

**Mid-term review of YMCA Finland's Development Cooperation Programme:  
Youth, Peace and Livelihoods  
Africa regional, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Lebanon, Palestine & Ukraine  
2022-2025**

**FINAL REPORT  
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**Consultant: Olli Pitkänen**

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## Abbreviations

|                   |                                                                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AAYMCA            | African Alliance YMCA                                                          |
| AGM               | Annual General Meeting                                                         |
| AU                | The African Union                                                              |
| CSA               | Climate Smart Agriculture                                                      |
| CSO               | Civil Society Organization                                                     |
| CRS               | Christian Relief                                                               |
| CWD               | Child with disabilities                                                        |
| DAC               | Development Assistance Committee                                               |
| DRR               | Disaster Risk Reduction                                                        |
| ECHO              | European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations                      |
| IDP               | Internally Displaced person                                                    |
| IITA              | International Institute of Tropical Agriculture                                |
| INGO              | International Non-Governmental Organization                                    |
| IOM               | International organisation for migration                                       |
| IOPT              | Israel and occupied Palestinian Territory                                      |
| KCYPS             | The Kenya Coalition on Youth, Peace, and Security                              |
| KYCAT             | Kenya YMCA College of agriculture and technology                               |
| NTI (Shauri Moyo) | Kenya YMCA National Training Institute                                         |
| NGO               | Non-governmental organisation                                                  |
| MFA               | Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Finland)                                         |
| MHPSS             | Mental Health and Psychosocial Support                                         |
| MTR               | Mid-Term review                                                                |
| NAP               | National Action Plan                                                           |
| NITA              | National Industrial Training Authority                                         |
| NYC               | National Youth Council                                                         |
| ODA               | Official Development Assistance                                                |
| PSEAH             | Prevention and elimination of sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment |
| PSS               | Psycho-Social Support                                                          |
| PWD               | Person with disabilities                                                       |
| SHG               | Self-help group                                                                |
| TVET              | Technical and vocational education and training                                |
| UN                | United Nations                                                                 |
| YMCA              | Young Men Christian Association                                                |
| YPS               | Youth, Peace and Security                                                      |
| YWD               | Youth with disabilities                                                        |

# 1. Background

The YMCA Finland's Development Cooperation Programme seeks to empower youth through livelihood opportunities and peace education in the Gambia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lebanon, Palestine, and Ukraine. The Africa Alliance of YMCAs shares best practices regionally in Cameroon, Burundi, Togo, and Senegal. In the operational countries, there are ongoing wars in Lebanon, Palestine, and Ukraine and major conflicts in Ethiopia. These fights limit YMCA operations and require adaptivity.

In the DAC list of ODA recipients<sup>1</sup>, the YMCA Finland's Global Programme countries, which belong to "least developed countries," are Ethiopia, Burundi, Gambia, Senegal, and Togo. In "lower-middle-income countries," Cameroon, Kenya, Lebanon, and Ukraine, and in "upper-middle-income countries," there are the West Bank and Gaza.

In the fragile states index<sup>2</sup> Ethiopia is 12<sup>th</sup>, Palestine 13<sup>th</sup>, Cameroon 20<sup>th</sup>, Ukraine 22<sup>nd</sup>, Lebanon 23<sup>rd</sup>, Burundi 24<sup>th</sup>, Kenya 36<sup>th</sup>, Togo 51<sup>st</sup>, Gambia 61<sup>st</sup> and Senegal 70<sup>th</sup>.

This review was conducted between June and November 2024, midway through the four-year programme cycle 2022-2025. It mainly focused on its first half considering the project supported between 2019-2021 in the target countries. In addition to steering the final year of 2025, this review provides recommendations for planning the next program cycle, 2026 - 2029. Global education and development communications were excluded from this review. Most of the recommendations are for the new programme 2026 – 2029 but should begin to be implemented already in 2025 during the last year of an ongoing programme.

## THE YMCA BACKGROUND

The YMCA<sup>3</sup> is one of the world's oldest and largest movements for youth, operating in 120 countries and reaching over 60 million people. The YMCA is a local, national, and international organisation known for providing a safe community and bringing social justice and peace to young people regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, state of health, sexual orientation, or socio-economic background. Throughout its history, the YMCA has been a pioneer in urban youth work. A local, authentic, and historical presence brings a deep and holistic understanding of the situation of young people.

