

# Nonviolent Peaceforce

*Transforming the world's response to conflict —join us*



Progress Report January 2013 - June 2014



*"I was arrested for more than a week and nobody knows where I was. Nonviolent Peaceforce and UN members they looked for me and they saved my life."*

Zeinab Blandia,  
Human Rights Defender  
in Nuba Mountains of Sudan

shown with Doris Mariani,  
Nonviolent Peaceforce CEO

## What We Do

By fielding unarmed, international, civilian teams to conflict zones, Nonviolent Peaceforce:

- protects civilians,
- reduces violence,
- furthers the peace processes.

To gain support for and advance the use of unarmed civilian protection, Nonviolent Peaceforce:

- interacts with the United Nations Security Council and agencies,
- conducts outreach activities.

## Why We Do It

- The number of people forcibly displaced because of conflict or persecution exceeded 50 million in 2013, the largest number since WWII according to UNHCR.
- More than 1.5 billion people live in countries affected by repeated violence, according to the World Bank.

## Legal Foundations of Our Work

- International Humanitarian Law
- Human Rights Law

# Our Guiding Principles

- Non-Violence
- Non-Partisanship
- Recognizing the primacy of local stakeholders

*Communication and relationships among all parties to the conflict, whether officials or civilians, are critical to the success of protecting civilians.*

# Our Unique Approach

In partnership with our stakeholders, we add value through:

- Proactive Engagement
- Monitoring
- Capacity Development
- Relationship Building



# Where We Operate



\* Nonviolent Peaceforce was active in Guatemala in 2007, and maintained a presence in Sri Lanka from 2003-2011.

# How We're Governed

As the Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) completed its 10th year of growth and accomplishment, the International Governance Council (IGC) and NP's staff determined that it was time to evolve its governance structure to meet the changing needs of the organization.

A team of NP staff and IGC members familiar with the governance structures of international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) studied NP's current processes for ten months and recommended a new governance design that was approved in February 2014 by the virtual International Assembly.

The result is a simplified structure which is now board-directed instead of member-directed and an increased ability to expand NP's Board of Directors to include business and community leaders, persons with experience in government and other INGOs, and individuals who have legal, finance, and development expertise.

The Member Organizations supported the new approach as well as a transitional Board of Directors composed of four former IGC members to ensure historical continuity and four NP stakeholders to bring a fresh perspective. First convened in March 2014, the new Board has updated its by-laws, documented its operating principles, and added three new members who bring legal, finance, and INGO experience to support the work of the organization. At the same time, the former Membership Organizations started the process of forming a new support organization – the Nonviolent Peaceforce Alliance. This work is well underway and the Board looks forward to collaborating with the Alliance to help NP continue to grow and protect even more civilians in troubled areas around the world. If your organization is interested in becoming associated with the Alliance, write to [oarjarvi@nonviolentpeaceforce.org](mailto:oarjarvi@nonviolentpeaceforce.org).



Adele Lenning, Board Chair





# Why We Move Forward

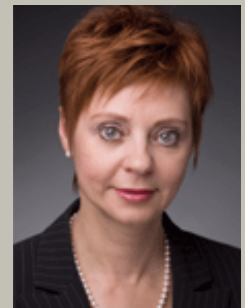
The world has become less peaceful every year since 2008, according to the Global Peace Index developed by the Institute of Economics & Peace. This highlights the important need for the work of Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) to reduce violence and increase safety and security of civilians impacted by violent conflict. Leading NP's efforts to realize that mission in my first year as Chief Executive Officer has been exciting and rewarding.

Political developments had a significant impact on our Field Programs. Civil war in South Sudan created the demand for more direct civilian protection and significantly increased NP's footprint and funding — we are the largest and most highly respected civilian protection organization in South Sudan. The signing of the Bangsamoro Peace agreement for Mindanao in the Philippines is shifting our focus to strengthening local structures to ensure that peace lasts. Myanmar is moving closer to a national ceasefire, and NP has established a solid presence as an important facilitator in a complex conflict between many ethnic groups and armed actors.

