



The Challenge

Creators of Peace (CoP) is an international women's initiative started in 1991. It challenges women everywhere to:

- Share responsibility for their part in the perpetration of conflict and in its resolution
- Engage in the creation of inclusive communities at every level of society
- Break the chains of hate and revenge
- Build networks of forgiveness and friendship across racial, religious and social divides

Contact

For information about Creators of Peace activities near you please write to creatorsofpeace@iofc.org

www.cop.iofc.org

Creators of Peace is a programme of Initiatives of Change



Initiatives of Change

Building trust across the world's divides

CREATORS OF PEACE (CoP)

FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

The Creators of Peace (CoP) initiative was launched in 1991 at the Initiatives of Change conference centre in Caux, Switzerland by the Hon. Anna Abdallah Msekwa of Tanzania, a respected politician and leader of her country's women's organizations. In her inaugural speech, she urged everyone to 'create peace wherever we are, in our hearts, our homes, our workplace and our community. We all pretend that someone else is the stumbling block... Could that someone be myself?'

CoP is now a global network of people working in over 40 countries – through conferences: Caux, Switzerland '91, '94 and 2016, India 2001, Uganda 2005, Australia 2009 – and through workshops, personal encounters, community building activities and Creators of Peace Circles. A delegation attended the UN Women's Conference in Beijing (1995). www.iofc.org/creators-of-peace

THE PROCESS

Using Creators of Peace Circles and forums for:

- Promoting the transforming dynamic of a change of heart, starting with oneself, as a primary tool of peace creation.
- Inviting the practice of deep reflection, or listening to the inner voice of truth, or God, as a source of wisdom and direction.
- Pre-empting violence and despair by addressing the roots of conflict, within us and around us.
- Creating spaces for interpersonal, interethnic and inter-religious encounters.
- Moral and spiritual capacity building for effective social action.
- Teaching conflict resolution, presentation and facilitation skills.
- Encouraging and connecting existing practitioners of peace building.

FINANCES

Until now Creators of Peace has attracted funds largely from individual donations. As its programme expands, CoP is seeking to broaden its funding to include foundations, governments, international organizations and corporations.

Activities are conducted primarily by volunteers.

Funding is principally required for:

- Bringing women together from different parts of the world, or even just within one community, for these transformative encounters.
- Follow-up visits and programmes.
- Development of materials, e.g. publication of Peace Circles literature.
- For donations please go to the Creators of Peace website and use the donate button www.iofc.org/creators-of-peace or write to creatorsofpeace@iofc.org for bank details