Towards a fairer, more peaceful world.
The Kofi Annan Foundation mobilises political will to overcome threats to peace, development and human rights.

In most cases the expertise and evidence needed to solve pressing problems such as poverty, armed conflict and poor governance already exist. What holds us back is lack of leadership or political will to identify and deliver solutions.

The Foundation mobilises those who are in a position to influence and bring leadership to the world’s most pressing problems.
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Dear Friends,

2015 was marked by several crises. In my view these can be traced to an all-too-common lack of political will, and the failure of leaders to overcome polarising and partisan interests. We need to recognise that in today’s globalised world our destinies are ever more interdependent.

Since retiring from the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have devoted my time to generating the political will required to overcome threats to peace, development and human rights. My Foundation was established for that purpose.

We use a range of instruments: sometimes private and discreet diplomacy, at other times public advocacy. In all that we do, from promoting electoral integrity to conflict mediation and combatting hunger, we mobilise those with influence to bring about a fairer, more peaceful world.

We work towards this goal with the support of a wide range of partners and funders. I am grateful to all of them. The Foundation’s work would not be possible without their encouragement.

Looking ahead, the Foundation will continue to engage on issues of global and regional significance in pursuit of our fundamental goal: a fairer and more peaceful world.

Sincerely,

Kofi Annan
Chairman of the Board
Review of the year
Alan Doss

What does the illegal trade in drugs have in common with failing peace agreements in Africa? Or continued malnutrition, even in some of Africa’s fastest growing economies, with election-related violence? In each case, as with so many other crises in our world, they have in common a lack of political will and a failure of leadership.

In 2015, the team at the Kofi Annan Foundation has focused on energising leadership around six of the most emblematic challenges of our time, all of which threaten to undermine our societies.

In ‘Changing drug policies’, we collaborated with decision-makers, particularly in West Africa, to adopt evidence-based policies that have been shown to effectively counter the threat drugs pose to public health, governance and social development.

In ‘Building lasting peace’, we are cooperating with governments to tackle the legacy of decades of strife and lay the foundations for lasting peace.

In ‘Mediation and crisis resolution’, we have worked with a number of States to help them tackle their internal differences, and advocated for an effective and humane approach to the unfolding refugee crisis.

In ‘Promoting youth leadership’, we launched ‘Extremely Together’, an initiative for young people by young people to counter the scourge of extremism that has damaged many societies around the world.

In ‘Combatting hunger’, we launched the African Food Systems Initiative, empowering smallholder farmers to produce food to supply local and international markets.

In ‘Supporting democracy and elections with integrity’, we strengthened our Electoral Integrity Initiative, working with countries to bolster the legitimacy of their electoral processes and avoid election-related violence. Crucially, we helped ensure a smooth and legitimate unfolding of the presidential elections in Nigeria.

In 2016 we are scaling up these initiatives.

This work depends on the small team of staff at the Kofi Annan Foundation working with various partner organisations. I am deeply grateful to the Foundation staff for their commitment, which is making our goals a reality.

Sincerely,

Alan Doss
Executive Director
Supporting democracy and elections with integrity

Elections are a vital mechanism for ensuring the non-violent transfer of power and the peaceful arbitration of political rivalry. In 2013, the Kofi Annan Foundation launched the Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII). The EII is an informal network of organisations and individuals who, under the umbrella of the Kofi Annan Foundation, 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. Its senior panel includes former heads of state and government leaders from around the world.
The Kofi Annan Foundation and its Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII) advise countries on how the integrity of their electoral processes can be strengthened to avoid election-related violence. It aims to assist countries, especially those emerging from prolonged periods of conflict or repression, to create conditions in which they can transfer power and governance peacefully in a climate of trust.

In 2015, the Foundation followed political developments in several countries, including Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Conakry, Burundi, Malaysia, and Venezuela. Kofi Annan also contributed to public discussions of democracy, including a seminal article on democracy distributed at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Malta.

