



The Mediation Support Unit (MSU) in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) serves as the UN system-wide focal point on mediation expertise and support. The Unit, inter-alia, provides tailored operational support to peace and dialogue processes through expert staff from the Unit and the Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisors (SBT).

DPPA's mediation support capacity relies predominantly on funding from the Multi-Year Appeal (MYA) - including to allow for on-the-ground support to peace discussions. Sustained funding will allow MSU to continue to deploy operational expert support where needed and to develop innovative approaches and mediation guidance in emerging fields such as digital technologies, climate, local and sub-national mediation, and the youth, peace and security agenda.

What we do

MSU's core competencies include **operational assistance with mediation and peace processes, capacity building, and developing mediation guidance, lessons learned, and best practices.**

MSU staff, including in-house experts on ceasefires, constitution-making, and process design, are able to provide **tailored support** throughout the planning, implementation and evaluation phases of a mediation process. The Unit also manages the Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisors (SBT), which can be mobilized as a complementary mediation support capacity.

The Unit organizes a series of flagship **trainings**, including the High Level Mediation Course and the Ceasefire Mediation Course. MSU furthermore develops and maintains **guidance and resources** for mediators, available through the dedicated [Peacemaker](#) website. This includes a searchable directory of peace agreements - allowing mediators to compare language across some 75,000 provisions of 1,300 agreements. When requested, MSU also provides tailored guidance, often involving comparative case analysis, to field missions. The [Online Course on Digital Inclusion of Women Peace Processes](#), launched in 2023, represents MSU's emerging work in leveraging digital technologies to promote inclusion.

MSU **partners** frequently with various regional organizations. It is also a member of several mediation networks, including the Group of Friends on Mediation and the Mediation Support Network, and engages regularly with the Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks.

 For more information on UN mediation assistance, please visit the [dedicated website](#).

2023 Highlights



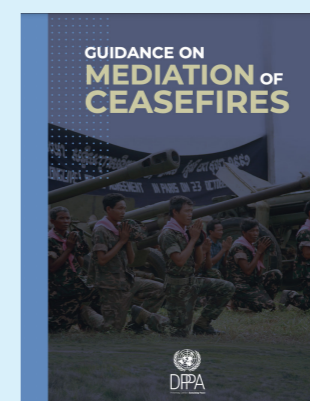
152 mediation support assignments (131 by the SBT and 21 by MSU staff) in 28 country contexts



100 per cent of all UN led and co-led peace processes received technical advice and support on gender

Expanding our knowledge, and helping others to learn

Key Publications



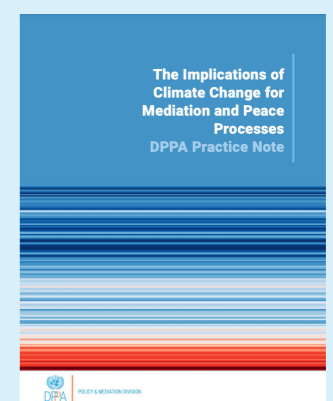
[Guidance on Mediation of Ceasefires](#)



[Human Rights and Mediation Joint Practice Note](#)



[Digital Technology Sensitive Conflict Analysis Framework](#)



[The implications of Climate Change for Mediation and Peace Processes](#)

