



## Agenda

### Evaluating conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities: What have we learned from the application phase?

16 - 17 February 2011

Håndverkeren conference centre, Oslo, Norway

#### Overview

A jointly developed [Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities](#) was agreed in 2007 to strengthen evaluation approaches and improve learning and accountability in these important fields. To test and improve the draft guidance, it has been used to evaluate programmes in a number of countries over the past three years. The purpose of this meeting is to review the policy and evaluation lessons coming from these experiences and decide on the way forward for the guidance. The agenda has been set up to meet the needs of participants from both evaluation and conflict and fragility departments, whilst striving to provide a blend of topics that will bridge the two groups and encourage discussion on topics of mutual interest.

Day one will provide an introduction to recent developments in donor thinking on peacebuilding and statebuilding and an overview of the policy messages from recent evaluations. Day two will focus on evaluation lessons, specifically the use of the guidance and next steps for its finalisation.

16 February 2010, 9:00 – 17:00	
Chair: Asbjørn Eidhammer	
<b>8:30 – 9:00</b>	<b>Registration and coffee</b>
<b>9.00 – 9.40</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome from Norway: Villa Kulild, Director, Norad</li> <li>• Introduction: Asbjørn Eidhammer, Head of Evaluation, Norad                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overview of process and rationale for guidance</li> <li>○ Purpose and structure of the meeting</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recent developments and thinking on peacebuilding and statebuilding (INCAF secretariat)</li> </ul> <b>Documents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <a href="#">Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities Draft Guidance</a> (OECD DAC 2007)</li> <li>➤ <a href="#">Summary Record, Bern Meeting January 2008</a></li> </ul>
<b>9.40-11.10</b>	<b>Session 1. Key policy lessons from recent evaluations</b> Presentations of evidence and policy messages surfaced during the application phase. Presenters will share policy / programme findings and some insights on the evaluation process, followed by a discussion of key themes and lessons. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aiding the peace? Multi-donor evaluation in Southern Sudan (15 min)</li> <li>• Multi-donor evaluation of peacebuilding activities in Sri Lanka (15min)</li> <li>• Evaluation of the German Civil Peace Service (15min)</li> </ul> <b>Documents:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Aiding the Peace: A Multi-donor Evaluation of Support to Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities in Southern Sudan: <a href="#">Full Report</a> and <a href="#">Policy Brief</a></li> <li>➤ <a href="#">Donor-Supported Activities in Conflict-Sensitive Development and Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding in Sri Lanka</a></li> </ul>

<b>11.10-11.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11.30 – 13.00</b>	<p><b>Session 2. Key policy lessons from recent evaluations (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of Swedish peace efforts in Afghanistan(15 min)</li> <li>• Multi-donor evaluation of peacebuilding activities in Democratic Republic of Congo (15 min)</li> <li>• Evaluation of Norwegian peace efforts in Haiti (15 min)</li> </ul> <p><b>Documents:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <a href="#">Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan</a> (Power Point, FOI 2009)</li> <li>➤ <a href="#">Evaluation of Norwegian support to peacebuilding in Haiti</a></li> </ul>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00 – 16:45 (coffee will be available)</b>	<p><b>Session 3. Challenges and lessons</b> Group discussion of key themes and operational challenges in the areas of conflict and peacebuilding, informed by insights from the evaluations. Each topic will be initiated by a discussant or introductory presentation.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Kirsten Garaycochea</i>, Peace &amp; Security Division, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)</p> <p><b>Taking context as a starting point</b> – How to understand and analyse conflict as a basis for design and implementation of activities? <i>Phil Vernon</i>, International Alert (15 min) Plenary discussion (30 minutes)</p> <p><b>Whole of Government engagement</b> – How to work with and evaluate strategies, objectives and approaches of different actors (development, military, humanitarian, private sector, etc.) in conflict settings? <i>Cedric de Coning</i>, Norwegian Institute for International Affairs : “Norway’s Whole of Government approach in Afghanistan” (7 minutes) <i>Jon Bennett</i>, ITAD: “UK whole of government in Afghanistan” (7 minutes) Plenary discussion (30 minutes)</p> <p><b>Ownership and alignment</b> - How to manage and broaden national and international stakeholder involvement when government legitimacy is weak? <i>Stein Sundstøl Eriksen</i>, Norwegian Institute for International Affairs (15 min) Plenary discussion (30 minutes)</p> <p><b>Documents:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Context: <a href="#">Working with the grain to change the grain: Beyond the MDGs</a></li> <li>➤ Whole of Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Norway’s Whole-of-Government Approach and its Engagement with Afghanistan <a href="#">Report</a> (2009) <a href="#">Policy Brief</a> (2010)</li> <li>○ <a href="#">Britain and Afghanistan: Policy and Expectations</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Afghanistan Country Programme Evaluation</a> (DFID 2009)</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Ownership and alignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">The Legitimacy of the State in Fragile Situations</a>(Norad)</li> <li>○ <a href="#">State Legitimacy in Fragile Situations</a> (OECD)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>17:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Reception hosted by Norway</b>

