

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND PEACEBUILDING AFFAIRS

MULTI-YEAR APPEAL

2024 MID-YEAR REPORT



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AI	Artificial intelligence
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
CCG	Contact and Coordination Group
CPS	Climate, Peace and Security
CSM	Climate Security Mechanism
CSO	Civil society organization
DPO	Department of Peace Operations
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EU	European Union
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GPS	Gender, Peace and Security
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
LAS	League of Arab States
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NAM	Needs Assessment Mission
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Cooperation
OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OSE-HoA	Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa

OSEGY	Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen
PDA	Peace and Development Advisor
PESG	Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SBT	Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers
SPM	Special Political Mission
SESG	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General
SMSG	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
UNAMI	United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNOAU	United Nations Office to the African Union
UNOCC	United Nations Operations and Crisis Centre
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
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
WPS	Women, Peace and Security
YPS	Youth, Peace and Security

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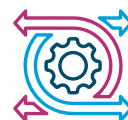
PEACE

IS PRICELESS & POSSIBLE



GLOBAL

We fund UN political work across the world



FLEXIBLE

2/3 of our funding is unearmarked



FAST

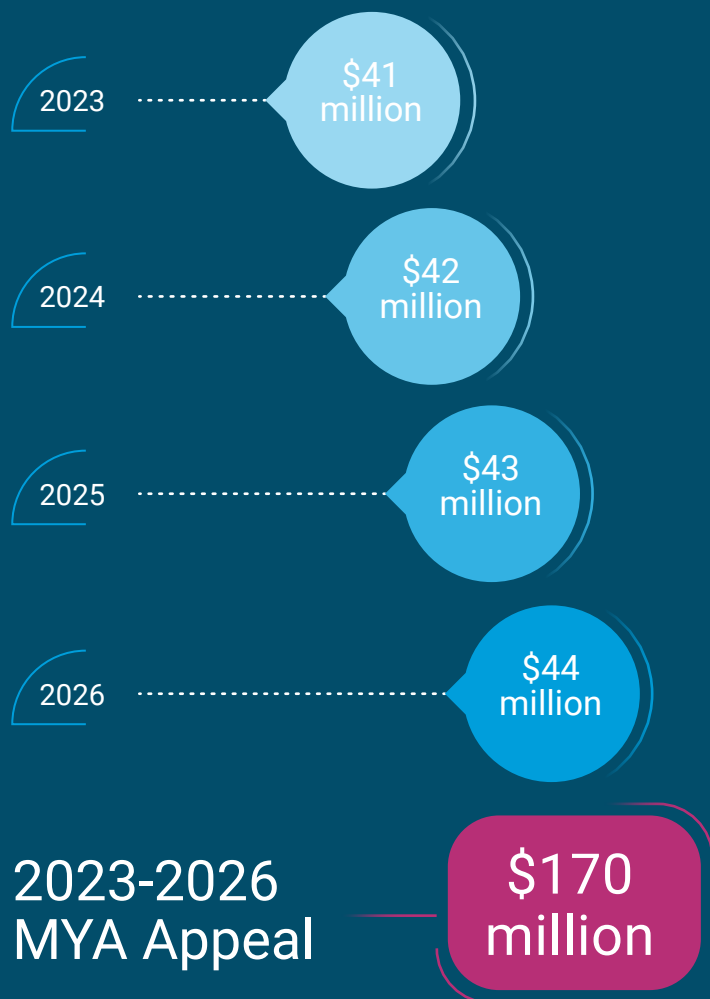
We can allocate funding within 72 hours of a crisis



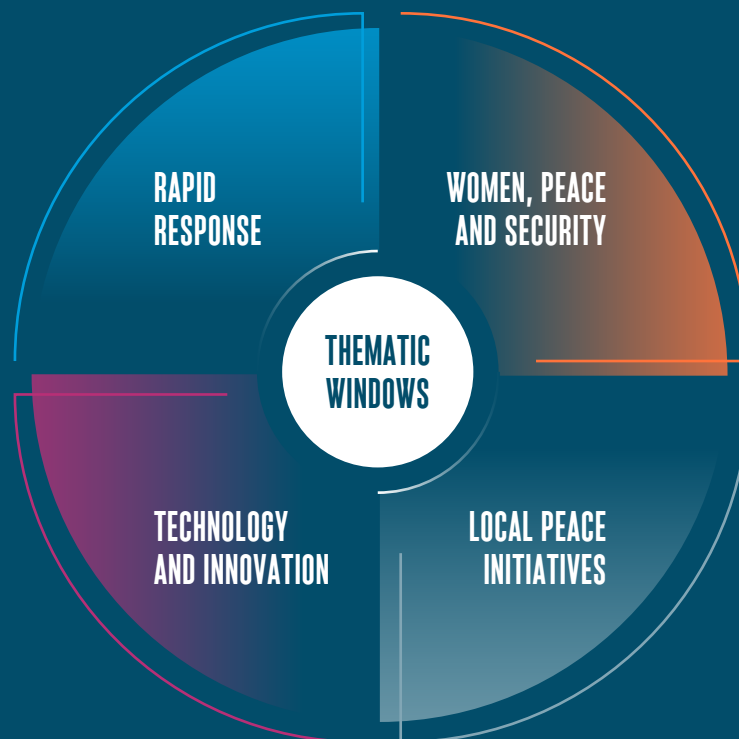
INNOVATIVE & INCLUSIVE

We use innovative approaches to peace and security with emerging technologies

THE MYA CALLS FOR



MYA FUNDING WINDOWS



INTRODUCTION



The global peace and security environment remained critical in the first half of 2024. Meanwhile, the international community's ability to respond to crises and violence is compromised by growing mistrust and division. Rarely in the relatively short history of the United Nations has the work of diplomacy been so difficult, but never has it been more important. This work, much of it led by the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), continues: patiently, painstakingly, often discreetly. DPPA can carry out this work in large part thanks to the contributions its partners channel through the Multi-Year Appeal (MYA).

In Haiti, for example, as the political transition gained pace, MYA resources made it possible to bring in our Standby Team to assist with process design, enhancing the effectiveness of transitional governance arrangements. Similarly, in relation to peace efforts in the Sudan, MYA funding was instrumental for enhancing the work of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General and

advancing international mediation efforts. With the ongoing war in Gaza and persistent regional tensions, MYA support has been critical to our efforts across the Middle East. This funding has enabled us to bolster crisis response capabilities and support expert-led forums in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. In Ukraine, where the conflict shows no sign of abating, MYA funding has facilitated timely reporting and strategic analysis, allowing DPPA to advise UN leadership effectively and contribute to crucial peace initiatives.

The MYA also allowed us to support 12 elections in the first half of the year, from Chad to Vanuatu. At the 2024 mid-year point, we have further deployed staff and advisers on 141 assignments in response to requests for mediation and conflict prevention expertise.

This work would be impossible without the support we receive via the MYA. Worryingly, this crucial funding instrument is facing severe constraints at the mid-year point.

The MYA has received
\$18.9 million out of
\$42 million requested
for 2024.

Without additional funding support, DPPA will be forced to scale back its operations accordingly.

We are deeply grateful to our donors for your backing over the years and invite you and new partners to consider stepping up that support for the remainder of 2024. Our experience is that relatively modest investments in conflict prevention and sustaining peace yield measurable dividends, in the short, medium and long term. In this time of uncertainty and instability globally, we hope to continue to have you by our side.

|||| SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

With MYA funding, DPPA supported preparations for the **Summit of the Future**, and led the design and planning process for the peace and security segment of the Action Days. The Action Days are intended to mobilize broader support for the Summit and the **Pact for the Future**.

MYA funding also enabled DPPA to monitor the intergovernmental negotiations on the Pact, hear Member States' responses to recommendations in **A New Agenda for Peace** and gauge cross-regional support for issues related to peace and security. Investing in diplomacy in an era of divisions is one area where support from Member States has remained steadfast, as can be observed in the evolving draft of the Pact.

A nuanced understanding of Member State perspectives helps DPPA ensure that the momentum from A New Agenda for Peace is not only carried into the Summit of the Future, but also feeds into other areas of the Department's policy work in prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding.