Before the 2015 elections in Nigeria, the Foundation helped to broker the Abuja Accord, in which the presidential candidates undertook to eschew political violence and hate speech and accept the results of the election. The Accord set a benchmark for holding candidates to account and was respected, leading to the first peaceful transfer of power from one political party to another in Nigeria’s history.

The Foundation and its Electoral Integrity Initiative encouraged and assisted civil society organisations to monitor elections in Guinea-Conakry and Cote d’Ivoire in an effort to promote confidence in the electoral process.

In a bid to shape the policy debate on elections and democracy, the Foundation published the first in a series of policy briefs on building confidence in the electoral process.

We thank Our partners, in particular the National Democratic Institute, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, the Open Society Foundations, the International Crisis Group, and the Carter Centre.
Though the Foundation is often asked to act as an impartial advocate, facilitator or mediator, it intervenes in crises only where it can add real value.
In 2015, the Foundation supported an initiative that highlighted States’ obligations and responsibilities to migrants and refugees, and provided political advice to a number of countries and their political parties, including Ghana, Ivory Coast and Uganda.

It also provided policy support based on monitoring and analysis conducted across countries and thematic areas, aided by an informal network of political and business leaders, multilateral agencies, international NGOs and civil society activists, including women’s groups and faith organisations.

At Kofi Annan’s invitation, the Presidents of Ivory Coast and Ghana met in Geneva in May 2015 to discuss the maritime boundary dispute between the two countries. This informal process ran in parallel to a case before the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea and was hosted by the Foundation.

As Chair of The Elders, Kofi Annan initiated and co-signed a letter with the High Commissioner for Refugees, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Director-General of the International Office on Migration, the Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General for International Migration, which called on EU heads of state to respond to the migrant crisis in accordance with international law. The letter was drafted and coordinated through the Foundation.

Kofi Annan facilitated talks between the leaders of Uganda’s political opposition parties to pave the way for a common electoral platform in the 2016 presidential election.

We thank Our partners, especially the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, the International Crisis Group, and the International Centre for Transitional Justice.
Though it has the potential to be an agricultural powerhouse, a combination of low productivity and an inadequate policy framework make Africa the world’s most food-insecure region. In the context of its advocacy on climate change and its efforts to promote food and nutrition security, the Foundation works to transform African agriculture through policy and operational innovations that aim to increase the productivity and market access of African small-holders.
In 2015, after an extensive consultation, the Foundation convened the African Food Systems Initiative (AFSI), an informal platform of African and multinational corporations, philanthropic organisations, civil society institutions and global food agencies. The AFSI promotes investment in African agriculture and advocates for adequate policies to help smallholder farmers build profitable businesses, while boosting the nutritional quality of their food crops and protecting their environment.

To complement its food systems initiative, the Foundation supports state and civil society initiatives to address climate change and its effects. For example, Mr Annan addressed the interconnected issues of agriculture, food security, and climate change in two major speeches, at the Paris Summit of Conscience for the Climate, hosted by the French Government, and at the 15th International Economic Forum on Africa, hosted by the German Government and the OECD in Berlin.

We thank
Our partners, especially the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the UN World Food Programme.

AFSI, via its partners on the ground coordinated by the UN World Food Programme, has begun assisting Zambian farmers with improving and diversifying their smallholdings and marketing their produce.

Through public and private advocacy, the Foundation is advocating for political and business leaders to scale up investment in African agriculture and food systems.
Changing drug policy

Drug trafficking and drug consumption in West Africa undermine institutions and threaten public health. To develop evidence-based policy recommendations, raise public awareness and put the issue on the political agenda, in January 2013 the Kofi Annan Foundation convened the West Africa Commission on Drugs (WACD). Composed of West African leaders from the political world, civil society, the health sector, the judiciary, and security and law enforcement, the Commission launched its influential report, *Not Just in Transit: Drugs, the State and Society in West Africa*, in 2014. Beyond West Africa, the Foundation supports evidence-based drug policy reform across the globe.
As a member of the Global Commission on Drug Policy, Kofi Annan has continued to promote an informed, science-based discussion of ways to reduce the harm that drugs and overly prohibitionist drug policies cause to people and societies. The West African Commission on Drugs (WACD), created by the Foundation as the Global Commission’s regional affiliate, encourages countries and organisations in the region to implement evidence-based policies. The Foundation acts as the Commission’s Secretariat.

