVENTING AND RESOLVING VIOLENT CONFLICTS AND SUTAINING PEACE

50%

of departmental analytical
products contained gender
sensitive analysis

117

SPM leadership briefings
to the Security Council
and the General Assembly
were supported by DPPA

158

country settings/sub-regions
where DPPA engaged on
prevention and peacebuilding
issues on a regular basis
and in a structured manner
with RCOs/UNCTs

Supporting DPPA field engagements

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SUPPORTING DPPA FIELD ENGAGEMENTS

Enhancing monitoring and analysis in Ukraine

In 2025, the war in Ukraine continued to exact a devastating human toll while eroding global security, political stability and economic development. Despite intensifying diplomatic efforts and growing calls for a ceasefire, the situation on the ground remained highly volatile, with persistent risks of escalation and spillover.

MYA funding enabled DPPA to remain actively engaged in support of diplomatic efforts towards de-escalation and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in line with the UN Charter, international law and relevant UN resolutions.



AREAS OF ACTION

The Liaison Office in Kyiv, fully funded through MYA contributions, enables the Department to maintain an important field presence and fulfil its unique mandate within the UN system.

- Sustain political engagement on the ground.** The Liaison Office maintains regular engagement with Ukrainian authorities, civil society and international partners, providing the United Nations with first-hand insights into political and security developments.
- Enhance political analysis and reporting.** Field-based monitoring and analysis from the Liaison Office informs United Nations decision-makers. DPPA's regular analytical reporting further supports the Department's political advice to the Secretary-General and senior UN leadership. The Liaison Office also provides impartial updates to Member States through Security Council briefings on developments and their broader implications.

- Respond to escalating tensions.** MYA resources allow DPPA to rapidly assess emerging developments, identify risks of escalation and highlight potential entry points for diplomatic engagement. This supports coordinated preparedness across the Secretariat for potential negotiations, ceasefires or other arrangements.
- Ensure UN effectiveness on the ground.** The Liaison Office supports the UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Ukraine by providing conflict-sensitive advice to strengthen conflict sensitivity that strengthens the overall coherence of UN activities and support conflict-sensitive reconstruction, recovery and humanitarian programming.
- Advance inclusive peace processes.** DPPA supports engagement with civil society, including women and youth leaders, to promote inclusive approaches to peace and security. In May 2025, an event in Kyiv brought together over 80 women and youth leaders from civil society and grassroots organizations from 13 regions across Ukraine to explore ways to contribute to sustainable peace and raise awareness of the importance of women's participation in peace processes.



Participants gather for a group photo during an event on "Voices of Ukrainian women and youth for sustainable peace in Ukraine", a UN-supported dialogue held in Kyiv in May 2025. Photo: MFA Ukraine.



IMPACT

- DPPA's field presence in Kyiv significantly strengthened the relevance and credibility of United Nations reporting and engagement on Ukraine. Real-time analysis and monitoring enabled the Secretariat to track political and security developments, including risks of escalation, emerging diplomatic initiatives and prospects for negotiations and potential ceasefires, to provide timely advice to senior UN leadership.
- In 2025, DPPA produced 55 analytical reports and prepared or contributed to more than 20 briefings to the Security Council and the General Assembly, ensuring that Member State deliberations were informed by robust field-based insights.
- DPPA also strengthened system-wide coordination by supporting UN entities in New York and Kyiv, including through chairing the Ukraine Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) and participating regularly in UNCT discussions.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

Advice: SBT provided specialized expertise on women's participation in mediation and ceasefire processes to Ukrainian women civil society representatives through a series of online sessions.

Impact: This targeted support strengthened the capacity of Ukrainian women leaders to engage meaningfully and effectively in potential future ceasefire and peace negotiations.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

The Liaison Office worked together with the Peace and Development Adviser (PDA) on joint analysis. DPPA provided advice and regular briefings to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other humanitarian actors to support conflict-sensitive humanitarian response.

The Department also collaborates with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), including by reporting on human rights in its briefings to the Security Council; and through the preparation of the Secretary-General's reports to the UN General Assembly on the human rights situation in the areas of Ukraine temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation.



LACK OF FUNDING

The Liaison Office in Kyiv, primarily funded through MYA, ensured continued engagement with partners on the ground. With additional resources, the Office could have further expanded its outreach and increased engagement with Ukrainian partners, to facilitate a more inclusive dialogue.

Supporting UN efforts in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

The attacks carried out on 7 October 2023 by Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups, followed by the ensuing conflict in Gaza, marked the most significant escalation of violence in decades. These developments have dramatically destabilized an already fragile political landscape and intensified an acute humanitarian crisis.

In 2025, DPPA continued to lead United Nations diplomatic efforts in the occupied Palestinian Territory, including Gaza. The Department oversaw and supported the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO); coordinated good offices and advocacy work at the highest level; and supported public and discreet diplomatic efforts in coordination with all partners.

Throughout the year, the MYA was the financial lifeline that allowed the Department to support diplomatic efforts, and deploy urgent capacities to support the field in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including surge staff and technical support).



AREAS OF ACTION

The continued violent conflict and its regional spillover, including to Lebanon, required the UN to redouble its efforts to advance a diplomatic solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and pave the way to a two-State solution. The US President's Comprehensive Peace Plan, endorsed by the Security Council through resolution 2803 (2025), generated momentum and renewed hope for a permanent end to the war in Gaza and a credible political process.



A wide view of the Security Council meeting on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. On the screens are Ramiz Alakbarov, Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator. Photo: UN Photo/Mark Garten.

- Enhance analysis and reporting for informed action.** Timely, nuanced analysis was critical to inform UN action in the OPT, Israel and the wider region. MYA funding enabled surge analytical capacity, ensuring consistent high-quality reporting to support crisis response, planning and the Secretary-General's advocacy and diplomacy. This included close backstopping of UNSCO and sustained engagement with Headquarters through regular Security Council briefings.
- Support sustained diplomatic and good offices efforts.** MYA funding allowed DPPA to step up political engagement through consultations with conflict parties, stakeholders, regional partners and Member States to support the implementation of the ceasefire agreement and Security Council resolution 2803 (2025), including by ensuring a surge in critical humanitarian aid into Gaza. DPPA also engaged key think tanks and partners to inform the implementation of resolution 2803 (2025) and other Security Council mandates.

- **Strengthen inter-mission cooperation.** DPPA strengthened situational awareness across the UN system, improving preparedness for emerging risks and supporting informed decision-making on humanitarian access, protection of civilians and future governance and reconstruction in Gaza, in a “whole-of-Palestine” approach.
- **Amplify governance through targeted technical advice.** The United Nations continued working closely with the Palestinian Authority (PA) to support administrative and governance arrangements and efforts to reform and revitalize the PA.



IMPACT

- Responsive crisis management mechanisms and increased engagement in view of heightened Security Council and General Assembly action and attention, including on the situation in Gaza and future post-ceasefire arrangements in the strip.
- Effectively informed and advised the UN leadership on potential entry points for UN engagement, including in the context of the high-level conference on the two-state solution in July 2025, shaping priorities for engagement and providing a comprehensive framework to guide UN action, particularly following the ceasefire and resolution 2803 (2025).
- Prepared high-level meetings for the Secretary-General on the situation in Gaza, and the future of the Middle East Peace Process, while briefing Security Council members and Member States on UN actions and strategic objectives, including during deliberations on Council products.



ELECTORAL SUPPORT

- **In Palestine,** governance reform and credible elections remain central to future stability and lasting peace. In line with its mandate of support to Palestinian institutions, UNSCO continues to provide technical support to sustain institutional readiness and strengthen the capacity of the election management bodies should elections be scheduled or mandated. Following a formal request for electoral assistance from the Central Elections Commission, MYA funded the deployment of a Needs Assessment Mission (February 2026), ahead of upcoming municipal elections (planned for April 2026) and National Council elections.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

UNSCO is an integrated Mission, where the Special Coordinator is also responsible for Humanitarian and Development Coordination. UNSCO worked closely with the UN Country Team in Palestine to ensure increased humanitarian assistance in Gaza and to prepare plans for recovery and reconstruction. UNSCO and the UNCT continue to work very closely to support the Palestinian Authority in strengthening its institutions effecting necessary reforms.



LACK OF FUNDING

Available funding supported essential coordination and engagement functions; however, with increased resources, the UN could have expanded in-person consultations with field missions and key partners, particularly on Gaza recovery, reconstruction, and governance planning. Funding shortages also reduced Peace and Development Adviser positions, including in Jordan, where the role ended in 2025.

Strengthening UN engagement during Syria's political transition

With the fall of Bashar al-Assad in late 2024, Syria stood at a historic crossroads after decades of authoritarian rule and 14 years of brutal conflict.

Throughout 2025, DPPA and the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria actively engaged with Syrian, regional, and international stakeholders to explore how the United Nations could play a more substantive role to support Syria's transition. These efforts focused on identifying mechanisms for inclusive dialogue, strengthening governance structures and ensuring that the transition process reflects the Syrian people's aspirations and Syria's nationally articulated priorities.

MYA funding played a pivotal role in supporting the Office's engagement, thereby advancing dialogue, conflict prevention and inclusive governance. In practical terms, MYA funding enabled the Department to deploy critical capacities, including surge staff and specialized technical support, both at Headquarters and in direct support of the Office of the Special Envoy. This funding and expertise helped ensure that the transition reflects nationally articulated priorities while remaining aligned with global commitments to peace, justice, and strong institutions.



AREAS OF ACTION

In 2025, DPPA undertook the following key activities:

- Enhanced political analysis and coordination.** At Headquarters, DPPA intensified inter-agency coordination and monitoring of situational developments. This work included addressing operational challenges, scenario building and risk analysis.

- Led the UN's strategic assessment on Syria.** This shaped priorities for engagement and planning. DPPA also helped to implement a leadership reset to strengthen coordination and strategic direction across the Syria file.
- Supported the Syria-led transition process,** providing advice on constitutional and electoral issues, reconciliation, and transitional justice, while engaging widely to promote conflict prevention and the role of civil society, including women.
- Strengthened women's political presence.** MYA funding directly strengthened women's political presence, including pilot support to Syrian women's civil society organizations (CSOs) engaged in community-level de-escalation and dialogue that built capacity and trust for mediation and peacebuilding. Furthermore, the MYA supported the Special Envoy, the Deputy Special Envoy and their offices, in maintaining regular engagement with women's organizations, promoting sustained dialogue between senior UN leadership and women's CSOs.



Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria Geir O. Pedersen (center, left) and Deputy Special Envoy Najat Rochdi (left) meets with Interim President Ahmed Al Sharaa (center, right) and Foreign Minister Asaad Shaibani (right). Photo: OSESG-Syria.



IMPACT

- DPPA provided substantive and operational support to the Office of the Special Envoy through backstopping, Security Council support functions (18 Security Council briefings), and comprehensive political advice and guidance. The Department also coordinated and supported preparations for the Security Council's historic mission to Syria in December 2025, ensuring effective engagement with the UN Country Team and civil society actors on the ground.
- Reinforced diplomatic outreach and coordinate action by preparing high-level meetings between senior UN leadership, including the Secretary-General, the new Syrian government, and the Security Council.
- Provided a comprehensive framework to guide UN actions during Syria's political transition, collaborating across UN entities to ensure alignment of priorities and integrated planning to shape priorities for engagement.
- Strengthened coordination and information sharing. DPPA engaged with the UN Country Team on Common Country Analysis (CCA) and related documents and convened monthly IATF on Syria VTCs and Crisis Management Team meetings to promote coherence and coordination in engagement across UN entities.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

- **Constitutional Declaration issued (13 March 2025):** Adopted by the new Syrian Government to fill the constitutional vacuum following the overthrow of the Assad government on 8 December 2024. Intended to serve as an interim constitution for a five-year transitional period.
- **UN engagement:** The UN was consulted informally during drafting and formally at a very late stage. The Office of the Special Envoy was responsive and provided technical advice to the Drafting Committee, including advice on international norms and best practices. A constitutional expert from the Standby Team was mobilized, working closely with staff to develop technical feedback.



LACK OF FUNDING

Lack of funding severely limited the Team's ability to deploy staff to the field and provide direct support. Resource and travel restrictions prevented sustained visits to Syria to assess conditions, engage local partners, and deepen understanding of key actors and risks—all essential for informed analysis and policy.

Further investment in the MYA would also have enabled the Team to scale up surge capacity—convening its Women's Advisory Board and Civil Society Support Room more frequently and at greater depth. Most critically, the lack of capacity at Headquarters posed challenges to maintain regular communication with Member States and build new relationships, reducing opportunities to anticipate positions and advise accordingly.

Sustaining diplomatic engagement amid rising tensions in Lebanon

Over a year of hostilities between Israel, Hizbullah, and other non-state armed groups in Lebanon severely impacted the country, particularly the South. Thousands were killed, large numbers were displaced, and widespread damage and destruction occurred, including to critical civilian infrastructure, residential areas, agriculture, and culturally significant sites. These hostilities compounded an already devastating economic and humanitarian situation in Lebanon. The election of a President and the formation of a government under a new Prime Minister offered an opportunity to address the root causes of the conflict with Israel, including the maintenance of weapons outside of state authority and also the advancement of key reforms.

DPPA, through the Office of the UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL), supported de-escalation efforts, including through engagement with leaders in both Lebanon and Israel to work towards an end to violence.



UN electoral assistance is provided for the May 2025 Lebanese municipal council elections through the Lebanese Electoral Assistance and Parliamentary Support Project (LEAP). Photo: UNDP.



AREAS OF ACTION

Provide planning and coordination support to UNSCOL. DPPA advanced diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions, preventing conflict and addressing outstanding issues related to Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). Security Council resolutions 1701 and 1559 (2004), including extending State authority and asserting a State monopoly over the use of force.

Co-lead, with DPO, the effort towards the Secretary-General's options for the future of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006), to be presented to the Security Council, as requested in Security Council resolution 2790 (2025). The Headquarters-based team, supported by MYA funding, conducted a desk review and visits to Lebanon and Israel to consult with the parties, key Member States, and relevant UN entities.

Assist the Government of Lebanon in advancing reforms required for the full implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) and in addressing outstanding issues with Syria, including border-related arrangements.



IMPACT

Strengthened operational contingency planning while supporting the mediation and good offices efforts of UN leadership to advance de-escalation and implementation of resolution 1701 (2006).



ELECTORAL SUPPORT

With MYA funding, DPPA electoral experts supported UNSCOL in establishing an electoral coordination mechanism to prepare for the parliamentary elections originally scheduled for May 2026. The Special Coordinator continues to promote the inclusion of women and youth.

Supporting a negotiated political solution in Yemen



Special Envoy for Yemen Hans Grundberg holds a meeting with Yemeni civil society representatives in Aden. Photo: OSESGY.

In 2025, Yemen's political and security landscape shifted rapidly. The continued detention by the Houthis of UN and other international personnel, Houthi cross-border and maritime attacks, airstrikes conducted by international actors, and advances by the Southern Transitional Council in southern Yemen significantly hindered the efforts of OSESGY and regional actors to revive an intra-Yemeni political process. The Houthis intensified their campaign against the UN in Yemen, arbitrarily detaining at least 73 UN personnel – some held since 2021 – as well as staff from international and national NGOs, civil society, and diplomatic missions. In response, DPPA co-led UN system-wide efforts to secure their immediate and unconditional release, including through advocacy, coordination with relevant actors, and supporting strategic high-level visits to that end.

Furthermore, MYA funding was instrumental in enabling the operational effectiveness of the Special Envoy by sustaining critical staff capacity and providing substantive analytical and logistical support. This directly enhanced the Envoy's ability to engage stakeholders toward a negotiated settlement, underscoring the essential role of flexible funding in delivering timely diplomatic outcomes.



