UPEACE PROJECT PORTFOLIO

Created by UN General Assembly Resolution 35/55, the University for Peace has been training leaders for peace for the past 38 years. It is the world’s leading educational institution in the field of peace and conflict studies in its pursuit of the mandate given to it by the UN General Assembly in 1980, namely “to provide humanity with an international institution of higher education for peace and with the aim of promoting among all human beings the spirit of understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, to stimulate cooperation among peoples and to help lessen obstacles and threats to world peace and progress, in keeping with the noble aspirations proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations”.

The University continues its pursuit of academic excellence through systematic and critical study, understanding, and analysis of the causes of multiple problems affecting human and global well-being. Through its rich Faculty body of Resident and Visiting Professors, UPEACE trains future leaders for peace to explore and formulate strategies and practices in various contexts to address such problems and contribute to the processes of peacebuilding and peace formation.

UPEACE has worked with different projects in a wide number of topics in partnership with prestigious organizations. You can find out more about some of them in the following pages.
UPEACE has been working since September 2016 in the development of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA). This initiative receives support from the Costa Rican Government, UNHCR, and IOM to provide quality temporary reception (before resettlement in a third country) to refugee families from Central America’s Northern Triangle. It delivers gender-sensitive and participatory support to strengthen these families’ integration, self-reliance, and emotional well-being. Due to the confidential nature of this program, the evaluation results and information derived from this initiative cannot be made publicly available.

UPEACE is the implementation agency of this program, which the University also developed, strengthening 20 protocols, and incorporating changes in its administrative system to facilitate assistance to forcibly displaced persons. This work led the University to win the UNHCR Costa Rica award, “Live the Integration” in 2018, 2019 and 2021, which recognized the institution’s accomplishments working with migrants and the refugee population.

**Project title**

Capacity-building Program and Training for Refugees and Internally Displaced persons A Focus on Central America’s Northern Triangle

**Status**

Proposal

**Total budget**

This program is designed for a maximum period of 18 months.

Total cost per person with refugee status is $47,534 USD.
Total cost per person with refugee status and two relatives is $66,566 USD

**Partners**

UNHCR

The UN Refugee Agency
The program considers a differentiated process of training and capacity building for each participant:

a. Those with undergraduate studies (bachelor’s degree) may choose one of the nine standard UPEACE master’s and empowerment courses.

b. Those that haven’t complete their university or high school degree will have the option to participate in the following certifications:
   - Multiculturalism
   - Leadership and Empowerment
   - Technical Skills

The participants will be selected by the UNHCR based on those whom the organization defined for the resettlement program, as a starting point, the program could begin with 50 participants.

**Issue/Topic**

Refugees, migration, and resettlement

**Region**

Northern Triangle of Central America: Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala

**Beneficiaries/participants**

50 Refugees from the Northern Triangle
**Project title**

“Special Scholarship Program for Conflicting or Unstable Countries”

**Status**

Proposal

**Total budget**

$22,500 USD per person
$28,000 USD per family

**Donor**

To be determined

**Partners**

UNHCR (The UN Refugee Agency)

**Project description**

This project is for refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) and seeks to provide them with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary for finding and implementing durable solutions to the challenges they will face in their host countries and countries of origin. It also will promote the development of global leadership capable of dealing with the complex challenges facing today’s globalized society, strengthen capacities of refugees and internally displaced persons to contribute to peace-related issues to foment meaningful and effective dialogue, increase participants’ command of the English language, in an effort to improve their possibilities of working within global organizations, equip participants with tools for reintegration into labor, professional, and social life, and improve refugees’ and IDPs’ health by providing psychological and clinical accompaniment.

**Issue/Topic**

Peace, conflict, and security-related issues, including HHRR, gender and peacebuilding, the environment, and sustainable development.

**Region**

Middle East and Latin America

**Beneficiaries/participants**

20 to 50 students with certified refugee and IDP status from Syria, Colombia, and Venezuela, in addition to Venezuelans with expired PEP and other candidates selected by UNHCR.
**Project description**

The present project will provide Afghan families with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary for finding and implementing durable solutions to the challenges they will face in their transit and host countries. All needs will be covered by the program, including housing, food, health, and education, among others. The program will also increase participants’ command of the English and Spanish languages to improve their possibilities of integration in their transit and host countries, equip the participants with tools for reintegration into, professional and social life, and improved participants’ mental health by providing psychological and clinical accompaniment.

**Issue/Topic**

IDPs

**Region**

Afghanistan

**Beneficiaries/participants**

20 persons (four families) from Afghanistan
UPEACE is collaborating with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in efforts to protect and bring visibility to Central American journalists working in very dangerous circumstances. Among other initiatives, we will join resources to organize activities aimed at training as well as providing a safe space for journalists, especially --females at risk.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>“Periodismo en tiempo de crisis”</th>
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<tr>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total budget</td>
<td>$6,990 USD</td>
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Donor: European Union Delegation in Costa Rica

Partners:

Project description:

UPEACE offered 30 academic hours part of a course distributed over 5 weeks, which combined face-to-face and distance modules. Those who participated in this academic program acquired basic knowledge of peace and conflict studies to improve their abilities to analyze the most urgent social conflicts from different perspectives. This vision will help participants to include perspectives of peace in their work and thus, contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful, and inclusive societies.

