



Outward Bound  
Peacebuilding

# August 2008 Update

## Outward Bound Peacebuilding Programs

Outward Bound's Peacebuilding programs apply the principles and methodology of experiential education to the work of conflict mitigation and reconciliation. By applying a proven technique and pedagogy employed by Outward Bound to develop outstanding leaders and teams for over 60 years and in more than 35 countries around the world, Outward Bound Peacebuilding programs bring together individuals of diverse ethnic, religious and political backgrounds from regions of conflict to forge positive relationships, build trust and understanding, and address the causes of instability and conflict with respect and empathy in a safe, structured environment. The successful transference of the Outward Bound experience to the participants' everyday world is integral to the Peacebuilding programs' success, and is addressed by providing a long-term context for relationship-building to occur over time with the support of a local partner, and within a framework that encourages and allows meaningful cross-conflict cooperation to develop and yield positive results.

## Project Updates

### Middle East

Planning for the Outward Bound/Search for Common Ground Social Entrepreneurs Program is moving forward, with the recruitment in 2008 and the program launch in early 2009. The Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding and Search for Common Ground are continuing to work closely on the development and plans for evaluation of this program.

### Rwanda

The Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding continues with its 2008 consultation with Outward Bound Rwanda and the quarterly seed grants. Outward Bound Rwanda has received a grant to acquire land for its basecamp on the shores of Lake Muhazi and is in the final stages of negotiation to purchase the land. Outward Bound Rwanda has also recently been offered a capacity-building grant to facilitate its development as it prepares to work alongside the Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding and another Outward Bound school to deliver programs to several Rwandan populations in 2009. A volunteer instructor from Outward Bound New Zealand will arrive in Rwanda in August 2008 and stay through December to assist OB Rwanda. Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding consultant Julie Burns will also be in Rwanda from August 2008 through January to work directly with OB Rwanda.

### Sri Lanka

The Sri Lanka Journalist Leadership Program, serving the diverse staff and students of the Sri Lanka Press Institute (SLPI) College of Journalism, will take place in October, 2008. Preceding the program, the Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding is providing a specialized peacebuilding training and exchange of best practices to the Outward Bound Sri Lanka instructors who will deliver the Journalist Leadership Program to the 75 SLPI participants. A baseline evaluation as well as a post-program evaluation and one and two year follow up assessments are planned.

