

ANNUAL REVIEW | 2014 2015



SAFERWORLD
PREVENTING VIOLENT CONFLICT. BUILDING SAFER LIVES

25
YEARS

OUR VISION

Saferworld believes in a world where everyone can lead peaceful, fulfilling lives, free from fear and insecurity.

OUR MISSION

We work to prevent violent conflict and build safer lives.

We believe there are essential conditions necessary for peace to become established. We work to create environments where:

- people play an active role in preventing and transforming conflict and building peace
- people have access to fair and effective paths to address the grievances and inequalities that drive conflict
- people with influence exercise power to promote just and equitable societies

These are not the only conditions needed to bring about peace, but we believe they are particularly important and that Saferworld, with its partners, can help achieve them.

OUR VALUES

Our integrity as an organisation is based on a belief in equality, dignity, inclusivity, accountability, honesty, transparency, and consistency. We put these values into practice through a set of guiding principles underpinning all our work.

SAFERWORLD'S FIVE KEY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- strengthen people's security and access to justice through the development and effective delivery of responsive, accountable and locally appropriate security and justice
- challenge gender norms that cause and perpetuate conflict and insecurity
- reduce the impact of external drivers of conflict including weapons flows, illicit finance and militarised responses to security threats
- ensure international political, economic, development and security engagement in conflict-affected contexts is sensitive to conflict dynamics and contributes to sustainable peace
- promote peacebuilding processes and governance systems that are inclusive, fair, responsive and accountable and address the root causes of conflict.

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

Last year marked not only Saferworld's 25th anniversary but also the first year of our new three-year strategic plan, taking us through years four to seven of our over-arching long-term plan.

From modest beginnings working for nuclear disarmament and security with just three staff in Bristol, we have grown over the past 25 years into an organisation operating in 20 contexts globally, influencing governments, international organisations, and national stakeholders on issues ranging from security, policing, small arms control and conflict sensitivity to gender and peace – highlighting the role they play in realising more just, equitable and peaceful societies. This growth reflects the changing nature of conflict over time, and the need to consider the wider drivers of violence and instability in order to make a difference. The link between conflict and development has also become ever more stark – by the end of 2014 more than 50 per cent of the world's poor were living in fragile and conflict-affected states, up from 20 per cent in 2005. The inclusion of a goal on peace, justice and governance in drafts of the emerging (post-MDG) global development framework for 2016–30 highlights a growing acceptance that peace and justice are fundamental to development – something that has been a core message of Saferworld's ongoing work.

Reflecting on the impact of the rise of so-called 'Islamic State' and ongoing conflicts in Syria and Ukraine – as well as the

deteriorating safety and security situation in East Africa and ongoing conflict and violence in South Sudan and Yemen (places Saferworld works) – two things remain constant. Firstly, it is the communities living in conflict that suffer the most; and secondly, it is those same communities that have great potential to make a lasting impact on peace and security.

Indeed, experience with our programmes in Central Asia, South Sudan and the south Caucasus last year reminds us yet again how much positive change can be achieved – even in very testing circumstances – when communities are given a genuine opportunity to engage with their leaders and service providers to address issues critical to their security and peace. Our strategic plan 2014–17, *People First*, reflects this belief and puts people at the heart of peace and security responses.

We also believe we can make a greater difference to people's lives by adopting a global perspective to our work. Last year, for example, you will see in our report that we began work to catalyse debate on considering constructive alternatives to militarised approaches to counter-terrorism; launched a programme to integrate justice more deeply into our work; and prioritised the relationship between gender, peace and security. We also committed to invest in new programming contexts and after initial scoping, will start new work with communities in Myanmar in 2015–16. These new developments provided

Village community police officer, Anwar Hossain Khan, talking with members of his community in Bagerhat, Bangladesh.
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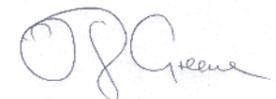
Saferworld with greater breadth and impetus to our conflict prevention work.

