

## Our guidelines emphasise that ...

Quaker Service Sweden's work should contribute to peace, reconciliation, equity and respect for all. Eradicating poverty is a way of building peace.

- Our inspiration is love, justice, equality, community and mutual responsibility for sustainable development.
- Our work should be conducted with respect for different ways and philosophies of life.
- Our conviction is that there is that of God in every person.

## Bangladesh

The organisation SUS (Sabalamby Unnayan Samity – help for self-help) in northeast Bangladesh aims to create better living conditions for the ultra-poor. The project covers 40 villages and is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

The project includes basic schooling for young children, youth clubs for boys and girls, women's groups and help with income-generating activities. Men are included in the project and the elderly are encouraged to contribute with their experiences.

Instruction is provided on organic farming, climate issues, human rights and how these can be realised in practice. As many of the villages do not have easy access to health centres, mother's groups and health groups are important parts of the project.



## Georgia

Quakers in Georgia are helping to lessen the tensions between different ethnic minority groups by offering various kinds of practical support.

## Russia

Quaker Service Sweden supports the "Neva River Clearwater" project, which aims to build trust and relations between people in Russia and Sweden. Environmental issues are introduced in Russian schools under the theme "Peace on Earth – Peace with the Earth".

## Palestine

Friends School in Ramallah was established in the 1860s. The school's Learning Support Programme caters for children with special educational needs and enables them to take part in ordinary schooling. Quaker Service Sweden supports this programme and the possibility for pupils to receive personal assistance.



The Quaker Meeting House in Ramallah is a place for worship and social activities. Quakers in Ramallah support the local population in various ways. They also provide an international meeting place and a centre for peace work.

The Palestinian Early Childhood Education Programme (PECEP) runs thirteen preschools in eight refugee camps on the Gaza Strip. The programme is supported by Quaker Service Norway and Quaker Service Sweden and provides children with a safe environment where they can play. There is also close collaboration with the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme (GCMHP) which helps traumatised children.

## Ethiopia

Quakers have always worked for better conditions for prisoners, both during and after their time in prison. Gate of Hope is an organisation that supports young girls who have served prison sentences by offering safe housing, education and help with family reunions. Quaker Service Sweden contributes financially through a Swedish support organisation.

## Burundi



The distribution of fertiliser for better harvests is a small part of the farming project run by local Quakers. Different ethnic groups work together to achieve better harvests, good climatic effects and sustainability. The project is a continuation of the building of peace schools in the 1990s, which Sweden Yearly Meeting supported as a way of healing the wounds from the devastating ethnic conflicts.

## Uganda

Alternatives to Violence Programme (AVP) is a training programme that helps the participants to deal with conflict and violence in new and creative ways. In collaboration with European Quaker service organisations, AVP leaders are trained who in turn train new leaders. This way of working contributes to a ripple effect for peaceful living.



## Zimbabwe

Through "Friends of Hlekweni", Quaker Service Sweden supports an AVP project that is designed to reduce violence against women. Another feature is peace clubs in schools.

## Some Quaker-related quotes

A friend is a loving companion at all times, and a brother is born to share troubles.

*Proverbs 17:17 – 17*

Our certainty that every person has something of the divine light within them means that our path must be the path of love.

*Greta Langenskjöld 1970*

One step at a time is enough. Light shall fall on the next step. The greater we are in number, the stronger the powers of peace in the world will be. We are not alone. Peace on Earth is close to God's heart...

*Elsa Cedergren 1974*

Live not for yourselves but for others. Work for an order of society which will allow men and women to develop their capacities and will foster their desire to serve.

*Britain Yearly Meeting, General Advices 1928*

## With peace as a benchmark

Since the Quaker movement began in England in the middle of the 1660s the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) has worked for equality, simplicity, truth, a sense of community and peace.

The conviction that there is "that of God in every person" still inspires work in different parts of the world.

The theme of peace is often expressed through development work, where people are helped to improve their living conditions, claim their rights and create a sustainable future.



## Quaker Service Sweden

began with activities in Algeria in 1963. The work mainly consists of development cooperation – partly financed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Quaker Service Sweden is an independent organisation with close connections to Sweden Yearly Meeting. Its accounts are audited by a chartered accountant.

We collaborate with our European sister organisations in development projects, non-violence projects and peace-building initiatives.



### You can contribute by:

- Making a donation – every gift is valuable.
- Becoming a monthly donor.
- Observing someone's birthday (or other celebration) through Quaker Service Sweden's gift card scheme.
- Reading and spreading our newsletters

Swedish Bank a/c: 9960 340 900 7352, Nordea

IBAN: SE67 9500 0099 6034 0900 7352

BIC: NDEASESS



Kvåkarhjälpen

## Quaker Service Sweden

“There can never be real peace while people are hungry and suffering.”

*Emilia Fogelklou, 1942*



<https://www.kvakare.se/in-english/quaker-service-sweden/>

[kvakarhjalpen@kvakare.se](mailto:kvakarhjalpen@kvakare.se)