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Monday December 6, 2010

Director's Note

Hello, Friends. Welcome to the Do No Harm Fall Newsletter!

Is Do No Harm “old news”? I have heard it referred to that way recently.

Below you will read a story about some teenage trainers in the Philippines who use DNH creatively and in ways I, for one, did not anticipate. DNH is certainly not old to them.

Let me tell another recent story. A friend of mine was re-reading Do No Harm in preparation for a training. His eight-year-old daughter, Sasha, asked him about it. Before long, with her questions guiding him, he found himself teaching her the DNH Frameworks. The next week a teacher told him his daughter had explained the ideas during a class assignment on consequences. She not only understood DNH, she used it and taught it!

DNH is not old to Sasha – or to her classmates and teachers.

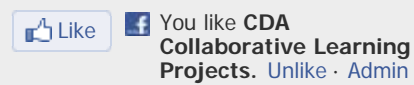
DNH is not old to me either, despite having worked with it for over a decade. Why? Because it never stops moving and changing and growing. It never stops opening up new conversations and helping people reach toward peace. It never lets us do any less than our best.

How can DNH be “old” when young people in the Philippines and elsewhere make it their own and extend it for a new generation’s needs? How can it be “old news” when we see that it still offers bold insights to new audiences as in the recent OECD-DAC paper (see below)? How can it ever be old when so many of you, like Fundacion Futuro Latinamericano and UNDP (see below), are building better programmes – and better lives – with it?

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Director's Note](#)
- [Looking for DNH Evaluations](#)
- [Headline Story: Youth Lead the Way in the Philippines](#)
- [New Tool: Técnicas y Herramientas del Enfoque Sensible a la Conflictividad](#)
- [Book Review of The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right by Atul Gawande](#)
- [DNH in Organizational Operating Policies?](#)
- [DNH Video Training Modules](#)
- [Updates](#)
- [Thank You!](#)

CDA is on [Facebook!](#)



Haiti Documents Survey

Did you read either of CDA's publications regarding the [Haitian context](#) or [lessons on disaster response](#) released in February? If you did, take five minutes to fill out this [survey](#) to tell us what you thought of the documents and how you used them. Thanks!

DNH Short Paper

[Using the Action Framework](#) We have now been using and training with

DNH can never be old – as long as you, my friends, continue to Do No Harm.

Peace,
Marshall

[Back to top](#)

Looking for DNH Evaluations

Does your organization use DNH in evaluations?

Does your organization evaluate its use of DNH?

[We want to know!](#)

Our colleagues at the [Reflecting on Peace Practice Project](#) (RPP) are collecting and comparing the use of CDA tools in evaluations. [Please help!](#)

[Back to top](#)

Headline Story: Youth Lead the Way in the Philippines

In Davao City, a hush fell over the adult Do No Harm (DNH) practitioners gathered for the March 2010 consultation, as they watched a new group of delegates enter the room. These delegates were a bunch of kids! The new arrivals appeared shy at first, most barely into their teens. An unspoken question circled the room: Can children really use DNH?

Yes, they can. As everyone present soon discovered, these youth not only use DNH; they are top-notch DNH trainers. They have played the key role in a pilot program on Empowering Children as Peacebuilders, in partnership with World Vision Development Foundation (WVDF) and Hugpong sa Kalambuan sa Dabao, Inc (Unity for Progress Davao).

“It was an experiment. And it had an amazing result!” said Hermie Carrillo, WVDF Peacebuilding Specialist, on the decision to equip youth as DNH trainers.

In 2008, WVDF conducted an introductory DNH workshop for thirty youth participants, twelve- to fifteen-years old, and then invited sixteen of them to continue on to a DNH Training of Trainers. The selection was based on interviews, discussions with parents, and recommendations from other adults such as teachers. The same youth were also invited to attend training in the ‘Culture of Peace,’ a Mindanowan history module that WVDF pairs with DNH for capacity building among staff and community partners.

In the Training of Trainers and all youth trainings, the DNH content is the same as the adult version, but the facilitation methodologies are creatively modified for a

the Action Framework for more than a year. Good news, DNHers: we can keep - and use - both the old, yet exciting Relationship Framework and the fun, new Action Framework! What's the difference between the two and how do we use both? Read the [paper](#) and watch the video tutorials! ([Relationship](#) and [Action](#)).

New Guidance Note!

[Gender and DNH](#)

The first Guidance Note, released earlier this year, discusses [Dividers and Connectors](#).

CDA has been asked to produce some guidance tools regarding the use of DNH in the context of other cross-cutting themes. We see this as an opportunity to make use of the community of practitioners who are facing these challenges everyday.

The working group on Peacebuilding and DNH will be the next to convene starting next week, followed in January by the working group on Monitoring & Evaluation and DNH.

If you would like to be part of a working group to contribute to and review these guidance notes before they are made public, please click the working group link below.