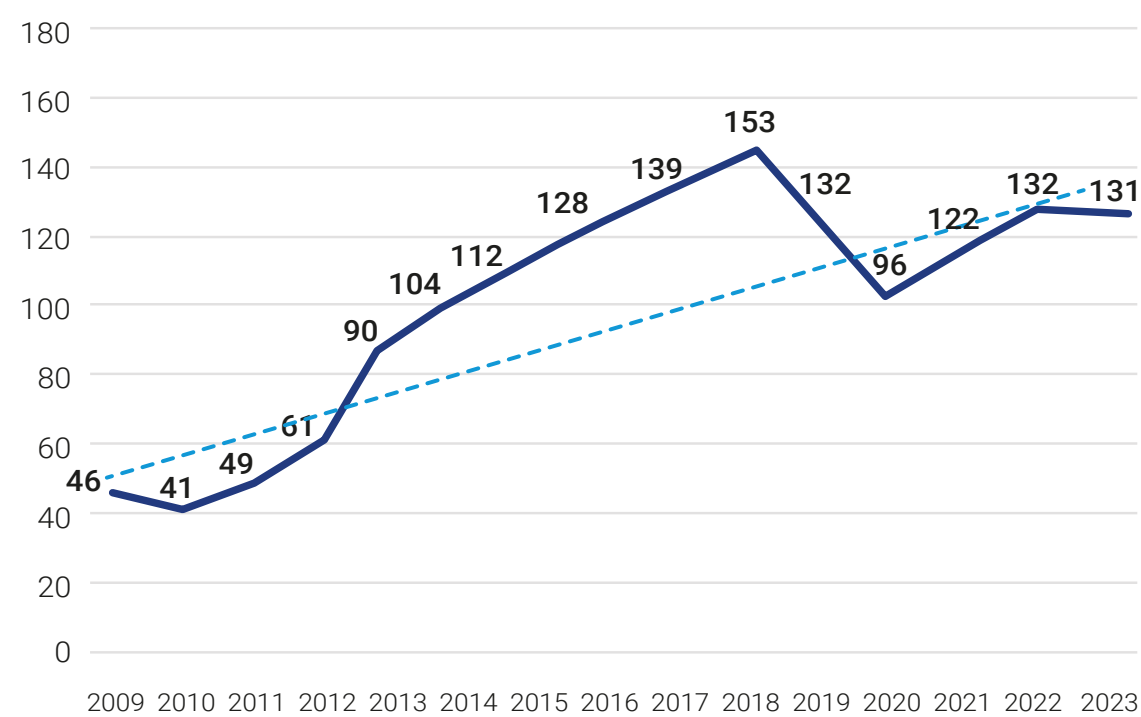


Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisers (SBT)

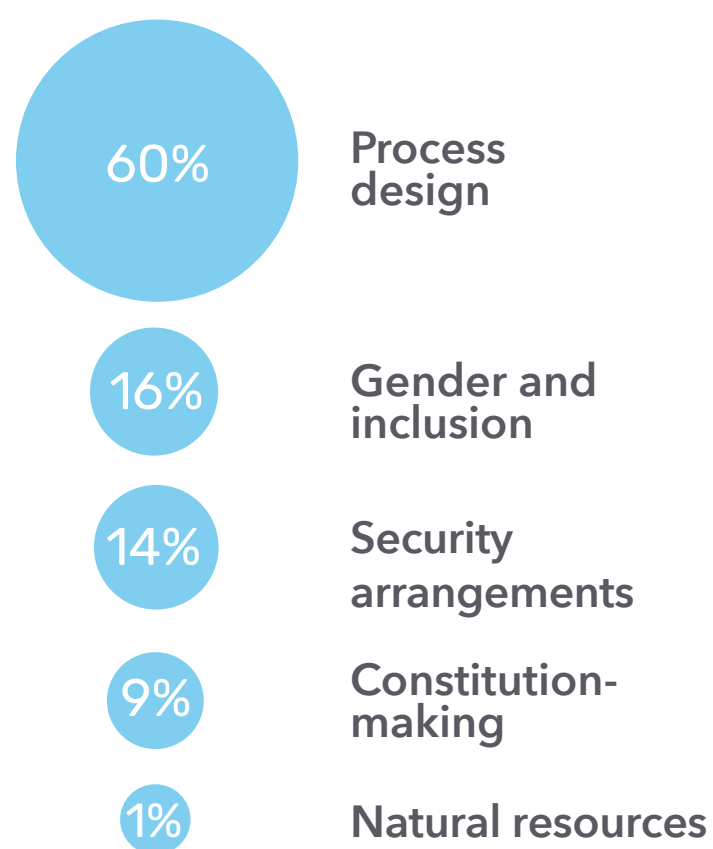
Members of DPPA's SBT are available to deploy within 72 hours to support United Nations envoys and mediators, special political missions, as well as regional and sub-regional organizations and other non-UN partners at key junctures in peace processes. The SBT offers targeted support across a range of issues, through different modalities from direct mediation assistance, to training and coaching (including of parties to a conflict). They are able to provide both in-person and remote assistance.

Funded entirely by the MYA, demand for SBT support has increased significantly in recent years.