As a truly global movement with an international headquarters that was established in 1855, international collaboration has been ingrained in the core of the YMCA movement. Partly due to this character, the YMCA started to be strongly involved in humanitarian, refugee, and rehabilitation work in the early years.

YMCA Finland was founded in 1889 and began its international social work by helping refugees after World War II. The global YMCA network and long-term commitment to working with the most vulnerable groups create a solid structure and base for strong international partnerships. In 1979, the ongoing collaboration began in The Gambia, which marked the start of development cooperation within YMCA Finland. The Nordic countries, Kosovo and Hungary have also been long-term partners.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/oda-eligibility-and-conditions/dac-list-of-oda-recipients.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://fragilestatesindex.org/global-data/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ymca.int/who-we-are/the-worldwide-ymca-movement/the-ymca-history/>

## YMCA FINLAND'S GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The potential of the YMCA is significant, and the groundwork has been built over a long period of time. In 2015, a new page was turned when the expansion of development cooperation accelerated. The work began with an assessment of potential YMCA partners in the Middle East and Africa. A new partnership was launched in **Lebanon** in 2016, and the cooperation in the Gambia was expanded in 2018 with Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) project support.

During the years, projects in **Kenya** and **Palestine** were also prepared and were funded from 2021 onwards. Since the beginning of this growth phase, the entirety of projects has been designed thematically coherent and the approach programmatic. Conscious and noticeable efforts were made to pave the way towards MFA's programme-support funding, which was then received in 2022 after a thorough assessment and application period between 2020-2021.

The programme funding enabled extending the cooperation with the **Africa Alliance of YMCA** and the launching of a new partnership with **YMCA Ethiopia**. Notably (but excluded from this review), YMCA Finland is now also able to empower more young people with diverse backgrounds through its **global education** programme that serves as a binding element between development cooperation and youth empowerment in Finland. In addition, cooperation in **Ukraine, as the work of local YMCA partners**, has started slowly in 2023 and is expanding in 2025.

In recent years, resources and professional capacities have multiplied, and the YMCA's vast potential has been harnessed more effectively. YMCA draws not only international networks but also a broad and diverse national network of professionals and young people. Today, YMCA Finland operates as a national central organisation for 30 local YMCA associations in Finland. The YMCA movement in Finland has more than 400 employees, almost 2000 volunteers, and an annual turnover of more than 30 million euros. At the same time, the staff of the YMCA Finland national office increased to 11 people. The total expenditure of the national office amounted to 2 417 732,90€, and the expenditure on the development cooperation programme accounted for 1,902,732,90€ in 2023.

The YMCA Finland's **Development Cooperation Programme** seeks to empower youth through livelihood opportunities and peace education so they can become active peacemakers both in their communities and globally. The United Nations Security Council Resolution of 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) steered the Development Cooperation Program.<sup>4</sup> The YPS agenda recognises young people as important partners in conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and social development. The YPS agenda has strengthened the recognition of the societal importance of youth work. As a global youth organisation, the YMCA is critical in advancing this agenda. YMCA promotes solidarity across borders and connects young people between the global North and the global South to drive social change together.

The **impact** that the programme seeks is a contribution to an enhanced standard of living with inclusive livelihood opportunities and respected human rights through empowered and resilient young people acting as peacemakers.

## YMCA VISION 2030

YMCA's Vision 2030<sup>5</sup> was adopted at the World Council in July 2022.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://2250finland.fi/en/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ymca.int/what-we-do/vision-2030/>

Vision: Our vision is a world where every person lives in harmony with self, with society and with creation.

Mission: The YMCA's mission is to empower young people and communities worldwide to build a just, sustainable, equitable, and inclusive world where every person can thrive in body, mind, and spirit.

All YMCAs should focus on four Pillars of Impact and work toward 12 strategic goals to achieve Vision 2030.

Four pillars are as follows:

- Community Wellbeing
- Meaningful Work
- Sustainable Planet
- A Just World

YMCA Finland's global programme is in line with Vision 2030 and complements its four impact pillars. This should strengthen the partners' commitment to the Vision 2030 as well.

## 2. Executive Summary

YMCA Finland has been supporting its partners in Ethiopia, Lebanon, Kenya, Gambia, and Palestine and has recently started cooperation in Ukraine. They also support the African Alliance of YMCAs (AAYMCA) and its efforts to empower young people in Africa. This cooperation has included small-scale assistance in Cameroon, Burundi, Senegal, and Togo.

