

Welcome to CDA's Quarterly Newsletter

CDA's Newsletter updates you about various activities and publications and it include papers on what the projects are learning *right now*. Most items have a link to a paper in PDF or a section on our website. If you do not want to receive this newsletter, click here to [UNSUBSCRIBE](#).

NEW STAFF

CDA is very pleased to welcome two permanent additions to our staff!

Corporate Engagement Project The CEP welcomes Dost Bardouille-Crema and Christopher Ramezenpour as Associate Directors. Dost is in charge of Implementation, while Chris will take the lead on Dissemination. As Associate Director of Implementation, Dost will work with companies to take on and adapt the CEP lessons to the specific context of operations through site visits and field assessments. As Associate Director for Dissemination, Chris will disseminate the lessons of CEP by developing training materials and presentations for company staff and curricula for business and management schools. Those topics overlap and we're rather astonished by how much work these two have on their plates. But don't go easy on them! We know they'll continue to meet CDA's high standards.

WHAT WE ARE LEARNING**HIGHLIGHTED BOOK**

The Corporate Engagement Project's book, *Getting it Right: Making Corporate Community Relations Work*, will be published in late April 2009. The book was written based on the evidence gathered by the Corporate Engagement Project since 2000. The project visited the sites of 25 extractive companies in 16 countries to determine how companies' operations led to negative or positive impacts on local communities. The book provides corporate managers with an understanding of how their work impacts the local context and examples of how things go wrong and options for getting it right. The book's publication marks a change in the direction and momentum of the project. You can place orders for the book on our publisher's [website](#).

ISSUES

Most of the items here are "first drafts" of learnings. Occasionally, we will highlight a longer, more significant piece. In this section, we include the identification and brief exploration of *issues*, thoughts on *training* or *methodology*, announcements of new *project concepts*, etc. These papers are of necessity tentative, but we feel enough confidence that we want our friends and colleagues to test them against your experience. Let us know what you think!

Reflecting on Peace Practice Demystifies Impacts "Demystifying Impacts in Evaluation Practice," *New Routes*, a journal of peace research and action, 3/2008, volume 13, published by the Life and Peace Institute. There has been debate about whether and how to evaluate impacts of peacebuilding work at the project level. Some argue that impacts are too big, too far in the

future, and at too high a level to measure. In this short article, RPP outlines an approach to evaluating project impacts on the wider conflict that deals with these challenges. You can access the *New Routes* Issue [here](#).

Do No Harm is analyzing how people use DNH analysis This brief [article](#), "Thinking and Using Do No Harm", breaks down use from experts to novices in some simple ways.

Listening Project looking at wealth of insights LP held a workshop in June 2008 to get feedback on a series of short Issue Papers that highlight these and other themes and further questions that are emerging from the 14 Listening Exercises so far. They are on our website - let us know what you think!

Reflecting on Peace Practice Project looks at how peace initiatives add up RPP held a second Consultation in December 2008 based on cumulative impact case studies from Aceh, Israel/Palestine, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan, plus two case studies by Future Generations on Guyana and Nepal.

Corporate Engagement Project is sharing its learning CEP held a Consultation in November 2008 which brought together executives and operational practitioners from the oil, gas, mining, energy and banking industries, as well as the project's donors. The participants discussed the forthcoming CEP Book and future directions and strategies for CEP. The [report](#) includes a link to a video tutorial of the CEP Framework.

Steps Toward Conflict Prevention offers a summary of learnings STEPS offers [eight points](#) about communities that avoid or prevent conflict that might prove useful to the international community.

TRAINING

RPP Participant Training Manual RPP has revised and updated the resource materials for training, in a new Participant Training Manual available on our website, or [here](#). A French version of the manual is also available.

WHAT WE'RE DOING

Where have we been and what have we written?

