Working our way back to peace

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Kofi Annan FOUNDATION
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreword from the Chair</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message from the Executive Director</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the Kofi Annan Foundation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our priorities &amp; areas of work</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our impact 2022</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our key events 2022</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth &amp; Peace: Our work in 2022</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlight Story: Using music schools as platforms for peace in Colombia</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth &amp; Peace: 2023 &amp; beyond</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elections &amp; Democracy: Our work in 2022</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlight Story: Securing the Digital Environment in Kenya ahead of the 2022 Elections</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elections &amp; Democracy: 2023 &amp; beyond</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kofi Annan way: Multilateral cooperation</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlight Story: The Kofi Annan Lecture 2022</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kofi Annan way: multilateral cooperation in 2023 &amp; beyond</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender, equality &amp; inclusion: At the heart of what we do</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kofi Annan Foundation Board</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kofi Annan Foundation Staff</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our funding</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our partners</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finances</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support our work</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Publishing Author:**
Genna Ingold

**Contributing Editors:**
Sofia Anton
Corinne Momal-Vanian
Karen Zamberia

**Designer:**
Stuart Martin | INTRINSIC | intrinsic.cc

**Image Credits:**
Page 18, 21, 23: Liliana Merizalde / Batuta
Page 35: Genna Ingold
Page 37: Oxford Media Library / Shutterstock.com
Page 59: Shutterstock.com
All others Kofi Annan Foundation, Shutterstock non-editorial, Extremely Together.

**Release Date:**
May 2023
FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR

Elhadj As Sy
Chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation Board

Although the world emerged from the Covid pandemic in 2022, the year did not bring the reprieve and recovery we were all hoping for. War, divisions, grandstanding and a lack of foresight and compassion among many leaders have instead given us more deaths, more suffering, more destruction. The impact of the war in Ukraine on food and energy prices around the world and climate disruption have shown once again that our fates - wherever we live - are closely intertwined. Yet many still pretend that they can go it alone and turn their backs on international cooperation.

As always, the most marginalized, the poorest, women, and the young are the most affected. A hundred million people were forced to leave their homes in 2022 because of conflict, violence or persecution, a figure described by UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, as “a record that should never have been set”.

These people, who have lost everything, even sometimes their identity, are crying for peace and normalcy.

We must give them the respect and dignity all deserve. “All of us”, Kofi Annan once said, “not only Presidents and generals, must play a role in building peaceful and stable communities; we cannot be innocent bystanders”. We must find our way back to peace. Our Foundation’s mission, to build on Kofi Annan’s legacy for peace by advancing democracy, youth leadership and international cooperation, has never been as urgent and important. I am deeply grateful, therefore, to the staff of the Foundation who redoubled their efforts in 2022. We were very pleased to welcome Samson Itodo to our Board in 2022. The urgent challenges we face require more inclusive governance at all levels, and his expertise and commitment to the inclusion of young people in politics and to effective leadership bring great value to our work.

I am optimistic. I know that the Foundation can do even more in 2023 to build a fairer, more peaceful world. For that, we need your support.

Elhadj As Sy
"We do not live alone and we cannot survive alone," Prime Minister Mia Mottley said during her inaugural Kofi Annan Lecture, organized in September 2022 in New York. She added: "In the collective are equity, protection and strength. The challenges we face are global and demand a global response."

As new and old conflicts inflict untold suffering on civilians and the pace of climate change accelerates, we need a more democratic, more inclusive and more equitable dispensation. At the global level, this means credible and creative multilateral institutions that can yield bold solutions beyond the current timid pronouncements. At the national level, it means a renewal of democratic institutions so that citizens -including young ones- can contribute not only to the choice of governments through free and fair elections but also to policymaking through innovative mechanisms.

The Kofi Annan Foundation continued to apply an innovation lens to its own work in 2022. We established many new partnerships, tackled emerging challenges (in particular those linked to disinformation and misinformation, whether in Colombia, Kenya, Nigeria, or Europe), developed new tools (an Electoral Vulnerability Index), experimented with new approaches to peacebuilding (through music classes in Colombia), and expanded our youth work to new countries (Niger and Burkina Faso).

We also recognized and supported other innovators, especially in the field of health through the Kofi Annan Innovation Award for Africa and the Women in Innovation Fund. We looked for ways to reach new audiences, through our Kofi Time podcast or new social media channels. And we strived for greater efficiencies.

As we charted this new course, we remained true to Kofi Annan’s values and to his vision of a more peaceful, fairer world, where no one is left behind, democratic principles and the rule of law are upheld, and divides are bridged through dialogue and international cooperation. In 2023, we will mark the fifth year of his passing and will recommit to promoting his legacy of effective, ethical and inspirational leadership.

Corinne Momal-Vanian
About the Kofi Annan Foundation

Our mission:
To build on Kofi Annan’s legacy for peace by advancing democracy, youth leadership and international cooperation.

The Kofi Annan Foundation is an independent not-for-profit organization, established in Geneva, Switzerland in 2007 by former United Nations (UN) Secretary-General and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, the late Kofi Annan. Our board is composed of prominent personalities from the public and private sectors around the world.

We work to build a fairer and more peaceful world, where no one is left behind, democratic principles and the rule of law are upheld, and divides are bridged through dialogue and international cooperation.

Our values
Our work is underpinned by the same courage, integrity and creativity that characterized Kofi Annan’s efforts to resolve even the most intractable of global challenges. Inclusion, diversity and sustainability are at the heart of everything we do.

Our unique strengths
We are agile, fast and trusted. Our biggest assets are our name, our expertise and our network; we cultivate all three.

Our approach
We work closely with partners from international and regional organizations, foundations, universities and civil society. We convene stakeholders around the table, forge coalitions of trusted influence, channel expertise, champion ethical leadership and amplify Kofi Annan’s legacy.

Our impact
Our impact is measured through our influence on key actors, as evidenced by their changes in behaviours, opinions and policies.

We have a proven record of defusing and preventing electoral crises, building the capacity of local and international actors to tackle disinformation, empowering young people and elevating their voices, bringing the plight of victims of violence and discrimination to international attention, and helping divided communities reconcile.

