

Hyun Jin Moon's Global Peace Foundation: Peace Begins With Service

James Flynn
July 28, 2026



Global Highlights

Service is how action becomes lasting change



Around the world, families and communities discovered that meeting practical needs also strengthens dignity and hope.

Every story in this edition reminds us that when we serve one another, we help build the foundations for a more peaceful future.

GPF Malaysia and Nestlé Malaysia brought sustainable access to water to Orang Asli villages through the “Safe Water, Safe Communities” program.

By combining infrastructure with local training, families are gaining the tools to sustain healthier, more resilient communities for the future.

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Lighting the Way for Stronger Communities



Through GPF Philippines’ All-Lights Village initiative, families in Candelaria received solar lanterns and streetlights that bring safety and connection. Sometimes, service begins with something as simple as light.

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When Service Protects Dignity



In Paraguay, Indigenous leaders, women, government officials, and civil society came together to advance inclusive development rooted in culture, dialogue, and respect. Their shared effort reminds us that service begins by listening to communities and honoring their voices.

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Volunteerism Is More Than Goodwill



Around the world, young volunteers are proving that service creates value far beyond a single project. From leadership development to stronger social bonds, volunteerism becomes

a powerful investment in people,
communities, and peace.

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**Serving the Planet, Strengthening
Communities**



From Mongolia to Kenya and Uganda, GPF initiatives are showing how environmental service can unite people around a shared future. Tree planting, recycling, and youth-led innovation are becoming practical pathways to resilience and peace.

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Peace Grows From What We Practice



In Nepal, families, women, and students are learning practical ways to protect water, reduce waste, and care for their homes and schools. Through GPF Nepal’s Green Homes and Green School initiatives, everyday habits are becoming acts of service that strengthen communities and nurture a more sustainable future.

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GPF Malaysia and Nestlé Malaysia Empower Communities with Sustainable Water Access

Wairimu Mwangi
November 2, 2025

The Global Peace Foundation (GPF) Malaysia is committed to building resilient communities through collaboration, innovation, and long-term empowerment. In partnership with Nestlé Malaysia, the “Safe Water, Safe Communities” program is bringing sustainable water solutions to Orang Asli (original peoples) villages, empowering families with reliable access to safe water and sustainable practices. Since its inception in 2018, the program has benefited over 1,000 Orang Asli families across the country by providing key infrastructure such as water filtration systems, solar-powered pumps, gravity-fed water systems, and washrooms.

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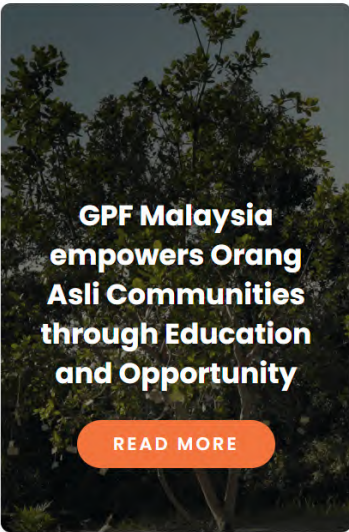
The recent completion of a new dam in Kampung Lumut marks another milestone in this journey of impact. Beyond infrastructure, the project fosters self-reliance by equipping villagers with the knowledge to operate and maintain the systems themselves. Read the full story here: [Nestlé and Partners Make Waves With Orang Asli Water Project](#)

Explore how GPF Malaysia is driving positive change across communities through its partnerships and peacebuilding initiatives: [Global Peace Foundation Malaysia](#)

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Global Peace Foundation Philippines Brings Light to Candelaria, Quezon Through All-Lights Village Initiative

Leonard Faustino
January 6, 2025

Candelaria, Quezon — In a heartwarming initiative to celebrate the holiday season, the Global Peace Foundation Philippines officially turned over 100 solar lanterns and 10 street lights to 100 families in the municipality of Candelaria, Quezon. The program, held under the Global Peace Foundation Philippines’ All-Lights Village initiative, was made possible through the support of Bless Microfinance and the local government unit of Candelaria.

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The All-Lights Village initiative is a testament to the transformative power of light, bringing hope and joy to communities during the Christmas season. Solar-powered lanterns were distributed to families to illuminate their homes, while solar streetlights were installed to improve safety and mobility in public areas.



Team members from GPF Philippines and Bless Microfinance Corporation visit All-Lights Village together

In a statement, GPF Philippines Executive Director Leonard Faustino emphasized the significance of light not only as a practical necessity but also as a

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symbol of hope, unity, and progress. He noted that the program reflects GPF Philippines’ commitment to empowering communities and fostering sustainable development.

