

PEACEBUILDING M&E

SOLUTIONS FORUM

OCTOBER 23, 2018



WASHINGTON, DC

AGENDA

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Plenary Session | Carlucci Auditorium

Greetings and Welcome Address

9:00 AM – 9:20 AM

Improving Research Design: Methodological approaches for evaluations before, during, and after a program is implemented

9:20 AM – 9:45 AM

Keith B. Ives – Causal Design and Jon Kurtz – Mercy Corps

Using examples from studies from Jordan, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Nigeria the session leaders will introduce data analysis techniques that can improve the viability and validity of impact evaluations in austere environments. This session will offer intuition behind novel research approaches that can be employed before a program starts (baseline), while its in operation (midterm), or as it concludes (endline). Specific methods to be discussed may include matching strategies to overcome small sample sizes, using survey experiments to observe early results, and alternatives to traditional regression models.

Improving Data Analysis: Data-based Decision Making for Building and Sustaining Peace

9:45 AM – 10:10 AM

David Hammond – Institute of Economics and Peace

This presentation will address the challenges that arise in drawing insights from empirical evidence, calling upon the Institute for Economics & Peace's expertise in applying data analysis and metrics to the study of peacefulness and offering participants practical approaches for responsible data-based peacebuilding. While data and empirical evidence seem to offer straightforward insights, the complexity of peacebuilding introduces new challenges to statistical analysis. Some of the common difficulties addressed in this presentation include filling data gaps responsibly, conflict sensitive quantitative analysis, and creating and interpreting multidimensional metrics.

Improving Data Use: Making Research Useful and Used - Lessons from a Mixed-Method Evaluation in Somalia

10:10 AM – 10:35 AM

Andrew Blum -Kroc School, University of San Diego & Beza Tesfaye – Mercy Corps

In April 2018, Mercy Corps and the Kroc School, University of San Diego completed a year-long, mixed-method research project assessing the impact of a Mercy Corps education and civic engagement project in Somalia. This presentation will first summarize the research methods used, and second, discuss the lessons learned to communicate mixed-method research to policymakers and practitioners. The key takeaway is the importance of engaging policymakers and practitioners during the research process. Successful and unsuccessful efforts to do this will be presented and discussed.

Moderated Q&A 10:35 AM – 11:00 AM

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM | Break (Coffee and Tea) | Atrium

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM | Concurrent Sessions | Various Locations

Presentation Theme: Impact Evaluations & RCTs

Randomized control trial evaluation of religious peacebuilding

11:15 AM – 11:35 AM

Tarek Maassarani – Salam Institute for Peace and Justice

This session will present the methodology and results of a randomized control trial study of a training program for Chadian Quranic school teachers on civic values and active learner pedagogy. It will invite an active conversation about the implications, challenges, and questions raised by the study, particularly as it pertains to the role of perceived social norms as a driver of behavior change.

Seriously?: RCTs role in peacebuilding

11:35 AM – 11:55 AM

Sebastian Chaskel – Innovations for Poverty Action

When is it appropriate to consider implementing an impact evaluation of your program? What are different types of impact evaluations and what can they teach you? Have they been used in peacebuilding before?

Evaluating the impact mass and social media programming to alter public perceptions

11:55 AM – 12:15 PM

Mufaddal Moiz – United States Institute of Peace

Mass and social media is growing rapidly as tools of civic education and social change similarly the assessment of the results generated by such efforts have become equally important. This session will talk about strategies for measuring impact generated through these useful media tools.

Presentation Theme: Qualitative Research

Measuring the Hard to Measure: Qualitative Rigor

11:15 AM – 11:35 AM

Rebecca Herrington – Social Impact

Understanding the 'Why' in peacebuilding programming often requires qualitative data, but under-developed methods can limit both internal and external use. This session will review sampling frameworks and three different rigorous qualitative methods that can meet external validity standards and provide in-depth understanding of how, why, and for whom change is happening in peacebuilding.

Capturing Conversation: Guided Dialogue Observation

11:35 AM – 11:55 AM

Rebecca Greubel - United States Institute of Peace

Peacebuilding can be based upon building trust and collaboration between groups using conversation based techniques. When the outcomes we are looking for are intangible, how do we accurately monitor them? This session will share lessons learned from USIP Justice and Security Dialogue program's experience using guided observation to track outcomes from conversations.

