



UNAAM KAYRAAY

Engaging Civil Society for Peace in the Casamance



April 1, 2020

Final Report

Acknowledgements

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List of Acronyms

AMELP	Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan
AOR	Agreements Officer Representative
CEP	Community Empowerment Program (Tostan)
CESE	Economic, Social, and Environmental Council
CMC	Community Management Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DGSPN	General Delegation on Social Protection and National Solidarity
DRG	Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAD	Fonds d'appui de développement
FY	Fiscal Year
HCDS	High Council on Social Dialogue
HTTC	High Council of Regional Governments
IR	Intermediate Result
KEKENDO	Association of Students for Development in Casamance
KII	Key Informant Interview
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MFDC	<i>Mouvement des Forces Démocratiques de Casamance</i>
MSC	Most Significant Change
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PFPC	<i>La Plateforme des Femmes pour la Paix en Casamance</i>
PSI	Peace and Security Initiative (Tostan)
PWA-S	Partners West Africa Senegal
RIV	Inter-village Meeting
RIZ	Inter-zonal Meeting
SC	Significant Change
SOW	Scope of Work
TOC	Theory of Change
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WANEP	West Africa Network for Peacebuilding

Executive Summary

In 2018, **PartnersGlobal** in collaboration with Partners West Africa – Senegal (PWA-S), La Plateforme des Femmes pour la Paix en Casamance (PFPC), and Tostan under the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Bureau of Conflict Management and Mitigation's (CMM) two-year funded grant initiated the project *Engaging Civil Society for Peace in the Casamance, also known as the Unaam Kayraay* in the countries of Senegal (the Casamance region), The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau.

This project was made possible with a grant of **1.5M USD**. *Unaam Kayraay's* overarching goal was to strengthen the resilience of civil society—particularly women—using nonviolent practices to resolve and mitigate conflicts in the Casamance region and the cross-border regions shared with Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia.

Unaam Kayraay sought to address grievances, share concerns of mutual interest, and to enhance conflict resolution and advocacy skills that would decrease negative stereotypes and perceptions of differences. The overarching goal of the two-year funded project was to establish a community-based conflict mitigation mechanism that would develop the bandwidth of residents in the Casamance region and the neighboring cross-border areas in Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia immediately to extinguish, mitigate, or transform conflict. Through the reinforcement of these conflict resolution skills, it increased the resilience and cooperation of the local society to better maneuver and resist the shocks of conflict. We achieved this by leveraging the profound experience of our local partners – Tostan, PWAS, and PFPC – to train communities on peace, security, and conflict resolution to mitigate low-level inter-communal and cross-border conflicts. The project facilitated dialogues with civil society, local authorities, and security actors to deconstruct existing barriers and created a shared and inclusive agenda for peace. We also supported the formation of a women's forum that was comprised of women not only from the Casamance region but also the cross-border areas of Guinea Bissau and The Gambia to create a tri-regional advocacy agenda to encourage policymakers to be intentional in creating space for women's inclusion and their substantive contribution to the peace process. The project's consortium compiled a compilation of lessons learned and employed methodologies in conjunction with community-based substantive recommendations in a *Livre Blanc* (White Paper).

Background

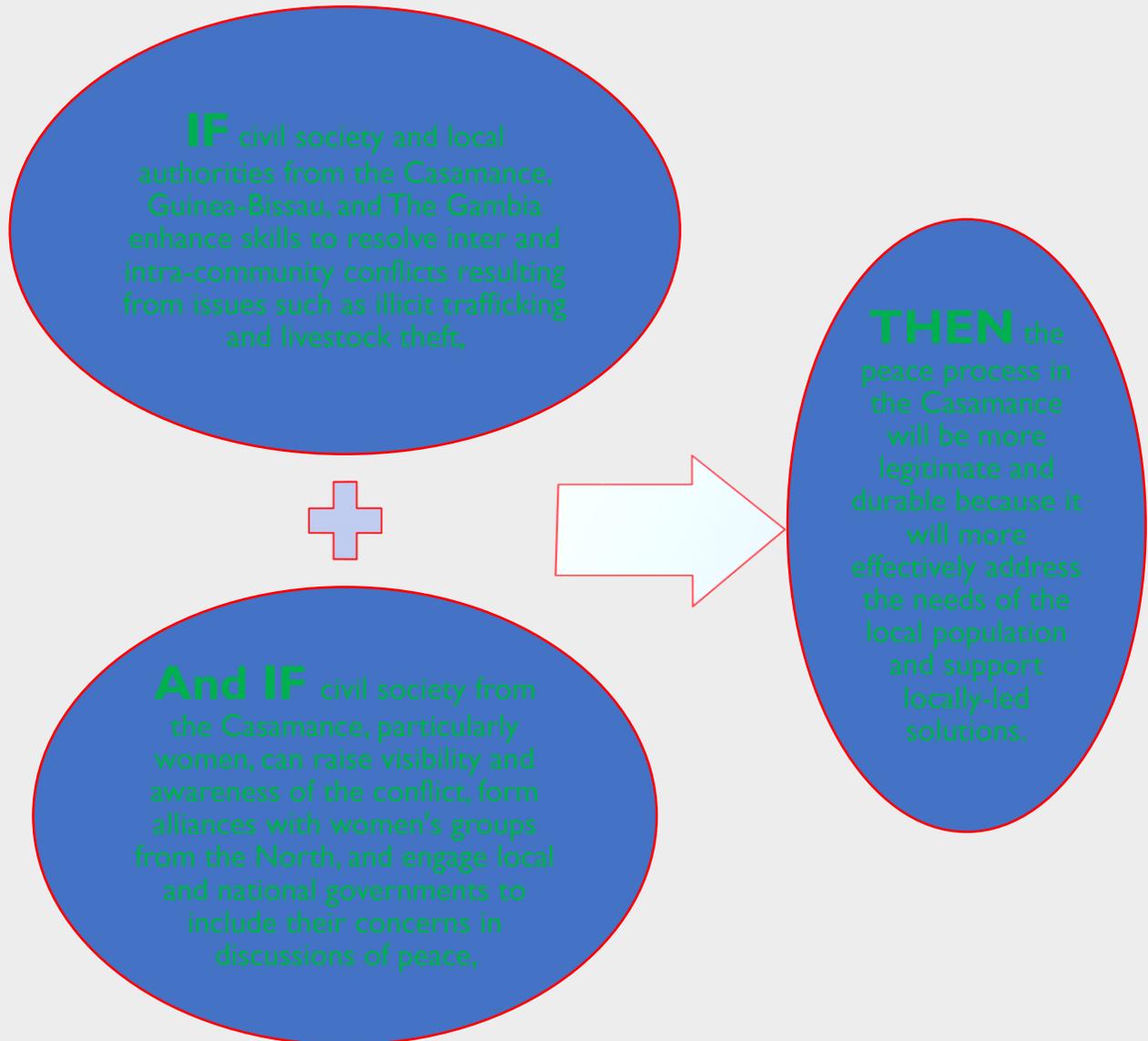
While Senegal is one of the most politically stable countries in West Africa, it remains trapped in a situation of “non-peace” since 1982 in its Southern region of Casamance with a conflict between the Senegalese armed forces and the Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC)- a political movement established in 1947 in Casamance. In 1982, a peaceful protest march organized by the MFDC in Casamance turned violent and fueled one of the longest low-scale civil wars in Africa to date. This strife raging for over three decades now manifests itself by moments of sporadic respites and intense tensions linked to a web of interconnected drivers and potential triggers.

The conflict continues to impact the populations of Casamance negatively and in neighboring countries Guinea-Bissau and the Gambia, particularly those living in cross-border areas. Women, in particular, have been affected by the conflict as they suffered consequences of desacralization, rape, and family disintegration as men joined the rebels. More recently, tensions arising from the illegal trafficking of goods and people have compounded the impact of the conflict on civil society. In addition to the armed character of the conflict, other types of disputes are emerging and intensifying at a community level, including litigations regarding the use of the land and natural resources, inter-community conflicts, human and timber trafficking, and so forth.

The peace process has been shaped over time by successive governments and leaders of the MFDC through several failed peace attempts. Civil society actors have criticized the government-led peace process for its fragmentation, secrecy, and lack of inclusion of civil society, mainly women and youth, all of which could potentially hamper negotiations and trigger renewed violence if not addressed. This context has been an opening for civil society to: - raise awareness of the conflict in other regions in Senegal mainly in the North; - enlist regional allies in the cause of peace and for local civil society, and to seize the opportunity to develop community-led solutions to peace and stability in Casamance and cross-border areas.

The Engaging Civil Society for Peace in the Casamance project/ Unaam Kayraay engages key actors from civil society, women’s networks, local authorities, and community leaders from Casamance, and border areas. The project address grievances, share concerns of mutual interest and enhance conflict resolution and advocacy skills that will decrease negative stereotypes and perceptions of difference, facilitate cooperation and increase the resilience of society to the shocks of conflict. As a result of this project, the capacities of local organizations and institutional structures have been strengthened, supporting a more durable peace in the region.

Theory of Change



I. Summary of Results

This section of the report summarizes key accomplishments during Year 1 (Fiscal Year 2017/2018) and Year 2 (Fiscal Year 2018/2019) of implementation. The results are summarized below in table format, for better visualization and organization. It should be noted that the implementation of project activities did not begin in earnest until Quarter 3, due to delays in project start-up. Additionally, while the main project launched in Senegal and The Gambia took place during Quarter 2, the official launch in Guinea-Bissau was strategically delayed until Quarter 3 to reach a broader audience within local governance institutions that had not previously been available. Despite this delayed launch date, preparatory activities began in all three countries simultaneously. More detailed reporting in line with the approved Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (AMELP) and Year 1 Work Plan on project activities is found in Section III; while a reflection on project progress towards objectives is found in Section VI.

Table I. Year 1 Results by Objective and Activity

Objective 1: Objective #1: Strengthen the capacity of civil society in 40 communities from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau and the Gambia, to resolve inter and intra-communal (cross-border) conflicts and build resilience to evolving security dynamics	
Activity	Results
Activity 1.1: Peace and Security from the Grassroots Up	<p>Tostan selected 340 communities in Senegal and The Gambia to participate in the Peace and Security Initiative (PSI) trainings, and an additional 40 communities in Guinea-Bissau to receive support for awareness raising and capacity building activities. To deliver activities and undertake monitoring therein, Tostan recruited 11 supervisors and 40 facilitators, all of whom were trained on the PSI and/or monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL).</p> <p>Establishment of 40 peace committees in each targeted community in Senegal and The Gambia, comprised of three to seven members. All members were trained on conflict prevention, mitigation, and resolution, and on the PSI.</p> <p>Trainings for 40 community management committees (CMCs) in Senegal and The Gambia, comprised of 17 members each, in targeted communities on their roles and responsibilities, how to work alongside peace committees, and the PSI.</p> <p>2,138 members (1,497 women and 641 men) from targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia trained on the PSI by facilitators; participants then stepped down the PSI to 1,345 individuals in non-targeted communities.</p> <p>Three trainings on the PSI for 40 religious leaders from targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia.</p>

