Search for Common Ground (Search) ran overlapping projects (PLUPC and SCPB) in South Sudan from between the years 2014 through 2018. Radio and participatory theatre were identified as the key mediums for the projects.

The overall goal of the PLUPC and SCPB projects was to promote social cohesion, resilience, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts among individuals and communities.

**Objectives**

- Communities engage in constructive dialogue and action around key peacebuilding concepts that promote localized strategies for stabilization, reconciliation, and trust building.
- Media programming with a national reach amplifies and reinforces community-level peace processes to build mutual trust, inspire community confidence, and promote replication.

**Activities**

- Local Peace Initiatives
- Short Media Productions
- Key Stakeholder Meetings
- Civil Society Engagement
- Radio Drama Productions and Broadcast
- Participatory Theater

**Results**

Radio and theatre are still relevant in South Sudan. Search programming continues to have a growing reach and positive impact.

- 75% of survey respondents believed radio can be used to promote peace.
- 38% believed traditional forms of media (theater performances) are appropriate for peace promotion – seen to have a more direct impact on audience.
Listeners of Hiwar al Shabaab say they feel confident in their ability to resolve disputes peacefully in their community as a result of the programming.

Trained staff at radio stations reported increased levels of confidence in transformative change and effective peacebuilding and an improvement in broadcasting conflict sensitive programs.

78% of listeners are more likely to trust people from other tribes, as compared to non-listeners.

97% of listeners, overtime, could still list at least one peacebuilding value.

82% reported being aware of positive models for community peacebuilding.

Participants noted a decrease in incidences of rape, domestic violence, forced marriages, and early marriages.

Participants also noted that more girls go to school and more women are employed.

Additionally, they reported a positive impact on those that abuse alcohol, opium, and other drugs.

To read the full evaluation: DME for Peace Link.