



On behalf of all of us at the Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP), we would like to thank our members and attendees who joined us at our 2018 Annual PeaceCon, the Power of Collective Action. We welcomed over 640 attendees from over 250 organizations and 40 countries. This conference had a special focus on highlighting solutions to the world's most pressing issues in conflict-affected and fragile states. Below is a summary of major themes that were highlighted at the conference. A playlist of 21 recordings that highlight 25 sessions is available on [AfP's YouTube page here](#).

Key Conference Themes

Collective Action	Working Locally	Climate Change and Peacebuilding
Dignity and Peacebuilding	Building Peace in Hybrid Warfare	Funding and Support for Peacebuilding
Honoring Peacebuilders	Gender	Preventing Electoral Violence
Narratives for Peace	Youth	Colombia
The Business of Peace	Countering Violent Extremism	Learning and Evaluation
Peacebuilding in the United States	Nonviolent Action	Inter-religious Peacebuilding
Conflict Sensitivity		

We are thrilled to announce that **PeaceCon 2019 will take place October 2 – 4, 2019!** October 2 will be once again co-sponsored with the United States Institute of Peace, and October 3 – 4 will be held at the FHI 360 Conference Center. Due to very high demand for the first day of the conference at USIP, we are working with USIP to increase the capacity for each conference room. Early-bird registration and a call for proposals will be open in February. Join us this October to network and build new partnerships, learn from leading and local experts, and work collectively with peacebuilders from all over the world to address violence reduction and build sustainable peace.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

PeaceCon 2018 would have not been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. Their contributions and support help make this amazing event possible. AfP is especially grateful for our joint-partnership with the United States Institute of Peace over the past six years.



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Purdue Peace Project



Liz Hume, AfP’s Vice President and Acting CEO, opened the conference and stated that there was a greater willingness among the peacebuilding field to act with a unified voice, collaborate on advocacy, and work to change how we reduce violence and prove the effectiveness of the field. She highlighted several examples including the: [Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act](#); the development of the US [Department of State’s Stabilization Assistance Review](#) report; and the new [Peacebuilding Coalition](#). She closed by stating that we still struggle to show evidence of where our programs have reduced violence and built sustainable peace. Liz stated that this lack of evidence is one of the greatest challenges we face as a field. Therefore, she challenged the field that if we believe that what we do is important, and our work is effective, then we need to prove it and show impact.

Key Conference Themes

Collective Action

The theme of the conference, “The Power of Collective Action,” dominated the opening plenary, as speakers highlighted the need for coordination. General Anthony C. Zinni lamented that military and peacebuilding actors often speak past each other. Zinni imagined an interagency body with military reach but peacebuilding goals. Thomas Staal outlined structural changes at USAID and emphasized the proposed new Bureau of Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS). CPS would strengthen USAID’s capacity to prevent conflict, address fragility, respond to global crises in a more strategic, integrated way and marks a major advance for peacebuilding.

After the keynote addresses, five leading practitioners and policy experts held a high-level panel on [current global frameworks](#) at the United Nations and other institutions that are shaping how we build peace. The [Secretary-General’s Sustaining Peace Initiative](#) and [World Bank-UN Pathways for Peace Reports](#) represent global policy frameworks that boldly push for fundamental change in the way conflict and violence are addressed and how we build peace. Moreover, the international development agenda has taken bolder steps to integrate peace, security, human rights, justice, and effective governance within its framework through Agenda 2030 and particularly [Sustainable Development Goal 16](#). This panel explored how these frameworks widely encompass a variety of actors and bridge the peacebuilding and development fields to create a more collective approach to sustaining peace.

Sessions within this tract:

- **Keynote Addresses—Anthony C. Zinni and Thomas Staal ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))**
- **Global Policy Frameworks on Sustaining Peace: A Call for Collaborative and Collective Action—Gary Milante (moderator), Larry Attree, Rosarie Tucci, Darynell Rodriguez Torres, David Steven, and Katy Thompson ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))**

Dignity and Peacebuilding

Around the world, peacebuilders work in different contexts and confront different challenges. Given this diversity, can we draw any common insights? In a plenary lecture, Donna Hicks ventured an answer: dignity. All babies are born with dignity, and all people react viscerally to violations of dignity. For Hicks, dignity is our “highest common denominator”—a way to establish shared humanity and overcome divisions. Studying psychology, philosophy, and political science, Hicks has applied her theory to conflicts as disparate as apartheid in South Africa and political violence in Colombia. Violence can seem huge and enduring, but dignity offers a way to engage on a human level.