<p>Activity I.2: Peace and Security Sub-Module: “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace”</p>	<p>Four workshops to design and validate an updated “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” training module, gathering together 115 total people, including subject experts from the three countries, PFPC, Tostan, and religious leaders.</p>
<p>Activity I.3: Social Mobilization Campaigns for Peace through Organized Diffusion</p>	<p>Three inter-village meetings (RIVs), reaching 329 people from targeted communities, and one inter-zonal meeting (RIZ), reaching 163 people from targeted communities.</p> <p>CMCs carried out a host of sensitization activities in targeted communities of the three countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senegal: 48 activities on reducing and resolving conflicts. • Guinea-Bissau: 454 activities on preventing marital, family, and farm-related conflicts. • The Gambia: 49 activities on human rights and security, specifically focused on reducing conflicts related to logging and the trafficking of children. • Over 6,476 people reached by sensitization activities in the three countries. <p>CMCs conducted 354 sanitation activities (257 in Senegal, 97 in Guinea-Bissau), and produced and distributed 175 cookstoves to targeted communities in Senegal.</p> <p>Peace committees led conflict prevention and resolution activities in targeted communities of all three countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senegal: 150 marital, land, family, and youth-related conflicts resolved. • Guinea-Bissau: 162 martial, land, youth, and family-related conflicts resolved. • The Gambia: 37 family and neighbor-related conflicts resolved. • 140 total conflict prevention activities in the three countries. <p>Tostan broadcasted 16 radio programs, relating to peace, security, conflict resolution, and the different dimensions of human security, on local radio stations total in the three countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senegal: two programs on conflict management, and health, food, and economic security. • Guinea-Bissau: 10 programs on conflict management, and health, food, and economic security. • The Gambia: four programs on themes related to peace and human security.
<p>Activity I.4: Inclusive Border Security Management – Engaging Security Actors</p>	<p>PWA-S facilitated two dialogues on inclusive security management in Ziguinchor, Senegal, and Banjul, The Gambia, reaching 29 and 42 participants, respectively, from civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the security sector, and international community. These sessions produced a total of 37 high-level recommendations to improve peace and security and</p>

	coordination between civil society and governments, which will be forwarded to national governments.
Objective #2: Establish an advocacy platform for a network of 250 women from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia, to develop and promote joint goals for peace to local and national authorities	
Activity	Results
Activity 2.1: Strengthen the Senegambia Women's Forum for Peace in the Casamance	PartnersGlobal , in coordination with PFPC, led a training on cooperative advocacy in Ziguinchor for 15 women participants from the Senegambia Forum. This training resulted in the formation of a five-member steering committee for the Forum.
Activity 2.2: Devise National Advocacy Plans for the Senegambia Forum	PFPC organized nine public consultations in different <i>départements/districts</i> of the Casamance that brought together 813 individuals (537 women and 276 men) total to discuss contributing factors to continued conflict in their communities and propose solutions to these issues. The information was used to produce the White Paper.
Other Project Activities	
Tostan conducted a baseline survey in 12 targeted villages of the Casamance to gauge existing knowledge, experience, expertise, and approaches towards resolving conflict in the region; and build implementers' capacities in collecting data and reporting. A total of 365 respondents completed individual questionnaires.	
One project launch event in Ziguinchor, in which 76 participants representing consortium members, USAID, civil society, and governments from the three countries.	
PartnersGlobal led one training on the Most Significant Change (MSC technique) for consortium members.	
The Consortium organized two work planning workshops in Y1 and Y2, respectively, to assess the national and local contexts and define activities to achieve the project objectives and expected outcomes.	

Table 2. Year 2 Results by Objective and Activity

Objective 1: Strengthen the capacity of civil society in 40 communities from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau and the Gambia, to resolve inter and intra-communal (cross-border) conflicts and build resilience to evolving security dynamics	
Activity	Results
Activity 1.1: Peace and Security from the Grassroots Up	1,333 total individuals (154 men, 1,179 women) benefitted from micro-loans, using the money for a range of income-generating activities. Repayments of loans remained on schedule and Tostan was able to use cost-savings in its budget to give community management committees (CMCs) additional community development funds (<i>fonds d'appui de développement – FAD</i>).

<p>Activity 1.2: Peace and Security Sub-Module: “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace”</p>	<p>The project finalized “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module, which was taught to targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia. Community members then adopted relatives and neighbors and sensitized them on the sub-module’s content, expanding its reach. Communities in Guinea-Bissau benefitted from sensitizations on content, too. A total of 11 local conventions (9 in Senegal, 2 in The Gambia), which are part of the sub-module’s content, were validated by communities and local authorities.</p>
<p>Activity 1.3: Social Mobilization Campaigns for Peace through Organized Diffusion</p>	<p>Tostan continued holding inter-village meetings (RIVs) and inter-zonal meetings (RIZs) and introduced cross-border meetings in Year 2, achieving a total of 12 RIVs, eight RIZs, and two cross-border meetings in Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia.</p> <p>CMCs carried out 2,589 total sensitization activities in targeted communities of the three countries on reducing and resolving conflicts, human rights, peace, and conflict resolution, among other topics. In some instances, CMCs collaborated with peace committees to build communities’ awareness of and skills in conflict prevention and mediation. On their own, peace committees were likewise active, implementing 867 conflict prevention and resolution actions. The majority of 612 resolved conflicts were those between married couples, neighbors, and farmers and herders.</p> <p>CMCs in Senegal and Guinea-Bissau conducted 797 sanitation activities as part of enhancing communities’ resilience and overall wellbeing.</p> <p>Tostan broadcasted 92 radio programs (36 in Senegal, 35 in Guinea-Bissau, and 21 in The Gambia) on local radio stations, touching on themes related to peace, security, conflict resolution, and the different dimensions of human security. The programs also registered hundreds of listener calls in response.</p>
<p>Activity 1.4: Inclusive Border Security Management – Engaging Security Actors</p>	<p>PWA-S convened an inclusive security management dialogue in Bissau, bringing together 34 participants from civil society, the security sector, national line ministries, and the diplomatic community.</p>

Objective #2: Establish an advocacy platform for a network of 250 women from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia, to develop and promote joint goals for peace to local and national authorities

Activity	Results
Activity 2.1: Strengthen the Senegambia Women’s Forum for Peace in the Casamance	PartnersGlobal in coordination with PFPC, led two trainings on cooperative advocacy, and mediation and negotiation techniques in Ziguinchor for members of the Senegambia Forum. Following the mediation and negotiation techniques training the Forum revived its Mediation and Negotiation Unit , comprised of 15 members from Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia.
Activity 2.2: Devise National Advocacy Plans for the Senegambia Forum	Through a series of workshops led by PFPC, the Senegambia Forum worked on national advocacy plans (one per country) and a five-year (2019-2023) collective strategy for the Forum . During revision workshops, women from Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia finalized their plans. A roundtable on peace, security, and development , facilitated by PWA-S, included 31 participants representing a wide cross-section of social and economic development agencies, the diplomatic community, and civil society.
Activity 2.3: Breaking Barriers and Building Support with Women from the North and South	PWA-S organized three North-South women’s dialogues in Senegal that brought together 90 total participants from all 14 regions of Senegal, along with women from Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia. Through identifying common peace and security concerns, the women created a WhatsApp group and outlined short-, medium-, and long-term objectives for a permanent women’s group for constructive dialogue in Senegal, for which participants outlined short-, medium-, and long-term objectives and activities The consortium, with PFPC as the lead, held the National March for Peace in Casamance in Dakar, in which over 2,500 people , approximately 1,800 of whom were women. In addition to a strong turnout from civil society and youth, high-level members of the government, like the Minister for Women, Family, Gender, and Child Protection, attended. During the activity, the consortium presented the Minister with the Livre Blanc , also finalized during Year 2.
Other Project Activities	
PartnersGlobal and PWA-S represented the consortium during a meeting for USAID implementing partners for the Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) unit. Significant progress on drafting the project’s internal evaluation , including all primary research and collection of 28 Significant Change (SC) stories .	

II. Narrative Report

Objective #1: Strengthen the capacity of civil society in 40 communities from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia, to resolve inter and intra-communal (cross-border) conflicts and build resilience to evolving security dynamics

Activity 1.1: Peace and Security from the Grassroots Up

Prior to implementation of the above activity, Tostan undertook several, preparatory steps. In Quarter 2, Tostan finalized the selection of 340 total communities in Senegal and The Gambia to receive the Peace and Security Initiative (PSI) trainings; and 40 communities in Guinea-Bissau, which had already completed the PSI, to receive support for awareness raising and sensitization. During Year 2, **Partners**Global and consortium partners achieved progress under Objective 1, Activities 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4; and Objective 2, Activities 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3.

Community development funds

In October and December 2018, CMCs in 40 targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia received community development funds (*fonds d'appui au développement - FAD*) of USD 800/CMC. CMCs then used these funds to finance community development projects through micro-loans that build resilience. The project stipulates that micro-loans be repaid within six months with 10 per cent interest paid on every 5,000 FCFA spent (i.e. 500 FCFA per 5,000 FCFA). The micro-loans were set-up as a rotating fund, thus helping to ensure that community members, particularly women, have easy access to needed capital in setting up small businesses, improving agricultural inputs, or creating other types of income-generating activities.

Prior to distributing the FADs, Tostan field staff trained CMC members in Senegal and The Gambia on financial management from November 6-7, 2018, and October 6-7, 2018, respectively. In Senegal, 60 CMC members (40 women, 20 men) and 20 village chiefs attended the training; in The Gambia, 20 CMC members (16 women, 4 men) participated. Specific training topics included the roles and responsibilities of different CMC positions (coordinators, secretaries, financial officers) in the distribution of micro-loans; village leaders' expected roles in this process; qualities of a good borrower (e.g. sound management of funds, investment in viable and profitable enterprises, respect of loan rules, the ability to repay the loan); and potential obstacles to sound financial management. The trainings ended with the handover of a FAD to each CMC, in the presence of local authorities for each commune¹. The mayors of the communes, CMC members, village chiefs of the 40 targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia, and Tostan then signed protocols on the usage of funds (one protocol per targeted community = 40 signed protocols total).

¹ The eight communes were as follows: Niagha, Baghere (*Sédhiou département*), Nemataba, Kandia, Paroumba, Pakour (*Velingara département*), Sindin, and Suelle (*Bignona département*). These eight communes comprise the 30 villages targeted by the project in Senegal. In The Gambia, the 10 targeted communities fall within four districts.

The first disbursement of micro-loans took place in November 2018 and 637 individuals (565 women, 72 men) benefitted in Senegal and The Gambia. CMCs selected recipients according to set criteria (see **Box 1**) and lent a total of 12 million FCFA (~USD 20,000) in Senegal and 2.2 million FCFA (~USD 3,800) in The Gambia in the first month; some recipients began repaying

Box 1. Micro-loan criteria:

- Be a resident of the targeted community;
- Be a participant in project-related activities;
- Have a national identity card;
- Have a guarantor;
- Be honest;

micro-loans before the end of 2019. To safeguard good financial management and monitor FADs, CMCs organized a series of planning and monitoring and evaluation meetings: from January-March 2019 (Q2), CMCs in Senegal and The Gambia organized 70 such meetings and from April-June 2019 (Q3), CMCs in the two countries held 66 meetings.

By May 2019, the first round of micro-loan beneficiaries had repaid their balance, with interest, in full, and CMCs continued distribution throughout Year 2. By the end of Year 2, 1,333 individuals (1,179 women, 154 men) had benefitted, using the money for various income-generating activities. Examples of such activities include small business enterprises, livestock raising, and agriculture. For individual recipients, the most common uses of the money were for commercial purposes, such as tea, sugar, and making and selling soap. A minority of micro-loans went to groups, with one group purchasing peanuts for later re-sale at a profit, when the supply of peanuts on the market is scarcer.

