

# «ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR PEACE IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION»



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RECOMMENDATION OF A REGIONAL PEACEBUILDING PROGRAMME  
BY INTERPEACE AND ITS SIX PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS IN RWANDA,  
BURUNDI AND THE DR CONGO

*PRIVATE SECTOR REGIONAL CONSULTATION ON PSIC II  
NAIROBI, KENYA, WINDSOR HOTEL  
21-22 JUNE 2018*

# Why a regional peacebuilding programme?

- Request from the people, address causes of conflict
- Persistent regional conflict system
- Same conflict dynamics and actors acting across borders
- Rwanda and Burundi partners, four partners in Eastern DRC

# Research – Dialogue - Advocacy

- **Phase I 2013 – 2016, Phase II 2017 - 2020**
  - **Research on «resilience for reconciliation»**
- **Cross-border and in-country dialogue groups**
  - **Trauma healing, youth entrepreneurship, peace education**

# YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMBINED WITH PEACE EDUCATION:

## Nurturing a new generation of peace entrepreneurs in the Great Lakes region

### Why?

- Call by the GL citizens
- UNSC Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security “stresses the importance of creating policies for youth that would positively contribute to peace building efforts, including social and economic development, supporting projects designed to grow local economies, and provide youth employment opportunities and vocational training, fostering their education, and promoting youth entrepreneurship and constructive political engagement”.
  - UN Progress Study on Youth and Peace and Security

# Objectives

- **more youth acting as “peace entrepreneurs” to increase their own economic independence, reduce political manipulations and promote peace values particularly in borderland communities.**
- **supporting “entrepreneurship for peace” among major corporates, business networks, regional organizations and national authorities, through increasing awareness about conflict-sensitive business and support for concrete initiatives**

# Planned processes

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- A group of people, including men and women, are seated in a room with orange walls and yellow curtains. They are facing towards the front of the room where a man in a white shirt is standing and speaking. The room is filled with people, some sitting on white plastic chairs and others on wooden chairs. The overall atmosphere appears to be a formal meeting or training session.
- Youth entrepreneurship for peace – camp (vocational training, basic business education, 50% women participation, peace education)
  - Investors conference: connect corporates and relevant government authorities with youth, promote business plans promoting cross-border peace, raise awareness about entrepreneurship for peace
  - Envisaged for the future: continued coaching for entrepreneurs for peace, especially young women, integrate a peacebuilding perspective in business-related studies, measuring long-term impact, etc

# Recommendations for the PSIC

- ✓ **Include a youth and gender dimension in the discussions (bring those voices to the table)**
- ✓ **Promote awareness-raising, sharing of experiences and best practices at the intersection of private sector and peacebuilding – what is the role of the private sector for peace in the Great Lakes region?**