



MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES DURING POST-CONFLICT REINTEGRATION AND RECOVERY

DATES:

27 February - 2 March, 2012

LOCATION:

Switzerland

DESCRIPTION:

As evidenced in numerous reports by the United Nations Secretary-General, international organizations and prominent international NGOs, the role of natural resources in conflict and post-conflict environments cannot be under-estimated. In many conflict settings, they serve as an underlying driver of conflicts or as a means for armed forces and groups to fund conflict activities. Moreover, in the aftermath of conflict, natural resources are crucial to support livelihoods in order to achieve effective and sustainable recovery and reintegration.

To address these issues, this workshop will look at how post-conflict countries can address the role of natural resources to support inclusive and conflict-sensitive natural resource management as a tool for peacebuilding and to prevent the recurrence of conflict. Through a combination of presentations, discussions and group exercises, the workshop will create an interactive forum in which practitioners of diverse backgrounds can jointly explore the relationships between natural resources and post-conflict disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), recovery and security.

GOALS:

This workshop aims to bring together the reintegration/recovery and natural resource management (NRM) communities, including from international and regional governmental organizations, national governments, military/police staff and officers, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations. It will provide the Inter-agency Working Group with the opportunity to validate and socialize an important learning module, “IDDRS 6.30 on Natural Resources and DDR.” At the same time, it will provide practitioners, including those working on the reintegration of ex-combatants, IDPs and refugees, community security and governance, with the necessary knowledge to be able to effectively respond to the risks and opportunities presented by natural resources in post-conflict contexts. It will seek to provide the tools and practical understanding required to be able to effectively use natural resources in ways that will enhance the overall sustainability of post-conflict programming and contribute to strengthening peacebuilding objectives.

Additionally, this workshop will provide the optimal environment to enhance understanding of and exposure to professional networks among the communities involved in reintegration/recovery and NRM programs.

WORKSHOP MODULES KEYTOPICS:

- a) The role of natural resources in conflict;
- b) Natural resources and the functioning of armed forces and groups;
- c) Integrating natural resources into post-conflict interventions (DDR, community security, reintegration, employment and);
- d) Engaging the private sector and market-based mechanisms to promote green jobs and natural resource management for reintegration and peacebuilding.
- e) Natural resource management and governance and social cohesion in peacebuilding

WORKSHOP LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

By the end of the workshop, participants will demonstrate ability to:

1. Analyze the relationships between natural resources and conflict and the role of natural resource management in contributing to reintegration, peacebuilding and security across various contexts;
2. Apply a range of policy and programmatic approaches for promoting livelihoods recovery, reintegration and peacebuilding through natural resource management;
3. Develop innovative ways to address the role of natural resources in the particular contexts that they work in through partnerships and exchanges with other participants;
4. Evaluate the opportunities to more effectively address natural resources through integrated programmatic approaches and institutional mechanisms.

METHODOLOGY:

The workshop will be highly participatory and create a space for sharing of experiences between the two practice areas and among participants. The event will consist of a series of facilitated discussions; individual and panel presentations; group work on select problems; and country case studies.

PARTICIPANTS:

Approximately 25 representatives from the reintegration/recovery and natural resource management community, including civilian government agencies, non-governmental organizations, inter-governmental organizations and the armed forces will attend. Participants should be able to demonstrate how they will apply the knowledge they will acquire during the workshop in their professional work. Priority will be given to participants who are currently in position to immediately apply knowledge and skills acquired during the workshop to reintegration and recovery policy and programming.

LOGISTICS:

The event will be held at a conference center in the Geneva area of Switzerland (to be announced). Tuition and workshop fees will be sponsored by the organizers. All participants are responsible for their travel and accommodation expenses. Special/reduced group accommodation rates will apply to all participants. Hotel instructions will be sent separately to all accepted participants.

POINTS OF CONTACT:

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APPLICATION:

The application period for this workshop will close on January 15, 2012. We anticipate that demand for this workshop will far exceed the number of participants that we can accommodate. Admission decisions will be announced on a rolling basis starting January 5, 2012 until all seats are filled. Applications are accepted via the CSRS online system: www.csrs-nps.org

SPONSORS:

This workshop has been developed through a partnership between The Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies (CSRS), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the UN Inter-agency Working Group on DDR with kind support from the European Commission (EC).