In the short-term, beneficiaries of the micro-loans were able to engage in income-generating activities, thereby improving their financial situation and better meeting their material needs. Moreover, female recipients reported that the micro-loans and resultant increased earnings enabled them to send their children to school and abandon illicit means of making money, such as wood trafficking. Over the long-term, it is hoped that this injection of capital will bring communities together to develop projects that meet their collective needs, both as part of reducing poverty in rural areas and expanding economic opportunities in the region, particularly for women.

Other

Tostan, with support from PWA-S, organized two workshops to share project results and successes with community members and authorities. The first workshop took place on August 27 in Bafata region, Guinea-Bissau, and the second took place on August 30 in Bassé region, the Gambia. In Guinea-Bissau, 41 individuals (34 men, 7 women) attended, and regional governors from Oio, Bafata, and Gabu presided over the encounter. A total of 75 people (54 men, 21 women) participated in the workshop in The Gambia, with the deputy governor of Bassé region presiding. Authorities stated their appreciation for *Unaam Kayraay* and declared their commitment to sustain project gains.

Tostan selected communities using the criteria below:

- Location in the Casamance and border regions of Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia.
- Previous completion of the Community Empowerment Program (CEP).
- A functional, 17-member CMC (CMCs were established as part of the CEP).
- For Senegal and The Gambia: willingness to be trained on the PSI and sensitize other neighboring communities on peace and security.

The 40 targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia (30 in Senegal, 10 in The Gambia) will benefit from trainings on the PSI and “Impact of Trafficking of Peace” sub-module. For communities in Guinea-Bissau, the project will provide support to social mobilization activities (e.g. CMCs, peace committees, RIVs/RIZs, sensitizations, radio programs). To support implementation of the project in all three countries, Tostan recruited 11 supervisors and 40 facilitators, all of whom possessed previous experience working with Tostan on peacebuilding activities. Facilitators typically lead trainings on-the-ground, with supervisors providing the link to Tostan staff and operations at national level. Amongst the recruited supervisors, eight oversaw the successful implementation of activities in the 40 targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia². The remaining three supervisors were primarily responsible for monitoring social mobilization activities in the 340 communities across Gabu, Bafata, and Oio regions in Guinea-Bissau.

In Quarter 3, 43 facilitators and supervisors (30 from Senegal, 3 from Guinea-Bissau, 10 from The Gambia) were trained on the PSI³, capacitating them to teach the modules to the selected communities. In general, the PSI focuses on mediation techniques, conflict management skills, conflict analysis, and the participation of women and youth in conflict prevention and management. In Quarters 3 and 4, Tostan facilitators delivered trainings on the PSI to a range of community actors in Senegal and The Gambia. From April 16 to June 30, facilitators taught 2,138 participants – 70 percent of whom were women - from targeted communities the PSI successfully encouraging them to step-down the trainings to an additional 1,345 members of non-targeted communities in Senegal and the Gambia. As part of the project, Tostan has coached targeted communities to sensitize neighboring villages on peace and conflict resolution, and to share knowledge acquired through project activities, thereby expanding the reach of the project.

² This equals a breakdown of one supervisor responsible for five communities.

³ Tostan launched the PSI in 2012, deploying it to communities in Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia to teach citizens about positive peace and human security, and strengthen conflict prevention and management skills at the grassroots level. Within *Unaam Kayraay*, Tostan expanded the PSI to 40 targeted communities that had completed Tostan’s Community Empowerment Program (CEP) prior to the project.

The above PSI trainings then culminated in general assembly meetings in which each of the 40 communities elected peace committees of three to seven members, at least 40 per cent of whom were women. Targeted communities in Guinea-Bissau likewise formed peace committees. In the context of the project, peace committees are tasked with carrying out activities related to conflict prevention and resolution at community-level, then reporting back data on these activities to Tostan facilitators who relay the information to their supervisors. Considering the overlapping goals of CMCs and peace committees, Tostan facilitators then trained 680 members of 40 CMCs in Senegal and The Gambia on how to work alongside peace committees.

Box 2. Peace committees and CMCs

Peace committees and CMCs both provide essential support in enhancing communities' resilience to evolving security dynamics, their ability to manage conflict, and overall wellbeing, contributing to the goals and objectives of the project.

Community Management Committees primarily support communities' improved, overall wellbeing and awareness of concerns and priorities related to human rights, peace, security, and conflict management. These goals were addressed in Year 1 through sensitizations on a variety of topics related to peace, human security, and conflict resolution; and the distribution of cookstoves, and sanitation activities. Sanitation activities and the distribution of cookstoves are linked to improving environmental and health security, as part of the seven dimensions of human security. These activities also and enhance overall wellbeing as the goal is a cleaner living space.

Peace committees capacitate communities to proactively and sustainably mitigate and manage diverse types of conflict through conflict prevention and resolution efforts.

Specifically, conflict prevention efforts involve various methods – skits, chat sessions, meetings, debates between individuals – to inform communities on peace and security. More broadly, however, conflict prevention activities touch upon themes related to the importance of inter-religious and inter-ethnic dialogue, the connection between peace and overall wellbeing, developing empathy as part of engendering feelings of mutual understanding, the need to respect human rights, and how to analyze conflicts (e.g. triggers, types, evolution).

Finally, in Quarter 4, facilitators trained 40 religious leaders from targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia on the PSI, thereby enhancing their knowledge of different strategies for promoting peace and human security in communities and working collaboratively to mitigate conflicts. These trainings took course over three conferences in Kolda, Senegal. Additionally, the sessions invited feedback from participants on proposed themes for the new module of the “Impact of Trafficking on Peace”, discussed below in Activity 1.2.

Activity 1.2: Peace and Security Sub-Module: The Impact of Trafficking on Peace

Delivery of “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module

During Year 1, the *Unaam Kayraay* project convened local leaders, including religious authorities, in targeted communities, and Tostan facilitators and supervisors to give inputs into “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace”. “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” is a sub-module of

the Peace and Security Initiative (PSI), which Tostan delivered to targeted communities and Senegal, The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau during Year I. The sub-module complements the PSI's content related to conflict mitigation and resolution, while focusing more intently on a key security issue in the Casamance and cross-border areas: the traffic of illicit drugs, weapons, merchandises and other contraband, and persons (*talibés*). While “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” seeks to raise communities’ awareness of different forms of and threats posed by trafficking, it does not encourage direct interventions into traffickers’ activities, for safety reasons.

In keeping with the participatory process of elaboration, a group of eight Tostan supervisors met from October 15-19, 2018, in Kolda, Senegal, to validate the sub-module’s content (see **Box 3** for list of the curriculum). This meeting also trained the supervisors to teach communities on “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” and translated the sub-module into Fula, Diola, and Mandingo, the predominant languages spoken in targeted communities in The Gambia and Senegal. To prepare for dissemination of the sub-module, the trained supervisors then stepped-down the content to 42 Tostan facilitators during a training from October 20-24, 2018. Throughout November 2018, the facilitators taught “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” to 1,382 people (1,291 women, 91 men) in 30 targeted communities in Senegal, and 768 people (696 women, 72 men) in 10 targeted communities in The Gambia. All participants had already completed the PSI. Following the courses, and in line with encouragement from facilitators, community members “adopted” relatives, neighbors, and/or friends with whom to share their new learnings. Between October-December 2018 (Q1), a total of 865 community members were adopted: 832 (582 women, 250 men) in Senegal and 33 (26 women, 7 men) in The Gambia.

However, to refresh communities’ knowledge and understanding of “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace”, Tostan supervisors held revision sessions in 30 targeted communities in Senegal and 10 targeted communities in The Gambia from January-March 2019 (Q2) for the original set of participants. Facilitators then continued refresher sessions on the “Impact of Trafficking on Peace” and PSI from April-June 2019, which included members of CMCs and peace committees to ensure successful continuation of their own sensitizations and conflict prevention and

Box 3. "Impact of Trafficking on Peace" curriculum

- **The triggers of conflict;**
- **Good citizenship:** encourage communities’ ownership over their security through civic action and the promotion of peace;
- **Good natural resource governance** (two sessions);
- **Contributing factors** to livestock theft, and solutions and best practices for this problem;
- **Conflict resolution processes:** reinforce communities’ capacities to resolve issues before they become conflicts, using a case study on the trafficking of wood.
- **Local conventions:** conventions are often created following inter-village or inter-zonal meetings. They respond to community peace, security, and development issues (i.e. wood trafficking) and are validated by members of the community and local authorities.

resolution activities. Although communities in Guinea-Bissau did not benefit from classes on the “Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module⁴, supervisors organized a total of 200 sensitization activities in 30 targeted communities on the PSI module and selected content from the “Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module. From January-June 2019 (Q2-Q3), a total of 1,514 individuals (290 men, 1,224 women) were sensitized in Guinea-Bissau.

Alongside increasing communities’ knowledge and awareness of conflict resolution techniques, natural resource governance, and trafficking, the main result of “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” was the elaboration and finalization of local conventions, discussed in more detail below.

Elaboration of local conventions

As part of “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace’s” curriculum, local conventions are community agreements on how to collaboratively address key peace and security concerns, such as natural resource management. Civil society, local authorities, and the private sector jointly elaborate local conventions, which are then signed by authorities and relevant technical services. While communities supplied the content for local conventions, *Unaam Kayraay* provided technical assistance and facilitates encounters in which to discuss content. Successful implementation of local conventions will contribute to the project’s objective for more resilient and secure communities, as well as to sustainability of peaceful ways to mitigate and resolve conflicts.

The elaboration of local conventions began after teaching of “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module. Encounters like RIVs and RIZs (see Activity 1.3) served as forums for local authorities, civil society, and the members of the private sector to provide inputs into conventions and to discuss their operationalization and implementation. However, and as part of letting communities take the lead, the project allowed them to decide whether to elaborate a local convention or partner with other villages on a joint convention. For instance, five villages in Kolda, Senegal, came together and produced one convention for their shared concerns.

Over the course of Year 2, a total of 11 local conventions were validated: 9 in Senegal and 2 in The Gambia. Content ranged from natural resource governance, specifically around wood trafficking, to livestock theft and grazing, to child trafficking. As the majority of these were finalized in Q4, and activities under *Unaam Kayraay* will end by November 2019, monitoring of conventions’ implementation and any results will not be possible.

⁴The project supports targeted communities in Guinea-Bissau in social mobilization and sensitization activities, including those led by CMCs and peace committees. As these communities already completed the PSI prior to *Unaam Kayraay* and due to resource constraints, they do not receive full instruction on the PSI nor the “Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module under the project.

Activity 1.3: Social Mobilization Campaigns for Peace through Organized Diffusion

Although hostilities related to the conflict in Casamance have been progressively decreasing, communities still experience inter- and intra-village conflicts related to access to land and resources, as well as those between families, married couples, youth, and neighbors. As part of enhancing communities' capacities to proactively build more peaceful and secure societies, the project implemented a variety of initiatives – RIVs, RIZ, sensitizations, conflict prevention and resolution activities - under Activity 1.3.

Inter-village meetings (RIVs), inter-zonal meetings (RIZs), and cross-border meetings

RIVs, RIZs, and cross-border meetings served a two-fold purpose: 1) they helped Tostan facilitators – who lead the meetings in most cases – to better understand communities' views and priorities on peace, conflict, and security, thereby enabling them to better sensitize the human security framework⁵ to communities' realities; and 2) they brought together diverse groups of people from civil society and the security sector to find common ground, and commit to promoting peace and resolving conflicts in their areas. As such, a key output of these events is the planning of social mobilization campaigns that engage community members around issues of peace and security. **Table 3** recapitulates the RIVs and RIZ that took place in Year 1, including the number of participants and main topics discussed.

