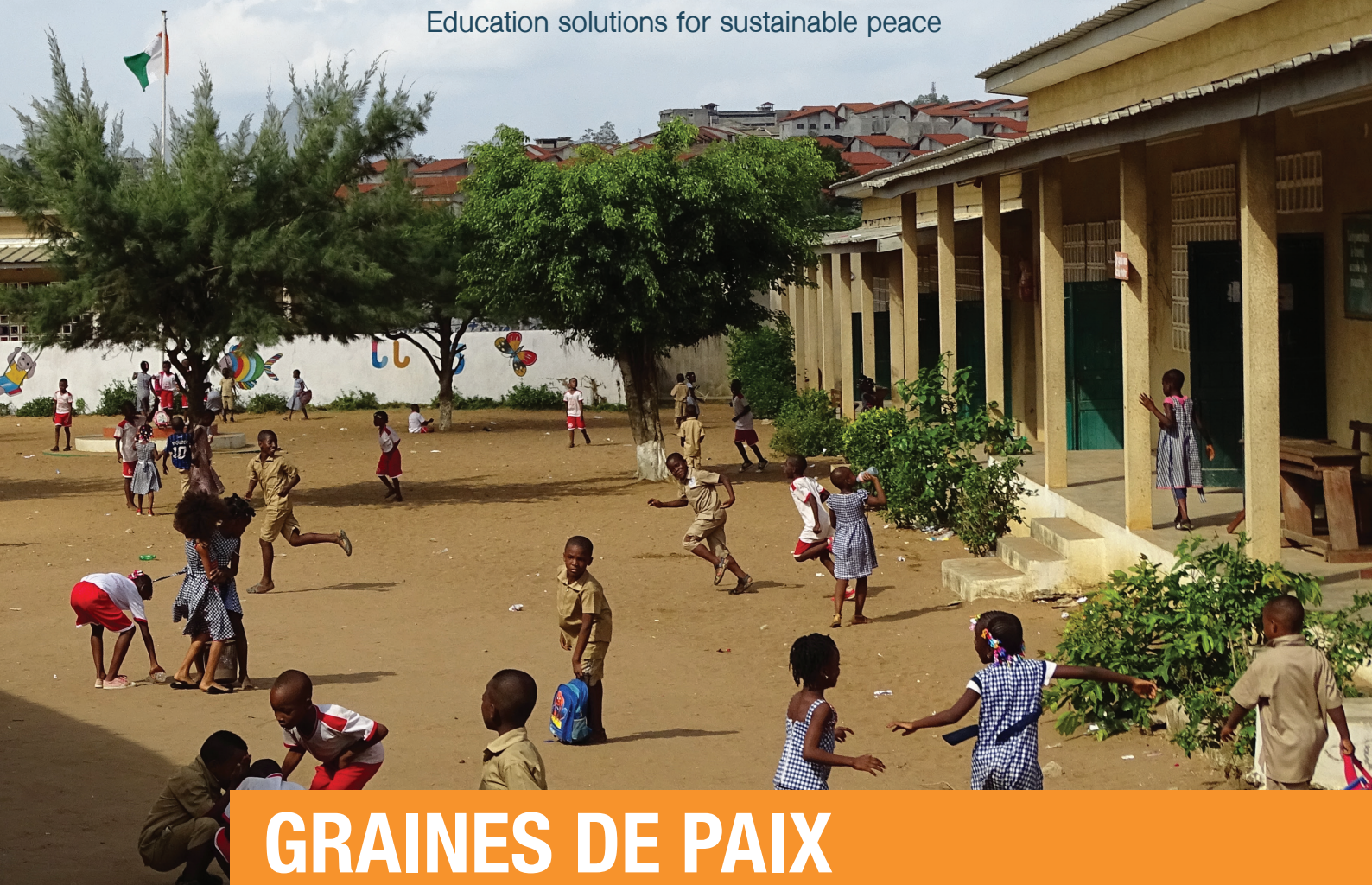




Graines de Paix

Education solutions for sustainable peace



GRAINES DE PAIX

March 2018

Our programmes in Côte d'Ivoire

CONTEXT



AN OVERVIEW IN NUMBERS:

In West Africa, **67%** of boys and **57%** of girls drop out of school for fear of violent punishment (*Stopping Violence in Schools, Unesco Report, June 2007*).