AREAS OF ACTION

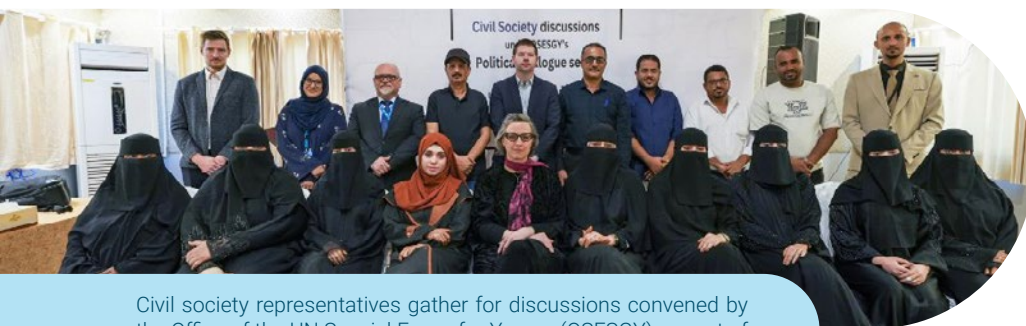
With MYA funding, DPPA ensured appropriate backstopping to the Office of the Special Envoy for Yemen (OSESGY) and the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) to advance a negotiated political solution in Yemen that would include the meaningful participation of women and youth. This allowed close support on high-level initiatives on the conflict in Yemen, as well as on the salvaging of the SAFER oil tanker, and efforts to secure the release of detained UN and partner personnel.

- Enabling operational effectiveness of the Special Envoy.** DPPA's support to the activities of the Special Envoy was essential in navigating a period of heightened volatility. Political analysis and strategic and operational guidance from DPPA played a critical role in informing the Secretary-General and other senior leadership's decision-making.
- Co-leading a coordinated and coherent response to arbitrary detentions of UN personnel.** A coordinated and coherent response from the UN system and the international community was vital. DPPA convened ad hoc principals meetings, engaged stakeholders, and co-chaired a new Task Force on detentions in Yemen.
- Conducting the Security Council-mandated Review of UNMHA.** To implement resolution 2786 (2025) DPPA conducted a review of UNMHA focused on improving efficiency and coordination across UN missions in Yemen, with support from MYA funding. The review outlined several options for UNMHA's mandate for the consideration of the Council. It proved helpful in enhancing the Council's understanding of the role and tasks of UNMHA as they deliberated on the viability and sunset of the mission.
- Provide logistics and planning support to UNMHA.** Operational support funded by the MYA enabled the international staff of UNMHA to temporarily relocate while OSESGY maintained a minimal presence in Sana'a to maintain open communication channels with the Houthis.



IMPACT

- DPPA's critical backstopping to OSESGY, including technical advice on the design and negotiation of a comprehensive political settlement. This support strengthened the UN's mediation capacity by informing negotiation strategies. DPPA's technical and substantive support to the Senior Gender Advisor in OSESGY enhanced efforts toward inclusivity in the political process. This advanced a bottom-up vision for peace that amplifies women's priorities and prepares the ground for an inclusive political process once conditions permit.
- Improved coordination and unified engagement among UN and international partners, including on responses to the arbitrary detention of UN and other personnel by the Houthis.
- As part of OSESGY's advocacy for women's full participation in the political process and through MYA funding, Yemeni women peacebuilders attended the Global AI Action Summit in Paris (February 2025) and gained practical AI skills to advance inclusive policymaking - reinforcing their role as agents of change.



Civil society representatives gather for discussions convened by the Office of the UN Special Envoy for Yemen (OSESGY) as part of the political dialogue series in Aden, January 2025. Photo: OSESGY.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

DPPA leads coordination and policy-setting, providing backstopping to political efforts on Yemen in the field (OSESGY, UNMHA) and at UNHQ with Member States, UN entities, and civil society. These efforts complement the work of the UN Country Team (UNCT), with Houthi arbitrary detentions affecting its 21 resident and non-resident entities.

DPPA regularly coordinates with humanitarian and development partners to support joint advocacy and system-wide information-sharing, including ahead of monthly Security Council meetings on Yemen.



LACK OF FUNDING

Funding shortages reduced our ability to travel and hence the scope of the team's in person engagement with the diverse array of interlocutors in Yemen. Efforts instead relied on alternative arrangements, such as virtual meetings, where possible. This had a negative impact on the UN's ability to engage effectively in diffusing crises in Yemen. Any further cuts would significantly weaken the UN's crisis response in Yemen.

Keeping the peace process on track in Colombia

Colombia's steadfast efforts to build peace remain an inspiration for the world and a tangible example of how the UN's Special Political Missions can further political solutions to armed conflict. The United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia is an enabler for its important work to keep implementation of the 2016 Final Peace Agreement on course in the face of formidable challenges on the ground in a complex political and security context. The Department's policy and political guidance and support to the Mission, and its engagement with Member States, including the Security Council, has bolstered international awareness and backing for the peace process and the role of the Mission. These factors remain crucial in the period ahead as a new administration takes office in 2026 — challenges that the United Nations can help to address in order to consolidate peace and security in the country.

MYA funding was instrumental in strengthening backstopping staffing and technical capacities, including in mediation, enabling tangible results on the ground. Without MYA support, political, technical and financial engagement would have been significantly constrained, undermining efforts to sustain an inclusive peace process and weakening the country's trajectory toward resilience and sustainable development.



AREAS OF ACTION

DPPA provided strategic political and operational support to the Mission to strengthen mandate implementation, thereby helping Colombian counterparts to translate core commitments of the 2016 Agreement into concrete progress. Key activities over the past year include:

- Strategic political engagement and mandate support:** DPPA's timely reporting and analysis directly shaped Security Council deliberations, reinforced international support for the Mission, and contributed to a strong mandate amid a shifting political landscape. DPPA enabled the

the Mission's leadership transition by facilitating the deployment of the newly appointed Special Representative, and established early, high-level engagement with Colombian authorities and stakeholders.

- Field-level political engagement and implementation support:** Through stepped-up political engagement on the ground, the Mission supported efforts to keep national authorities and former combatants committed to the 2016 Agreement. This included advancing reintegration through additional housing units and land plots for former combatants and helping to obtain better security provisions in conflict-affected areas.
- Electoral risk prevention and institutional support:** Ahead of the 2026 legislative and presidential elections, the Mission proactively engaged in Colombian-led security coordination mechanisms, helping safeguard peaceful and participatory elections. Complementing these efforts, DPPA enabled the delivery of technical electoral assistance requested by Colombia's election-management body during the 2026 presidential elections.
- Peacebuilding advocacy and multilateral convening:** DPPA enabled international attention into practical backing for peacebuilding through support to the Peacebuilding Commission's visit in August 2025, reaffirming Colombia's importance as both a priority peacebuilding context and a source of lessons for wider UN practice.



Women peace signatories and social leaders from Valle del Cauca participate in a gathering focused on self-care, dialogue and strengthening leadership, with support from the Agency for Reincorporation and Normalization (ARN), GIZ and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia. Photo: UN Verification Mission in Colombia.



IMPACT

- Sustained advances in peace implementation:** MYA support contributed to protecting gains in the peace process, including the reintegration of former combatants, security guarantees for vulnerable groups, progress in rural reform, and further steps in transitional justice. It also supported the facilitation of over 11,000 of the approximately 13,000 signatories actively engaged in the peace process with strong UN support.
- Preserved the Mission's effectiveness and readiness:** DPPA support helped sustain the Mission's core tasks and vital field presence through the mandate adjustments and UN80 streamlining processes, while also supporting a smooth leadership transition.
- Strengthened political and international backing for peace:** DPPA's reporting and analysis, and engagement with Council members reinforced Security Council awareness and support for implementation of the 2016 Peace Agreement.



SUPPORTING INCLUSION

DPPA ensured that inclusion remained integral to peace implementation, embedding it as a core operational priority rather than an add-on. Frequent consultations with women leaders and support to the Mission's gender team, directly contributed to develop a mechanism to assess and address security risks facing former combatants through a gender lens, including threats to reintegration projects led by women former combatants.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

DPPA supported strengthened coordination and information-sharing across UN pillars in Colombia, turning the UN presence in Colombia into a more coherent political and peacebuilding platform. It produced integrated analysis and reports, convened inter-agency task force meetings, supported Peacebuilding Commission discussions, and regularly coordinated with the SRSG, Resident Coordinator and PDA, including on PBF initiatives. The Mission and the UN country team also worked closely with Colombia's Ombudsperson and other stakeholders to monitor security guarantees for candidates ahead of the 2026 elections.

Across these efforts, DPPA's MYA support to acute peace support needs linked to the Mission's mandate and longer-term investments by the PBF, remained firmly anchored in the 2016 Agreement as the primary avenue for comprehensive peacebuilding in Colombia.



LACK OF FUNDING

Over the past few years, declining programmatic funding under the MYA has reduced the Mission's ability to pair verification with the practical confidence-building support that has helped sustain trust among former FARC members and conflict-affected communities. Because the Mission has almost no programmatic resources under its regular budget, it has been unable to sustain the tangible support to reinforce verification activities at the local level.

DPPA's capacity to support the peace process and backstop the Mission remained steady, yet limited funding has constrained its ability to seize opportunities for in-person engagement with key counterparts on the peace process in Colombia, and reduced the Department's ability to seize political openings, unlock progress and explore new entry points for engagement.

Continue supporting good offices and dialogue initiatives in Haiti

Violence at the hands of criminal gangs has plunged Haiti into a crisis marked by widespread human rights abuses, displacement and deprivation. Amid the turmoil, Haitian political and civil society leaders continue their efforts to keep the transition to elected institutions on track, with support from the United Nations.

As political fragmentation among Haitian stakeholders persist, BINUH's work remains indispensable to lowering tensions, preventing polarization, encouraging dialogue, and promoting peaceful solutions. DPPA, through BINUH, continues to actively engage key Haitian stakeholders to encourage broader consultations and consensus-building. Efforts continue to be geared towards the holding of credible and participatory elections to ensure the return of institutional order.

MYA support enabled Headquarters and BINUH to strengthen the UN's good offices at a critical time for Haiti, assist in accelerating national community violence reduction initiatives to complement expected efforts of the Gang Suppression Force, advance the electoral process, and allow for enhanced multistakeholder coordination, both on the ground and at Headquarters. MYA funding enabled the operationalization of a prevention tool, while DPPA provided analysis to support the good offices of the Secretary-General and principals, helping to sustain political stability in Haiti at the approach of the end of mandate of the transitional authorities in February 2026 before the holding of presidential and legislative elections.



Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti and Head of BINUH Carlos Ruiz Massieu meets with human rights actors and civil society representatives to discuss sustainable solutions to the current crisis in Haiti. 11 August 2025. Photo: BINUH.



AREAS OF ACTION

In line with its mandate and political strategy, BINUH has boosted its direct political engagement with national authorities and stakeholders from across the political and civil society spectrum and the diplomatic community, fulfilling its role as a credible interlocutor, partner and facilitator on the ground.

- Enhance reporting and analysis for informed action.** DPPA provided timely reporting and analysis that informed action by the Security Council to strengthen international security to Haiti. As penholder of the Secretary-General's 24 February letter to the Security Council containing recommendations to sustain security and stability, addressing the root causes of the country's multidimensional crisis, DPPA played an instrumental role in enabling logistical and operational support to the Gang Suppression Force and strengthening BINUH's mandate implementation. The Department maintained sustained engagement with Council members in the lead up to the adoption of Security Council resolution 2793 (2025) authorizing the GSF and establishing the United Nations Support Office in Haiti.
- Significantly increase BINUH's good offices at a critical time.** DPPA enhanced BINUH's support to Haitian-led dialogue initiatives aimed at strengthening national consensus and unity. Through MYA funding, meaningful steps were taken to empower Haitian civil society, including promoting women's and youth's political participation by supporting civil society organizations, facilitating inclusive dialogue platforms, and strengthening local initiatives to broaden participation and deepen social cohesion.
- Strengthen coordinated engagement among peace and security actors to optimize collective impact and advance sustainable political solutions.** DPPA supported increasing multistakeholder coordination needs, including those arising from Security Council resolution 2793 (2025), with the establishment of the Standing Group of Partners, the Special Representative for the Gang Suppression Force (GSF) and the UN Support Office in Haiti (UNSOH), and from renewed efforts of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to ensure complementarity of efforts.



IMPACT

- Provided logistical and substantive support to the Mission and the newly appointed SRSG, enabling effective initial high-level engagements that contributed to the adoption of Security Council resolution 2793 (2025), supported ongoing efforts to establish the UN Support Office in Haiti, and informed Council deliberations on BINUH's mandate renewals in July 2025 and January 2026, with a focus on strengthening complementarity with the GSF mandate.
- Provided analysis and crisis management advice to identify ways to ensure the return of all international BINUH personnel to Port-au-Prince. It further facilitated Security Council discussions on international security support to Haiti, leading to the adoption and subsequent implementation of Security Council resolution 2793 (2025).
- Launched critical consultations on the constitutional revision process. BINUH, in collaboration with UNDP, supported the launch on 13 November of the National Conference and its three working groups, including the Working Group on the Constitution. This support catalyzed inclusive consultations aimed at ensuring that the constitutional revision process reflects the voices and priorities of all sectors of Haitian society, thereby strengthening national ownership of the process.
- Supported civil society efforts to encourage youth participation in the constitutional and electoral process. MYA funding allowed BINUH to support a local NGO to organize its forum in Port-au-Prince dedicated to the role of youth in political and constitutional reform.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

Increased collaboration between DPPA and the UNCT led to the development of PBF projects that complemented BINUH's priority efforts. Technical and advisory support to the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) was expanded.

MYA funding enabled large-scale, community-based mediation and conflict resolution trainings, sustaining community violence reduction (CVR) efforts despite insecurity and displacement. This support complemented a PBF project aimed at strengthening community recovery and peacebuilding, with a focus on youth and women in at-risk areas. MYA funding enabled unprecedented cross-pillar collaboration among political, security, development, and humanitarian actors, bringing together BINUH, IOM, Université Quisqueya, community leaders, women's organizations, youth groups, and the Haitian National Police to create an integrated platform for mediation, community policing, gender equity, and youth reintegration.



LACK OF FUNDING

Lack of MYA funding affected necessary travel, including the short-term deployment of staff to support the SRSG in high-level engagements and the assessment of benchmarks for the sanctions regime.



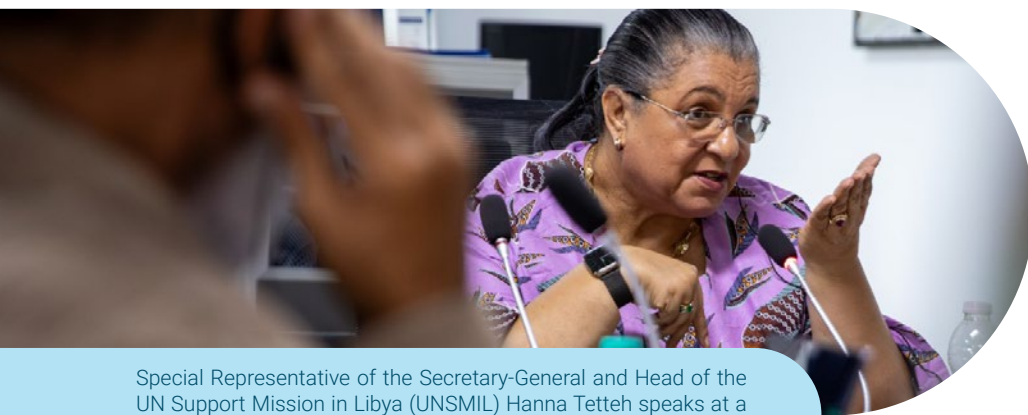
Participants attend a meeting convened by BINUH on 19 June 2025 with the Prime Minister, the President of the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP), members of the diplomatic corps and UN agencies to discuss support to the electoral process in Haiti. Photo: BINUH.