[Peacebuilding and DNH](#)
[Monitoring and Evaluation and DNH](#)
[Human Rights and DNH](#)
[Environment and DNH](#)
[Disaster Response and DNH](#)
[Governance and DNH](#)
[Corruption and DNH](#)
[HIV/AIDS and DNH](#)
[Policy and DNH](#)
[Advocacy and DNH](#)
[Orphans, Vulnerable Children and DNH](#)
[Security and DNH](#)
[Urban Violence and DNH](#)
[Protection and DNH](#)
[Capacity Building and DNH](#)

Blogs We Like

In addition to ours at www.donoharmproject.wordpress.com, we'd like to recommend these blogs as well.

Harvard's Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations' [Humanitarian & Development NGOs Domain](#) seeks to foster exchange and debate on topics related to international development and humanitarian response; to profile

younger audience. The methodology makes extensive use of role play and visual art, such as a graphic drawing that depicts the stages of the interagency DNH Project in the form of a human body. A new DNH training case study analyzing the selection of children for participation in development activities in an ethnically and religiously diverse community was written.

Each time the youth facilitators prepare to conduct a training, WVDF assists them by providing an advanced DNH refresher workshop, and creating 'space' for the youth to work as a team to freely develop their own instructional materials.

The adult mentors who support this effort have been struck by the youth trainers' insight and candor in applying DNH to inter-ethnic and inter-faith relations. "The children are very observant, very honest, and they share things that seem unimportant to adults," Hermie explains.

For example in one community, which adult DNH practitioners had described as being 100% Christian, a youth trainer pointed out, "But the Muslim neighbors are right there, living very nearby the Christians!" In another mixed Christian-Muslim community, a youth DNH trainer pointed out the divisive effects of the smoke rising from the pork that Christians barbequed along the roadway. Pork is forbidden for Muslims, so they were troubled by the smoke wafting regularly through their neighborhood.

After becoming DNH and Culture of Peace trainers, the youth formed their own association called the Davao Children for Peace and Development Association. In Davao City, they have provided half-day DNH orientation sessions in schools and trained the 'Citizen's Army,' an advanced level of the Boy Scouts. In other World Vision program areas around the Philippines, youth have provided full-length DNH trainings to ethnically and religiously mixed groups of children. The youth trainers also played a key role in last year's World Vision International Forum on Empowering Children as Peacebuilders, which was held in Rizal Province, Philippines, and included young delegates from countries such as Sri Lanka, India, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kenya, Korea, Lebanon and Colombia.

Seventeen-year-old Rex has traveled within the Philippines to Cebu, Cavite and Laguna. He has conducted at least ten DNH trainings or, in his words, "too many to count!" The highlight of his experience is meeting children from far-away places, while the toughest part has been processing the occasional negative feedback from participants. Encouragingly, the positive feedback greatly exceeds the negative! However, Rex finds it challenging when there is an age gap between trainers and trainees, because if the trainees are significantly younger, "It's harder for me to mingle with them."

The youth DNH trainers are vivid examples of the transformation that they seek to promote. Through DNH, they have become more aware and respectful towards the ethno-religious diversity of Mindanao. Relationships

organizations and individuals doing interesting, innovative work of relevance to NGOs. CDA's Dayna Brown of the Listening Project contributes regularly to this blog on many of the lessons and insights that have come out of the [Listening Project](#).

[War is Boring](#), written by journalist David Axe, has the first part of an [interview](#) with Marshall. From that post you can click through to the full article in *World Politics Review* (if you subscribe to *WPR*, you can access the article [here](#)).

DNH Trainers

Every Newsletter, we print the names and locations of DNH trainers. This issue we include all the trainers who responded to the recently concluded DNH Trainers' Survey as well as trainers in the Philippines.

Do No Harm Trainers in the Philippines

This list is not comprehensive at all. There are lots of DNH trainers in the Philippines doing great work. Most of them can be reached through the trainers who follow. If you are not on this list and you want to be, [contact us!](#) If you know someone who should be on this list, [tell us!](#)

For all trainers without an email address listed, please [contact CDA](#) for to be put in contact with them.

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DNH Trainers in Europe

The following list is the trainers in Europe who participated in the recent trainers' survey or otherwise asked to be on this list. If you are not on this list and you want to be, [contact us!](#) If you know

have improved, particularly in the home, where many of the youth have helped their relatives to identify DNH applications within the family. Parents, too, have been trained in DNH, so they can understand and support their children's efforts. Within the Davao Children for Peace and Development Association, the youth have developed policies to ensure inclusive membership along ethnic and religious lines. They take care to involve both children who are 'sponsored' through WVDF community development programs, and those who are not.