In 2016, **63%** of primary school students were struck with an object by their teachers, **38%** were victims of physical humiliation, and one in three students was the subject of insults and/or screams from their teachers.

More than seven out of ten students, over **3.3 million** pupils, experience physical violence in the school environment, of which **70%** of the occurrences were inflicted by other students (*Welfare and Safety Study students in schools in Côte d'Ivoire, Ministry of National Education, Unicef, Abidjan, 2015*).

The educational institutions in Côte d'Ivoire have committed themselves to reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030. To achieve this goal, the school system faces several challenges: a low level of basic educational attainment, high repetition and drop-out rates and the widespread phenomenon of violence in school environments, including educational violence on the part of teachers (disciplinary measures, humiliating punishments, verbal threats, corporal punishment, etc.).

These problems have a direct impact on students' motivation, their learning abilities and their school results. They affect their socio-emotional development and determine their propensity to reproduce as adults the violent and aggressive behaviors that they witness or of which they are the victims (*WHO, 2014*). This is particularly relevant in a country recovering from a period of conflict such as Côte d'Ivoire.

Faced with these challenges, the Ministry of National Education, Technical Education and Vocational Training (MENET-FP) has taken some important steps:

- The National Child Protection Policy (end of 2012);
- The Law on the Prohibition of Physical Punishment (2011);
- A Code of Conduct for its staff;
- The introduction of Human Rights and Citizenship Education (EDHC) in educational programmes (2015);
- The co-development of a Child Friendly School Program with Unicef;
- An Education/Training Sectoral Plan 2016-2025.

PROFESSIONALISING PEACE EDUCATION

Since 2012, Graines de Paix works alongside the Ivorian government to restore the school as a place of safety, conducive to learning, to the growth of students and to peaceful communal living. Together, they collaborate to achieve a positive vision of education, based on the pedagogical innovations of Peace Culture Education (PCE).

PCE is a process that *«promotes the knowledge, values, attitudes and skills needed to bring about behavioral changes that will enable children, young people and adults to prevent and resolve conflicts peacefully, to prevent violence, whether open or structural, and to create the conditions that lead to peace - for oneself, between people, between groups, at the national or the international level»* (Unicef, 1999).

Graines de Paix's approach is based on active, participative and experiential pedagogical practices to transform the teacher's posture, and allow him/her to move from authoritarian and violent discipline and class management methods to a more participatory practice, inclusive and respectful of the rights of the child. PCE, by developing emotional intelligence, improves the climate at school, facilitates basic learning and the development of life skills and fosters harmonious communal living.



Graines de Paix is committed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The partnership between MENET-FP and Graines de Paix directly contributes to the realization of the following SDGs in Côte d'Ivoire:



SDG #4: Making Quality Education a reality for all.

Quality education, peace culture, human rights and sustainable development are Graines de Paix's core priorities. We address targets #4.7 and #4.c of the 2016-2030 SDGs.