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George D. Suayan of Candelaria expressed his gratitude to GPF Philippines, Bless Microfinance Corporation, and all other partners involved. “This initiative has made a significant impact on the lives of our residents, especially during this season of giving. It shows how collective efforts can bring meaningful change to communities in need.”



Villagers hold up solar lights donated through the All-Lights Village project

Marie Beatrice Mendoza, MBA, President and CEO of Bless Microfinance Corporation, shared, “We are deeply honored to support the All-Lights Village initiative, which brings not only physical light to the homes of families in Candelaria but also symbolizes the brighter future we can build together. At Bless Microfinance Corporation, we believe in empowering communities through sustainable solutions, and this project perfectly aligns with our mission to uplift lives and foster lasting change. Through this initiative, we are reminded that true progress begins when we

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together, with compassion and commitment, we can find a way for others.”

The All-Lights Village initiative highlights the importance of renewable energy solutions in addressing rural electrification challenges while promoting environmental sustainability. This year’s project also served as GPF Philippines’ Christmas initiative, reminding families of the power of light to inspire hope and togetherness during the holiday season.

Global Peace Foundation Philippines continues to lead initiatives that build stronger, self-reliant communities, guided by the principle of “living for the greater good.”

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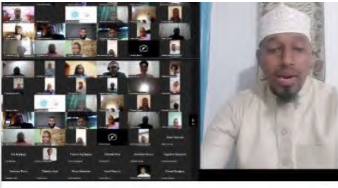
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Towards Inclusive Development: Empowering Indigenous Peoples in Paraguay

Wairimu Mwangi
February 3, 2025



Global Peace Foundation co-hosts a forum on inclusive development of indigenous communities in Paraguay

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In November 2024, Paraguay hosted the National Forum “Towards an Inclusive Development of Indigenous Peoples,” a historic event aimed at promoting dialogue, amplifying the voices of Indigenous communities, and determining policies for their active participation in national development. Organized by the Women’s Area of the Global Peace Foundation (GPF) in Paraguay in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other stakeholders, this forum highlighted the challenges and opportunities in empowering Paraguay’s 19 indigenous groups.

The event united government authorities, indigenous leaders, international organizations, and civil society representatives in a shared commitment to inclusion and cultural preservation. In the words of María Esther Jiménez, Vice Minister of Social Development and President of the Women’s Area of GPF Paraguay, “This forum aims to be a dialogue, a space to raise awareness about the reality of our Indigenous peoples, particularly women. It is a call to Paraguayan society to work together towards achieving ‘Buen Vivir’ (Good Living) for all.”

The forum opened with a moving cultural ceremony

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led by the Guaraní women's group *Zweitausendein*, directed by Alba Eiraguarte from the Abuarán community. Their traditional songs and dances celebrated life, nature, and the ancestral wealth of the forests, rivers, and plains. "Through our songs, we are bringing a blessing to life, to women, to the land that sustains us," shared a member of the group, emphasizing the deep connection between indigenous cultures and their environment.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Dr. Rigoberta Menchú addressed the audience virtually, congratulating Paraguay for bringing Indigenous issues to the forefront. She stressed the importance of systemic change, noting, "There have been many advances in Latin America, but what remains to be addressed is the system of rights for indigenous peoples. A balanced relationship within the administration of justice is essential to truly implement these rights."

A major highlight of the forum was the focus on empowering Indigenous women, who play a critical role in community development. Paraguay's Ministry of Women shared significant achievements in combating gender-based violence and nurturing leadership among indigenous women. Cintia Figueredo, Minister of Women, explained, "Over the past two years, we have worked hand-in-hand with Indigenous women, visiting their territories, listening to their concerns, and developing tailored strategies. Public servants are now being trained to address violence against them with an intercultural perspective."

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Indigenous women attend a program hosted by GPF and GPW Paraguay

The Ministry of Education and Science showcased ongoing efforts to develop indigenous-focused curricula, implement early childhood education programs, and combat high illiteracy rates. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health emphasized integrating Indigenous health systems into national frameworks, ensuring culturally respectful and accessible care. These efforts illustrate a comprehensive approach to bridging historical gaps in education and healthcare.

Central to the forum was the presentation of the National Plan for Indigenous Peoples, a policy framework designed by indigenous communities themselves. This plan outlines strategies for ensuring equitable access to resources, education, and healthcare while preserving the cultural richness of Paraguay's 19 indigenous groups. Its implementation reflects the nation's commitment to creating a more inclusive society.