YMCA Finland operates in a global network of YMCAs, which has been key for creating natural partnerships with like-minded organizations that share the same vision and values. There is no need to build a new organisational structure, but YMCA Finland has been integrated into the existing network (YMCA Family). The other YMCAs are not depending on Finland's support, but their northern partner has been able to provide important assistance to expand their operations.

The programme has included vocational education, skill and entrepreneurship training, and the introduction of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) at the Kenya YMCA College of Agriculture and Technology (KYCAT), through which other African YMCAs have been sensitised to the CSA approach. It has been wise to use existing YMCA institutions for education and training and the cooperation has helped them to upgrade their operations and attract more students.

The programme has made significant progress in reaching young people, and many students have gained skills by which they have been able to get employment or have started self-employment. The topics taught have been relevant to the students and equipped them with sustainable lives.

The impact of YMCA Finland's support in upgrading facilities has affected partners' capability in marketing their services and attracting new students. Providing scholarships has had an impact on providing education for the poorest students who otherwise could be left out of training.

The role of Kenyan Agriculture College (KYCAT) in disseminating the CSA approach to other organisations in Kenya and other African YMCAs has already had an impact but needs to be strengthened in the future. CSA

has an important role in terms of employment and food production, especially its impact on environmentally friendly and sustainable food production.

There is a need to promote digital inclusion and improve digital skills among young people from marginalised communities. This also requires equipment and training, which must be estimated in the planning process to determine whether it is viable for YMCA Finland. Although social media is widely used in all the target countries, there is a need to improve the quality, especially when the youth are using it for marketing purposes and advancing their business opportunities.

There is a need to emphasise the importance of collecting and publishing success stories from the projects. During the Mid-Term Review many interesting stories were heard which have not been recorded. There could be a person designated in each office to collect success stories.

The African Union has created its 2063 strategy with many issues aligned with YMCA's 2030 Vision. The MTR recommends that YMCA Finland explore possibilities to collaborate with the African Union and create relationships with them. It could be ideal to arrange meetings with the African Union to discuss potential future programs and themes, particularly focusing on youth vocational education and job creation.

Overall, the MTR states that YMCA Finland's initiatives, together with its partners in empowering young people, supporting peace-building activities, and introducing Climate Smart Agriculture, have been effective and created impact and sustainability. There are areas that need improvement, like strengthening students' long-term economic stability and strengthening people with disabilities' possibilities to participate in skills and entrepreneurship training. Their rights and participation need to be more focused, including teachers' inclusive training and providing accessibility.

YMCA Finland's work to increase rights holders' resilience has been increased through education and training. Youth livelihoods have improved through their realisation of their right to work and protection against unemployment. The education and training have enabled them to get work and earn their living.

Evidence shows that peacebuilding activities amongst youth and communities have increased the capacity to prevent and mitigate conflicts and promoted the right-to-peace approach. People are keen to learn new methods to build peace.

The programme has provided a comprehensive delivery of services, which has guaranteed a solid base for long-term development. Quality assurance has been stable but needs more support, especially so that right holders, people, and communities can exercise their rights on a full scale and participate in actions and decisions that affect them.

Because of the increased conflicts, there is also a need to increase rights holders' and communities' preparedness and resilience to potential crises. This should happen so that there is no harm to people or the environment.

There is also a need to improve rights holders' and their communities' ability to report concerns and complaints and have them addressed safely. Interaction between YMCA Finland and its partners, staff, and volunteers has functioned well, but there is a need to improve feedback linkages from YMCA Finland to the national YMCA and right holders. YMCA people should maintain a high standard of respectful, competent, and well-managed relations. It is necessary to discuss with the YMCA partner's management the framework for ethical and responsible conduct in cooperation.