To obtain the certificate, those who participated in this program passed all courses and presented a final project (poster or audiovisual material).
This course was accredited by UPEACE, after registration and approval of all requirements.

**Program:**
- **Session 1:** The Role of Media and Journalists in Peacebuilding
- **Session 2:** Freedom of Expression in the Universal System for the Protection of Human Rights
- **Session 3:** Freedom of the Press in the Inter-American System for the Protection of Human Rights
- **Session 4:** Hate Speech
- **Session 5:** Discriminatory Speeches and other Speeches not Permitted by International Law
- **Session 6:** Peaceful Journalism
- **Session 7:** Non-violent Communication - Final Group Presentation

**Issue/Topic**
Journalism, Journalists, SDG 16, Freedom of Expression, and Hate Speech

**Region**
Central America, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic

**Beneficiaries/participants**
22 Journalists (some editors and directors of media groups)

**Related links**
Published group projects (in Spanish):

1. [Guía para el tratamiento periodístico libre de discriminación y xenofobia contra la comunidad asiática](#)
2. [Realidad de migración de haitianos a República Dominicana y de nicaragüenses a Costa Rica](#)
3. [El Papel del periodismo en la educación en la participación electoral ciudadana](#)
Project title
“Measuring Digital Safety of Female Journalists to Improve their Protection and Access to Public Information in El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua during the COVID-19 Pandemic”

Status
Concluded

Total budget
$18,900 USD

Donor
UNESCO

Partners
UNESCO, accessnow

Project description
This project used UNESCO’s Journalist Safety Indicators, specifically those related to digital safety, and a survey developed by Dr. Garrido, Assistant Professor, Chair of the Doctoral Program at UPEACE, and project coordinator. Approximately 217 female journalists participated in an online workshop on digital safety and access to public information and were trained on those issues and filled the data collection tool (survey). Each workshop addressed situations directly linked to the coverage of the pandemic, including issues related to access to public information and fake news. The digital survey included questions concerning situations faced during the pandemic, which provided insightful data about the challenges that Central American states have in achieving SDG 16.10. The project consisted of data collection and analysis to produce regional trends, all analyzed in a qualitative, quantitative, and comparative manner. Results were published in a comprehensive report.

Issue/Topic
Journalist safety, digital safety, and SDG 16

Region
Central America and more specifically, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua

Beneficiaries/participants
217 female journalists from El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua

Related links
https://www.ideasforpeace.org/seguridad-mujeres-periodistas-2021/
# JOURNALISTS’ SECURITY

<table>
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<th><strong>Project title</strong></th>
<th>“Certificate Program on Freedom of Expression for 50 Journalism students in El Salvador”</th>
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<td>International Program for the Development of Communication (IPDC) of UNESCO</td>
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## Project description

The project is geared towards 50 university students of journalism, communication, and audiovisual production in El Salvador. However, in the future, the project could be extended to students in other countries in the region, including Honduras and Nicaragua.

The certificate will cover 30 academic hours distributed across five online sessions. It will also include practical components. Theoretical components will include discussions on international norms and standards covering freedom of expression and an analysis of trends concerning the respect for freedom of expression. Focus will also be placed on the link between misinformation and freedom of expression and the role of journalists in combatting disinformation, particularly through the development of fact checking initiatives.

## Issue/Topic

- Journalists
- SDG 16
- Freedom of expression
- Fake news
- Misinformation

## Region

- Central America and El Salvador

## Beneficiaries/participants

- 50 students from El Salvador
# Summer Course

**“Special Online Course on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”**

## Status
Concluded / Available for Replication

## Client
Kyung Hee University (KHU), Republic of South Korea

## Course description
The primary objective of this course was to introduce the ideas of development and sustainable development to the participants. The academic level of the course was introductory, while broadening and deepening the understanding and horizons of participants regarding issues of development. After an overview of the SDGs, discussions and debates related to them were introduced and discussed by subject experts and faculty members of UPEACE. Out of the 17 Goals, the two-week course focused on SDG 17: Global Partnerships. All the sessions discussed the unravelling scenario of the COVID-19 and challenges it has presented towards the realization and achievement of specific Goals. Participants, hailing diverse academic disciplines, took part in a course that prioritized interconnectedness and diverse nature of development.

## Issue/Topic
Summer courses and SDGs, specifically SDG 17

## Region
Global

## Beneficiaries/participants
22 Korean students
# Project title

**“Fundamentals of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – Managerial Course”**

## Status

Proposal

## Total budget

$25,000 USD

## Donor

TBD

## Partners

Peace Innovation Initiative (PII)

## Project description

One credit course to be completed over a period of 15 hours.