To achieve our recently revised and updated strategic objectives, we also need to ensure our internal policies and processes keep pace so we can maintain the standards and values which the organisation is committed to. In 2014–15 we invested in new finance and human resource systems, and continued the roll out of our global intranet system designed to bring greater impact and coherence across the organisation. In an increasingly challenging funding and operational environment, these improvements – and others to come – will strengthen Saferworld's future ability to operate effectively and safely.

We thank all our donors, supporters, staff, and partner organisations for their collaboration over the past year – and also add a special note of congratulations to all Saferworld colleagues from the past 25 years. Everyone should be proud of their contribution and of the achievements made. Thanks to you all, we remain ready and committed to continue to make a difference in the years ahead.



Paul Murphy Executive Director



Dr Owen Greene Chair, Board of Trustees

See and hear more in our multimedia Annual Review at: www.saferworld.org.uk/annualreview

Highlights 2014–15



SECURITY AND JUSTICE

Recognising the links between injustice and violent conflict, in 2014–15 we started to develop our **Justice as Prevention** approach. We began researching ways to transform the relationships and structures behind people's experiences of injustice to help improve their ability to address grievances non-violently; these approaches will be piloted in up to three countries in 2015–16.

Our efforts to improve people's safety also continued to grow. We used **community security** approaches in 15 countries to help people collectively identify, articulate, and address their security needs – with over 55 new community action groups formed. Lessons from these programmes were synthesised and published in our Community Security Handbook which, since its launches in Washington, London, Addis Ababa, New York, Brussels, and The Hague, has provided a much needed reference point for policymakers and practitioners.

At the policy level, we continued to share expert evidence and analysis from our programmes with governments, including the British, Dutch and Swedish, and with the UN Development Programme, UN Office on Drugs and Crime, and other international actors, on technical security and justice issues, such as security sector reform, gender, rule of law, stabilisation, policing, and the difficult question of how to measure changes in security and justice as a result of programming.



GREAT LAKES

In **Sudan** we continued to support Sudanese civil society to play an active role in conflict transformation and governance reform, bringing together representatives from across civil society to develop both a joint vision and strategies on issues including the ongoing crisis in Darfur and long-term institutional reforms. We supported civil society organisations to produce and distribute documentaries about the conflict; train young internally displaced persons in leadership skills; and develop powerful advocacy products through an art project with refugees. We helped coordinate and strengthen Sudanese and international civil society's advocacy on the multiple crises in Sudan, particularly around the elections, and gave policymakers in Europe the chance to hear directly from activists living and working in the conflict zones.

2014 saw Saferworld significantly expand our community security work in **South Sudan** to seven out of ten states. As well as building the capacity of new staff and partners in advocacy strategy development, gender awareness, and conflict analysis – and integrating gender across our programming – we conducted community security assessments across all our existing and new locations. The findings are informing programme design in each location as well as our policy and advocacy work.

We undertook peacebuilding and reconciliation scoping studies in the most conflict-affected states, and developed a security providers' engagement strategy for the changed country context given the

current conflict. We carried out research and analysis on the role of non-state actors, violence against women, and civil society participation in the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)-led peace process. We continued to raise awareness on the dangers of small arms and light weapons, conducting a community-level campaign in our two programme locations in Warrap State. While in our work on rising powers, our publication, *From conflict resolution to conflict prevention: China in South Sudan*, examined the evolution of China's relationship with Sudan and South Sudan.

In **Uganda** we continued to promote and build the capacity of stakeholders, including communities, district authorities, and civil society, on conflict sensitivity. We ensured local voices were heard in the review of the Mining Act, holding consultative meetings with communities in the Karamoja region and facilitating dialogues between mining communities and Moroto district officials. We supported dialogue and trust-building processes in the three land conflict hotspots of Akaa, Purongo, and Otuke. We advocated for the creation of the Technical Land Verification Committee and an Inter-ministerial Committee focused on resolving the Purongo and Akaa conflicts to which we provided technical and expert advice. As a result of our advocacy and awareness raising on land rights, involving government officials in programme activities, and linking local land governance stakeholders and policymakers, we improved the government's response to land conflicts in Northern Uganda.