GOAL 1

PREVENTING AND RESOLVING VIOLENT CONFLICTS AND SUSTAINING PEACE



Goal 1 captures the Department's aim to provide multi-dimensional, action-oriented analysis, electoral assistance, mediation support, and guidance to the Special Representatives and Envoys of the Secretary-General. The MYA supports these efforts by providing critical resources to strengthen our support and engagements with not just Special Political Missions (SPMs), but also other United Nations system partners and regional organizations. Under Goal 1, the Rapid Response funding window enables DPPA to pivot quickly to address emerging needs.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS UNDER GOAL 1



51%

of departmental analytical products contained gender-sensitive analysis



141

deployments (upon request) for assistance in mediation and conflict prevention



61

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



90%

of cases where a coordinated response was communicated to Member States within 4 weeks of EAD receiving their requests for electoral assistance



110

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

WE EXPANDED OUR CONFLICT ANALYSIS TO RESPOND TO NEW THREATS

DPPA used MYA funds to undertake, in collaboration with the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, a comprehensive analysis of the situation in southern **Libya**, focusing on foreign military and armed presences in the region. The study mapped key security, political, and tribal groups, analyzed socioeconomic and cross-border dynamics, and provided recommendations for United Nations and international engagement. Two MYA-funded workshops in Tripoli facilitated discussions among staff from the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and around 50 representatives from the diplomatic community. The interactions provided UNSMIL with options for expanding engagement in southern Libya, which suffers from problems of access and

receives fewer resources than the rest of the country. Recommendations included utilizing good offices and offering additional support to regional actors.

The MYA strengthened the **UN Operations and Crisis Centre (UNOCC)**. The UNOCC Watch Room provided DPPA with high-quality products and 24/7 monitoring of global events to inform timely and effective decision-making. In response to deteriorating security in **Haiti**, for example, the UNOCC provided DPPA with enhanced monitoring and a comprehensive, consolidated picture of the situation, helping guide the UN's political action and posture on the ground. UNOCC also produced analytical products and carried out enhanced monitoring in relation to the situations in Chad, Senegal, and Ecuador.



PEACE AND SECURITY IN A CHANGING CLIMATE: FROM ANALYSIS TO ACTION

In 2024, DPPA's engagement on climate, peace and security continued to expand in breadth and depth.

DPPA, as a founding member of the inter-agency Climate Security Mechanism (CSM), is championing the theme “From Analysis to Action” for 2024. This signifies an evolution of the Climate, Peace and Security (CPS) agenda from understanding climate impacts and raising awareness of its implications for peace and security, to implementing solutions in practice.

CPS advisors are a key part of this shift. They are now deployed in SPMs covering **West Africa and the Sahel, Central Africa, the Horn of Africa, Somalia, and Iraq**. Additionally, two new CPS advisors will deploy later in 2024 to our Mission in **Afghanistan** and our office to the **African Union (AU)**.

In Somalia, the **United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)**, in close collaboration with DPPA, successfully facilitated the first visit of the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) first mission to a conflict-affected country. The visit demonstrated the potential catalytic effect of the MYA, leading to a \$100 million commitment from the Fund to Somalia, to strengthen the resilience of communities most impacted by climate change.

In the Horn of Africa, significant progress has been made to strengthen connections between the United Nations, Member States of the region, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the AU on the CPS agenda. Led by the **Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa (OSE-HoA)**, the United Nations launched the second iteration of its Regional Prevention and Integration Strategy for the Horn of Africa (2024-2028), dedicating one of its three pillars to action on CPS. Through this pillar, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes (AFPs) have agreed to strengthen their coordination, harmonize advocacy and develop more integrated programming on CPS in the region under the framework of the United Nations CPS Hub for the Horn of Africa.

The Hub provides technical advice to partners and works with IGAD to develop joint programming and investments for adaptation and resilience.

In Iraq, in May 2024, the **United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)** and DPPA supported the Kirkuk government, Kirkuk university and the local private sector association to organize the first public Kirkuk Climate Forum. The forum, chaired by the Deputy Governor, brought together a diverse range of stakeholders for strategic discussions on the climate impacts in Kirkuk. It created a unique space for dialogue on climate issues with a broad range of participants, particularly women and youth.

The **United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU)**, in close collaboration with DPPA and partners, has provided support to the AU's extensive multi-stakeholder, regional, and Member State consultations on CPS. Through the African Continental Climate Security Risk Assessment, the AU is now identifying local, regional, and ecologically specific pathways by which climate change exacerbates peace and security risks.

In New York, DPPA became a member of UN-Water in early 2024 and contributed to the United Nations System-wide Strategy for Water and Sanitation, helping ensure that its guidance is conflict-sensitive.

DPPA is also active in developing new tools, including its online CPS Dashboard. This platform, launched in June 2024, consolidates publicly available information relating to CPS-related provisions of Security Council decisions, as well as formal meetings of the Council and Arria-formula meetings.



WE WORKED AROUND THE CLOCK — AND AROUND THE WORLD — TO PREVENT CONFLICTS AND MAKE PEACE



DPPA provides strategic guidance and backstopping to over 30 SPMs globally, providing crucial support to Special Envoys and Special Representatives of the Secretary-General (SRSGs).

DPPA supported the **Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria** and senior leadership, enhancing its capacity to analyse and report on military developments in Syria.

MYA funding allowed the incoming **SRSG for West Africa and the Sahel** to engage in depth with representatives of civil society, political leaders, government officials, and development partners in Guinea. His mission produced an engagement strategy and recommendations for an inclusive transition process in the country.

MYA funds also made possible the deployment of staff and technical teams to **Niger** and **Burkina Faso**, as well as to countries hosting exiled Malian, Nigerien, and Burkinabe actors, as part of efforts to craft the SRSG's engagement strategy in transition countries in the Sahel.

MYA funding enables DPPA to support the **Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General (PESG) for Western Sahara** by maintaining contacts with interlocutors and preparing his travel plans, meetings, and briefing materials. The MYA also facilitated the Envoy's briefings to the Security Council and interactions with senior United Nations officials and stakeholders. In the first half of 2024, MYA funding allowed staff to support the Personal Envoy during a round of regional visits in April, as well as visits

to South Africa and the United Kingdom to discuss efforts towards a political settlement.

MYA support to the **United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)** has enabled the Centre to implement the Secretary-General's "surge in diplomacy for peace" and DPPA's prevention objectives in the domain of transboundary water management and water diplomacy. The Centre organized multiple regional events to increase awareness and understanding of key issues in water governance, climate change and beyond.



MYA SUPPORT REMAINS VITAL FOR THE PROVISION OF CRITICAL MONITORING AND ANALYSIS ON UKRAINE

With the war in Ukraine well into its third year, MYA support remains critical to sustain DPPA's provision of timely and accurate reporting, analysis and advice to the Secretary-General and United Nations leadership.

The Department's reporting on political, diplomatic, and security-related developments has fed into the preparation of public statements and briefings to the Security Council on Ukraine, as well as reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly. This year, DPPA has also continued to represent the United Nations as an observer in senior-level peace-related initiatives.

The MYA finances **DPPA's Liaison Office in Kyiv**, which has been vital in enabling the Department to monitor and respond to developments on the ground in an effective and timely way. This work includes support to the Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) and UNCT to undertake regular contingency planning and advocacy on the protection of civilians, human rights and international humanitarian law. Supported by the MYA, the Department has also been able to rely on additional capacity that has helped provide Headquarters and field-level guidance to the United Nations crisis and humanitarian response, civil society engagement, Member State discussions on various diplomatic peace efforts, and internal United Nations inter-agency coordination structures.

The DPPA liaison presence on the ground in Ukraine, which operates entirely on MYA funding, remains indispensable for timely monitoring and reporting of political and security developments and ensuring sustained engagement with Ukrainian counterparts and the broader United Nations system. The Office has helped facilitate direct interactions with the Government and local stakeholders, including women and youth civil society representatives. MYA funds have also enabled DPPA to promote continued cross-regional exchange and learning among women civil society leaders. The Office is also planning a regional event in the latter part of 2024 as a follow-up to the participation of a group of Ukrainian women in a Women, Peace and Security (WPS) conference in Chisinau, Moldova, in 2023.

MAINTAINING MOMENTUM FOR PEACE IN COLOMBIA

The MYA continued to strengthen DPPA's support to the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia and the peace process.

Colombia's 2016 Final Peace Agreement with the former FARC-EP and its ongoing negotiations with armed groups under the Government's "total peace" policy continue to inspire peacebuilders globally.

Sustained assistance from DPPA, directly and through the **United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia**, has contributed to those processes politically and operationally. Targeted programmatic funding from the MYA has helped to maintain forward momentum in the peace process. It enabled the Verification Mission to provide technical and organizational support to the National Participation Committee as part of an extensive consultation process with a cross section of civil society. Altogether, 79 regional and sectorial meetings involving 8,500 participants, including women, young people and ethnic groups were convened to ensure diverse voices from across the country were heard.

The negotiations between the Government of Colombia and the ELN guerilla reached a historic milestone when, on 25 May 2024, the parties signed off on the first point on their peace agreement, noting the importance of the democratic and full participation of all members of Colombian society in peacebuilding. In the lead-up to this, MYA funding had enabled the Verification Mission to provide technical and organizational support to the National Participation Committee as part of an extensive consultation process with a cross-section of civil society.

Furthermore, in June, the SRSG and his team provided good offices support to the start of a new negotiation process between the Government and the Segunda Marquetalia guerrilla. The MYA will continue to be a valuable resource enabling such support to negotiations with conflict parties and outreach to other key stakeholders.