NEW REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Diana Chigas and Peter Woodrow. "Envisioning and Pursuing Peace Writ Large", a response to Simon Fischer and Lada Zimina, published in the *Berghof Handbook for Conflict Transformation - Dialogue Series No. 7: Peacebuilding at a Crossroads? Dilemmas and Paths for Another Generation*, edited by Martina Fischer and Beatrix Schmelzle. [Link](#)
- ***New Listening Exercise reports published and translated***
 - Cambodia Listening Exercise ([Khmer](#)) ([English](#))
 - Sri Lanka Listening Exercise ([English](#)) ([Sinhala](#)) ([Tamil](#))

- Thailand-Burma/Myanmar Border Listening Exercise ([English](#)) ([Karen](#))
- Ecuador Listening Exercise ([Spanish](#)) ([English](#))
- Kenya Listening Exercise ([English](#)) (Swahili - forthcoming)
- **Listening Project Issue Papers**
 - *International Assistance as a Delivery System* ([English](#)) ([French](#))
 - *The Cascading Effects of International Agendas and Priorities* ([English](#)) ([French](#))
 - *Presence: "Why Being Here Matters"* ([English](#)) ([French](#))
 - *"Discuss Together, Decide Together, Work Together"* ([English](#)) ([French](#))
- **CEP Book** *Getting it Right: Making Corporate Community Relations Work* will be out in late April 2009. See the note under "highlighted book" above for more information.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

RPP Cumulative Impact Cases RPP has recently completed Cumulative Impact Case Studies on Aceh, Indonesia, Israel/Palestine, Tajikistan, and Sri Lanka. Cases on Haiti, Cambodia, Guatemala and Liberia are in progress.

RPP Trainings and Workshops

- RPP conducted a workshop with swisspeace for a mix of Swiss NGOs and government agencies in September 2008. swisspeace trainer Cordula Reimann, who participated in the RPP training of consultants/advisers in April 2007, was a co-trainer.
- RPP conducted a second Training of Consultants/Advisers in Nairobi, Kenya from October 1-10, 2008. Fifteen trainer/consultants from Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Nigeria and Liberia participated and, as part of the training, provided consultations to local Kenyan peacebuilding groups.
- RPP also held a French Training of Consultants/Advisers in Bujumbura, Burundi in March 2009, with 22 participants.

RPP Presentations

- RPP co-director Peter Woodrow presented CDA's learnings on systems approaches to conflict analysis at a Workshop on Systemic Conflict Transformation hosted by the Berghof Research Centre for Constructive Conflict Management in Berlin in September 2008
- RPP Co-Director Diana Chigas presented on the evaluation of peacebuilding activities for a group of peace and development advisors under the auspices of the UN Framework Team in Panama in October 2008
- RPP Co-Directors Diana Chigas and Peter Woodrow presented on RPP at the conflict advisors research retreat of the British Department for International Development.
- RPP co-director Peter Woodrow presented on RPP and systems approach at a conference at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee in October 2008

RPP Evaluations RPP supervised an evaluation of a peacebuilding project in Nimba County, Liberia from August-September, 2008.

Listening Project Presentations

- LP Presentation to Congressional Staff in Washington, DC as part of Oxfam America's Smart Development Series (July 2008)
- LP Presentation to the International Development Effectiveness Alliance in Washington, DC (July 2008)
- LP Presentation/Discussion at InterAction's Evaluation and Program Effectiveness Working Group and Evaluation Interest Group Roundtable (October 2008)
- LP Presentation to Emergency Directors of Oxfam International in Boston (February 2009)
- LP Presentation to Catholic Relief Services Headquarters staff (March 2009)

Listening Project Feedback Workshops

- LP Feedback Workshop in Dushanbe, Tajikistan (July 2008)
- LP Feedback Workshop in Copenhagen, Denmark (October 2008)
- LP Feedback Workshop in Geneva, Switzerland (October 2008)
- LP Feedback Workshop in Dili, Timor-Leste (October 2008)
- LP Feedback Workshop in Kabul, Afghanistan (April 2008)

Recent Listening Exercises Timor Leste Staff from four donors and international NGOs - Australian Agency for International Development, Catholic Relief Services, Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), and Plan International - participated in the Listening Exercise from October 27 - 31, 2008. Three regional teams visited 6 Districts: the central team listened in Ainaro, Aileu, and Dili; the eastern team visited Baucau; and the western team held conversations in Bobonaro and Cova Lima. The report will be available soon on the CDA website.

