

Brandeis University
Master's Program
in
Intercommunal Conflict and Coexistence

Development, Aid and Coexistence

Spring 2009

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Course Description:

The class will offer an introduction to the theory and practice of International Conflict and Development. Specifically this involves offering basic knowledge and skills necessary to undertake and engage in development and aid work under conditions involving violent conflict. Working in such conditions, aid and development workers can either increase the tensions within divided societies, or undertake their work in ways that increases intercommunal equity, understanding and cooperation. Students will become aware of the theoretical and practical debates taking place among the development, aid, and coexistence institutions and will explore various best practices in developmental, conflict ridden, and disaster affected societies. Students will also examine how aid often results in divisive political processes that contribute toward inequality in distribution, structural and economic inequities, and manipulation by various “inside” and “outside” groups. Such activity often exacerbates the situation making conflicts more difficult to manage and or resolve. The course will also introduce some basic concepts of human rights and humanitarian law, and will increase skills in analyzing the effectiveness of aid and development programs while simultaneously attempting to contribute to coexistence needs of divided societies.

Course Format

The overall course will be taught in two modules; Introduction to conflict and development, and Conflict and Development Practice. Each module is a stand alone and students may take one or both. It is recommended, however, that students taking the Conflict and Development Practice module will have either significant experience in the development field, or have taken the Intro module. The Introduction course will meet 3 hours weekly for seven weeks and will be open to graduate students.

Narrative.

This class was drawn up in response to both COEX and SID students demands for a course that addressed the overlap between Development and Coexistence work in conflicted societies. In the last 5 years, there has been an increasing amount of theoretical and policy/practice relevant literature written about this phenomenon, and its importance to both the Development and Coexistence field. (See attached Bibliography)

Increasingly, both Developmental and Aid organizations working at international and national level are establishing units within their planning structures to address this overlap within their programs, and to ensure that the effects of it are positive rather than negative towards issues of Coexistence and Conflict, as well as towards Development. Such agencies include e.g. UNDP (United Nations Development Program), UNHCR (United Nations High Commission on Refugees), the World Bank, the European Union, USAID (United States Aid and Development agency), SIDA, CIDA and DiFID (the development agencies of Canada, Sweden and the UK), as well as large aid agencies such as Action Aid, Mercy Corps, and Oxfam. This module will therefore help expand the professional career possibilities of those students who take it, as well as adding to the developing research on the combined issues of interest to both fields.

It will be offered primarily to Graduate students from within GSAS, the Heller school, and the Business School.

Overview of the class:

The purpose of this class is to increase the knowledge and skills of students undertaking development and aid work in situations of conflict. Such work can either increase the tensions within divided societies, or be undertaken in such a way that the work can increase intercommunal equity, understanding and cooperation. Students will learn about the debates that have been taking place between the development, aid, and coexistence institutions about how to develop best practice in developmental and disaster situations in conflicted societies. They will examine how aid can play into a divisive politics of distribution and inequities, can be controlled by and used by particular groups to the exclusion of others, can be seen to assist political or military agendas, and can become part of the economy of war, thus making conflicts more difficult to resolve. They will explore issues of programming, neutrality, human rights and humanitarian law. They will also increase their skills in the creation of programs that can address both development and aid necessities, while simultaneously contributing to coexistence needs in divided societies.

Grading: The final grade in this course will consist of the following components:

- Class participation 15%
- In-Class Presentation 35%

- Final Paper 50%

Final Paper

In the final paper you are asked to write a “Memorandum” to an agency or organization of your choice (e.g., NGO, Funding Agency, Government Department or Ministry) addressing a conflict of your choice. In the memo, your objective is to urge and recommend a “conflict sensitive” approach to an intervention in the conflict you will choose. For example, you may choose to write a memo to the World Bank to fund a micro credit program as part of the post war and reconstruction and development in Iraq. In your memorandum, you are asked to identify the following:

- The main points of the conflict
- The need for an intervention (aid or development strategy)
- The relevant policy implications to ensure that the intervention “does no harm”
- Your recommendations for a conflict-sensitive strategy for implementing the intervention.