SUPPORTING THE PERSONAL ENVOY'S EFFORTS IN SUDAN

Throughout the first six months of 2024, the situation in Sudan continued to deteriorate as the conflict continued and civilian casualties increased. Clashes across Sudan, widespread human rights violations and a devastating humanitarian crisis have now been compounded by a looming famine.

Efforts to reach a cessation of hostilities have yet to be successful. IGAD's promising initiative of late 2023 and early 2024 to convene face-to-face talks between the leaders of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) broke down after the Sudanese authorities in Port Sudan announced their withdrawal from IGAD, citing the organization's perceived bias in favour of the RSF. In the meantime, the AU's efforts have been aimed at giving prominence to civilian voices and paving the way for a broad-based political process. However, the most pressing need in the near term has been securing a humanitarian pause in the violence to facilitate aid delivery and allow people trapped in the crossfire to flee in safety. To this end, United Nations and wider international efforts aimed at supporting the resumption of talks in Jeddah under US and Saudi auspices and at exploring humanitarian aspects and related ceasefire elements.

Following the closure of the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan (UNITAMS), the efforts of the **Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan** have become central to United Nations political engagement in the country. The Personal Envoy is leading efforts to strengthen the coordination of international mediation initiatives, working in close collaboration with regional actors in accordance with Security Council resolution 2724 (2024). These efforts culminated in the Mediators Planning Retreat in Djibouti in late July, which convened all relevant multilateral organizations as well as Member States involved in political initiatives to resolve the conflict in Sudan. Upon conclusion of the retreat, the Djiboutian Foreign Minister, who hosted the event, issued a Declaration reflecting the commitment of all participants to collaborative strategic engagement moving forward.

Earlier in July, the Personal Envoy had also launched an initiative to strengthen the protection of civilians and improve humanitarian access in accordance with Security Council resolution 2736 (2024).

Between 11-19 July, he hosted the parties for proximity talks in Geneva, with a view to developing and testing concrete proposals the parties would be prepared to implement.

The Personal Envoy has stressed that women's participation in peace efforts is a priority for his office and has held consultations with Sudanese women's organizations as part of his outreach.

The Office of the Personal Envoy has so far relied largely on extra-budgetary funding. In addition to providing resources to support the Envoy's various engagements, the funding has enabled the recruitment of key political staff. MYA funding also sustained critical backstopping capacity at Headquarters which enabled DPPA to provide real-time monitoring, reporting and analysis to the Secretary- General and Member States. (Lamamra and core staff are financed from Unforeseen. The majority of MYA funding, especially in the first half of 2024, has been for the backstopping team in New York)



PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFGHAN WOMEN THROUGH UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS PROGRAMME

MYA funding is providing opportunities
for Afghan women to develop skills.

MYA funding has enabled the **United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)** to recruit Afghan female National United Nations Volunteers (NUNVs), providing opportunities for Afghan women to develop skills.

This year, 16 NUNVs were recruited, helping connect Afghan women with UNAMA and supporting the Mission's mandate by incorporating women's and youth voices into mandate delivery, Mission processes, outreach and engagement.

Since the initiative began three years ago, 80 NUNVs have been recruited, with 16 later joining UNAMA as national staff and 11 securing roles with other United Nations and international organizations in Afghanistan. Five NUNVs have also become International UNVs in countries such as Bangladesh, Iraq, Pakistan, South Sudan and Turkey.

The project seeks to improve UNAMA's gender balance (only 9 per cent of national staff are women) by creating a talent pool of skilled Afghan women for future positions. It is in line with the Security Council's focus on Afghan women's rights. NUNVs have also contributed to UNAMA's mandate by representing vulnerable groups and enhancing the Mission's impact.



RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING WINDOW

The Rapid Response funding window sets aside funding which can be deployed within 72 hours in response to acute crisis situations.

Intended to allow DPPA to respond flexibly to unexpected crisis situations, the Rapid Response funding window has supported activities including additional resources to convene stakeholders, engage in in-person consultations, and surge deployments (including to SPMs and RCOs).

In early 2024, MYA funding helped the **Special Coordinator, Independent Assessment Mandated by Security Council Resolution 2679 (2023)**, to continue engaging with international and Afghan stakeholders on the recommendations of the independent assessment. The funding also enabled the retention of key staffing capacity and provided additional resources to allow the Special Coordinator to undertake consultations in Kabul, New York and Doha.

WAR IN GAZA AND THE UNITED NATIONS RESPONSE

More than nine months into the war in Gaza and in the absence of a ceasefire and hostage deal, ongoing hostilities continue to impact both regional and global stability, with escalating tensions heightening fears of a wider conflict.

MYA funding for DPPA's work on Israel-Palestine and the broader Middle East region is now more crucial than ever.

Supported by the MYA, DPPA has provided backstopping to the **Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO)**. The funding has enabled DPPA to prepare the Secretary-General and senior officials for high-level meetings on Gaza, engage with Security Council members, and support UNSCO in Jerusalem. In the immediate aftermath of last year's 7 October terrorist attacks, the MYA funded the deployment of surge capacity to Jerusalem to address the acute crisis and added workload, thus reinforcing UNSCO's crisis response and planning at a critical moment, and before resources through assessed contributions can strengthen the Office. The MYA also supported the Secretary-General's engagements by facilitating experts' travel for crisis management discussions. Additionally, the MYA funded the 10th annual MENA RC Forum in Geneva, which focused on Gaza and the regional impact of the conflict.

Resources made available this year ensured that increased demand from the Secretary-General, Member States, and United Nations bodies for timely situational analysis were met. Given that the MYA is the sole source of funding for DPPA's desk capacity covering Israel-Palestine and the Middle East Peace Process, these resources were pivotal in maintaining support at a time when the Security Council and General Assembly convene meetings on the region with markedly increased frequency.

WE DEPLOYED MEDIATION EXPERTS TO NEGOTIATING TABLES AROUND THE WORLD

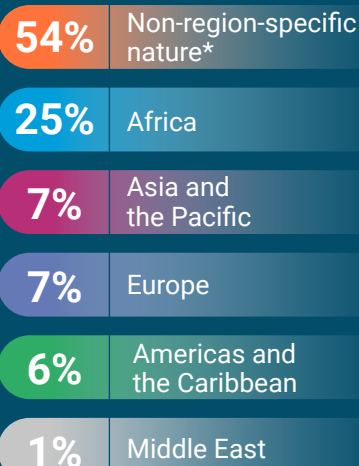
In the first half of 2024, the **Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers (SBT)** engaged in 71 mediation support assignments in 16 different contexts. These included: Chile, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Guatemala, Lesotho, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Sudan and Vanuatu.



SBT SUPPORT BY THEME



SBT SUPPORT BY REGION



*With the majority focusing on capacity-building efforts.

KEY ENGAGEMENTS OF THE STANDBY TEAM AS OF MID-2024

SUPPORT TO SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS



CYPRUS

DPPA deployed an SBT process design expert to support the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on Cyprus during her two visits to the island. The expert assisted in meetings with leaders, civil society, women, youth, and other stakeholders to gather insights and advance the search for common ground on the Cyprus issue.



HAITI

During the reporting period, Haiti experienced notable political developments, including the 11 March announcement of transitional governance arrangements, the establishment of the Transitional Presidential Council, and the appointment of a Prime Minister and Government. In this context, an SBT process design expert was invited to share lessons and insights on transitional governance with the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti and its partners.



LIBYA

DPPA deployed staff and SBT experts to support an UNSMIL-organized workshop in Tunis for Libyan military and security actors. The workshop, attended by over 40 participants, sought to develop a common code of conduct for Libyan security providers. This code seeks to build trust, enhance security provision, protect civilians, and ensure respect for human rights in Libya.



SUDAN

DPPA and SBT experts on process design and gender and inclusion supported an internal United Nations brainstorming session on the situation in Sudan. The session brought together the PESG and other senior UN officials to discuss and identify possible strategic political entry points for targeted engagement on Sudan in the short to medium term, and further inform action by United Nations leadership based on Security Council resolution 2736 (2024).

SUPPORT TO PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS



DRC

In line with the disengagement plan, as outlined in Security Council resolution 2717 (2023), the Mission sought SBT support to enhance subnational mediation and dialogue structures in eastern DRC. A process design expert facilitated consultations in Ituri Province, leading to a proposed architecture and roadmap for a permanent dialogue mechanism to address structural drivers of conflict in the province. Additionally, the expert supported inter-faith dialogue initiatives in Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu, facilitating three workshops with the aim to (i) enhance the dialogue and facilitation skills of faith-based actors and community leaders, and (ii) develop a dialogue engagement strategy for faith-based leaders in each of the provinces.