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

In 2014–15 we supported Egyptian civil society's efforts to advocate for police reform in **Egypt**, providing technical expertise on topics including democratic policing and mechanisms for police accountability and oversight and expert advice and briefings on legal and operational issues in policing. While police reform has stalled under the current government, Egyptian media and campaigners continue to draw attention to the need for both a more accountable and more effective police force.

Since July 2014 **Libya** has faced an intractable civil war and the fragmentation of authority across two rival governments. While internationally mediated peace talks are ongoing, communities are facing widespread violence and insecurity and civil society activists, including women's activists, have been frequently targeted in the conflict. We championed women's security concerns in both Libya and Egypt, publishing a briefing on violence against women in Libya and undertaking research into police responses to violence against women in Egypt.

In **Yemen** we continued to focus on the analysis and promotion of gender-sensitive security provision, convening government and CSO representatives to discuss legal aid, detention of women, and policing. We also worked hard to raise public awareness on the issues of women's role in security, with over 200 people attending a series of three public debates in Sana'a, Taiz, and

Aden. The debates also provided a space for Saferworld to screen a video on women and security in Yemen. Our work to support youth activists continued, and in October 2014 we produced a short film which featured youth from our 'Amplifying Youth Voices' project. They share their experiences of being part of the programme and explain how it is helping them to enhance their advocacy work in their own communities.

At the local level, in Taiz our community security project helped build new relationships and increase trust and understanding between community actors and security providers. A roundtable held in February 2015 brought together civil society and security providers to develop ideas for how to work more collaboratively in the future to address the needs of their communities. Whilst small grants projects by the community action groups led to an increased awareness of the dangers of carrying weapons and drug usage. At the time of going to press, high levels of conflict in Yemen are showing little signs of abating, with economic and political collapse and a humanitarian crisis which is threatening the lives of hundreds of thousands of Yemeni civilians. Our programme in Yemen remains active despite the on-going crisis, but we are also reviewing the focus and strategy of the programme in light of the current situation and changing context, looking to take a more direct peacebuilding approach in affected communities.



GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY

In line with our new strategic objective on gender, in 2014–15 Saferworld gathered and disseminated evidence on how **gender** norms can cause and perpetuate conflict and insecurity. We published a research report, *Masculinities, conflict and peacebuilding: Perspectives on men through a gender lens*, bringing together evidence of how violent notions of masculinity can fuel conflict with analysis of practical approaches to challenging those masculine norms. We launched the report at events in Brussels, Delhi, London, New York, and Washington DC.

In June 2014 Saferworld brought women activists from Libya, Nepal, and Yemen to London to participate in the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict, and held a fringe event on the important role of women in policing. We also trained Saferworld staff in London, Bangladesh, and South Sudan, as well as more than 150 officials from the UK and US governments and NATO, on topics such as 'gender and conflict analysis' and 'masculinities and peacebuilding'.



Saferworld's community security approach puts local people at its heart. In Bangladesh, Community Action Committees work with as wide a cross section of the community as possible, including members of the Polli Shamaj (rural women's groups) that have been established by partner BRAC in each village.

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25 YEARS OF BUILDING SAFER LIVES

2014 was a substantial milestone for Saferworld: we marked 25 years working to prevent violent conflict and build safer lives. As an organisation we have grown significantly, adapting our focus to respond to the changing nature of conflict, but our work remains rooted in our belief that people must be at the heart of any response to conflict.

In 1989, in response to the changing nature of conflict in the post-cold war era, Saferworld was created out of an existing organisation, the Nuclear Freeze Campaign. Set up as a research organisation, our name was the embodiment of what we hoped to achieve. Recognising that the nature of conflict was shifting from inter-state to intra-state, Saferworld focused on tackling the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons which were fuelling civil wars and destroying people's lives.

