

CONFERENCE CONCEPT NOTE

Private Sector Development and Peacebuilding - Exploring Local and International Perspectives

Berlin, Germany

September 14-15, 2006

Objectives

- To highlight the domestic private sector's potential to contribute to peacebuilding in conflict-affected countries
- To highlight emerging international experience in private sector development (PSD) programming at a country-level
- To facilitate cross-learning between peacebuilding and PSD practitioners

Rationale

Policy research and response into 'war economies' have largely focused on the links between natural resource commodity exploitation, the economic agendas of state and non-state armed groups, as well as the potentially negative impacts of foreign investment and company practices. The 'business and conflict' debate has led to important international policy developments, for example the development of new standards of business conduct, curtailing trade in 'conflict commodities', countering the 'resource curse', and tighter controls on laundering the proceeds of corruption.

Meanwhile there is growing acknowledgement that although often bound up with conflict dynamics, local as well as international business actors can also have an interest in securing peace. To date however, the domestic private sector's potential to contribute to peace has not been well understood. One aim of the conference is therefore to highlight a local business perspective on peace and conflict by drawing on recent research in over 20 countries affected by or emerging from conflict.

Furthermore, for donors and development agencies there is much to be learned from sharing experiences on how to integrate a role for the private sector around peacebuilding and growth immediately post-conflict. In these situations, there are real opportunities for changes in policies and institutions that affect the private sector and experience shows that there is a role for the domestic private sector in crisis prevention and growth. International support for this should start from the peace process onwards, and the window of opportunity obtained after a peace settlement should provide a focus for collaboration on priority reforms in the enabling environment for investment and reconstruction. Therefore a further aim of the conference is to highlight emerging international experience in private sector development programming at a country level, drawing on specific cases where there is ongoing conflict, and in post-conflict countries.

Background

International Alert's experience in conflict-affected countries has shown that the domestic private sector can be an invaluable partner in the peacebuilding process. In July 2006, Alert published *Local Business, Local Peace: the Peacebuilding Potential of the Domestic Private Sector*, with financial support from the UK Department for International Development; the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development; the German Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit; and the United States Agency for International Development of the United States Government. Developed and researched with partner organisations and businesspeople from conflict-affected countries around the world, it presents more than 20 case studies of business actors taking steps to address violent conflict and its impacts. The study highlights their efforts to support peace processes; to address socio-economic issues that can fuel violent conflict; to build bridges between divided communities and groups; and to alleviate security concerns. It also draws attention to the special role of women entrepreneurs. Alert hopes that this body of research will constitute a valuable resource for local business leaders, peacebuilding practitioners and development agencies alike.

In 2005, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ) passed 'a sector strategy for crisis-prevention, conflict transformation and peace-building', framing crisis prevention as a cross-cutting issue for German development cooperation. Correspondingly, German development agencies are in the process of mainstreaming crisis prevention in all development measures. BMZ has furthermore commissioned GTZ to elaborate on the subject of 'Private Sector Development (PSD) in conflict regions' as part of its sector project 'innovative tools for PSD'. The project has worked on tools for conflict-sensitive PSD programme planning and implementation as well as on formulating good practice PSD in reconstruction and reintegration programmes. Case studies have been developed with PSD programmes in Afghanistan, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Caucasus, Nepal and Sierra Leone.

DFID recognises that growth is especially important after conflict and where the state is weak. The private sector can create jobs and provide some services when governments are not able to. Re-establishing a favourable investment climate can be difficult. Getting the timing of reforms right and rebuilding basic infrastructure is essential. Sometimes, just getting the macro economy under control can attract large-scale investment. The UK believes that growth is the 'exit strategy' for aid. To reduce poverty quickly, international partners need to put growth at the heart of their relationships with developing countries. Multilateral and bilateral donors can support growth and macroeconomic stability by providing advice and financial support to countries, and by co-operating closely with the international and local private sector.

We hope that this conference provides an opportunity to share and learn lessons on how to more effectively support a positive role for the private sector in conflict-affected countries.