Sessions within this tract:

- *The Future of Peace Lecture Series—Donna Hicks* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Honoring Peacebuilders From Across the Globe

On the second day of PeaceCon, all participants gathered to recognize several individuals and organizations for their outstanding work. The session began in sobering fashion, as participants honored Hedayatullah Zaheer, an Afghan peacebuilder who was killed by violent extremists in May 2018. After this powerful commemoration, Melanie Greenberg, the former CEO of AfP, was recognized for her outstanding service to the peacebuilding field. In her recognition of her commitment to peace, Melanie awarded the organization Hands Across the Hills the first “Melanie Greenberg United States Peacebuilding Award of Excellence.” Hands Across the Hills was recognized for their outstanding dialogue, cultural awareness, and social justice program between communities from Kentucky and Massachusetts.

After Green’s address, Peace Direct recognized nine organizations and individuals that were finalists for the [Tomorrow’s Peacebuilders Awards](#). All finalists for the awards introduced their work and reflected on what gave them hope. Bridget Moix of Peace Direct then awarded three of the finalists the grand prize of \$10,000. These organizations were Proceso de Comunidades Negras (Women-led Peacebuilding); Young-adult Empowerment Initiative (Youth-led Peacebuilding); and Movilizadorio (Nonviolent Action). Closing the session, Jin In declared the future is the empowered female. However, she discussed that there are more males in the world today because due to gendercide. Even when girls are born, so many in poor and war-torn countries have no voice or choice. The good news is that today’s young women are boldly standing up to power. And 2018 spotlighted the empowering work of girls and young women.

Sessions within this tract:

- *Honoring Hedayatullah Zaheer*
- *The Melanie Greenberg United States Peacebuilding Award of Excellence—Hands Across the Hills (recipient)*
- *Dialogue and Cultural Exchange to Bridge Deep Divides—Paula Green*
- *Recognizing Tomorrow’s Peacebuilders—Bridget Moix*
- *What is the Most Powerful Force for Change?—Jin In*
- [Click here for a recording of all these sessions in order of sequence](#)

Narratives for Peace

“Peace has a long way to go to look as cool as violence,” proclaimed Abby Disney, the keynote speaker on the third day of PeaceCon. Disney’s talk set the stage for a discussion of peace narratives—what works and what needs work. As Disney noted, violence is engrained in storytelling, with the average American witnessing 16,000 simulated murders before the age of 18. When crafting narratives, peacebuilders must focus on emotions and spotlight underreported changemakers, especially women. Two exemplary storytellers presented their work. Sophie Kanza screened her anti-Afrophobia video campaign, while Nick Fitzhugh showcased his documentary about war photographers and violence against journalists in Syria. The heads of International Alert, Search for Common Ground, and PartnersGlobal rolled out the Peacebuilding Coalition, a new effort to elevate the global profile of peacebuilding. [Click here for the Coalition landing page and to view the coalition members.](#)

Sessions within this tract:



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- *Can the Story of Peace be Told?—Abby Disney*
- *Injecting Peacebuilding into the Mainstream Conversation—Harriet Lamb, Shamil Idriss, Julia Roig, Nick Fitzhugh, and Sophie Kanza*
- [Click here for a recording of all these sessions in order of sequence](#)

The Business of Peace

The themes of business and peace theme were explored throughout the conference and panelists made the case why corporations need to engage in the business of peace and corporations that include peacebuilding strategies, may not only reduce investment risk but also contribute to stability and prosperity in the communities where they operate, and gain a competitive advantage. In the panel ***Engaging Multinational Corporations to Advance Peacebuilding: The Business and Economics of Peace***, panelists outlined that peacebuilding is not only the right thing to do but it is also a powerful strategy for achieving key corporate goals. Catriona Gourlay of the PeaceNexus Foundation outlined their research and work to incentivize corporations to engage in the business of peace and how they measure company contributions to peacebuilding. Other sessions explored best-practices of peacebuilding organizations collaborating with the private sector. In the panel ***Partnering with the Private Sector: What Have We Tried and Learned?***, speakers shared their experiences and research findings of peacebuilding organizations collaborating with the private sector. On day 3 of the conference, the panel ***Investing in Peace: The Role of the Private Sector in Colombia's Post-Conflict Zones*** focused on the impact that responsible private investment can have in conflict zones, using Colombia as an example.

