Designing Peacebuilding Projects
Analyzing Conflicts Revisited
Managing Conflict Sensitivity
Connecting Human Rights & Conflict Transformation
What are key criteria for designing, implementing and evaluating peacebuilding projects? Using methodological frameworks adopted specifically to peacebuilding, drawing on system theory, conflict transformation practice, project cycle management, and theories of organizational learning, participants learn how to design an effective peacebuilding project. By analyzing the conflict in which they operate, including its key actors, driving factors and dynamics, participants identify the peacebuilding needs of the local context and understand how to take decisions on relevant peacebuilding strategies. Furthermore, participants learn how to examine key questions for the engagement of influential stakeholders of the conflict. With the help of the RPP Matrix, participants map theories of change and robust peacebuilding goals, design concrete project activities and reflect on how to maximize the intended impact of their peacebuilding project. Finally, participants assess the project from a monitoring and evaluation perspective to learn how peacebuilding results can be identified, measured and documented. Throughout the course, selected projects from participants’ work contexts are taken as case studies to test the methodology and practice the application of tools.

In order to work in and on conflicts, peacebuilding, development and humanitarian actors must be familiar with the conflict contexts with which they engage. How can a conflict be defined, and what are the root causes, drivers, actors and dynamics of this conflict? What are the relevant strategies to address the conflict and how can unintended interactions of the intervention with the conflict factors be avoided? How can the analysis be used for effective program design? Although the tools for a systematic conflict analysis are abundant, their use and application is limited in organizational contexts and often the findings of the analysis are not sufficiently reflected in the program design. As a result, the relevance and effectiveness of peacebuilding efforts is limited and programs lack adaptation to the rapidly changing context.

This course provides participants with an overview of state-of-the-art conflict analysis tools, their specific advantages and foci, and guides them in selecting the tool(s) that best serve(s) programming needs in a specific context. It presents lessons drawn from field practice on how to address some of the key challenges to carrying out, updating and utilizing effective conflict analysis. Furthermore, it explores the potential of new technologies to enhance conflict analysis.
Managing Programs in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations

Working in highly dynamic and volatile contexts poses specific challenges for development, humanitarian and peace-building organizations as well as for business actors. Over the past years, normative frameworks for working in fragile and conflict-affected contexts have been developed: The OECD/DAC’s 10 principles for good international engagement in fragile states and situations constitute a widely accepted point of reference. The World Bank’s World Development Report ‘Conflict, Security and Development’ and the signing of the New Deal in 2011 added to the internationally accepted call for a new, adapted work approach for engagement in fragile states. Organizations are asked to review and adapt their approaches on the policy, institutional, strategic and program level. This course explores what it means to work in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, what it needs and how it could be done. It provides an overview of current discourses, gives policy guidance and familiarizes participants with the concepts and application of ‘conflict and context sensitivity’. Participants will be sensitized to key issues when working in conflict-affected and fragile contexts and will receive hands-on experience in the use of models and tools of conflict-sensitive program management.

Date and place
29 April – 1 May 2015
Bern, Switzerland
Trainers
Sabina Handschin and Nadina Diday, KOFF
Registration deadline
8 April 2015

Connecting Human Rights and Conflict Transformation – From Concepts to Practice

Human rights and conflict transformation are instrumental for achieving sustainable peace and development. Both are key elements for the attainment of social justice and the development of societies in which every person has the freedom to act upon his or her own choices. Despite wide recognition of the close links between human rights, conflict, peace and development, many challenges remain when putting such links into practice. This course seeks to go beyond the divide that is still often perceived to exist in relation to human rights and conflict transformation, and focuses on moving from concepts to practice. Drawing on experiences of participants and empirical examples, it will consider questions such as: what is the value of linking human rights and conflict transformation? What can these perspectives contribute to one another? How can practitioners draw on insights and tools from both in the design, implementation and evaluation of projects and interventions? What challenges and dilemmas remain and what are strategies for addressing these? The course also encourages participants to reflect on their own perspective and on what this means for engaging with the human rights / conflict transformation interface.

Date and place
10 – 12 June 2015
Bern, Switzerland
Trainer
Michelle Parlevliet
Independent consultant
University of Amsterdam
Registration deadline
20 May 2015
Aim
The Center for Peacebuilding KOFF offers four short, stand-alone, practice-oriented training courses on specific thematic and methodological aspects of peacebuilding.
Participants will:
– Learn state-of-the-art tools and acquire skills relevant for peacebuilding
– Reflect on peacebuilding practices
– Share experiences and enlarge their professional network
– Identify how to integrate key learning in their work

Target Audience
Practitioners working in the field of peacebuilding, particularly KOFF members and participants of swisspeace's postgraduate courses. Training courses are held with a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 26 participants.

Methodology
Training courses draw on the practical experience of both the trainers and participants and provide a mix of conceptual inputs, practical exercises and case study work. They are held in English.

Course Fee
CHF 800; participants working for a KOFF member organization pay CHF 600. Travel, food and accommodation expenses are not included in the fee. No scholarships are available.

Registration
Deadline for registration is three weeks prior to the start of the respective course. Please register online. Registrations are binding and treated on a first come, first served basis.

Postgraduate Education
KOFF trainings can now be combined to gain a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Peacebuilding Methodologies by swisspeace and the University of Basel. Visit academy.swisspeace.ch for more information.

Tailor-Made KOFF Training
In addition to its annual training series, KOFF regularly offers workshops tailored to the specific needs of its member organizations and partners in conflict regions. KOFF provides methodological competencies including conflict analysis, conflict sensitivity, design, monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment. It also has expertise in the area of gender and peacebuilding, natural resource conflicts, and human rights and conflict transformation.

Host
The Center for Peacebuilding KOFF was founded at swisspeace in 2001 by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and various Swiss non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The center's mission is to strengthen coherence in Swiss peacebuilding activities by stimulating joint policy and dialogue processes between state and non-state actors. KOFF organizes roundtables, joint learning processes, training courses and publishes a monthly newsletter. With about 50 Swiss member organizations, KOFF supports integrated approaches at the nexus of peacebuilding, human rights and development.

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