As unprecedented numbers of civilians face violence in Syria, Central African Republic and Ukraine, NP is actively exploring new programming in these conflict-affected countries. Additionally, we plan to further invest in and develop our training capacity, building on our proven methodology and successful partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

With a new Board of Directors, committed partners and donors, and most importantly, amazing and dedicated staff, together we will continue to grow and succeed.

Doris Mariani, CEO



# Who Does the Work

U.S. Offices

European Office

South Sudan

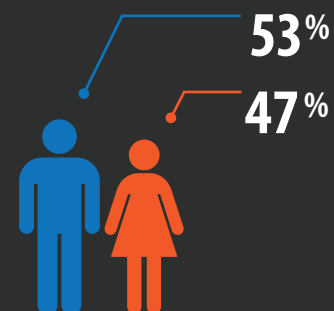
South Caucasus

Myanmar

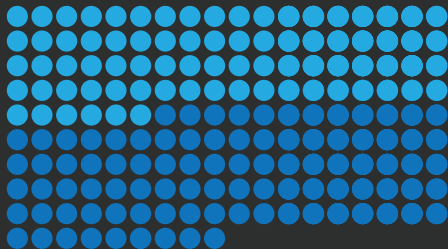
Philippines

**202** total staff as of September 2014

Representing **25** nationalities



**189**  
live and work  
within  
conflict-affected  
communities



**41%**  
are nationals  
of the host countries

**59%**  
are international staff



**13**  
advocacy  
and  
administrative  
support



*In the field:*  
**The Philippines**

**4,130**  
*people protected  
by presence of NP teams*

**39,310**  
*internally displaced people  
safer with NP presence  
in the camps*



# The Philippines

## Protection methods validated

Paul Mettler (2013), Jeya Murugan and Paul Fraleigh (2014),  
*Country Directors*

### What We Did

- Twenty-nine Early Warning Early Response (EWER) structures serving 123 vulnerable villages, called 'barangays' were developed and are currently in operation.
- Trained 1066 local civilian protection monitors in EWER and 340 Child Protection monitors.
- Monitored and reported 151 Grave Child Rights Violations to UNICEF.
- NP has continued to support and advocate for civilians affected by the many years of conflict, including the approximately 55,056 civilians currently displaced across the Area of Responsibility.

### What Resulted

- During a three-week standoff in September 2013, between Moro National Liberation Front and villages in Zamboanga City, Nonviolent Peaceforce was one of the first international NGOs to respond to direct protection concerns. On September 9, 2014, a plaque of appreciation was given to NP by the City of Zamboanaga in appreciation of the assistance rendered in the wake of the disaster in close coordination and deeper collaboration with local partners and key government agencies. NP's assistance continues to date.
- NP played a significant role in the years leading up to the signing of the March 2014 the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro by the Philippine Government and Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

- NP validated in its work through the findings from an external evaluation by MediatEUR conducted in March 2014 that indicate NP's work in the Philippines contributes to increased feelings of safety in communities.
- There were no ceasefire violations between the Government of the Philippines and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (January 2013-June 2014).
- There was a verified reduction in violence perpetrated by armed actors.
- There was much improved access for humanitarian agencies to populations in need, such as internally displaced persons.
- 4,130 people individually benefited from protective presence of NP teams.
- 39,310 Internally displaced civilians benefited from NP presence in the camps.

*"Mindanao is the kind of 'peace architecture' that is required to help manage a complex peace process."*

*from an external evaluation of NP  
by MediatEUR conducted in March 2014*



*In the field:*  
**South Sudan**

**287**

*women were trained  
for leadership roles  
in peacekeeping*

**9**

*All-women peacekeeping  
teams established  
throughout the country  
to monitor conflict-related  
gender-based violence*

# South Sudan

## As a new civil war gripped the nation, NP scaled up to become the largest protection agency in South Sudan

Tiffany Easthom, *Country Director*

Programming in South Sudan includes Women's Participation in Peace and Security, Child Protection, Direct Protection, Protection Mainstreaming, Civil Society Strengthening and Peacebuilding.