We contribute to policy making, participate in high-level conferences and join campaigns and calls to action.
Our priorities & areas of work

Youth & Peace
Empowering youth to build a peaceful and sustainable future

Elections & Democracy
Turning back the tide of democratic erosion

Multilateralism: The Kofi Annan Way
Advocating for a more effective, inclusive and equitable multilateral system

Covering the following sustainable development goals:
In 2022, we had 330 applicants from across 38 countries in Africa for the Kofi Annan Innovation in Africa Award. Of the 9 finalists, there were 3 winners who each received:

- **EUR250,000** in grant funding, as well as long-term mentoring and access to international networks.

**Our impact in 2022**

In 2022, as part of the expansion of Extremely Together into the Sahel region, we interviewed over 270 youth and 100 community leaders in conflict-affected areas of the two countries to understand the causes of violence and design activities to transform marginalized youth into agents of peace.

We released 9 episodes of our podcast: Kofi Time.

Our most popular episode to date is Multilateralism. The average listener is aged 23-27.

We urged candidates at all levels to commit to appropriate and peaceful online behaviour across SIX KEY AREAS in our Digital Pledge for Kenya.

- **142 Interviews**
- **18** organizations are members of the European Partnership for Democracy, a community of practice for democracy support which we joined in 2022.
- **370 Interviews**
- **1,800 people** tuned in live to watch the first ever Kofi Annan Lecture, delivered by H.E. Mia Mottley.
- **2,000 people** watched the recording after.
- **51% MEN AND 49% WOMEN** across Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Philippines.
- **We worked with 5,666 YOUNG PEOPLE** and reached 9.3 million more through peace projects and campaigns preventing violent extremism online and offline.
- **66%** were from religious and ethnic minorities.
- **64%** were from religious and ethnic minorities.
- **16 youth groups** in the three countries across 10 cities.
- **2,101 YOUNG PEOPLE** trained in peace and gender equality as part of our Voices of Reconciliation project in Colombia.
- **277 children and young people & 106 families** trained in peace and gender equality as part of our Voices of Reconciliation project in Colombia.
- **9.3 million young people** reached across Asia.

We established 16 youth groups in the three countries across 10 cities.

We engaged with 13,489 young people.

**14 organizations** are members of the European Partnership for Democracy, a community of practice for democracy support which we joined in 2022.

**2,000 people** tuned in live to watch the first ever Kofi Annan Lecture, delivered by H.E. Mia Mottley.

**60 experts** gathered in Dakar for a Colloquium on Democracy in West Africa to examine how to shore up democratic standards in the region.

**600** young people were trained in peace and gender equality as part of our Voices of Reconciliation project in Colombia.

**9.3 million young people** reached across Asia.

We trained 2,101 YOUNG PEOPLE and our trainees carried out:

- **16** youth groups in the three countries across 10 cities.
- **40 SUCCESSFUL YOUTH-LED INITIATIVES** in the three countries.
- **Of their members, 44% were women & 66% were from religious and ethnic minorities.**
**Some key actions in 2022**

---

**Recommitting West Africa to Democracy**

West Africa has seen one of the fastest deterioration of democratic standards in the world since 2015. Our OpEd in January examined how the region can recommit to democracy.

**Peace is Possible: A Statement**

As Russia invaded Ukraine, we released a statement calling for action.

**Building more resilient democracies across the EU**

In March, we held a stakeholder discussion in Brussels on the European Democracy Action Plan.

---

**Launch of Kofi Time: The Podcast**

Regarded as one of the modern world’s icons of diplomacy, what is Kofi Annan’s legacy today? What can we learn from him, and how can we prepare for tomorrow based on his vision for a better world?

In April, we launched our first podcast: Kofi Time. Hosted by Ahmad Fawzi, one of Kofi Annan’s former spokespersons and Communication Advisor, each episode examines how Kofi Annan tackled a specific crisis and its relevance to today's world and challenges.

---

**Expanding our Youth Leadership Programme**

In May, we went to Niamey, where we laid the foundations for the expansion of Extremely Together into the Sahel region by identifying partner organizations in Niger and Burkina Faso.

---

**Youth: The Missing Piece for Peace & Security**

Young people represent the largest demographic dividend in most conflict-affected countries, yet they are often excluded in peace processes. To raise awareness of this issue, we co-hosted a side event at the Munich Security Conference in February on why youth matters for peace and security.

---

**Youth Leading the Way to Peace: A Guide**

In May, together with our local partners from South and Southeast Asia, we held a launch event in Brussels where we presented the good practices and recommendations to the EU, Member States and civil society representatives. The “Building Peace Together” guide was downloaded more than 300 times.

---

**We welcomed 12 new Changemakers from 11 countries around the world**

In June, we announced the 2022 cohort of Kofi Annan Changemakers - a group of young leaders, all under the age of 30, selected to be part of the Kofi Annan Changemakers programme.

---

**96.9%**

of those trained reported an increase in knowledge & understanding of PVE & violent extremism causes.

---

**Over 270 youth & 100 community leaders**

were interviewed to understand the causes of violence & design activities to transform marginalized youth into agents for peace!
Working to achieve SDG3 (Good Health & Wellbeing) in Africa
In July, the Federal Chancellery of Austria, together with its partners, the World Food Programme Innovation Accelerator, the Austrian Development Agency and the Kofi Annan Foundation, awarded the first-ever Kofi Annan Award for Innovation in Africa to three African start-ups. Each winner received 250,000 EUR in grant funding, mentorship and support.

A Digital Pledge for Kenya
In August, as Kenyans entered the final stretch of their electoral cycle, the Centre for Multiparty Democracy and the Kofi Annan Foundation urged candidates at all levels to pledge to appropriate and peaceful online behaviour to ensure that Kenyans once again have the opportunity to select their leaders free of intimidation, threats and violence.

The Inaugural Kofi Annan Lecture
On 23 September 2022, the Kofi Annan Foundation, International Peace Institute, Open Society Foundations and International Crisis Group co-hosted the inaugural event in the Kofi Annan Lecture Series featuring H.E. Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados.