Facilitating a political solution in Libya

The conflict in Libya remains entrenched, with political fragmentation and intermittent violence persisting. Institutional divisions and a prolonged political stalemate have fuelled insecurity, economic instability and social fragmentation. Competition over oil revenues and continued external interference further undermined prospects for a unified international approach and a sustainable political settlement.

In August 2025, the SRSG for Libya announced a new political roadmap toward national elections and institutional reunification. Among other components, the roadmap set out a Structured Dialogue, launched in December, to enable broad-based Libyan participation — including 35 per cent women — in addressing key issues necessary to create a conducive environment for elections, foster a shared national vision, and tackle both short-term governance challenges and longer-term drivers of conflict.

In this context, MYA funding supported the SRSG's good offices by providing flexible resources for mediation. Enabling efforts to advance the implementation of the political roadmap, particularly its Structured Dialogue. It also helped facilitate electoral assistance activities to the High National Elections Commission for the holding of municipal elections and the provision of sustained backstopping to UNSMIL.



Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) Hanna Tetteh speaks at a consultative meeting facilitated by the Mission. Photo: UNSMIL/Elizabeth Stuart.



AREAS OF ACTION

DPPA supported UNSMIL efforts to advance an inclusive, Libyan-owned political process across multiple tracks (political, security, economic, and human rights) aimed at breaking the protracted political stalemate and paving the way for credible national elections and unified institutions.

- Enhancing political analysis and backstopping.** DPPA provided sustained support to UNSMIL through regular backstopping, political analysis and engagement with the Secretariat, other UN Headquarters entities and Member States, including ahead of the launch of the new political roadmap in August 2025.
- Progress to advance the political process.** DPPA strengthened the Mission's capacity to formulate political strategies and implement dialogue formats with Libyan stakeholders. In February 2025, informed by process design expertise from the Standby Team of mediation experts (SBT), UNSMIL established an Advisory Committee of 20 legal experts, including seven women, to propose recommendations to address outstanding challenges to the holding of national elections and propose ways forward for the political process. These recommendations contributed to the formulation of the new roadmap, which was welcomed by the Security Council through resolution 2796 (2025).
- Advancing the economic track.** MYA funding enabled UNSMIL-supported consultations in Tunis with 12 Libyan economic and financial experts, including women, to identify priority reforms, short-term measures and longer-term proposals for improved economic governance and stability, contributing to efforts within the political process' economic track and in particular informing the parameters and work of the economic thematic group within the Structured Dialogue.



IMPACT

- Benefited from prior MYA-funded activities, the Mission's engagement and political strategy drew on analytical products such as the 2024 political economy study and the 2025 economic consultations. Together, these tools strengthened the Mission's capacity to address the interlinked political, economic and security obstacles to elections and informed the design of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya-facilitated Structured Dialogue, launched in December 2025 and continuing into 2026.
- Organized a nationwide AI-enabled digital dialogue from October to December 2025, enabled by DPPA's Innovation Cell, and funded by the MYA. The initiative combined live sessions with follow-up online discussions, allowing participants to contribute at their own pace and broadening access for those unable to join in real time. A total of 1,682 Libyans (21 per cent women) shared views on governance, security, economic priorities, and human rights to inform the Structured Dialogue. UNSMIL used generative AI features to analyse areas of convergence and divergence and synthesize large-scale public sentiment quickly and accurately.
- UNSMIL supported consultations in Tunis with Libyan economic and financial experts that informed the work of the Structured Dialogue economic track.



ELECTORAL SUPPORT

In line with its mandate and at the request of national authorities, UNSMIL—through its integrated electoral team and in collaboration with UNDP—continued to support Libya's municipal electoral process. Building on successful polling in November 2024, the High National Elections Commission (HNEC) adopted a phased nationwide approach, with elections held in over 100 municipalities in 2025 and further polling expected in 2026.

- Support:** UNSMIL and UNDP provided sustained technical and advisory assistance to HNEC to support the planning and delivery of municipal council elections across the country.
- Impact:** UN support contributed to strengthening local governance, expand citizen participation, and build public confidence in electoral processes.



Polling center in Central Tripoli Municipality. Photo: UNSMIL/Elizabeth Stuart.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

In support of UNSMIL's political roadmap to advance an inclusive, Libyan-led and Libyan-owned process toward national elections, the SBT Advisers provided targeted expertise to reinforce the Mission's political engagement ahead of key milestones, including the SRSG's announcement of the political roadmap in August 2025.

- Advice:** An SBT process design expert advised UNSMIL's political team on shaping a more inclusive consultation process, while an SBT gender and inclusion expert provided strategic guidance to UNSMIL leadership and the Gender Advisory Section on mechanisms to enable women's effective participation in the Libyan Structured Dialogue, including the 35 per cent representation commitment and establishment of a Women's Caucus for women participants in the Structured Dialogue.
- Impact:** An SBT gender and inclusion expert advised UNSMIL's political leadership and Gender Advisory Section on strategies to advance women's political participation. This included guidance on mechanisms to ensure women's direct and effective engagement in the Structured Dialogue.



Young Libyan participants engage in a mediation workshop organized by UNSMIL in Tripoli, where youth representatives discussed the impact of political divisions, mistrust and self-interest on Libya's ongoing crisis, and explored ways to strengthen dialogue and reconciliation efforts. Photo: UNSMIL/Wissam Salem.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

- Cross-pillar engagement with political, security and human-rights components of UNSMIL, as well as with the Resident Coordinator's Office, ensured that recommendations emerging from the economic track were integrated into broader efforts on the political process and grounded in the "sustainable economic development" pillar of the 2023-2026 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.
- Collaboration with international partners active on Libya's economic file helped avoid duplication and maintain coherence with international support. This joint approach improved the ability of the UN to respond coherently to shifts in Libya's political landscape.
- MYA funding worked in synergy with a PBF project implemented by UNICEF, WFP and IOM between 2023 and 2025 in the southern Libyan municipalities of Ubari, Ghat and Sabha to promote local peacebuilding efforts with municipal councils, women, youth and other stakeholders, thereby supporting sustainable economic development in southern Libya.



LACK OF FUNDING

Funding limitations in 2025 required the prioritization of core support functions and reduced the scope of planned programmatic activities. While essential economic-track consultations were delivered, resource constraints limited the ability of DPPA to sustain further allocations in 2025 in support of ongoing UNSMIL efforts to advance the political process.

Encouraging renewed political engagement on Western Sahara

2025 was a significant year as it marked the fiftieth anniversary of the conflict in Western Sahara. MYA funding supported intensified efforts of the Personal Envoy to engage with all concerned, including Morocco, Frente POLISARIO, Algeria and Mauritania, as well as with members of the Security Council, the Group of Friends on Western Sahara, and other interested actors with a view to advancing the political process.

In a significant development, the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2756 (2025) re-affirmed the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy's position at the center of a negotiation process aimed at achieving a final mutually-acceptable solution to the longstanding conflict. The PESG expressed his intention to convene direct or indirect talks on the basis of the resolution and his work in 2025 laid the groundwork for potential negotiations in 2026 within the context of this renewed international interest.

The PESG increased engagement and coordination with the international community with the aim to encourage the parties to re-engage in a political process. MYA funding was critical to the work of the Office of the PESG (OPESG) on Western Sahara, a special political mission based in Brussels from the offset, as it was instrumental in keeping the operations of OPESG up and running through the funding of staff positions. The example of Western Sahara is a testament to how the MYA fills the gaps of the UN regular budget and multiplies DPPA's impact with relatively small amounts.



AREAS OF ACTION

- **Supporting sustained engagement of PESG.** MYA funding supported the PESG's visits to the region to engage with Morocco, the Frente POLISARIO, Algeria and Mauritania to advance the political process. It enabled regional travel, bilateral consultations in Europe, and meetings with all

parties ahead of his biannual Security Council briefing, as well as consultations with key partners such as Security Council members, the Group of Friends of Western Sahara, regional organizations, women leaders, and representatives of women's civil society and other relevant actors.

- **Preparation of negotiations on Western Sahara.** The adoption of Security Council resolution 2797 (2025) called on the parties to engage in UN-facilitated negotiations toward a mutually acceptable political solution that provides for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara. Following the adoption of the resolution, the PESG invited the parties to submit proposals and suggestions to help shape an agenda for potential direct or indirect talks. While negotiations were not held in 2025, renewed international engagement during the conflict's fiftieth year supported the PESG's efforts to advance the process.



IMPACT

- MYA funding provided tangible and practical contribution to the PESG's efforts to advance the political process in Western Sahara.
- Supported the PESG to undertake 9 meetings with Morocco, Frente POLISARIO, Algeria and Mauritania and 5 meetings with Security Council members, members of the Group of Friends on Western Sahara, and other interested actors.



LACK OF FUNDING

The reduction of MYA-funded staff to support the OPESG and closure of premises in Brussels have required increased coordination with interested Member States. While this could help offset capacity constraints, DPPA maintains its commitment to the UN's impartiality and neutrality.

Supporting mediation and coordination efforts to de-escalate conflict and advance an inclusive political process in Sudan

The fighting between the SAF and RSF further intensified throughout 2025, with contested areas frequently changing hands. Competing governance structures risk national fragmentation and the conflict is destabilizing the region. Widespread human rights violations and abuses, including mass sexual violence, persist with impunity alongside a severe humanitarian crisis and catastrophic food insecurity.

In 2025, MYA funding sustained essential DPPA Headquarters backstopping and provided substantive support to the Office of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Sudan (OPESG). Voluntary contributions enabled then PESG Ramtane Lamamra to continue providing good offices support to ongoing peace and political processes in Sudan. These initiatives included mediation by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and the US through the “Quad” group. The Special Envoy also worked with the “Quintet” group (African Union, European Union, IGAD, League of Arab States, United Nations), established in 2025 to back efforts towards the launch of a political process.



AREAS OF ACTION

- Sustain field-based support and office structure of the Personal Envoy in Addis Ababa and maintain staffing capacity in the backstopping team at Headquarters.** Since January 2025, OPESG-Sudan has operated as a special political mission, with modest regular budget support enabling the establishment of a support structure in Addis Ababa and at the United Nations headquarters. MYA funding remains the backbone of its operations and has ensured the retention of political and advisory capacity as well as enabled essential engagement with the parties.
- Mediate to de-escalate conflict.** Personal Envoy Lamamra maintained regular, face-to-face dialogue with the warring parties and regional actors, pressing for civilian protection and a political solution. Despite an at times pronounced lack of political will, Personal Envoy Lamamra continued to advocate for UN-led technical talks on de-escalation with the parties. The MYA supported the Personal Envoy’s team at critical junctures to engage in-person with key stakeholders – in Sudan, the region and beyond – to advance the ongoing good offices diplomacy efforts, including in support of Quad and Quintet-led initiatives.
- Strengthen coordination and dialogue.** Supported engagements within the framework of the Sudan Consultative Group and advanced Quintet cooperation with the AU, IGAD, LAS, and the EU to align mediation efforts and lay the groundwork for an inclusive inter-Sudanese dialogue that brings together civilian groups, providing the foundation for an inclusive political process and post-conflict transition.
- Deepen analysis on Sudan.** This includes the conflict, peace processes, the political economy and other important dimensions of the crisis to strengthen the UN peace efforts.



IMPACT

- Advanced mediation efforts when the Personal Envoy pursued complementary initiatives to de-escalate the conflict, including repeated visits to Port Sudan, Cairo, Nairobi and other capitals, and engaged key Sudanese and regional interlocutors to press for civilian protection and a political solution. The Office of the Personal Envoy regularly engaged members of the Quad to coordinate efforts on the protection of civilians and de-escalation. This partnership paved the way for intensified cooperation between the UN and the Quad in 2026 focused on possible UN support to the implementation of a Quad-facilitated agreement on a humanitarian truce.
- Sustained coordination mechanisms through collaboration with multi-lateral and bilateral partners formed a core part of the Personal Envoy's mandate. The Sudan Consultative Group continued to provide a framework to align strategies and share information among the AU, IGAD, the LAS and Member States engaged in mediation efforts. It was expanded in 2025 to include the Permanent Members of the UN Security Council.
- Enhanced multilateral cooperation through partnership with the AU, IGAD and the LAS under the Quartet mechanism – launched with support of the UN Secretary-General at the Arab Summit in Baghdad (May 2025)—to harmonize operational activities and advance conflict resolution. The Quartet has since been expanded to include the EU and is now referred to as the Quintet.
- Laid groundwork for inclusive dialogue through the Quintet, supported AU-led efforts to convene an inter-Sudanese dialogue bringing together civilian groups to set the stage for an inclusive political process and post-conflict transition. The Quintet has emerged as the leading international configuration to facilitate progress on the political track, with work carried out over the course of 2025 providing the foundation for accelerated and deepened engagement among Sudanese civilians in 2026.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

Support: DPPA's Mediation Support Unit (MSU) provided strategic guidance throughout the year, most notably on a proposal for the UN to convene separate bilateral technical consultations with the Sudanese Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces aimed at discussing de-escalation and strengthened protection of civilians.

MSU support was led by the MSU ceasefire expert who provided assistance on process design and deployed to Geneva for an initial round of consultations with the RSF. These talks were postponed at the request of the RSF.

The SBT was consulted towards the end of 2025 to develop a consensus document detailing critical areas of overlap and convergence among the various political visions formulated by the diverse set of political and military stakeholders in Sudan.

Impact: This paper is set to be completed in early 2026 and will help support efforts to engage Sudanese civilian stakeholders in a political process aimed at charting a political vision for the future.



Secretary-General António Guterres (center left) meets with Jordanian Prime Minister Jafar Hassan (center right) on the margins of the 34th Summit of the League of Arab States in Baghdad, Iraq, joined by Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary DiCarlo (left). 17 May 2025. Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe.



INCLUSION OF WOMEN

Direct support from OPESG-Sudan

- OPESG advanced WPS in Sudan through consultations with key women's networks and partners, and developed the Joint WPS Guidance Note (AU, IGAD, RCO, UNDP and UN Women) to guide the Inter-Sudanese Political Dialogue. These efforts ensured women's perspectives informed the Envoy's messaging, outreach, and strategic positioning, strengthened protection, humanitarian access, and accountability measures, and embedded WPS dimensions into political dialogue processes.

Targeted support from the Standby Team of Mediation Experts

- OPESG-Sudan convened a virtual session with four SBT experts (2021–2024) on WPS issues to update the office on past work and identify strategic entry points for the Senior Gender Adviser. This informed OPESG's WPS mapping and strengthened internal capacity.
- An SBT expert on security arrangements led a hybrid workshop for 37 Sudanese women, organized by Folke Bernadotte Academy and UN Women-Sudan, drawing on Colombian peace process lessons to promote women's participation in ceasefire negotiations and the creation of a gender sub-commission.

Impact: Participants' skills to provide gender-sensitive advice on security arrangements, notably ceasefires, were strengthened. This, in turn, enhanced the participating women's groups' ability to directly participate in as well as to support more inclusive peace processes.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

Throughout 2025, the work focused on ensuring alignment between formal mediation efforts led by the Personal Envoy for Sudan and local peace initiatives implemented by Sudanese peace makers, with backing by the UNCT in Sudan, as well as with funding from the PBF.

OPESG-Sudan worked closely with the RC/HC and UNCT, and in close partnership with the PDA in Sudan, who led a small team of analysts and remained in near-constant contact with DPPA over the course of the year. Interagency coordination at UN Headquarters was done through regular IATF meetings on Sudan.



LACK OF FUNDING

The significant shortfall in earmarked funding for Sudan in early 2025 had a significant impact on implementing programmatic activities.

The MYA was nevertheless able to absorb the shock by redeploying unearmarked funds to sustain OPESG's most critical operations, demonstrating the importance of its flexibility and agility. While all budgeted posts were maintained during the reporting period, the abrupt funding shortfall necessitated the discontinuation of the Senior Gender Adviser position for 2026, resulting in a critical capacity gap. Operational funding was also substantially reduced, particularly for travel.