17 February 2011 9:00 – 12:45 Chair: Asbjørn Eidhammer	
9:00 – 9:15	<b>Chair's summary of day one and purpose of day two</b>
9:15 – 10:45	<p><b>Session 4. Evaluative lessons: Improving the conduct and use of evaluations of conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Beate Bull</i>, Evaluation Department, Norad</p> <p>Sharing of key methodological insights from the applications of the guidance, including presentations from Team leaders (5 -10 minutes each) from: Southern Sudan evaluation, General evaluation of European Commission support to conflict prevention and peace building in third countries, DRC evaluation, Sri Lanka evaluation, Haiti evaluation, Afghanistan evaluations.</p> <p>Followed by plenary discussion</p>
10:45 – 11:00	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:00 – 12:30	<p><b>Session 5. Reflections on how to improve the guidance and strengthen conflict prevention and peacebuilding evaluations</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Ole Winckler Andersen</i>, Head of Evaluation, Danida</p> <p>What seems to be the value added of the Guidance? What should be changed, and what should be taken out? What should be elaborated more in detail? Comments on the guidance and its usefulness by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Thania Paffenholz</i>, Graduate Institute International and Development Studies (15 minutes)</li> <li>• <i>Mariska van Beijnum</i>, Conflict Research Unit Clingendael Institute (15 minutes)</li> </ul> <p>Plenary discussion of key emerging themes from the discussions and next steps on the guidance</p>
12:30 – 12:45	<b>Chairs' Conclusion and next steps</b>
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch



*After lunch a small group (by invitation only) will discuss the way forward for the guidance.*

## Documents

Printed copies of the draft Guidance (in English and French) will be available free of charge at the event. Hard copies of some of the evaluation reports will also be available. All room documents and presentations will be available following the workshop at this website:

[http://www.oecd.org/document/39/0,3746,en\\_21571361\\_34047972\\_46825255\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/39/0,3746,en_21571361_34047972_46825255_1_1_1_1,00.html)

## Annotations to the Agenda

### Opening Session

#### **An evolving policy agenda: Recent developments and conceptual understanding on peacebuilding and statebuilding**

Since the guidance was prepared in 2007, the policy thinking around engagement in situations of conflict and fragility has evolved significantly in and beyond INCAF. It will be important for the meeting to reflect on these changes during its proceedings and discuss how the guidance may need to better reflect this changing policy field.

Highlights include:

- The merger of CPDC and the Fragile States group enabled a wider focus combining peacebuilding and statebuilding, recognising that this is 95% part of the same agenda.
- The Fragile States Principles and the recently approved statebuilding guidance provide more details for how donors should engage in situations of conflict and fragility.
- The UN SG's report on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict presents a further definition of peacebuilding
- HLF 3 in Accra in 2008 signified a step-change in the sense that conflict and fragility was recognised as key obstacles to development, which was also reiterated by the MDG review summit in September 2010.
- The International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding is also providing a policy forum where donors and fragile states can discuss and agree on key issues that can improve the impact, focus and effectiveness of international support.