The SDGs, adopted by the UN in 2015, call all countries – poor, rich, and middle-income – to action to promote prosperity, while protecting the planet. The SDGs recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that contribute to economic growth and address a range of social needs, including education, healthcare, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection. More important than ever, the goals provide a critical framework for COVID-19 recovery.

The SDGs are a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

The 17 SDGs are integrated, recognizing action in one area will affect outcomes in others and that development must balance social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

## Issue / Topic

Sustainability, social responsibility, international frameworks, and responsible consumption

## Region

Arab Emirates

## Beneficiaries/participants

Supermarket employees

## Objectives

The objective of the program is to train students on SDGs so that they can apply them daily in their work.

Directed to employees of the service industry where funds depend on consumption, the program focuses on social responsibility as one of the pillars of companies in the industry.
**Project title**

"Fundamentals of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – Basic Course"

**Status**

Proposal

**Total budget**

$20,000 USD

**Donor**

TBD

**Partners**

Peace Innovation Initiative (PII)

**Project description**

Four hours course certificate.

The SDGs, adopted by the UN in 2015, call all countries – poor, rich, and middle-income – to action to promote prosperity, while protecting the planet. The SDGs recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that contribute to economic growth and address a range of social needs, including education, healthcare, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection. More important than ever, the goals provide a critical framework for COVID-19 recovery.

The SDGs are a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

The 17 SDGs are integrated, recognizing action in one area will affect outcomes in others and that development must balance social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

**Issue / Topic**

Sustainability, social responsibility, international frameworks, and responsible consumption

**Region**

Arab Emirates

**Beneficiaries/participants**

Supermarket employees

**Objectives**

The objective of the program is to teach students the main idea of SDGs and its significance if we learn to apply them.

Directed to employees of the service industry where funds depend on consumption, the program focuses on social responsibility as one of the pillars of companies in the industry.
UPEACE and the Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana (UNITEC) have introduced a collaborative certification on economic reactivation in the context of COVID-19, along with the ETA storm and IOTA hurricane, focused on strengthening capacities and skills of vulnerable groups such as women and young people with ties to small economic units (MyPes) in Honduras.

The government of Honduras, through the National Employment Policy, the National Reconstruction Plan with emphasis on the Economic Reactivation Plan, and support from international organizations through the Program EUROEMPLEO and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), among others, together with the accompaniment of civil society organizations and representatives of private companies, is participating in a joint effort to assist the Honduran population affected by the pandemic crisis. In this context, the UNDP and the Office of the Secretary of State for Labor and Social Security (STSS for its name in Spanish) have implemented the Institutional Strengthening initiative of the STSS for economic reactivation and the emergency response caused by COVID-19 and natural phenomena that have affected Honduras.

**Project Title**

“Diplomado en Emprendimiento y Desarrollo Sostenible”

**Status**

Concluded / Available for Replication

**Donor**

UNDP and Office of the Secretary of State for Labor and Social Security for the Republic of Honduras

**Partners**

UNITEC

**Project description**

This course emphasized current economic and peace management perspectives while focusing on the concepts of
sustainability, social responsibility, and entrepreneurship in the context of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The creation of this diploma course was based on the belief that, in order to contribute to sustainable peace, it is imperative to explore the role of the economy in the midst of a pandemic and its impact on socio-economic development, the environment, and societal welfare.

The Diploma in Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development was designed for the virtual modality, with both lecture-oriented and activity-based courses. The course was made up of eight modules and two study workshops and designed so that all course contents and activities could be carried out over a period of three months.

While the participants studied the diploma modules, they also developed an entrepreneurial project, which was guided and supervised throughout the course by two expert professors in program development.

Certificate Program:
Module I. Introduction

Module II. Entrepreneurship
Module III - Business Creation
Module IV - From Idea to Action
Introduction to the Business Model
Module V – Marketing Fundamentals
Buyer Creation
Modulo VI – Sales Presentations
Module VII – Basic Business Tools
Module VIII – Defining the Business Model
Final Project

Two workshops to be held as additional training elements to the content of the diploma:
- Negotiation Workshop
- Leadership Workshop

**Issue/Topic**
Sustainability, social responsibility, and entrepreneurship, along with the effects of COVID-19

**Region**
Honduras

**Beneficiaries/participants**
Vulnerable groups with small businesses

**Objectives**
- Learn about the importance of promoting and building enterprises from the vision of triple impact: social, environmental, and economic
- Learn about the requirements of business creation
- Develop innovative and entrepreneurship skills
- Develop soft skills for life
- Know and develop a business model based on the Canvas methodology
- Develop different components on Canvas model for the microenterprise creation and SMEs
- Design a value proposition based on market understanding Put into practice the knowledge acquired in the development of a final entrepreneurship project