‘Drugs have destroyed many lives, but wrongheaded governmental policies have destroyed many more.’

Kofi Annan

We thank

Our partners, especially the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC).

Kofi Annan’s speech on drug policy on the side-lines of the World Health Assembly was widely cited by those involved in drug policy reform, as it helped shift attitudes to drug dependency from a penal to a health-based perspective.

The Foundation worked with the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC) to produce an open access training toolkit for civil society organisations in West Africa.

WACD Commissioners successfully put drug trafficking and consumption on the agenda of several African governments, including Guinea-Conakry, Nigeria and Togo.
Building lasting peace

Mr. Annan with Colombian President Jose Santos, discussing the development of the country’s peace process.
The Foundation is stimulating debate in the international community on how to deal with the long-term effects of conflict. Working with partners, it has examined the role of truth commissions and is currently studying approaches to reconciliation.

Together with the International Centre for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), in 2015 the Foundation organised a conference on truth commissions in Colombia, opened by Kofi Annan and President Jose Santos. The conference informed Colombia’s ongoing peace process and shared insights on what has worked and not worked in other peace processes worldwide.

At a high-level discussion convened with the African Union in Addis Ababa, the Foundation and ICTJ shared experiences with mediators involved in African peace negotiations.

We thank our partners, especially the International Centre for Transitional Justice and Interpeace.
Promoting youth leadership

More than half of the world’s population is under the age of 30. Though young people tend to be hardest hit by the world’s injustices and will inherit the consequences of today’s decisions, their voices often go unheard. The Kofi Annan Foundation fosters dialogue and leadership among young people by creating forums in which they can express their ideas and propose solutions to major public issues.
Kofi Annan called for more youth engagement to fight climate change, addressing thousands of young leaders at the annual One Young World Conference in Bangkok. At the end of the year, the Foundation agreed on a programme, supported by One Young World and the European Commission, which will work with youth to prevent the spread of extremism. It will become a major programme of the Foundation in 2016.

‘You are never too young to lead.’

Kofi Annan

In December 2015 the Foundation launched the initiative ‘Extremely Together – Young people coming together against violent extremism’. Driven by a panel of ten young leaders, this programme will empower young people to prevent and counter extremism through peer-to-peer engagement and learning.

We thank Our partners, especially One Young World and the European Commission.
Looking forward

The Foundation recorded a number of significant achievements in 2015. It is difficult to overstate the importance of Nigeria’s first peaceful transfer of power, and the Abuja Accords facilitated by Kofi Annan made a vital contribution to that historic moment.

The development of a replicable, well-supported programme to assist Zambian smallholder farmers, and the generation of a serious, evidence-based debate in West Africa on drug use and drug smuggling in the region were also innovative steps forward. The Foundation continues to strengthen its capacity alongside its broad range of partnerships, enabling it to undertake more comprehensive action in support of the values and goals of Kofi Annan.

Looking forward to 2016, the Foundation will continue to make selective interventions to prevent or mediate crises. We will extend our work on peace commissions and lend our support to complex peace processes in Africa and various other parts of the world. We will work towards peaceful and legitimate elections in support of fragile democracies through our Electoral Integrity Initiative (EII).

We will take forward the African Food Systems Initiative for African smallholders in Zambia and begin extending it to other African countries, and will continue to support efforts to promote an evidence-based approach to drugs and drug trafficking in Africa and globally.

Finally, and not least, a major new international initiative called ‘Extremely Together – Young people coming together against violent extremism’ will empower and engage the next generation to prevent and counter violent extremism of all kinds.