While the paper is identified as a “Memorandum”, for this class it remains an academic writing assignment. As such, appropriate references to literature, readings, and or/lectures and a short bibliography will be expected.

The final paper should be no more than 20 pages – space and a half format, 11 or 12 point type.

Due Date: The due date for the final paper will be announced in class

Class Objectives:

Week 1.

The challenges to development and humanitarian work in situations of conflict in today's world.

This session will include an overview of conflicts in the world to day, including how war has changed over the last few decades, necessitating new ways of working both in the development and aid field, as well as the coexistence field. It will also look at the academic and practical work undertaken in the last two decades on issues about how best to undertake development work in divided and conflicted societies, and at the challenges and debates which have accompanied such development.

Required Readings

1. Anderson, Mary B. (1999) Do No Harm (et al) pps 7-22 Today's Wars and Pursuit of Justice and Characteristics of Conflict.

2. Fisher, Simon, Dekha Ibrahim Abdi, Ludin Jawed, Smoth Richard, Williams, Sue (2000) *Working With Conflict, Skills and Strategies for Action* New York: Zed books. pp 1-15
3. Ballentine, K. and Nitzshke, H. (October 2003) *Beyond Greed or Grievance: Policy Lessons from Studies in the Political Economy of Armed Conflict*. IPA Policy Report. International Peace Academy
4. Lang, Maria; Quinn, Mick (2003) *Conflict Humanitarian Assistance and Peacebuilding: Meeting the Challenges*, International Alert: London

Recommended Readings

5. Fisher, S; Ludin, J; Williams, Steve; Abdi D, Ibrahim; Smith, R; Williams, Sue (2000). *Wrking with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action*, New York: Zed Books
6. Gurr, Ted Robert (1997). "Why do minorities Rebel? The Worldwide Geography of Ethnopolitical Conflicts and Their Challenge to Global Security." In *Federalism Against Tehnicity?* (Ed) Güther. Baechler, Chur/Zürich: Verlag Rüeegger.
7. Gurr, Ted R and Marshall Monty. *Peace and Conflict* (2003). A Global Survey of Armed Conflicts, Self-Determination Movements, and Democracy. From <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/paper.asp?id=15>

Week 2.

Undertaking conflict analysis in combination with development or aid needs analysis.

This session will look at how one can undertake an analysis of both development and coexistence needs in a situation in conflict. Students will also look at the sensitivities of working in local partnerships within situations of conflict, and how to deal with the ethical, cultural and impartiality challenges such situations will evoke, as well as the practical challenges associated with ensuring that their work connects rather than further divides communities.

Required Readings

1. Babbitt, E. (2003) *Evaluating Coexistence: Insights and Challenges*. In Chayes, A. and Minow, M.(Eds.) *Imagine coexistence etc.* pp 102- 127.

2. Humphreys, Macarten and Varshney Ashutosh (2004). Violent Conflict and the Millennium Development Goals: Diagnosis and Recommendations
<http://www.columbia.edu/~mh2245/papers1/HV.pdf>
3. International Alert: Conflict, Humanitarian Assistance and Peacebuilding: Meeting the Challenges. http://www.international-alert.org/pdf/pubdev/humanitarian_assistance_peacebuilding.pdf
4. Lange, Maira (2004). *Building Institutional Capacity for Conflict-Sensitive Practice: The Case of International NGOs*, International Alert: London

Recommended Readings

5. International Alert 2004. Conflict Sensitive Approaches to Development, Humanitarian Assistance and Peace Building: Tools for Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment 2004. Based on experiences in Sri Lanka, Kenya and Uganda
6. Fisher, Simon, Jawed Ludin, and Steve Williams (2000). “Understanding Conflict” and “Tools for Conflict Analysis,” in *Working with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action*. New York: Zed Books.
7. Leonhardt, Manuela; Ardon, Patricia; Karuru, Njeri; Sherriff, Andrew (2003). *Peace and conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) and NGO Peacebuilding – Experiences from Kenya and Guatemala: A Briefing Paper*, International Alert: London.

