

# INVESTING IN PEACE

The **PEACE SUPPORT NETWORK e.V.** (PSN), a registered non-profit, invites you to join us in giving our support to exemplary peace builders worldwide. These Peace Entrepreneurs invest their courage and entrepreneurial energy to return their countries to peace – innovatively, successfully, and over the long term.



**As an investor** with PSN, you get more than just a tax write-off. You can be certain of making better lives possible for people in conflict regions. To ensure transparency and project quality, PSN has a professional management team, but its members volunteer their time to ensure that 100% of the investment arrives on site and develops a positive effect.

**PSN** is registered as a charitable organization with its headquarters in Wuppertal, Germany. The people active in PSN come from both industry and society at large. They work together to support exemplary peace builders and their projects. Peace is not a utopia. Especially in crisis regions, it means hard work and daily challenges. But those challenges can be surmounted by people with entrepreneurial spirit, courage, and innovative methods. We provide sustained support for their initiatives.



## PEACE BUILDERS AT WORK

# COLOMBIA



### PEACE BUILDER

Giovani Presiga

### ORGANIZATION

Diocese of Antioquia, north of Medellin

### GOALS

Establishing demilitarized zones and developing them economically; mediation in kidnappings

### HELPING

Villages within the "peace zone"; farmers; agricultural cooperatives; families of kidnapping victims

### CONTACT

Since 2004

**The projects of Father Giovanni Presiga** aim at the demilitarization of the Diocese of Antioquia, located near the troubled city of Medellin. Its villages have been repeatedly attacked and looted by various guerrilla and paramilitary groups. Presiga works toward the economic development of communities that have declared themselves weapons-free zones. That includes improved cultivation methods for small farmers and enhancing marketing strategies for their produce. Presiga also serves as a mediator in the kidnappings that many armed groups depend on to finance their existence, negotiating between kidnapers who make often impossible random demands and families of victims.

Presiga comes from a farming family in Antioquia. He turned down offers of career advancement from the Vatican, saying, "I want to stay with my people."

**PEACE BUILDERS  
AT WORK**

COLOMBIA



**Dedication.** Giovani Presiga mediates in kidnapping cases between guerrillas and farmers.

## PEACE BUILDERS AT WORK

# SRI LANKA



### PEACE BUILDER

P.N. Narasingham

### ORGANIZATION

Social Economic Ecological Developers (SEED),  
Vavuniya

### GOALS

Economic development in devastated northern Sri Lanka; housing and economic opportunities for displaced families

### HELPING

Refugee families, farmers both Sinhalese and Tamil, the deaf

### CONTACT

Since May 2003

### The name "SEED" was chosen with an obvious purpose.

P.N. Narasingham's organization works toward reconstruction of the island's devastated north, caring for refugee families whose houses were destroyed and many of whom have lost their breadwinner. Together, they build new houses and ways of earning their own money. Children, especially those with handicaps, were especially hard hit by the civil war, so SEED provides schooling for deaf children. Sinhalese and Tamils work together on a large-scale farming project.

P.N. Narasingham, known as Singham, is Tamil. He fled from the war to Germany, and could have remained abroad for life. Instead he chose to return to Sri Lanka and work on to rebuild his homeland. He started from the ground up, developing his own methods and organizing not only the construction of entire settlements for refugee families but also consulting with them to develop plans for economic self-help. SEED has already launched hundreds of families into a brighter future, and Singham is regarded as one of the leading social entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka.

**PEACE BUILDERS  
AT WORK**

# SRI LANKA



**Giving children a voice.** SEED runs a school for the deaf in a former battle zone.

## PEACE BUILDERS AT WORK

# ISRAEL/ PALESTINE



### PEACE BUILDER

Abbot Benedikt Lindemann

### ORGANIZATION

Benedictine Abbey of Hagia Maria Sion, Jerusalem

### GOALS

Education for Palestinian youth; help for victims of suicide bombings; extracurricular activities for handicapped Israeli and Palestinian children; reconciliation work

### HELPING

The international reconciliation center in Bethlehem; handicapped children; Israelis and Palestinians who wish for peace

### CONTACT

Since January 2003

**The Benedictines** provide vocational education for Palestinian youth. The brothers regularly collect groceries, clothing, and medicine and distribute them in the occupied territories to villages cut off from basic necessities by incessant border closings. They support peace-minded people on both sides who want to become actively involved – not only with spiritual encouragement, but also with legal advice and financial assistance. Every two years, they award a renowned peace prize to one peace builder from each side.