Providing non-military approaches in support of good offices in Great Lakes region

The Great Lakes region is experiencing a period of heightened volatility, marked by the occupation of parts of eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo by the M23 armed group, as well as tensions between some core countries. The activism of the M23 and other groups fuels inter-state mistrust and sustains regional conflicts; yet responses have often been limited to national approaches within the framework of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), even as these groups often operate across borders and some seek regional influence.

With MYA funding, DPPA was able to fund additional staff to support the good offices of the Special Envoy and confidence-building measures in selected countries. This support allowed DPPA to continue operating at two levels:

- First, Supporting the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General (OSESOG) for the Great Lakes Region by strengthening diplomatic engagement, advancing regional dialogue and peace initiatives, and promoting confidence-building measures in line with regional and African-led peace frameworks.
- Second, Operationalizing non-military approaches to address the threat posed by foreign armed groups in the Great lakes region, prioritizing disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, reintegration and resettlement (DDRRR) of ex-combatants from Burundi and Rwanda present in the DRC and encouraging the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) to accept amnesty and return to Uganda.

The added value of the OSESOG for the Great Lakes Region lies in its regional mandate covering 13 countries and in its operational cooperation framework linking intelligence services and national DDR commissions of the five core countries, namely Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. This framework is the most appropriate vehicle to implement a regional response to the threat posed by these groups, as the issue may not be addressed adequately and sustainably through national efforts in the DRC alone.



AREAS OF ACTION

- **Provide political and logistical support from Headquarters to the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region.** This included political analysis, briefing materials, and follow-up on high-level regional engagements.
- **In Burundi and DRC, support field missions to lay the ground for the surrender and relocation of ex-combatants,** as well as legal and policy frameworks for their reinsertion.



Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Huang Xia attends a ministerial meeting on the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region in Kampala on 27 May 2025, ahead of the 12th Regional Oversight Mechanism (ROM) Summit. Photo: OSESOG-GL.



IMPACT

- Enhanced staff capacity and technical support to the Special Envoy. MYA funding amplified the ability of the United Nations to engage discreetly yet effectively with Heads of State, regional organizations and other stakeholders. This level of political access could not have been replicated by other actors.
- Enabled more consistent and coordinated engagement with regional actors and across the UN system. This led to sustained dialogue mechanisms aimed at de-escalation and confidence-building, helping keep communication channels open during periods of heightened tension, and preventing further deterioration of the situation in the region.
- In Uganda, based on needs assessment from local communities, the procurement and installation of a radio at the Kasese reception centre provided a dedicated platform for targeted cross-border communications to encourage ADF and other armed groups defections and coordinate messaging.
- In Burundi, MYA funding supported broad consultations to draft a legal reinsertion framework. This paved the way for additional PBF funding to support repatriation and reintegration. 161 Burundian combatants registered. This created a verified caseload of DDRRR processing and tailored reintegration support and helped catalyze voluntary repatriation dynamics. The project facilitated the surrender, and relocation of 19 combatants and 17 dependents from Uvira to Burundi, following M23 advance towards Uvira.

Overall, these results are significant, as they helped mitigate the risk of escalation in an extremely fragile regional context, aided reinforce regional ownership of peace efforts, and contributed to strengthening the credibility of the UN as an impartial and trusted actor. By anchoring peacebuilding and development initiatives within a coherent political strategy, it contributed to more sustainable approaches to conflict prevention with long-term stabilizing effects.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

While MYA support targeted a range of good offices tools deployed over several years in the Great Lakes region, it also complemented Peacebuilding Fund investments by providing political accompaniment and strategic coherence, reinforced gender-sensitive mediation approaches aligned with the WPS agenda, and drew on early warning mechanisms to support preventive action and de-escalation.

The Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region partners with RC/UNCTs and Peace and Development Advisers in key countries, holding regular meetings to drive coordinated analysis, informed decision-making, and impactful action.

In November 2025, Burundi established a team to finalize an ordinance formalizing a new framework for the reinsertion of former combatants, which enabled the start of socio-economic reintegration for beneficiaries. This progress catalyzed additional Peacebuilding Fund support to assist repatriation and reintegration across the five Contact and Coordination Group (CCG)



LACK OF FUNDING

Reduced MYA funding and the precarious staffing situation negatively affected institutional memory, planning capacity, and sustained engagement. Additional investment would also have enabled greater stability in staffing, preserving institutional memory and expertise, as well as deployment of political and analytical support to the region.

MAKING DPPA MORE RESPONSIVE THROUGH RAPID RESPONSE

Delivering mediation support across the UN system

DPPA has a unique role in mobilizing and deploying mediation expertise whenever it is required by United Nations envoys and mediators. The Standby Team (SBT) is a tool managed by the Mediation Support Unit (MSU). It is designed to enhance the quality of support available to United Nations envoys and mediators as well as non-UN actors.¹

Some of the partners receiving support from Standby Team experts include Member States, civil society organizations, and non-governmental organizations, as well as Resident Coordinators, UN AFPs, such as UNEP, Peace and Development Advisers deployed through the Joint Programme. These are deployment-specific partnerships intended to deliver the best possible support to, for example, SPMs, PKOs, Resident Coordinator and UN Country Teams, and nationally-led efforts to prevent conflict or to sustain peace (including national infrastructures for peace).

This work continues to be recognized by Member States – for example, in the Pact for the Future and in Security Council resolution 2788 (2025), where the Council appreciated the work of DPPA's Mediation Support Unit.

As one of the Department's flagship good offices tools, it builds on, integrates and connects to other good offices instruments, such as special political missions or electoral assistance and the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention and the Peacebuilding Fund. SBT deployments

also span across various thematic areas that are central components of DPPA's peace and security mandate and good offices work, such as the WPS and YPS agendas, and climate, peace and security.

2025

demand remained strong with the Stand by Team being engaged

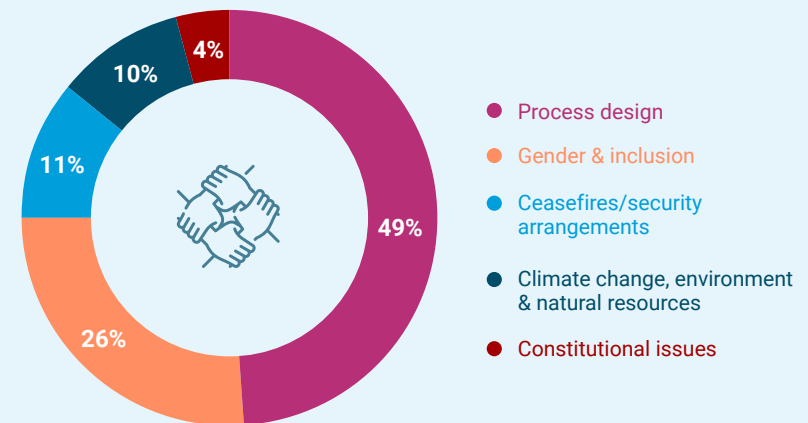


128 mediation support assignments



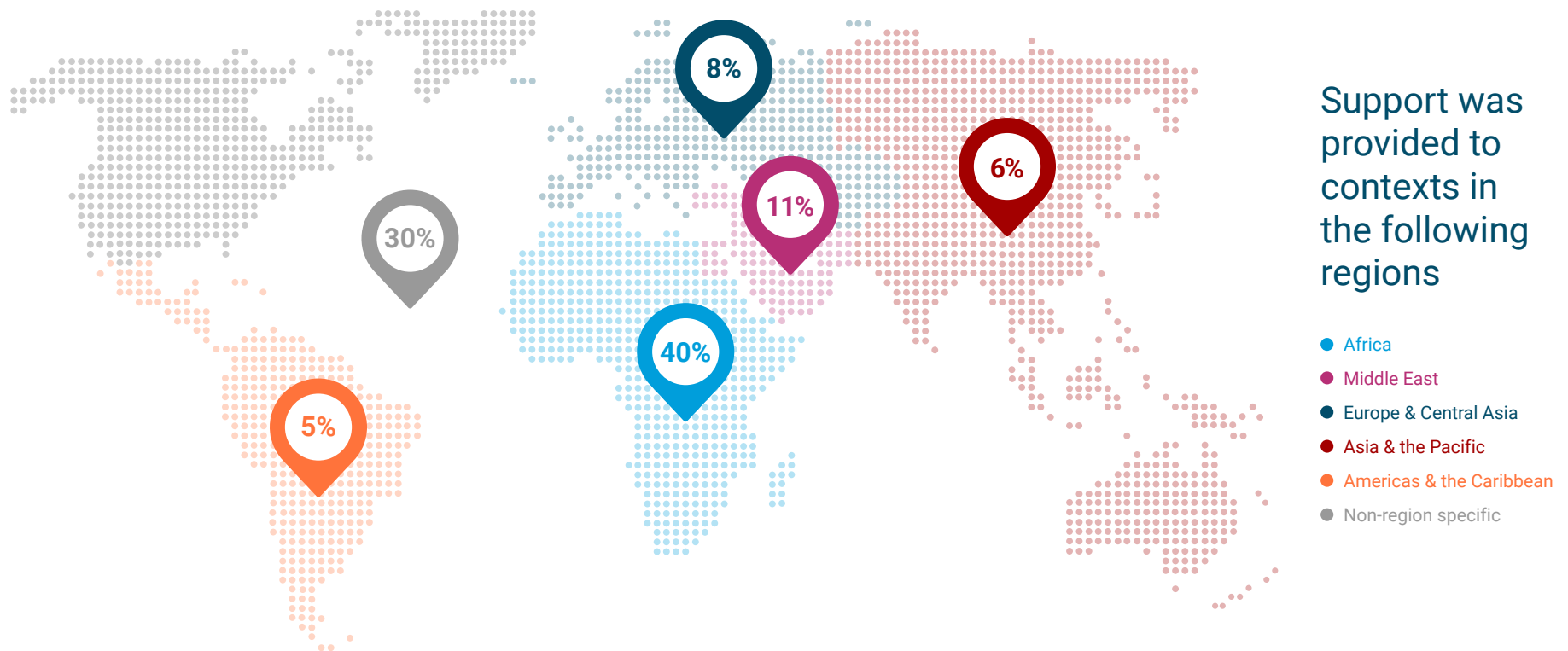
27 different contexts²

SBT support was provided principally in the areas of:



¹ The services of the SBT are increasingly being accessed by a wide array of external partners, including regional organizations, Member States, and civil society organizations.

² These included: Abyei, Afghanistan, Colombia, Cyprus, DRC, HoA, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Türkiye, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yemen.



As demonstrated throughout this report, DPPA continued to leverage its expertise in mediation and conflict prevention to advance inclusive dialogue, facilitate reconciliation, and foster sustainable peace in the world's most complex conflict settings.

In 2025, MYA directly funded this global resource, ensuring that MSU and the SBT can respond at short notice, deliver world-class expertise where it is most needed, and equip mediators and peacebuilders with the tools to design more effective and durable peace processes.



LACK OF FUNDING

In 2025, MSU and the core operations of the SBT were successfully sustained, enabling the UN to respond rapidly to emerging crises and capitalize on critical opportunity for peace, despite reduced funding and a 30 percent decrease in mediation training. With additional resources, the mechanism could have further expanded its reach—scaling up mediation training, maintaining a larger pool of full-time experts, and increasing the frequency of field deployments. Strengthened investment would allow for enhanced surge capacity, broader geographic coverage, and more consistent support to complex peace processes, maximizing the SBT's impact in 2026 and beyond.

Supporting credible and inclusive elections through UN electoral assistance

United Nations electoral assistance is adapting to a rapidly evolving global electoral landscape marked by shrinking civic space, the growing influence of digital technologies and artificial intelligence, and persistent barriers to equal participation and representation, particularly for women. In response, UN electoral assistance continues to evolve with increased focus on these emerging challenges.

Through its Electoral Assistance Division (EAD), DPPA provides impartial electoral support to promote peace and prevent conflict. As a core DPPA good-offices tool, it is consistently requested by Member States and regional partners. MYA funds the deployment of experts worldwide to support Member States in organizing transparent, credible and peaceful elections.

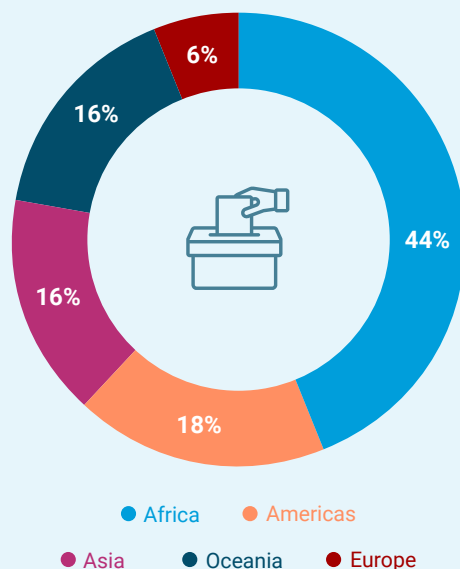
RESULTS IN 2025

 **28** new requests from Member States addressed

 UN electoral assistance coordinated in **50+** countries

 **20** elections supported worldwide

 **24** technical electoral missions to support Member States



Number of UN Electoral Assistance Projects in 2025 (per region)

IMPACT OF OUR INTERVENTIONS

Member States and regional partners consistently request DPPA's impartial and technical electoral support. Experts deploy worldwide to support Member States in organizing transparent, credible and peaceful elections.

With MYA funding, DPPA's support helped build resilience and trust in democratic processes by:

- **Preventing violence:** Early engagement and good offices reduced tensions ahead of key polls.
- **Enhancing electoral integrity:** Expert advice strengthened voter registration and dispute-resolution systems.
- **Promoting inclusion:** Support to national partners increased the participation of women and youth.
- **Coordinating UN action:** Ensured coherent and timely electoral assistance across UN entities and missions.

Iraq

On 11 November 2025, Iraq held its sixth parliamentary elections since 2005 with the support of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). The elections, marking UNAMI's final electoral engagement, took place in a generally peaceful environment, reflecting continued democratic progress.

Support: Over two decades, UNAMI supported 17 electoral processes, strengthening the Independent High Electoral Commission, enhancing institutional capacity and procedures, and promoting trust through dialogue, inclusion, and transparency. In 2025, assistance integrated preventive diplomacy, technical advice, human rights, gender equality, and development approaches.

Impact: The peaceful conduct of the elections, with no major irregularities reported, demonstrated strengthened national electoral institutions. The United Nations remains ready to provide further support at the Government's request.

Malawi

Malawi successfully held general elections on 16 September 2025, with the Government commending the United Nations for its timely and effective support.

Support: UN electoral assistance strengthened the institutional and operational capacity of key stakeholders, promoted inclusion and women's political participation, supported conflict prevention and peace messaging, countered mis- and disinformation, and enhanced civic and voter education.

Impact: These efforts helped reinforce public confidence in the process and advance Malawi's broader democratic governance objectives.



Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator visits polling centres in IDP camps in Duhok ahead of 2025 Iraq elections on 11 November 2025. Photo: UNAMI/Celia E. B. T. Dadson.



LACK OF FUNDING

While demand for electoral assistance from Member States remained steady in 2025, EAD operated with 50 per cent less funding programmed for electoral assistance during the year. Reduced MYA funding had significant implications for staffing, travel for Needs Assessment Missions, as well as the overall number of trainings and partnership activities delivered. These constraints persisted despite concerted efforts to identify efficiencies and alternative approaches to maintain responsiveness and sustain support to Member States.

GOAL 2

A MORE EFFECTIVE MULTILATERAL ARCHITECTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

32

initiatives were undertaken
with regional and sub-regional
organization

42

inter-agency mechanisms
were led or co-led by DPPA

247

**DPPA deployments for
assistance** in mediation
and conflict prevention

Regional and sub-regional organizations	34
UN Country Teams and Resident Coordinators	40
Liaison Offices	43
Supporting locally driven peace	47
Women's participation in peace processes	48
Integrating climate, peace and security	51

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS WITH REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

In 2025, conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts unfolded amid increasingly interconnected regional crises and political tensions, with regional organizations playing a frontline role in mediation, early warning, and crisis response.

