

POSITIVE PEACE PROJECT DESIGN TOOL

Projects in Rotary's Areas of Focus and the Pillars of Positive Peace

Rotary and Positive Peace

Rotary International envisions a global surge in local efforts to promote peace with the involvement of Rotary members throughout the world. As such, Rotary created a strategic partnership with the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), capitalizing on IEP's research on the attitudes, institutions, and structures of more peaceful societies and Rotary's grassroots experience in communities around the globe.

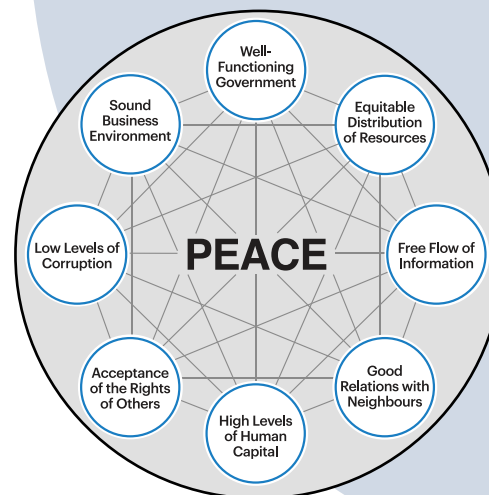
Rotary members can think about peace in two ways, thanks to sociologist Johan Galtung: negative peace and Positive Peace. Galtung made a distinction between socioeconomic conditions that are ripe with cooperation and harmony (positive) and basic security that brings about the end of violence or fear of violence (negative). Both are necessary, although conventional concepts of peace often focus on the negative state, which includes the absence of war or the lack of direct violence or fear of violence. This short-term thinking about peace focuses merely on ending violence and trauma rather than *building longer-term conditions that enable society to reconcile, unify, and flourish*.

The aims of IEP and Rotary toward Positive Peace emphasize what Rotary members can do to foster lasting peace. Positive Peace is a transformational concept because it focuses on what Rotary members can do to contribute to the economic and social well-being of their societies, rather than concentrating only on removing threats or negative factors that inhibit peace.

The Pillars of Positive Peace

The Pillars of Positive Peace are a set of eight interrelated factors that the IEP has *empirically* proven to increase the peacefulness in a community in long-lasting and resilient ways. The Pillars form keystones to understanding peacefulness within and between societies, communities, and nations. The Pillars also provide a framework that is useful for defining the *direction and scope of a project*.

In the design of a Rotary project in any of the areas of focus, the Pillars can provide *points of intervention* and can be analyzed in conjunction with a systems-based approach to better understand the situation of a target community. These *intervention points* are applicable to a range of levels and help Rotary members identify the factors that interact to each other and their relation to the project's desired outcome.



To learn more about the Pillars of Positive Peace, we recommend you complete the Rotary Positive Peace Academy. <https://www.positivepeace.academy/rotary>



Applying the Pillars of Positive Peace to the Areas of Focus

Interrelatedness or correlation is also a central idea of the Pillars of Positive Peace Framework, which states that stable and flourishing societies depend on the 8 Pillars of Positive Peace (pictured).

The transformational power of the Positive Peace Framework starts with understanding how each Pillar depends on the others. As such, the Positive Peace Framework can be used to plan and implement a project in any area of focus – and ensure, in turn, that the project builds Positive Peace.

This process should begin with and/or accompany a needs analysis, but then examines a problem to understand how each of the 8 Pillars influences underlying factors that either help or hinder change efforts.

Example: A safe water supply project (WASH) is used to illustrate how to apply the Pillars of Positive Peace Framework:

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and the Pillars of Positive Peace

Contributing to job creation, economic growth, and the development of a sustainable business environment within communities.

Collaborating in providing essential water and sanitation services between governments, NGOs, and local communities, promoting effective governance and public service delivery.

Working with marginalized and underserved communities, WASH projects aim to reduce inequalities in access to water and sanitation services, promoting social inclusion and equity.

Implementing transparent procurement processes, engaging communities in project oversight, strengthening institutional capacity, enforcing anti-corruption policies, and promoting integrity and ethics among project stakeholders.



Including educational components that raise awareness about hygiene practices and sanitation, empowering communities with knowledge and information to make informed decisions about their health and well-being.

Addressing water scarcity and promoting sustainable water management can foster cooperation, peace and goodwill among communities, reducing the potential for conflicts over water resources.

Improving public health outcomes, reducing waterborne diseases, increasing school attendance and productivity, empowering women and girls, promoting hygiene education, and fostering community development and economic growth.

Ensuring clean water access and sanitation for all members of society, regardless of ethnicity, religion, or socioeconomic status.

Positive Peace Project Considerations: A Community-Centered Approach



When designing a Positive Peace project, it's crucial to focus on the needs and perspectives of the community. The following considerations are structured to help you align your project with the 8 Pillars of Positive Peace. Use this framework to identify community strengths and weaknesses, set objectives, plan activities, and define outcomes for each Pillar of Positive Peace.

Pillar of Positive Peace	Community Strengths	Community Weaknesses	Project Objective	Project Activities	Project Outcomes
1 Well-functioning government					
2 Equitable distribution of resources					
3 Free flow of information					
4 Good relations with neighbours					

Positive Peace Project Considerations: (Continued)

Example – Equitable Distribution of Resources Pillar and a WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) project:

1. Community's Strengths: The community has active groups advocating for fair resource distribution.
2. Community's Weaknesses: There is unequal access to water resources among different community groups.
3. Project Objective: Ensure equitable distribution of water resources in the community.
4. Project Activities: Facilitate resource mapping and equitable allocation workshops.
5. Project Outcomes: More balanced resource distribution and reduced community tensions.

Pillar of Positive Peace	Community Strengths	Community Weaknesses	Project Objective	Project Activities	Project Outcomes
5 High levels of human capital					
6 Acceptance of the rights of others					
7 Low levels of corruption					
8 Sound business environment					

Have you considered how your project relates to / incorporates:		
Pillar of Positive Peace	Yes / No	How?
1 Well-functioning government		
2 Equitable distribution of resources		
3 Free flow of information		
4 Good relations with neighbours		
5 High levels of human capital		
6 Acceptance of the rights of others		
7 Low levels of corruption		
8 Sound business environment		

References:

- "Positive Peace in Action Guide: How to Implement the Positive Peace Framework" by PartnersGlobal
- "Understand Peace for a Better Future: Peacebuilding as a Core Commitment of Rotary" by Simona Pinton, The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors Member
- "Pillars of Positive Peace Advanced Checklist" by Marcel van Opstal, The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors Member