Peace and Stability

More than three decades of working in and on conflicts

NIRAS

59
Offices
in 33
countries

2500
Professionals
350 International
Development Consulting
43,000+ experts
in our network roster

+400
International
Development
projects/year
delivered in
+100 countries

+50
Projects
currently implemented in
the most fragile and high
risk countries globally

NIRAS International Development Consulting
SERVICE SECTORS

- Forests
- Agriculture
- Climate
- Land
- Fund Management
- Education & Skills
- Private Sector & Trade
- Peace & Stability
- Gender & Human Rights
- Governance
- Water
- Sustainable Energy
- Urban Development
- ME & L

In the face of interconnected global challenges and conflicts, the world grapples with significant hurdles that impede progress towards the aspirations outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Even though the COVID-19 pandemic has been declared over by the WHO, the long-term impacts persist. The pandemic has strained global health systems, disrupted essential services, and exacerbated vulnerabilities. It has also magnified existing issues, including poverty and hunger. Indeed, conflicts and crises persist in various regions, affecting a significant number of people in conflict-affected nations. These conflicts, coupled with the compounding effects of climate change acting as a threat multiplier, have further intensified displacement, instability, and vulnerability, exacerbating socio-economic disparities and impeding sustainable development efforts.

Considering this situation, it is crucial to recognize the significant investments made in addressing these complex challenges. Over the past decade, the international community has allocated an estimated $349 billion towards peacekeeping, humanitarian relief, and refugee support, underscoring the scale and importance of these endeavors. However, despite these considerable efforts, much work remains to be done in the coming years to achieve the goals set by the UN SDGs. Indeed, the war in Ukraine has further exacerbated forced displacement, reaching record levels in 2021, with 6.5 million refugees, mostly women and children, fleeing the country. Globally, numbers of forced displacements are setting new records with more than 110 million people displaced by end of 2022 (UNHCR). In this situation, private actors such as NIRAS have a crucial part to play in contributing to a significant impact. With our expertise and unwavering commitment, we have a unique opportunity

as well as a meaningful role to play in driving positive change and making a meaningful impact. By leveraging our knowledge, experience, and innovative approaches, we can address the root causes of conflicts, promote stability, and work towards achieving the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With an unwavering dedication to our mission, we strive to build resilient societies and create lasting positive impact for generations to come.

NIRAS as a key actor to build a more equal, stable and sustainable world

In the midst of these critical global challenges, NIRAS's role is critical to contribute to shape a more equal, stable and sustainable world. Owned by a foundation and a percentage of its employees, NIRAS Group is an international multi-disciplinary consultancy firm with Nordic roots and values creating sustainable development since 1956. NIRAS operates globally to deliver tailored, innovative, value-creating, and results-driven solutions to enable its clients and partners – international development organisations, donors, governments, institutional investors, and the private sector – to achieve their goals. NIRAS is **structured as a matrix organisation**, allowing for continuous learning, sharing, and adoption of good practices between different countries and market contexts, clients, and technical solutions. One of NIRAS's key strengths is collaboration across disciplines and perspectives to ensure the application of an integrated and inclusive approach.

With **over 30 years of experience in working in and on conflicts,** NIRAS brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to its projects. This extensive experience allows NIRAS to navigate complex conflict dynamics, adapt strategies to evolving contexts, and develop innovative solutions that address the root causes of fragility and conflict. Indeed, NIRAS has demonstrated exceptional proficiency in managing multimillion funds and programmes dedicated to conflict, stability, security, and migration on behalf of renowned European donors, including KfW, SIDA, GIZ, SDC, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This expertise showcases NIRAS's ability to effectively allocate resources and implement impactful projects in complex environments and integrating diverse sectors, promote gender balance, and implement innovative approaches.