Since Year 1, the *Unaam Kayraay* project has been holding RIVs, RIZs, and cross-border meetings to enable discussion and knowledge sharing on maintaining peace in Casamance and neighboring regions between a variety of local actors, such as community leaders, authorities, and the private sector. In addition to exchanging experiences and perspectives, these meetings led to the elaboration of local conventions and/or action plans with solutions to identified problems. Problems included wood trafficking, livestock theft (often related to free grazing), and general conflict resolution. Moreover, these encounters served to reinforce participants' knowledge of and skills in conflict mediation, prevention, resolution, and peacebuilding. While RIVs and RIZs increased interactions and collaboration between neighboring villages in the same country, cross-border meetings sought to improve trans-national coordination through harmonizing interventions for peace and security and the implementation of local conventions.

In Year 2, eight RIZs, 12 RIVs, and two cross-border meetings – 22 total– took place across Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau. **Table** below lists each meeting, detailing dates, places, total number of participants, and key results.

⁵ According to the United Nations Development Program's 1994 Human Development Report, the seven dimensions of human security are personal, environmental, political, economic, food, health, and community.

Table 3. Year I RIVs, RIZs, and Cross-Border Meetings

RIV or RIZ	Date and location	Number of participants	Comments
RIV	May 28, 2018 in Sidibianto (Kolda), Senegal	60 participants from 12 targeted communities, representing village chiefs, imams, peace committee members, students, and political officials.	The RIV enabled participants to discuss the culture of peace in Islam, share experiences in and perspectives on conflict resolution, and perform group work concerning the importance of peace at the community and inter-community levels. The meeting concluded with commitments to implement community awareness-raising activities in the participant's respective villages.
RIV	July 8, 2018, in Simoto Touba, The Gambia	100 participants from 10 targeted communities, representing the police; <i>gendarmerie</i> ; immigration services; officials from customs and the service of Water, Forests, Hunting, and Nature; religious leaders; and the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP). ⁶	Through facilitating an exchange of knowledge and experiences, the RIV allowed Tostan to better understand communities' comprehension levels of peace and security issues. The meeting also allowed for civil society and the security sector to share their views on civil society's role in promoting peace and security, in collaboration with the state.
RIZ⁷	July 18, 2018, in Kolikounda (Basse), The Gambia	163 participants from 15 villages, of which 10 are targeted by the program and five have benefitted from sensitization efforts. The 163 participants comprised of administrative and village authorities, and religious and local leaders.	Community members shared ideas on activities to prevent conflicts, mediation techniques, and the primary causes of conflict. As such, this RIV served as an opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding on how to prevent and analyze conflict, as part of stronger conflict resolution efforts.
RIV	September 29, 2018, in Némataba (Kolda), Senegal	169 participants from five villages, of which three are targeted by the project and two have benefitted from sensitization efforts.	Over the course of the meeting, the participants discussed the seven dimensions of human security and necessary actions to promote these dimensions. Additionally, the Némataba CMC – which organized the RIV – gave a

⁶ WANEP is a regional peacebuilding organization comprised of ECOWAS Member States and over 500 member organizations across West Africa, with special focus on collaborative approaches to conflict prevention, and peacebuilding, working with diverse actors from civil society, governments, intergovernmental bodies, women groups

⁷ Originally, the plan was to hold two RIVs in Q4: one with Fula villages and another with Mandinka villages. However, the participants preferred to organize one RIZ to strengthen relations between the two zones.

			mediation demonstration, performing a skit on a family conflict resolved by a peace committee.
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Table 4. Year 2 List of RIZs, RIVs, and Cross-Border Meetings

RIV, RIZ, or Cross-Border Meeting	Date & location	# of participants	Key results
RIZ	January 29, 2019, in Sindian (Bignona), Senegal	698 total participants (379 women, 319 men)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of action plans to sensitize on family members, neighbors, and communities at-large on conflict prevention. • Pledge of support from the private sector to help CMCs and peace committees form a zonal committee that, together with local authorities, would be charged with resolving herder-farmer conflicts. • Statement from local administrator that, in 25 years of public service, he had never seen civil society so engaged in promoting peace, a change that he attributes to the project. • Progress on local conventions.
	May 2, 2019, in Niagha (Velingara), Senegal		
	June 13, 2019, in Soma Mandingue (Velingara), Senegal		
	September 21, 2019, in Diakacounda (Senegal)		
	December 10-11 ⁸ , 2018, in Canquenhe (Bafata region), Guinea-Bissau		
	May 4, 2019, in Nhane (Oio), Guinea-Bissau		
	April 11, 2019, in Bagadaji (Basse), the Gambia		
	September 29, 2019, in Njayel (the Gambia)		

⁸ These dates overlap with International Human Rights Day (December 10) and the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. The 16 days of activism is an international campaign that originated from the first Women’s Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and runs from November 25 to December 10 every year. The campaign works with local leaders to raise awareness of violence against women and girls.

RIV	December 17, 2018, in Katoudié (Bignona), Senegal	777 total participants (501 women, 276 men)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination of volunteers from villages to work with local police and forest rangers on forest protection. • Consensus-building on the content of local conventions, as part of advancing the elaboration process.
	December 18, 2018, in Ouniok (Bignona), Senegal		
	March 8, 2019, in Mankacounda village (Velingara), Senegal		
	March 20, 2019, in Media Mandou village (Kolda), Senegal		
	April 14, 2019, in Fanka Birassou (Sédhiou), Senegal		
	June 18, 2019, in Ghoniame (Bignona), Senegal		
	January 26, 2019, in Sambandja village (Pirada sector), Guinea-Bissau		
	January 28, 2019, in Bagadadje village (Mansaba sector, Guinea-Bissau)		
	February 27, 2019, in Saré Salum (Contuboel sector), Guinea-Bissau		
	March 29, 2019, in Olocunda village (Pirada sector), Guinea-Bissau		
	February 12, 2019, in Keneba village, The Gambia		
	March 23, 2019, in Kanapeh village, The Gambia		

Cross-Border Meeting	June 10-12, 2019, in Kandia (Velingara), Senegal	151 total participants (81 women, 70 men - 100 from Senegal, 30 from the Gambia, 21 from Guinea-Bissau);	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of joint action plan between neighboring communities on peace and security promotion activities in cross-border areas. • The installation of trans-national peace committee networks to manage diverse insecurities (e.g. trafficking of goods and persons) that affect local populations. • Sharing of the first versions of local conventions with the participating authorities. • Media coverage of activities, including in the June 18, 2019, edition of <i>Le Quotidien</i> newspaper.
	June 30, 2019, Sandikunda, Guinea-Bissau	104 total participants (54 women, 50 men) from Senegal and Guinea-Bissau	

CMC-led activities: sensitization and sanitation activities in targeted communities

In all three countries, CMCs completed several sensitization and sanitation activities in their communities, both of which contribute to communities' overall security and wellbeing. Additionally, these types of activities served as useful complements to the peace committees' work, as sensitizations primarily focused on the importance of peace committees, resolving conflicts, human rights, and human security. A summary of sensitization activities carried out by CMCs in Year I, per quarter, can be found in **Table 5** below:

Table 5. Breakdown of CMC sensitization activities

Quarter	Country	Number of Activities	Topics addressed
Q3	Senegal	48 activities	Importance of peace committees, The Dimensions of Human Security framework
Q3	Guinea-Bissau	35 activities	The prevention of marital, family, and farm-related conflicts
Q3	The Gambia	10 activities	Human rights and security, particularly concerning logging and the trafficking of children
Q4	Senegal	20 activities	Human rights, notably the right to education, and different dimensions of human security, such as health, the environment, and economics
Q4	Guinea-Bissau	419 activities	Human rights, notably the right to education, and different dimensions of human security, such as health, the environment, and economics
Q4	The Gambia	39 activities	Human rights, notably the right to education, and different dimensions of human security, such as health, the environment, and economics

Sanitation activities, for their part, were linked to improving environmental and health security, as part of the seven dimensions of human security framework and enhancing populations' overall wellbeing through a cleaner living space. In Year I, CMCs conducted 227 community sanitation activities in Senegal and 97 in Guinea-Bissau, in addition to the production of 175 cookstoves in

Senegal, designed to minimize the use of wood in household cooking in Quarter 3. In Quarter 4, CMCs accomplished 30 additional sanitation activities in Senegal, such as collecting and disposing of rubbish and de-weeding.

Since project inception, CMCs have worked in their communities to identify specific needs and conduct diverse activities that contribute to awareness-raising on peace and security issues and communities' improved wellbeing and health. In Year I, Tostan trained elected CMC members on diverse topics⁹ in order to capacitate them to sensitize targeted communities and enhance

⁹ Topics included The PSI and "Impact of Trafficking on Peace" content; The seven dimensions of human security, such as good governance (e.g. the importance of birth registration); education (e.g. the importance of registering

their resilience. Throughout Year 2, CMCs continued their sensitizations and sanitation activities, such as de-weeding and rubbish disposal, in Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia, reaching thousands of community members. **Table** summarizes these activities.

Table 6. Activities realized by CMCs (October 2018-September 2019)

Activity	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Sensitizations					
# of activities	401	907	1,009	150	2,467
# of people reached	1,726 (1,375 women, 351 men) ¹⁰	12,689 (3,684 men, 8,945 women)	13,087 (4,389 men, 8,698 women)	5,053 (1,848 men, 4,215 women)	N/A¹¹
Sanitation actions					
# of activities	202	206	180	209	797

Activities led by peace committees

Peace committees complement CMCs' work through conflict prevention and resolution actions, sometimes working in concert with CMCs to sensitize communities on peacebuilding and mediation techniques. To sensitize communities on conflict prevention, peace committees deployed a variety of approaches, such as debates, caravans, and community meetings; and introduced diverse topics, like the seven dimensions of human security¹², livestock theft, trafficking of wood, abuse and exploitation of forests, elaborating local agreements, and collaborating with territorial authorities on addressing communities' identified needs.

Table 7 shows the number of conflict prevention actions and number of conflicts successfully mediated over the course of Year 2, along with the types of conflicts mediated. As displayed in the table, peace committees' activities decreased during Year 2, an expected outcome of their efforts to build more peaceful communities that can independently prevent and manage conflicts.

children for school); health (e.g. the importance of vaccinations, and antenatal and post-natal consultations); and the right to a healthy environment; conflict prevention, resolution, and mediation techniques (CMCs often collaborated with peace committees on these themes); and good civic behavior.

¹⁰ As there are no Tostan facilitators in Guinea-Bissau, no data on the number of persons reached by sensitization activities were collected in Q1. In subsequent quarters, however, CMC secretaries collected and reported data.

¹¹ As Tostan indicated that the same community members participate in activities, totaling up each quarter would be inaccurate due to double counting of the same individuals.

¹²The seven dimensions of human security, per the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), are personal, environmental, political, economic, food, health, and community.

Table 7. Peace committees' activities (October 2018-September 2019)

Activity	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Conflict resolution/mediation actions					
# of activities	238	191	146	37	612
Primary types of conflicts mediated	Domestic, family, neighbors, land, students	Domestic, farmer-herder, family, neighbors, land	Domestic, family, land, farmer-herder	Domestic, family, land, neighbors, farmers-herders	N/A
Conflict prevention actions					
# of activities	173	70	12	N/A	255



Radio programs

Through broadcasting radio programs on key project themes (peace, conflict resolution and management, the various dimensions of human security) the project can reach a wider audience. Moreover, radio programs help to raise the public's awareness of the conflict in Casamance and border regions and complement CMCs' and peace committees' work.