MYA funding enabled DPPA to deliver timely political analysis, deploy surge capacity, and strengthen coordination with regional organizations. This support advanced sustained political dialogue, reinforced institutional cooperation, and enhanced regional partners' capacity to address complex peace and security challenges. However, MYA programming dropped by 30 per cent in 2025, limiting the scale and geographic reach of DPPA's engagement. This was particularly evident in regions where the Department had to downsize or fully withdraw its field presence.

African Union (AU)

Support: Provided critical staff capacity to strengthen the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union, supporting among other things the organization of an AU workshop on artificial intelligence (AI) and conflict prevention and early warning for staff from the AU and the Regional Economic Communities/Regional mechanisms (RECs/RMs).

Impact: Enhanced AU Commission capacity for early warning and conflict prevention, including through the integration of AI, which informed the work of the Advisory Group to the AU's Peace and Security Council on AI, peace and security, military and governance in Africa.



Secretary-General António Guterres (right) meets with Mahmoud Ali Youssouf, Chairperson of the African Union Commission. Photo: UN Photo/Mark Garten.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

Support: Provided targeted technical advice to SADC's Mediation Support Unit, Election Support Unit and Gender Unit, including technical guidance to bolster SADC's Principles and Guidelines for Democratic Elections and advance its regional Youth and Women, Peace and Security programming.

Impact: MYA support enhanced SADC's capacity to address electoral disputes, improve mediation preparedness, and promote inclusive political processes, while deepening UN–SADC coordination and laying the groundwork for a formalized partnership on conflict prevention and the Youth and Women, Peace and Security agendas.

League of Arab States (LAS), Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

Support: Facilitated the biennial Sectoral Meeting between the UN and LAS on cooperation in the field of women's rights and child protection in armed conflict, coordinated high-level Political Consultations with the GCC, and facilitated high-level engagement at the 51st Session of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers. MYA funding also strengthened capacity-building initiatives, including staff exchanges with the LAS and OIC in October, a regional training with the LAS on YPS in November, and a Peacemaking seminar for the LAS in December.

Impact: These efforts strengthened institutionalized cooperation between the UN and LAS, OIC and GCC, ensuring sustained political dialogue and alignment on peace and security priorities. Capacity-building initiatives enhanced the ability of staff, government officials and youth representatives to advance the YPS and WPS agendas, and high-level engagement and consultations further reinforced trust, coherence and coordination toward a more effective multilateral effort on peace and security issues.

Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Support: Facilitated a training led by the Electoral Assistance Division tailored to CARICOM needs, focusing on Gender and Elections and Election Observation, strengthening electoral knowledge-sharing and regional cooperation.

Impact: The trainings brought together senior electoral officials from 12 Member States and the CARICOM Secretariat, enhancing regional capacity and promoting more inclusive, credible, and gender-responsive electoral processes across the Caribbean.



Participants gather for the sixteenth United Nations–League of Arab States sectoral meeting on women's rights and child protection in Cairo, 25 November 2025. Photo: DPPA.

Advancing preventive diplomacy and promoting regional approaches in the Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa continues to face inter-connected crises, including the war in Sudan, fragile political transitions in South Sudan, complex conflict dynamics between Ethiopia and Eritrea, insecurity in Somalia, and recurring interstate tensions throughout the region. These challenges are compounded by structural drivers such as economic inequality, governance deficits and climate-related shocks, which disproportionately impact marginalized groups such as women and youth.

Within this context, DPPA advances preventive diplomacy and inclusive peacebuilding through the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa (OSE-HoA), working in close coordination with the AU, IGAD and their Member States. In 2025, MYA advanced these efforts by funding three posts, providing critical substantial and operational capacity, representing a light footprint with significant impact.



Women leaders and civil society representatives gather in Kampala, Uganda, for a high-level dialogue on peace in Sudan. Photo: UN Women.



AREAS OF ACTION

- Strengthening high-level coordination.** MYA funding enabled high-level engagement between the Special Envoy and the IGAD Executive Secretary, reaffirming the importance of unified regional action on shared priorities, including the conflict in Sudan, Ethiopia-Eritrea tensions and stalled implementation of the peace process in South Sudan. These engagements deepened strategic coordination and alignment within the framework of the IGAD-UN Joint Framework for Cooperation.
- Bolstering regional coherence.** Donor funding supported the creation of structured dialogue platforms, including the Friends of the Horn of Africa forum and continued engagement with the Horn of Africa Ambassadors platform. These mechanisms strengthened coordination of messaging and engagement among P5 members, regional stakeholders, IGAD, the AU and UN.
- Empowering women peacebuilders in Sudan.** MYA funding facilitated the convening of the Sudan Steering Committee to host a regional solidarity and learning session supporting WPS efforts in Sudan and beyond. The event brought together more than 90 Sudanese women leaders, peace advocates and senior representatives from the AU, UN and IGAD to strengthen regional solidarity and generate concrete recommendations for bolstering WPS initiatives.
- Promoting WPS initiatives.** In close coordination with UN Women, delivered a 'Training of Trainers' capacity building on WPS issues to the IGAD Secretariat and Member States.



IMPACT

- Improved coordination across the UN system and regional partners:** Structured dialogue platforms enhanced information-sharing, policy alignment and collective engagement among UN entities, regional organizations, and Member States, advancing more coherent messaging and action on critical Horn of Africa issues.
- Reduced risk of conflict escalation:** MYA-funded capacity enabled the Special Envoy to intensify preventive diplomacy efforts at key flashpoints, including tensions between Ethiopia and Eritrea, helping to create diplomatic space and contribute to efforts to mitigate the risk of violent conflict.
- Strengthened institutional capacity for inclusive governance:** Capacity-building initiatives, including the IGAD Training of Trainers, equipped partners with practical tools to integrate gender and disability inclusion into institutional systems and the skills to train others, generating a multiplier effect across IGAD structures.
- Advancement of WPS commitments at continental and regional levels:** MYA funding bolstered WPS priorities in Sudan and beyond, contributing to critical commitments such as 30 per cent women's representation in AU-led mediation processes and increased funding for women-led CSOs. Advocacy efforts also ensured Horn-specific priorities, including displacement and conflict-related sexual violence were reflected in the Windhoek+25 Declaration.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

Action: An SBT deployment provided guidance on mediation and dialogue facilitation to a workshop organized by the UN Mission in South Sudan for leaders within the South Sudan Council of Churches and the South Sudan Islamic Council.

Impact: SBT thematic support facilitated the development and roll out of the National Faith and Peace Conference in South Sudan, strategically positioning faith leaders to support the Revitalized Agreement for Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS).



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

OSESG-HoA convenes regular coordination meetings with Peace and Development Advisors across the Horn of Africa to exchange information, strengthen joint analysis, and identify entry points for preventive diplomacy. Drawing on contributions from PDAs, OSE-HoA also leads the development of a quarterly Joint Regional Analysis for the Horn of Africa, supporting informed, evidence-based political engagement and programming across the UN system in the region.



LACK OF FUNDING

Insufficient MYA funding constrained the full implementation of planned activities, including the scaling back of regional consultations and WPS-related initiatives. Limited resources for staffing and travel also affected stakeholder follow-up engagement at critical moments. While remaining staff absorbed additional responsibilities to sustain core mandate delivery, resource gaps affected the depth and reach of preventive diplomacy at a time of heightened regional fragility.

Enhancing regional engagement to advance an inclusive and sustainable political solution in Myanmar

Myanmar remains one of the most complex political and humanitarian crises in Asia, with implications for regional stability. Since the military takeover in February 2021, Myanmar has experienced escalating conflict, widespread human rights violations and worsening socioeconomic conditions. Political divisions have intensified, while violence and instability continue to undermine prospects for a peaceful and inclusive resolution. In this challenging context, DPPA has played a critical role in supporting preventive diplomacy and political engagement, and coordinated international efforts to advance a sustainable political solution.



IMPACT

Donor contributions ensured that the Secretary-General's good offices advanced regional and international engagement on Myanmar, including through the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar, despite increasing operational and political constraints.

In 2025, donor funding helped DPPA maintain and strengthen dedicated analytical and political capacity at Headquarters on Myanmar at a time when rapidly escalating conflict and shrinking diplomatic space demanded sustained engagement. This support:

- Strengthened analytical and policy capacity**, enabling timely analysis and coordinated UN responses, including support for the Secretary-General's annual report on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar and preparations to key intergovernmental processes.



Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar Julie Bishop visits a community affected by conflict-related damage in Myanmar. Photo: OSESG Myanmar.

- Enhanced support to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar**, strengthening the UN's ability to engage Member States and regional stakeholders.
- Aligned public communications**, including coordinating statements and press remarks of the Secretary-General related to the situation in Myanmar.
- Improved coherence across the UN system**, ensuring that political, humanitarian and development efforts are informed by shared analysis and strategic objectives.
- Deepened regional engagement**, particularly with ASEAN, through strengthened coordination and support for dialogue initiatives aimed at fostering greater collaboration among special envoys and national focal points on Myanmar.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

Supported UN inter-agency coordination and convening of senior-level inter-agency meetings on Myanmar, strengthening system-wide alignment through improved political analysis, reporting, and common messaging to support informed decision-making by UN leadership and Member States.

Engaged with Myanmar and international CSOs, facilitating in-person and virtual meetings between the Special Envoy and civil society representatives — including women, youth, and minority groups such as the Rohingya — allowing the Special Envoy to amplify their messages through briefings and engagements with Member States and other stakeholders.

Worked closely with the Peace and Development Team in Myanmar through shared reporting, scenario planning and regular exchanges on the evolving situation in the country.



LOOKING AHEAD

As conflict dynamics continues to evolve and opportunities for political engagement remain limited, sustained donor support will be essential. Flexible donor funding allows DPPA to provide timely analysis, adapt quickly to changing circumstances, support the Secretary-General's good offices and engage with ASEAN and other regional partners and seize emerging opportunities for dialogue. Continued support will help ensure that the United Nations remains positioned to support efforts to advance the prospects for sustainable and inclusive political solution in Myanmar.

STRENGTHENING COHERENCE WITH UN COUNTRY TEAMS AND RESIDENT COORDINATORS

Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN Country Teams (UNCTs) operate in politically sensitive, often fragile contexts. Through MYA funding, DPPA provided targeted political analysis, monitoring, and technical advice, strengthening coordination, early warning, and prevention capacities. A 30 per cent reduction in 2025 MYA resources limited DPPA's ability to support RCs and UNCTs, resulting in uneven regional coverage and greater reliance on surge deployments. While the flexibility of MYA funding helped mitigate some of these constraints, gaps in sustained support remained.

Côte d'Ivoire

Support: Amid rising tensions around the presidential elections, MYA funding enabled surge capacity to reinforce political monitoring, analysis, and engagement with civil society, including women's and youth groups, at the RC's request.

Impact: This support improved coordination with national and regional actors, including civil society, the AU, and ECOWAS, enabling timely UN responses to shifting dynamics while also promoting peaceful and inclusive elections.

Western Balkans

Support: MYA resources allowed DPPA to assist RC and UNCT in advancing trust building and social cohesion initiatives. DPPA provided political analysis and technical advice on the Women, Peace and Security agenda, youth engagement, and reconciliation in post conflict settings.

Impact: DPPA's guidance strengthened the development of approximately \$25 million in Peacebuilding Fund initiatives, ensuring effective implementation and demonstrating the complementarity between the MYA and the Peacebuilding Fund.

Malawi

Support: MYA funding enabled the deployment of surge capacity to Malawi to support the RC and UNCT around the September general elections, amid concerns of unrest and disputed results. A Political Affairs Officer, funded by MYA, bolstered the RCs capacity, providing real-time political monitoring and analysis and targeted advice on promoting inclusive dialogue, defusing political tensions and strengthening engagement with national stakeholders and regional partners to help prevent escalation.

Impact: The additional capacity strengthened the joint monitoring of the election and enabled the RC to actively engage national leaders, opposition parties, civil society and the diplomatic community to defuse political tensions before they rose, ultimately, supporting a successful election and peaceful transition of power in Lilongwe.

Supporting UN efforts amid heightened tensions in Venezuela

Venezuela's political landscape remained marked by polarization following the contested elections in 2024. Throughout 2025, the country continued to face challenges stemming from mistrust in state institutions, a progressively constrained civic space, allegations of human rights violations and heightened political tensions. Relations with the United States were further strained following heightened US military activity in the Caribbean. Several regional and international actors scaled back their direct engagement with Venezuela, positioning the United Nations as one of the few actors able to maintain impartial engagement with political stakeholders.

DPPA's engagement focused on providing political analysis, informing senior UN officials and Member States on developments in the country; assisting the UN Country Team's efforts to advance Peace and Development programming, and providing strategic support to the Resident Coordinator's engagements, complementing long-term prevention and peacebuilding efforts. MYA resources provided for dedicated staffing capacity to monitor developments in the country and deliver timely reporting, analysis and guidance.



A view of Caracas, the capital of Venezuela. Photo: UNICEF/Gustavo Vera.



AREAS OF ACTION

MYA funding enabled DPPA to operationalize its mandate through sustained political analysis, coordination, and support to the Resident Coordinator and UN Country Team:

- Political monitoring, analysis and reporting.** DPPA provided critical reporting and analysis, tracking post-election dynamics — including parliamentary, regional and gubernatorial elections — and evolving political tensions to provide timely, evidence-based support to inform decision-making at UN Headquarters.
- Support to the RC's Office and Country Team.** MYA funding enabled DPPA to provide critical political analysis support to the Resident Coordinator, identifying entry points for dialogue with national stakeholders, and informing programmatic activities implemented by the Peace and Development team in Caracas.
- Engagement with national and international stakeholders.** MYA funding advanced DPPA engagement with key stakeholders - including national authorities, actors across all portions of the political spectrum, foreign governments, regional actors, academia and civil society representatives - to maintain open communication channels in support of mediation efforts amidst rising tensions in the country and region.
- Leading UN system-wide coordination:** Established an informal working group to reach common positions and public messaging, as well as sharing analysis on the political situation and identifying entry points for the UN System to foster complementary engagement.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

In 2025, MYA funding facilitated a training led by a Senior Mediation Advisor from the Standby Team for members of a network of Venezuelan civil society organizations, providing targeted capacity building to strengthen women's participation in peace processes.



IMPACT

- Enhanced the quality and timeliness of UN analysis by providing regular monitoring, analysis, and briefings to key stakeholders, strengthening the basis for senior UN decision-making, particularly during heightened bilateral tensions in mid-2025.
- Reinforced the UN's conflict prevention and peacebuilding role by effectively engaging national actors and providing sustained political advisory support to the UN Country Team.
- Preserved space for dialogue and prevention by maintaining communication channels between diverse stakeholders during rising tensions, laying the foundation for potential mediation efforts and long-term peacebuilding.
- Ensured continuity amid partner disengagement by maintaining sustained monitoring, keeping the UN informed, engaged, and ready to respond to emerging opportunities for de-escalation as other international actors scaled back engagement.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

DPPA filled a critical convening role in Venezuela, coordinating inter-agency exchanges and ensuring that complementary insights from various entities — including the UN's Fact-Finding Mission, OHCHR, OCHA and UNODC — informed comprehensive analysis and planning exercises, enabling efficient coordination between national actors, the UN Country Team, Headquarters, and relevant Member States to facilitate quiet political engagement.



LACK OF FUNDING

Reduced MYA funding significantly constrained DPPA's dedicated staffing capacity at a critical time. Staffing reductions limited the Department's in-depth monitoring and curtailed surge capacity to respond to rapidly evolving developments in Venezuela. Insufficient resources also severely restricted missions to the country, undermining opportunities for direct engagement and preventive diplomacy.