Week 3.

Humanitarian, aid and disaster relief – challenge or opportunity?

This session will look at case studies addressing issues of coexistence in the midst of humanitarian relief and aid work. While disaster situations rightly emphasize the primacy of basic humanitarian relief, in many situations, depending upon the approaches taken by the humanitarian agencies, they can also increase or decrease possibilities for coexistence work and peace building. Aceh in Indonesia, and Sri Lanka, and the effect of the tsunami on their conflicts, will be used as case studies for this session.

Required Readings

1. Goodhand, Johathan: Aid, Conflict and Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/conflictassessmentsrilanka.pdf>
2. International Alert 2004. Conflict Sensitive Approaches to Development, Humanitarian Assistance and Peace Building: Tools for Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment 2004, Based on experiences in Sri Lanka, Kenya and Uganda.
http://www.conflictsensitivity.org/resource_pack.html

Recommended Reading

3. Young, Anna. "Maluku Case Study, Integrating Relief, Recovery, and Civil Society Principles in a Conflict-Affected Environment" Published by Mercy Corps, Portland OR.

Week 4.

Ethnic and Religious Conflict and Development – Bosnia, a Case Study

In a Muslim / Catholic village near Sarajevo, rumors fly and suspicions spread. When Catholic Croats assert control, Muslim businesses are attacked, villagers arrested and harassed, and homes threatened. Three weeks later, neighbors who had been close friends for 50 years no longer speak to each other, and the peaceful coexistence between Croats and Muslims disintegrates into mutual distrust and fear.

This scenario will be made shown in a film "We are all Neighbors" produced in 1993 by Public Media Films. As a set up for the film we will discuss a brief history of the war in Bosnia and following the film we will discuss humanitarian relief efforts in Bosnia.

The following are recommended readings for the discussion:

1. "History of the war in Bosnia" Center for Balkan Development, May 1996. http://www.friendsofbosnia.org/edu_bos.html
2. Demichelis, Julia. "NGOs and Peacebuilding in Bosnia's Ethnically Divided Cities". United States Institute of Peace, June 1998. <http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/early/BosniaNGO.html>
3. Skotte, Hans. "NGOs Rebuild in Bosnia without Planning". Global Policy Forum, Feb. 28, 2003. <http://www.globalpolicy.org/ngos/aid/2003/0228devpt.htm>
4. Leban, Mojca. "Faith-Based NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina". Sept. 2003. The International Journal of Not-for-Profit Law http://www.icnl.org/journal/vol6iss1/rel_lebanprint.htm

Week 5

Challenges of foreign assistance for development and aid in situations of conflict.

The motives and characteristic of donor countries or organizations will often influence the effect of their development aid on situations of conflict. How can institutions and individuals work effectively in situations that are seen, correctly or otherwise, to be politically influenced by the partisanship or the investment dependency interests of the donor countries? Can foreign assistance help prevent and manage conflict – and if so, what are the implications for the work? Can development work assist the development of

sustainable patterns of trade and economic development that can help to minimize local and global tensions within a rapidly globalizing world? Case studies will include Rwanda, Iraq and the Palestinian West Bank.

Required Readings

1. Collier, Paul and Hoeffler, Anke. Aid, Policy and Growth in Post-conflict Societies <http://ideas.repec.org/p/wbk/wbrwps/2902.html>
2. Demekas, Dimitri et al. The Economics of Post Conflict Aid <http://www.aueb.gr/deos/Seminars/Kosma6-2-03.pdf>
3. Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs: 2001. The Multilateral Aid Response to Violent Conflict: More than Linking Relief and Development <http://www.um.dk/en/service/menu/Publications/DevelopmentPolicy/MultilateralResponseViolent.htm>
4. Esman, Milton: Can Foreign Aid Moderate Ethnic Conflict? <http://www.usip.org/pubs/peaceworks/pwks13.pdf>

Recommended Readings

5. Storey, Andy (1997) "Non-neutral humanitarianism: NGOs and the Rwanda Crisis, *Development in Practice*", Volume 7, Issue 4, Oxford: Oxfam pp. 342-352
6. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency: Reconciliation – Theory and Practice for Development Cooperation.
7. Uvin, Peter. (1998). *Aiding Violence: The development enterprise in Rwanda*. West Hartford: Kaumarian Press, Inc.