The focus of our formative years, arms control, has remained a central part of our work and expertise ever since. We played a leading role in advocating for an EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports and were involved in the very first discussions about developing a fully global and legally binding arms transfer control instrument. We remain at the heart of the campaign for what became known as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) – which became international law on 24 December 2014.

But as we pushed for more effective arms transfer controls and action on small arms proliferation during the 1990s, our growing experience also highlighted that these issues were part of a much deeper problem – so Saferworld began looking at the broader root causes of conflict. Our work expanded, with our headquarters moving to London in the late 1990s, and we began programmatic work that focused on addressing these drivers of conflict. Our remit has grown organically to address factors such as justice, security, governance, marginalisation, access to resources, and development that underpin insecurity and conflict globally and within the countries we work.

We also developed an approach to our security and justice work which puts the experiences of local people at its heart. Piloted in the Western Balkans in the mid-1990s, our 'community security approach' puts people affected by conflict in the driving seat, bringing them together to analyse the causes of conflict in their community and giving them the skills and opportunity to hold security and justice providers to account. We now run community security programming in 15 countries and are also using the participatory approach to tackle issues like small arms and light weapons in Kenya, and promote conflict sensitivity on land ownership issues in Northern Uganda.

Throughout the past 25 years Saferworld's focus on working through local partners and within communities has both increased the capacity of communities and partners to respond to insecurity at the local level and enabled us to take the learning and experience from each context into our international policy work. This policy work has evolved from its initial focus on global arms transfers to reflect our comprehensive approach to preventing violent conflict. This has included research on justice as prevention; the role of rising powers – including China, Brazil, India, South Africa, Russia, and Turkey – in conflict-affected states; the post-2015 development agenda; gender, peace, and security (and more recently issues around notions of masculinity); and constructive alternatives to current counter-terrorism approaches.

As we look ahead, tackling the root causes of conflict whether at the local, national, or international level remains the key driver of our work. We believe we can make a greater difference to people's lives by extending a global perspective to our efforts, but keeping local people at the very centre of what we do.

Case studies

Saferworld's *Communities First* photography exhibition highlighted some of the personal stories behind South Sudan's conflict. The exhibition was shown at events in London, Washington, and Brussels (with a planned exhibition in Juba), and was featured on the UK's Guardian newspaper website.

© MARCUS PERKINS



COMMUNITY SECURITY IN SOUTH SUDAN

An external evaluation of Saferworld's community security work in Warrap and Western Bahr El Ghazal, South Sudan, highlights the benefits of our work addressing communities' safety and security concerns – exceeding expectations at the community level and changing people's behaviour and perceptions of security.

In 2012 Saferworld began a four-year community security programme in Warrap and Western Bahr El Ghazal states to improve local security and to develop models of community security that can be replicated elsewhere. Mid-way through the four-year programme we commissioned an independent evaluation to assess our achievements and areas for improvement. Over 260 stakeholders from communities, police, local authorities, non-state security actors, partner organisations, donors, and civil society were interviewed. The evaluation found that despite the magnitude of challenges in South Sudan, significant outcomes had been achieved at the local level, with our activities positively impacting on how safe people feel within the communities we work in.

Community security working groups (CSWGs), made-up of a cross-section of local people, including community leaders, women, traditional chiefs and youth, were supported to identify, prioritise, and address their safety concerns. Those inter-

viewed cited positive outcomes including a reduction in violence, murders, and other crimes, the reduction of gunfire at night, and relations within and between communities. Community members also identified one or more areas of personal development as a result of their involvement in the programme.

The CSWGs have worked with the police through Police Community Relations Committees (PCRCs) to identify local security-related problems and take joint action to address them. The evaluation showed that by coming together at these Saferworld-supported PCRC meetings over the last two years, and by holding police-community dialogue workshops, the police and communities have undergone a significant change and developed a greater understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities.

