The following is a list of activities in which UCP projects engage:

**Accompaniment**

Unarmed civilian peacekeepers (UCPs) use their physical presence, visibility and relationships to prevent threats from being realized by accompanying individuals and groups. Typically accompaniment involves working with human rights workers and activists whose work has resulted in receiving threats of violence. Accompaniment is also referred to as “unarmed bodyguards”.

**Protective presence**

Protective presence refers to a specific method by which UCPs are strategically placed in locations where civilians face imminent threats. This type of presence is usually provided for a shorter period of time, from a few hours up to a few months. Protective presence requires visibility for effectiveness.

**Inter-positioning**

Inter-positioning is the act of physically placing oneself between conflicting parties in order to prevent them from using violence against one another. When UCPs interposition themselves, they are, in effect, saying: ‘I am willing to sacrifice myself to protect this human being’s life.’ It has the effect of awakening the potential perpetrator to the humanity of the intended target, and, momentarily, to their own humanity. This makes proceeding with violence much more difficult.

**Observing/monitoring/reporting**

Monitoring is essentially the practice of observing compliance to a standard. Common activities that UCPs observe and monitor include ceasefires, elections, trials, meetings, and rallies. When breaches of compliance or when human rights abuses occur, UCP’s who are monitoring then report and disseminate information to stakeholders including the local, national and international community.

**Rumour control**

Rumour control includes the timely sharing of factual information with various parties within and across conflict lines in order to prevent escalation of conflict and premature displacement. Rumour control is always intended to de-escalate tensions. It is used in situations of large-scale community attacks, for example by one tribe against another, or in isolated areas where communities live amidst fighting between armed groups. Verifying information and sharing factual information with conflicting parties about threats and violent incidents in the area can help to ease tensions, de-escalate the conflict and prevent unnecessary (and usually very costly) displacement.

**Early warning/early response**

Early Warning Early Response (EWER) is a systematic application of monitoring for the sake of preventing violence, reducing the impact of violence and increasing the safety and security of civilians in
tense situations of violent conflict. It is based on the recognition that conflicts generally progress through well-recognized stages. By monitoring the progression of a conflict, it may be possible to predict the development of a crisis. Timely awareness of an imminent crisis may help civilians to prepare themselves to face the crisis or evacuate the area. A timely response may prevent the crisis from manifesting itself or at least reduce its impact.

**Relationship building**

UCPs engage in establishing and improving relationships with government representatives, armed actors (state and non-state), local religious and community leaders, and others who may have the power to influence potential perpetrators of violence or parties in conflict. While establishing relationships inherently provides some protection, if and when threats do occur, these influential persons can be called upon to reduce the risk of violence.

**Training/capacity development**

Teaching conflict resolution skills, nonviolence and unarmed civilian peacekeeping strategies (and a variety of other peace building skills) to local organizations

**Creating buffer zones/safe spaces**

Creating safe zone encompasses the setting up of physical spaces where armed actors or weapons in general are not allowed. UCP’s may work with local leaders to create spaces to allow refuge for human rights workers or even entire civilian communities to prevent armed actors from entering the space.

**Diplomacy/dialogue**

Multi-track dialogue includes dialogue on multiple levels with a variety of actors, including military commanders, leaders of non-state armed groups, government officials, diplomats and representatives of IDP communities. Dialogue is used to build a support network, influence actors, understand protection needs and mitigate conflicts.

**Solidarity/direct action**

UCP members directly engage in nonviolent acts of confrontation, including acts of civil disobedience, nonviolent confrontation of perpetrators, participating in demonstrations, rallies, etc. Some experts do not consider solidarity/direct action to be a component of UCP, considering it a breach of nonpartisanship. Others who engage in UCP also engage in direct action as an act of solidarity with those who are being oppressed or those who are victims of violence.