SUPPORT TO RCs/NON-MISSION SETTINGS



CHILE

In 2024, DPPA deployed an SBT process design expert and a staff to Chile at the request of the RCO and the Chilean Presidency. The mission provides technical advice to the Presidential Commission for Peace and Understanding, which has been tasked with addressing the long-standing conflict between the Chilean state and the Indigenous Mapuche People. The expert developed a series of context and process observations for the Commission, emphasizing the need for deeper engagement with Indigenous counterparts, improved public messaging around the Commission's work, and as strategies for rapprochement and dialogue between the Chilean state and the Mapuche communities. Additionally, the expert provided input to the RCO to support UNCT planning and activities in the Araucanía region.



ETHIOPIA

In March 2024, the Berghof Foundation and the Ethiopians for Inclusive Dialogue civil

society organizations (CSOs) launched a “Coaching Programme for Women Peace Leaders” to empower women to participate in political dialogues in Ethiopia. An SBT gender and inclusion expert shared insights on women's peace leadership in Kenya and Somalia, highlighting the importance of collective power in advocating for women's inclusion in peace negotiations.



GUATEMALA

DPPA and an SBT process design expert provided technical support to the Presidency of Guatemala, to design a dialogue process to address the historical territorial conflict between two indigenous K'iché communities in western Guatemala. The expert joined the Presidency team on a field visit to the affected communities, meeting with political actors, indigenous leaders, and civil society representatives to assess the feasibility of dialogue. DPPA will continue collaborating with the Presidency on the design and implementation of the process. Further discussions will address the issue of armed actors; the participation of civil society actors and women; and addressing the use of social media for hate speech and disinformation.



WE PROVIDED MULTI-FACETED ELECTORAL SUPPORT

PROVISION OF MULTIFACETED ELECTORAL SUPPORT TO MEMBER STATES

According to estimates, some 2 billion people in around 60 countries around the globe are casting their ballots in elections in 2024.

The Under-Secretary-General of DPPA serves as the United Nations system-wide focal point for electoral assistance activities.

DPPA continued to coordinate United Nations technical assistance to electoral processes in over **50 Member States**. This included our support to 12 elections that took place in the first half of 2024, namely in **Chad, Comoros, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Maldives,**

Mauritania, Pakistan, Panama, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

In the first six months of 2024 alone, the **Department led 22 electoral missions**, including to **South Sudan, Moldova, Honduras, Bolivia, Central African Republic, Cameroon, The Gambia, Mali, Pakistan, Mozambique, New Caledonia (France), Chad, Venezuela and South Africa**. The objective of many of these missions was to assess the needs of requesting Member States, provide advisory and technical support to electoral officials and processes, or to ensure timely and effective support to Special Envoys, electoral officials, and UNCTs. Other electoral missions supported regional efforts for peaceful and credible elections.

DEMANDS AND TRENDS IN 2024

Based on a request from the country, or a United Nations mandate, the United Nations system has been providing technical assistance to around 20 countries that have held or will hold elections in 2024. This includes support to national actors to build technical capacity and encouraging responsible political behaviour.

In line with the trend of increasing requests for United Nations technical support seen in recent years, DPPA received 12 new requests from Member States in the first half of 2024. Areas of assistance included institutional and capacity development of electoral institutions; electoral trainings; voter registration; information technology and elections; promoting the participation of women, youth and marginalized groups; election dispute resolution mechanisms; electoral and legal reforms; and voter education activities.

SUPPORT BY REGION

55%
Africa

28%
Asia and
the Pacific

15%
Latin America
and the Caribbean

2%
Eastern
Europe



GENDER AND ELECTORAL SUPPORT

Gender equality and women's participation and representation remained a priority in all United Nations electoral assistance activities in 2024. Every electoral needs assessment and desk review included gender expertise and 100 per cent of needs assessment reports included specific gender-related recommendations to promote women's electoral and political participation. Newly developed internal guidance and messaging on elections incorporated gender considerations, including on issues of information integrity and artificial intelligence (AI).

For the first time, the Department convened a United Nations system-wide working group to discuss ways to address the negative impact of social media on elections, including challenges facing women as candidates, voters and electoral officials.

We continued to promote strategic messaging and advise United Nations staff on women's political participation and the use of temporary special measures. Promoting women's electoral and political participation was also part of all regional trainings initiated, co-organized or supported by DPPA.

DEVELOPING INTERNAL POLICIES AND ENHANCING SYSTEM-WIDE COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

The Department developed or updated seven United Nations internal electoral assistance policies and other guidance materials during the period under review. Moreover, in preparation for the global electoral calendar of 2024, we supported other parts of the United Nations system with briefings, internal guidance, and suggested messaging on a range of election topics.

DPPA also convened discussions on the use of AI in elections with international electoral practitioners, both in the United Nations system and beyond. The Department also proposed United Nations approaches and common messaging; collaborated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in an online training course on AI and elections; and provided election-related input to the Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Board on AI.



ELECTORAL SUPPORT HIGHLIGHTS



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Based on the Prime Minister's request for continuation of United Nations electoral assistance beyond the current mandate of the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, and in support of the presidential and legislative elections in 2025 and 2026, an electoral Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) was deployed to Bangui from 4 to 14 June 2024. The mission made key recommendations on how best to respond to the request for electoral support.



CHAD

A follow-up mission was deployed to N'Djamena in March 2024 to assess progress made since a 2023 mission, and to recommend potential areas of support for the presidential, legislative, senatorial and local elections. The mission recommended continued United Nations efforts including political engagement, technical assistance and fundraising support, important to enhance the feasibility, inclusivity and transparency of the electoral process.

This is expected to encourage a peaceful return to constitutional order, while improving prospects for peaceful and inclusive subsequent elections, including in the medium term (legislative and local elections) and in the long run. The mission noted that this engagement should be conducted in tandem with regional and sub-regional organizations, development partners, and the wider international community.



HONDURAS

DPPA deployed a NAM in May 2024 to assess the electoral environment and propose parameters for the requested continuation of United Nations electoral assistance. In agreement with national counterparts the NAM recommended United Nations assistance be continued until June 2027 to support the following objectives: (i) further strengthening of the electoral bodies' institutional, technical and operational capacities to deliver more sustainable, efficient, transparent and accountable electoral processes; (ii) strengthening engagement with electoral stakeholders to increase transparency and promote meaningful participation and representation of all citizens, especially women, youth and marginalized groups;

and (iii) promote an enabling environment for the conduct of elections that supports the rights of all citizens to participate in peaceful electoral processes.



MALI

An electoral follow-up mission to Mali was conducted from 22 January to 2 February 2024 in accordance with the recommendations of the 2021 electoral NAM. Following a careful assessment of the electoral situation, the NAM recommended the continuation of United Nations engagement through the following three components: (i) political support in the most appropriate and effective way, including through the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) good offices mandate, to strengthen the reforms and electoral processes in Mali, (ii) technical and operational support, through the UNDP project, "Support Project for Reforms and Elections in Mali" and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes throughout the electoral cycle, and (iii) revitalization of the steering committee to ensure proper coordination with financial and technical partners.



MOLDOVA

In response to a request from the Central Electoral Commission, a NAM was deployed to Moldova in February 2024. The mission assessed the electoral environment, the capacity and needs of key electoral stakeholders and recommended, subject to funding availability, that UNDP lead a new integrated technical assistance project until the end of 2028, focusing on, inter alia, institutional capacity building, legal and regulatory support, operations support, inclusivity and participation (promoting electoral inclusiveness for all societal segments, especially women and marginalized/underrepresented groups), and strategic communications (assisting in public outreach and voter education to build trust and counter misinformation).



MOZAMBIQUE

An electoral follow-up mission deployed to Mozambique in March 2024 reassessed the political landscape and reviewed the parameters for ongoing electoral support to enhance United Nations engagement, in advance of the general elections scheduled for 9 October 2024. The mission recommended that, in addition to further strengthening technical parameters in

electoral operations, the United Nations should provide its good offices on behalf of the Secretary-General, with national authorities at the highest levels, when appropriate.



NEW CALEDONIA (FRANCE)

At the request of the French Government, the United Nations deployed experts to New Caledonia to participate in the revision of the Special Electoral Roll for the election of members of the Congress and Provincial Assemblies (LESP). This revision took place from 1 March to 30 April 2024 in a context marked by political tensions, notably around the issue of unfreezing the restricted provincial electoral roll. A constitutional reform is on the agenda of the French State, aiming to expand the provincial electoral roll. Pending this reform, the revision of the 2024 LESP was conducted based on the legal criteria currently in force, as defined by Article 188 of the 1999 Organic Law.



SOUTH AFRICA

An advisory mission was deployed ahead of the 29 May 2024 national and provincial elections. The mission supported the RC in ensuring coherence and consistency in United Nations programmatic and strategic

engagement, by appropriately calibrating United Nations projection and ensuring essential Headquarters communication.



