



KAIROS Women of Courage: Women, Peace and Security

YEAR TWO AT A GLANCE
April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020



"I am a young woman who is aware of her body and her rights. It makes me very happy to be part of the OFP's youth movement, because not only do I learn from art, culture, I stay animated and entertained, I feel that my life has a meaning, a struggle, an expression of transformation." —Organización Femenina Popular (OFP) Youth leader

In Year Two KAIROS *Women of Courage: Women, Peace and Security* partners saw increases in the numbers of participants engage, programs delivered and communities involved, as well as innovative and strategic South-South and South-North gatherings. These positive outcomes were evident in the numbers as well as stories of change that so many participants and partners enthusiastically shared, including the one above.

Year Two also saw progress towards systemic and longer-term changes. Partners reported increases in confidence among participants, measured according to autonomy, communication, resilience and strength, connecting to other people, and ways of thinking. Based on participant feedback, partners also reported positive change in relationship to power structures and advocacy for rights.

KAIROS' WPS program builds on the evidence-based theory of change: when women are provided with opportunities to heal, restore self-esteem and claim their rights, they can become key voices in peace building processes.

Participating partners are: Organización Femenina Popular (OFP) (Colombia), Héritiers de la Justice (DRC), South Sudan Council of Churches – National Women's Programme (SSCC-NWP), and Wi'am: Palestinian Conflict Transformation Centre (West Bank).

Year Two ended in March 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic. Partners responded immediately, reimagining and pivoting programs to address new challenges and vulnerabilities of marginalized communities. Despite different contexts in the various countries, partners reported common trends including surges in domestic and gender-based violence. On March 24 Carlota Salinas, a member of the OFP, was murdered while delivering humanitarian aid. The Year Two annual report is dedicated to her

and all women human rights defenders who lost their lives while advocating for women's rights and justice for victims of gender-based violence.

Global Affairs Canada funding

In 2018, Global Affairs Canada approved funding for this program, injecting \$4.5 million over five years to support the work of grassroots women focused organizations. This funding is made possible with matching funding from KAIROS member churches and development agencies, religious communities and individual donors.

The National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) is no longer funded by GAC but remains an active KAIROS Women of Courage partner.

Year Two results

KAIROS and its partners witnessed significant change in the lives of women survivors of gender-based violence, male allies, program facilitators and human rights defenders.

- 583 women survivors of gender-based violence received psychosocial and medical counselling and care
- 359 women used legal services provided by partners
- 326 women and 141 men participated in workshops on the psychosocial impacts of war
- 1,299 women and 652 men participated in gender awareness training
- 61 human rights training sessions were organized on national and international frameworks (participants included 716 women and 204 men)
- 30 human rights facilitators training workshops were held (648 women participated)
- 164 men participated in advocacy training of which 77 became advocates
- 157 campaigns advocating for legislation, law reform and implementation that related to women, peace and security were organized (54 were directed to male allies in government, multilateral organizations and media)
- 45 communities or municipalities were reached

KAIROS sought to amplify partners' work through media and social media, including 33 articles and blog postings, a Facebook reach of 741K, a Twitter reach of 1.3M, and a total of 157K web-users.





Gatherings and exchanges

In Year Two, thirty staff participated in six South-South and South-North exchanges. The blogs, statements, interviews and collective follow up that resulted from these exchanges are a testament to the shared knowledge, strategies and appreciation of one another's programs. Partners also reported increased knowledge of international human rights frameworks and women, peace and security issues as well as understanding of the Canadian context including Indigenous history and rights.

One indication of success is when partners initiate South-South exchanges. This was the case during International Women's Week when SSCC-NWP hosted an exchange with Héritiers de la Justice in Juba, South Sudan to share experience, knowledge and strategies.

Other highlights include:

- Kelly Campo represented the OFP at the KAIROS Atlantic "Streams of Justice" gathering in Sackville, NB in May. In addition to the stories of women's struggles and resilience, she shared the stories and images of youth activism and the arts in Colombia. Canadian examples of youth activist art were encouraged and present at the gathering.
- KAIROS supported the participation of two staff from Héritiers de la Justice in Equitas International Human Rights (IHR) training in Montreal in June.
- Néné Lubala, program coordinator from Héritiers de la Justice, participated with KAIROS staff in the Women Deliver Conference at Vancouver in June. They attended ten side events.
- KAIROS organized the Nairobi Workshop on Narrative and Financial Reporting from July 14-19. Nine program and finance staff from three partner organizations participated to strengthen reporting capacity.
- In November, representatives from KAIROS member churches met with women's groups supported by Wi'am in four West Bank communities. They learned of their struggles, community development work, and their hope for peace.

- During International Women's Week, Lucy Talgieh, Wi'am's Women's Project Coordinator delivered a webinar about Wi'am's work to the KAIROS network from her home in Bethlehem where she was quarantined. Lucy and KAIROS staff were scheduled to attend the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York City, which was cancelled due to the pandemic.

STORIES OF CHANGE

South Sudan Council of Churches— National Women's Programme:

"Five hundred women attend monthly prayers and other Women, Peace and Security activities ... Most women who have participated in the monthly prayer and fasting activities for peace have courage to speak in public, have become a voice to their families, some are able to influence male allies, especially the pastors from the churches, and many have the courage to speak to media outlets regarding the campaign for peace and justice."

—Testimony from the SSCC-NWP women's monthly prayers for peace

Héritiers de la Justice

"An example of a consequential change is the case of the Ngweshe chieftdom who, in collaboration with the group leader impacted by the Héritiers de la Justice awareness raising, banned various improvised checkpoints and stopped soldiers from harassing women who came to sell food in Bukavu."—Testimony from Héritiers de la Justice programming with local authorities

Wi'am

"Participation has increased tremendously, as the once-shy participants are becoming more vocal. The meetings with groups that started with soft and low voices are now loud meetings filled with energy and interjecting voices. With these confidence-full interjections is also the desire to add recommendations and topics."—From Wi'am Y2 Annual Report

Organización Femenina Popular

"The situation is very difficult because armed actors are trying to entice young people to join the conflict or sell drugs.... But I see the OFP opening spaces to think, but also to have fun, to feel at ease with life and that satisfies me. I am very pleased to be part of this process, to participate in public, collective actions, to bring art to the community and to continue to fight for our dreams and for the voices of young people to be heard and respected."—Testimony of OFP Youth leader

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Value of Project.....	\$5,782,860.00
Total Global Affairs contribution...	\$4,456,516.00
Total KAIROS contribution	\$1,326,344.00
Project start date	April 1, 2018
Project end date.....	Sept. 29, 2023

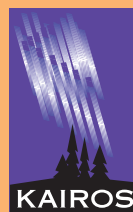
Year Two (2019-2020) financial information

Total project costs	\$835,871
Global Affairs contribution	\$644,157
KAIROS contribution	\$191,714



KAIROS is deeply grateful to its partners for their courage, tenacity and persistent hope, often in the face of extreme risk and adversity. This program would not be possible without the support of member churches, donors and supporters and Global Affairs Canada. For this, KAIROS is profoundly thankful.

KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives



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