Radio programs

Radio programs on peace and security reinforced and expanded the reach of CMCs' sensitization activities and peace committees' efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts, broadcasting key messages to wider audiences. Over the course of Year 2, a total of 92 radio programs in the three countries were broadcast on multiple community radio stations (see **Table**). The content of these programs registered 343 listener calls, including one from a police officer, to share their thoughts and reactions on conflict resolution and mitigation strategies, livestock theft, and other topics. Transmissions began in Year 1 and ended in April 2019. However, considering the importance of local conventions and how public awareness can ensure strong implementation, Tostan renewed radio programming in Q4 in Senegal and the Gambia, using cost-savings in their budget to finance continuation.

Table 8. Radio programs (October 2018-September 2019)

Country	# of programs	Topics covered by radio programs
Senegal	36	Seven dimensions of human security, types of conflict experienced in communities, causes of conflict, the importance of dialogue, mitigating factors in conflict, peace committees' roles, triggering factors for conflicts (e.g. cattle theft, natural resource management, illicit trafficking of timber), and local conventions.
The Gambia	21	Seven dimensions of human security, types of conflict experienced in communities, causes of conflict, the importance of dialogue, mitigating factors in conflict, peace committees' roles, and illicit trafficking of wood and livestock theft.
Guinea-Bissau	35	Content from the PSI, reflections on RIZs and RIVs, themes under the "Impact of Trafficking on Peace" sub-module, community security, economic security, triggering factors for conflicts, and reflections on accomplishments of the project.
TOTAL	92	

Activity I.4: Inclusive Border Security Management – Engaging Security Actors

In Year I activities under this focus built upon communities' capacities and knowledge on peace, human rights, and conflict management. This reinforcement of capacities contributed to more peaceful and resilient communities, productive engagement with leaders from civil society and government, which is essential to protecting peace and security. To this end, the project implemented inclusive security management dialogues that brought together representatives of NGOs, CSOs, and national and regional security actors to collaboratively formulate recommendations to various peace and security issues.

The event elaborated 14 high-level recommendations, culled from the group work, that PWA-S will share with decision-makers at local, national, and regional levels; NGOs; and civil society leaders. The recommendations are listed below in **Table 9**.

Table 9. Recommendations from Inclusive Security Management Dialogue – Ziguinchor

	Recommendation
1	Continuous and transparent communication between the security sector and civil society.
2	Agreement between the security sector and civil society on the roles and mission of cross-border actors.
3	Hold joint training sessions between the security sector and civil society at cross-border areas.
4	Reform of the security system through the introduction of new components
5	Integrate women into the security sector at border control posts.

6	Improve the security system.
7	Step-down trainings to other border areas, in other countries.
8	Enact strong media campaigns and coverage.
9	Revisit civil education courses to raise populations' awareness of the role of the security sector.
10	Educate on peace and civility (strengthen education on peace with human rights).
11	Include judicial authorities in the next dialogue sessions.
12	Decentralize dialogue sessions to sub-national levels to broaden the number of actors sensitized and involved.
13	Hold the same dialogue sessions in neighboring countries and throughout West Africa.
14	Organize multi-partite sessions with actors from Senegal, The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau.

Inclusive security dialogue in Banjul

The second inclusive security management dialogue in Banjul, The Gambia, took place from September 4-5, and received covered by Senegalese and Gambia media outlets. The workshop was attended by 42 participants (19 women, 23 men), representing the diplomatic community, with the Senegalese and Bissau-Guinean Ambassadors and the Permanent Secretary of the Senegalo-Gambian Permanent Secretariat in attendance; Gambian military and security sector authorities from the Gambia Police Force and Office of National Security; CSOs; youth and women's groups; and journalistic associations. Additionally, the dialogue benefitted from the presence of General Lamine Cissé and Mr. Moussa Sow, the USAID AOR for the project. The

same two facilitators from the Ziguinchor sessions returned to lead the event in Banjul, moderating discussions and group work on themes related to inclusive security management. The facilitators divided the participants into multi-sectoral, small groups to more comprehensively deliberate on the benefits of and constraints to



Box 2. *Group photo from the inclusive security management dialogue in Banjul*

stronger collaboration between civil society and the security sector in addressing conflicts. Moreover, as part of The Gambia borders the Casamance region, the topics of cross-border security management and inter- and intra-community conflicts factored more directly into the discussions. Each group produced a set of recommendations on how to improve inclusive security management, 23 of which PWA-S will send to the governments of Senegal, The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau; the Senegalo-Gambian Permanent Secretariat; regional bodies, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); and NGOs and CSOs in the three countries.

Table 10. Recommendations from Inclusive Security Management Dialogue - Banjul

#	Recommendation
1	Demonstrate the will to resolve the conflict in Casamance.
2	Create a working group for the three countries (Senegal, The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau).
3	Put in place structures that bring together women and youth.
4	Initiate an education course on peace and human rights.
5	Decentralize decision-making.
6	Sensitize civil society on the importance of a return to peace.
7	Encourage NGOs to promote diversity and cultural heritage
8	Put in place activities that encourage development.
9	Organize periodic cultural events.
10	Create employment for combatants (as part of empowering those who were engaged in the rebellion).
11	Put in place a national action plan on United Nations Resolution 1225.
12	Sensitize communities on the importance of social cohesion.
13	Establish provisions for the application of protocols on arms trade in Africa.
14	Ensure monitoring and application of policies on development.
15	Translate ECOWAS protocols into local languages.
16	Conduct advocacy on conflict resolution tools.
17	Create cross-border peace committees in the three countries.
18	Engage civil society in the implementation and monitoring of projects and programs supporting development in Casamance.
19	Transfer skills to civil society in order to successfully monitoring demining activities, for example.
20	Implicate all active forces within the nation to reach a definitive peace, including opposition parties.
21	Engage with rural populations, as they suffer more greatly due to the conflict.
22	Enhance the role of traditional chiefs in conflict resolution.
23	Sensitize other areas of Senegal on the conflict in Casamance.

During Year 2, PWA-S organized the third and final inclusive security management dialogue session in Bissau, Guinea-Bissau, from October 17-18, 2018, which benefitted from the presence of Dr. Adjaratou Wakha AIDARA NDIAYE, President of PWA-S. PWA-S facilitated these sessions in each country – Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia – which served as unique opportunities for members of national governments, including the security sector, regional bodies, the diplomatic community, and civil society to discuss their peace and security priorities and find joint solutions for addressing them. During the session in Bissau, 34 participants (18 women, 16 men) attended, with six consortium members from PWA-S and PFPC also in attendance. Participants represented the following groups/organizations:

- Civil society, such as religious authorities, the Senegalo-Bissau-Guinean Alliance, youth and women’s groups;
- NGOs and CSOs;

- The diplomatic community, including the Senegalese Ambassador to Guinea-Bissau and the Vice Secretary of the Senegalo-Gambian Secretariat;
- The security sector, notably the Director of the National Defense Center (CNDD) and the Director of Border Management.

In spite of the session coinciding with strikes throughout Bissau that largely paralyzed public transport, the turnout from invited guests was high, a testament to strong levels of interest in its subject matter. Through groupwork, the participants exchanged on topics like civil society's role in peace and security at cross-border areas and enacting more effective coordination mechanisms between civil society and law enforcement. The dialogue allowed women to express the difficulties that they face in Bissau-Guinean society, which is traditionally patriarchal, due to their gender. Additionally, religious and traditional leaders expressed their perceived exclusion from NGOs' and CSOs' peacebuilding efforts; NGO and CSO representatives



Group photo from inclusive security management dialogue in Bissau from October 17-18, 2018.

acknowledged these frustrations and promised to make more concerted efforts to include religious and traditional leaders in their work.

These and other exchanges highlight the unique opportunity that the inclusive security management dialogue sessions provided in bringing together such diverse actors, with several participants remarking as such. At the close of the dialogue, the participants jointly put forth 14 recommendations for authorities and partners from the donor community, displayed in Error! Reference source not found.. These recommendations were later shared with participants at the roundtable on peace, security, and development on October 24, 2018., while several aligned with those included in the *Livre Blanc* (see Activity 2.2).

Objective #2: Establish an advocacy platform for a network of 250 women from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia, to develop and promote joint goals for peace to local and national authorities

Activity 2.1: Strengthen the Senegambia Women’s Forum for Peace in the Casamance

Trainings on cooperative advocacy and mediation negotiation techniques

In Year 1, **Partners**Global master trainer, Olivia Baciú, trained members of the Senegambia Forum on cooperative advocacy techniques, as part of building their capacities to present their key advocacy priorities to diverse stakeholders and work with them in finding solutions. In Year 2 of *Unaam Kayraay*, Ms. Baciú returned to Ziguinchor to revisit and deepen learnings on cooperative advocacy and introduce Senegambia Forum membership to principles of negotiation and mediation.

From November 19-21, 2018, 13 Forum members from Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia participated in the follow-up cooperative advocacy training; staff from PFPC and Tostan also attended, on behalf of the consortium. In addition to revisiting the stages and principles in the process of cooperative advocacy, the training covered how to define strategies for developing advocacy plans, map national and sub-national challenges to peace and security, and analyze the main problems inhibiting women’s participation in peace processes (e.g. poor implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325¹³). Through covering these topics, the training sought to ready the Senegambia Forum to elaborate their own, national advocacy plans and strategies (see Activity 2.2).

¹³ The UN Security Council adopted [resolution \(S/RES/1325\)](https://www.un.org/press/docs/2000/2000101325.html) on women and peace and security on October 31, 2000. The resolution reaffirms the important role that women play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, humanitarian response, and in post-conflict reconstruction. Resolution 1325 also stresses the need of women’s equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, including a number of operational mandates with implications for Member States in implementation (See Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/wps/>).

Directly after the cooperative advocacy training, Ms. Baciú delivered a training on mediation and negotiation techniques from November 23-25, 2018, in Ziguinchor. The same participants from the Senegambia Forum, PFPC, and Tostan stayed on, and a member of PWA-S also joined. Complementary to cooperative advocacy, the training presented principles, styles, processes, approaches, and advantages and challenges to mediation and negotiation, as well as roles of mediators. The most immediate result from the training was the reinvigoration of the Mediation and Negotiation Unit of the Senegambia Forum, comprised of 15 members from all three countries and tasked with mitigating concerns from national/local authorities on the Forum's goals and activities. Although the Unit existed before the project, it had become inactive, due to turnover amongst members. However, the Forum committed to maintain the same members

Box 3. Senegambia Forum recommendations

- Develop national advocacy strategies that define the major security concerns at borders and implicate women's role in conflict resolution through the strong implementation of Resolution 1325 in the three countries;
- Further strengthen the Forum's capacities in advocacy, negotiation, mediation, and conflict resolution;
- Strengthen the organizational structure of the Forum through the elaboration of a strategic document and funding plan; conduct further research on potential donors and strategic partners.

to ensure continuity and safeguard functionality.

At the close of the mediation and negotiation techniques training, the Senegambia Forum members devised recommendations to improve their effectiveness and sustainability (see **Box 3**).