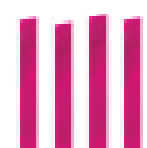
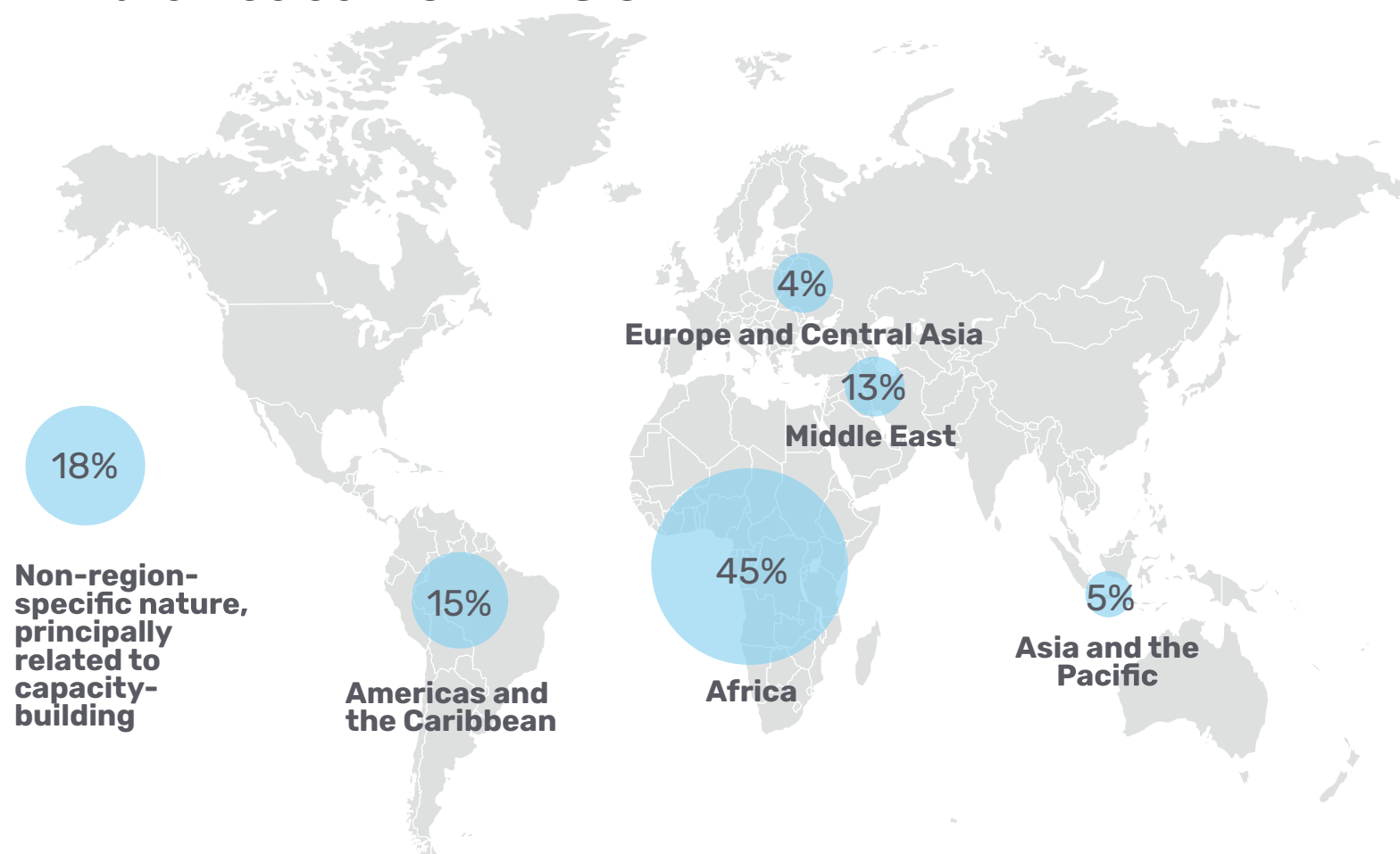
Number of SBT engagements



2023 MSU SUPPORT BY THEME



2023 MSU SUPPORT REGION



How we track results

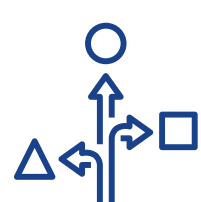
- Senior Leadership Compacts
- 2023-2026 Results Framework
- Mid-Year and Annual MYA reports

Global



We fund political work across the world

Flexible



70% of our funding is unearmarked

Fast



We can allocate funding within 72 hours of a crisis

Innovative and Inclusive



We use innovative approaches to peace and security with emerging technologies

PEACE IS PRICELESS AND POSSIBLE.

[Multi-Year Appeal 2023-2026](#)

For further information on the Multi-Year Appeal, please contact the Donor Relations Team.

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<https://dppa.un.org>

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