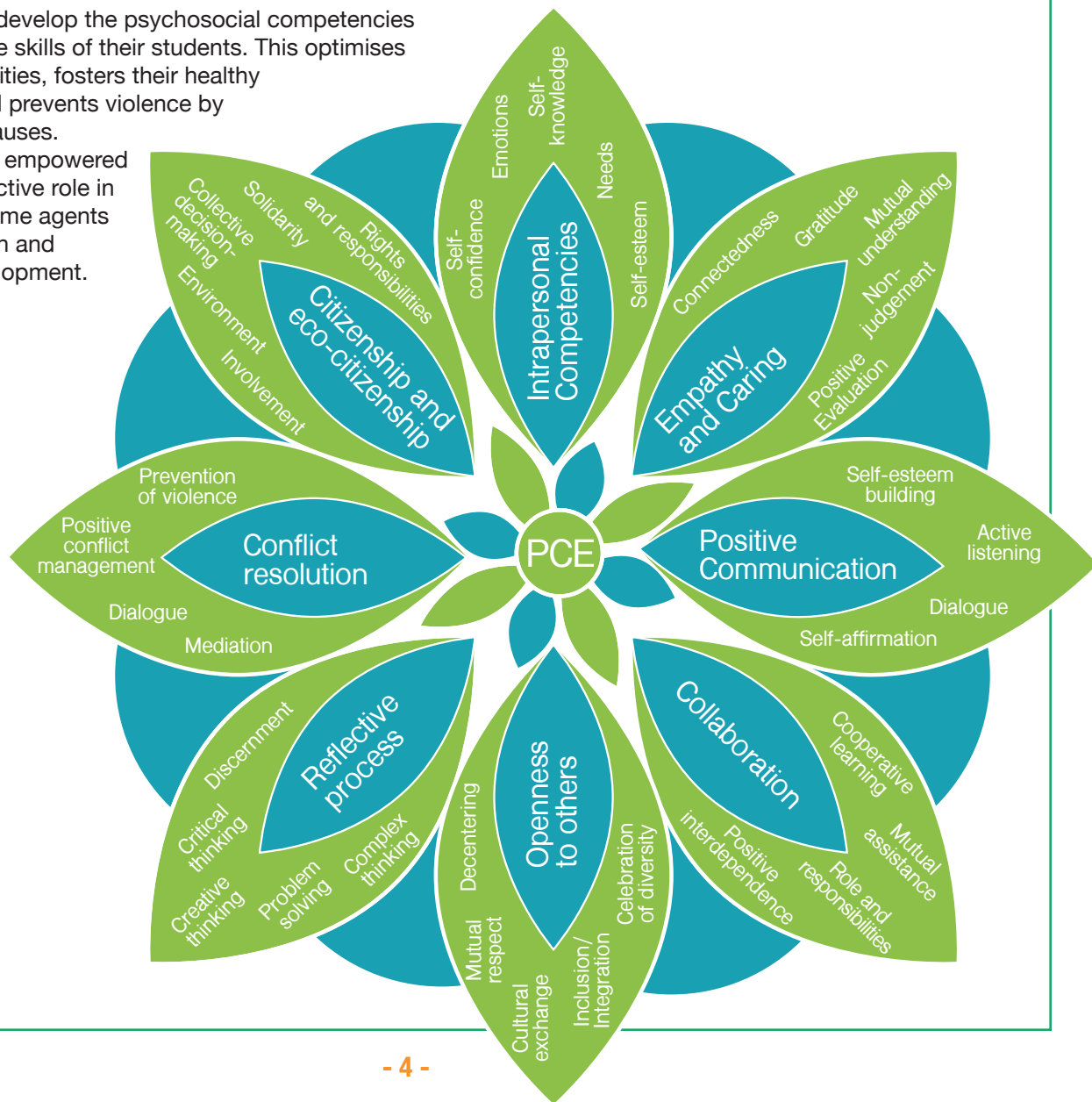
SDG #16: Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies

We intervene for the reinforcement of institutional capacity to prevent violence through education and training. Quality education that applies PCE methods is essential to prevent violence and radicalization and to reduce mortality (#16.1), as well as to prevent abuse and any form of violence against children (#16.2).

PEACE CULTURE EDUCATION COMPETENCIES

Our training courses and resources teach trainers and teachers how to develop the psychosocial competencies and peace culture skills of their students. This optimises their learning abilities, fosters their healthy development and prevents violence by recognising its causes.