#### **Sessions 1-2. Key policy lessons from recent evaluations**

Team leaders from each of the major field test evaluations will share their findings and reflect on broader conclusions that can be drawn to inform policy work in these fields and in terms of their experience evaluating. Each presentation will have a short factual Q&A, followed at the end of all presentations by a longer discussion of emerging themes and conclusions. An opportunity will be provided in Session 4 and 5 (day two) for evaluation teams to discuss in more detail the evaluation lessons and experience using the guidance.

#### **Session 3. Plenary discussion: Key emerging policy findings and lessons learned from evaluations of conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities**

Experts will be asked to introduce the following three priority policy issues and challenges, which have emerged from the evaluations. The presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion, which will aim to highlight recommendations for how international engagement in conflict prevention and peacebuilding should be improved.

- **Taking context as a starting point** – How to understand and analyse the politics of conflict as a basis for design, implementation and evaluation of activities? This will involve looking at the use (or non use) of “conflict analyses” (in the broadest sense) and other analysis tools. How are conflict contexts and the political economy of conflict understood by those designing and implementing programmes?

- **Whole of Government engagement** – How to improve and evaluate parallel strategies, objectives and approaches of different policy communities, including actors from development, military, humanitarian and other fields? A key feature of peacebuilding contexts is the parallel engagement of several actors - Military, diplomacy, humanitarian, development actors etc. What are the implications of (non) alignment of strategies, objectives and approaches for programme impact and for evaluation? How can evaluations better reflect on and engage different policy communities? What would the impacts of such engagement be on how evaluations are designed and implemented?
- **Ownership and alignment** - How to manage and broaden national and international stakeholder involvement in situations where government legitimacy is weak? What have we learned about the scope and limitations of applying principles of ownership and alignment in situations of conflict and fragility? Who should be engaged in joint evaluations and how?

#### **Session 4. Plenary discussion of evaluative lessons**

Team leaders will share their methodological insights from the applications, what worked and what did not work? Which components in the Guidance were useful and which were not (five key components: the Utstein categories, conflict analysis, conflict sensitive assessments and evaluation approach, DAC reevaluation criteria and programme theories). How did the team leaders approach the Guidance in the different evaluations?

- **Improving the conduct and use of evaluations** - Sharing of key methodological insights from the applications of the guidance (Team leaders) from:
  - a. South Sudan evaluation
  - b. European Commission
  - c. DRC evaluation
  - d. Sri Lanka evaluation
  - e. Haiti evaluation
  - f. Afghanistan evaluation
- How should conflict analysis be used in evaluation? How was conflict analysis used in the pilot evaluations? Is this topic covered sufficiently well in the guidance?
- How can evaluators deal with missing baselines, ill-defined programme logics and fluid and dangerous conflict settings? What if the conflict changes dramatically mid-way through the evaluation or findings come out “late”?
- How to ensure that findings and recommendations are fed back and used to improve strategies and programming? How can evaluations be set up to have maximum relevance?

#### **Session 5. Concluding reflections on how to improve the guidance and strengthen conflict prevention and peacebuilding evaluations**

Comments on the guidance and its usefulness from experts *Thania Paffenholz*, Graduate Institute International and Development Studies (15 minutes) and *Mariska van Beijnum*, Conflict Research Unit Clingendael Institute (15 minutes). Followed by discussion.

What seems to be the value added of the Guidance? What should be changed, and what should be taken out/kept? What should be elaborated more in detail? Does the Guidance cover relevant topics given recent changes in the fields of peacebuilding, statebuilding, fragility and conflict prevention?

Plenary discussion of key emerging themes from the discussions and next steps on the guidance.