Week 6.

Many relief and development organizations working in places of civil war have raised their awareness of conflict-sensitive planning and are seeking to integrate peace-building activities into their work. This session will look at those institutions that have been attempting to mainstream issues of coexistence into their development and aid work. It will assess the challenges they have faced, and the lessons that they have learned in undertaking such mainstreaming. It will also examine the new paradigm of integrated work that is replacing older approaches of parallel or exclusive work in areas of coexistence, and of development. In particular, it will look at 3 agencies, one from the UN, one from the U.S. Government, and a major international NGO to see how they have addressed the challenge of implementing conflict-sensitive planning into all of their programs.

Required Readings:

1. Collier, Paul and A. Hoeffler 1998. "On Economic Causes of Civil War" *Oxford Economic Papers*, Vol. 50 pp 563-573.
2. Commins, Stephen: In the Line of Fire: Development in Conflict
<http://www.developmentinpractice.org/readers/DSW/intro.htm>
3. Gourevitch, Philip (1998). *We Wish to Inform You that tomorrow we will be Killed With our Families*. New York: Picador.
4. ICRC (1983) Basic Rules of the Geneva Conventions and Their Additional Protocols.
<Http://www/icrc.org/icrceng.nsf/d48ca698b641256242003b3295/26674b4e54f495341256237003a3ae0?openDocument>
5. IRIN Web Special on Civilian Protection in Armed Conflict.
<http://www.irinnews.org/webspecials/civilprotect/default.asp>

Recommended Readings

6. Maresko, Deborah; Development, Relief Aid, and Creating Peace; Humanitarian Aid in Liberia's War of the 1990s.
http://www.trinstitute.org/ojpcr/6_Imaresko.pdf
7. RAND organization: 2002Aid During Conflict-Interaction Between Military and Civilian Assistance Providers in Afghanistan, September 2001 – Jun 2002.
http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2004/RAND_MG212.pdf
8. Slim, Hugo. (1998) "International Humanitarianism's Engagement with Civil War in the 1990's: A glance at Evolving Practice and Theory". A briefing Paper for Action Aid. UK, Journal for Humanitarian Affairs. From at www.jha.ac.
9. Slim, Hugo (1998), International Humanitarian's Engagement with Civil War in the 1990's: A glance at Evolving Practice and Theory, Briefing Paper for Action Aid/UK. From <http://www.jha.jha.ac//articles/a033.htm>
10. The Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief, and the code of International Alert for working in situations of Conflict.

Lesson 7.

Presentations of case studies on the possible integration of development, aid, and

coexistence work in particular situations. *OR*
Presentations on the challenges and possibility of mainstreaming coexistence sensitivity into a particular development and aid organization.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (Draft)

1. Anderson, Mary The Implications of Do No Harm for Donors and Aid Agency Headquarters

<http://www.cdainc.com/>

2. Anderson, Mary B. *Do No Harm: How Aid Can Support Peace - Or War*. Boulder, CO, and London, UK: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1999.

3. Babbitt, E. (2003). Evaluating Coexistence: Insights and Challenges. In Chayes, A. & Minow, M. (Eds.) *Imagine coexistence: Restoring humanity after violent ethnic conflict*. Jossey-Bass.

4. Ballentine, K. and Nitzshke, H. (October 2003). *Beyond Greed or Grievance: Policy Lessons from Studies in the Political Economy of Armed Conflict*. IPA Policy Report. International Peace Academy.