NIRAS is considered as **leader in nexus projects** by successfully integrating development aid, humanitarian assistance, and security initiatives, ensuring a comprehensive and synergistic approach to addressing complex challenges. By bridging these sectors, NIRAS has been able to deliver innovative and holistic solutions that have a lasting impact on conflict-affected communities. Operating in fragile context entails various risks, ranging from contextual to programmatic and institutional. Our risk management approach involves managing rather than avoiding risk, as higher-risk options are often necessary to address fragility in complex and uncertain environments. NIRAS specifically draws upon its extensive technical expertise in various specific areas such as conflict prevention, stabilization and transition, countering violent extremism, peacebuilding, and reconciliation to address the underlying causes of fragility and conflict.

Collaboration and partnership are fundamental values at NIRAS. We actively engage with local partners who possess a deep understanding of affected communities, including civil society organizations, media outlets, traditional leaders, women's groups, youth organizations, marginalized populations, and governments. By working closely with these stakeholders, we create inclusive and context-specific programs. During the critical post-crisis period, we provide assistance to communities, aiding in their recovery and preventing the escalation of conflicts. Simultaneously, we proactively monitor and respond to early warning signs, mitigating potential conflicts and promoting sustainable peace.

#5
Gender equality

#10
Reduced inequalities

#16
Peace, justice and strong institutions

NIRAS takes a **results-driven approach to foster peace, support democratic transitions, and promote political stability**. Through tailored interventions that address the unique needs and contexts of the communities we serve, we make a tangible impact on the lives of individuals affected by conflicts. By forging holistic partnerships, we gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges at hand and develop innovative solutions rooted in evidence-based research and robust analytics. Our programs are designed to foster tolerance, reduce vulnerabilities, and address the root causes of violence within communities.

Transversal & multisectoral approach (360 approach)

NIRAS follows a Triple Nexus approach, ensuring that the following principles and steps are consistently taken into consideration: the integration of Do No Harm principles throughout programming, the implementation of high standards of Duty of Care procedures, and an inclusive and integrated approach. This approach encompasses important principles such as Gender Mainstreaming, Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA), Do No Harm, and Leave No One Behind.

Services

- Tailored qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches suited to individual assignment needs that are guided by best practice.

- Utilisation focused outputs to ensure that our MEL outputs and learning influence decision making and programme management.

- Application of innovative technology-based data collection, analysis and communication approaches that use a wide range of bespoke tools tailored to programme context – including tools for satellite and remote sensing; natural language processing; machine learning; web-crawling; and integrated data visualisation.

- Rapid response and mobilisation based on framework contract routines.

- Dedication to credibility, independence and usefulness.

- Facilitation of training courses, workshops & seminars on Peace and Stabilisation engagements

- Strong internal conflict management capacity combined with easy access to thousands of relevant external experts in our database

- Tested teams of respected professionals highly experienced in managing complex and sensitive conflict contexts

- Integration of a conflict analysis into planning and implementation, ensuring conflict sensitivity. Comprehensively planning security according to the NIRAS duty of care policies is a priority, especially in high-risk areas. We prioritize the safety of our staff and experts and provide Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT) for deployments in fragile areas.

- We mitigate challenges through rigorous context analysis and developing social capacities for peace.

- Digital Management Hub – centralise the management of all tasks and activities of the Contract though our internal hub, which allow us to manage all aspects of the contract through interconnected surfaces that feed information into one another.

"In NIRAS, we have developed security guidelines and processes in order to deal with crisis situations. We have a task force in place to manage this type of situations and also deal with staff evacuations where this is necessary. These plans have also been in place in Ukraine. In this immediate situation, our main concern is to secure the safety of our staff. This has been the primary task for our project managers and local staff, who are cooperating with the taskforce"

- Markus Davelid
Executive Vice President for NIRAS Development Consulting

Our services

We provide the following services which are specifically tailored to address key areas of focus on disaster risk management, migration, peacebuilding, and stabilization.

Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation

NIRAS focuses on tackling the causes of conflicts and promoting peaceful coexistence through dialogue, mediation, and initiatives for justice

Services

- Assisting individuals and institutions in overcoming conflict through non-violent means
- Facilitating dialogue and constructive engagement between the state and civil society, as well as among parties involved in conflicts
- Supporting initiatives and projects that address past experiences of violence, promoting reconciliation, and drawing lessons for the future
- Preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE) through addressing the underlying factors that contribute to its emergence such as discrimination, marginalization and governance issues

Examples of our project in Mali focusing on harnessing the energy and creativity of youth to build peace and reconciliation in Mali.

Displacement and Migration

NIRAS aims to address the challenges of displacement and migration by empowering individuals, supporting host communities, and providing advice to policymakers.

Services

- Addressing the urgent needs of refugees (and host communities) through infrastructure (like WASH and Education) projects in settlements
- Conflict mediation among refugees and between refugees and host communities in and around refugee settlements -Fund management in refugee programmes working with partners from both local civil society, INGOs, UN and local and central governments
- Assisting host communities in accommodating and providing services to large numbers of additional residents
- Supporting the reintegration of returnees economically, socially, and politically

Example: our regional project in the Horn of Africa Supporting migrants, refugees, and host communities aiming to create economic opportunities, improve living conditions, and promote social cohesion among refugees, migrants, and host communities in the IGAD region by promoting inclusive, participatory investment planning, and implementation in selected areas.

Disaster Risk Management

NIRAS takes a comprehensive approach to disaster risk management, focusing on prevention, response, and recovery measures.

Services

- Developing appropriate infrastructure and early warning systems to prevent disasters
- Providing immediate emergency assistance and implementing reconstruction measures
- Promoting risk reduction measures in national policies and integrating them into poverty reduction strategies and development plans

NIRAS has been working in Ukraine for close to 25 years, notably by implementing the Technical Assistance to Support the Implementation of the Ukraine Recovery Programme (URP) funded by the European Investment Bank.

Strengthening State Capacities

NIRAS strengthens the legitimate state monopoly on the use of force through security sector reform and capacity building of security agencies.

Services

- Supporting democratic oversight and accountability in the security sector (SSR, DDR,...)
- Enhancing the capacity of security and law enforcement agencies to protect the population
- Promoting peace, stability, and development by creating a framework for the protection of individuals and addressing regional and global security risks

Funded by the EU, the NIRAS-led Technical Assistance supports a reinforcement of the Seychelles' Department of Legal Affairs to improve efficiency in drafting regulations relating to anti-money laundering, confiscation of crime proceeds, and anti-corruption.

Monitoring Evaluation and Learning (MEL) / results-based management (RBM) / Evaluations / surveys

NIRAS provides sensitive support in fragile contexts, taking into account local dynamics and potential conflicts.

Services

- Conducting comprehensive peace and conflict assessments to analyze causes and consequences of conflicts
- Applying conflict-sensitive methods to mitigate unintended negative impacts and promote positive outcomes
- Identifying and addressing risks and unintended consequences

NIRAS' dedicated webpage including services, methodologies, approaches and examples of implemented projects.

Fragile Context Development Support

NIRAS provides sensitive support in fragile contexts, taking into account local dynamics and potential conflicts.

Services

- Conducting comprehensive peace and conflict assessments to analyze causes and consequences of conflicts
- Applying conflict-sensitive methods to mitigate unintended negative impacts and promote positive outcomes
- Identifying and addressing risks and unintended consequences