The Kofi Annan Geneva Peace Address
The Kofi Annan Foundation, Geneva Graduate Institute and Geneva Peacebuilding Platform hosted the second Kofi Annan Geneva Peace Address in November 2022. The Address was delivered by Elena Zhemkova, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Russian human rights organisation Memorial, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2022.

Discussing democracy at the United Nations
In October, the Kofi Annan Foundation and the European Public Law Organisation (EPLO) organized a fresh and honest conversation at the UN in Geneva to explore how democratic aspirations and values are expressed in Sub-Saharan Africa, and possible solutions and systems, policies and practices that can deliver on these aspirations.

Recommendations for free & fair elections
In November, the Foundation and CMD-Kenya, supported by UNDEF, convened a post-election review roundtable with local and international election observer missions and key election stakeholders in Nairobi. In December, we released a report summarising the actionable recommendations for government, political parties, media, civil society, and the donor community.

Over 1,500 participants in-person and online!
Even though young people are not a homogeneous group, they are uniquely placed to bring positive change in society. Social media and new technologies are embedded in young people’s lives, and that knowledge can be used to catalyze collective action. Therefore, youth is in a central position to drive positive transformation, acting as key agents for development and peace. Even though young people are not a homogeneous group, they are uniquely placed to bring positive change in society.
We have established Extremely Together national chapters in Somalia, Uganda, Pakistan and the Philippines, and we are working with local partners in the Sahel to develop chapters in Burkina Faso and Niger.

**Extremely Together – Asia**
Following 24 months of regional activities in South and Southeast Asia, we published a guide on good peacebuilding practices for young people and their allies, based on the project experiences and lessons learned from the region. The publication, alongside concrete recommendations to the European Union, was presented at several dissemination events locally, regionally and in Brussels. The guide also served as the basis for a video toolkit series which was launched and will be used for future Extremely Together training on preventing violent extremism.

**Extremely Together – Sahel**
Following our scoping missions in 2021, we have started work to establish two new Extremely Together chapters in the Sahel region (Niger and Burkina Faso), a region where populations struggle with the combined impact of climate change, organized crime, heightened activity by violent extremist groups, food insecurity and deficient governance. In 2022 we forged partnerships with youth associations from Niger and Burkina Faso and we co-designed with them the strategy for Extremely Together in the region.

**Voices of Reconciliation**
The Kofi Annan Foundation has partnered with Fundación Nacional Batuta and Alianza para la Paz to strengthen Colombian youth’s resilience to violence through music education. “Voices of Reconciliation and Equality” uses music centers as platforms to promote peace, reconciliation and gender equality with children, adolescents and their families, and build community resilience to violence in two communities most affected by violence – Saravena in Arauca and Puerto Asis in Putumayo. Building on the project success, we the partners are consolidating a model for music education that can be replicated in over 230 more locations across Colombia.

**Kofi Annan Changemakers**
The Kofi Annan Changemakers is an annual programme for selected young people from around the world to dialogue with senior leaders and experts, build their capacity for positive action and perpetuate Kofi Annan’s vision and values. With each programme we expand our community of young people carrying forward Kofi Annan’s values.
Rosaura Peña Rivero is an 11-year-old girl living in Arauca, Colombia. Rosaura is one of the hundreds of children being trained as part of the “Reconciliation and Equality” project from the Kofi Annan Foundation, Alianza para la Paz and Fundación Nacional Batuta. In this project, Rosaura and other participants are learning about peace, tolerance, and gender equality through the medium of music. Rosaura’s municipality of Arauca is considered one of the most violent areas in Colombia, along with Puerto Asís in Putumayo. In these municipalities, local communities are highly vulnerable to armed groups and forced displacement. The multiple clashes and conflicts disproportionately affect young people, who are prime targets for recruitment by armed groups. This phenomenon has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which brought about the closure of schools and increased insecurity and poverty.

In addition, young people from these municipalities are exposed to high levels of domestic and sexual violence in their families and communities. According to the Colombian Medical Examiner’s Office, sexual violence has increased by 19.3%, and domestic abuse has increased by 25.8% since 2021 in Colombia. These statistics mean that a girl or woman suffers domestic abuse every thirty seconds.

“I believe we should all have the same opportunities, the same rights.”
– Rosaura Peña Rivero

With the support of the Migros Aid Fund and the Republic and the State of Geneva, “Voices of Reconciliation” was launched in 2022 as a response to this situation of violence affecting children and adolescents. Peace and gender training, dialogue sessions, musical practice, psycho-social support and an awareness campaign have helped young people most affected by violence, as well as their families and the local authorities, improve social cohesion and resilience in their communities. These activities have also enabled the children and youth in the music centers to build a sense of shared belonging and envision a more peaceful future for Colombia.

Our broader objective is to strengthen cooperation between local authorities, national institutions, and civil society organizations to create a strategy for the prevention of violence and an ecosystem of protection against violence. In 2023-2024, the Kofi Annan Foundation and its partners want to expand the programme to 14 municipalities, and ultimately to the 231 Fundación Nacional Batuta music centers in Colombia. With additional funding, we can impact thousands of children, families, and communities across the country.
YOUTH & PEACE: OUR WORK IN 2022

Building an Environment of Peace
Strengthening youth resilience to climate change and environmental degradation in the context of persisting violence and armed conflict.

In conjunction with the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens and local youth organizations leading the Extremely Together Chapters, we will engage with marginalized youth aged 15-30 in Somalia, Uganda, the Philippines, Pakistan, Burkina Faso, and Niger.

Bridges to Peace in Uganda
Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Uganda.

Uganda has been experiencing increased terrorist attacks by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF). As a response to this concerning situation, over the course of 18 months, the Kofi Annan Foundation and its partner Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum will carry out a series of urgent interventions to strengthen local capacities for peace in the areas most affected by violence.

Impact in Numbers

- Over 46 representatives of local authorities, national institutions and civil organizations engaged in dialogue to create a strategy for a protective environment for children, adolescents, and young people.
- Relationships between students have improved, girls have demonstrated increased participation in school activities and students have shown increased capacities to manage disputes peacefully both at home and within the music schools.
- Close to 5,000 community members have been reached through an advocacy campaign to raise awareness of violence prevention, gender-based violence and avenues for peace and reconciliation.

