

BEYOND MANAGING THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT **Demonstrating the Effectiveness of a Model for Social Transformation in Conflict**

The project “Beyond Managing the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Demonstrating the Effectiveness of a Model for Social Transformation in Conflict” is part of a wider ten-year action-research programme (2003–2013) created and coordinated by TRANSFORM (www.transform-centre.org). The programme aims at facilitating the bottom-up mobilization of empowered constituencies for a socially just peace – making it a unique intervention in its scope and philosophy of action especially in the Middle East case and within the Israeli Palestinian conflict.

At its current phase, the programme is developing and testing a new methodological toolkit for ‘Social Transformation in Conflict’ (STiC), which will be used by groups or individuals in order to deal with conflicts among themselves and with others; organize themselves towards action; build positive relations and sustainably develop their communities. The new toolkit, called KUMI (or Rise Up in both Arabic and Hebrew) combines three distinct approaches to conflict transformation and community development and will allow communities, organizations and other groups to creatively engage in dealing with conflicts and the sustainable development of their societies. It is a vision-led, action-orientated process to enable a group which is in conflict, wants to make a contribution but is insufficiently organised to do so, to get to a point where they have a deeper understanding of each others’ perspectives and needs and where they are ready to start moving forward together.

The creation of KUMI is done through the collaboration of The Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA:UK - www.ica-uk.org.uk), the Institute of Integrative Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding (IICP - www.iicp.at) and the ARIA Group (www.ariagroup.com).

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