Sessions within this tract:

- *Engaging Multinational Corporations to Advance Peacebuilding: The Business and Economics of Peace*
- *Partnering with the Private Sector: What Have We Tried and Learned?* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- *Investing in Peace: The Role of the Private Sector in Colombia's Post-Conflict Zones*

Peacebuilding in the United States

Americans Cannot Dialogue Their Way Out of This Conflict. How Do We Address Structural Grievances? and ***Why is Everyone So Angry in the U.S.: What are the Grievances and the Resiliencies*** were dynamic panels that discussed the threatening conflict dynamics and the highly polarized political culture in the United States and how do we resolve our conflicts. What is making the conflict analysis so difficult is the fact that it is “our” conflict and while most could agree on the grievances, panelists disagreed on how to resolve the conflict and how to move forward. All agreed that as a society the US is divided by race, class, religion, geography and so many identity markers that have made so many angry. Panelists discussed that the causes are deep structural socio-economic and racial grievances. All also agreed that the US is still in an up cycle of violence and we have not reached a tipping point.

Sessions within this tract:

- *Americans Cannot Dialogue Their Way Out of This Conflict. How Do We Address Structural Grievances?* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- *Why is Everyone So Angry in the U.S.: What are the Grievances and the Resiliencies* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Conflict Sensitivity

In the development sector even though conflict sensitivity has been around for more than two decades and has been accepted as a fundamental principle in peacebuilding programs, many organizations and practitioners still find it difficult to implement conflict sensitivity in their programs. **The Next Wave of Conflict Sensitivity: New Perspectives and Actions for Programming** discussed the challenges with implementing and mainstreaming conflict sensitivity across organizations include the lack of: requirements by donors, organizational policies, practical tools and resources to apply the approach. The panelists agreed that the donor's need to demand it and resource it and ensure that conflict sensitivity is not just an analysis but part of the entire system of the program. Monitoring and evaluation were addressed as a critical step in implementing conflict sensitivity because in order to prove that programs prevented conflict the field needs to have a better evidence base. In order to create the next wave of conflict sensitivity and ensure that it becomes integrated throughout all development programming, the peacebuilding field at AfP in coordination with MSI and other organizations will convene a working group in 2019, to address the challenges in order to find the solutions.

Sessions within this tract:

- *The Next Wave of Conflict Sensitivity: New Perspectives and Actions for Programming* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Working Locally

PeaceCon 2018 gave focus to how we can ensure that policies, frameworks, and programs work the support local actors and stakeholders. The question of operationalizing the UN Sustaining Peace Initiative was again raised in **Circles of Trust, Conflict Prevention and Restorative Rural Development**. This session however brought in the perspective of integrating rural communities into conflict prevention and peacebuilding with emphasis on rural women. **Improving Peacebuilding Partnerships: What does USAID's "Journey to Self-Reliance" mean for Peacebuilding Partnerships?** explored key questions for responsible aid partnerships that prioritize local autonomy. Using the example of USAID's 'Journey to Self-Reliance claims to 'prioritize fostering stable, resilient, prosperous, inclusive, and self-reliant countries,' panelists outlined how potential rhetoric on "self-reliance" in aid reform could potentially led to harming local partnerships.

Technological innovation has also driven how the peacebuilding field can work locally. This was exemplified on the panel **Community Driven Peace: One Byte at a Time** where panelists emphasized that technology can be a powerful tool to help enable local actors to become peace practitioners through expanding collaboration and learning. The **Session How Humanitarian Assistance Can Lay the Groundwork for Peace** outlined the results of a new study of peace efforts that highlight challenges and opportunities related to how humanitarian assistance can lay the groundwork for peace. Panelists highlighted research from Mercy Corps and CRS on what works when trying to use humanitarian assistance to promote peace.