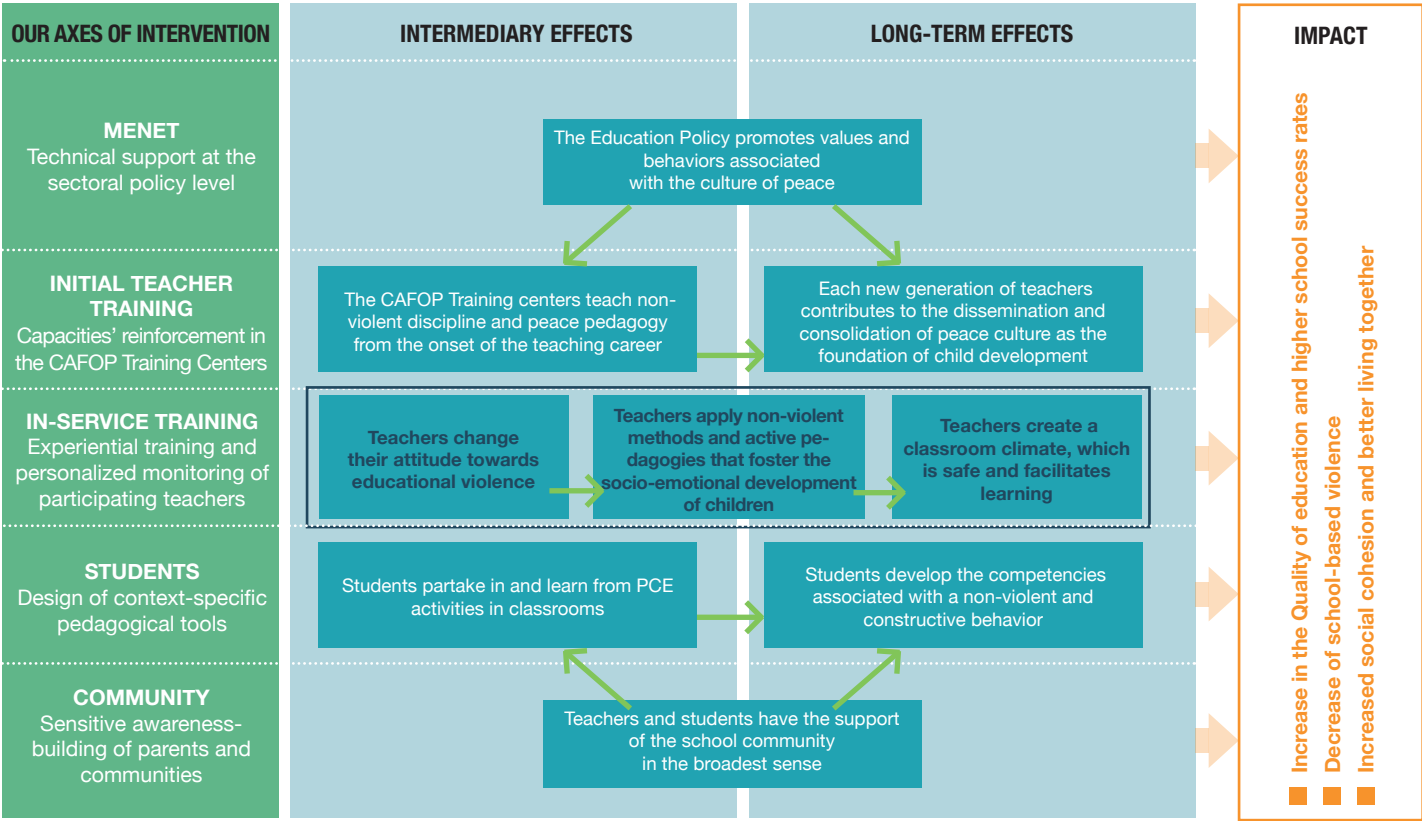
Children are thus empowered to play a constructive role in society and become agents of social cohesion and sustainable development.



OUR INTERVENTION

Graines de Paix uses a systemic approach by intervening at several levels in the Ivorian education system. Our intervention is based on individual behavioral change (changes in the posture and practices of teachers, of children) as an essential lever for societal change.

A systemic vision of change



IN-SERVICE TRAINING

National in-service training programme for pre-school and primary school teachers (2012-2017)

Graines de Paix has been conducting an in-service education program since 2012 with the aim of training primary teachers and pedagogical advisers to the tools and pedagogical approaches of PCE. The training courses are based on educational resources designed for Ivorian classes and are strengthened by personalized support for each trained teacher.