5. Barbanti, Olympio : Development and Conflict Theory.

http://www.beyondintractability.org/m/development_conflict_theory.jsp

6. Collier, Paul. and A. Hoeffler 1998. "On Economic Causes of Civil War" *Oxford Economic Papers*, Vol. 50 pp 563-573

7. Collier, Paul and Hoeffler, Anke. Aid, Policy and Growth in Post-Conflict Societies

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/wbk/wbrwps/2902.html>

8. Commins, Stephen: In the Line of Fire: Development in Conflict

<http://www.developmentinpractice.org/readers/DSW/intro.htm>

9. Demekas, Dimitri et al The Economics of Post Conflict Aid

<http://www.aueb.gr/deos/Seminars/Kosma6-2-03.pdf>

10. Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs: 2001. The Multilateral Aid Response to Violent Conflict: More than Linking Relief and Development

<http://www.um.dk/en/servicemenu/Publications/DevelopmentPolicy/MultilateralResponseViolent.htm>

11. Esman, Milton: Can Foreign Aid Moderate Ethnic Conflict?

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/peaceworks/pwks13.pdf>

12. Fisher, S; Ludin, J; Williams, Steve; Abdi D, Ibrahim; Smith, R; Williams, Sue (2000). *Working with Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action*, New York: Zed Books.

Fisher, Simon, Jawed Ludin, and Steve Williams (2000). "Understanding Conflict" and "Tools for Conflict Analysis," in *Working With Conflict: Skills and Strategies for Action*. New York: Zed Books.

13. Goodhand, Jonathan: Aid, Conflict and Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/conflictassessmentsrilanka.pdf>

14. Gourevitch, Philip (1998). *We Wish to Inform You that tomorrow we will be Killed With our Families*, New York: Picador.

15. Gurr, Ted Robert (1997). "Why do minorities Rebel? The Worldwide Geography of Ethnopolitical Conflicts and Their Challenge to Global Security." *In Federalism Against Ethnicity?* (Ed) Günther Baechler, Chur/Zürich: Verlag Rüegger.

16. Gurr, Ted R and Marshall Monty. Peace and Conflict (2005). *A Global Survey of Armed Conflicts, Self-Determination Movements, and Democracy*. From <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/paper.asp?id=15>

17. Humphreys, Macarten and Varshney Ashutosh (2004). Violent Conflict and the Millennium Development Goals: Diagnosis and Recommendations

<http://www.columbia.edu/~mh2245/papers1/HV.pdf>

18. ICRC (1983) Basic Rules of the Geneva Conventions and Their Additional Protocols,

<http://www.icrc.org/icrceng.nsf/5cacfdf48ca698b641256242003b3295/26674b4e54f495341256237003a3ae0?OpenDocument>

19. International Alert: Conflict, Humanitarian Assistance and Peacebuilding: Meeting the Challenges

http://www.international-alert.org/pdf/pubdev/humanitarian_assistance_peacebuilding.pdf

20. International Alert 2004. Conflict Sensitive Approaches to Development,

Humanitarian Assistance and Peace Building: Tools for Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment 2004. Based on experiences in Sri Lanka, Kenya and Uganda.

http://www.conflictsensitivity.org/resource_pack.html

21. International Crisis Group, Asia Report #32, *Myanmar, The Politics of Humanitarian Aid*, Southeast Asian Countries, www.icg.org, April 2002

22. IRIN Web Special on Civilian Protection in Armed Conflict

<http://www.irinnews.org/webspecials/civilprotect/default.asp>

23. Jackson, Stephen (2001). *The Challenges and Contradictions of Development and Conflict*

http://www.incore.ulster.ac.uk/cds/themes/SJ_Paper.pdf

24. Kaldor, Mary (1999). *New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era*, Stanford: Stanford University Press.

25. Lange, Maria; Quinn, Mick (2003). *Conflict, Humanitarian Assistance and Peacebuilding: Meeting the Challenges*, International Alert: London.

26. Lange, Maria (2004). *Building Institutional Capacity for Conflict-Sensitive Practice: The Case of International NGOs*, International Alert: London.