As well as authorities committing to work with the CSWGs, and regularly attending CSWG meetings, the meetings themselves have also led to tangible outcomes. For example, new police personnel have been deployed in Hai Dinka and Agok in Wau; in Mayen Gumel in Kuajok; and in Majak-Tit market in North Tonj. The meetings also influenced the recruitment of 300 women police officers in Kuajok and the creation of a special protection unit to handle cases of sexual and gender-based violence – as

well as the recruitment of a woman police officer to handle sensitive cases in Warrap town centre in North Tonj.

Non-state security providers, such as the *Galweng*, have also committed to work with the CSWGs and following a two-day conference for Cattle Camp leaders are working more closely with local communities through the CSWGs instead of dealing with offenders on their own – a change which has led to a reduction in cattle raiding. A key part of the programme's success has also been working in harmony with traditional community structures such as tribal courts.

It is important to acknowledge that the results from the community security programme are at the local level. Respondents and communities did not feel that South Sudan as a country is a safer place – and the conflict that broke out in South Sudan in December 2013 continues to affect daily life. However, the evaluation did suggest that there is a real opportunity for community security to make a difference more broadly in South Sudan and to feed into wider sub-national and national level reform. Indeed, over the last year Saferworld scaled up the programme in South Sudan to reach seven of South Sudan's ten states, developing models of community security that can be replicated elsewhere.

Saferworld is continuing to expand our community security work with a focus on engaging youth in conflict transformation efforts. We are also feeding this learning into our policy work to try to engage with both formal and informal peace processes.



SOUTH ASIA

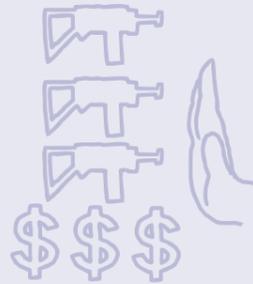
The 2014 drawdown of international troops in **Afghanistan** has had implications for the security of the entire region, including South and Central Asia. As part of our EU-funded Capacities for Peace programme with Conciliation Resources, we conducted scoping work to assess how Saferworld can most usefully engage in the country and contribute to wider international advocacy on peacebuilding and statebuilding, and trained 15 civil society organisations from Kabul and other provinces of Afghanistan in 'Do No Harm' and conflict sensitivity. We initiated research to extract lessons from Afghanistan on approaches to stabilisation, statebuilding, and counter-terrorism and the impacts these have had on peace and conflict dynamics in the country.

The on-going political crisis in **Bangladesh** means that the need to create safer communities and improve their relationships with security providers has been more pressing than ever. An external evaluation of Saferworld and BRAC's community security project in 2014 found that 176 community action committee members (CACs) in the target districts have the skills and confidence to analyse their local security problems, while 100 per cent of those involved in CACs, youth groups, and the participatory photography project identified two or more areas of personal development as a result of participating in the programme. As part of our Capacities for Peace programme, we continued to increase the capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) to analyse conflict and develop joint action to manage risks and promote peace, providing training to 54 civil society representatives (including youth and women).

In **Pakistan** we organised workshops with representatives from 15 CSOs to build their

capacity in conflict analysis, actor mapping, and early warning and response mechanisms. Continuing our work with local partner CAMP, we organised peacebuilding training workshops for 35 CSOs from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Through small grants projects, these CSOs then successfully helped communities to tackle their safety concerns by identifying and addressing issues causing conflict like access to water points or fuel sites. Saferworld also provided ongoing technical assistance to a peacebuilding project, led by Coffey International, by drafting and consulting on the 'gender response' policing policy, and reviewing the guidelines for women's police desks and complaint mechanisms for women.

In **Nepal** we continued to work with local communities to improve their safety and security, which included awareness raising campaigns on safety concerns such as domestic violence, led by the community and youth groups that we support. We strengthened our gender, peace, and security focus by building on research addressing notions of masculinities. This research informed Saferworld's global work on masculinities, conflict, and peace, including Nepalese representation at both the Dutch 'International Conference on Women: Powerful Agents for Peace and Security' and the UN's Post-2015 Beijing Platform at New York in March 2015. Saferworld's Nepal gender experts served as panellists at the MenEngage Alliance's local and global symposiums. Additionally, we conducted regular conflict assessments and continued to build the capacity of local civil society actors to identify and respond to early warning signs of conflict. Following the earthquakes in Nepal in 2015, Saferworld has begun work to ensure that responses are inclusive, participatory, and conflict sensitive.