Activity 2.2: Devise National Advocacy Plans for the Senegambia Forum

The Senegambia Forum's national advocacy strategies and action plan

The culmination of the project's assistance to the Senegambia Forum was a series of elaboration

and revision workshops for national advocacy strategies and an action plan. These documents both articulate and synthesize the Forum's advocacy priorities and strategies, and support sustainability through outlining a five-year (2019-2023) roadmap for growth. From March 27-28, 2019, in Ziguinchor, PFPC organized the first workshop for 26 women members of the Senegambia Forum (18 from Senegal, four from Guinea-Bissau, four from The Gambia) to elaborate their national advocacy strategies and an action plan for the Forum. Members of **PartnersGlobal** and USAID were also in attendance. Over two days, Forum members identified the main causes and factors for insecurity in each country, using tools like the problem tree and solution tree helped to guide identification. Causes mentioned included the long duration of the Casamance conflict, the absence of women's participation in peace negotiations, lack of political will, and political instability (mainly for Guinea-Bissau). Most of these issues were also identified during the cooperative advocacy trainings.

To further refine the Senegambia Forum's advocacy strategies, the training narrowed its focus. First, participants answered a set of questions to which advocacy plans should respond, such as the main problem they are trying to solve, the key protagonists and intermediaries therein, and goals, objectives, and persuasion tactics. Moreover, and to finalize the first draft of the advocacy strategies and action plan, participants proposed actions to undertake within advocacy and lobbying (see **Box 4**).

Box 4. Senegambia Forum's advocacy and lobbying actions

- Strengthen justice officials' technical and institutional capacities, and sensitize communities on reporting violations;
- Hold sensitization meetings with heads of different judicial institutions, and with relevant offices in government and the legislature on revising laws;
- Identify potential technical and financial partners;
- Solicit the intervention of the P5 (ECOWAS, African Union, European Union, United Nations, The Community of Portuguese Language Countries) in peace efforts;
- Promote the integration of a political women's platform in Guinea-Bissau through public dialogues.

In August 2019, PFPC held additional workshops in Bissau and Banjul for members of the Senegambia Forum - *Plataforma Política das Mulheres* in Guinea-Bissau and the Gender Action Team¹⁴ in The Gambia - to review and update their national advocacy plans. **Table II** below summarizes each workshop, including key recommendations put forth by the Senegambia Forum to enhance its sustainability and functionality; the agendas for both meetings were largely the same.

¹⁴ The Gender Action Team (GAT) is part of CADEDH (*Centre africain pour la démocratie et les études des droits de l'homme*), the Gambian network that sits on the Senegambia Forum.

Table 11. National advocacy plan revision workshops: Bissau and Banjul

Date & Location	Agenda	Recommendations
August 9, 2019, in Bissau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of original advocacy plan from March 2019; • Inputs, amendments, and validation of the national advocacy plan; • Discussion of key issues like UN Resolution 1325's implementation and adoption status, the level of women's involvement in public affairs, difficulties encountered by members of the Senegambia Forum; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain the necessary documents to avoid numerous stops by police on the way from Ziguinchor to Bissau; • Strategize together on how to implement national advocacy plan; • Reflect on how to raise financial resources to enhance the Forum's work in all three countries; • Work for the full implementation of UN Resolution 1325 in all three countries.
August 19, 2019, in Banjul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on the country's social and political situation, including levels of women's participation in national institutions and government, and community-level structures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and put in place a technical team for the Senegambia Forum with a project manager/executive secretary, secretary, and finance manager; • Create a website for the Senegambia Forum; • Organize a capacity strengthening seminar with trainings for members of the Forum; • Raise financial resources to pay the technical

		<p>team’s salaries and maintain a functioning headquarters, with office space;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate money for the technical team to meet donors and fundraise.
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Before the end of *Unaam Kayraay*, PFPC will hold a final revision workshop with Senegalese members of the Forum, planned for November 2019. While each country will finalize its national advocacy plans during the project, the project leaves neither time nor money for monitoring their implementation or follow-up encounters to discuss challenges and results.

Roundtables on peace, security, and development

Roundtables on peace, security, and development convened government officials, regional actors, the private sector, and civil society to reiterate the importance of an inclusive approach to peacebuilding and development, as well as civil society’s role therein. During Year 2, PWA-S organized two roundtables in Dakar, bringing together diverse actors from the government, diplomatic community, and civil society.

The first roundtable took place on October 24, 2018, and was titled “Peace, security and development in border areas in the south of Senegal.” Thirty-one participants attended (4 women, 27 men), representing ECOWAS; the Bissau-Guinean embassy; national governmental institutions and agencies, such as the High Council on Social Dialogue (HCDS), the High Council of Regional Governments (HCTT), and the National Program for Social Scholarships; the academic community; women’s organizations; and CSOs, including cultural associations and youth groups. As the roundtable followed inclusive security management dialogues (see Activity 1.4) in Ziguinchor, Banjul, and Bissau, PWA-S facilitators shared recommendations that issued from each session, in order to stimulate discussions amongst participants. Following exchanges on other topics, like various actors’ roles in economic development and peace efforts in Casamance, and group work, the roundtable proposed its own set of 28 recommendations for enhancing the economic, peace, and security prospects in border areas in southern Senegal. Selected recommendations included:

- Promotion of non-violent communication techniques for youth;
- Evaluations of past projects as part of planning for new projects;
- Acceleration of efforts to economically open up the Casamance to the rest of Senegal (e.g. the Farafégné bridge); and
- Submission of these recommendations to relevant ministries, departments, and agencies in Senegal.



The Minister of Women, Family, Gender, and Child Protection (third from right) and civil society leaders receive the *Livre Blanc*

On September 17, 2019, PWA-S held the second roundtable. A total of 28 people (15 men, 13 women) attended, including from the Economic, Social, and Environmental Council (CESE); the Bissau-Guinean embassy; the HCDS; The Ministry in charge of monitoring the *Plan Senegal Emergent* (PSE); the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender, and Child Protection; and the General

Delegation on Social Protection and National Solidarity (DGSPN), among others. From civil society, participants represented the Association of Senegalese Jurists, the Association of Students for Development in Casamance (KEKENDO), the National Youth Association, and the Amiable Society of Women from Kédougou and Surrounding Areas. As in the first roundtable, participants discussed difficulties in implementing ongoing projects and programs in Casamance and shared their perspectives on how to further promote development and peace.

Attendees at the roundtables applauded its inclusive approach to peace and development promoted by the roundtable; additionally, a member of the NGO Forum Civil said that the event was first time that he had encountered such an inclusive initiative. In terms of follow-up, participants from government agencies proposed some ideas. For instance, the HCDS proposed the organization of a national dialogue on the crisis in Casamance that PWA-S would pilot in the future. And the Emergency Program for the Modernization of Roadways and Border Areas illuminated areas of collaboration with other state agencies and structures, and the private sector.

Livre Blanc

One of *Unaam Kayraay*'s major deliverables, the consortium finalized the *Livre Blanc* in Year 2. The objective of the *Livre Blanc* is to motivate the principal actors involved in the conflict and peace process to work together and find a resolution for stability, peace, and sustainable development in the Casamance. Compilation of the *Livre Blanc* began in Year 1, with PFPC leading public consultations in all nine districts/*départements* of the Casamance to gather civil society's experiences, perceptions, and most pressing peace and security priorities. Thereafter, PFPC engaged an external consultant to write a *Livre Blanc* that not only communicates civil society's, especially women's, realities, but offers strategies and recommendations, targeted at different stakeholders (e.g. government, the MFDC, civil society, technical and financial partners), on how to promote better peace and stability in Casamance.

In Quarter 2 of Year 2, the consultant finished the first draft, which was shared with all members of the consortium. While the first draft comprehensively captured the multi-sectoral impacts (economic, political, social) of the conflict on the general population, the consortium provided feedback on various project activities' results vis-à-vis peace and security, and on the recommendations. However, due to insufficient incorporation of the consortium's feedback, **PartnersGlobal** took over the revisions and finalization of the *Livre Blanc*, hiring a professional editor and designer to professionalize the end product. Additionally, **PartnersGlobal**, developed a policy brief for the document, in order to capture its key messages, especially strategies for peace and targeted recommendations. Both the *Livre Blanc* and policy brief were translated into French, English, and Portuguese and published on **PartnersGlobal's** website.

Box 5. The *Livre Blanc's* reach

In addition to being presented at the National Gathering for Peace, the consortium found other opportunities to expand the *Livre Blanc's* reach:

- At the close of Year 2, the project printed a total of 210 copies of the *Livre Blanc*, 101 of which were distributed during the National Gathering for Peace on September 14, 2019.
- On September 18, 2019, PWA-S presented copies to the Regional Office of UNWOMEN in Dakar, to Mr. Abdoulaye Bathily, the UN Secretary General's representative.
- PFPC presented the *Livre Blanc* to leaders of the MFDC and civil society in Ziguinchor;

The official presentation of the *Livre Blanc* occurred during the National Gathering for Peace in Casamance (see Activity 2.3) on September 14, 2019. Per the project proposal, President Macky Sall was to receive the *Livre Blanc*. However, despite numerous contact and follow-up attempts from PFPC, President Sall never responded. In the end, the Minister of Women, Family, Gender, and Child Protection accepted the *Livre Blanc* on behalf of the government.

All consortium members agreed that continued monitoring and follow-up on the *Livre Blanc's* recommendations are important for measuring its policy impact. While stakeholders in the Senegalese government, the MFDC, NGOs and CSOs, and the international community have received copies (see **Box 6**), the presentation of the document in Quarter 4 of Year 2 and it is premature to monitor rendered reporting on the *Livre Blanc's* results difficult.

Activity 2.3: Breaking Barriers and Building Support with Women from the North and South

North-South women's dialogue sessions

During Year 2, PWA-S organized three dialogue sessions between women from across Senegal, and Guinea-Bissau and The Gambia. The sessions aimed to break down barriers and reduce stereotypes between women from the North and South of Senegal, as well as to create regional unity and solidarity for peace in Casamance. Since the start of the conflict, other regions of

Senegal have often viewed the issue of peace in Casamance as a ‘southern issue’, which does not affect them. Through bringing together women to identify common concerns and priorities, these dialogue sessions sought to increase awareness of the inter-connectedness of a peaceful Casamance to a secure and prosperous Senegal and sub-region.

Table below details each dialogue session, including results:

Table 12. North-South women's dialogue sessions (October 2018-September 2019)

Date & Location	# of participants	Results
Session 1: January 16-17, 2019, in Dakar	35 women (33 from Senegal, 1 from Guinea-Bissau, 1 from The Gambia); attendees came from Thies, Diorbél, Louga, Matam, Kolda, Sedhiou, and Ziguinchor	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage rapprochement through partnerships between villages; • Include youth at all levels in collaboration efforts; • Involve youth from Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia on a rotating basis in activities; • Put in place virtual spaces for dialogue (e.g. social media, WhatsApp groups, websites – PWA-S’ website could serve as a communications platform); • Organize a national march for peace, to be held simultaneously across Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia. <p>Creation of WhatsApp group to continue conversations between women.</p>
Session 2: March 26-27, 2019, in Ziguinchor	30 women attended (29 from Senegal, 1 from Guinea-Bissau); attendees represented all 14 regions of Senegal.	<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguard continued dialogue between women, such as through the establishment of a permanent structure and/or annual meetings that bring together women from across Senegal; • Increase communications over WhatsApp; • Involve women from other neighboring countries, like Mali and Guinea, in dialogues.
Session 3: August 21, 2019, in Dakar	25 women (24 from Senegal, 1 from Guinea-Bissau); attendees represented nine regions of Senegal.	<p>Establishment of a permanent women’s group for constructive dialogue in Senegal and the sub-region; proposed activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtesy visits to localities to inform them of the group’s existence and encourage other women’s organizations to join; • Organize debates, radio programs, and theatrical performances on good parenting;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold mobilization sessions for youth and women on family rights (<i>code de la famille</i>) in all national languages;• Lead ‘open-door’ days with community members to understand their role in conflict prevention;• Organize forums to popularize the group and discuss issues like the importance of obtaining birth certificates;• Organize sharing sessions and exchanges with parliamentarians (National Assembly, CESE, HCT) and advocate to women parliamentarians to revise the <i>code de la famille</i> on parental responsibility.
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During Quarter 2 of Year 2, the consortium committed to organizing a National Gathering for Peace in Casamance¹⁵ (*Convergence nationale pour la paix en Casamance*). Although this activity was not part of the original workplan and despite tight budgets, all members thought that its addition would be relevant to and enhance *Unaam Kayraay*'s second stated objective¹⁶. Through consultations with USAID, including the project AOR, the consortium put forth a concept for the activity, along with a communications and advocacy plan (completed in Quarter 3) to the mission and US Embassy. The plan outlined the Gathering's objectives (see **Box 6**), approach, and desired results, and set a target of 3,000 participants. Initially, the consortium proposed to hold simultaneous marches in all 14 regions of Senegal and in Bissau and Banjul. However, due to budgetary and time constraints, the consortium decided to focus efforts on one large-scale gathering in Dakar, in which women from all 14 regions of Senegal would participate, as well as members of the Senegambia Forum from all three countries. The consortium named PFPC as the lead for organization and planning, though all members of the consortium assisted in communications, mobilization, and financing – each member identified cost-savings in its budget – for the event.