Youth trainer Fahra said: "I have transformed from an egg to a fully grown butterfly. From a shy girl who doesn't know how to express herself and from somebody who doesn't care about the things around me, I have changed...I now believe that if only we work hand in hand, we can transform lives and reform damaged relationships."

The youth DNH trainers feel that part of their job is to mobilize additional youth peace advocates. They are excited about partnering with WVDF to offer the first-ever youth-led Training of Trainers during the summer of 2010. At this event, the youth trainers themselves will equip a new cadre of Filipino youth from around the country to lead trainings in Do No Harm. Youth trainer Rex has also offered this advice to children anywhere in the world who would like to become peacebuilders: "They can try to promote peace within themselves, their country, and the world. All the children of the world will be together in promoting peace. Even if they cannot promote peace in action, they can also pray for it."

To learn more about the Youth Trainers program, visit the [Do No Harm Blog](#) to see a video of them or [contact us](#)!

[Back to top](#)

New Tool: Técnicas y Herramientas del Enfoque Sensible a la Conflictividad

In Spanish

[Técnicas y Herramientas del Enfoque Sensible a la Conflictividad](#), written by Eliana Spadoni in collaboration with Fundacion Futuro Latinamericano (www.ffla.net) and UNDP, this tool breaks down the DNH Relationship framework and includes a nod to the Action Framework as well!

[Back to top](#)

Book Review of The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right by Atul

someone who should be on this list, [tell us!](#)

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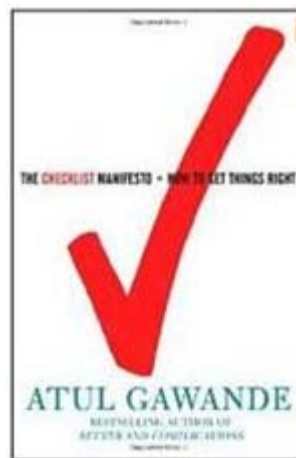
DNH Trainers in Asia

The following list is the trainers in Asia - not including the Philippines - who participated in the recent trainers' survey. If you are not on this list and you want to be, [contact us!](#) If you know someone who should be on this list, [tell us!](#)

Geethanjali Jayasena
Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies
Colombo, Sri Lanka

Gawande

Skyscrapers are built by expert engineers and architects. Airplanes are flown by expert pilots. Our bodies are treated by expert physicians. Our world is made up of complex systems. We put our trust in experts, and as experts, people put their trust in us, to manage the information, tasks and activities necessary to work in those systems. Yet, even the most expert among us misses things. We forget steps or we rush through simple tasks and overlook things.



In his latest book, [The Checklist Manifesto](#), surgeon Atul Gawande gets to the root of how things are missed and what measures we can take to avoid mistakes. The answer, it turns out, is simple: use a checklist.

Gawande learns from the experiences of professionals outside his field. He writes about the development of flight checklists used by aviators, checklists used by contractors to build skyscrapers and checklists used by investors to select investments. He learns that checklists should:

- Not have too many items; if they take too much time, people won't use them.
- Focus people's expertise, not try to substitute for it.
- Not be task-focused; rather, they should remind experts to communicate with one another.
- Ensure that accountability doesn't only flow in one direction.

The book documents Gawande's process as he develops a surgery checklist for the World Health Organization. The list that he and his colleagues design is not comprehensive. It is not a substitute for the years of school and training necessary to become a surgeon, an anesthesiologist or a nurse. Instead, it addresses one complication of surgery: post-operative infection. Doctors have known for years that this (somewhat disconcertingly) common complication of surgery can be avoided in many cases by taking simple steps, like injecting an antibiotic in the hours before surgery or making sure to inventory sponges and tools at the end of a procedure. But, all too often, doctors overlook these steps, rush through them or assume that someone else has performed them. The WHO wanted to develop a checklist to force surgeons, and their teams, not to overlook this "stupid stuff," as Gawande calls it, the stuff that everyone knows is necessary, but that takes a backseat to the more complex tasks of a surgery.

Gawande notes that there are only two causes of

Mahnaz Rahman
Aurat Publication Information Service
Foundation
Karachi, Pakistan

DNH Trainers in North America

The following list is the trainers in North America who participated in the recent trainers' survey. If you are not on this list and you want to be, [contact us!](#) If you know someone who should be on this list, [tell us!](#)

Julian Portilla
Woodbury Institute of Champlain College
Burlington, VT
Speaks English, Spanish

Sue Williams
Eastern Mennonite University
Virginia
Speaks English, French

DNH Trainers in Africa

The following list is the trainers in Africa who participated in the recent trainers' survey. If you are not on this list and you want to be, [contact us!](#) If you know someone who should be on this list, [tell us!](#)

Naglaa Elhadj
Interchurch Organization for
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Kampala, Uganda

Winifred Fitzgerald
Freelance
Antananarivo, Madagascar
Speaks English, French

Rames Abhukara
Antananarivo, Madagascar
Speaks English, French

Moussa David Ntambara
UNDPKO
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mistakes: ignorance and ineptitude. Ignorance is not having the information you need; ineptitude is not using the information you have. Experts usually don't miss things because they lack information, they miss things because they don't apply their expertise rigorously.