Sessions within this tract:

- *Circles of Trust, Conflict Prevention and Restorative Rural Development* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- *Improving Peacebuilding Partnerships: What does USAID's "Journey to Self-Reliance" mean for Peacebuilding Partnerships?*
- *Community Driven Peace: One Byte at a Time*

Building Peace in Hybrid Warfare



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The session **Building Peace in Hybrid War** discussed relevant responses, strategies, and tools to address the rise of “hybrid” conflict. Hybrid conflict blends military and non-military tactics and actors, blurring the distinction between war and peace. Speakers focused on how new technology has contributed to disinformation, election meddling, and all-out cyberwarfare. Technology, however, is also a potential source for peacebuilding solutions. Nonviolent social movements use information technology to resist and defuse hybrid conflicts. Civil resistance can include productive means of resisting disinformation, such as building alternative forms of media. To stem the rise of hybrid warfare, panelists suggest teaching digital literacy to students of all ages, growing the field of public interest technology, and integrating the anti-corruption aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 16 in broader advocacy.

Sessions within this tract:

- *Building Peace in Hybrid Warfare* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Gender

Understanding the Role and Impact of Gender on Violent Extremism connected the themes of P/CVE and Gender & Peacebuilding. Experts from Management Systems International and George Mason University discussed the roles and potential roles women play in violent extremist and CVE efforts, including the broader gendered contexts that shape women’s agency and that also influence men’s participation in violent extremism. They discussed how violent extremist movements exploit a heightened sense of masculinity to promote recruitment of young men. Panelists encouraged the development of more research to understand how gender may affect push and pull factors attracting members to join violent extremist movements, as well as how members exit violent extremist organizations. Existing research tends to be anecdotal and shaped by dominant narratives. What is known is that women are playing increasingly important roles in violent extremist organizations, including being involved in combat.

Sessions within this tract:

- *What is the Most Powerful Force for Change?* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- *Understanding the Role and Impact of Gender on Violent Extremism* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Youth

The peacebuilding field has also been increasingly recognizing the crucial role that youth have to play in shaping peace and security. In terms of higher-level policy, the panelists on **The Missing Peace: Translating on UN Security Council Resolution 2250 into Practice on Youth, Peace & Security** outlined how local, national and international stakeholders can take action on frameworks, such as Security Council Resolutions 2250 and 2419. Other panels gave a larger focus to supporting youth with more grassroots and local initiatives. The facilitators for **Supporting Youth Activism and Building Networks: Best Practices from Youth Organizers** held an interaction workshop featuring several of American Friends Service Committee’s (AFSC) local peacebuilders from across the world. This experiential workshop held small working groups that brainstormed how to build youth networks and activate movements that lead to social change within their own communities. **Systems Approaches for Strengthening Youth and Community Resilience to Violent Extremism** gave a special focus to how youth can be empowered by activating their assets to create resilience.

Sessions within this tract:

- *The Missing Peace: Translating on UN Security Council Resolution 2250 into Practice on Youth, Peace & Security*



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- ***Supporting Youth Activism and Building Networks: Best Practices from Youth Organizers***
- ***Systems Approaches for Strengthening Youth and Community Resilience to Violent Extremism*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Countering Violence Extremism

Preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) was a major theme of PeaceCon 2018. Different organizations engage with P/CVE across a wide spectrum. The session **To Thine Own Self Be True: Principled Approaches to Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism** considered the challenges peacebuilding organizations face when choosing whether to engage in P/CVE work or not. Some sessions explored innovative approaches to P/CVE. In **Applying Social and Behavior Change Models to Counter Violent Extremism and Promote Peace**, speakers shared the perspectives of neuroscience, psychology, risk communication, and public health to discuss models of understanding the drivers of human behavior and progression into extremism. **Systems Approaches for Strengthening Youth and Community Resilience to Violent Extremism** used the cases of implementation of collective action processes in Tunisia and Mali (FHI 360) and CVE Alternative Messaging Hubs in Northern Nigeria and Southern Philippines (Equal Access International) to discuss processes, frameworks, and tools that have been used to facilitate collective action for CVE by local stakeholders.

Later, **Assessing the Evidence: Toward Good Practice for Designing, Monitoring and Evaluating Programs to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism** presented the existing evidence for P/CVE theories of change. A panel of practitioners, advocates, and evaluation specialists outlined theories of change that they have researched and/or implemented.