PROVIDING COORDINATION AND ANALYTICAL SUPPORT TO LIAISON OFFICES

A reduction in MYA funding compelled the Department to scale back its liaison architecture from nine to five offices over the past few years. Following the closure of Liaison Offices in Jakarta and Bangkok in 2024, DPPA was further forced to close its Beijing and Vienna presences in 2025 and reduce activities across the remaining five locations (Brussels, Buka³, Gaborone, Kyiv⁴ and Nairobi). Liaison Offices are dependent on MYA funding for their very existence.

These offices strengthen DPPA's long-term relationships with regional and sub-regional organizations, national authorities and civil society by working to enhance cooperation and build joint capacities with partners in support of conflict prevention and sustaining peace. They provide indispensable political analysis, partnership-building and preventive diplomacy support; their downsizing limits the Department's ability to anticipate risks and engage effectively with regional actors.

Beijing

Role: MYA funding strengthened DPPA's partnerships with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Chinese government counterparts, leading academic institutions and think tanks throughout Northeast Asia. Proactive engagement on peace and security issues across the region has been particularly important given the absence of any formal regional security mechanism and the historical disputes, territorial conflicts and nuclear tensions that the region faces.

Impact: Through MYA-funded capacity, the Liaison Office provided political analysis of regional dynamics and developments and coordinated high-level UN visits to the region, including preparing for the Secretary-General's participation in the SCO summits. These efforts strengthened senior officials' engagement and understanding of the region, particularly the Korean Peninsula, and fostered greater mutual trust among regional actors at a time of heightened geopolitical tensions.

Brussels

Role: MYA funding strengthened DPPA's engagement with the European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) through the Liaison Office in Brussels. Amid heightened geopolitical tensions — including the war in Ukraine, strained transatlantic relations and the ongoing situation in the Middle East — the Office provided critical political analysis to Headquarters and deepened coordination and collaboration between the UN and Brussels-based organizations.

Impact: DPPA strengthened engagement between the UN, EU, and NATO by facilitating high-level exchanges, including support for high-level UN visits and by contributing to the update of joint EU–UN priorities under the Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security. The Office also enhanced working-level cooperation by connecting UN regional and thematic desks with counterparts in Brussels, helping advance collaboration on key political and peacebuilding issues.

³ More information on the liaison office in Buka can be found on [page 45](#).

⁴ More information on the liaison office in Kyiv can be found on [page 7](#).

Gaborone

Role: In Gaborone, the Liaison Office plays a vital role enhancing coordination with the Southern African Development Community (SADC), serving as the primary UN political engagement platform in a region without a regional UN political or peace mission. The Office strengthens the partnership by coordinating engagements between the UN and SADC Secretariat and Member States, facilitating targeted capacity-building support and collaborating on joint prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

Impact: Throughout the year, the Office coordinated several high-level engagements with the SADC, leading to the development of a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen collaboration on peace and security efforts — including YPS and WPS initiatives — throughout the region. The Office also facilitated exchanges of technical advice between UNHQ and SADC's Mediation and Election Support Units, building regional capacity in those areas and reinforcing SADC's ability to address emerging political and security challenges across the region.

Vienna

Role: The Liaison Office in Vienna served as the Department's platform for engagement with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and other multilateral actors in Vienna. Through facilitating policy dialogues, coordinating engagements, and monitoring ongoing institutional developments, the Office strengthens the UN's partnership with the OSCE on conflict prevention and peacebuilding issues.

Impact: In 2025, amid rising tensions from the war in Ukraine, the Office strengthened the UN-OSCE partnership, facilitating high-level visits and coordinating policy dialogues. It also monitored institutional developments within the OSCE, including changes in leadership, budget challenges and ongoing deliberations among the Permanent Council and Forum for Security Cooperation. Through these efforts, the Office was able to facilitate more targeted support and effective engagement between the UN and OSCE.

Sustaining the Bougainville peace process in Papua New Guinea

In 2025, the Bougainville Peace Process reached a decisive phase as the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) worked with an independent moderator to translate the 2019 referendum results into a mutually agreeable political pathway. The year also contained several pivotal national milestones, including ABG elections in July, Papua New Guinea's 50th anniversary of independence in September, and a historical first visit of a sitting UN Secretary-General, underscoring the United Nations commitment to peacebuilding in the country.

At this critical juncture, DPPA's engagement in the region is mainly channeled through the MYA-funded Liaison Officer deployed since 2017, who works to provide a clear communication channel and build trust with the parties to implement the peace agreement in an inclusive way.

Throughout the year, during periods of heightened political demand, MYA resources enabled the deployment of surge capacity to assist further engagement as requested by the parties. This capacity helped reinforce the Resident Coordinator's convening role and provided sustained and impartial support to the parties and the independent moderator during political discussions, ensuring coherent United Nations engagement and bolstering progress toward a peaceful and inclusive political process.



AREAS OF ACTION

- Maintain on-the-ground liaison and shuttle diplomacy.** The MYA-funded Liaison Officer, based in Buka, maintained continuous contact with the National Government and ABG, facilitating communication between Port Moresby and Buka, and providing trusted support to the independent moderator. This presence enabled early identification of potential tensions and needs within the peace process and directly reinforced the RC's convening role, strengthening confidence in the UN's impartial support role.
- Support high-level engagement and SG visit support.** The Liaison Officer provided substantive and logistical support for the Secretary-General's historical September visit to Papua New Guinea, strengthening political momentum behind the peace process.
- Enable inclusive consultations and stakeholder outreach.** MYA funding enabled DPPA to conduct broad consultations with civil society, including development partners, women's and youth organizations, to sustain inclusive participation in the moderated process.



Secretary-General António Guterres meets with the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, James Marape (third from left), and the President of the Autonomous Bougainville Government, Ishmael Toroama (second from left), during a trilateral meeting held during his visit in September 2025. Photo: UN.



IMPACT

- Restarted the structured dialogue peacefully, following nine months of UN-supported consultations, the parties signed the Melanesian Agreement in June 2025, committing to an inclusive, peaceful and constitutional pathway to determining Bougainville's future status and explicitly recognizing the UN-supported moderation framework.
- **Strengthened trust in UN facilitation:** Both parties formally requested continued UN support for the next phase of consultations in 2026, reflecting confidence in the UN's impartial role and the effectiveness of DPPA-supported process design.
- **Enhanced Resident Coordinator leadership:** Sustained support strengthened the RC's ability to convene stakeholders and align political, peacebuilding, and development efforts under a coherent UN strategy.
- **System-wide programmatic alignment:** Close coordination across UN entities — including UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA and OHCHR — ensured that political dialogue was reinforced by community-level peacebuilding, including in conflict-affected areas such as Tonu, Bana, and Konnou.



LACK OF FUNDING

While targeted donor support for Bougainville remained stable, broader MYA funding constraints reduced DPPA's flexibility across the Pacific. Limited resources curtailed participation in key regional forums, including the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Meeting, and increased reliance on overstretched multi-country office capacity. Regular Budget shortfalls created staffing gaps that required rapid response funding to maintain political coverage.



MEDIATION SUPPORT

Support: The Standby Team deployed a process design expert to support high-level consultations between the Government of Papua New Guinea and the Autonomous Bougainville Government during the June talks in Burnham, New Zealand. The expert provided strategic advice, drafting assistance, and facilitation guidance to the Independent Moderator, helping design a collaborative and problem-solving negotiation process. Support also strengthened inclusiveness by integrating women's and youth perspectives and linking Track II consultations to formal dialogue. The DPPA Liaison Officer provided political contextual analysis, advice and buy-in from the parties, which enhanced the expert's effectiveness.

Impact: This effort contributed to a shared commitment between the delegations to finding an agreed way forward, ultimately culminating in the adoption of the Melanesian Agreement which outlines a joint commitment to a peaceful, negotiated pathway forward.



CROSS-PILLAR COLLABORATION

The Peace and Development Advisor, based in the national capital of Port Moresby, works in close coordination with the Liaison Officer in Buka to advance initiatives across Peace and Security-Development. Together, they work with the national government, civil society and other stakeholders on conflict prevention initiatives, connecting UN programming to the country's National Prevention Strategy and other areas such as small arms and light weapons reduction, preventing electoral violence and initiatives to promote good governance and human rights.

The MYA-funded Liaison Officer plays a critical role in the development and implementation of PBF conflict- and gender-sensitive programming in PNG. Advising on conflict sensitivity during the project design process and ensuring a human-right-up-front approach to implementing PBF programming, the Liaison Officer ensures that activities are aligned with and support the broader peace process.

SUPPORTING LOCALLY DRIVEN PEACE INITIATIVES AND INCLUSIVE DIALOGUE

Throughout 2025, DPPA utilized the **Local Peace Initiatives funding window** within the MYA to prioritize the inclusion of civil society representation — particularly for women, youth and other marginalized groups — within local peacebuilding efforts. Targeted initiatives were programmed through SPMs and in partnership with RCs and UNCTs. Local peace initiatives enabled DPPA to strengthen local participation in political dialogues and in the development of conflict prevention strategies and national frameworks, engaging local stakeholders as partners in peacebuilding rather than only beneficiaries.

Haiti

Activity: DPPA supported inclusive civic engagement platforms, including the national youth forum KOZE JÈN YO, and political dialogues, such as women's justice-sector reform, to amplify marginalized group's perspectives on governance and peace processes. MYA funding also supported local community mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) initiatives, including through community-based healing sessions, family mediation and psychosocial first-response tools linked to reintegration and prevention.

Impact: This work contributed to tangible prevention outcomes, including the voluntary disengagement and reintegration of youth involved in gangs, reducing ongoing recruitment risks and strengthening community trust and cohesion.

West Africa

Activity: MYA funding supported locally owned peacebuilding initiatives in Benin and Liberia, engaging hundreds of youth civil society representatives in nationwide consultations, supporting the formation of national Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) coalitions, and facilitating design workshops to support the development, validation and launch of National Action Plans (NAPs) on YPS.

Impact: The establishment of YPS coalitions and NAPs created sustainable mechanisms for anchoring youth participation in peace and security decision making. Liberia officially launched its National Action Plan on YPS, while Benin completed the technical validation of its draft plan.



LACK OF FUNDING

While such initiatives had significant impacts in 2025, the level of funds programmed under this window was reduced by 40 per cent compared to 2024. Less funding for project activities and staff capacity reduced the geographic scope and depth of local peace engagements compared to previous years.

Without sustained funding, DPPA may be forced to discontinue this funding window despite our strong commitment, and noticeable benefits, of local peace initiatives.

ADVANCING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PEACE PROCESSES

In 2025, the United Nations marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) amid growing challenges to global peace efforts. Shrinking political space, weakened multilateralism, and backlash against women's rights underscored the urgent need for women's meaningful participation in peace processes. At the same time, reduced MYA funding forced DPPA to scale back its WPS programming.

Despite these constraints, the anniversary served as an opportunity to renew political momentum for inclusive peace-making and reaffirm the importance of women's full and meaningful participation in peace processes.

Delivering gender-responsive political analysis and strategic support

MYA funding supported critical staff capacity, travel and operational costs within DPPA's Gender, Peace and Security Unit to facilitate critical analysis and guidance at Headquarters as well as engagements in the field to bolster Women, Peace and Security (WPS) efforts around the globe.

DPPA worked to strengthen gender-responsive political analysis and engagement, build partner capacity and accountability, and advance women's participation in contexts where exclusion continues to undermine sustainable peace. Strategic guidance was provided to SPMs, regional offices, and UN Country Teams, while also sustaining high-level advocacy with Member States, regional organizations, and civil society actors.

Afghanistan

Support: MYA funding to enabled UNAMA to retain nine Afghan women as national UN Volunteers. Their roles strengthened inclusive political analysis, outreach, and advocacy by systematically integrating Afghan women's perspectives into the Mission's mandated activities despite increasing restrictions on women working with the UN.

Impact: This support and contributed to ensuring women's participation in the implementation of the Mission's mandate and amplifying the voices of Afghan women.



Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) Roza Otunbayeva engages with local communities in Afghanistan. Photo: UN.

Central Asia

Support: With MYA funding, UNRCCA closely supported the Central Asian Women Leaders' Caucus, co-organizing key activities in Dushanbe and Tashkent and advancing its annual workplan. UNRCCA also engaged Governments to promote the inclusion of women leaders and gender institutions in cross-border cooperation, reconciliation efforts following progress on the Kyrgyzstan–Tajikistan border, and regional dialogue on water, climate, and integration.

Impact: These efforts led to the formal integration of WPS considerations into regional processes on water cooperation, climate resilience, and broader integration, strengthening women's influence in preventive diplomacy and confidence-building initiatives across Central Asia.

Lebanon

Support: MYA funding enabled UNSCOL, in partnership with UNDP and UN Women, to advance gender-sensitive practices within political parties through a national study on women's political leadership. MYA also supported the implementation of Lebanon's National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution 1325 through gender-responsive consultations and the training of 44 women mediators supporting recovery efforts in southern Lebanon.

Impact: These initiatives strengthened institutional foundations for women's political leadership, advanced implementation of the WPS agenda at the national level, and expanded women's direct participation in mediation, recovery, and community-level peacebuilding.

Haiti

Support: MYA funding enabled BINUH to engage with women's movements in Haiti, including activities commemorating the National Day of the Haitian Women's Movement to raise awareness of gender-based violence, highlight gender-based judicial gaps and promote the participation of women in civic and political dialogue. The Mission also supported the 10th anniversary of Nègès Mawon, fostering dialogue on gender-based violence, constitutional reform and women's political participation.

Impact: These initiatives strengthened partnerships with women-led organizations, raised awareness of judicial gaps and gender-based violence, and expanded opportunities for women to engage in civic space and political processes amid Haiti's ongoing crisis.



LACK OF FUNDING

In 2025, for the first time, DPPA was unable to meet its target of allocating 17 per cent of MYA funding to WPS programming. Allocations declined to 10 per cent and planned initiatives were curtailed. Structural reforms under the UN80 initiative further weakened gender capacity, including the loss of Gender, Peace and Security staff at Headquarters and in SPMs. The shortfall at HQ and the field, combined with travel restrictions, has reduced capacity to engage women civil society, support gender analysis, and advance women's political participation as demand for tailored WPS support rises despite a backlash.

Strengthening global commitments to inclusive peacemaking

DPPA's efforts were further advanced in the [Secretary-General's "Common Pledge for Women's Full, Equal and Meaningful Participation in Peace Processes"](#), officially launched in October 2024. This initiative calls on mediation actors to commit to concrete actions to ensure women's full, equal and meaningful participation in all peace processes they engage in. By December 2025, 43 mediating actors (29 Member States, six regional organizations, and eight private mediation actors) had officially joined the Common Pledge, reinforcing political commitments to women's participation as a core driver of sustainable peace outcomes.



Maryam Bukar Hassan (right), UN Global Advocate for Peace, speaks at a High-Level meeting on the Secretary-General's Common Pledge for Women's Full, Equal and Meaningful Participation in Peace Processes. Photo: UN DPPA/Kyung Ae Lim.



Randa Siniora, Director of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, meets with Palestinian women to discuss gender-based violence, legal protection and the impact of occupation on women's rights. The photograph was featured in the "Through Her Lens: Women Rising for Peace" exhibition, which highlighted the indispensable contributions of women peacebuilders, peacekeepers and human rights defenders. Photo: Maisa Ghazaleh.

Spotlighting women's leadership in advancing peace and security

DPPA also advanced women's participation in peace processes through strategic communications and public advocacy initiatives that amplified the voices and experiences of women peacebuilders. In 2025, DPPA supported the exhibition *Through Her Lens: Women Rising for Peace*, which highlighted the contributions, resilience and leadership of women advancing peace in conflict-affected contexts. Through photography and personal storytelling, the exhibition created a platform for women peacebuilders and civil society leaders to share their perspectives directly with global audiences, helping to humanize the Women, Peace and Security agenda and strengthen public awareness of the importance of women's full, equal and meaningful participation in peace processes. The exhibition also served as a convening space for dialogue among Member States, UN entities, civil society and partners on advancing inclusive peacemaking and sustaining peace.