- 277 children and young people, 106 families and Batuta music teachers and national staff have been trained in peace and gender equality.
- The children have organized 36 community concerts.
- 277 106

- Batuta music teachers and national staff have been trained in peace and gender equality.
- The children have organized 36 community concerts.
- Close to 5,000 community members have been reached through an advocacy campaign to raise awareness of violence prevention, gender-based violence and avenues for peace and reconciliation.

Listen to Youth & Peace: Then & Now
Kofi Time with Hajer Sharief & Jeremy Gilley | Episode 7

Related content

- Voices of Reconciliation
- Impact in Numbers
- Bridges to Peace in Uganda
- Youth & peace: 2023 & beyond
- Learning more about the Bridges to Peace Project on our website

Scan to hear Kofi Time Episode 7 on Apple Podcasts
Scan to hear Kofi Time Episode 7 on Spotify

Listen to Youth & Peace: Then & Now
Kofi Time with Hajer Sharief & Jeremy Gilley | Episode 7
Elections & democracy: our work in 2022

We advise countries on how to strengthen the integrity and legitimacy of their electoral processes and avoid election-related violence.

Our Electoral Integrity Initiative seeks to address collaboratively with other experts the political challenges that undermine elections.

Defending Democracy in the Digital Age

Bringing recommendations to governments, businesses and civil society to protect democracy from digital threats, including polarization, hate speech, disinformation, political advertising and foreign interference.

We are working to help implement the recommendations of the final report from the Kofi Annan Commission on Elections and Democracy in the Digital Age (KACEDDA), including by developing an Electoral Vulnerability Index, a new tool to Predict Election-Related Violence with the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Institute, and promoting the European Democracy Action Plan.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE KACEDDA FINAL REPORT AND SEE THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE
Elections & Democracy: Our Work in 2022

Bringing recommendations to governments, businesses and civil society to protect democracy from digital threats, including polarization, hate speech, disinformation, political advertising and foreign interference.

In view of the recommendations set out in the Kofi Annan Commission on Elections and Democracy in the Digital Age in 2019, the Kofi Annan Foundation has sought to support democracies around the world such as Kenya which are grappling with the risks posed to their democracies by digital technologies. The Foundation and partner Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) Kenya supported various activities in the lead up to the 2022 elections, designed at securing Kenya’s electoral integrity in the digital age. These included a post-election review roundtable, bringing together election observer missions and key election stakeholders to discuss and agree upon the common issues that arose during the Kenyan elections and draw up key recommendations and lessons learnt. The findings add to a growing body of literature on the Kenyan election system’s problems and how to solve them.

READ THE KENYA 2022 POST-ELECTION REVIEW ROUNDTABLE REPORT ON OUR WEBSITE

Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII)

A network of organizations and individuals who share a common concern for the unaddressed political challenges that undermine elections, especially in countries that have recently emerged from, or are experiencing, prolonged political instability.

We continue to nurture our community of electoral experts and host meetings twice a year, which provide the opportunity for exchanges of information on country situations and emerging challenges for electoral integrity.

DISCOVER THE MEMBERS OF THE EII ON OUR WEBSITE

Political Leadership Initiative

Establishing a global network of institutions building effective and ethical political leadership to respond to current and future governance challenges. In cooperation with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Apolitical Foundation and NexusVesting.

In December 2022, we organized a workshop on political leadership, bringing diverse actors together to deepen and broaden our collective understanding of the complexities that political leaders face and develop mechanisms to improve their preparedness, support, and accountability. The workshop identified opportunities for further cooperation among relevant and committed partners who are working to build effective and ethical political leadership.

READ MORE: “THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS THE CORE OF DEMOCRACY.”

Coalition for a democratic reform in West Africa

Concerned at the retreat of democracy in West Africa, we have continued to work in 2022 to raise awareness of this trend and encourage regional organizations, governments and civil society to strengthen democratic norms and practices. Following our high-level conference in Accra in 2021, we organized an expert colloquium in Dakar in September 2022 with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Open Society Initiative – West Africa (OSIW), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) to examine how West Africa can shore up democratic standards in the region, in particular through the development of new norms on term limits. Over sixty experts and practitioners from the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS, think tanks, political parties and academia discussed regional trends and how to reverse them.

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC NORMS AND PRACTICES

Coalition for a democratic reform in West Africa

Concerned at the retreat of democracy in West Africa, we have continued to work in 2022 to raise awareness of this trend and encourage regional organizations, governments and civil society to strengthen democratic norms and practices. Following our high-level conference in Accra in 2021, we organized an expert colloquium in Dakar in September 2022 with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Open Society Initiative – West Africa (OSIW), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) to examine how West Africa can shore up democratic standards in the region, in particular through the development of new norms on term limits. Over sixty experts and practitioners from the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS, think tanks, political parties and academia discussed regional trends and how to reverse them.

READ MORE: “THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS THE CORE OF DEMOCRACY.”

Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII)

A network of organizations and individuals who share a common concern for the unaddressed political challenges that undermine elections, especially in countries that have recently emerged from, or are experiencing, prolonged political instability.

We continue to nurture our community of electoral experts and host meetings twice a year, which provide the opportunity for exchanges of information on country situations and emerging challenges for electoral integrity.

DISCOVER THE MEMBERS OF THE EII ON OUR WEBSITE

Political Leadership Initiative

Establishing a global network of institutions building effective and ethical political leadership to respond to current and future governance challenges. In cooperation with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Apolitical Foundation and NexusVesting.

In December 2022, we organized a workshop on political leadership, bringing diverse actors together to deepen and broaden our collective understanding of the complexities that political leaders face and develop mechanisms to improve their preparedness, support, and accountability. The workshop identified opportunities for further cooperation among relevant and committed partners who are working to build effective and ethical political leadership.

READ MORE: “THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS THE CORE OF DEMOCRACY.”