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Exploring Local and International Perspectives**

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September 14-15, 2006

Programme

Wednesday, 13th September

**Pre- and Post-
Programme**

Organised city-tour

‘Business and Reconstruction in Berlin’ (www.berlinsights.de)
At one’s own expense, see attachment ‘Berlin City Tour’

Thursday, 14th September

08:30 a.m. Arrival and registration

09:00 a.m. **Welcome Address**

Karin Kortmann
Parliamentary Secretary of State
Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

09:30 a.m. **Opening Panel**

The Private Sector, Economic Growth and Peace Processes

Cornelia Richter
Head of Planning and Development
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH

Nick Killick
Head of Peacebuilding Issues Programme
International Alert

Pierre Guislain
General Manager FIAS
Investment Climate Department
World Bank Group

Paul Collier
Professor of Economics
Oxford University

Brian Whittaker
Chief Executive
Business Trust, South Africa

11:00 a.m. *Coffee Break*

11:30 a.m.

Presentations and Plenary Discussion

Post-conflict Investment

“Understanding Investment in Post-Conflict Settings”

Tony Addison
Professor Development Studies
University of Manchester

“Facilitating Post-conflict Investment”

Rob Mills
Investment Climate Capacity Enhancement Program
The World Bank

“Public-Private Partnerships in post-conflict”

Jörg Hartmann
Executive Director, Centre for Cooperation with the Private Sector
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH

“Private Investment and the Role of the State in Reconstruction”

Tilman Brueck
Head of the Department of International Economics
Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsförderung

01:00 p.m.

Lunch

Session 1

Local perspectives

02:00 p.m.

Presentations and Plenary Discussion

Local Business, Local Peace: the Peacebuilding Potential of the Domestic Private Sector

“Nepal: Putting Peace on the Business Agenda”

Padma Jyoti
Chairman
Jyoti Group/National Business Initiative Nepal
&
Ameet Dhakal
Kathmandu Post

“Sri Lanka: Building Business Bridges”

Azmi Thassim
Director General, Hambantota District Chambers of Commerce and member,
Business for Peace Alliance
&
Markus Meyer
Director
International Alert Sri Lanka

“South Caucasus: Supporting Livelihoods Through Microfinance Across Conflict Divides”

Yulia Gumba
Abkhaz Union of Women Entrepreneurs

Irma Dzhgerenaia
Association of Businesswomen
&
Natalia Mirimanova
Independent Consultant

“Colombia: Doing Business Amidst Conflict: Emerging Best Practices”

Gonzalo Murillo Escobar

Head, Social Investment
Interconexión Eléctrica S.A.
&
Alexandra Guaqueta
Academic Director
Fundación Ideas para la Paz

04:00 p.m.

Coffee Break

04:30-5:30 p.m.

Break-Out Session 1:

Implications for Working Better with the Private Sector in Conflict and Post-Conflict

08:00 p.m.

Reception

Friday, 15th September

09:00 a.m.

Report back from break-out groups

09:15 a.m.

Key Notes

Improved Planning, Intervention and Coordination in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings

Dan Smith
Secretary General
International Alert

Jim Tanburn
Coordinator
Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

Session 2

International perspectives

09:50 a.m.

Presentations and Plenary Discussion

Private Sector Development in Conflict Settings

"Moving from Conflict Analysis to PSD Planning"

Sabine Becker

Project Manager 'Innovative Tools for Private Sector Development'

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH

"Business development for peace - experiences from Croatia, Palestine, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Timor Leste"

Alfredo Lazarte,

Director

ILO, Crisis Response and Reconstruction Programme

&

Karl-Oskar Olming,

Specialist in BDS

ILO Small Enterprise Development (SEED)

"Promotion of Economy and Employment in Conflict Environments - Lessons from Nepal"

Armin Hofmann

Principal Advisor

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Nepal

"Promoting PSD in Conflict-Affected Fragile States: Experiences and Lessons Learned"

Maria Kim
Economic Policy Advisor, Private Sector Development
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

11:00 a.m.

Coffee Break

11:30 a.m.

Presentations and Plenary Discussion

Private Sector Development in Post-Conflict

“Promoting an Enabling Environment for Investment”

Hilary Sunman
Economic Adviser

Africa Equatorial Department, UK Department for International Development

“Integrating Planning Systems in Post-Conflict - the ‘4rs’ Approach:
Repatriation, Reintegration, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction”

Judy Cheng Hopkins
Assistant High Commissioner,
UNHCR

“Injecting PSD reform in the post-conflict assistance agenda”

Richard Stern
Regional Program Coordinator, Africa
FIAS Program

01:00 p.m.

Lunch

Session 3

Emerging issues in conflict-affected economies

02:00 p.m.