SOUTH SUDAN

In response to a request from the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity, and in line with the existing Security Council mandate, and the Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, a NAM was deployed to South Sudan in January 2024. It recommended that future United Nations Mission in South Sudan mandates should ensure that the Mission retains political and strategic oversight of all United Nations electoral assistance. This will provide for coordinated assistance alongside good offices efforts, prioritizing measures to enhance credibility, inclusiveness, and transparency of the electoral process, thus mitigating any potential for electoral violence before, during and after elections. In line with the existing parameters for electoral assistance, the NAM also recommended the continuation of United Nations integrated electoral assistance under the SRSG's overall authority until December 2025, emphasizing the need for a conflict-sensitive approach to mitigate election-related violence.

GOAL 2

A MORE EFFECTIVE MULTILATERAL ARCHITECTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY



DPPA promotes Goal 2 by supporting United Nations bodies such as the Security Council, General Assembly, the Peacebuilding Commission and other subsidiary organs to perform their functions effectively. It strengthens partnerships with regional and sub-regional organizations and international financial institutions, fostering strategic cooperation.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS UNDER GOAL 2



55

initiatives were undertaken with regional and sub-regional organizations



80

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



25

projects funded by PBF and MYA incorporated climate, peace and security-related considerations

WE ARE MORE CONNECTED THAN EVER BEFORE

DPPA prioritizes effective cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations, which are key to managing and resolving conflicts. Their unique knowledge and networks complement United Nations efforts, making these partnerships critical. As conflicts often have cross-border impacts, regional strategies and approaches become even more important.

In the first half of 2024, the MYA continued to support DPPA's partnership with the **African Union (AU)** through technical assistance to the AU Commission and backstopping capacity to the UNOAU. This included technical support to the Independent Strategic and Civilian Staffing Review of UNOAU.

Furthermore, the MYA supported a range of DPPA efforts to engage strategically and substantively on peace and security issues with the **League of Arab States (LAS)**, the **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)**

and the **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)**. DPPA supported the LAS in developing an Action Plan for their Arab Strategy for Youth, Peace and Security (YPS). Additionally, DPPA collaborated with GCC partners to organize the high-level DPPA-GCC political consultations in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to address key issues in the MENA region.

MYA funding provided crucial support to the **United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA)**, particularly relevant in the current situation in Central Africa, where several elections are due to be held and unconstitutional changes of government have occurred. This support enabled the organization of a conference on unconstitutional changes of government in São Tomé in July. Based on recommendations from the 56th session of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC), the event examined root causes and highlighted cases like Gabon and Chad. The outcome document will be presented at the 58th session of UNSAC in November 2024, offering valuable prevention strategies.

The Contact and Coordination Group (CCG) is a unique non-military initiative by **Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda** under the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and

the region with the aim to encourage foreign armed groups in the DRC to disarm, demobilize and return to their home countries. In March 2024, MYA funding enabled the deployment of a CCG mission to the DRC and Burundi. While in the **DRC**, the assessment mission developed operational modalities for the disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, and reintegration of the National Forces of Liberation and potentially the National Council for the Democratic Renewal elements to Burundi. During the visit to **Burundi**, the mission evaluated preparedness for the arrival of ex-combatants by identifying policy, infrastructure, and programmatic support needs at the national level. These consultations helped secure the political and technical commitment of authorities from the two countries for the safe and voluntary repatriation of Burundian ex-combatants from the DRC.

WE ADVANCED ANALYTICAL SUPPORT AND COORDINATION THROUGH OUR LIAISON PRESENCES

In 2024, with MYA funds, DPPA has maintained nine liaison presences globally—in **Bangkok, Beijing, Brussels, Buka, Gaborone, Jakarta, Kyiv, Nairobi, and Vienna**. These presences have enabled DPPA to connect with Member States, regional organizations, and other actors in countries without a United Nations mission. They facilitate cooperation, support coherent United Nations responses, and enhance regional early warning capacities.

Funding from the MYA enabled the DPPA liaison team in **Gaborone** to play an instrumental role in Southern Africa in strengthening and enhancing cooperation with the **Southern African Development Community (SADC)** and regional Member States. For example, in **Namibia**, ahead of the November 2024 general elections, the DPPA liaison team facilitated a panel discussion, providing political, legal, economic, gender, and CSO expertise to the UNCT. Similarly, in **Botswana**, the team

facilitated a discussion on the political environment and issues such as women's low political representation, aiding the UNCT in preparing for the October 2024 elections. These activities helped build capacity in conflict prevention and supported effective response strategies. The team also provided surge analytical capacity and critical support to RCOs in Mozambique and South Africa, among others.

In **Bangkok**, DPPA's liaison office advanced the CPS agenda in the framework of the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** and United Nations Comprehensive Partnership. Building on the MYA-funded 2023 regional dialogue on CPS, DPPA collaborated with several United Nations agencies to provide assistance to ASEAN in improving the mainstreaming of CPS issues into its policy and programmatic work in order to catalyse climate-informed approaches to peace and security in the region.

In **Buka**, DPPA's liaison office has provided support for the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement through its facilitation of discreet dialogue with the Papua New Guinea and Autonomous Bougainville Governments as they worked to appoint an independent moderator for post-referendum discussions. This instrumental engagement included best practice guidance on peace process moderation and civic engagement, including in direct support of women's participation.

The MYA-supported liaison offices in **Brussels** and **Vienna** have also played important roles in maintaining the United Nations partnerships with regional intergovernmental organizations. In 2024, the office in Brussels has worked to enhance political collaboration with the **European Union (EU)** on areas such as the Ukraine war and the Middle East crisis, as well as to maintain relations with the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization**. The office developed timely analysis of European and Euro-Atlantic regional processes, facilitated the visits of eight senior United Nations officials to Brussels, and initiated a webinar on gender-responsive leadership with EU and United Nations counterparts. DPPA's liaison office in Vienna continued to maintain its partnership with the **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)** Secretariat, ensuring that DPPA

remained informed on OSCE's regional peace and security initiatives. The office also engaged in cooperation with regional think tanks, including through a joint discussion with the Vienna Diplomatic Academy on the Summit of the Future.

WE BACKSTOPPED UNITED NATIONS TEAMS IN EVERY REGION

Ahead of the 2024 presidential elections, the political situation in **Venezuela** remained complex. The United Nations, as one of the few entities welcomed by both the Government and the opposition, played a crucial role in accompanying the electoral process. MYA funding enabled DPPA to monitor the situation and collect diverse perspectives, which was essential for accurately understanding the political landscape. MYA funding allowed the deployment of staff for a NAM requested by the Venezuelan National Electoral Council. Extrabudgetary funding also allowed DPPA to support the work of the Peace

and Development Advisor (PDA) team in Caracas.

WE AMPLIFIED THE VOICES OF YOUTH

The MYA played a crucial role in engaging youth through co-organized “Digital Dialogues” with the **LAS**, using AI to conduct large-scale consultations with young people. These consultations contributed to the Action Plan on the LAS Arab YPS Strategy. These dialogues attracted nearly 150 young participants (44 per cent female) from 17 LAS Member States. This engagement not only ensured diverse youth perspectives were included in the development of the Action Plan, but also demonstrated the effective use of innovative technologies in large-scale consultations. Additionally, MYA funding indirectly supported creating outreach materials, including a video showcasing Arab youth's experiences with the Digital Dialogues, prominently featuring young Arab women. This initiative highlighted the effective use of digital tools in involving youth in policymaking processes.

In **Northeast Asia**, MYA funding empowered youth at key regional policy fora, including the Ulaanbaatar Dialogue and the Jeju Forum. These engagements provided platforms for young people to share their perspectives and connect with policymakers and peacebuilders. The Northeast Asia-Pacific Strategic Foresight Youth Workshop in Samoa convened Northeast Asian youth peacebuilders from China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, who co-designed and co-facilitated the workshop with youth from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. This initiative fostered meaningful intergenerational dialogue in a region where youth voices are often undervalued. The impact will extend beyond United Nations support, as empowered youth continue to build networks and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of the Secretary-General's policy brief on A New Agenda for Peace.



A young woman with dark hair, wearing a white shirt, is speaking into a microphone. She is standing in front of a backdrop that features logos and text, including "#Youth Li", "Protection.", and "& Collaboration". The image is overlaid with a blue gradient and a white curved line.

SUPPORTING A NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY IN LIBERIA

In 2023, Liberia experienced a major political transition with the election of former Vice President Joseph Boakai to the position of president and the handover of power by the incumbent.

Over the past several years, MYA funding has enabled the **United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS)** and its partners to carry out early warning and preventive diplomacy work, as well as engage with key stakeholders on peace and security issues.

In early 2024, MYA funding has allowed DPPA to spearhead an initiative that will culminate in the development and approval of a national action plan on YPS.

In collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, UNOWAS, the RC, and the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, the initial stage of the initiative aims to raise awareness, generate buy-in and national ownership, and build local capacities to participate in the formulation of the action plan. To this end, an inception workshop for the initiative was successfully held in Monrovia in June, with 76 participants (49 per cent female) representing diverse youth groups, CSOs, relevant government agencies working on youth, and other stakeholders. The Liberian Minister of Youth and Sport launched the National Coalition on YPS and pledged the Government's support for the project's 18-month process of consultations that will culminate in the adoption of a national action plan on YPS.



WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY FUNDING WINDOW

Through this funding window, DPPA continued to encourage and prioritize support for the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda.

Advancing the agenda is a core priority set out in DPPA's Strategic Plan for 2023-2026. DPPA supports inclusive and sustainable peacemaking through targeted measures to advance women's direct participation, regularly engage women-led civil society and feminist movements and integrate gender equality considerations.

DPPA's WPS Policy, updated in October 2023, outlines the Department's priorities for the implementation of the WPS agenda across its prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding efforts, including in new and evolving areas of work such as CPS and digital technologies. DPPA's dedicated Gender, Peace and Security (GPS) team leads this work, primarily relying on MYA funding to carry it out.

MYA funding is also critical for the implementation of WPS activities across DPPA. Through a dedicated WPS funding window, the MYA allocates funds to projects that promote gender equality and women's empowerment as their principal objective. DPPA also uses a Gender Marker to measure and monitor how all MYA projects integrate gender and WPS considerations in their design, implementation and evaluation, and to track resource allocation towards WPS commitments.

Gender sensitive political and conflict analysis

DPPA's GPS team continues to provide guidance and training to ensure that gender-sensitive conflict and political analysis is the basis for all DPPA engagements. In June, the gender team organized the 20th DPPA Gender/WPS Staff Training, which brought together 19 participants from DPPA Headquarters divisions and SPMS, including one PDA. To date, 458 staff have completed this training. This year, the team also collaborated with the Department of Peace Operations (DPO) Gender Unit to provide gender-sensitive conflict and political analysis training and to coordinate the Gender Equality and WPS Community of Practice, which now has 325 members. The team also held tailored discussions with DPPA divisions and PDAs on the updated 2023 DPPA WPS Policy and existing resources and tools to achieve WPS priorities.

Promoting inclusion and women's meaningful participation in all peacemaking and peacebuilding efforts



With support from the MYA, the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen (OSESFY), in partnership with UN Women, organized a series of consultations with over 300 participants from a majority of governorates in Yemen. These discussions aimed to advance OSESFY's engagement with Yemeni women and civil society around a holistic approach to inclusive peace, amplify diverse local voices, foster advocacy coalitions between women's groups and other stakeholders like youth and traditional leaders, and reframe the WPS agenda as a broader community priority. At Headquarters, the MYA also funds a gender focal point who provides backstopping support to OSESFY.

Women's participation in electoral and political processes



In Colombia, the United Nations Verification Mission continued to engage on the implementation of gender provisions of the 2016 Peace Agreement and lend support to other initiatives under the Government's "Total Peace" policy. With MYA support, the Mission is contributing to peacemaking in Buenaventura, a port city where women, girls and young people are especially vulnerable to violence. A truce between two rival gangs has been extended, most recently in August 2024, allowing for the Mission to help build the capacity of young people, particularly young women and girls, to take forward and monitor peace dialogues and sustain trust between the parties.



A woman with glasses is speaking at a meeting. The image is partially obscured by a blue overlay on the left side, which contains the title and a paragraph of text. The right side of the image shows the woman's face and upper body in a lighter, less saturated color.

PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY AND PROMOTING REGIONAL APPROACHES IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

The Horn of Africa region continues to experience complex and interlinked peace and security challenges, including the consolidation of peacebuilding efforts in Ethiopia; the political transition process in South Sudan; the conflict in Sudan (in addition to border disputes); tensions over access to natural resources; terrorism and violent extremism, and climate crises.

Through MYA funds, the **Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa (OSE-HoA)** has been able to provide crucial political leadership and coordination for the implementation of the United Nations Regional and Integration Strategy for the Horn of Africa. This has strengthened UN and partner collaboration, promoting unified regional approaches. Funded by the MYA, the recent biannual meeting on the Strategy, chaired by the Special Envoy, launched the 2024-2028 iteration to enhance collective prevention efforts with IGAD.

The MYA has continued to enable OSE-HoA in advancing the YPS agenda across the Horn of Africa region. In May, the OSE-HoA, together with the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa and in collaboration with IGAD, held a regional event on the launch of the third report of the Secretary-General on the YPS agenda. The event provided an opportunity for diverse participants to gain an initial understanding of obstacles and opportunities in the implementation of the agenda in the region. This year, OSE-HoA has also been involved in the development of an AU framework on gender quotas in formal peace processes.

MYA funding has also facilitated the SESG's engagements with other Special Envoys in the Horn of Africa. For instance, in April, the SESG joined a meeting of Special Envoys, where they discussed and coordinated responses to issues in Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

The background image of the left page shows two women standing in front of a traditional thatched roof. They are wearing white button-down shirts and traditional wide-brimmed hats. The woman on the left is holding a small white card. The image has a purple and blue color overlay.

LOCAL PEACE INITIATIVES FUNDING WINDOW

Through the Local Peace Initiatives (LPI) funding window, MYA funding places strong emphasis on the inclusion of civil society, women, youth, and minorities.

The MYA continues to play a crucial role in supporting SPMs in their work fostering the local ownership of peacemaking efforts and the participation of local peacebuilding actors.

In May, the **United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia** provided support to discussions between the Government of Colombia and the ELN guerilla. The two parties agreed on a model for societal participation in the ongoing peace process. Leading up to this agreement, the parties travelled to the remote Amazonas region to listen to the voices of local communities. Thanks to MYA funding, the Mission was able to support the participation of Indigenous women in this process.

With MYA support, the Mission also continued to facilitate reconciliation efforts at the local level. The Mission's activities have included providing emergency assistance, including mental health and psychosocial support, to families of former combatants and social leaders who required immediate relocation due to security risks. MYA funding allowed for quick responses to such incidents in the Departments of Caquetá, Cauca, Guaviare, Huila and Meta and helped sustain confidence in the peace process. Activities carried out by the Mission's regional offices to foster dialogue and reconciliation at the local level also included seven initiatives in Bogota, Popayan, Putumayo, and Valledupar. An additional 25 activities are set to be implemented in the coming months, covering 18 Departments in Colombia.

GOAL 3

A STRONGER, MORE DIVERSE AND MORE EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENT



By fostering innovation and a culture of continuous learning, Goal 3 enables DPPA to more effectively deliver on its mandate and fulfil Goals 1 and 2. We achieve this through continued investments in building staff capacity, setting aside dedicated funding under the Technology and Innovation window, and strengthening Departmental accountability by undertaking regular evaluative exercises. We also seek to enhance transparency and communication with key stakeholders through strategic communications.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS UNDER GOAL 3



7

lessons learned studies and a self-evaluation conducted



23

policy materials and guidance developed or updated



36

innovative initiatives undertaken



6.8

million audience reached with Departmental communication outputs



WE GROUNDED OUR WORK IN PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

With support from the MYA, DPPA continued to prioritize continuous learning and improvement in the delivery of results in line with its Strategic Plan.

We continued to invest in self-evaluations to assess the relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency of our work. In 2024, we completed a self-evaluation on DPPA's mediation support and are finalizing an evaluation into the Department's approach towards innovation.

We also continued to facilitate evaluations by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the United Nations Board of Auditors. This included close coordination throughout the process, as well as appropriate follow-up actions and monitoring

of progress against implementation. In addition to standalone evaluations and audits, we also supported the OIOS Triennial Review of its recommendations for DPPA and preparations for the OIOS 2022-2023 Biennial Study on strengthening the role of evaluation across the United Nations system.

WE MONITORED TOP STRATEGIC RISKS AND IDENTIFIED CONCRETE MIGRATION MEASURES

DPPA has taken a proactive approach to enhancing enterprise risk management by engaging in a review of the joint DPPA-DPO enterprise risk registry. This effort is focused on synchronizing with the recently updated Secretariat-wide risk registry, strengthening DPPA's strategic foresight, and improving its ability to identify key challenges.

By co-leading key working groups on risks and collaborating closely with others, DPPA is also contributing to more harmonized joint risk planning in the UN Secretariat. Furthermore, the Department continued to integrate risk management into MYA project planning, with project managers required to address risks as well as mitigation strategies in their project documents, based on the joint DPPA-DPO risk registry.



WE LEARNED — AND HELPED OTHERS TO LEARN

KEY KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PRODUCTS FUNDED BY THE MYA



Strengthening gender-responsive peacemaking continued to be a top priority for DPPA. As part of our efforts to cultivate leadership in advancing WPS priorities, we organized the **13th United Nations High-Level Seminar on Gender and Inclusive Mediation Strategies** in Oslo, Norway in April. The annual seminar – organized in partnership with the Peace Research Institute Oslo and the Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation – convened senior officials from the United Nations, regional organizations, Member States and CSOs. It aimed to provide participants with practical strategies for more inclusive mediation practices. The Department also continued to strengthen gender knowledge of staff at Headquarters and SPMs, including through the **20th DPPA Gender and WPS Staff Training** in June, and relevant modules as part of the **Conflict Analysis Training** in May.