Coalition for a democratic reform in West Africa

Concerned at the retreat of democracy in West Africa, we have continued to work in 2022 to raise awareness of this trend and encourage regional organizations, governments and civil society to strengthen democratic norms and practices. Following our high-level conference in Accra in 2021, we organized an expert colloquium in Dakar in September 2022 with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Open Society Initiative – West Africa (OSIW), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) to examine how West Africa can shore up democratic standards in the region, in particular through the development of new norms on term limits. Over sixty experts and practitioners from the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS, think tanks, political parties and academia discussed regional trends and how to reverse them.

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC NORMS AND PRACTICES

Coalition for a democratic reform in West Africa

Concerned at the retreat of democracy in West Africa, we have continued to work in 2022 to raise awareness of this trend and encourage regional organizations, governments and civil society to strengthen democratic norms and practices. Following our high-level conference in Accra in 2021, we organized an expert colloquium in Dakar in September 2022 with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Open Society Initiative – West Africa (OSIW), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) to examine how West Africa can shore up democratic standards in the region, in particular through the development of new norms on term limits. Over sixty experts and practitioners from the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS, think tanks, political parties and academia discussed regional trends and how to reverse them.

READ MORE: “THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS THE CORE OF DEMOCRACY.”

Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII)

A network of organizations and individuals who share a common concern for the unaddressed political challenges that undermine elections, especially in countries that have recently emerged from, or are experiencing, prolonged political instability.

We continue to nurture our community of electoral experts and host meetings twice a year, which provide the opportunity for exchanges of information on country situations and emerging challenges for electoral integrity.

DISCOVER THE MEMBERS OF THE EII ON OUR WEBSITE

Political Leadership Initiative

Establishing a global network of institutions building effective and ethical political leadership to respond to current and future governance challenges. In cooperation with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Apolitical Foundation and NexusVesting.

In December 2022, we organized a workshop on political leadership, bringing diverse actors together to deepen and broaden our collective understanding of the complexities that political leaders face and develop mechanisms to improve their preparedness, support, and accountability. The workshop identified opportunities for further cooperation among relevant and committed partners who are working to build effective and ethical political leadership.

READ MORE: “THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS THE CORE OF DEMOCRACY.”

Coalition for a democratic reform in West Africa

Concerned at the retreat of democracy in West Africa, we have continued to work in 2022 to raise awareness of this trend and encourage regional organizations, governments and civil society to strengthen democratic norms and practices. Following our high-level conference in Accra in 2021, we organized an expert colloquium in Dakar in September 2022 with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Open Society Initiative – West Africa (OSIW), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) to examine how West Africa can shore up democratic standards in the region, in particular through the development of new norms on term limits. Over sixty experts and practitioners from the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS, think tanks, political parties and academia discussed regional trends and how to reverse them.

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC NORMS AND PRACTICES

Coalition for a democratic reform in West Africa

Concerned at the retreat of democracy in West Africa, we have continued to work in 2022 to raise awareness of this trend and encourage regional organizations, governments and civil society to strengthen democratic norms and practices. Following our high-level conference in Accra in 2021, we organized an expert colloquium in Dakar in September 2022 with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Open Society Initiative – West Africa (OSIW), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) to examine how West Africa can shore up democratic standards in the region, in particular through the development of new norms on term limits. Over sixty experts and practitioners from the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS, think tanks, political parties and academia discussed regional trends and how to reverse them.

READ MORE: “THE FUTURE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON A CRISIS THAT AFFECTS THE CORE OF DEMOCRACY.”
Securing the Digital Environment in Kenya ahead of the 2022 Elections

*In Kenya, the use of digital technologies in electoral contexts has steadily increased. The August 2022 general elections arguably had the highest level of campaigning through social media in the country's history. While this has yielded several benefits in the way of enhanced civic participation and inclusion, the outcome of social media use has not always been positive due to the spread of misinformation, the incitement to violence and the harassment of women.

In July 2022, representatives of the four Presidential candidates and members of political parties met in Nairobi, Kenya, under the auspices of the National Integration and Cohesion Commission to sign the Political Decency and Peace Charter. In doing so, they committed to running peaceful campaigns, devoid of violence, hate speech and discrimination, and based on the principles of leadership and integrity enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution. At the same time, they committed to the Mkenya Diama Leadership Pledge, confirming their responsibility to run value-based campaigns, abstain from violence and adhere to electoral due process.

Such pre-election commitments are becoming increasingly common and can be a powerful tool to reduce tensions in countries with a history of fraught elections and political violence—particularly following a contested electoral outcome.

The Transatlantic Commission for Electoral Integrity developed a Pledge for Election Integrity which sought to address problematic online behaviour, such as the dissemination of disinformation, use of deepfakes, and increased transparency over coordinated online activity and the use of online political advertising. This Pledge was endorsed by the Kofi Annan Commission on Elections and Democracy in the Digital Age, and over the course of 2022, the Kofi Annan Foundation worked with the Centre for Multiparty Democracy to develop a similar, Kenya-specific pledge for digital behaviour.

Following a months-long multi-stakeholder consultative process, we identified a few short points which can drastically affect the atmosphere in which the elections take place. Of particular importance is the commitment to avoid all forms of gender-based violence, which remains a serious issue in Kenya.

As Kenyans entered the final stretch of this electoral cycle, we took to social media to urge candidates at all levels to pledge to appropriate and peaceful online behaviour to ensure that Kenyans once again have the opportunity to select their leaders free of intimidation, threats and violence.

More specifically, we asked candidates to commit to:

- Avoid all forms of gender-based violence
- Support and promote the pledge
- Ensure transparent and accountable use of social media
- Hold the party leadership accountable for all digital campaigns
- Support the National Election Commission to ensure adherence to the petition
- Commit to monitoring the digital campaign of all candidates
- Share the pledge on social media

We, as a global network of political parties and candidates, pledge to:

- Campaign ethically and transparently
- Abide by the rules and regulations of the Election Commission
- Support and promote the pledge
- Hold the party leadership accountable for all digital campaigns
- Commit to monitoring the digital campaign of all candidates
- Share the pledge on social media

*The pledge was supported by signatures from leaders across political parties and international organizations.*
Elections & democracy: 2023 & beyond

A SELECTION OF PROJECTS WE PLAN TO LAUNCH IN 2023 AND BEYOND

Women and Youth in Democracy Project
Promoting and enabling youth participation in public affairs in Africa
The Foundation, in partnership with the European Partnership for Democracy, Westminster Foundation for Democracy and The Oslo Center, will facilitate the empowerment and inclusion of youth in democratic processes in Africa. We will work with 20 young leaders who will receive training, networking opportunities and mentoring. The chosen young leaders will be tasked with creating an Accountability Toolkit for youth-led organizations.