Regular Skype calls and in-person planning meetings¹⁷ allowed the consortium to discuss the Gathering's logistics, agenda, budget, progress, and challenges. One of the biggest challenges was setting a date due to unresponsiveness from President Macky Sall's office on his participation. As mentioned above, the technical proposal identified the President as the target for receiving the *Livre Blanc*. Despite numerous follow-up attempts from PFPC, the Office of the President never affirmed nor refused Sall's attendance. In the end, this challenge was a minor setback as the Minister of Women, Family, Gender, and Child Protection accepted the *Livre Blanc* on behalf of the Senegalese government during the Gathering. Additionally, and as part of the planning process, the consortium agreed on an official message, "*Ensemble pour la paix en Casamance*" ("Together for peace in Casamance"), and Twitter

Box 6. Objectives of the National Gathering for Peace

- Call upon authorities in the three countries to support an inclusive peace process in Casamance and the sub-region, as part of ensuring lasting peace, security, and development;
- Advocate to the Senegalese government to recognize peace in Casamance as a national priority, and include of women and civil society organizations in national/international peace processes and negotiations;
- Raise awareness and put in the public discourse the need for lasting peace in Casamance, not only as part of improving security and stability in Senegal, but for The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, and sub-region at large.

¹⁵ Originally, the activity was titled the National March for Peace in Casamance. The consortium decided to change the name to "National Gathering" due to political sensitivities following public demonstrations over allegations of government corruption regarding oil resources.

¹⁶ **Objective #2:** Established an advocacy platform for a network of 250 women from the Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, and The Gambia, to develop and promote joint goals for peace to local and national authorities.

¹⁷ PFPC organized two planning meetings in May 2019 in Dakar and invited members of the consortium.

hashtag (#ensemblepourlapaixCasamance) for the activity. **PartnersGlobal** elaborated a Social Media Kit with stock tweets, Facebook messages, emails, and graphics to harmonize external communications and promotion.

On September 14, 2019, the consortium realized the “National Gathering for Peace in Casamance” in Dakar. An estimated 2,500 people participated, more than 1,800 of which were women; women from all 14 regions of Senegal took part, along with women from Guinea-Bissau and the Gambia. Alongside the Minister for Women, Family, Gender, and Child Protection, the Mayor of Dakar, female parliamentarians, and the Vice-President of the National Assembly represented local and national government; several well-known NGOs and CSOs also participated¹⁸. The day’s official program featured speeches by each member of the consortium; RESFECO¹⁹, as the representative of Senegalese civil society; and performances by popular musical artists of songs for peace. The consortium noted a strong youth mobilization and distributed t-shirts bearing the Gathering’s slogan, “Ensemble pour la paix en Casamance,” to youth attendees.

In addition to strong participation from civil society and government, the presence of various media outlets, and leadership from women, the Gathering constituted a great example of consortium coordination. Although consortium members attended each other’s events, the National Gathering for Peace was unique in being a joint activity, in which each member actively weighed in on the design, planning, and execution. Subsequent events to present the *Livre Blanc* (see Activity 2.2) will help to keep the conversation around peace and security in Casamance alive.



Women wearing white to show solidarity while marching along the Corniche towards the *Place du Souvenir Africain*.

¹⁸ These included Catholic Relief Services, Oxfam, Amnesty International, Forum Civil, SOS Casamance, la Rencontre Africaine pour la Défense des Droits de l’Homme (RADDHO), Groupe de Travail Femmes, Jeunes, Paix et Sécurité en Afrique de l’Ouest et au Sahel (GTFJPS-AOS), Centre des Hautes Etudes de Défense et de Sécurité (CHEDS), and WANEP.

¹⁹ RESFECO is a network that coordinates women’s initiatives in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, security, and human rights promotions as part of sustainable peace in the ECOWAS region.

Other Activities

Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance Implementing Partners Meeting

Unaam Kayraay's implementing partners represented the project during the Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) implementing partners' (IPs) meeting on November 14, 2018 in Dakar. The meeting, convened by the USAID Mission in Senegal, marked the first time that IPs working specifically on DRG issues came together to learn about each other's projects and exchange experiences and results. The meeting also discussed the Most Significant Change (MSC) technique, included in *Unaam Kayraay*, as a promising approach to monitoring and evaluation (M&E), particularly for DRG programs. Many of the standard, USG indicators ("F indicators") collect quantitative outputs instead of qualitative outcomes, so DRG programs need to find ways to incorporate other M&E techniques to construct a more comprehensive picture of results.

Internal evaluation and Most Significant Change (MSC) story collection

Originally envisioned as an external, mid-term evaluation, the consortium decided to conduct the evaluation internally given the inadequate budgetary means to bring that to fruition. Moreover, as story collection for the MSC technique was void of financial resources, the consortium saw the evaluation as an opportunity to fulfill this project component. As the prime, **PartnersGlobal** took the lead in designing tools for the evaluation and MSC technique. For the MSC, **PartnersGlobal** developed a story collection guide, questionnaire, and PowerPoint presentation for training; all tools were translated into Portuguese, French, and English. And for the evaluation, **PartnersGlobal** constructed a research matrix with criteria²⁰ and questions, as well as interview guides for key informant interviews (KIs) and a survey, both translated in French and English, at community-level; the survey was adapted from Tostan's baseline survey.

Box 7. Selecting MSC stories

PartnersGlobal led consortium members through a two-round selection process for Significant Change (SC) stories. As the selection process is happening remotely, **PartnersGlobal** chose 'scoring' as the selection approach for each change domain and SC story collected. To broadly mirror the project's types of interventions – building communities' resilience to conflict, strengthening women's advocacy capacities, increasing collaboration between civil society and authorities on security – **PartnersGlobal** previously defined three change domains: community-level, group-based, and individual. For each domain, **PartnersGlobal** developed scoring matrices with specific criteria, on which consortium members scored each SC story on a scale of 1 (worst) to 5 (best). After submitting scoring sheets, **PartnersGlobal** convened a phone call with the consortium to discuss results.

²⁰ The evaluation used the OECD-DAC criteria, with the addition of gender.

All consortium members participated in KIIs for the evaluation and PWA-S, PFPC, and Tostan collected MSC stories in line with their specific domain of change (see **Box 7**). Data collection for the evaluation (see *annex VI*) and of MSC stories primarily happened in Quarters 3 and 4 of Year 2. In total, the consortium collected 28 MSC stories, of which three were selected as MSC stories (one per domain of change).

"I've never had the opportunity to directly connect with the Security and Defense Forces during my time as village chief. I deal with many disputes, mainly related to land. I've contacted the gendarmerie many times without any follow-up. But today, you've given me the opportunity to speak not only with the gendarmerie, but also with the police, the army, Water and Forests Service, and customs, all at the same time."

-Village chief of Bignona, participant at inclusive security management dialogue in Ziguinchor

III. SUCCESS STORIES

Year I success stories:

Inclusive Security Management Dialogue Sessions: Bringing Together the Security Sector and Civil Society

Although the primary objective of the dialogue sessions was to elaborate a set of recommendations on how to improve collaboration between civil society and the security

sector, positive feedback from participants indicated other, unexpected results. Specifically, the dialogues constituted a rare opportunity for law enforcement and civil society to discuss security issues, with some participants from civil society citing the dialogues as the first time they were able to express their concerns to law enforcement. For example, a village chief from Bignona (Senegal) who participated in the Ziguinchor dialogue session said that he deals with many land disputes in his village, for which he has repeatedly called the police and *gendarmerie* for assistance. Unfortunately, the police and *gendarmerie* never responded to his calls. After sharing his experiences with representatives from various law enforcement agencies at the dialogue session, the *gendarmerie* representative promised to meet with the village chief to discuss the land-related conflicts in his village, assuring him of the availability and support of the *gendarmerie*.

Peace and Security from the Grassroots Up: Promoting Community Conflict Management and Reconciliation

Tostan's delivery of the PSI in 40 targeted communities in Senegal and The Gambia has enabled some community members to meaningfully address long-standing personal conflicts for the first time. For instance, Mamadou Diao (57-years-old) is a resident of Saré Moudou Diao village in the Basse region of The Gambia, where he lives with his two wives and children. For seven years, Mamadou had been in conflict with his younger brother over the inheritance of their family land. Their dispute culminated in Mamadou filing charges against his brother, following an incident in which Mamadou's wives were denied access to a portion of the land that they had cultivated. Mamadou's brother was sentenced to pay fines equivalent to the economic losses

suffered by the family and serve time in jail. After being released, his brother settled down in a different village and the two ceased speaking to each other.

Through *Unaam Kayraay*, a friend brought Mamadou to PSI trainings where he learned about the importance of maintaining peace in the family and village. Inspired by these sessions, Mamadou joined his village's peace committee, sought out his brother and asked for forgiveness. This gesture resulted in their reconciliation, and Mamadou reflected on the experience as such:

"I admit that I regretted this act which put my brother in prison and made him leave our village. If I had received this new information beforehand, I would have avoided that... From there I took the initiative to visit my brother to ask for his forgiveness. Thanks to what I learned through the Tostan program; our families were reconciled with each other after seven years".

Public Consultations in the Casamance: Providing an Important Outlet for Community Members

While aimed at better understanding local security concerns, the public consultations also served the important purpose of allowing community members to feel heard through sharing their security concerns and experiences within the conflict. And through bringing together a variety of stakeholders, the consultations also helped to grow community members' inter- and intra-village networks.

Feedback from participants illustrate the above points. For instance, in Samine, a village in the Goudomp *département* of the Sédhiou region, participants reported that the public consultations allowed them to "unburden" themselves by providing an outlet to express pressing security concerns. In Essaout, a village in the Oussouye *département*, a participant shared that having her opinions heard allowed her to denounce the abuses that she had endured, while praying that this type of initiative will continue to flourish.

"The public consultations gave the group the opportunity to come together to discuss, express our feelings, give opinions, and denounce the abuses we've lived. I pray for these kinds of initiatives to flourish because they allow us to build interpersonal relationships and strengthen inter-village relations".

