Good Practices in Peace building
(SSC in the Arab Region)

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South South Cooperation (SSC)

What
- exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between countries of the global south

Why
- to accelerate sustainable human development
- to improve quality of life

When
- 1955 – first SSC (Asian – African) Conference in Indonesia
- 1978 – UN establishes SSC Unit
- 1990s – SSC begins to influence southern development

How
- replication of Good Practices
The Target SDG in our context dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.
Arab Region

**Africa**

1. Algeria  
2. Comoros  
3. Djibouti  
4. Egypt  
5. Libya  
6. Mauritania  
7. Morocco  
8. North Sudan  
9. Somalia  
10. Tunisia

**Arabia**

1. Bahrain  
2. Iraq  
3. Jordan  
4. Kuwait  
5. Lebanon  
6. Oman  
7. Palestine  
8. Qatar  
9. Saudi Arabia  
10. Syria  
11. UAE  
12. Yemen
Good Practices

“a practice that has been proven to work well and produce good results, and is therefore recommended as a model. It is a successful experience, which has been tested and validated, in the broad sense, which has been repeated and deserves to be shared so that a greater number of people can adopt it.”

-- FAO
Peace Initiatives in the Arab Region

Unfortunately the Arab world is strife with conflict and violence:

• A legacy of the colonial era which created artificial country borders drawn with little consideration for ethnic cohesion
• A result of proxy wars for control of resources and power

However where there is unrest, there are also amazing indigenous peacebuilding efforts by those who live the ground reality and want to convert their trauma into triumph in the face of daunting challenges. These initiatives are worth reviewing and replicating via the SSC process.
Peace Initiatives - Jordan

Generations for Peace (GFP), est. 2007

GFP is a global non-profit peace-building organisation dedicated to sustainable conflict transformation at the grassroots. Generations For Peace empowers volunteer leaders of youth to promote active tolerance and responsible citizenship in communities experiencing different forms of conflict and violence.

Carefully-facilitated sport-based games, art, advocacy, dialogue and empowerment activities provide an entry point to engage children, youth and adults, and a vehicle for integrated education and sustained behavioural change.

www.generationsforpeace.org
Peace Initiatives - Sudan

Women’s groups were able to organize and pressure both sides to adopt a gender-conscious peace process. Part of their success was attributed to assistance from US-supported NGOs like the National Democratic Institute (NDI) who conducted a series of workshops in 2004 for women to build the capacity and to develop the skills necessary to play an active role in the government as well as the peace building process. As a result, gender empowerment was regarded as a requisite tool of international peace building. The final Comprehensive Peace Agreement had over 70 sections that refer to women, including the recognition of gender-based violence and the recommendation that women be involved in drafting legislation.

http://www.mwcoalition.org/quotas/id4.html
In 2013, the African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) initiated a dedicated programme aimed at supporting the realisation of the Six Pillar Strategy (safety, reconciliation, economic recovery, governance, rule of law and amicable regional relations) of the Somali Federal Government. ACCORD’s Somali Initiative seeks to contribute to long-term stability, and to better capacitate the administrative elements of the country’s Federal Government.

Peace Initiatives - Palestine

The Arab Peace Initiative is a call for an end to the Arab–Israeli conflict where Arab states will recognise Israel in return for a Palestinian state, its capital in East Jerusalem, in line with the pre-1967 war borders.
It was endorsed by the Arab League in 2002 at the Beirut Summit and re-endorsed at the 2007 Arab League summit and at the 2017 Arab League summit.

Arab American University, Palestine offers a Master in Conflict Resolution and Development as a multidisciplinary program, concentrating on the different aspects of conflict resolutions of its different levels. Its primary purpose is to enrich Palestinian society with groups of graduates holding master degrees in conflict resolution and development, which carries a high societal value is in peaceful solutions of conflicts, whether of internal, community or an international nature.

http://www.aauj.edu
Peace Initiatives - Lebanon

Based in Beirut, Lebanon, with a regional outlook, FDCD offers workshops, conferences, and dialogue sessions to enable society to approach conflicts in a non-violent way. Its vision is to reach an enlightened Arab World, where political views, ethnicities and religions are incorporated into a richly diverse culture of peace and dialogue, respecting and promoting the human rights of all citizens.

Some of its projects include:
• Empowering Women Countering Extremism (EWCE)
• Cycle for Peace
• The Piano Initiative
• Singing for Peace

http://www.fdcd.org/
The Dar Al-Salaam Organisation (‘DASO’) was founded in 1997 by a spiritual leader who was moved to work as a peace activist after surviving the blast from an extremist’s bomb. Violence, he believed, is brought about mostly from ignorance, and can be resolved through dialogue.

Eventually his work was mainly consumed in two areas: firstly, as a mediator between tribal disputes and conflicts, and; secondly, as a proponent of what is technically known as ‘micro-disarmament’, that is, the counter-proliferation and reduction of ‘small arms’ or ‘light weapons’. These were the most acute violent threats in Yemen.

In 2016 it conducted a peace training of religious leaders in Yemen in conjunction with the Washington DC based International Center for Religion and Diplomacy (icrd.org)

http://www.dasoyemen.org/
In 2013, BWA launched the ‘Women embracing peace’ project to promote a culture of peace in the community. Its latest training workshop on the culture of peace titled ‘Sustainable peace .. from inside out’ was for Al Kawthar orphan care in March 2017. Women attending said that they benefitted from the training and gained good understanding of the concept of peace and ways and means of implementing it in their daily life.

http://bahrainws.org/
Peace Initiatives – Saudi Arabia

King Salman Center for Global Peace to be established in Malaysia to find solutions to the crises in Syria and Yemen, as well as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
Summary

The following **Good Practice Initiatives** replicated via **SSC** can contribute to increased **global peace** via our governments, private sector, academia and civil society.

- **Youth Focussed**
- **Interfaith initiatives**
- **Peace Camps**
- **Women Focussed**
- **Peace Capacity Building**
- **Peace Curricula in Academia**
- **Peace Centers / Thinktanks for Research**
- **Community Based**

*Empowered lives. Resilient nations.*
Peacekeeping Research

Conflict Removal from
Peacekeeping Research

- Root Cause Analysis Research
- Negotiation & Mediation Research
Peacekeeping Research

All research requires institutionalization the need for which was the major outcome of the MENAPAR Research Agenda Project
Final Note

If you want peace, work for justice.

Slavery ended in the USA.
Apartheid ended in South Africa.

Injustice can end in Palestine!
Thank You.