### What We Did

- The first peacekeeping agency to maintain a presence in Juba during widespread International Non-Governmental Organization/humanitarian agency evacuations.
- Provided protection support for emergency humanitarian responses that stayed in the country.
- Accompanied internally displaced people (IDPs) who had to travel through insecure areas to access basic services and humanitarian aid.
- Built relationships with community leaders of displaced communities, host communities, government and opposition authorities to enable us to support local mechanisms for peace and security.
- Facilitated the reduction and prevention of violence by implementing 24-hour protective accompaniment patrolling for women at risk of sexual violence while collecting water, firewood or accessing market places.
- Formed and supported 13 Women's Peacekeeping Teams.
- Provided Child Protection in Emergencies programming in conflict affected areas.

- Launched NP's first Mobile Protection Response Team, allowing NP to respond quickly to emergencies

### What Resulted

- NP is now the largest protection agency in South Sudan with 13 field teams (12 static teams and 1 emergency response team).
- NP became the only NGO with a continuing presence in the region since 2011.
- The capacity of 287 South Sudanese women to take leadership roles in the peace and security of their communities was enhanced.
- Incidents of sexual violence and harassment decreased to zero in some locations during protective accompaniment activities.
- Protected 31,160 children in conflict affected areas; NP is UNICEF's most significant child protection partner in South Sudan.
- Reunified 43% of children registered through the Identification, Family Tracing and Reunification programming, achieving the highest rate of reunification of all protection agencies.
- Provided protective presence to 5 women and 9 children during a large-scale attack on a displacement site, successfully negotiating with gunmen to refrain from shooting them on three separate occasions.
- Extracted 33 civilians while massacres were being carried out, and accompanied them to the UN Protection of Civilians area.
- Saved the lives of dozens of civilians who were at imminent risk of being killed during ethnically motivated attacks on civilians.
- Approximately 60,000 IDPs experienced enhanced safety from armed violence and rape while accessing basic services.



*In the field:*  
**Myanmar**

**70%**

*Estimated poverty rate  
in Chin State of Myanmar  
due to lack of peace  
required for development*

**70**

*Local monitors trained in  
civilian ceasefire monitoring  
by NP and its local partner,  
the Shalom Foundation, to  
advance peace*

# Myanmar

## New Field Program Established

Shadab Mansoori, *Country Director*

### What We Did

- NP supported key stakeholders to the peace process as a technical advisor in conceptualizing various independent ceasefire-monitoring models aimed at ensuring the negotiated ceasefires are robust and inclusive.
- NP supported local partners' efforts at strengthening existing local civilian protection mechanisms and in building new ones.
- Conducted trainings of civilians in the use of community based ceasefire mechanism.
- Developed a Ceasefire Monitoring Manual, which was also translated to Burmese.
- Brought more than one dozen civilian ceasefire monitors to the Philippines on a nine-day field exposure trip to learn from the Mindanao experience.

### What Resulted

- Significantly contributed to the recognition amongst primary stakeholders to the conflict of the importance of the monitoring of ceasefires and civil society's role therein.
- Established the first ceasefire monitoring mechanism in Chin state covering 6 townships.
- 47 civilians trained to work as part of community based ceasefire mechanism.
- Trained 56 representatives from ten civil society organizations from the conflict-affected states of Chin, Mon, Kayin, and Kayah on ceasefire monitoring and civilian protection.

- 25 participants from liaison offices of several Ethnic Armed Groups (EAGs) which support their communities in times of conflict were trained.