Presentations and Plenary Discussion

“The Impact of Peacekeeping Missions on Local Economies”

Michael Carnahan,
Visiting Fellow, Crawford School of Economics and Government, Australian
National University
and Project Leader, Peace Dividend Trust

“Socio-Economic Reintegration of Ex-Combatants in Disarmament,
Demobilisation and Reintegration efforts (DDR)”

Nat Colletta
Advisor, Conflict prevention & post conflict reconstruction
International Peace Academy

“Assessing the Conflict Impacts of Post-Conflict Privatisation: the Example of
the Burundi Coffee Sector”

Jean-Paul Kimonyo
Independent Consultant

“Promoting regional trade and cooperation in the South Caucasus”

Stefan Oehrlein
Team Leader
GTZ Project for Food Security, Regional Cooperation
and Stability in the South Caucasus

03:00 p.m.

Break-Out Session 2:

**Potential areas for Enhanced Donor Collaboration and Partnerships with
Others**

04:00 p.m.

Coffee Break

04:30-5:30 p.m.

Wrap-up and close

Administrative Arrangements

Private Sector Development and Peacebuilding – Exploring Local and International Perspectives

September 14 – 15, 2006
Berlin, Germany

Dear Participant,

Thank you very much for confirming your participation in the above mentioned conference. We are looking forward to having you with us for a period of intensive discussions among experts from different parts of the world.

In order to make your stay as convenient as possible, we would like to provide the following information:

Conference Venue

The conference will take place at GTZ Haus Berlin, Reichpietschufer 20, 10 785 Berlin (at Potsdamer Platz), Tel: +49 (0)30 726 14 0, Fax: +49 30 72614-130. Please find attached a detailed site map.

Conference Language will be English. On the morning of September 14th, simultaneous translation German-English will be provided.

In case you wish to display brochures/books etc. explaining the work of your organization with regard to the conference topic 'PSD and peacebuilding', please let us know in advance character and amount of the material and make sure to send it to us before the start of the conference.

At the conference venue you have free access to the internet either via W-LAN or by using our conference secretariat where telephone/fax and copy machines are also available.

Throughout the time of the conference at the GTZ Haus Berlin you will be invited to complimentary lunches and coffee breaks as well as to an evening reception on September 14th.

Hotels

We have booked a number of single rooms in different hotels and price ranges, available to the participants of our conference at special rates if mentioning the specified reservation code. All hotels are close to the conference venue, situated in the city centre. Rooms have to be booked and paid for by every participant autonomously. Please find attached the list of hotels.

Transportation

Unfortunately we cannot provide transfers. The Berlin-**Tegel** airport (the most frequently used airport) is about 30 minutes away from the conference venue and the city centre. A taxi ride to one of the hotels on our list or the conference venue should cost no more than 25-30 Euro. If you prefer to use public transport please refer to the map attached ("Berlin Public Transport") and the staff of Berliner

Verkehrsbetriebe (**BVG**) at the airport. On the following website it is possible to print your individual connection: www.bvg.de (website available in English). There are several busses leaving from Tegel and going straight to the city centre. For public transportation you will need a **ticket for Zone "AB"** (€ 2,10). Tickets can be obtained on the bus or at the machine before entering the bus. Please do not forget to stamp the ticket before entering the bus or subway.

If you arrive at **Schönefeld** airport, please do also use the connection finder at www.bvg.de. The Schönefeld airport is about 20 km away from the city centre, but trains leave every 10 minutes. From Schönefeld airport it takes about 40-50 minutes to reach the conference venue. A taxi ride will cost 30-35 €.

Conference Secretariat

For the organization and implementation of the conference, we have arranged a conference secretariat coordinated by our conference manager, Ms. Mascha Peters (PSD_Peace_Conference@gtz.de, phone: +49 30 726 14 232). Ms. Peters will assist you in all administrative matters.

Further information

For information on the conference in terms of its content, please contact:

Sabine Becker, GTZ, at Sabine.Becker@gtz.de

Canan Gündüz, International Alert, at cgunduz@international-alert.org

Moderation

The conference will be moderated by Dr. Sybil Dümchen, denkmodell, at berlin@denkmodell.de
Tel.: +49-30-690488-0
Fax: +49-30-690488-99

Conference Language is in English.

We wish you a pleasant and worthwhile stay in Berlin.