EXTERNAL CONFLICT DRIVERS

'Terrorism' is a headline issue, yet current approaches to it by both Western countries and across the world have yielded mixed results. In response to this in 2014–15 Saferworld began a new area of work aimed at promoting **constructive alternatives to militarised counter-terror** and stabilisation approaches. Our discussion paper, *Dilemmas of counter-terror, stabilisation and statebuilding*, identified a number of lessons from counter-terror, stabilisation, and statebuilding efforts in recent decades and highlighted a number of policy and programmatic alternatives. In 2015 we will publish three new country case studies analysing current approaches.

We were delighted when after years of hard work the **Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)** entered into force in December 2014. Saferworld continued to play a key role within the Control Arms Coalition and also promoted compliance with the ATT – for example by developing draft templates for ATT reporting, which are now being considered by participating states. We convened four meetings of the Expert Group on ATT Implementation with participants from governments and civil society across the world. And we pushed the UK Government and EU Member States to demonstrate greater restraint in arms transfers, in particular in relation to the Middle East and North Africa.

We explored options to mitigate the negative effects of other **external conflict drivers**, including evaluating different approaches to tackling transnational organised crime and its links to violence, conflict, and insecurity. We published research on external stress factors that lead to conflict, including flows of finance, arms, drugs, and other 'conflict commodities'.

CONFLICT SENSITIVITY

In 2014–15 Saferworld continued to engage actively in discussions on the **Sustainable Development Goals** that will replace the Millennium Development Goals after 2015. We provided timely and in-depth policy and technical responses on how to integrate peace issues into the new goals, targets, and indicators framework. We also organised influential dialogues with other key advocates of the peace agenda, such as G7+ countries and the African Union, which made peace and security a key pillar in its Common Position. Our efforts contributed to an agreement by UN Member States to include a new goal to promote peace, justice, and governance in the draft framework. The ongoing negotiations on the Sustainable Development Goals are now focusing on how to finance, implement, and monitor the agreed goals and targets. To support this, Saferworld has provided evidence, experience, and policy options on the best indicators to measure progress on peace, governance, and justice issues.

We raised awareness with **rising powers** about the implications of changing global dynamics for peace and dialogue; and advocated with them about their engagement in conflict-affected states. We engaged with partners, the policy community, and authorities in five influential states – Brazil, China, India, South Africa, and Turkey – on the inclusion of peace within the Sustainable Development Goals. Saferworld's policy research, advocacy, and facilitation of dialogue contributed to their acceptance in December 2014 of the draft goals. In addition, we researched the roles of rising powers in specific conflict-affected contexts. This included a ground-breaking study of Turkish aid to Somalia, and research on the implications for peace and stability in Central Asia of Russia and China's roles within the region.

As part of our promotion of **conflict-sensitive approaches** to development, humanitarian, and commercial activities in conflict-affected contexts, we worked with a range of international donors to review country strategies, shape priorities, develop guidance materials, and deliver training on integrating conflict sensitivity into their programmes and policies across more than 15 countries. We increased our capacity to promote conflict sensitivity with corporate actors, including Chinese companies working in conflict-affected contexts. For example, we completed a conflict analysis of a planned Chinese hydro-electric power project in South Sudan and designed and facilitated a series of workshops for Chinese investors in conflict-affected countries to build their capacity on conflict sensitivity and promote more responsible business behaviours.



HORN OF AFRICA

In **Kenya** we provided technical support to the police reform process, contributing to the finalisation of draft Service Standing Orders that guide the National Police Service in their daily operations and feeding into the operationalisation of the Internal Affairs Unit's complaints management system. Our small arms and light weapons project enabled communities and police in Isiolo and West Pokot counties to improve the arms management standards of the National Police Reserves and reduce potential misuse of their firearms by supporting the development of electronic arms registers and tools for monitoring arms movement among police officers. This has led to a decrease in the communities' need to arm themselves. We used lessons from this work to feed into international forums on small arms and light weapons including the UN Programme of Action on small arms.