The program has already been conducted in 15 Regional Directions of National Education (DREN).

Budget
2012-2017
1.17 M CHF

In-service training cycle with external evaluation: Preventing school-based violence in the Tonkpi region (2017-2019)

In 2017, Graines de Paix initiated the 16th training cycle in the Tonkpi region. This project and its effects are evaluated by an international research team from the *London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine*. LSHTM is a pioneering university for conducting impact assessments for projects focused on behavioral change

This is a unique opportunity to gain a better understanding of the impact of the training provided by Graines de Paix, but also to develop original assessment tools and practical knowledge in a research field in full development.

Budget
2017-2019
560'000 CHF



The following expected changes will be measured at the end of the project:

Students:

- Increased opportunities to actively participate in class.
- Reduced fear of making mistakes.
- Improved teacher-student relationships.
- Increased spaces for the resolution of inter-student conflicts.

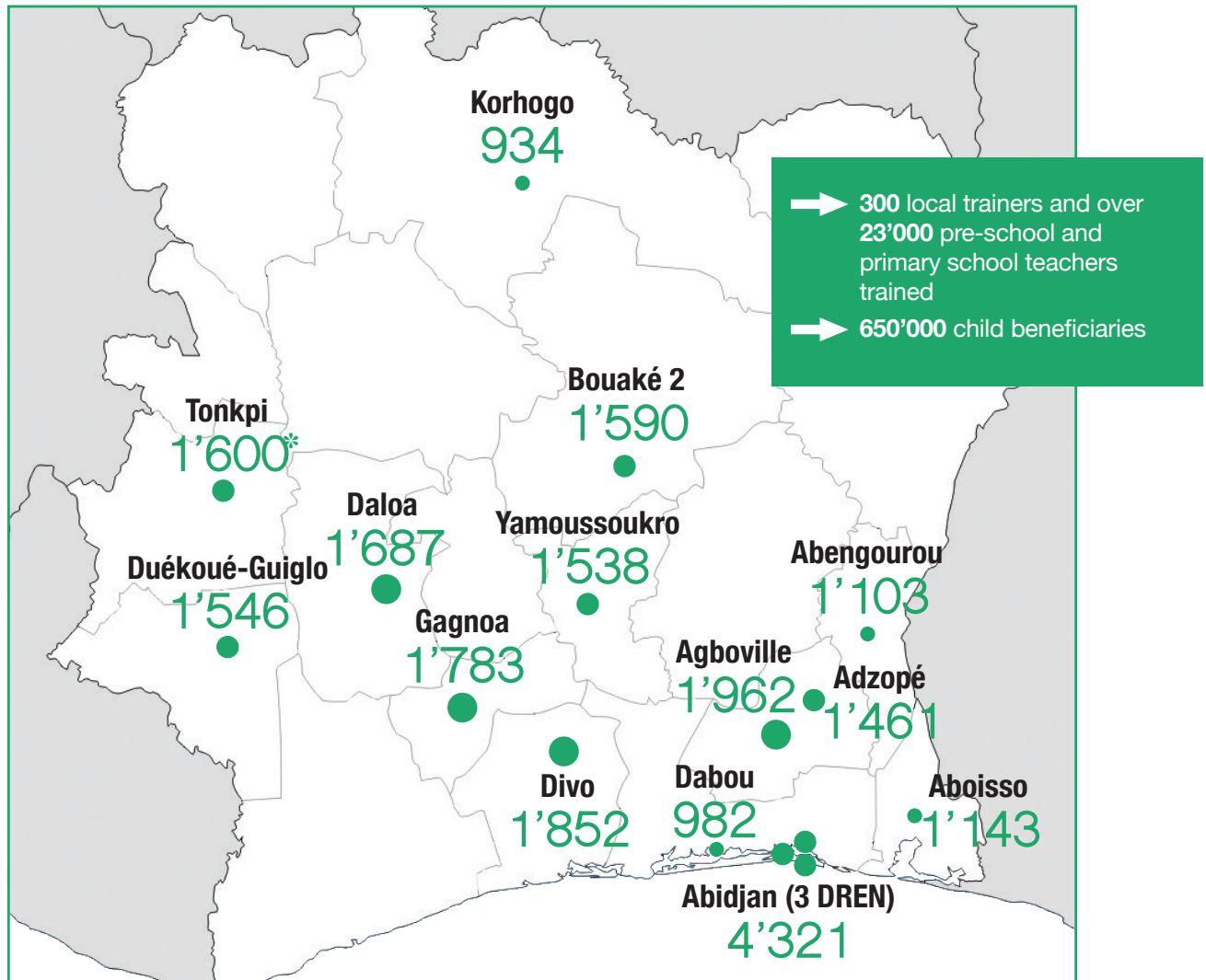
Teachers:

- Acquisition of knowledge about the adverse effects of violence on child development.
- Increased use of positive discipline.
- Decline in the use of violence as an education method.

These changes will be measured at the end of the project.

National in-service teacher training programme

Number of teachers trained by Graines de Paix per DREN from 2012 to 2017



* In progress

INITIAL TRAINING

PCE in the new teachers' skills repository

The new Initial teacher training curriculum will allow all future teachers in Côte d'Ivoire to develop core PCE competencies such as:

- ✓ Ensuring a climate of peace and trust in class and contributing to caring and safe schools;
- ✓ Eliminating discrimination of any type, stereotypes and prejudices in class practice;
- ✓ Providing emotional security when teaching;
- ✓ Managing conflicts in a non-violent way;
- ✓ Involving students in developing class living rules and upholding them together;
- ✓ Valuing the successes of each student and producing assessments that are fair, equitable and positive;
- ✓ Engaging students to co-operate and developing a spirit of creativity and initiative in the pupils.

New Ivorian teachers' competency framework, 2017

Integrating PCE in the initial teacher training course

Based on experience gained in the field since 2012, Graines de Paix is supporting the MENET-FP through the Initial Training Reform (RFI) process.

The aim is to develop a lasting training programme framework that is adapted to the children's psycho-social and psycho-affective development levels. This framework will enable teachers in-training to internalize postures and educational practices for the prevention and management of violence, leading to the realisation of a culture of peace.

This program allows:

1. The introduction of PCE-related skills in the new ivorian teachers competences framework.
2. The integration of the fundamental teachings of Peace Culture Education into the new initial teacher training modules.
3. PCE training of CAFOP Training Centers teachers studying Psycho-pedagogy and Human Rights and Citizenship Education, and fostering sensitive awareness for all CAFOP teachers and education staff.

Graines de Paix and the Ministry are carrying out the experimentation phase of the reform of the initial teacher training curriculum in pilot CAFOP centres in Yamoussoukro and Gagnoa during the 2017-2018 school year. A review of the reform will be conducted accordingly before deploying the revised initial curriculum in all the country's CAFOPs from the onset of the 2018-2019 school year.

Budget
2016-2019
885'000 CHF

A NEW EDUCATIONAL TOOL

Neither Hedgehog, nor Doormat Exhibition

In addition to the PCE guidebooks for education professionals and pedagogical kits for students, Graines de Paix offers an interactive exhibition: The exhibition Neither Hedgehog, nor Doormat for preventing violence-provoking attitudes. Designed for children ages 4 to 12, it goes beyond to stimulate reflection on behaviours that generate, facilitate or heighten violence. The exhibition includes a pedagogical support guide for teachers. Tested in schools in Abidjan and Yamoussoukro during the end of 2017, the exhibition is currently touring in primary schools in Côte d'Ivoire with resounding success. A 2 year project (2018-2019) has been developed to offer this resource to schools in Abidjan and to previously sensitized DRENETs. Teachers have given their agreement and support for this project as it has proven a useful classroom management tool and promotes a healthy school environment. This exhibition was initially designed by the Cenac (Centre for non-violent action) in 2004, managed by Graines de Paix since 2009 and fully redesigned by Graines de Paix in 2017.



