



# Mediators Beyond Borders™

Partnering for Peace & Reconciliation

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Is Mediators Beyond Borders affiliated with any other Without Borders organization?**

MBB is not affiliated with Doctors Without Borders or any other without borders or sans frontières organizations. MBB welcomes all opportunities for collaboration.

### **Is Mediators Beyond Borders a first responder in crisis situations?**

No. Mediators Beyond Borders is not a first responder. MBB assists in pre-conflict (preventing) and post-accord (resolving and healing from conflict) situations to work with communities in building their conflict resolution capacity.

### **How does MBB select projects?**

All projects go through an extensive review and evaluation and must be formally approved by the MBB Board of Directors. University and Regional Chapters may not proceed independently with any initiative. The project approval process involves committees and members of the advisory council scrutinizing any proposal for consistency with Mission and Values, objectives, feasibility, safety, cultural sensitivity, sustainability and other criteria.

### **How are projects implemented?**

Volunteer project teams are assembled from MBB members based upon the experience and skills required for the project. University Chapters, Advisory Council and Supporters may consult and supplement the work of MBB members. Projects are monitored by MBB project panels for appropriate implementation and quality assurance. MBB also establishes a separate review protocol to evaluate and capture knowledge from the project.

### **Do individual mediators work on a different project every year?**

No. Continuity is critical to sustainable peacebuilding. Project Team selection criteria include the commitment to continue with a project over a number of years. It is unlikely that a mediator will be selected for more than one MBB project outside of his/her country of residence more than once every few years.

### **How much funding on a project goes to MBB salaries or administrative overhead?**

None. Office and other expenses are fully funded by member dues and supporter donations. Grants for a particular project fund expenses for that project only, not general MBB overhead.

### **Was MBB seed money or start-up funded by a government, foundation or corporate grant?**

No. MBB is funded solely by member dues and supporter donations.

### **Are mediators paid for their services?**

No. All work is pro bono. Mediators volunteer their time, but may be reimbursed for their own travel.

### **Who pays for travel expenses?**

Payment of travel expenses varies from project to project. Individual members may be requested to underwrite all or a portion of their own expenses.

### **How are mediators assigned to an MBB project?**

Once the Board of Directors approves a project or other initiative, a notice goes out to all MBB Members. The new project is also announced on MBB website and in the membership newsletter *Peace & Reconciliation Report*. Members may then apply. MBB evaluates the applications matching qualifications and interests with the needs of the project. Teams are assembled on a per project basis.

### **What is the typical time a mediator works on a specific project?**

Mediators commit to the life of the project. The expectation is that this will require spending 1 to 2 weeks each year on site, as well as planning, training and coordinating time from home.

### **How are projects submitted for consideration?**

All proposals must be submitted online. The Project Proposal form can be found at [www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org/contribute](http://www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org/contribute).