Sensemaking in Peacebuilding Evaluation

11:55 AM – 12:15 PM

Nell Bolton – Catholic Relief Services & Maria Veronica Gottret - Catholic Relief Services

This presentation will share CRS' experience of using SenseMaker, a narrative-based, complexity-aware method for monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL), in standalone and integrated peacebuilding projects. Using two brief case examples from Ecuador and the Philippines, presenters will focus on how using the SenseMaker approach yielded more meaningful findings thanks to a richer understanding of reality through the eyes of respondents, and how the use of "signifiers" allowed for clear visualizations that facilitated collective analysis and interpretation. The session will end with consideration of how findings generated by a Sensemaker process can be used for improved program design and advocacy.

Presentation Theme: Joint Action & Collective Impact

Designing Collective Impact for Peacebuilding

11:15 AM – 11:35 AM

Frank Fredericks – World Faith

The purpose of this session is to encourage collaborative thinking around peacebuilding impact assessment. Specifically, how can we apply the wisdom of the Collective Impact Framework, which posits that in order to improve the impact in a field, common metrics should be used toward a shared objective. We'll begin with a short introduction to the concept of Collective Impact, as well as an explanation for why our field is so deeply in need of approach, both from a system level, and more concretely on the programmatic level.

Collective Monitoring: Lessons from Central African Republic

11:35 AM – 11:55 AM

Ruben Grangaard – United States Institute of Peace

This session will draw on USIPs experiences with a pilot project in the Central African Republic- IMPACT-CAR - that developed a shared measurement and reporting system aimed at improving collaboration and shared learning across peacebuilding implementers. The project generated actionable lessons for the next generation of collective efforts in the peacebuilding field.

Joint Community Action Plans for Peace-Building in Nigeria

11:55 AM – 12:15 PM

Anne Brady – The Tony Blair Institute & Gilbert Muyumbu – CARE International UK

The Tony Blair Institute is working with CARE International UK to adapt its community-based monitoring and dialogue tool, the Community Scorecard, to a P/CVE/peacebuilding setting for the first time. Adapting this methodology will help to explore how religious leaders can be supported to counter violent extremism and conflict through intra- and inter-religious community action, and to explore the links between P/CVE and Freedom of Religion or Belief. It aims to contribute stronger evidence of the potential impact of working with religious leaders to inform wider programming and policymaking.

12:15 PM – 12:45 PM | Informal Q&A | Various Locations

12:45 PM – 1:30 PM | Lunch | Atrium

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Concurrent Sessions | Various Locations

Presentation Theme: Adaptive Management & Evaluation

Adaptive Learning: Outcome Harvesting an alternative to results-based programming?

1:30 PM – 1:50 PM

Carlotta Fassioti – Search for Common Ground

The presentation will outline the Outcome Harvesting (OH) Methodology used by the Supporting Access to Justice, Fostering Equity and Peace (SAFE) Program in Uganda. OH enabled the program to demonstrate impact of intervention in a way that is complementary to the results-based approach and provided a framework for reporting and mapping outcomes over target geographic areas and adapting the program accordingly. The session will guide the audience through an initial presentation of the outcome harvesting methodology, its relevance in peacebuilding settings, and why it became needed for the SAFE program; it will then explain to the audience how to implement OH based on the experience of the SAFE program and how to analyse, visualize and use the data; finally, it will showcase how OH provided a space for community empowerment and redefining metric of success from a local perspective.

Lessons from Experience: Outcome Mapping in Conflict-Affected Contexts

1:50 PM – 2:10 PM

Elizabeth Wright - Conflict Dynamics International

Conflict Dynamics will discuss why it has found Outcome Mapping (OM) to be a useful monitoring approach for tracking high-level political changes in rapidly shifting peacebuilding environments. Comparing three contexts in which CDI has used OM (Sudan, South Sudan, and Somalia), the presentation will discuss how the approach has been adapted across contexts, what has worked well and what has been challenging, and how Conflict Dynamics plans to improve upon its execution of OM in future projects.