Nigeria elections 2023
Reinforcing democratic practice
With the support of our local partner, the National Peace Committee, using workshops, pledges and advocacy to build commitment among major stakeholders, including the Independent National Election Commission, political parties, security services, civil society and media to adopt best practices ahead of Nigeria’s 2023 elections.

Pre & Post-Election Roundtables
A series of productive conversations and debates
Providing a neutral space for constructive exchanges on good practices and challenges of electoral democracy, starting with a roundtable in Malaysia in May 2023 with local partner BERSIH on coalition governments.

Electoral Vulnerability Index
A TOOL TO FORECAST ELECTORAL VIOLENCE USING STATE-OF-THE-ART MACHINE LEARNING
The Kofi Annan Foundation is developing an Electoral Vulnerability Index (EVI) with the Varieties of Democracy Institute (V-Dem), a non-profit company established in collaboration with the Uppsala University in Sweden. The EVI is a thematic country-level forecasting tool to predict the likelihood of phenomena such as political violence, coups, riots, large-scale changes to political institutions, and adverse regime change. The index will serve to alert national and international stakeholders such as electoral management boards, political parties, observer groups, and ministries of foreign affairs or development of emergent threats, the explicit nature of these digital threats and enable intervention to address them early in the electoral cycle.

Related content
Listen to Democracy in Africa: Then & Now
Kofi Time with Mohamed Ibn Chambas | Episode 9

Risk of electoral violence in 2023 using the time model ensemble

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Upper 95% Limit</th>
<th>Lower 95% Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cote d'Ivoire</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eswatini</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambie</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Risk of electoral violence in 2023 by the Digital Societies Project full model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Upper 95% Limit</th>
<th>Lower 95% Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cote d'Ivoire</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eswatini</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambie</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Kofi Annan way –
multilateral cooperation

Advocating for a more effective, inclusive and equitable multilateral system. A legacy of effective leadership and multicultural action.

Our engagements aim to build greater awareness of the strategies, policies, values, and approaches that allowed Kofi Annan to promote multilateral solutions to global problems, and of their relevance to today’s challenges. We do this through initiatives such as op-eds, lectures, awards, and exhibitions that commemorate Kofi Annan’s life or are named after him, and that convey his values and sustain his influence on contemporary events.

Kofi Annan Courage in Cartooning Awards
Honouring extraordinary contributions to freedom of expression made by editorial and political cartoonists.

The inaugural Kofi Annan Courage in Cartooning Awards were presented by the Freedom Cartoonists Foundation in Geneva on 3 May 2022 (World Press Freedom Day) to two cartoonists, Vladimir Kazanevsky from Ukraine and Gábor Pápai from Hungary. In the context of the elections in the Philippines and the war in Ukraine, the presence of 2021 Nobel Peace Prize laureates Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov at the award ceremony ensured very high-level visibility for the event.

“Without facts, you can’t have truth. Without truth, you can’t have trust. Without trust, we have no shared reality, no democracy, and it becomes impossible to deal with our world’s existential problems...” – Maria Ressa
Kofi Anan’s call to bring all stakeholders around the table—including the private sector, local authorities, civil society organisations, academia, and scientists—resonates now more than ever with so many, who understand that governments alone cannot shape our future. Podcast host Ahmad Fawzi interviews some of Kofi Anan’s closest advisors and colleagues, including Mark Malloch-Brown, Peter Piot, Alicia Barcena, Catherine Bertini, Michael Moller, Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein and more.

Listen to Kofi Time on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Soundcloud, Google Podcasts and directly on our website: www.kofiannanfoundation.org/podcast

In this exclusive 10-part podcast, Ahmad Fawzi, one of Kofi Anan’s former spokespersons and Communication Advisor, examines how Kofi Anan tackled a specific crisis and its relevance to today’s world and challenges.

Kofi Anan’s Road Safety Award
Honouring outstanding contributions to road safety in Africa.

“Road accidents are no accidents,” said Kofi Anan, who rejected a fatalistic approach to road crashes and encouraged policies and programmes to improve road safety. In March 2022, our Chair, Elhadj As Sy travelled to Ghana to attend the first Kofi Anan Road Safety Award ceremony. Together with United Nations Special Envoy to Road Safety Jean Todt, and Ghana President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufu-Addo, they presented awards to African countries that have made outstanding contributions to road safety in Africa over the past decade. The award will be presented annually.

The Kofi Anan Award for Innovation in Africa
Supporting innovative healthcare solutions in Africa

In July 2022, the Federal Chancellery of Austria, together with the World Food Programme Innovation Accelerator, the Austrian Development Agency and the Kofi Anan Foundation, awarded the inaugural Kofi Anan Award for Innovation (KAAIA) in Africa to three African startups. Kofi Anan Foundation Chair Elhadj As Sy and Kojo Anan participated in the jury awarding the award and attended the ceremony. The KAAIA supports promising African social entrepreneurs with a sustainable business model to develop digital solutions for the common good, honouring Kofi Anan’s legacy and commitment to a more fair, just and equitable world.

Each winner received 250,000 EUR (US$250,000) in grant funding, as well as long-term mentoring and access to international networks. With its focus on rapid digitization on the African continent, this first Award aims to contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal “Good Health and Wellbeing” (SDG3).

DISCOVER THE WINNERS OF THE FIRST KOFI ANAN AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN AFRICA ON OUR WEBSITE
Multilateralism and Democracy

In 2022, the Kofi Annan Foundation used two events to showcase best practices and different democratic models from around the world and build bridges among regions and countries on what has been a divisive issue over the past decade.