27. Leonhardt, Manuela; Ardon, Patricia; Karuru, Njeri; Sherriff, Andrew (2002). *Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) and NGO Peacebuilding – Experiences from Kenya and Guatemala: A Briefing Paper*, International Alert: London

28. Longley, Catherine, and Maxwell, Daniel : *Livelihoods, Chronic Conflict and Humanitarian Response: a Review of Current Approaches*

<http://www.odi.org.uk/nrp/89.pdf>

29. Maresko, Deborah ; *Development, Relief Aid, and Creating Peace: Humanitarian Aid in Liberia's War of the 1990s*

http://www.trinstitute.org/ojpcr/6_Imaresko.pdf

30. Messer, Ellen, and Cohen, Marc *Breaking the Links Between Conflict and Hunger in Africa*

<http://www.globalpolicy.org/socecon/hunger/oppressive/2004/10africahunger.pdf>

31. Moore, Jonathan : *The Humanitarian-Development Gap*

<http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/iwpList78/EE30655200237ACBC1256B66005CFE19>

32. Miall, H., O. Ramsbotham and T. Woodhouse. Blackwell Publishing 2005

33. Nyheim, David; Leonhardt, Manuela; Gaigals, Cynthia (2001). *Development in Conflict: A Seven Step Tool for Planners*, FEWER, International Alert, Saferworld: London. Retrieved December 2005 from:
[http://www.acdicida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/d86cbc87319a898c8525677e0072d6f8/d4fe6663c8a7824d85256aef00636e0e/\\$FILE/Co13.pdf](http://www.acdicida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/d86cbc87319a898c8525677e0072d6f8/d4fe6663c8a7824d85256aef00636e0e/$FILE/Co13.pdf)

34. Pearse, Jenny: *Development, NGOs, and Civil Society: the Debate and Its Future*

<http://www.developmentinpractice.org/readers/NGOs/intro.htm>

35. Perrin, Pierre (1998) *The Impact of Humanitarian Aid on Conflict Development*

<http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/iwpList167/FA943455FADB895EC1256B66005C0A26>

36. Picciotto, Robert 2004. *Aid and Conflict: the Policy Coherence Challenge*

<http://www.wider.unu.edu/conference/conference-2004-1/conference2004-1-papers/Picciotto-2505.pdf>

37. RAND organization: *2002 Aid During Conflict - Interaction Between Military and Civilian Assistance Providers in Afghanistan*, September 2001 - June 2002

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2004/RAND_MG212.pdf

38. Slim, Hugo. (1998) "International Humanitarianism's Engagement with Civil War in the 1990's: A glance at Evolving Practice and Theory". A briefing Paper for Action Aid UK, *Journal for Humanitarian Affairs*. From at www.jha.ac.

39. Slim, Hugo (1996) "Planning Between Danger and Opportunity: NGO Situation Analysis in Conflict Related Emergencies" *Journal for Humanitarian Affairs*. From www.JHA.ac/REF/r013.htm

40. Slim, Hugo (1998), *International Humanitarianism's Engagement with Civil War in the 1990's: A glance at Evolving Practice and Theory*, Briefing Paper for ActionAid/UK. From <http://www.jha.ac//articles/a033.htm>

41. Storey, Andy (1997) "Non-neutral humanitarianism: NGOs and the Rwanda Crisis, *Development in Practice*, Volume 7, Issue 4, Oxford: Oxfam pp. 342-352

42. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency : *Reconciliation - Theory and Practice for Development Cooperation*

43. The Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief, and the code of International Alert for working in situations of Conflict.

44. Uvin, Peter. (1998). *Aiding Violence: The development enterprise in Rwanda*. West Hartford: Kumarian Press, Inc.

45. Uvin, Peter / OECD The Influence of Aid in Situations of Violent Conflict. Based on the results of four case studies (Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Rwanda.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/31/24/1843044.pdf>

46. Vaux, T. (2001) *The Selfish Altruist*, Sterling, Virginia: Earthscan
<http://www.ipacademy.org/Publications/Publications.htm>

47. Vauz, Tony and Goodhand Jothahan (2001). *Disturbing Connections: Aid and Conflict in Kyrgyzstan*

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/conflictassessmentkyrgyzstan.pdf>