# South Caucasus

## Youth Trained in Negotiation Skills

Jake Good, *Regional Director*

### What We Did

- 20 youths along the border areas of the Administrative Boundary Line were trained in unarmed civilian peacekeeping and nonviolent methodologies .
- Local partners worked with the youth to provide mentoring and further linkages with national and international stakeholders.
- Trained Community Security Teams which added the trained youth to the Network.
- Additional staff made up of equal numbers of women and men were recruited and trained.

### What Resulted

- NP was credited with securing the release of persons detained along the Administrative Boundary Line.
- The Community Security Teams have been linked with other area organizations, forming a local organization dedicated to nonviolent communication and interaction between communities on both sides of the Administrative Boundary Line.

# Advocacy and Outreach

## Translating Field Work into Public Policy

Mel Duncan, *Director*

### What We Did

- Met with and briefed missions to the UN on unarmed civilian peacekeeping including most members of the UN Security Council and various UN agencies.
- Made formal presentations at the UN including the High Level Briefing on a Culture of Peace.
- Participated in the NGO Working Group on the Security Council.
- Visited Syria to explore possible roles for NP as part of a delegation headed by Nobel Peace Prize winner, Mairead Maguire.
- Co-hosted Syrian civil society delegation at the UN.
- Gave two plenary presentations in commemoration of Gandhi's birthday, hosted by Gandhi Research Foundation in Jalgon, India.
- Developed a proposal for Unarmed Civilian Peacekeeping (UCP) Good Practices Conference with UNITAR and Columbia University.

### What Resulted

- Increased recognition and support of unarmed civilian peacekeeping and protection as an effective means of protecting civilians and reducing violence.
- Completed narrative for five module e-learning course with UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).
- Increased funding from the UN High Commission on Refugees as a result of our field work.

- Provided consultations for guidance document for the protection of schools and hospitals, and for approaches regarding sexual violence in conflict for the UN Mission to South Sudan.
- Received formal support for UCP of the International Federation of University Women.
- Coalition of Syrian NGOs, Cure Violence and NP developing joint proposals for civilian protection and violence interruption in Syria.

Provided numerous media interviews, including:

- Christmas Day PBS interview: <http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/tag/nonviolent-peaceforce/>
- CBC interview: <http://www.cbc.ca/player/News/ID/2451150545/>

*Mel Duncan, Director of Advocacy and Outreach, regularly participates in both formal and informal meetings at the United Nations in New York.*