In everything we do, our main purpose is to help mobilise political will to overcome threats to peace, development and human rights. We do it by engaging senior political and economic leaders but also voters and members of civil society – you. Please continue to support us as we engage with the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.
The Board

Kofi Annan (Ghana)
Chairman

Diego Hidalgo (Spain)
Founder and Honorary President of FRIDE, Founder of the Club of Madrid and President of DARA

Elisabeth Lindenmayer (France)
Director of the United Nations Studies Programme at Columbia University’s School of International Public Affairs

Carlos Lopes (Guinea-Bissau)
Chairman of the Audit and Finance Committee, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa of the United Nations (ECA)

Thoraya Obaid (Saudi Arabia)
Former Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and a former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations (2000-2010); Member of the Saudi Shura

Oluseye Oduyemi (Nigeria)
Former Director of Management, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Jenö Staehelin (Switzerland)

Staff

Alan Doss
Executive Director

Kelcey Armstrong-Walenczak
Associate Communications Officer

Sebastian Brack
Political Officer

Bijan Farnoudi
Communications Officer

Barbara Goedde
Policy Officer

Abdelmadjid Haddad
Logistics and General Support

Michaeline Kinnersley
Head of Fundraising

Kathryn Kirk
External Relations Officer

Fabian Lange
Associate Research Officer

Stephanie Lewis
Travel Coordinator, Administrative Assistant

Li Ling Low
Finance and Administrative Officer

Natalie McDonnell
Executive Assistant

Declan O’Brien
Associate Research Officer

Tesfai Tecle
Senior Advisor on Food Security

Orla Vandepoortale
Receptionist
Funders

We are a not-for-profit organisation and cannot carry out our work without grants and philanthropic gifts. The Foundation is grateful to all the individuals and organisations whose financial support in 2015 made its work possible. We thank our funding partners for their commitment to creating fairer and more peaceful and prosperous communities.

European Commission
Government of Finland
Government of France
Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
Government of Norway
Government of the State of Qatar
Government of Sweden
Government of Switzerland
USAID
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Mo Ibrahim Foundation
One Young World
Open Society Foundations
Skoll Foundation
Tony Elumelu Foundation
Beijing Huaxia Management College
Ningbo Mengshen Mattress Machinery Co Ltd
Kofi Annan
David and Kathleen MacLennan
Henri Wientjes
H.E. Ardeshir Zahedi

Partners

The Foundation depends greatly for its effectiveness on its relationships and partnerships. Its achievements in 2015 would not have been possible without the support provided by the following partners:

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
The Africa Progress Panel
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Carter Centre
Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
The Elders
European Commission
International Centre for Transitional Justice
International Crisis Group
International Drug Policy Consortium
International Foundation for Electoral Systems
Interpeace
National Democratic Institute
One Young World
World Food Programme
The Foundation partners and collaborates with other organisations to share costs and benefit from economies of scale. It operates on a modest overall annual budget that has averaged CHF 3 million per annum. In the fiscal year 2015, its annual expenditure was CHF 2.85 million.

Expenses allocated to thematic areas in the financial year ending 31 December 2015

The Foundation provides transparent and detailed financial and narrative reports on its activities. It takes particular care to ensure that its funding sources are politically impartial. Grants are received on the understanding that the Foundation’s reputation and the integrity and confidentiality of its work will not be put at risk.

Sources of funds

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Governments</td>
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<td>Foundations</td>
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<td>Private</td>
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<td>Event fees</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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- Mediation and crisis resolution
- Building lasting peace
- Supporting democracy and elections with integrity
- Combatting hunger
- Changing drug policy
- Promoting youth leadership
- Partnership and resource mobilisation
Supporting the Foundation

Funding our work with your philanthropic gifts and grants

The Kofi Annan Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organisation under Swiss law which is funded by a mix of public and private donors. None of our income is guaranteed and without financial contributions from individuals, foundations, governments and other institutions we cannot carry out its valuable work.

We actively seek support from individuals and organisations who share our values and aims and who wish to finance our work.

Do you wish to establish a long-term relationship with the Kofi Annan Foundation?

Do you have a committed interest in a specific issue that the Foundation addresses?

Do you want to support a specific activity of the Foundation?

Do you desire to support urgent responses to unforeseen threats to peace and security by the Foundation?

Please contact us.

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