In June we organized a discussion on “Strengthening democracy for more effective multilateralism” with the Interparliamentary Union and the Club de Madrid. On United Nations (UN) Day 2022, we hosted a seminar on democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa at the UN Office in Geneva with the European Public Law Organisation (EPLO). The discussion, led by the Permanent Representatives of the Permanent Missions of Botswana and Cabo Verde, explored how democratic aspirations and values are expressed in different countries, and the possible solutions and systems, policies and practices that can deliver on these aspirations. Joined by diplomats and experts from civil society and academia, our panel analysed democratic trends on the continent, assessed how African countries manage challenges to democratic leadership, and addressed critical threats to democracy, from disinformation to the exclusion of young people from public life.

The Kofi Annan Lecture Series

An Annual Lecture championing Kofi Annan’s values

The inaugural Kofi Annan Lecture was delivered by Prime Minister Mia Mottley of Barbados in September 2022. 2,000 people watched the lecture live, and over 7,000 online afterwards. The Kofi Annan Lecture Series is a joint project of the International Peace Institute, International Crisis Group, Kofi Annan Foundation, and Open Society Foundations. The lectures, held in New York each year around the time of the high-level segment of the United Nations General Assembly, provide an opportunity for speakers to set out new ideas and agendas for international cooperation and diplomacy, recalling Kofi Annan’s role in championing rules-based cooperation and sustainable solutions. READ THE FULL LECTURE ON OUR WEBSITE

The Kofi Annan Geneva Peace Address

A high-level lecture on peace held every year as part of Geneva Peace Week.

The inaugural Address was delivered by Nobel Laureate Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former President of Liberia in November 2021. The 2022 Address was delivered on 3 November by Elena Zhemkova, Executive Director of Memorial, 2022 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, Switzerland. Several hundred people, including many students, attended the lecture. When announcing the laureates for 2022, the Nobel Committee noted: “Memorial is based on the notion that confronting past crimes is essential in preventing new ones.” Ms. Zhemkova spoke of the need to record and document past crimes to build a peaceful future, and of the role that civil society can and must play in defending democracy.

READ THE FULL LECTURE ON OUR WEBSITE
During her lecture, Prime Minister Mottley spoke to a combined in-person and virtual audience of over 2,000. Her speech honored Kofi Annan’s legacy and examined some of the greatest challenges facing leaders today, including the pandemic, the climate and energy crisis, and a growing deficit of trust. H.E. Mia Mottley called for social and economic inclusion, debt relief instruments, and a new “truly inclusive” international system.

Her speech highlighted the importance of Kofi Annan’s deeply held values: collective responsibility, global solidarity, rule of law, mutual accountability, and multilateralism.

“The lessons from Kofi Annan’s life and work, actions, and words speak clearly to us, here and now,” she concluded. “We know what we need to do as a global community.”

The Kofi Annan Lecture Series allows speakers to set out new ideas and agendas for international cooperation and diplomacy, recalling Kofi Annan’s role in championing rules-based cooperation and sustainable solutions: peacemaking, peacebuilding, and strengthening the international system.

The Kofi Annan Lecture 2022

On 23 September 2022, during the high-level session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Kofi Annan Foundation, in partnership with the International Peace Institute, Open Society Foundations, and International Crisis Group co-hosted the inaugural event in the Kofi Annan Lecture Series featuring Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados.

The Honourable Mia Amor Mottley, S.C., M.P., became Barbados’ eighth and first female Prime Minister on May 25, 2018. In 2022, Mia Mottley was named one of TIME magazine’s 100 most influential people. Mia Mottley is a vocal advocate for responsible stewardship of the planet and for a new, fairer internationalism.

“The lessons from Kofi Annan’s life and work, actions, and words speak clearly to us, here and now.”

– Mia Mottley

The Kofi Annan way: Multilateral Cooperation in 2023 & beyond

Kofi Annan NextGen Democracy Prize
Recognising exceptional leadership shown by young activists in defending, renewing and promoting democracy

A joint initiative of the Kofi Annan Foundation and the Democracy and Culture Foundation, the Kofi Annan NextGen Democracy Prize will be awarded to a young leader aged between 18 and 30 and presented each year at the Athens Democracy Forum. The prize will recognise exceptional leadership and inspire more young people to commit to the advancement of democracy. An independent judging panel reviews the applications and selects the award recipient. The winner will receive an award of US$ 10,000 and a one-year mentorship with a recognised democracy expert. Each year, the winner will have the opportunity to speak at the forthcoming Athens Democracy Forum and officially pass the award to the next recipient.

The Future is Ours
Protecting future generations
We plan to join forces with the “Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just, and Inclusive Societies” at New York University to support young peacebuilders worldwide in shaping the 2024 United Nations (UN) Summit of the Future and the New Agenda for Peace. Through training in foresight, youth consultations, coalition building and a communication and advocacy campaign, these young peacebuilders would ensure youth perspectives influence how the UN and the Member States protect the interest of future generations.

Related content
At the heart of what we do

At the Kofi Annan Foundation, inclusion, diversity, gender equality, and sustainability are at the heart of everything we do. Tolerance, inter-cultural dialogue and respect for diversity are more essential than ever in a world where people are becoming more and more closely interconnected. Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.

Here is some of the work we do at the Foundation.

1. We say NO to gender-based violence

Kofi Annan Foundation Executive Director Corinne Momal-Vanian is part of the International Gender Champions, a network that brings together decision-makers to break down gender barriers.

2. We encourage gender equality among children & adolescents

The Kofi Annan Foundation, Fundación Nacional Batuta and Alianza para la Paz have partnered to strengthen Colombian youth’s resilience to violence through musical education. The “Voices of Reconciliation and Equality” project uses music to promote peace, build resilience, and encourage gender equality amongst children and adolescents in two communities most affected by violence – Saravena in Arauca and Puerto Asis in Putumayo.

3. We support women-led health innovation start-ups

In 2022, we announced our partnership with the Health Innovation and Investment Exchange and Reckitt to establish the Women In Innovation Fund (WiNFUND), which supports women-led health innovation start-ups to succeed in democratising access to healthcare. In partnership with Tokenproof and other leading organisations and businesses across sectors, WiNFUND is wielding the power of technology and using NFTs to generate funds and drive real change in the healthcare sector. WiNFUND’s NFT collections are designed to help unleash the power of community and raise capital to invest in women-powered innovation that improves access to health and leaves no one behind.
The Kofi Annan Foundation Board

We have an exceptional Board made up of global leaders from around the world.