The Deployment Facility for Peace and Democracy (DFPD) is an emergency roster managed by NIRAS under the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) that can be used to deploy civilian experts to hotspots where stabilisation, peacekeeping and democracy-building efforts are needed. NIRAS's management has played a pivotal role in positioning Denmark as a significant contributor to EU civilian Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) missions.
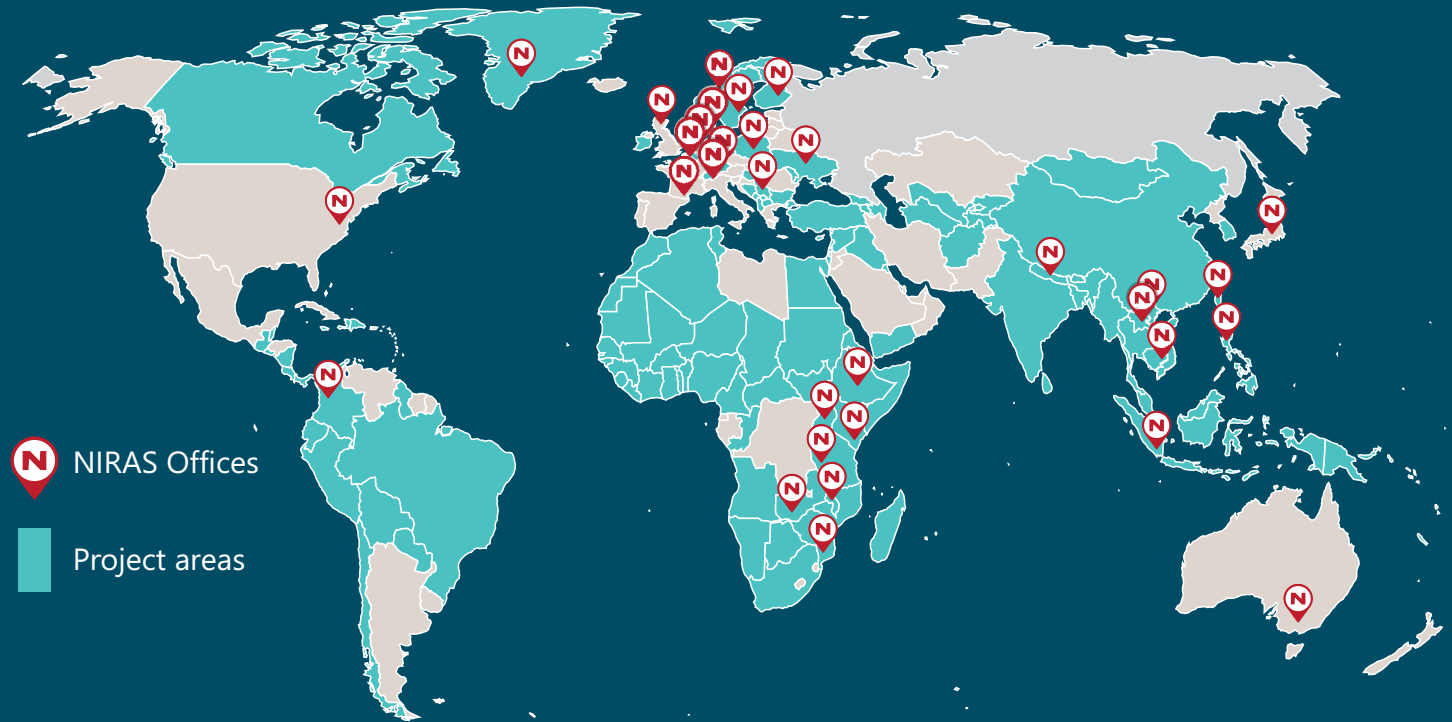
References