ADVOCACY

In May 2016, a high level seminar was held in Geneva between the MNE and Graines de Paix, conducted by the director of the Minister's cabinet and joined by the principal technical directors. During this seminar, Graines de Paix's in-service training program (CIP2) since 2012 was reviewed. Participants went over the current reform process for the initial teacher training curriculum and defined the objectives and the scope of the integration of PCE into the initial teacher training curriculum. The outcome of the seminar was the elaboration of the current CIP3 program for the initial teacher training curriculum.

In December 2017, an advocacy event was held at the residence of the Ambassador of Switzerland in Abidjan. The purpose of this event was to present the results of Graines de Paix's programme in Côte d'Ivoire, to share the advances made in the Ivorian education system and to raise awareness of the importance of PCE in the school environment. The MNE was represented by the Director of the Ministry's cabinet, the Director of schools, high schools and colleges, and several technical executives. The Financial and Technical Partners (UNESCO, UNICEF, AFD etc.) and the foundations Children of Africa, Felix Houphouët Boigny and Amadou Hampâté Bah also took part in the event, as well as several media and civil society representatives.



From left to right: J. Guédé-Biagné, UNICEF Education Programmes Coordinator in CI, A. Kabran, the Minister's Cabinet Director, K. Méa, Advisor to the Minister, @Graines de Paix, Geneva.



The Swiss and Ivorian Graines de Paix teams with the Ambassador of Switzerland in Côte d'Ivoire

PERSPECTIVES

Practical educational resources for teachers

Graines de Paix continuously designs new pedagogical resources with the aim to strengthen students' psychosocial competencies and transform teachers' practices.

Innovative approach with a communal dimension

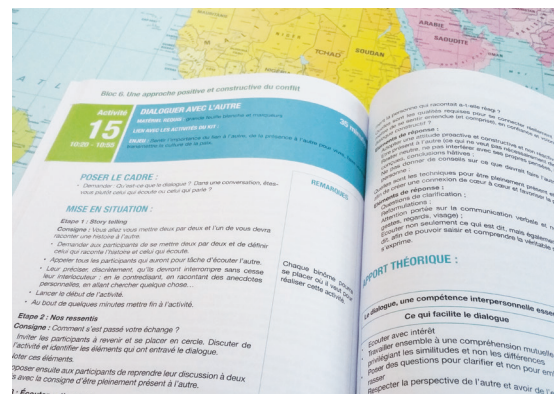
Graines de Paix is continuously updating its in-service education program around the interaction between schools and the surrounding environment. The next cycle of training for primary school teachers will include a community outreach component. This approach will promote the simultaneous evolution of PCE educational practices in schools, at the family level and in communities.

Promotion peace culture in secondary education in Côte d'Ivoire

In 2018, Graines de Paix wants to conduct a study with the University of Geneva to understand the causes of institutional violence in secondary schools. This study will design a violence prevention program, promoting peace culture in middle schools and high schools. The study will also contribute to an ongoing reflection on the process of reforming the initial secondary school teacher training curriculum.

Expansion of the Ivorian experience in the sub-region

Graines de Paix has signed collaboration protocols with the Ministries of National Education in Senegal, Benin, Guinea and Lebanon to implement national PCE programs in these countries. Workshops are planned in 2018 in Cotonou and in Dakar in order to assess local contexts and to consider a sub-regional approach.



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Join our partners:



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« In the face of the stark changes that our societies are undergoing and the growing risks to which children are exposed, it is our responsibility to develop their discernment, their resilience and their peace reflexes. Peace skills learning takes place, day after day, in schools, homes and communities, irrespective of age. It is by reinforcing such competencies in children and in communities that, together, they will be able to ensure a more peaceful world for tomorrow. Let us do what it takes to ensure that children become smarter than us in their ability to live happily together. We know well that time is of the essence. »

Delia Mamon

President and founder
Creator of the contents and methods
for teaching peace culture education
put forward by Graines de Paix

**Supports our projects !
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