Elhadj As Sy
Chair of the Board
Former Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

Nane Annan
Nutrition advocate, artist, and former lawyer. Nane Annan is the widow of the late Kofi Annan.

Louise Arbour
Canadian lawyer, prosecutor and jurist. Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and former Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration.

Samson Itodo
Lawyer and democracy activist from Nigeria. Founder of Yiaga Africa, an NGO whose mission is to promote democracy in Africa.

Kyung-wha Kang
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Republic of Korea, Ms Kang was previously United Nations Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator and Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Doris Leuthard
Swiss politician and lawyer. Member of the Swiss Federal Council between 2006 and 2018. She was elected as President of the Swiss Confederation for 2010 and 2017.

Susana Malcorra
Former Foreign Minister of Argentina, former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Field Support and former Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Executive Director of the World Food Programme.
Kofi Annan
Foundation Staff

Each of our team members has shared their favourite quote from Kofi Annan.
For more Kofi Annan quotes and speeches, visit our website.
Genna Ingold
Head of Communications

“We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race.”
Kofi Annan

Laura Kerbidi
Communications Associate

“Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy, and sustainable human development.”
Kofi Annan

Amanda Kutch
Programme Associate: Youth and Peace (left in 2023)

“We have to learn from each other, making our different traditions and cultures a source of harmony and strength.”
Kofi Annan

Teresa Lévigne
Senior Programme Manager: Elections and Democracy

“We will not enjoy security without development, we will not enjoy development without security, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights.”
Kofi Annan

Li Ling Low
Head of Finance and Administration

“Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family”
Kofi Annan

Nelly Martin
Travel and Administration Coordinator

“To live is to choose. But to choose well, you must know who you are and what you stand for, where you want to go and why you want to get there.”
Kofi Annan

Corinne Momal-Vanian
Executive Director

“Each of us must share the pain of all who suffer, and the joy of all who hope.”
Kofi Annan

Declan O’Brien
Head of Elections and Democracy Programme

“There is no single model of democracy, or of human rights, or of cultural expression for all the world. But for all the world, there must be democracy, human rights, and free cultural expression.”
Kofi Annan

Linda Peterhans
Programme Officer: Youth and Peace

“We must uphold the principles of dialogue and tolerance. Without them there is no peaceful exchange of ideas, no way to bring people together, no chance of arriving at mutually agreed solutions.”
Kofi Annan

Maud Roure
Deputy Director for Programmes

“No dispute is so entrenched that it cannot be overcome, and enmity between peoples need not last forever.”
Kofi Annan
Karen Zamberia
Programme Officer:
Elections and Democracy

“All of us, not only Presidents and generals, must play a role in building peaceful and stable communities; and that we cannot be innocent bystanders.”
Kofi Annan

We also want to thank our interns and any staff not listed who supported our work in 2022.

Special Advisors

Alessia Ulfe Bandini
Programme Consultant:
Youth and Peace

“Unless action is taken on climate change, sustainable development will not be achieved.”
Kofi Annan

Alessia Ulfe Bandini
Programme Consultant:
Youth and Peace

“Unless action is taken on climate change, sustainable development will not be achieved.”
Kofi Annan

Sébastien F. W. Brack
Democracy, Elections and European Institutions Advisor

Nicole Curti
Private Resource Mobilization and Financial Partnerships Advisor

Alan Doss
Special Advisor

Michaelene Welsh
Institutional Resource Mobilization & Partnerships Advisor
Our Funding

We wish to thank our funders and private donors for their generous support.

PRIVATE DONORS

Nane Annan | Jenö Staehelin | Gillian Sorensen | Alain Dick | Elhadj As Sy

We would also like to thank our donors who contributed via our website and those who contributed anonymously.

OUR PARTNERS

A selection of our partners in 2022

Alianza para la Paz
Baraza Media Lab
Centre d’Accueil de la Genève Internationale (CAGI)
Center for Multiparty Democracy (CMD) Kenya
Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP)
Cercle Dev
ChangemakerXchange
College of Youth Activism and Development (CVAAD)
Denmark Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
Elman Peace Centre
European External Action Service
European Partnership for Democracy (EPD)
European Public Law Organization (EPLO)
Fundación Nacional Batuta
Greycells
German Youth Delegates to the UN
Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)
Hashtag Generation
HIVE Pakistan
International Crisis Group
International Peace Institute
International Telecommunications Union
Interpeace
Kristiyan-Islamic Peace Library (KRIS)
MakeSense

Major Group for Children and Youth
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
National Peace Committee (Nigeria)
Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers
Open Society Foundations
Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just, and Inclusive Societies
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)
Rupantar
Search for Common Ground
Suudu Andal
The Elephant
The Graduate Institute
The Oslo Center
Uganda Muslim Youth Development Forum (UMYDF)
UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development
Unity Effect
United Nations Association of Germany
United Nations Information Service in Geneva
United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel
Westminster Foundation for Democracy
180 Grad Wende
The Kofi Annan Foundation collaborates with a variety of other organisations, allowing it to operate with a modest annual budget. For the fiscal year 2022, its annual expenditure was 2.6 million*.

**2022 Expenses**

**TOTAL**

CHF 2.6 million

**2022 Sources of Funds**

**TOTAL**

CHF 2.6 million

The Foundation provides transparent and detailed financial and narrative reports on its activities. Grants are received on the understanding that the Kofi Annan Foundation’s integrity will not be put at risk.

*Unaudited*
The Kofi Annan Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organisation under Swiss law funded by public and private donors. Our income is not guaranteed, and without financial contributions from individuals, foundations, governments, and other institutions, we cannot carry out our work.

We actively seek support from individuals and organisations who share our values and who wish to invest in peace, development and human rights.

- Do you want to help build democratic, resilient societies?
- Do you have an active interest in an issue that the Foundation addresses?
- Do you want to support our programmes or projects?