We carried out conflict analyses of devolution processes in Kisumu, Marsabit, and Isiolo and supported conflict-sensitive devolution by training county officials. The analyses are being used to ensure planning and development processes take conflict dynamics into consideration. Our research into lessons on early warning and early response mechanisms from the Kenya-Uganda border has been used to inform regional discussions and improve civil society organisations' engagement with these mechanisms. We also jointly facilitated a stakeholders' forum on large-scale investments and their county impact, with a particular focus on oil in Turkana County.

In **Somalia/Somaliland** we supported Somali and international civil society's engagement on the Somali New Deal Compact and the Somaliland Special Arrangement, advocating for improved information sharing with civil society by

actors engaged in the New Deal. We worked to ensure the Compact's objectives are aligned to the needs expressed by ordinary Somali people and pushed for a greater emphasis on conflict-sensitive approaches in implementation processes, without which the Compact risks limiting the engagement and understanding of those it affects.

We continued to support three non-state actor platforms to play an active role in policy and decision-making. This included facilitating our partner SONSAF to engage on issues of oil exploration, governance, and accountability by bringing the Minister for Mining and Energy and the Minister of the Interior into an open dialogue forum with civil society for the first time. We worked with our Puntland partner PUNSAF to develop responses to internally displaced persons and human rights issues within the region. With our South Central partner SOSSENSA, we engaged with the federal government's parliamentary committees on establishing a committee that will develop a national aid policy framework and provide oversight of aid received. SOSSENSA continues to work on ensuring wider public participation in the constitutional review process as well as ensuring public accountability in both public and private institutions. Saferworld began conducting research with SOSSENSA into peacebuilding and statebuilding needs in the Gedo, Lower Juba, and Middle Juba regions of Somalia.

Highlights 2014–15



Highlights 2014–15



INCLUSIVE POLITICAL PROCESSES

In 2014–15 we continued working in a range of countries and at the international level to promote inclusion, responsiveness, and accountability as key foundations for successful peace initiatives. At the international level we worked in coalitions towards the hoped-for commitments within the sustainable development goals to promote fundamental freedoms: participatory decision-making, governance and access to justice, legal identity, and access to information.

At the country level we promoted **participation** by civil society in key national and international political processes, such as the review of the Mining Act in Uganda, the EU-facilitated dialogues between Kosovo and Serbia, and around devolution processes in Kenya. Our work in Yemen continued to strengthen the voices of those marginalised from political processes, including youth and women. We also supported civil society networks to make their voices heard in processes to develop the Somali New Deal Compact and the Somaliland Special Arrangement – major international initiatives to support peacebuilding in each case. In Sudan we continued to support Sudanese civil society to play an active role in conflict transformation and governance reform, bringing together representatives from across civil society to develop a joint vision and strategies on issues including the ongoing crisis in Darfur and long-term institutional reforms.



EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

2014–15 saw the formal transition of our work in Kosovo to a more regional focus on conflict prevention and peaceful political integration within the **Western Balkans**. To support this, we assessed the core factors which helped establish our successful model of partnership in Kosovo, and developed joint conflict analysis with 14 CSOs and partners from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Serbia. We continued to feed into regional political and security processes, calling upon parties to improve the way the EU-facilitated dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia has been carried out, and calling upon the Serbian government to immediately stop attacks on freedom of expression in Serbia.

In the **Caucasus** we helped to establish partnerships in Shida Kartli between local partners and community representatives with the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia. As a result of this, problems faced by ethnic Ossetian communities living near the Administrative Boundary Line were addressed at the national level. Our new Youth Engagement Programme in rural South Ossetia gave marginalised young people a chance to speak about issues affecting them and their communities at regional youth conferences attended by local and central authorities.