Abbot Benedikt Lindemann was elected head of the monastery in Jerusalem at age 37. As a young man, he was called up for the German army and went – but soon concluded that he would become a conscientious objector rather than learn how to operate a gun. His vision: The monastery should become the center of a “peace university” where Germans, Israelis, and Palestinians study and learn together how even intractable conflicts can be solved without the use of force.

PEACE BUILDERS  
AT WORK

# ISRAEL/ PALESTINE



**Weapons-free zone.** The monastery is neutral ground where Israelis and Palestinians meet.

## AT A GLANCE

# PROFILE



### NAME

Peace Support Network e.V. (PSN)

### LEGAL STATUS

Tax-exempt nonprofit association headquartered in Wuppertal

### FOUNDED

February 24, 2010

### VISION

PSN works to create a world where conflicts are resolved constructively and without violence

### GOAL

Support exemplary peace builders and their work worldwide

### MEMBERS

Individuals active in industry and civil society regardless of party or religious affiliation

### QUALITY ASSURANCE

Personal on-site inspection of all projects supported; review by an advisory board made up of experienced researchers

### OVERHEAD

If desired, 100% of any donation can be earmarked for peace projects

### PARTNERS

Institute for Foreign Relations (ifa), Zeitenspiegel Agency, Peace Counts, Institute for Peace Education Tübingen

### TAXES

Donations are tax-deductible (receipt will be provided)

### BANK ACCOUNT

Account No. 4036184700, GLS Bank 4306067



## WHO WE SUPPORT



# GUARANTEED QUALITY

### PSN SUPPORTS PROJECTS

- that have proven track records in contributing to mutual understanding and reconciliation, conflict transformation, and the stabilization of peace.
- that are planned long-term and have their origins in civil society.
- that have precisely defined monetary needs.
- that help people to help themselves so they do not become dependent on project funding.
- that work with all parties to a conflict whenever possible.

**Trust is central.** Therefore we enter into long-term relationships with the peace projects we support. Many have been known to us for years through a partner organization, "Peace Counts." At regular intervals, an independent commission of researchers volunteer their time to evaluate the projects we support. Thus we can be assured of supporting only the most effective projects.

**PSN supporters** pay into a pool from which especially meaningful projects are supported. Conditions in conflict regions sometimes change very quickly, so the funding pool ensures that we will be able to transfer funds quickly and without bureaucracy to wherever they are currently needed.

## HOW WE WORK



# PEACE BEARS FRUIT

### FROM INVESTORS, WE HOPE

- that they share the vision and goals behind the Peace Support Network.
- for an investment of 10,000 euros annually with a three-year initial commitment.
- for involvement beyond the financial, should they so desire.

### WE OFFER INVESTORS

- **TRANSPARENCY.** We regularly inform you of how and with what degree of success your funds are being put to use. You decide how often you wish to receive word.
- **DEDICATION.** Our volunteer staffing policy assures that your investment, on request, can be used 100% to directly support peace.
- **FASCINATION.** Peace builders are charismatic, courageous human beings. Through PSN, you can get to know them personally.
- **COMMUNITY.** Networking with other investors – people with whom you share values and visions.

## TESTED QUALITY

# SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

PSN has advisory commitments from renowned experts in peace studies and conflict resolution. Their expertise helps us ensure the high quality of the projects we support.



**Prof. Dr. Susanne Buckley-Zistel**, Center for Conflict Research, University of Marburg. She has worked for NGOs including International Alert, African Rights, and Justice Africa and knows project work from the ground up. She has often conducted project evaluations on behalf of the GTZ and ifa.