*A summary table presenting the main findings, conclusions, and recommendations:*

| EVALUATION CRITERION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | FINDINGS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | CONCLUSIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | RECOMMENDATIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Relevance:</b> The extent to which the intervention objectives and design respond to right-holders, global, country, and partner/institution needs, policies, and priorities and continue to do so if circumstances change.</p> <p>-To what extent does the program align with current global, regional, and country-specific development trends and priorities on Youth, peace, and security? (YPS)</p> <p>-How has the programme succeeded in promoting and implementing Finland's National Action Plan (NAP) on Youth, Peace and Security?</p> | <p>The Programme responds well to planned target groups and is relevant to rights holders and other groups.</p> <p>The programme aligns with the generally agreed development trends and priorities of YPS.</p> <p>Although the program has been going on only since 2022, it has succeeded in promoting and supporting NAPs in target countries. Gambia, Kenya, and Cameroon will launch their own NAPs officially.</p> <p>During wars and conflicts, country-level projects have offered opportunities to learn relevant skills, which enable them to find jobs.</p> | <p>The program is relevant in its operational countries and has well-defined objectives. Clearly, YPS is well promoted and supported, and the partners' advocacy has aligned with international policies.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>-Keep on supporting partners in YPS advocacy and involvement in national cooperation.</p> <p>-Assist national offices in strengthening their capacity to support and train youth. Especially focus on young people's long term development and strengthen continuation in their empowerment.</p>                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Impact:</b> The extent to which the intervention is expected to generate significant positive or negative, intended or unintended, higher-level effects.</p> <p>- How has the programme empowered young people, and what evidence is there of increased agency, skills development, and participation in decision-making processes?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>The programme has helped youth gain skills that allow them to quickly get employment or become self-employed.</p> <p>Vocational education and skill training are challenging in all the target countries. However, there is clear evidence that the programme has been instrumental in providing practical training that helps youth find meaningful jobs.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>The programme has trained a large number of youths who are able to find jobs in various ways and maintain their lives.</p> <p>Peace-making activities have supported harmony building in the village.</p> <p>Harmony is a basic requirement: without it, there would be no peace, livelihood, or work.</p> <p>In many cases, the trained and educated youth are the breadwinners of their families; therefore, their impact on sustaining bigger groups is essential.</p> | <p>To increase impact, continuation of support for trained youth should be provided. Instead of always taking new students, strengthening training would have a bigger impact on rights holders' lives.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b>Effectiveness:</b> The extent to which the intervention is expected to be achieved, as well as its objectives and results, including any differential results across groups.</p> <p>-What is the most effective approach of the programme in promoting youth employment?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>There are two approaches to training: vocational colleges in Kenya and short-term skills training in many other countries, like Lebanon. Both seem to be effective in their given circumstances. The objectives are clear, but the activities might differ.</p> <p>The challenge is for people with disabilities to receive education and training, which has not been achieved as planned.</p>                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>The training generally achieves its objectives well. Different approaches are used depending on the country, which are well adapted in their respective countries. One major challenge is that the number of youths with disabilities is small.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>While the existing models are working well, the quality of the training needs to be improved.</p> <p>Invest in youth with disabilities (YWD) education. Make premises accessible and improve their access to schools with partners and communities. Find professionals to offer inclusive education to teachers and identify challenges as to why YWDs are not attending the training.</p> |