INTEGRATING CLIMATE, PEACE AND SECURITY ACROSS UN EFFORTS

Climate change is an urgent reality increasingly impacting every aspect of DPPA's work. Awareness of the linkages between climate change and peace and security is gaining traction globally, with Climate, Peace and Security (CPS) references in Security Council resolutions and growing Member State engagement. Five SPMs⁵ have dedicated CPS Advisors, who work across regions, and help integrate CPS considerations at multiple levels.

Building on its role as a founding member of the inter-agency Climate Security Mechanism (CSM), alongside UNDP, UNEP and DPO, DPPA utilized MYA resources to deliver targeted support to partners on CPS initiatives in 2025. MYA funding also provided critical staffing capacities at Headquarters, enabling sustained political advice, analytical support and backstopping to SPMs in climate-vulnerable settings.

West and Central Africa

Support: DPPA and the two CPS advisors in UNOWAS and UNOCA, provided technical guidance to advance regional transhumance frameworks and contributed to high-level consultations on climate-related peace and security risks throughout the W-Arly-Pendjari transboundary protected area across Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger.

Impact: This support contributed to the peaceful management of farmer-herder conflicts through the establishment of a cross-regional platform to exchange best practices, analyse emerging risks, and coordinate conflict prevention efforts, while strengthening resilience among vulnerable communities. The W-Arly-Pendjari dialogue created a constructive platform to address tensions among neighbouring Sahel and Gulf of Guinea countries, thereby strengthening efforts toward regional peace and stability.

⁵ UNOCA, UNOWAS, UNAMA, UNOAU and OSE-HoA.

Afghanistan

Support: UNAMA and its dedicated CPS Advisor co-chaired the Afghanistan Water Platform and led its sub-group on transboundary water cooperation. This included supporting exchanges between the Platform's governing body and technical de facto authorities and coordinating multi-stakeholder discussions on solutions to the Kabul water crisis. In partnership with UNAMA's Southern Region Field Office, the Advisor also engaged climate-affected displaced communities, particularly those impacted by water scarcity, providing climate- and conflict-sensitive analysis to inform future programming.

Impact: MYA supported efforts which strengthened dialogue and shared understanding on water management at local, national and regional levels, helping to ease tensions over increasingly scarce water resources amidst hydrological changes. Using an understanding of community-level impacts to inform technical dialogue, DPPA helped reduce the risk of water-related conflict while supporting more coordinated responses to climate-related peace and security challenges.



Tanya Mercer, Climate, Peace and Security Advisor, conducting community consultations during a CPS assessment in Côte d'Ivoire held in July 2025. Photo: UNOWAS.

African Union

Support: DPPA provided technical guidance to the AU and supported the development of its Common African Position on Climate Change, Peace and Security. We also engaged the Second Africa Climate Summit to integrate language into its Addis Ababa Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action, recognizing climate change as a conflict risk multiplier. Additionally, we supported the AU in delivering targeted CPS advocacy and Member State capacity-building initiatives, including high-level engagements at [COP30](#). Finally, CPS Advisors worked with countries across the Continent — including Somalia, Cameroon, CAR, Chad and Gabon — to mainstream climate security risks into their National Action Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Impact: Regionally, support advanced the Addis Declaration and the Common African Position on Climate Change, Peace and Security; strengthened Member States' capacity; and country-level assistance integrated climate-security risks into NDCs and NAPs including in Somalia, Cameroon, CAR, Chad and Gabon, helping unlock climate finance and strengthen risk-informed governance.



LACK OF FUNDING

Despite the complementarity of MYA resources and funding through the CSM's pooled fund mechanism, funding cuts limited DPPA activities, halting water diplomacy initiatives and reducing our outreach at [COP30](#).

GOAL 3

A STRONGER, MORE DIVERSE, AND MORE EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENT

- 15 lessons learned studies conducted
- 70 innovative initiatives undertaken
- 12.9 million audience reached with departmental communication outputs

Strengthening organizational effectiveness, accountability and preparedness	54
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STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS, ACCOUNTABILITY AND PREPAREDNESS

DPPA faced difficult decisions in 2025 on staffing and programmatic priorities, underscoring the critical role of strategic planning, risk preparedness and knowledge management to ensure scarce resources are focused on activities with the greatest impact and learning potential.

DPPA furthered organizational effectiveness by fostering an accountable, inclusive and values-driven culture. This entailed enhanced transparency in recruitment and workforce diversity trends, coupled with sustained communication and learning initiatives. Staff development opportunities also were provided to promote staff engagement and retention efforts. Leadership encouraged consistent and transparent communication through in-depth discussions and surveys to identify priority concerns among staff and develop an action plan that is now under implementation.

To ensure effective and efficient use of its resources, DPPA continued to strengthen its risk management practices, completing an annual review of the joint DPPA-DPO risk registry and contributing to the Secretariat-wide risk registry. Crisis management training, which focused on field operations, further

enhanced the Department's preparedness. Further, all MYA projects were required to integrate risk mitigation measures into their design, ensuring preparedness was a critical aspect of project implementation and extra-budgetary resources were managed responsibly.

DPPA also supported evaluations and audits by the Board of Auditors and Office of Internal Oversight Services throughout the year. MYA resources were essential for coordinating reviews, tracking follow-up actions, and implementing recommendations to strengthen accountability, transparency and effectiveness across the Department, as there is no regular budget funding for these functions.

The Department also continued its communication and outreach efforts in 2025, ensuring timely and effective messaging on key political developments and peace and security efforts. The communication team, fully funded by the MYA, played a central role in crisis communications related to Haiti, the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen, providing critical support to senior leadership and helping shape key political messaging for the Secretary-General and senior UN leadership more broadly. Despite resource constraints, the team ensured consistent outreach and engagement with Member States, experts and partners across the United Nations system. The team also supported high-level advocacy initiatives, including the launch of the first-ever United Nations Global Advocate for Peace, aimed at amplifying public engagement around the UN's peace and security priorities. The team also co-organized "Through Her Lens: Women Rising for Peace", a large-scale photo exhibit highlighting important contributions of women in peace and security across 11 conflict-affected contexts. The exhibit was viewed widely at UNHQ as well as various field contexts.

SUSTAINING TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Throughout the year, reduced MYA funding compelled DPPA to scale back much of its learning, capacity-building and knowledge management activities. Over the past three years, DPPA's training portfolio, which relies on MYA funding to serve approximately 4,500 staff across Headquarters and field locations, has contracted 87 per cent. This retraction has undermined implementation of current training initiatives and limited the ability to expand into emerging thematic areas. In 2025, courses covering topics such as climate, peace and security, conflict analysis and electoral violence had to be curtailed.

Despite these challenges, demand for training opportunities remains strong among staff. To continue meeting the need to maximize the impact of learning and knowledge management efforts, the Department adapted its training programmes in 2025 to include online and hybrid options and prioritized the most critical training opportunities.

E-ANALYTICS AND INNOVATION COURSE



Delivered in collaboration with the Qatar Computing Research Institute, the flagship course trained 23 staff (70 per cent women) across 12 teams on applying generative AI for political analysis, mediation and early warning. Participants developed tools such as an AI-based coup predictor and a system to detect gendered hate speech on social media. The course has now trained nearly 300 staff and continues to spark field innovations.

CEASEFIRE MEDIATION COURSE



Organized in partnership with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Defence International Centre and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Ceasefire Mediation Course brought together 28 participants from across DPPA and DPO, as well as external mediators and representatives of parties to conflicts to strengthen mediation skills and foster coordination among participants and trainers.

WOMEN IN CEASEFIRE NEGOTIATIONS COURSE



This virtual course brought together 32 women from 26 countries to strengthen practical skills in ceasefire and security negotiations. The training promoted best practices drawn from UN mediation experience and fostered sustained professional networks among participants and DPPA mediation experts, supporting more inclusive peace processes as one part of DPPA's broader WPS efforts.

HIGH-LEVEL MEDIATION COURSE



Organized in partnership with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the UN High-Level Mediation Course brought together 19 senior DPPA and DPO officials, and representatives from Member States, regional organizations, civil society and think tanks to strengthen practical negotiation and mediation skills.

WPS FLAGSHIP TRAININGS



Delivered the 14th UN High-Level Seminar on Gender and Inclusive Mediation Strategies, bringing together senior UN officials, Member States, regional organizations and civil society to discuss strategies for involvement of civil society, particularly women's civil society, in mediation. DPPA also organized the 21st Gender and Women, Peace and Security training for 23 HQ-based staff across the Department.

UN PEACEMAKER



DPPA relaunched the [UN Peacemaker website](#) as a modern, multilingual platform providing global access to UN mediation guidance, tools, and lessons learned. Now available in all six UN languages, the site supports more effective peace processes worldwide and expands outreach to practitioners, Member States, and regional organizations, strengthening DPPA's role as the UN focal point for mediation knowledge.



Participants in the United Nations High-Level Mediation Course held in June 2025 focused on strengthening diplomatic collaboration and mediation approaches. Photo: DPPA.



MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

DPPA undertook a Mid-Term Review of its Strategic Plan (2023-2026), providing an opportunity for the Department to assess progress and refine its priorities for the remainder of the implementation period. Despite significant resource constraints, DPPA has continued to deliver strongly on its mandates, responding to major crises — including Ukraine, Sudan and Gaza — while sustaining global conflict prevention efforts and leadership on Women, Peace and Security and climate and security. Most Strategic Plan targets were met or exceeded.

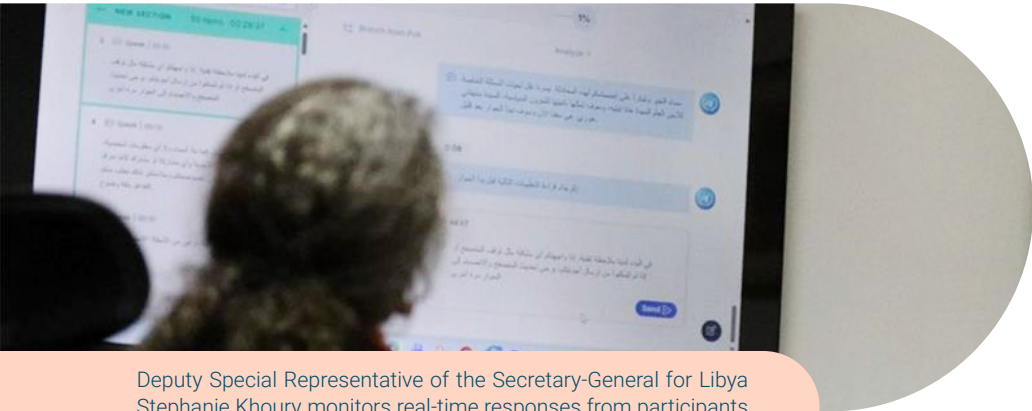
Since 2023, DPPA has maintained intensive operational support across the UN system, producing daily political analysis and regular briefings to intergovernmental bodies. In 2024, the Department led or co-led 45 country-specific interagency mechanisms and conducted 332 field deployments, including mediation support and electoral assessment missions. In 2025, DPPA supported 34 special political missions worldwide, anchoring UN preventive diplomacy and political engagement. Most of DPPA's operations continue to largely rely on MYA funding.

DPPA's unique strength lies in linking Headquarters political analysis with field action through an integrated toolbox combining mediation, electoral assistance, peacebuilding financing and innovation tools. However, rising global demand alongside declining extra-budgetary funding is constraining field engagement, underscoring the need for sustained and predictable donor support to maintain prevention impact. The Review also highlighted areas where the Department could improve upon its work, providing recommendations for the remainder of the Strategic Plan — through 2026 — and laying a foundation for planning for 2027 and beyond.

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Fully funded through the MYA, DPPA’s Innovation Cell advances the Department’s capacity to responsibly use new technologies and innovative approaches to strengthen conflict prevention, mediation and peacebuilding initiatives around the globe. In 2025, with MYA funding DPPA expanded the use of AI-enabled tools to support political engagement and conflict prevention across field missions and Headquarters. Seven digital dialogues (Afghanistan, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Libya, Central Asia and a global Youth, Peace and Security dialogue) cumulatively reached more than 3,000 participants – including women, youth and communities often excluded from formal processes – ensuring a broader range of perspectives informed political and peace processes. MYA funding also supported the development of new analytical capabilities, including targeted social media analysis to inform mission planning and strategic communication.

These initiatives reflect DPPA’s approach to innovation: applied, mission-driven and grounded in the operational needs of political affairs officers and field missions. In the context of UN80 and tightening resources, MYA funding has been essential in sustaining this work and enabling DPPA to meet rising analytical and engagement demands of evolving peace and security challenges.



Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya Stephanie Khoury monitors real-time responses from participants during a Digital Dialogue held in October 2025. Photo: UNSMIL.

Digital Dialogues

Ecuador

Support: In coordination with the Resident Coordinator’s Office, UNDP and provincial governments, MYA funded AI-enabled digital dialogues across 11 provinces in Ecuador, engaging over 100 young people.

Impact: The initiative informed social cohesion and conflict prevention efforts while strengthening youth participation in public policy and community-based peacebuilding.

Afghanistan

Support: The Innovation Cell supported UNAMA and UN Women in conducting digital dialogues in Dari and Pashto with over 200 Afghan small and mid-size business owners (70 per cent women) as part of consultations ahead of the Private Sector Working Group.

Impact: The consultations captured business perspectives on key challenges and opportunities, informing discussions of the Doha Process Private Sector Working Group, established following the third UN meeting of special envoys on Afghanistan in Doha in 2024.

Data Analytics

MYA funding supported a computational analysis of over 60 million social media posts on perceptions of the United Nations in Syria, across five platforms. Of these, 14,000 relevant posts were analyzed in depth, covering hate speech, emerging narratives, and attitudes towards UN engagement. The analysis was conducted as part of the UN's internal Strategic Assessment on Syria to better inform UN communication and political engagement.

Generative AI Labs

Over 500 political affairs officers across UN Headquarters and field missions were trained through the Innovation Cell's Generative AI Labs. Participants explored practical AI applications such as multilingual summarization, prompt engineering, and bias mitigation using Microsoft Copilot and the IC's Generative AI Primer. The sessions strengthened DPPA's capacity to meet growing information demands while ensuring responsible AI use and human oversight.



LACK OF FUNDING

Resource constraints limited the scale and pace of innovation initiatives in 2025. High demand for innovation support, especially in generative AI, exceeded staff capacity, requiring prioritization and limiting expansion to additional missions and political processes. The E-Analytics and Innovation Course is a further illustration of this: despite high demand from field missions, resource constraints meant the course could only be delivered at Headquarters.

MYA RESOURCES AND FUNDING IN 2025

Since 2010, over 62 Member States and other partners have contributed nearly \$412 million to the MYA, underscoring strong confidence in the work of DPPA.

In 2025, DPPA however faced a severe and sustained funding decline. While donor support has been substantial and remains critical, the 2025 challenging financial landscape marked a significant reduction in funding for both DPPA and the MYA. Consequently, as part of the UN80 cuts to the UN budget, the Department was forced to cut roughly 15 per cent from its regular budget funding, constraining operational capacity and requiring a 20 per cent reduction in posts. These cuts were compounded by declining voluntary contributions to the MYA, which struggled to mobilize just \$22.8 million in 2025 against a target of \$43 million. This marked the third consecutive year of faltering contributions to the MYA, and the Department expects these challenges to continue into 2026 and beyond.

An MYA funding gap of 47 per cent in 2025 forced DPPA to make difficult trade-offs, including drawing down reserves and reducing activities by roughly 30 per cent across headquarters, field operations, and partnerships. These constraints came despite sharply rising demand for DPPA's preventive and political engagement amid an unprecedented number of violent conflicts.