Corporate Engagement Project Activities

- **CEP at World Petroleum Congress, Madrid Spain.** CEP participated in the Social Responsibility Global Village of the World Petroleum Congress, a four-day meeting of major oil companies in July 2008. The Congress gave CEP an opportunity to reach out to key managers in the oil and gas industry as well as make connections with other NGOs and CSR staff represented at the Social Responsibility Global Village. Some of our presentation materials are available [here](#).
- **CEP visit to Total Sudan.** The purpose of the visit was to develop an early stakeholder engagement strategy with Total's staff prior to the full start of operations there. The visit conducted in September 2008 had more of an internal focus, and therefore lacked extensive consultation with multiple local stakeholders. We discussed the suggestions and options available to Total in management notes rather than in a public field visit report.
- **CEP Workshop at World Vision Canada.** In November 2008, CEP held a workshop with World Vision Canada to outline constructive approaches for engaging with the private sector.

Do No Harm Project Activities

- **Do No Harm Consultation** This consultation held in April 2009 focused on the learning coming out of the Reflective Case Studies and future strategies for the project.
- **Do No Harm Training** DNH Project Director, Marshall Wallace, conducted an Exposure Workshop in Chiang Mai, Thailand in December 2008.
- **DNH Master Class** In October 2008 CDA hosted a small course in Cambridge on pushing DNH to the next level. A team of CDA staff worked for three days with a small group of donors and NGO workers to figure out what the next level is and where people want DNH to go.
- **DNH Training of Trainers in Uganda with World Vision** Held in October 2008, this ToT allowed WV to get some firsthand insights from the ongoing project.
- **Recent Do No Harm Case Study Visits:**
 - DNH Reflective Case Study Uganda Visit Completed (September-October 2008)
 - DNH Reflective Case Study Kosovo Visit Completed (August 2008)

ON THE HORIZON

There is always something new to keep us interested. We also list upcoming trainings here.

- ***RPP Cumulative Impact Cases*** RPP plans on initiating new cases on Mindanao in Philippines, Mozambique, and the Solomon Islands. In addition, the South African case is being supplemented with a series of in-depth interviews.
- ***Listening Project Feedback Workshops*** Over the coming year, we will continue to hold a number of Feedback Workshops, where the key issues arising from the Listening Exercises to date will be shared and "tested" in discussions with international assistance agencies, donors, and government officials. Several Feedback Workshops will take place in the near future: in Washington, DC on April 30, in Beirut, Lebanon on May 12, and in Amman, Jordan on May 14. We are planning others in the Philippines, West Africa, Australia, and Europe in the next few months. Let us know if you or your colleagues would be interested in participating!
- ***Listening Project Exercises*** Listening Exercises will take place in Afghanistan in April, and in Lebanon in May. Additional Listening Exercises are being planned for the Philippines (Mindanao), West Africa (in Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, or Senegal), and the Solomon Islands in the next few months. Others may be scheduled depending on local interest and commitment. Let us know if you or your colleagues would be interested in participating!
- ***DNH World Tour.*** The recent DNH consultation brought together some of the great users and trainers of DNH. We will be following this meeting up with a series of further consultations. Possible sites for these include Oslo, Nairobi, Canberra, Colombo and Phnom Penh.

TRAININGS

RPP Training of Trainers RPP is planning a Training of Consultants/ Advisers session in Switzerland in mid-June 2009, with a follow up session in November 2009.

CEP is completing its **first series of training modules** for company staff. CEP trainings will focus on community relations officers and company management. The modules

cover a wide variety of corporate activities and impacts. Module topics include: links between company policies and impacts on the community; company interaction with local conflict; and community engagement strategies. We expect to begin offering trainings in May 2009.

THANKS!

Please check CDA's website for updated information. There are too many interesting things happening to fit them all in this brief newsletter. www.cdainc.com