Global Peace Foundation and Global Peace Women (GPW) strive to promote harmony, reconciliation, and inclusive development with an emphasis on empowering women, particularly in leadership and community roles, deeply resonating with the forum’s focus on indigenous women as agents of change. By providing platforms for dialogue and collaboration, GPF and GPW exemplify the vision of building resilient communities rooted in shared values and mutual respect. As Paraguay takes steps toward ‘Buen Vivir’—a life of dignity, balance, and harmony—for its indigenous populations, the forum served as a reminder of the importance of collaboration and sustained commitment. With initiatives like this, Paraguay is paving the way for a future where cultural diversity is celebrated, and all citizens have the opportunity to thrive.

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July 27, 2026

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The Economics of Service: Why Investing in Volunteerism is a Must

Anu Lama
December 28, 2025

Volunteerism is often described as an act of the heart. Yet beyond compassion, volunteerin



Volunteers and locals come together for the All-Lights Village project in Sitio Tamale.

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engine for economic and social transformation. When communities invest in volunteerism, they are not just funding service projects; they are laying the foundation for sustainable development, stronger social cohesion, and long-term peace.

For more than a decade, the Global Peace Foundation (GPF) has invested in this belief. Since 2010, the [Global Peace Volunteers](#) (GPV) program has equipped young people with skills, values, and real-world experiences that prepare them not only to serve their communities but to contribute meaningfully to local and national development. Across Asia, Africa, the Americas, and beyond, GPF chapters have mobilized youth to lead service initiatives, respond to emerging local needs, and collaborate across divides. These programs demonstrate that volunteerism, when organized and supported, becomes a multiplier for economic resilience, social cohesion, and peace.

Volunteerism generates measurable value across multiple dimensions.



Firstly, volunteerism reduces

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A young girl in the Philippines holds a solar-powered lamp in her hands. All-Lights Village Project was founded to “build villages that embody the vision of ‘One Family under God.’”

the cost of delivering essential community services. They support education programs, environmental restoration, youth mentorship, rural development, and local entrepreneurship.

urship. In places where public resources are limited, volunteers often act as the bridge that keeps community projects running.

Through initiatives such as the Global Peace Foundation’s [All-Lights Village Project](#) in the Philippines and Malaysia, youth volunteers help install solar lamps and support local livelihood development. Their contribution not only reduces energy costs but also enables families to extend their productive hours, improve safety, and increase economic activity.

Large-scale gatherings, such as the [Global Peace Convention](#), also generate economic ripple effects. Youth volunteers manage logistics, support community service days, and facilitate cross-cultural exchanges. These conventions bring together business leaders, policymakers, educators, and innovators, catalyzing partnerships that translate into new economic projects and investments in local communities.

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Every hour of volunteer service creates value that extends far beyond a single event.

Secondly, volunteerism is a breeding ground for human capital development with lifelong returns. It is a powerful engine for developing human potential. Young volunteers gain leadership abilities, communication skills, cultural competencies, and practical experience managing real-world challenges.

Programs like the [International Young Leaders Assembly](#) (IYLA) offer emerging leaders exposure to global institutions, including sessions at the United Nations, the World Bank, and the U.S. Congress. Participants refine their understanding of governance, diplomacy, and development, while learning to collaborate across cultures and diverse viewpoints. Regional programs such as GPV Peace Camps in Korea, Indonesia, Kenya, and Paraguay train youth in project design, ethical leadership, team-building, and conflict resolution. Across GPF chapters, volunteers participate in ongoing fieldwork, ranging from classroom support to disaster response.

These



experience
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The skills
they acquire empower them not just for future jobs
but for lifelong citizenship.

Thirdly, beyond economics and skill-building,
volunteerism strengthens the social fabric of
communities. When people of different
backgrounds work together on shared goals, trust
increases. Prejudice softens. Cooperation
becomes the norm rather than the exception.

GPF's service projects, from cleanup drives and
digital literacy training in Korea to youth
mentorship initiatives in the United States and
community-building work in Kenya, create spaces
where young people learn to work with peers from
diverse cultures, faiths, and identities.

This shared effort builds what experts call "social
capital," a form of community wealth based on
trust, networks, and cooperation. It is invaluable
and often determines how well communities
withstand crises.