IMPACT OF FUNDING SHORTFALL IN 2025



OPERATIONAL REACH

DPPA was forced to close two liaison offices in 2025 (Beijing and Vienna) and reduce activities in the remaining five offices.



TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

Cost-saving reductions in staff travel limited DPPA's ability to identify entry points for preventive diplomacy and partnerships.



WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

In 2025, DPPA allocated 10 per cent in extra-budgetary funding for WPS initiatives, missing the target of 17 per cent and significantly constraining the Department's ability to effectively ensure women's full, equal and meaningful participation in global peace processes.



ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE RESPONSE

While demand for electoral assistance continued to rise in 2025, reduced resources forced DPPA to deploy 30 per cent fewer electoral missions.



STAFF CAPACITY

DPPA staff funded by the MYA reduced by roughly 30 per cent around the globe.



FEWER SELF-EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED

DPPA carried out only 1 self-evaluation (out of 2 planned) in 2025 due to budget constraints.



RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING

DPPA's Rapid Response funding was reduced by nearly 15 per cent in 2025, curtailing the Department's ability to respond to emerging crises throughout the year.

Flexibility of Funding

Flexible funding through the MYA remained crucial to enable fast and global actions required to prevent violence and preserve peace. Thanks to DPPA donors, in 2025 70 per cent of MYA contributions remained unearmarked, allowing the Department to channel funding to where it is needed most.



MYA FUNDING OVERVIEW

Funding Target

2023
2026 **\$170** million

2025 **\$43** million

MYA Funding Programmed Spent

Programmed **\$33.4** million

Spent **\$29.8** million

Multi-Year Agreements

Predictability and sustainability of MYA funding also comes through multi-year agreements, that are essential to plan and implement activities with greater flexibility and efficiency. In 2025, DPPA's work continued to be supported six multi-year agreements, a positive trend that we hope to sustain.



6 Multi-Year Agreements

Funding Received

47%
Funding
gap

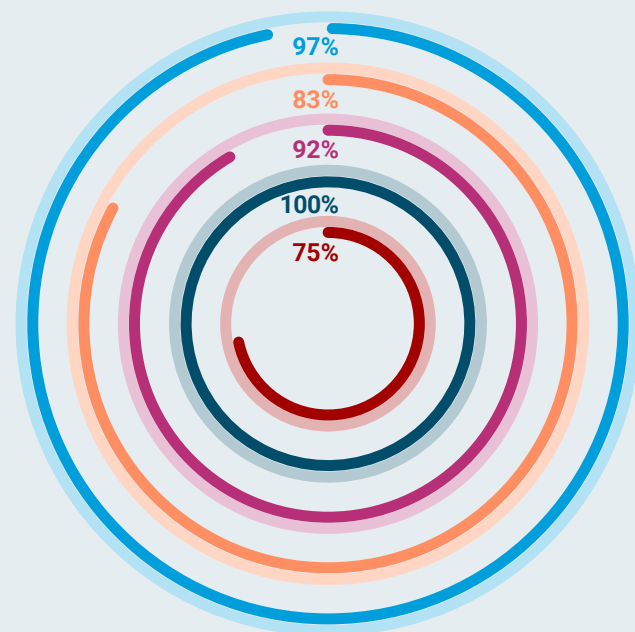
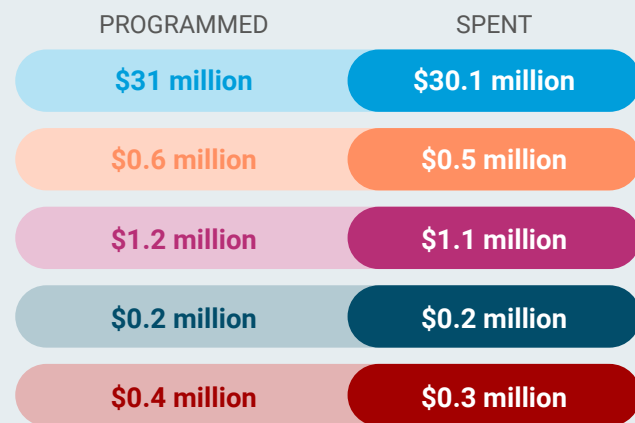
\$22.8
million

53%
Funded

Overall implementation rate

89%

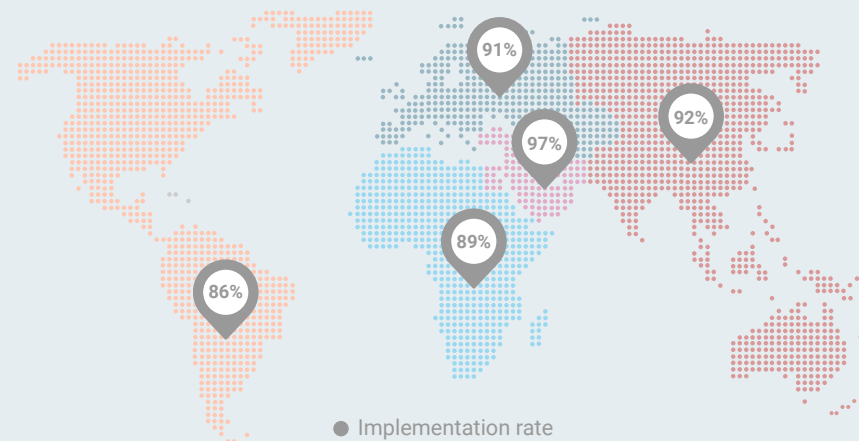
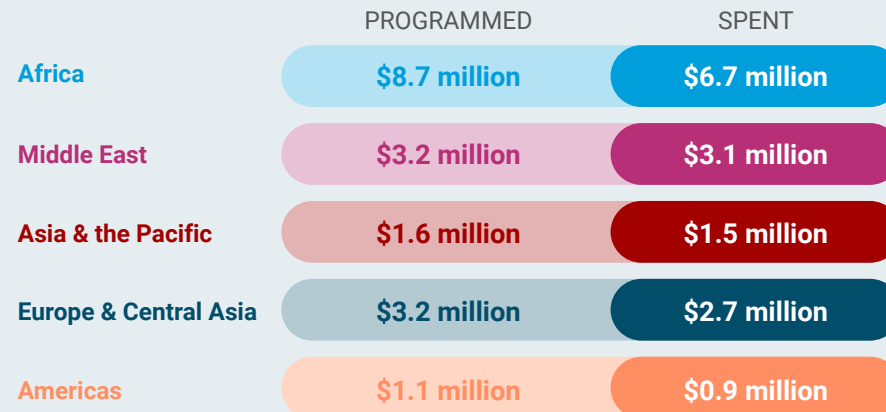
Distribution by Thematic Windows*



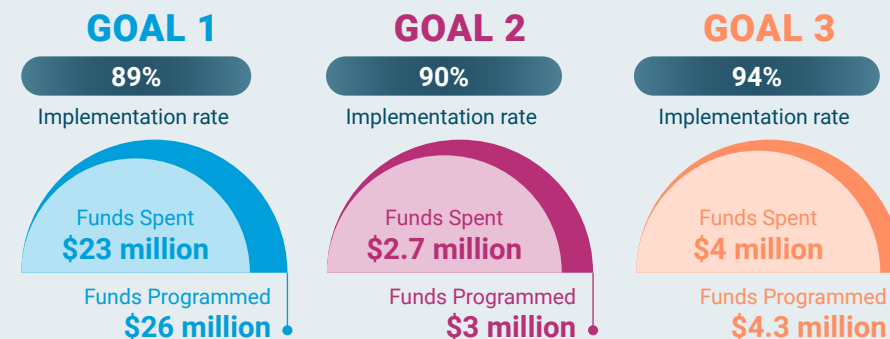
- Regular
- WPS
- Technology and Innovation
- Local Peace Initiative
- Rapid Response

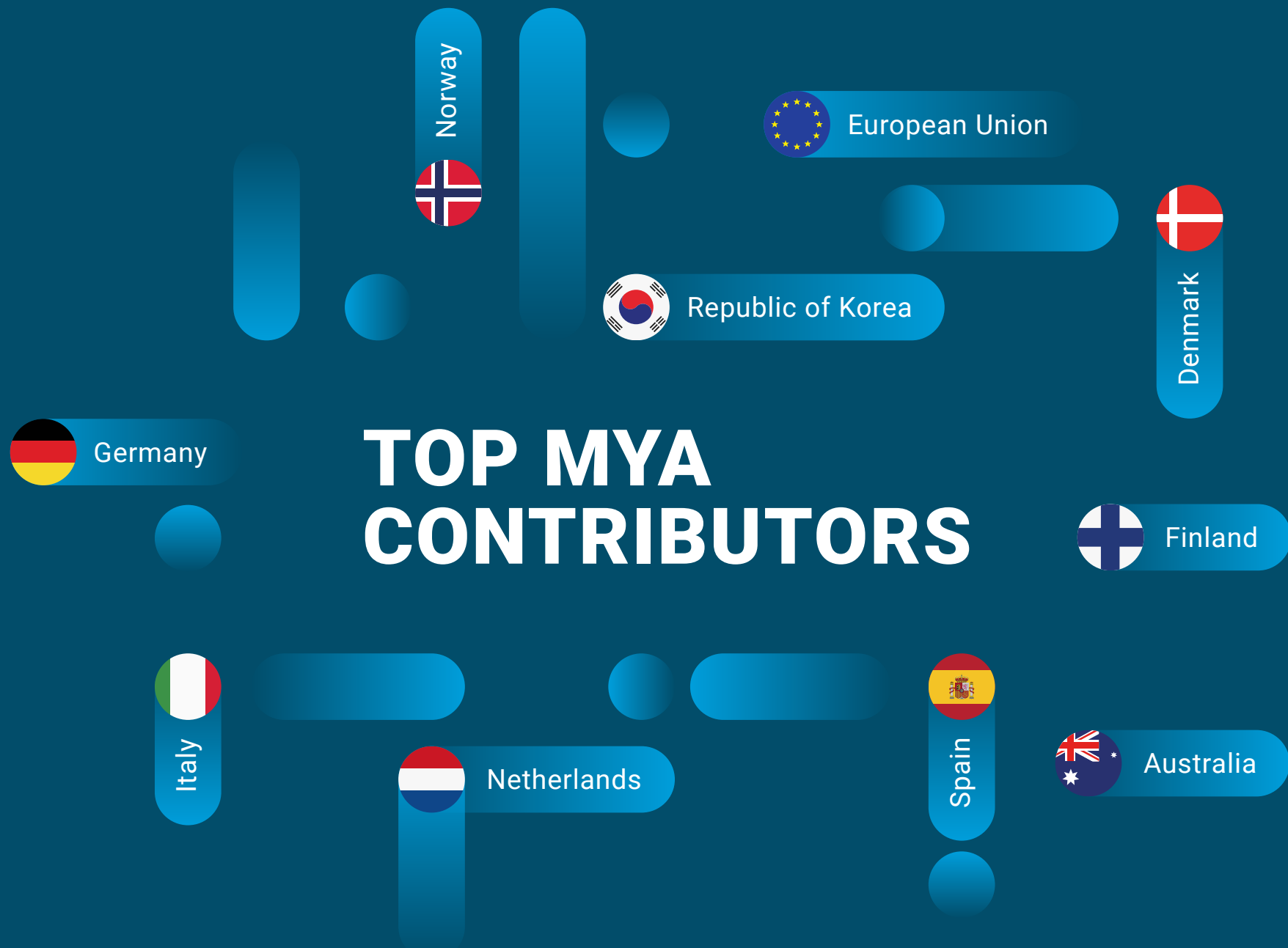
*The implementation rate is shown based on a real number for accuracy.

Distribution by Regional Focus*



Distribution by Goal*





Funding received per donor in 2025

Donor	Total	Donor	Total
 Australia	\$1,108,587	 Luxembourg	\$113,960
 Austria	\$468,500	 Mexico	\$10,000
 Bosnia and Herzegovina	\$10,000	 Multi-Partners Trust Fund	\$1,201,323
 Bulgaria	\$23,444	 UN Peace and Development Fund	\$565,630
 Cyprus	\$35,100	 Netherlands	\$2,180,220
 Denmark	\$1,859,673	 New Zealand	\$452,750
 Dominican Republic	\$24,970	 Norway	\$2,889,017
 European Union	\$1,126,900	 Portugal	\$94,292
 Estonia	\$17,405	 Qatar	\$500,000
 Finland	\$808,290	 Republic of Korea	\$3,200,000
 France	\$465,800	 Slovenia	\$29,483
 Germany	\$1,759,200	 Spain	\$679,710
 Greece	\$34,662	 Switzerland	\$624,950
 Iceland	\$154,513	 Singapore	\$20,000
 Italy	\$1,198,300	 Türkiye	\$350,000
 Ireland	\$402,760	 United Kingdom	\$267,220
 Japan	\$143,610		

Junior Professional Officers (JPOs)

In 2025, donors sponsored 42 positions across the Department (27 women and 15 men).

Donor	Number		Duty Station(s)
Australia	3		New York
Denmark	6		New York / Beirut
Finland	1		New York
France	6		New York / Addis Ababa
Germany	7		New York / Tripoli / Bogota
Italy	1		New York
Japan	2		New York
Kazakhstan	1		New York
Kyrgyz Republic	1		New York
Norway	2		New York / Nairobi
Republic of Korea	5		New York / Addis Ababa
Spain	1		New York
Switzerland	4		New York / Nairobi
United Kingdom	1		New York
United States	1		New York

MYA 2026

AN URGENT CALL FOR FUNDING

Despite significant reductions in both programmatic and operational spending, DPPA's financial outlook continues to look grim. Without strengthened funding from partners in 2026, DPPA will be forced to maintain its financial contingency measures and further reduce its operational reach through deeper cuts to critical prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

\$44
million

The MYA remains critical for DPPA in 2026 – \$44 million in voluntary contributions are needed to prevent drastic reductions to vital operations such as supporting prevention, crisis management, and sustain dialogue and peace efforts on the ground from Afghanistan to Libya, Sudan, Syria, Yemen and Ukraine, among others.

Peace is possible, but not without sustained support!

For additional information, please explore DPPA's full **Multi-Year Appeal** and regional proposals:



Explore the
**Multi-Year
Appeal**



Explore
the **Ukraine**
proposal



Explore
the **Sudan**
proposal



Explore the
Middle East
proposal

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADF Allied Democratic Forces

AFPs United Nations agencies, funds and programmes

AI Artificial Intelligence

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

AU African Union

BINUH United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

CAR Central African Republic

CARICOM Caribbean Community

CSO Civil society organization

CSM Climate Security Mechanism

DPO Department of Peace Operations

DPPA Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

DRC Democratic Republic of Congo

ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States

EU European Union

GCC Gulf Cooperation Council

HC Humanitarian Coordinator

IATF Inter-Agency Task Force

IFIs International financial institutions

IOM International Organization for Migration

IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development

LAS League of Arab States

MENA Middle East and North Africa

MSU Mediation Support Unit

MYA Multi-Year Appeal

NAM Needs Assessment Mission

NAPs National Action Plans

NDCs Nationally Determined Contributions

NGO Non-governmental organization

OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

OIC Organization for Islamic Cooperation

OSE-HoA Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa

OSESGY Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen

PBF Peacebuilding Fund

PDA Peace and Development Advisor

PESG Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General

PKOs Peacekeeping operations

RC Resident Coordinator

SADC Southern African Development Community

SBT Standby Team of Senior Mediation Experts

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

SGBV Sexual and gender-based violence

SPMs Special political missions

SRSG Special Representative of the Secretary-General

UNAMA United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

UNCT United Nations Country Team

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UNHQ United Nations Headquarters

UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund

UNMHA United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement

UNOAU United Nations Office to the African Union

UNOCA United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa

UNOWAS United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel

UNRCCA United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

UNSCO Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

UNSCOL Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon

UNSMIL United Nations Support Mission in Libya

WFP United Nations World Food Programme

WPS Women, Peace and Security

YPS Youth, Peace and Security

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