-Public consultation participant,
Essaout Village, *département*
d'Oussouye

Year 2 success stories:

Success story #1: March against livestock theft



Participants at the march against livestock theft

On September 22, 2019, the Niagha commune (Senegal) organized a march to denounce livestock theft, two days after the killing of a villager by livestock thieves. Livestock theft is a recurrent problem in Niagha and “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module has taught citizens the contributing factors therein, empowering them to take

greater charge over this issue. An estimated 600 people participated, 70 percent of whom were women.

Success story #2: Peace committees

As evidenced in the narrative section, peace committees remained highly active in Year 2, mediating hundreds of conflicts. Within their range of results, some notable accomplishments included:

- The peace committee in Passamace Mandinka (The Gambia) resolved a long-standing farmer-herder conflict between the villages of Saré Ngai and Kandékunda. The conflict began several years ago when a herder’s cows from Saré Ngai roamed the fields of Kandékunda village, causing a lot of damage. The conflict escalated to the point of near-violence, and local administrators and volunteers made several attempts at mediation, all of which failed. Finally, the peace committee from Passamace Mandinka, comprised mainly of women, intervened. Through continuous dialogue with both parties to understand their grievances, the peace committee was able to bring both sides together and finally end the conflict.
- In The Gambia, peace committees organized themselves into five networks in order to improve their efficiency and effectiveness in preventing and resolving conflicts. The networks will enable peace committees to work together on more complex inter- and intra-community conflicts, such as prevention of land conflicts and herder-farmer conflicts. In this sense, the networks will create “bridges” between neighboring villages through dialogues, and pool efforts on improving peace and security.

Success story #3: External contributions to the National Gathering for Peace in Casamance

Beyond strengthening intra-consortium collaboration, the National Gathering for Peace in Casamance enabled *Unaam Kayraay* to link with other organizations involved in the peace process in Casamance. The financial contributions from the consortium did not cover all needs, so it was necessary to find other sources of funding to achieve the activity, especially concerning mobilizing civil society from across Senegal and the sub-region. For instance, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), which implements the USAID-funded *Aliwili* project, made an in-kind contribution for participants' transport to and from Casamance and Dakar. This was a positive example of two USAID implementing partners (IPs) coming together to support each other's projects for mutual gain. Oxfam and the Mayor of Dakar also made financial contributions, thereby highlighting the broad-based support for the activity and its goals.

Success story #4: Building women's networks for peace and security through WhatsApp

The North-South women's dialogues have laid the foundation for increased collaboration between women from all regions of Senegal and the sub-region on better peace and security, as well as improved women's leadership therein. Participants in the dialogues did not simply rely on project activities to exchange insights and experiences, they also utilized a WhatsApp group to do so. Women used the WhatsApp social media platform to ask others for their advice on sensitizing their communities on messages related to the importance of birth certificates and the *code de la famille*. An active WhatsApp group will contribute to the sustainability of a vast network of women's advocates for peace and security in the Casamance and beyond.

IV. CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

Year I challenges and constraints:

The project faced several challenges and constraints throughout Year I, though implementation of activities managed to stay largely on schedule. The below table outlines the main challenges and constraints encountered, as well as solutions put in place to address them:

Table 13. Challenges and constraints

Challenge/Constraint	Solution
Turnover amongst PartnersGlobal program staff, including the unexpected departure of former Chief of Party/Director of Sub Saharan Africa.	While PartnersGlobal finalized the recruitment process for additional program staff for the Sub Saharan Africa team, other departmental staff provided programmatic support to <i>Unaam Kayraay</i> . By the end of Year I, a new Chief of Party was hired and confirmed. PartnersGlobal also hired a senior program associate in Year I, to provide additional program support.

Payoungou village in Senegal demonstrated a lack of commitment to hosting facilitators and working towards the project objectives, both in time and effort, thus impairing Tostan's ability to conduct the baseline survey.	Tostan replaced Payoungou village with Koutoucounda village in the Kolda region of Senegal. Koutoucounda met eligibility criteria and had expressed interest in the project.
The unavailability of key stakeholders/trainers delayed the following activities: -One RIV in The Gambia, originally scheduled for June. -Trainings on the PSI for religious leaders in the 40 targeted communities, originally scheduled for June.	The challenges resulted in postponement of the activities, though Tostan managed to execute them within Year 1: the RIV was held in July and the trainings on the PSI were held in September.
Public consultations, held by PFPC, experienced several difficulties: -Weak youth participation in several consultations. -Language, specifically in facilitating group discussions between participants who spoke different languages.	PFPC devised the following solutions: -It was not possible to hold FGDs with youth in all locations. As such, two FGDS – one with men and one with women – were conducted in affected consultations. -PFPC provided a voice recorder and note pads to participants to record their thoughts in their preferred local language; during plenary sessions, a participant who spoke the local language and French would then translate and present these thoughts to the rest of the group.
Insufficient budget to implement all planned activities.	This constraint specifically affected PWA-S, resulting in the need to reduce the number of planned activities in some instances for Year 2. PWA-S reduced the number of inclusive security management dialogues from six to four, the number of North-South dialogues from six to two, and the number of peace and security roundtables from three to two. The proposed changes were reflected in the Year 2 work plan and approved by the USAID AOR.

Year 2 challenges and constraints:

Overall, *Unaam Kayraay* implemented planned activities on time and in line with approved workplans, even adding a major activity, the National Gathering for Peace in Casamance, in Year 2. As in Year 1, however, the tight budget posed challenges and constraints to activities, notably for those under Objective 2 and in terms of general project M&E. The below bullet points detail more specific challenges and constraints encountered:

- Limited in-person meetings for and continued technical assistance to the Senegambia Forum;
- No dedicated funds for MSC story collection, precluding its usage as a monitoring technique;

- Reduced number of North-South women’s dialogues²¹;
- Reliance on external contributions to realize National Gathering for Peace in Casamance;
- Switch to an internally led project evaluation;
- Insufficient in-person coordination meetings for the consortium;

Measuring the ultimate impacts of the above challenges is difficult, though they serve as lessons learned for similar programming in the future, especially ones with a strong advocacy component and implemented as a consortium like *Unaam Kayraay*.

V. PROGRESS AGAINST PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Using actual outputs/outcomes, performance reporting indicators, and yearly targets in the AMELP as a guide, (see *annex I*) summarizes Year 1’s results and disaggregates results per indicator²². The “Comments” column provides further information on whether the Year 1 target was met, exceeded, or not met. If there is a difference of more than 10 percent between an indicator’s target and actual outputs/outcomes, the “Comments” column provides an explanation. Annex I contains an overview of the project’s progress per intermediate result in the AMELP, and Annexes 4 and 5 contain the AMELP and associated Performance Indicator Reporting Sheets (PIRS) for reference.

Reflections on Year 1 Results

While a more intensive M&E of *Unaam Kayraay* through the MSC technique and mid-term review, both planned for Year 2, allowed for deeper reflection on the project’s results, some initial outcomes emerged from Year 1. However, given the scope of activities implemented during Year 1, observations on results mainly pertain to Objective 1.

In looking at actual output/outcomes against targets, Year 1 can be considered a success. Nearly all annual targets were met or exceeded, and activities appeared to enhance communities’ capacities across various aspects. First, targeted communities were successful in delivering sensitizations on diverse topics, conflict prevention and resolution efforts, and sanitation projects. Such activities covered multiple dimensions of human security, including health, environmental, community, and personal. Furthermore, they help to bolster communities’ resilience to ever-changing security dynamics, both through capacitating them to

²¹ The budget for PWA-S and Year 1 workplan envisioned six dialogue sessions, though PWA-S had to reduce the number to three in Year 2 due to financial constraints.

²² As the project indicators and targets were not finalized until the end of Year 1, gender-disaggregated data for indicator PS6.2-4 were not collected. As such, the reported numbers for men and women are based on estimates in some cases. For Year 2, all consortium members collected and reported gender-disaggregated information.

mitigate conflict and promote peace, and through building stronger inter- and intra-community relationships. A CMC in Némataba village, Senegal, also organized a RIV, a further demonstration of the growing capacities of community-based actors to provide leadership in conflict management. And while the RIVs and RIZs targeted higher levels of community-level coordination in peacebuilding and conflict management, the inclusive security management dialogues targeted engagement from decision-makers within civil society, the security sector, and national and regional governments alike in the peace process. Initial feedback from participants in the dialogues was positive, with representatives from civil society especially appreciating the rare opportunity to discuss peace and security issues with each other and with government.

Year 2, through greater implementation of activities under Objective 2, will offer further occasions for civil society and government to come together and find solutions to issues concerning peace, security, and conflict resolution. The project will also intensify advocacy-related activities, through further capacity building for the Senegambia Forum and the completion of the *Livre Blanc*. However, a potential challenge facing future advocacy activities is ensuring sufficient, ongoing follow-up. For instance, Year 2 saw additional trainings in cooperative advocacy and communication and negotiation techniques for the Senegambia Forum in Quarter 1; members of the Forum will also prepare and submit national advocacy plans to decision-makers in the three countries, foreseen for Quarter 3. Due to funding constraints, there are no specific activities that target the Senegambia Forum between the above trainings and the submission of the national advocacy plans. Furthermore, there are no planned follow-on activities to the public presentation of the *Livre Blanc* in Quarter 2. For both examples, and in general, consortium partners will need to work together closely and creatively to identify opportunities in which the project can advocate to civil society, the security sector, and decision-makers on the need for peace and security in the Casamance and surrounding areas. Linking advocacy efforts to political decision-making processes and commitments is one strategy for maximizing advocacy impacts, and close coordination between consortium partners will reveal other strategies and solutions in this regard.

As evidenced from Year 1's activities, a key theme of *Unaam Kayraay* is the importance of facilitating relationships and building consensus between diverse actors – communities, CSOs, NGOs, and government – implicated in peace and security. Consortium members' previous experiences in peacebuilding and conflict resolution have demonstrated the value of multi-sectoral collaboration in effectuating stronger buy-in for change. While the real test of such buy-in may not be evident during *Unaam Kayraay's* lifetime, Year 2 targeted increased will from civil society and government alike to resolve the conflict and create more peaceful and secure societies in the long-term.

Reflections on Year 2 Results

As *Unaam Kayraay* officially closed on January 2, 2020, and with implementation of activities finished by November 30, 2019, Year 2 was the culmination of many activities. For example, the series of RIZs, RIVs, cross-border meetings, and teaching for “The Impact of Trafficking on Peace” sub-module resulted in the elaboration and validation of local conventions. Additionally, the Senegambia Forum finalized national advocacy plans and a joint strategy (2019-2023). Accomplishments like these speak to the sustainability of *Unaam Kayraay*, though as a 24-month project, there is inadequate time to truly monitor the impacts of these results and others. This reality likewise underscores the general importance of M&E, which financial constraints in project budgets inhibited. The above success stories demonstrate *Unaam Kayraay*’s multi-faceted and positive results, and initial readings of SC stories reveal other, unintended impacts.

If the project had more time, results from the *Livre Blanc*, a major deliverable, would become more apparent. By the end of Year 2, the consortium had widely distributed both the document and the policy brief to the Senegalese government, international community, and civil society leaders, and will continue its dissemination until the end of implementation. Whether or not these stakeholders put the *Livre Blanc*’s recommendations into action remains unknown, though the consortium and project have started a regional conversation on peace and security, as well as civil society’s and women’s roles therein.

ANNEXES

Annex I: Year 1 AMELP

Annex II: Year 2 AMELP

Annex III: Activity Result Framework (AMELP)

Annex IV: Progress on project intermediate results (IRs) Year 1

Annex V: Progress on project intermediate results (IRs) Year 2

Annex VI: Mid-term evaluation report