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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Efficiency:</b> The extent to which the intervention delivers, or is likely to deliver, results in an economical and timely way. Furthermore, the management and administrative arrangements can be analysed. What is the quality of the projects/programmes' management, and have specific capacity-building or learning needs been identified?</p> <p>- How should limited resources be used in the future?</p>                                       | <p>The programme and its country projects deliver results economically and in a timely manner, although there is still room for improvement. In most of the target countries, administrative arrangements are well arranged. Gambia has some challenges with management, which needs improvement. However, the Programme is going well and reaching right holders well.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>The programme has delivered the interventions well, although some improvement is needed. Not all project administrations operate at their best and still need to strengthen their capacity.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Some partners need more capacity building, going on management and administration practices. It is recommended that experts from Finland spend time in the country offices and mentor colleagues on how to fill reports and plans and find common ways to fulfil requirements from MFA and YMCA Finland.</p>                                                                                                                                                     |
| <p><b>Sustainability:</b> The extent to which the net benefits of the intervention continue or are likely to continue, including continuation of programme achievements when external support ends.</p> <p>- How well-established are the local YMCA organisations, and what measures have been taken to strengthen local ownership and capacities for continued operation?</p> <p>- What risks should be considered in the design of the next programme?</p> | <p>There are good signs that offered training is helping youth sustain their lives. They have been able to get jobs and income, but this could be further improved. There are some risks that some of the students might fall behind without extra training. Entrepreneurship training has not been effective enough in many cases. Local YMCAs are well established and can sustain their work without major external funds. Still, YMCA Finland's support has enabled them to extend their operations and include more youth in their activities. Several risks, such as wars in Lebanon, Palestine, and Ukraine and major conflicts in Ethiopia, are included in the planning of the new programme 2026-2029. These need special attention. In Gambia, the challenge is weak administration. The risks in new smaller countries through AAYMCA are still unclear.</p> | <p>Generally, the programme offers education and training, which creates sustainability in individuals' lives. How deep that is needs more attention. In many project countries, wars and conflicts are ongoing, making operations challenging. Still, it is possible to maintain the same objectives in supporting youth education and free-time activities. These need to be considered. In the Gambia, emigration is a huge challenge and needs special attention. Generally, the number of youth is increasing in all the target countries, and employment challenges are increasing. At the same time, once youth are frustrated without future prospects, the door for radicalisation opens.</p> | <p>There is a need to assess young people's long-term perspectives and find ways to make sustainable plans, e.g., offering extra training and mentoring. Job counselling could be part of the operations. The training is relevant to sustainability because, according to interviews, they offer job opportunities either in employment by others or self-employment. The concept of Education in Emergencies could be introduced especially in war countries.</p> |
| <p><b>Coherence:</b> The compatibility of the intervention with other interventions (especially policies) in a country, sector or institution. Coherence can include both internal and external elements.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>The programme is in line with international and national policies. The local YMCAs are well integrated with their countries' development policies and fulfil national plans.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>The program is well aligned with international and national policies and, therefore, supports global youth, peace, and security objectives. While youth lives are being supported, their</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>There is a need to get more youth into decision-making structures. While education and job creation improve young people's lives, unfortunately, only a few youths get to positions</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the programme in harmony with relevant national and local policies on youth employment and peacebuilding?</li> <li>- Is the programme aligned with the five pillars of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda / UN resolution 2250 and subsequent resolutions?</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>In all the target countries youth employment is a crucial issue because if they don't get education and jobs, that also has a huge security risk. The programme promotes youth education, employment and peacebuilding.</p> <p>The programme is well aligned with UN resolution 2250 and its five pillars: Participation, Protection, Prevention, Partnership, Disengagement, and Reintegration. It is also well aligned with YMCA's 2023 Vision's four pillars of impact: Community Wellbeing, Meaningful Work, Sustainable Planet and Just World</p>            | <p>involvement in decision-making is still limited.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>where meaningful decisions are being made. It is wise to keep YPS and YMCA's 2030 Vision on focus for the new programme and advocate them widely at the country level.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <p><b>Additional MTR issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is the emphasis in the operational countries and themes, and their prioritisation?</li> <li>- In which activities should YMCA Finland invest in each operational country in order to advance youth employment? (For example, YMCA's own institutions vs. external service providers, on-the-job training, entrepreneurship training etc.</li> <li>- How can we improve the YMCA's peace work model, making it more relevant and continuing it?</li> <li>- To assess the African Union's (AU) relationship with NGOs and YMCA and how the liaison office functions.</li> <li>- How should the approach in Ukraine be in the new programme?</li> </ul> | <p>The operational emphasis in the country projects has been well-selected and focused. It has impacted youth lives and improved their rights. Peacebuilding has brought its input but has had a limited impact and needs better indicators to be measured. It is relevant at the community level. The African Union has lots of potential and could be the next step in overall development, funding, and expanding youth education opportunities. In Ukraine, YMCA Finland has started to support EduHubs. There is also a plan to expand to humanitarian aid.</p> | <p>YMCA Finland's support of Ethiopia, Lebanon, Kenya, Gambia, and Palestine has impacted youth lives. The approaches have been well justified. This operation should be strengthened to deepen the impact and create more sustainability. Ukraine's cooperation has started well, and the planning is going well.</p> | <p>YMCA Finland should continue promoting vocational and skill training, job creation, entrepreneurship training, and mentoring for young people and advocating these issues widely in the target countries. The peacebuilding concept needs improvement, more clarification, and improved indicators that can be better measured. Establishing an official relationship with the AU and working on a MOU with them is necessary. Ukraine has had a good start to this, but it requires more planning. Two focus areas could be developed: education in Emergencies and humanitarian aid. ECHO status is being worked out, and the new programme plan should include a triple-nexus approach.</p> |