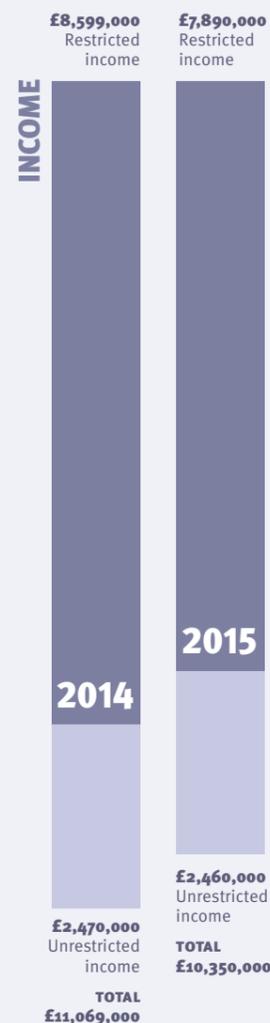
In **Abkhazia**, we continued to sensitise the Abkhaz police to international best practices on community engagement and accountability. We were joined by a senior Abkhaz police officer on a police reform study visit to Northern Ireland, and a seminar on community-police engagement held in Abkhazia was attended by a wide range of civil society representatives and authority representatives. A series of

public campaigns on road safety brought together ethnic Georgian communities and Abkhaz police, which contribute to building trust and confidence between them. In **Armenia and Azerbaijan** we built the capacity of our community networks through separate study visits to Shida Kartli, and our unique online monitoring database mapped out incidents involving the targeting of civilians and their property, based on information received from local communities. We continued to use our programmes to feed into our policy analysis through the publication of a research paper and briefing focusing on the factors undermining the security and livelihoods of Armenian and Azerbaijani communities living on either side of the state border.

In **Central Asia** we supported local conflict prevention mechanisms – Crime Prevention Centres in Kyrgyzstan and Mahala Committees in Tajikistan – to build constructive relationships and cooperative behaviour between communities (including women and young people) and law enforcement agencies and local authorities, and between ethnic groups in conflict-affected communities in Osh and Jalalabad and across the contested areas of the Kyrgyz-Tajik border. This helped security providers to better connect with the communities they serve. In Kyrgyzstan we built on this local level work at the national level by facilitating a study visit for key Ministry of Internal Affairs officials to the Metropolitan Police Service in London and the Police Service of Northern Ireland in Belfast. They shared experiences on police accountability, oversight, community-police relations, public order policing, and how police reform can strengthen communities and support peace and reconciliation.



FINANCIAL UPDATE



EXPENDITURE BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

	2014	2015
11% Europe	£1,005,000	9% Europe £1,157,000
22% Kenya & Horn of Africa	£2,027,000	21% Kenya & Horn of Africa £2,618,000
22% Uganda & Great Lakes region	£1,941,000	28% Uganda & Great Lakes region £3,403,000
8% Asia	£681,000	7% Asia £855,000
7% Middle East & North Africa	£626,000	4% Middle East & North Africa £498,000
18% Policy, advocacy & communications	£1,664,000	20% Policy, advocacy & communications £2,421,000
12% Central	£1,065,000	11% Central £1,311,000
TOTAL	£9,009,000	£12,263,000

This is a top line summary of Saferworld's income and expenditure in 2014–15, taken from our provisional audited accounts. The full accounts will be approved and published following our AGM in October 2015.



Saferworld is an independent international organisation working to prevent violent conflict and build safer lives. Our priority is people – we believe that everyone should be able to lead peaceful, fulfilling lives, free from insecurity and violent conflict. We work with local people affected by conflict to improve their safety and sense of security, and conduct wider analysis, research and surveys of local perceptions. We use this evidence and learning to improve local, national and international policies and practices that can help build lasting peace.

THANK YOU

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FRONT COVER PHOTO: Social time as girls and boys collect water at dusk in Kuajok, South Sudan. With few functioning boreholes in Warrap, pressure on the ones that work can be intense. Disagreements escalate quickly and violence is not uncommon as families and communities step in to defend their side.
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