

Meaningful participation of WOMEN IN PEACEBUILDING

after a conflict is formally ended



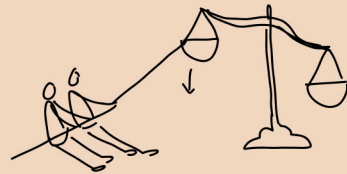
1. **200+**

Women's PEACE TABLES
AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

in **Colombia, Nepal** and the **Philippines**

July 2021 – March 2024

local
regional
national



TRANSFORMING RELATIONSHIPS + STRUCTURES

THROUGH COLLECTIVE HEALING, EMPOWERMENT,
FEMINIST NETWORKS AND EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY

At the Women's Peace Tables and other activities, the women...

2. **5400+**
participants



- in **Nepal** submitted a memorandum to government representatives to demand effective implementation of the transitional justice process
- in the **Philippines** successfully advocated for the inclusion of gender provisions in regional legislation
- in **Colombia** gave testimonies to the Truth Commission and their experiences became part of Colombian history

3. WHO BECAME
MULTIPLIERS
in their **communities**
and **networks**

5. LESSONS LEARNED

Access to decision-makers creates accountability, a broader awareness of the experiences of women in armed conflicts and fosters transformations.

Sharing these stories requires **psychosocial support** because of their traumatic impact.

To achieve the desired accountability and ensure non-repetition, **continuous advocacy and networking efforts** are needed.

Addressing past conflicts contributes to the prevention of future violent conflicts.



Meaningful participation of women in peacebuilding after a conflict is formally ended

Together with our partners Comunitar in Colombia, Nagarik Aawaz in Nepal and the Gaston Z. Ortigas Peace Institute in the Philippines we support women in voicing their experiences and demands for peace after an armed conflict is formally ended. By creatively capturing and sharing the lessons we have learned together, we aim for a more sustainable impact of our engagement. This illustration shows the process of change that we achieved between 2021-2024.

We collectively initiated social and structural changes that promote peace. In safe spaces – our Women's Peace Tables – women and LGBTIQ+ people affected by conflict in Colombia, Nepal and the Philippines were able to develop their options for action in various ways. Together, they expanded their knowledge of the provisions of the peace agreements, formulated their demands and developed strategies. An important part of this process was the individual and collective healing of the traumas caused by the conflict. This laid the foundation for the formation of feminist networks, including across ethnic and social divides, which effectively represented their demands and expectations to politicians.

This joint effort not only had a positive impact on relations between different communities, but also on social norms, such as societal expectations regarding the role of women, which are regressing in many places. Thanks to the Women's Peace Tables, 5,400 participants – from rural and urban areas, survivors of violence, ex-combatants, and women and LGBTIQ+ people from different religions and communities – have become multipliers and drivers of social change. They created a broader awareness of the experiences of women and LGBTIQ+ persons in armed conflicts and of the responsibility for past injustices, as seen in the examples from Nepal, Colombia and the Philippines depicted in the accompanying illustration.

In the course of our cross-border programme work, we have found that

- access to people in positions of political power creates accountability and promotes recognition of the diverse experiences of women.
- talking about traumatic events requires psychosocial support so that survivors do not experience re-traumatisation.
- continuous lobbying and networking is needed to repeatedly draw attention to the diverse experiences of those affected by conflict and to prevent a repetition of such events and atrocities.
- the process of dealing with past conflicts contributes to the prevention of future violent conflicts.