In January, DPPA co-organized a workshop with external partners to explore **practical ways to implement efforts in peace agreements to address problematic behaviour on social media**.

The event convened United Nations mission staff, as well as participants from the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, BuildUp, and Protection Group International. Using the results of the workshop, the partners published a joint brief with practical guidance in May. This guidance filled a critical gap in mediation practice.



In March, DPPA also organized its annual **United Nations Ceasefire Mediation Course** in coordination with the governments of Norway and Switzerland, to strengthen capacities of the United Nations and partners. The Department continued to make our guidance more accessible, including finalizing a Russian language translation of our **Guidance on Mediation of Ceasefires**, and French and Spanish translations of the 2023 **practice note on human rights and mediation** (with an Arabic version forthcoming). In the first half of 2024, 79 new instruments were entered into the **Language of Peace** database of peace instruments. New sub-categories related to youth were also introduced.



As part of the CSM, DPPA helped organize the first **Strategic Dialogue on Climate, Peace and Security** in Stockholm, Sweden on 4-5 May. Organized in partnership with the Folke Bernadotte Academy and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the event convened senior leaders as well as CPS advisors from field missions. Participants shared best practices and discussed the importance of regional partnerships, the inclusion of women and youth in decision-making, and integrating technical and political approaches.



DPPA continued to collaborate with others on electoral-related trainings and knowledge products. In April, DPPA contributed to a free online **training course on AI and elections** organized by UNESCO, UNDP and the University of Texas. Available in several languages, the course explored AI's influence on elections, including how to spot threats like disinformation and hate speech. Over 8,000 participants from 165 countries undertook the training. Together with UNDP and the Organization of Arab Electoral Management Bodies (ArabEMBs), DPPA also helped organize an **ArabEMBs conference** in Amman, Jordan, on 26-28 May. The event focused on the role of electoral stakeholders in creating conditions for inclusive participation and timely conduct of elections. It also served as a platform for engagement, bringing together over 100 participants from EMBs, parliaments, CSOs, human rights institutions, media and the international community, from 15 countries across the Arab States. As part of the efforts to raise awareness and build capacity



within the Organization, DPPA and the United Nations System Staff College jointly conducted a training for United Nations staff on preventing and responding to election-related violence in Accra, Ghana, in June 2024.

As part of its efforts to increase the capacity of UN staff to better utilize data and innovation, we organized the **5th E-Analytics and Innovation Training**. The virtual course convened around 30 United Nations staff from 15 duty stations and culminated in an in-person component hosted by the Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Doha, Qatar, in January. Participants focused on enhancing their skills in advanced data analysis, AI and strategic foresight.



MYA funding has enabled DPPA to bring its political and peacebuilding expertise to United Nations work addressing the issue of internal displacement. To strengthen DPPA's institutional capacity to support the **Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Solutions to Internal Displacement**, DPPA produced a briefing document which provided an overview of funding allocated to support solutions in 11 countries. DPPA also developed a gender-sensitive institutional plan to ensure that political advice and peacebuilding strategies take into consideration solutions for internal displacement. To raise awareness, these documents were disseminated during several meetings organized by DPPA including a joint Peacebuilding Commission-Economic and Social Council meeting on internal displacement.

WE HELPED TO INTEGRATE GENDER AND INCLUSION AT THE UN



We continued to foster **diversity and inclusion** through MYA activities as part of our efforts to ensure sustainable peace processes.

For example, promoting the participation of persons with disabilities and marginalized groups remained a key guiding principle for all United Nations electoral assistance activities and projects supported by DPPA. All NAM reports during this reporting period included relevant analysis and, where necessary, recommendations. Examples of United Nations support have included targeted outreach and education initiatives for voters, training electoral officials on how best to promote the participation of persons with disabilities, assisting national efforts in developing or reforming laws and regulations to facilitate such participation, and supporting local initiatives aimed at enhancing access to polling stations.

In February, the DPPA liaison team in Gaborone, Botswana, organized a workshop for regional PDAs, United Nations staff, and DPPA Headquarters staff to raise awareness on hate speech and disinformation. Participants discussed the impact of hate speech (often gender-based or targeting ethnic minorities, migrants, refugees, and LGBTQI+ communities) on many countries in the region. They shared experiences, explored relevant international standards and policy frameworks, exchanged best practices, and identified potential areas for collaboration.

Thanks to MYA funding, DPPA has planned and organized a range of activities to provide managers and staff with practical tools to strengthen diverse and inclusive environments and encourage a “speak up” culture. All activities took an intersectional approach, reflecting the broad range of

diversity and inclusion dimensions, including geographical diversity, anti-racism, gender parity, LGBTQI+ inclusion and disability inclusion.

Through its newsletter, the DPPA-DPO “Building Our Pillar” initiative also provided weekly resources on mental health, in the form of tips and guidance to managers, based on the United Nations System Staff College Lead and Learn training course. Resources and events to support staff well-being were also shared weekly.

WE GREW OUR AUDIENCE AND RAISED AWARENESS

In the first half of 2024, DPPA's communications team, funded entirely by the MYA, played a critical role in the **strategic communication** efforts of the Secretary-General and senior leadership, particularly through its daily collaboration with the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General. The team also helped prepare briefings for the Security Council and helped the Secretary-General's speechwriting team respond to ongoing crises around the world.

Our **digital engagement** continued to grow. Among other social media platforms, Our X/Twitter account gained over 8,000 new followers and had 1.3 million impressions, while the Under-Secretary-General's X/Twitter gained 1,600 followers during the reporting period. Overall, our social media platforms garnered over 2.2 million impressions. Our communication products, including the weekly newsletter "This Week

in DPPA" and the monthly online magazine "Politically Speaking", continued to keep the UN community and public informed about the Department's activities.

Responding to requests by **Security Council** members over the past years, MYA funds allowed DPPA to complete an upgrade of the website of the Security Council, which had been delayed due to a lack of funding. The new website went live on 11 July and has a significantly improved interactive programme of work and search function, as well as enhanced accessibility and an up-to-date interface.

TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FUNDING WINDOW

Innovation window projects pave the way for DPPA to better understand the impact of - and leverage - new technologies and ways of working on our global engagements.

DPPA's Innovation Cell was set up in 2020 as a sign of DPPA's commitment to pioneering new approaches. This year, the Innovation Cell, which is funded entirely through the MYA, has continued to explore and encourage innovative practices and the application of new technologies and tools in DPPA's conflict prevention, mediation, and peacebuilding work.

Advancing the Secretary-General's vision of a United Nations 2.0:

DPPA is integrating innovation, behavioural science, strategic foresight, and digital technologies into its conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts through the Innovation Cell and its external partnerships. At the 10th annual United Nations Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation in May, the Innovation Cell showcased initiatives developed in collaboration with Goethe University Frankfurt, the University of Cambridge, and the Technical University of Munich to leverage AI and geospatial remote sensing for peace initiatives. In June, the Cell facilitated a panel with experts from the Behavioural Science Lab at Harvard University and Colombia's Neuropaz initiative on the use of social media analysis and AI to understand human behaviour in conflict settings.

AI-powered consultations for youth inclusion in peacebuilding in the Arab States:

In February, the LAS, supported by DPPA and its Liaison Office, used DPPA's AI-platform to generate insights from 60 young peacebuilders from 14 Arab countries during the live online dialogue, circumventing physical and linguistic barriers. This was the second time the LAS has availed itself of this digital tool for its efforts on YPS, significantly expanding the reach of its consultation to inform the development of the Strategy.

The first Innovation Space in the United Nations Secretariat:

In March, DPPA launched the first dedicated "Innovation Space" at UN Headquarters in New York. This multipurpose room can be used for hi-tech presentations, innovation workshops and brainstorming sessions. With a design that stands out from classic United Nations meeting rooms and plays on both the United Nations' future and its past, this is a space that is meant to encourage creative and collaborative thinking. It is equipped with advanced technology, such as virtual reality tools and interactive screens for data visualization and problem-solving.