IYLA at the Korea Economic Institute

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Lastly,
volunteeris
m is the
foundation
for
peacebuild
ing. It is one
of the most
practical,
scalable
tools for

peacebuilding. When young people gain a sense
of purpose, leadership, and a sense of belonging,
they become anchors of stability within their
communities.

Service projects encourage collaboration rather
than competition, empathy rather than suspicion,
and partnership rather than division. This is why
GPF integrates service into its peacebuilding
frameworks worldwide. When youth see
themselves as contributors to society, they
become peace multipliers.

Investing in
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The delegation representing the International Young
Leaders Assembly to be held in Asuncion, Paraguay
represented at the United Nations.



Global Peace Volunteer with children of Sitio Tubo-
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human capital. Firstly, in economic return, it reduces social costs, improves livelihoods, and enhances local development. Secondly, in social returns, it strengthens networks, trust, and community cohesion. It helps build the social capital which has immeasurable benefits and a far-reaching impact. Lastly, in terms of human capital returns, volunteerism provides skills development and leadership growth that are lifelong benefits.

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The combined effect of these returns is a long-term investment in resilient, peaceful communities. Volunteerism is not just charity; it is strategic, measurable, and transformative.

Volunteer impact is powerful, but it requires support. By investing in volunteer programs, donors and partners help create sustainable opportunities for youth to lead, learn, and serve. Each contribution strengthens the infrastructure that turns individual acts of service into long-lasting social and economic benefits.

We invite you to support GPF’s youth volunteer and peacebuilding programs. When we invest in volunteerism, we invest in a stronger, more connected, and more peaceful world.

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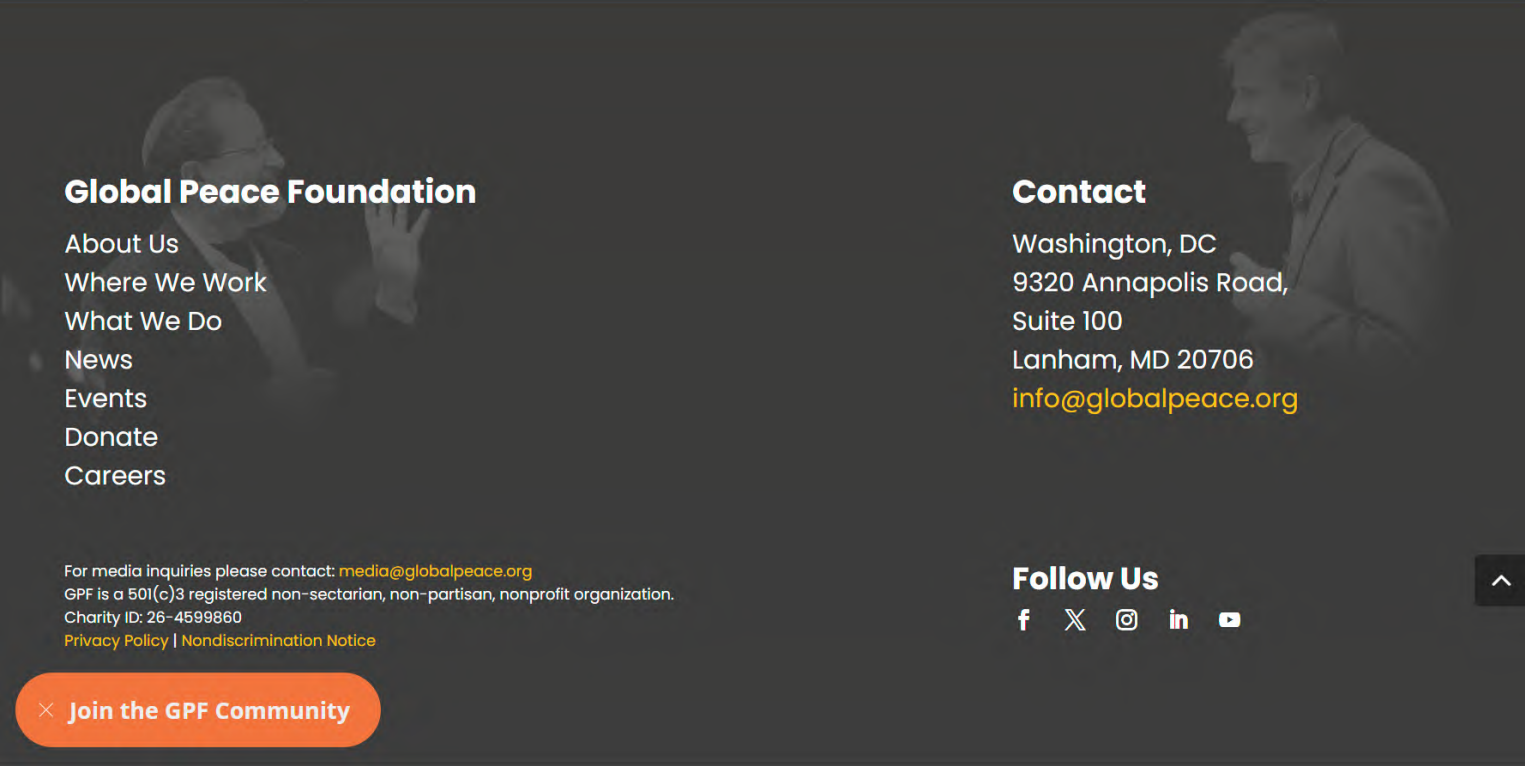
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GPF’s Global Drive for Sustainable Peace and Development through Service

