

Conciliation Resources works to prevent violence, promote justice and transform conflict into opportunities for development.

Our goals are to:

support people working at local, national and international levels to develop effective solutions to social, economic and political problems related to violent conflicts

provide opportunities for dialogue and improved relationships within communities and across conflict divides at all social and political levels

influence governments and other decision makers to employ conflict transformation policies that promote alternatives to violence

improve peacemaking practice and policies by promoting learning from peace processes around the world

challenge stereotypes and increase public awareness of human rights, conflict and peace issues in divided societies

Who we are

Conciliation Resources (CR) is an international non-governmental organization registered in the UK as a charity (no. 1055436). We work mainly in the Caucasus, Uganda and West Africa in partnership with local and international civil society organizations and governments, and are involved in projects in Colombia, Fiji and the Philippines. We also publish *Accord: an international review of peace initiatives*. Our funding is through grants from governments, independent trusts and foundations.

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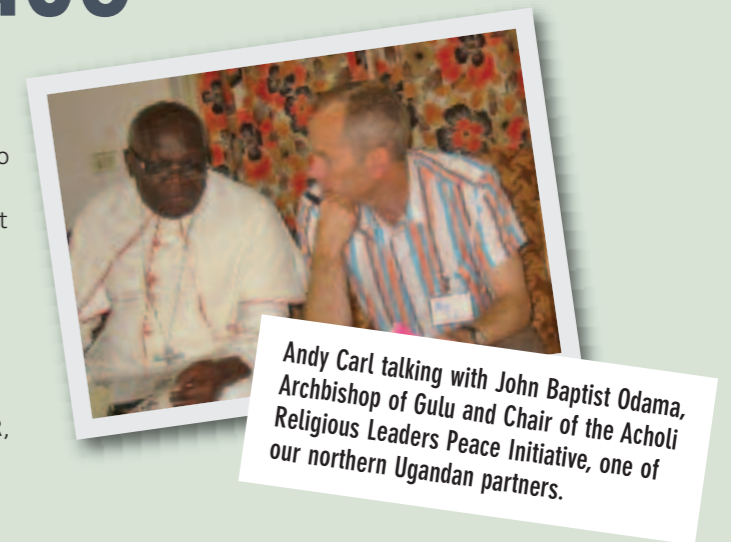
Preparing the ground for peace

In partnership with local organizations, Conciliation Resources (CR) is working to promote societies 'that do not commit violence against their members', to quote peacemaker Adam Curle. Our programme strategies set out practical goals to help improve the conditions for conflict transformation and involve engaging over the long term, alongside official processes, at different social and political levels.

To give a picture of what this has meant in practice, our 2007 Review takes a thematic perspective. For CR, preparing the ground for peace means encouraging people to talk and build relationships across conflict divides. It involves working with partners to challenge stereotypes and increase awareness of deeply contested issues. It includes promoting greater civic participation in making political decisions about peacemaking, as well as strengthening communities' abilities for managing their conflicts without violence.

The stories highlighted in the following pages are just a few examples of the many important initiatives we have worked on in 2007. As in previous years, our focus remains in the southern Caucasus, the Mano River sub-region of West Africa, northern Uganda and southern Sudan, with other initiatives in India/Pakistan (Kashmir), Fiji, Indonesia-Aceh, Colombia and the Philippines. In all these places, it was another year of tumult or transition.

Drawing on our work in these regions, we continue to serve the global need to learn from practical experiences of overcoming violent conflict. Through the Accord publication series and our wider comparative learning work, we are building a body of knowledge on the hard-won lessons of conflict resolution.



Andy Carl talking with John Baptist Odama, Archbishop of Gulu and Chair of the Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative, one of our northern Ugandan partners.

In 2007 we also stepped up our commitment to influencing policy on peacemaking, encouraging in particular the UK government as one of our important partners, to strengthen its support for peace processes worldwide.

So, along with our many colleagues and supporters – you know who you are and we thank you all – CR will hold on to our ideals and carry on refusing to tolerate violence, injustice and inequality, always believing that change is possible.

Andy Carl
Executive Director