MYA RESOURCES AND FUNDING

At the **mid-year point**, the MYA is facing **severe funding constraints** with just

\$10.8 MILLION RECEIVED

OUT OF

\$42 MILLION REQUESTED

FOR 2024

Much of **DPPA's work** would be impossible



without the **support** of the **MYA**

In many cases, mandated activities rely, to a **significant degree**, on extrabudgetary support from the MYA

ABSENT THE MYA, DPPA WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO



Maintain the Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers and provide in-person technical mediation support to the Secretary-General's Special Representatives and Envoys, regional organizations, and other partners



Conduct the majority of our technical electoral assistance missions or electoral training and technical assistance to regional organizations



Maintain our liaison presences globally and supplement the staffing and programmatic capacities of Personal and Special Envoys and Representatives of the Secretary-General (for example, the PESGs for the Sudan and Western Sahara, and the SESG for the Horn of Africa)



Fully implement DPPA's WPS Policy and adequately address partners' requests to enhance the implementation of the WPS agenda



Invest in YPS and enhance the participation of youth in peace processes



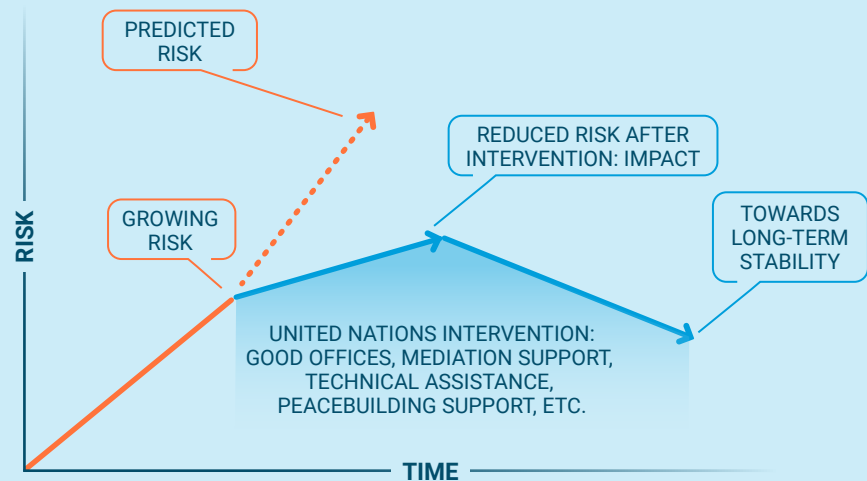
Fund innovation, monitor the impact and advancement of new technologies in our peace and security work



Undertake evaluative exercises and build a culture of learning to continuously enhance the effectiveness of our work

Given the shortfall in funding at the midyear point, DPPA has accordingly begun to scale down initiatives and presences. Thus, **your continued support** at this critical moment would be invaluable to enable their continuation for 2025 and beyond.

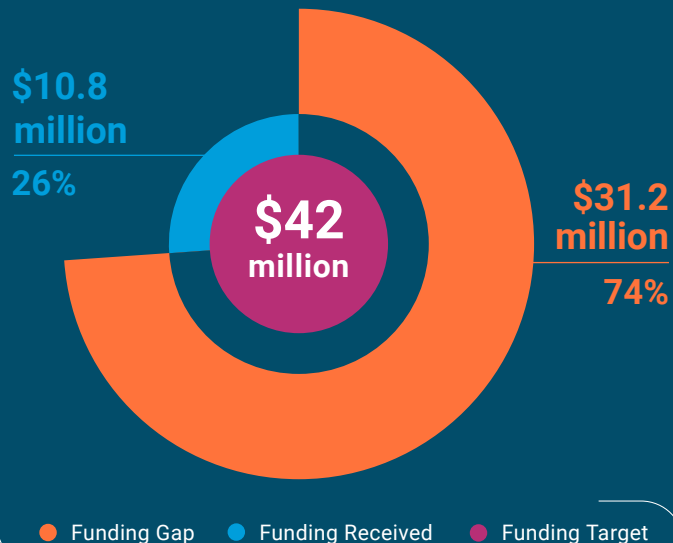
RISK REDUCTION MODEL



Our **risk reduction model** shows how strategic interventions can shift or reverse the trajectory of risk and conflict, and allow for the possibility of steps to build trust and social cohesion with the aim of long-term stability. **Your generous investment in conflict prevention and sustaining peace can yield measurable dividends in the short, medium and long term**

THE MYA AS OF MID-2024

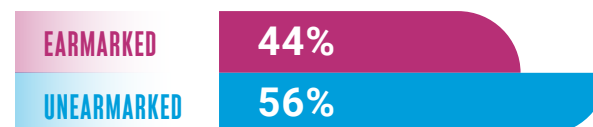
In 2024, the MYA continued to be an important funding mechanism to enable DPPA to carry out its operational work and sustain core capacities, at the same time complementing the Department's regular budget resources. By mid-2024, the Department has received **US\$10.8 million** (26 per cent of the \$42 million called for in 2024) in contributions from **16 donors**. While this generous investment and trust in DPPA's operations is significant, reversing the funding gap (74 per cent) in voluntary contributions to the MYA will be a priority for the Department in the remainder of the year.



FLEXIBILITY AND PREDICTABILITY OF FUNDING

Unearmarked funding is a prerequisite to the success of the MYA. The target for 2023-2026 is to maintain two-thirds of the MYA as unearmarked funding, providing the required flexibility in allocating resources to respond to changing needs.

EARMARKED VS UNEARMARKED FUNDING BY MID-2024



MULTI-YEAR AGREEMENTS

Multi-year agreements provide critical basis for longer-term planning and greater efficiency. In 2024, DPPA's work continued to be supported by 10 multi-year agreements, a positive trend that we hope to sustain.

MYA FUNDING PROGRAMMED AND SPENT (AS OF 30 JUNE)

TOTAL PROGRAMMED

\$44.8
million

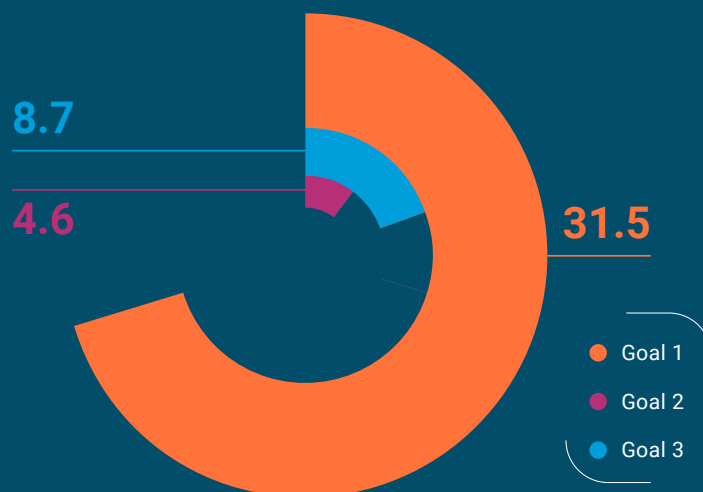
TOTAL SPENT

\$20.1
million

OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION RATE

45%

FUNDING PROGRAMMED BY STRATEGIC GOAL (US\$, IN MILLIONS)



















FUNDING PROGRAMMED BY THEMATIC WINDOW (AS OF 30 JUNE, US\$)

By thematic window	Programmed	Spent
REGULAR	40 million	18.1 million
WPS	1.8 million	0.8 million
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION	2.0 million	0.8 million
LOCAL PEACE INITIATIVES	0.7 million	0.2 million
RAPID RESPONSE	0.3 million	0.2 million

FUNDING PROGRAMMED BY REGION (AS OF 30 JUNE, US\$)

By regional focus	Programmed	Spent
AFRICA	11 million	4 million
MIDDLE EAST	5 million	2.3 million
ASIA AND PACIFIC	3.3 million	1.6 million
EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	3.2 million	1.4 million
AMERICAS	1.9 million	0.7 million

FUNDING RECEIVED PER DONOR (AS OF 30 JUNE, US\$)

Donor	Contribution	Donor	Contribution
 Australia	\$998,690	 Mexico	\$50,000
 Canada	\$742,060	 Malta	\$44,972
 Czechia	\$15,206	 MPTF	\$506,405
 Denmark	\$293,149	 New Zealand	\$306,600
 UNPDF	\$288,340	 Norway	\$2,835,953
 European Union	\$1,067,500	 Qatar	\$1,280,000
 Finland	\$1,077,000	 Republic of Korea	\$1,000,000
 Iceland	\$147,782	 Türkiye	\$200,000

JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS (JPOS)

The JPO Programme provides young professionals with the opportunity to gain substantive experience in DPPA across a range of teams. By mid-2024, donors sponsored 46 positions across the Department (27 women and 19 men).

Donor	Number		Duty Station(s)
China	2		New York
Denmark	2		New York
Finland	2		New York
France	9		New York, Addis Ababa, Nairobi
Germany	5		New York
Italy	4		New York
Japan	2		New York, Nairobi
Kazakhstan	1		New York
Morocco	1		New York
Netherlands	2		New York
Norway	2		New York
Qatar	1		New York
Republic of Korea	4		New York
Russia	1		Vienna
Sweden	1		New York
Switzerland	6		New York, Addis Ababa, Nairobi
United Kingdom	1		New York

For further information on the Multi-Year Appeal,
please contact **dppa-donorrelations@un.org**

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