Wairimu Mwangi
October 20, 2025

In a world increasingly burdened by environmental challenges and resource scarcity, the Global Peace Foundation (GPF) is advancing a compelling model of [development and service](#) that integrates environmental stewardship with peacebuilding. Through its initiatives across countries like Mongolia, Kenya, and Uganda, GPF is mobilizing youth and communities to restore ecosystems, create sustainable livelihoods, and foster unity across cultural and political divides.

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Trees of Peace and Hope

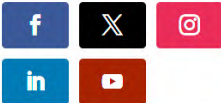


Volunteers set out to water 8,000 trees.

Mongolia, facing rapid desertification with over 25% of its land turning to desert in the past three decades, stands at the frontline of environmental urgency. GPF Mongolia has responded with bold and symbolic actions under the “Peace Through Trees” initiative, engaging local youth in large-scale tree planting campaigns. Through “My Club-GPF,” young volunteers, many from GPF’s associate programs like the [Global Peace Leadership Corps](#) (GPLCorps), have planted thousands of trees, including at high-profile locations like the North Korean embassy. These acts serve a dual purpose: combating desertification and promoting regional peace under the broader vision of the Korean Dream, a vision of a unified and peaceful Korean peninsula.

Additionally, GPF Mongolia is strategically positioning itself on the global stage. Its involvement with Blue Banner, a civil society partner of the Mongolian

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Presidential Office, highlights its commitment to international collaboration. GPF Mongolia is preparing for COP 17 in 2026, a summit focused on combating desertification, further highlighting its environmental leadership.

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Greening the Nation, Strengthening Communities



Participants plant trees during the GPLC Africa 2024 Kenya National Tree Growing Campaign

In Kenya, GPF is contributing to the country's ambitious goal of planting 15 billion trees by 2032. Partnering with the Chandaria Foundation and other stakeholders, GPF has helped establish 15 tree nurseries across 11 counties. This initiative isn't just about tree planting, but rather, about transforming lives and building a culture of environmental responsibility from the ground up.

The key to the success of this campaign is youth involvement. Through school partnerships and the potential integration of the GPLCorps model, GPF is ensuring that young people are not just participants but leaders in Kenya's environmental movement. GPF Kenya has also signed memoranda of understanding with institutions like the Kenya Forest Service to promote green credit and tree adoption schemes.

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GPF Kenya is a recognized civil society actor in national climate policy. Its Environment Manager, Mr. Japheth Ouda, is among 100 civil society representatives shaping the implementation of the Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) program, an effort aimed at grassroots climate resilience.

Uganda: Youth Innovation for Sustainable Impact



Global Peace Foundation in Uganda

Uganda's contribution to GPF's environmental portfolio showcases the power of youth-driven innovation. Members of GPLCorps, Daniel Kayemba and Sinan Kitagenda, won the 2024 Social Enterprise Award for their "Waste Plus" initiative, a recycling project that turns environmental waste into opportunity. This entrepreneurial spirit is

complemented by community-based activities such as clean-up campaigns, which involve local youth groups like the Global Star Soccer Academy.

These efforts not only beautify communities but also instilled values and civic responsibility among the youth. Uganda is now preparing to host a major environmental and youth summit, signaling its growing role in advancing GPF's vision of peace through sustainable development.

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A Global Model of Development through Service

At the heart of GPF's work is a belief that development and service are powerful vehicles for peace. Environmental challenges often exacerbate social divisions and fuel conflict, particularly over scarce resources. By addressing these root causes through collaborative, community-driven initiatives, GPF is promoting sustainable development that supports both people and the planet.

