3rd Summerschool of the Households in Conflict Network

Impact Evaluation in Conflict-Affected Countries

in association with Itad Ltd, consultants and the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management

Bujumbura, July 20-27, 2014

In academia as well is among international organisations, NGO’s and consultancy companies, the evaluation of the impact of peace, security, humanitarian and development programs in countries affected by violent conflict is high on the agenda. Scientists have developed sophisticated methods to design robust evaluations and attribute causality to the programs. At the same time, local partners, NGO’s and research firms have gained first-hand practical experience and are building capacity to implement and execute such evaluations.

This summerschool takes stock of these recent developments and brings together academic experts with field-based organisations, staff of international organisations and NGO’s as well consultancy companies with first hand experience in countries such as South Sudan, Rwanda, Somalia, Kenya, Afganistan and Iraq.

Participants will have ample opportunity to discuss their own projects and experiences with the lecturers and will gain first hand knowledge on the different approaches to randomisation, mixed methods, research ethics, implementation, data quality, relations with donors and the management of survey teams. Classes will be a mix of lectures, case studies and practical exercises.

The summerschool is organised by the Households in Conflict Network. Professor Philip Verwimp has put the program together and is the course leader. Comments of participants on a comparable course organised by Prof. Verwimp in 2010 can be found at http://www.microconflict.eu/events/summer_schools.html

The fee for the summerschool is 1750 euro. This includes all the lectures and course material, the hotel from Sunday to Sunday, breakfast and lunch. Participants have to take care of their transport to Bujumbura. The organisers do not offer scholarships or discounts. Potential
participants are encouraged to apply for funding with their home university, organisation, as well look for other sources of funding.

The program of the summerschool as well as the profile of the guest lecturers is provided below. Questions and application can be send to hicn.summerschool@gmail.com

Please send your CV, a letter of motivation and the names and contact details of two reference persons before May 15, 2014. You will be notified by June 1 if you are selected to attend the summerschool.

Course program

Sunday (20 July): arrival of participants

Monday, 9-12: Impact Evaluation and the Donor Agenda in conflict countries, Anna Paterson

16-19: Different Approaches to Randomisation, Anastasia Aladysheva

Tuesday: 9-12: Case Study: the Somalia Community and Peace Program, Martine Zeuthen

16-19: How to Design a Conflict-Sensitive and Robust Evaluation? Philip Verwimp

Wednesday 9-18: Excursion and on-site visit of Burundi’s Sustainable Coffee Landscape Program and discussion of its evaluation design

Thursday: 9-12: Behavioral Games and Impact Evaluation, Anastasia Aladysheva


Friday 9-12: the Ethics of Working in a High Risk Environment, Martine Zeuthen

16-19: The Future of Impact Evaluation: Key Note Speech by Johannes Wedeni, Resident Representative of UNICEF in Burundi followed by a panel discussion with academic experts and implementing organisations. Panel members include Eric Mvukiyehe (World Bank Conflict and Fragile Countries Evaluation Unit).

Saturday: Free

Sunday (27 July): departure of participants
Profile of guest lecturers:

**Anna Paterson**, Phd in Political Science, has worked on conflict research for the private, NGO, academic and government sectors. She was an NGO field researcher in Afghanistan for two years and continued to focus on Afghanistan, Russia and Central Asia in her PhD. She worked for two years in the UK Department for International Development's (DFID) Research and Evidence Division, where she focused on governance and conflict evidence and evaluation, and then for one year as an evaluation adviser in DFID's Nigeria office. She is now a freelance consultant working on research and evaluation including in Somalia, Nigeria and Tajikistan.

**Martine Zeuthen** is a consultant, anthropologist by background and currently based in Nairobi working mainly in East Africa and the Middle East. Martine specialises in qualitative data collection in fragile and conflict-affected states and is particularly concerned with methodological innovation to overcome data quality challenges and improve evidence for development programming. Her work in the region has primarily focussed on research and evaluations of various humanitarian, development and security sector programmes. She is well versed in the ethical and practical issues relating to research management. Martine was a part of the founding team starting the conflict focussed research consultancy Integrity Research and Consultancy (Integrity) in 2010. With Integrity she started and headed the evaluation unit from 2011 - 2013. Currently Martine is leading a regional pilot programme looking to strengthen the evidence base for countering violent extremism programming for the EU as well as undertaking other smaller evaluations.

**Menahem Prywes** holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. He worked for the World Bank for 25 years on applied research and on project preparation and supervision in the Africa, South Asia, and East Europe and Central Asia regions. His areas of specialization are post conflict reconstruction and projects to strengthen delivery of basic social services. Before working for the World Bank, he worked for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

**Anastasia Aladysheva**, Phd in International Economics from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. Anastasia is currently a PostDoctoral Researcher at Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Sweden. She specialises in Development Economics and is engaged in impact evaluations of development projects in Kyrgyzstan and Burkina Faso.

**Philip Verwimp**, PhD Economics, MSc Economics, MA Sociology. Philip studied at the Universities of Antwerp, Leuven, Göttingen and Yale University. Currently Associate Professor in Development Economics at ECARES, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) where he holds the Marie and Alain Philipson Chair in Sustainable Human Development. Philip has held visiting appointments at Utrecht University, National University of Rwanda, Université National du Burundi, UC Berkeley, PRIX (Norway) and the Free University of Amsterdam. His work has been published in the American Economic Review, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, among others. He has conducted survey research, mixed method research and impact evaluation in Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia and Somalia. In 2013 Philip published two books, one on the political economy of genocide in Rwanda (Springer Verlag) and the other on the micro-level analysis of violent conflict, jointly with Patricia Justino and Tilman Brück (Oxford University Press).