**Positive Peace Project Design Tool**

**Projects in Rotary’s Area of Focus and the Pillars of Positive Peace**

**Rotary and Positive Peace**

Rotary members can think about peace in two ways, thanks to sociologist Johan Galtung: Negative Peace and Positive Peace. Galtung made a distinction between socioeconomic conditions that are ripe with cooperation and harmony (positive) and basic security that brings about the end of violence or fear of violence (negative). Both are necessary, although conventional concepts of peace often focus on the negative state, which includes the absence of war or the lack of direct violence or fear of violence. This short-term thinking about peace focuses merely on ending violence and trauma rather than *building longer-term conditions that enable society to reconcile, unify, and flourish.*

The aims of IEP and Rotary toward Positive Peace emphasize what Rotarians can do to *foster lasting peace*. Positive Peace is a transformational concept because it focuses on what Rotarians *can* do to contribute to the economic and social well-being of their societies, rather than concentrating only on removing threats or negative factors that inhibit peace.

**The Pillars of Positive Peace**

The Pillars of Positive Peace are a set of eight interrelated factors that IEP has *empirically* proven to increase the peacefulness in a community in long-lasting and resilient ways. The Pillars form keystones to understanding peacefulness within and between societies, communities, and nations. The Pillars also provide a framework that is useful for defining the direction and scope of a *project*.

In the design of a Rotary project in any of the areas of focus, the Pillars can provide *points of intervention* and can be analyzed in conjunction with a systems-based approach to better understand the situation of a target community. These *intervention points* are applicable to a range of levels and help Rotarians identify the factors that interact to each other and their relation to the project’s desired outcome.

***To learn more about the Pillars and Positive Peace, we recommend you complete***

***the Rotary Positive Peace Academy (https://rotaryactiongroupforpeace.org/rotary-peace-academy/). You can also connect with your District Peace Committee.***

**Applying the Pillars of Positive Peace to Area of Focus projects and programs**

Interrelatedness or correlation is also a central idea of the eight Pillars of Positive Peace, which states that stable and flourishing societies depend on well-functioning governments, good relations between neighbors, low levels of corruption, acceptance of the rights of others, high levels of human capital, sound business environments, the free flow of information, and equitable distribution of resources. *The transformational power of the Positive Peace Framework starts with understanding how each Pillar depends on the others.* As such, the Positive Peace Framework can be used to plan and implement a project in any area of focus – and ensure, in turn, that the project builds Positive Peace. This process should begin with and/or accompany a needs analysis, *but then examines a problem to understand how each of the eight Pillars influences underlying factors that either help or hinder change efforts.*

**Positive Peace Checklist (Example) –** You can use this simple checklist to think about the Eight Pillars of Positive Peace in your project.

|  |
| --- |
| ***Have you considered how your project relates to / incorporates:*** |
| Pillar of Positive Peace | Examples |
| 1. Well-Functioning Government
 | Did you engage and involve local authorities and local community leaders in project planning and execution? |
| 1. Equitable Distribution of Resources
 | Did you ensure that the project benefit the community as a whole (and not just certain members)? |
| 1. Free Flow of Information
 | Did your project create outreach in communities that may not have access to information? Are project committees transparent and frequently communicating with members on the collection and use of fees to ensure sustainable operations of the project. |
| 1. Good Relations with Neighbors
 | Did you apply and “Do no harm” approach? This means did you think about any potential harmful effects of the project on the social fabric, the economy, and the environment? |
| 1. High Levels of Human Capital
 | Is there a plan to build skills and knowledge among beneficiaries to operate, maintain and repair the project systems. Are their plans to strengthen and to improve the capacities of key local partners, community leaders, as well as state actors and officials? |
| 1. Acceptance of the Rights of Others
 | Did you include overlooked or marginalized groups such as women, young people, the elderly, religious and ethnic minorities in the design and placement of the project? |
| 1. Low Levels of Corruption
 | Did you maintain a standard set of accounts that includes a record and adequate documentation of all transactions? Are the opportunities for stakeholder to discuss concerns and hold others accountable? |
| 1. Sound Business Environment
 | Did you use local materials for the project and purchase equipment and technology from local sources when possible? |

**Positive Peace Checklist –** You can use this simple checklist to think about the Eight Pillars of Positive Peace in your project.

|  |
| --- |
| ***Have you considered how your project relates to / incorporates:*** |
| Pillar of Positive Peace | Yes/No | How? |
| 1. Well-Functioning Government
 |  |  |
| 1. Equitable Distribution of Resources
 |  |  |
| 1. Free Flow of Information
 |  |  |
| 1. Good Relations with Neighbors
 |  |  |
| 1. High Levels of Human Capital
 |  |  |
| 1. Acceptance of the Rights of Others
 |  |  |
| 1. Low Levels of Corruption
 |  |  |
| 1. Sound Business Environment
 |  |  |