Sessions within this tract:

- ***Understanding the Role and Impact of Gender on Violent Extremism*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***To Thine Own Self Be True: Principled Approaches to Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism***
- ***Applying Social and Behavior Change Models to Counter Violent Extremism and Promote Peace*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***Systems Approaches for Strengthening Youth and Community Resilience to Violent Extremism*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***What Have We Learned About Programming to Prevent/Counter Violent Extremism?***
- ***Assessing the Evidence: Toward Good Practice for Designing, Monitoring and Evaluating Programs to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***People Power 4 Peace Addressing Fragility and Violent Extremism through Civil Resistance*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Nonviolent Action

Connecting the themes of P/CVE and Nonviolent Action, **People Power 4 Peace Addressing Fragility and Violent Extremism through Civil Resistance** laid out how the lack of capacity and/or willingness of fragile states to respond to and provide for the basic needs of their people can exacerbate grievances and lead individuals to seek alternative methods for addressing them.

The energizing lunch session **Synergizing Non-Violent Action in Peacebuilding (SNAP) in Practice** demonstrated some exercises from the new SNAP guide developed by Nadine Bloch of Beautiful Trouble, Lisa Schirch of Toda Institute/AfP, and Tabatha Thompson of USIP. Their exercises showed how a “movement mindset” can better inspire collective action to maximize the effectiveness of local and national



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peace processes. Next, **The Methods and Impacts of Foreign Engagement with Social Movements** presented research initiatives that have focused on how international actors engage with, enable, and/or support social movements and the application of nonviolent action techniques. Panelists discussed the need to shift resources more toward grassroots movement building, while also managing the challenge of ensuring local groups are legitimate.

Sessions within this tract:

- *People Power 4 Peace Addressing Fragility and Violent Extremism through Civil Resistance* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- *Faith-Inspired Nonviolent Action Toward Just Peace*
- *Synergizing Non-Violent Action in Peacebuilding (SNAP) in Practice*
- *The Methods and Impacts of Foreign Engagement with Social Movements* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Climate Change and Peacebuilding

In “**A Climate of Conflict: The Risks and Opportunities for Climate Change**,” panelists confronted the huge topic of climate change, discussing the effectiveness of a “threat multiplier” frame. In this view, governments and organizations see climate change as a phenomenon that will not create new perils so much as exacerbate existing ones. One danger of a “threat multiplier” framework is that researchers default to securitizing climate change or discussing the issue in veiled military terms. In reality, attention should focus on human security, especially the need to develop diversified livelihoods as countries adapt to changing environments.

Funding and Support for the Peacebuilding Field

In recent years, political turbulence and populist movements have shaken much of the world, including the field of peacebuilding. How will these trends affect funding? In “**What is the Future of Support to Peacebuilding?**” Panelists were quick to note that peacebuilding funding has risen substantially in past decades, but it is important to consider whether, for instance, money can go to military priorities or not. As one panelist proclaimed, the current geopolitical situation represents a fundamental threat to multilateral cooperation, so peacebuilders must advocate for these bodies.

As part of its inquiry on [Re-examining the Terms of Aid](#), the Institute of State Effectiveness coordinated the panel **Frontier Issues in Peacebuilding and Development** which facilitated a discussion with to examine the challenges of changing the practice of peace and development engagement and offer fresh thinking on what is really needed for development partners to trust governments and come up with a national plan that supports the country’s institutions, and fosters the economic engines and tax basis of the countries so that they can sustain themselves.

Sessions within this tract:

- *What is the Future of Support to Peacebuilding* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- *Frontier Issues in Peacebuilding and Development* ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Preventing Electoral Violence

African experts Pauline Kamau, Quaker International Affairs Representative at AFSC, Kennedy Akolo, Regional Director for Africa at AFSC, and moderator Aura Kanegis of AFSC presented on **Shared Security**,



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Shared Elections: Best Practices for the Prevention of Electoral Violence. They shared lessons from [recent research](#) by AFSC which identified gaps in research on electoral violence, main drivers of electoral violence, and factors which might increase the likelihood of success in preventing electoral violence. They recommended donors continue to fund violence prevention after an election is held, invest in long-term programming specifically for youth, and engage in police reform in many contexts affected by electoral violence.

Sessions within this tract:

- ***Shared Security, Shared Elections: Best Practices for the Prevention of Electoral Violence*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))

Colombia Peace Process

In the session **Activism with Footnotes: Monitoring Colombia's Peace Process**, researchers from the Kroc Institute at the University of Notre Dame shared the model their team has developed for monitoring the Colombian Peace Agreement in real time. This session explored how they rigorously and impartially track peace accord implementation, while at the same time attempting to manage their role as a political actor in Colombia. Participants focused on keenly on the best practices academic researchers to take on roles within advocacy.

