



## EU and UN reinforce cooperation on Peacebuilding and Mediation

***On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011, the European Commission signed an agreement with the United Nations Development Programme to cooperate on a new project aimed at developing national capacities for conflict prevention and conflict resolution in a series of pilot countries. The initiative, which is in line with the 2009 “Concept on Strengthening EU Mediation and Dialogue Capacities”, is funded via a EUR 800,000 grant from the EU under the Instrument for Stability (Peace-building Partnership) and a EUR 200,000 contribution from UNDP.***

This project aims at equipping key national and local actors in the selected countries with skills for constructive negotiation and dialogue. Stakeholders among governments, political parties and civil society will be trained to engage in facilitation and mediation activities as well as to further train their national counterparts in these areas. The development of such internal capacities is key to addressing recurrent tensions and promoting stability.

This project, which will last one year and half, will provide the basis for the establishment of sustainable national mechanisms, fora and/or capacities for internal mediation and conflict management. The EU and UNDP will make sure that these national “infrastructures for peace” that are being supported through this project involve women, respond to their needs and promote their participation in peace processes.

The project will be managed by UNDP’s Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) and UNDP’s country offices in the selected countries. EEAS headquarters and EU Delegations will be closely involved, helping to ensure that this initiative is closely coordinated with EU activities in this area and that the know-how generated becomes available also to the EU. Discussions on the selection of the pilot countries are currently ongoing between UNDP and the EU. In this context, consideration will also be given to enhance potential synergies at national level with the UN “Review of Civilian Capacities (CIVCAP)”.

### **Background**

This activity is funded under the pre- and post- crisis capacity building component of the EU’s Instrument for Stability (IfS). This component – also known as the “Peace-building Partnership” (PbP) – aims to promote and consolidate civilian expertise on peace-building issues. Within the PbP the EU co-operates with a number of implementing partners including with international, regional and sub-regional organizations.

### **For further details, please see:**

[http://eeas.europa.eu/ifs/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/ifs/index_en.htm)

[http://eeas.europa.eu/ifs/pbp\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/ifs/pbp_en.htm)

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