Developmental Evaluation: Youth and Community Resilience against VE

2:10 PM – 2:30 PM

Peter Weinberger, PhD – Fhi360

FHI 360 is implementing a pilot project in four Tunisian communities with a goal of strengthening youth and community resilience to economic, political and social stresses — specifically the threat of violent extremism (VE). The project is based on three-phases of activities in which Phase I and II activities were concrete and well-defined. In comparison, Phase III activities were unknown at project launch and evolved from the outcomes, findings and community-decisions of prior phases. We are using a developmental evaluation (DE) approach because there is low certainty about cause and effect, and low agreement among stakeholders about the situation and what should be done about it.

Presentation Theme: Participatory M&E

Feedback Loops in Inclusive and Participatory M&E

1:30 PM – 1:50 PM

Saurav Upadhyay - American Friends Service Committee & Joan Marshall-Missiye - American Friends Service Committee

The feedback loop is a big part of inclusive and participatory M&E and a way to address limitations of traditional M&E approaches. However, there is a dearth of resources on practical ways in which feedback can be included in M and E processes. With this session, we hope to share our experience of implementing a participatory evaluation where the feedback process was at the center of the evaluation process.

Everyday Peace Indicators**1:50 PM – 2:10 PM**

Belquis Ahmadi – United States Institute of Peace, Pamina Firchow - George Mason University, & Zach Tilton - Western Michigan University

This methods presentation will highlight USIP's application of the Everyday Peace Indicator framework in Afghanistan to identify the indicators of peace and violent extremism that citizens use to track changes and make decisions in their everyday lives. Attendees can expect to gain a fresh way of thinking about measuring peacebuilding effectiveness, grounded in practical examples from the field that puts communities at the heart of measurement.

PhotoVoice: Amplifying Youth Voices**2:10 PM – 2:30 PM**

Robin Nelson – Fhi360 & Loubna Rais – Fhi360, Morocco

PhotoVoice is a community-based participatory research method which gives participants the opportunity to document and discuss their lives through photography and targeted prompts. FHI 360 used the PhotoVoice methodology to amplify youth voices and understand their perspectives more deeply. We wanted to determine the extent to which youth applied the skills and assets developed through a USAID-funded project to their everyday lives, especially regarding peaceful conflict resolution, positive behavior choices, and resiliency.

Presentation Theme: M&E Purpose & Quality Assurance***The Evolution of the Role of M&E in Peacebuilding Programming*****1:30 PM – 1:50 PM**

Sasha Kishinchand - Polar Lights Prime LLC

The session first addresses the difference between understanding of Development Programming and Stabilization Programming, and how this difference conditions M&E processes and data collection, to include the development of metrics. The session covers how, based on the presenter's experience, these have all evolved, with references to specific peacebuilding interventions from 2003 to the present. The session then reviews various M&E tools and triangulation 'lessons-learned'. Finally, the presentation discusses replicability when implementing current M&E methodologies.

Searching for Balance: From Agency Measurement to Program Specifics**1:50 PM – 2:10 PM**

Leslie Wingender – Mercy Corps

In peacebuilding we aim to see change in what we call intangible concepts. By walking through Mercy Corps' Design for Impact Guide and country specific examples, we will address the question of balancing agency level perspectives with context specific nuance. This session will look at how Mercy Corps balanced the need for specificity, relevance, and usability in the creation of the guide. We will highlight several examples of actual tools used by teams to measure peace outcomes and social cohesion. We will connect this back to the larger guide and our reflections on rightsizing tools to serve the largest number of people with the greatest accuracy.

Data quality assurance: Audio check in complex environments**2:10 PM – 2:30 PM**

Yuliya Dudaronak - ORB International

The session will outline the process of audio checks as used in 9 African/MENA countries to check for interviewing quality. The focus will be on the effect of audio checks on substantive findings in the survey.

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM | Informal Q&A and Break | Atrium

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Concurrent Sessions | Various Locations

Presentation Theme: Evaluation & Data Use

Evaluation of Early Childhood development program in Rwanda: Research with Children under age 6

3:15 PM – 3:35 PM

Emmanuel Nkusi – Search for Common Ground, Rwanda

The session will focus on innovative research methodology used with children 6 years and below, combining observation, games cards and interactive focus groups. What are lessons learned as well as gaps to be filled in this area.