**Prof. Dr. Angela Mickley** has been teaching peace education, conflict resolution, and ecology at the University of Applied Sciences in Potsdam since 1995. Her research has taken her to South Africa, northern Ireland, Namibia, and Moldavia, among others, and she is regularly assigned to mediate conflicts. She is co-founder of the Initiative for Active Conflict Transformation (Namibia) which works toward developing competencies in conflict resolution and mediation.



**Dr. Norbert Ropers** is director of the Berghof Foundation for Peace Support, based in Berlin and Bangkok. He has worked as a peace researcher in Bonn, Duisburg, and London. He acquired practical – and often painful – experience as a mediator in Sri Lanka's civil war. Today he supports primarily southeast Asian countries and individual regions in conflict transformation and peace dialogue.

## YOUR CONTACT PARTNERS

# MANAGEMENT TEAM

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## FOCUS ON SOLVING CONFLICT

# PEACE COUNTS

In the framework of the **Peace Counts** initiative, journalists have been assigned to report from conflict regions and areas affected by civil war around the world since 2002. Their features bring to a mass audience the work of peace builders who, in the view of researchers, can be regarded as modeling “best practices” for peace. To date, Peace Counts has filed feature articles and photo essays from more than 35 conflict regions.



**Regular contact** with courageous, creative peace builders created a desire to support their projects directly. A growing number of people in industry and civil society admitted to sharing that wish and founded PSN as an independent organization. **Peace Counts** and **PSN** work closely together to exploit synergies:

- Features produced under the banner of Peace Counts create publicity for exemplary peace projects that are or could be supported by PSN.
- Peace Counts provides continuing education for teachers and journalists and brings international peace builders to Germany for public appearances. PSN gives its support to those initiatives.

**Peace Counts** is organized by the journalistic partnership Zeitspiegel Agency, the Institute for Peace Education Tübingen, and the Culture Counts Foundation. The project has received numerous recognitions, among other the Peter Becker Award for Peace Studies from the University of Marburg.



## PEACE COUNTS

# MORE THAN A MEDIA INITIATIVE



### PEACE COUNTS REPORTING

Peace Counts sends reporters and photographers to cover stories in conflict and post-conflict regions. They bring back features on successful peace builders and their methods. A key focus is on the diversity of approaches available for finding resolutions to violent conflict. To date, journalists have traveled to more than 35 countries worldwide. Their features have been published in major magazines and online media, in books, and via radio and TV broadcasts.



### PEACE COUNTS ON TOUR

Since 2007, the traveling exhibition "Peace Counts on Tour" has been touring conflict regions. It depicts the methods used by successful peace builders and serves as a framework for workshops that the Institute for Peace Education conducts with teachers, NGO employees, and security personnel. Numerous materials are transferred to local "multipliers" and implemented in additional peace work. Stops on the tour so far have included Sri Lanka, Macedonia, Ivory Coast, the Philippines, Russian, India, and Colombia.



### PEACE COUNTS IN CRISIS REGIONS

In both conflict and post-conflict regions, Peace Counts works as an incubator for media projects about peace solutions. Journalists and photographers are given training and financial support to report on local peace builders and their methods for local audiences. In rural areas with low literacy rates, features are produced for radio broadcast.



### PEACE COUNTS SCHOOL

The texts, photos, and videos created by Peace Counts are developed by Europe's leading Institute for Peace Education in Tübingen into multimedia teachers' guides for use in classrooms and teacher training. Peace builders travel to Germany, presenting their work in schools and educational institutions and in many cases establishing long-term partnerships.



## NETWORK

# OUR PARTNERS

### WE WORK TOGETHER WITH

- Peace Counts
- Institute for Peace Education Tübingen e.V.
- Zeitenspiegel – Agency for Feature Reporting
- The “zivik” project of the Institute for Foreign Relations (ifa)

### THE PSN IS SUPPORTED BY

- Design Hoch Drei, Stuttgart
- Günter Thomas Produktion, Gelsenkirchen
- e.kurz+co druck und medientechnik, Stuttgart

### IMPRESSUM

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