Project Title	Scope	Donor	Duration	Value (EUR)
Deployment Facility for Peace & Democracy (Formerly known as Administrative Management of Denmark's Peace and Stabilisation Response (PSR/FSB))	Global	Danida	04/2008-02/2028	8,216,044
Feasibility Study and preliminary technical Design for a Hybrid Wastewater System in Juba	South Sudan	SwedFund	04/2023-05/2024	663,200
MEAL Unit under Climate Change, Conflict, Displacement and Irregular Migration Programme in Sahel	Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger	Danida	11/2022 – 09/2026	1,878,856
Consulting services to support IGAD with the implementation of the Regional Migration Fund supporting Migrants, Refugees and host communities in the IGAD Region (Regional Migration Fund – RMF) funded by German Financial Cooperation	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya	KFW	08/2019 -09/2024	5,398,585
Framework agreements - Peace, Human Security and Humanitarian Assistance	Global	Sida	10/2020 – 08/2024	1,334,223
F und for the Support of Drivers of Change / Gestionnaire du Fonds d'Appui Aux Moteurs du Changement (FAMOC)	Mali	Danida	12/2018 – 05/2024	3,303,000
Facility On Conflict Analysis, Risk Assessments And Monitoring Frameworks	Globa	EU	12/2020 – 12/2023	546,000
Conflict sensitivity, human rights based approach and gender mainstreaming in priority sectors of the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme in Nigeria	Nigeria	EU	11/2022 – 11/2023	243,675
Study on Radicalisation, Prisons and Social Cohesion in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	EU	12/2022 - 09/2023	122,448
Conflict-sensitive monitoring evaluation for the Regional Capitales Program 2	Cameroon	AfD	04/2021 – 05/2023	250,000
Mid-term Evaluation Promoting the rule of law, enhancing security and countering terrorism	Lebanon	EU	01/2022 – 01/2023	109,860
Support to the Seychelles Department of Legal Affairs	Seychelles	EU	11/2019–11/2022	718,880
Rehabilitation and reintegration of youth involved in organized crime in LAC region	Colombia, Peru, Paraguay, El Salvador	EU	01/2022 – 11/2022	209,844
Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) - MEL Agent	Global	FCDO	01/2019 – 09/2022	687,191
Strategic and prospective final evaluation of the "Prevention of violent extremism" projects	Burkina Faso	EU	11/2021 – 09/2022	217,747
Evaluation of Guatemalan Institutional Justice Strengthening Project	Guatemala	Embassy of Sweden	06/2021 – 01/2022	47.958,81
Security and Development in Northern Mali (SDNM). External evaluation of phase 2 and feasibility study of phase 3	Mali	AFD	04/2021 – 12/2021	88.011,00

Project Title	Scope	Donor	Duration	Value (EUR)
Evaluation of: Water, Peace and Security - Transboundary water diplomacy	Multi	MFA Finland	11/2020 – 09/2021	204,680
Support for South Sudanese Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda (Refugee Response Fund)	Uganda	KfW	02/2019-03/2023	1,733,646
Strategic Evaluation of EU support to community stabilisation, local governance and local development in Libya	Libya	EU	01/2021 – 05/2021	83.400,00
Interim Evaluation Of Pravo Police Project	Ukraine	EU	09/2020 – 03/2021	105,130
Final evaluation of Palanca Jointly Operated Border Crossing Point in Moldova	Moldova/ Ukraine	EU	09/2019 – 03/2020	47,074
Conflict Sensitivity Support and Environmental Support to the NGO DEME SO in Mali	Mali	Sida	11/2019–01/2020	89,633
Final evaluation of the Programme ' Socio-economic rehabilitation and reintegration after the war, in the eastern regions of the DRC (LRRD), Eastern Congo	DRC	EU	02/2019 – 09/2019	105,514
Sustainable Repatriation Programme for Myanmar Refugees	Myanmar	EU	01/2019 – 07/2019	207,755

Photo: EU EOM Colombia 2022

NIRAS Global Presence

NIRAS Offices

Project areas

NIRAS' decentralised structure ensures that we are always close to our projects. With 59 offices in 33 countries worldwide, we maintain strong local ties to clients, experts and organisations in all of our key markets. Building on our motto "We listen, we learn, we deliver", NIRAS is proud to be a long-term partner in the pursuit of growth and prosperity for the countries in which we work.

Get in touch

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Learn more about
NIRAS' role in Peace and Stability