Promoting and Evaluating Joint Action for Reconciliation Between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples in Saskatchewan, Canada

3:35 PM – 3:55 PM

Rhett Sangster - Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Canada

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner in Saskatchewan, Canada is working with partners to build a framework for promoting collaboration and joint action for reconciliation and positive peace between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Saskatchewan, Canada. The session will describe our institutional learnings in using a Collective Impact methodology, to bring Indigenous, newcomer, and non-Indigenous Champions from government, civil society, business, and faith groups together to create common objectives, and to jointly develop a shared measurement process to promote learning, and systemic change.

Monitoring for Adaptive Programming: Data to Inform

3:55 PM – 4:15 PM

Sarah McLaughlin – Department of State, Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO)

Often times both donors and implementers only focus on the D (design) and E (evaluation) part of DM&E without placing importance on the M (monitoring). It is important to hold ourselves and our implementers accountable but we also want to learn what is working/what is not working for future programming. To that end, we focus on three types of monitoring - context, implementation, and results to help us identify what did or did not change and to think critically about why.

Presentation Theme: Conflict Monitoring & Early Warning Systems

Monitoring Conflict Systems - Lessons from Madagascar

3:15 PM – 3:35 PM

Sedera Arnaud Rajoelison– Search for Common Ground, Madagascar

The presentation outlines the conflict monitoring system developed by Search Madagascar. It details how to set up the system, which consists in trained conflict monitors reporting on evolution of conflict dynamics in selected areas, using a diagnostic tool. It also shows how to analyse the data and the type of report to be produced based on the data collected. Finally it provides example on the use of these reports to inform and implement programmatic intervention and decision making

The SCORE Methodology Measuring the intangible and predicting peace

3:35 PM – 3:55 PM

Alexander Guest - SeeD - Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development

The SCORE methodology quantifies the underlying causes of conflict, and establishes metrics to predict the trajectory of peacebuilding strategies. We will discuss how SCORE can identify the sequence of programme and policy actions most likely to positively impact peacebuilding outcomes based on quantitative analysis.

Community-driven approach to monitoring conflict and Peace projects: A review of BEWERS Monitoring Strategy

3:55 PM – 4:15 PM

Blessing Osagie Christopher - Christian Aid, Nigeria

This session dwells on; Strategies for integrating locals into the M&E component of a peace project. Lessons from using community based structures in implementing Peace programs.

Presentation Theme: Theory & Institutional Learning

From M&E to Institutional Learning: Progress through University Partnerships (Case study in Kurdistan, Iraq)

3:15 PM – 3:35 PM

Audrey Watne - New York University & Zeravan Sadeeq - University of Duhok, Iraq

A strong partnership between the University of Duhok Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies (CPCRS) of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and New York University Peace Research and Education Program (PREP) has developed through coordinated education programs for faculty including Masters in Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies and facilitation trainings, large scale youth training programs, and recently, a training program in Peace and Conflict Resolution for faculty from the University of Mosul. This methods presentation explains how CPCRS and PREP coordinate to build long lasting institutional systems, share knowledge widely, and seek to support a global community of practice. It will cover lessons learned from transforming M&E systems in conflict zones into institutional learning systems that understand and integrate lessons learned into future programming and seek ways to share lessons learned with international development and academic communities.

Theory-based approaches for evaluative program monitoring

3:35 PM – 3:55 PM

Jesse McConnell - Independent

Theory-based approaches to evaluation have gained prominence in recent years as a solution to complex environments in which conventional experimental approaches to determining impact are not feasible or prohibitively costly. However, insufficient attention has been given to applying theory-based approaches to program monitoring as a means of offering a similarly flexible solution for managing complex and diverse programs, particularly in conflict or challenging environments. This presentation provides an example of a theory-based approach to programming monitoring for the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) in Iraq.

Evaluating Across Contexts: Lessons from a Meta-Review Process

3:55 PM – 4:15 PM

Michael Zanchelli – United States Institute of Peace & Nike Carstarphen - Alliance for Conflict Transformation (ACT)

In this session, USIP staff and evaluation partners will discuss lessons about managing a qualitative meta-review of projects that used facilitated dialogue as a strategy. Presenters will discuss the creative methodology used in the evaluation to overcome limitations, and lessons learned for practitioners and evaluators alike who are seeking to draw out actionable insights across projects implemented in different contexts.

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM | Informal Q&A and Break

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM | Closing Plenary | B241