## Join Us

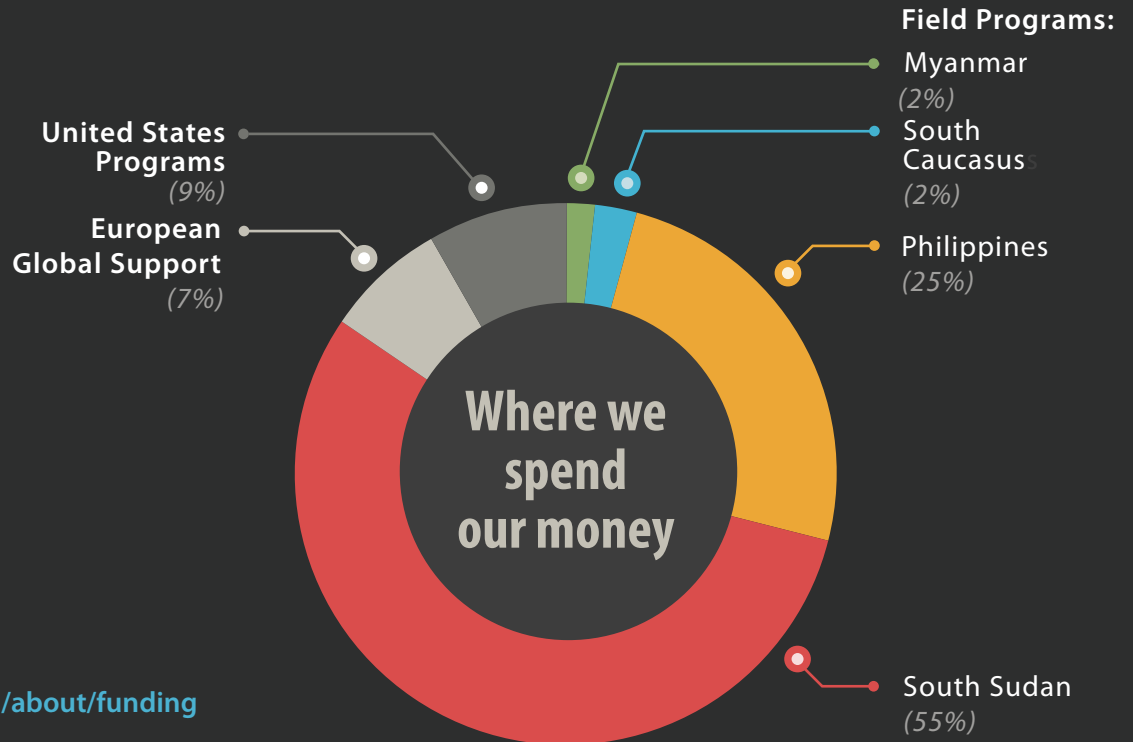
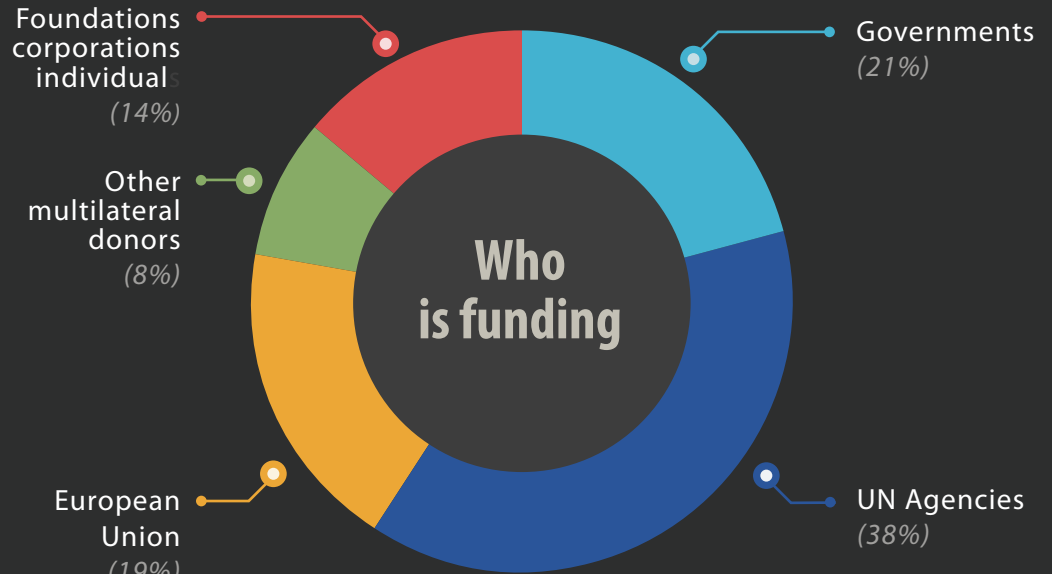
Your donation helps protect civilians and transform the world's response to conflict.

Make a Donation

The financial information covers an 18 month period (January 2013 - June 2014) for all activities implemented by Nonviolent Peaceforce.

The yearly financial statements of NP legal entities are subject to audit and the Belgian auditors conduct a limited review on the combined accounts.

For more information, visit our website, [www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/about/funding](http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/about/funding)



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Nonviolent Peace and the people we protect give a huge round of applause to these funders for their generous support:



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For a list of the 1,500 individual donors, see our website:

[www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org](http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org)