OUR WORK IN
PEACE, STABILITY,
AND TRANSITION

Photo credit: Kendra Helmer/USAID
One of the world’s leading international development firms, Chemonics is committed to taking on the toughest challenges in the most complex environments. Learning from the company’s multisectoral expertise, our global workforce implements programs that mitigate the effects of conflict, drive peacebuilding efforts, and support political stability. Whether supporting a peaceful democratic transition or lending a steady hand to communities facing natural disasters, we have the capacity, ingenuity, and determination to help countries peacefully recover and rebuild.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

DISASTER ASSISTANCE. In advance of and immediately following destabilizing events, such as natural disasters and armed conflict, we work with communities to recover and rebuild infrastructure, increase resiliency, and reduce future vulnerability. Working in fragile and conflict-affected environments requires a multifaceted approach and improved government capacity to provide essential services. Our disaster assistance programs provide services like psychosocial support and trauma healing for vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons, facilitating reconciliation processes and community dialogue, and reintegrating former combatants into communities through livelihood and life-skills activities. As part of our response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, we supported economic growth by investing in public institutions and facilitated neighborhood revitalization projects to improve governance.

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM. We employ evidence-based approaches to counter violent extremism, working with governments and civil society to address local drivers of ideologically motivated violence. We design our approaches to establish peaceful avenues for dissent as well as empower youth and marginalized groups across the Middle East, Africa,
Latin America, and Asia. Our programs equip at-risk groups with tools, skills, and confidence to engage with their communities and resist the influence of violent extremist organizations. We support reconciliation efforts in communities where violent extremist organizations historically capitalize on conflict, and we strategize with local and national governments to prevent violent extremism, bringing together key stakeholders to develop locally resonant messaging.

**STABILIZATION AND TRANSITION ASSISTANCE.** We support peaceful transitions in anticipation of and following major political events by addressing drivers of conflict and promoting government transparency and accountability. In this way, we rebuild the trust between state and society that is often fractured in the aftermath of conflict. With local authorities, community leaders, and civil society organizations, we work to establish stability in volatile situations. Our approach strengthens confidence in public institutions, promotes vulnerable groups’ empowerment, and ensures community buy-in from the start. Approaches include media and strategic communications, government and civil society capacity building, artistic and creative outreach, youth empowerment, and gender inclusion. For example, following landmark elections in Nepal after years of armed conflict, we supported a peaceful democratic transition with community stabilization activities and trained 50,000 youth to raise awareness in their communities about the peace agreement.

**THE CENTER FOR APPLIED APPROACHES TO COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM** identifies successful trends, tools, and methodologies for countering and preventing violent extremism, drawing upon Chemonics’ extensive multisectoral experience as well as industry research. We have more than 40 years of experience in governance, peacebuilding, gender and social inclusion, economic growth, and community development and use that knowledge to implement solutions to complex sociopolitical and economic challenges that often underlie violent extremism.
PEACEBUILDING AND RECONCILIATION. We work with communities to address underlying tensions, resolve conflicts, and increase resilience to future violence with collaborative approaches to peacebuilding and reconciliation. Employing creative methods of building peace between war-torn communities, we tailor our approach to the local context and use technology to enhance and amplify outcomes. Our programs address feelings of marginalization and exclusion that can contribute to further violence or disrupt reconciliation processes. In Côte D’Ivoire, we partnered with nearly 50 NGOs, youth groups, local government institutions, and civil society actors to identify and cope with causes of conflict. Our projects that address land rights and tenure have helped mitigate conflict in Bolivia, Burundi, Colombia, Ecuador, and Tajikistan.

YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION. Using education, workforce development, and civic and political engagement, we empower vulnerable youth to play a key role in preventing community violence. In Mexico, we are providing critical support to civil society organizations working directly with at-risk youth in target communities to mitigate the spread of crime and violence. Similarly, in Central America, we are devising approaches to prevent violence related to organized crime, narcotics, arms trafficking, and youth gangs. In marginalized and conflict-prone areas of Lebanon, we have led activities encouraging youth to become leaders by fostering critical thinking skills, civic engagement, and a desire to participate in the political process.