As I read The Checklist Manifesto, I was struck: our field is also complex and also inhabited by experts who are busy and can overlook things. Communication between those experts can solve problems that a single person, working in isolation, would be stymied by. We have all the tools we need to avoid ignorance. We have frameworks for project design and guidance for context analysis. Yet, even with all that information, mistakes are made. We don't always use what we know because we know so much. The practical application of all that information can be overwhelming. Perhaps a checklist can work for us, too.

Do No Harm created a [checklist](#) a few years ago. Do you use a checklist? Tell us about it!

[Back to top](#)

DNH in Organizational Operating Policies?

Does your organization, or an organization you know of, include DNH principles in its operational policies or policy principles? Does your organization use DNH in evaluations? Does your organization evaluate its use of DNH? Please [let us know](#) how DNH is being operationalized at the organizational level! Here are a few examples of policy documents that include DNH:

- DFID's Briefing Paper on [Working Effectively in Conflict-affected and Fragile Situations](#)
- Norwegian Church Aid's [Accountability Framework](#)
- The NIDOS [Effectiveness Tool](#) (leave them a comment!)
- OECD's [Do No Harm: International Support for Statebuilding](#)

[Back to top](#)

DNH Video Training Modules

DNH has posted two short video training modules online. The two videos available so far discuss the [Relationship Framework](#) and the [Action Framework](#).

More will be posted as we edit the video we have already shot. So check the CDA Facebook page or DNH Blog often. And [offer suggestions](#) for videos you would like to see or questions you want answered.

Upcoming topics include a question and answer session

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Next issue we would like to provide more complete lists from North America and South America. If you want to be on either list [contact us!](#) If you know someone who should be on this list, [tell us!](#)

DNH Networks

People around the world are using networks to keep in touch with other DNH practitioners in their regions. Join or start a network in your area!

[Horn of Africa](#)
(Burundi, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda)
Millicent Otieno
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[Latin America](#)

of DNH topics/issues, a new way into Implicit Ethical Messages (IEMs) and Resource Transfers (RTs), book reviews and more! Check out the videos and more DNH stories, questions, and ideas online at [our blog](#) and post your feedback and suggestions!

[Back to top](#)

Updates

Sri Lankan Government Training Do No Harm training (pictured right) conducted by DNH Trainer Isha Miranda in Southern and Eastern Part of Sri Lanka for government entities. (August 2010)



swisspeace Annual Conference 2010 "*Ballots or Bullets? The Potentials and Challenges of Elections in Conflict Contexts*" had a session on "Do No Harm: Conflict Sensitive Election Design". (November 2010)

Conflict Sensitive Approaches Forum in South Sudan DED/CPS together with the GoS Ministry of Peace and CPA implementation sponsored a presentation on the practice and successes of the Do No Harm Framework. (October 2010)

Conflict Sensitivity and Aid: Can Funding Fuel Conflict? Watch Marshall discuss Do No Harm in this [video](#) of a panel discussion on Conflict Sensitivity and Aid, hosted by Search for Common Ground and the Conflict Prevention and Resolution Forum at Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies. (October 2010)

Debate on OECD DAC's recent report using Do No Harm The report, "[Do No Harm: International Support for Statebuilding](#)" published by the OECD DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility was debated and discussed by a panel at the London School of Economics. [Find out more](#) about the event and download a podcast of the debate! (May 2010)

Training of Trainers in the Middle East We will run a ToT in Lebanon. We are working out dates with trainers and the host. If you want to be informed of the dates or are ready to sign up [let us know!](#)

ISCRAM 2010 (Information Systems for Crisis Response and Management) Elly Searle used DNH in an interesting and provocative way for her paper [What is the Best Possible Design for All My Users?: A Single Question to Guide User-Centered Design in Low-Resource Environments](#). This is worth looking at!

[Back to top](#)

Thank You!

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Have you started a DNH practitioners network in your region? [Tell us](#) about it!

Tell us!

We invite all DNH practitioners to [send us](#) your stories!

How have you used DNH in difficult circumstances? How have you overcome roadblocks to using DNH? Share your current difficult situation and the global network of DNHers will brainstorm with you to find solutions or alternate approaches or options!

Your colleagues around the world want to know what you are doing. Tell us!

Unsubscribe

Click to instantly unsubscribe from this mailing list.

Send to a friend

Send this email to someone you think may be interested.

Thank you for your support of Do No Harm. We welcome your DNH questions, concerns and stories. [Send them in!](#)

Best wishes,
Nicole, Marshall, and Candice

[Back to top](#)

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