Environmental stewardship also offers an opportunity to transcend societal divides. Tree planting, clean-up drives, and waste management efforts bring diverse communities together, creating a shared sense of purpose. In turn, these efforts foster social cohesion, reduce tensions, and build more resilient societies.

GPF's model of engaging youth and local communities as agents of change is particularly critical. These initiatives equip young people with leadership skills, environmental awareness, and a strong sense of civic duty, qualities essential for shaping a more peaceful and sustainable future.

From the deserts of Mongolia to the forests of Kenya and the vibrant communities of Uganda, the Global Peace Foundation is planting more than trees; it's cultivating hope, unity, and resilience. These

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environmental initiatives exemplify how development and service can be harmonized to promote peace, demonstrating a path forward that others around the world can emulate. In this shared pursuit, GPF reminds us that a sustainable world is achievable when we serve together as One Family under God.

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GPF Nepal Builds Sustainable Communities through Knowledge and Service

Wairimu Mwangi
December 15, 2025



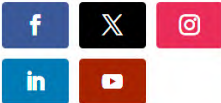
A woman in the Green Homes; Green Kathmandu program shows her rooftop farm.

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Environmental stewardship is becoming an essential pathway to community resilience in Nepal, where families and local leaders are facing growing water and waste management challenges. In October 2025, Global Peace Foundation (GPF) Nepal advanced this work through a series of hands-on trainings and monitoring visits under the [Green Homes; Green Kathmandu](#), and Green School initiatives. These activities reflect the Global Peace Foundation’s broader commitment to development and service, which encourages communities to cultivate shared responsibility, protect natural resources, and strengthen social cohesion. The programs also support GPF’s environmental projects that promote sustainable living through renewable energy, rainwater harvesting, waste reduction, and practical conservation skills.



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GPF Nepal gives presentation on safe rainwater harvesting.

The Green Homes; Green Kathmandu program brought together women from Kathmandu Metropolitan City Ward Five and Ward Fifteen to learn practical solutions for water scarcity and household waste management. At Smart Paani, participants received training and demonstrations on rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, biosand filtration, rapid sand filtration, and safe water purification methods. The field session helped them see how science and everyday practice meet in a real household system. One participant, Ramita Bajracharya, shared that the concept of rainwater harvesting was new to her. She explained that her community experiences water shortages during dry seasons and often has to buy water. She added that the training offered a sustainable solution that she plans to discuss with her family because it is a useful and long-term investment.

Women from the earlier cohort of Green Homes; Green Kathmandu continued to demonstrate the lasting impact of the program. During monitoring visits, they demonstrated their practices in solid waste management, rooftop farming, and the utilization of renewable solar energy. Their examples illustrated how environmental knowledge transforms homes into centers of innovation and learning. Anjali Prajapati expressed appreciation for the continuous encouragement she received from GPF Nepal. She described how rooftop farming and composting

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improved her family's life, and how installing a solar heating system has made her home more energy-efficient. She also noted that the growing demand for the bar soap and liquid soap she produces has contributed to her household income and strengthened her resolve to continue these practices.



GPF presents for the Green School initiative at Shree Saraswati Secondary School.

The program also invested in young people through the Green School initiative at Shree Saraswati Secondary School. Students explored the importance of

water, its sources, global distribution, and the value of responsible use. They learned how water can be harvested, filtered, and stored to benefit families and entire communities. After the session, participant Anusha Puri shared that she now understands how to contribute to conserving water at home and in the community. Monitoring of student-led composting projects showed encouraging results. Bins were free of plastic, biodegradable waste was well managed, and students received guidance on how to maintain healthy vermicomposting systems.

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The impact of these efforts goes far beyond technical knowledge. The programs actively connect learning with service, family engagement, and community leadership. Participants are encouraged to dream beyond their immediate surroundings, take ownership of environmental challenges, and work collaboratively. This reflects the Global Peace Foundation's values-centered approach, where families are strengthened, interfaith cooperation is welcomed, and service becomes a shared culture. Through these principles, environmental action becomes a tool for peacebuilding as neighbors work together for the greater good.

The initiative aligns closely with the Global Peace Foundation's global development and service programs, which empower communities to create practical solutions rooted in shared values. By integrating environmental education with community service, these programs build bridges between generations, institutions, and local leaders. They support families in developing habits that reduce waste, protect water sources, and utilize renewable energy in their daily lives.

Discover more about [GPF's work in Development and Service](#).

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