Sessions within this tract:

- ***Activism with Footnotes: Monitoring Colombia's Peace Process***

Learning and Evaluation and the Solutions Forum

AfP continues to support and work towards changing the culture of peacebuilding to embrace a more evaluative and evidence-based approach. Recognizing that so much of M&E is experiential, AfP continues to promote opportunities for shared learning around monitoring, evaluation, and learning. To achieve this goal, AfP co-hosted the first annual *Peacebuilding M&E Solutions Forum* with the United States Institute of Peace and One Earth Future and supported a dedicated learning and evaluation tract at PeaceCon2018. The Solutions Forum was a unique opportunity for M&E practitioners to come together, network, and connect with people working in peacebuilding M&E, and share best practices, lessons learned, results, and evidence from across the broad spectrum of M&E activities in peacebuilding programming. The full-day event hosted over 150 individuals from around the world, featured 30 presentations, and had more than 40 presenters joining from 11 countries.

During the three days of PeaceCon, presentations, workshops, and demonstrations addressed such critical and diverse topics as data analysis and benefit risk assessments; how to better harness new innovations in technology to collect data in fragile states; research approaches for complex environments featuring impact evaluations, adaptive management, and increased collaboration; and new research efforts to better learn from historical programming and countering violent extremism.

Sessions within this tract:

- ***The Sustaining Peace Project: Synthesizing and Modeling the Science on Sustaining Peace for Research, Practice, and Policy***
- ***Data Analysis for Dummies: Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis Approaches Workshop***
- ***Data Benefit Risk Analysis Workshop: How to Balance Data for Decision Making Against Privacy/Security Risks***



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- ***Harnessing Technology for Peace: Innovative Data Collection and Analysis Initiatives*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***Impact Evaluations and Peacebuilding: The What, How, and Why***
- ***The Peacebuilding Evaluation Consortium: Lessons from the Field*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***Assessing the Evidence: Toward Good Practice for Designing, Monitoring and Evaluating Programs to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism*** ([Click here for a recording of this session](#))
- ***What Do We Know About Conflict? Evaluating the State of Evidence for Peacebuilding***

Inter-Religious Action in Peacebuilding

While inter-religious action in peacebuilding has played a positive role, as a field, it is still in a nascent phase, and practitioners working in this area have often lacked opportunities for shared learning, platforms from which to address key questions and challenges for the field, and concerted avenues within which to publicize the significant contributions of involving religious communities within peacebuilding work. To address this gap, Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP), in coordination with many inter-religious actors and institutions, created the first Inter-Religious Action in Peacebuilding Tract at PeaceCon2018. This achievement was made possible through the significant contribution of key actors who first brought this proposal to AfP in 2017, the work of the AfP's Effective Inter-Religious Action in Peacebuilding program, and the continued support of the GHR Foundation.

Presentations within this tract at PeaceCon2018 addressed such critical and diverse topics as involving religious leaders to improve US police-community relations; answering awkward, controversial, and diverse questions about faith-based peacebuilding, religion, and peace; and understanding the added value of involving religious peacebuilding approaches to humanitarian, development, and nonviolent movements. A significant theme arose across these presentations about the importance of involving religious actors and communities more within peacebuilding work.

Sessions within this tract:

- ***Awkward Questions on Faith-Based Peacebuilding***
- ***Building Trust: Religious Leaders Improving U.S. Policy-Community Relations*** ([Click here to view a recording of this session](#))
- ***Faith-Inspired Nonviolent Action Toward Just Peace***
- ***Religious Peacemaking – Real or an Oxymoron?***
- ***What's Faith Got to Do with It? Inter-Religious Peacebuilding at the Humanitarian-Development Nexus***

Off the Record Sessions

While we wish it were possible to highlight every detail of the conference, AfP respects that some panelists wished for their discussions to not be recorded. However, we still wish to recognize their contributions to such a rich and diverse conference by highlighting their panels below:

- ***Implementing the Stabilization Assistance Review: A Six-Month Status Review***
- ***The Future of Peacebuilding Funding***
- ***Innovating Conflict Prevention: Learning from the Past to Redesign the Future***
- ***Collaborative Learning and Adaptation in Complex Environments: USAID/OTI's Evolution and Current Programmatic Approaches***