

**Geneva Dialogue on Environment,
Climate, Conflict, and Peace:
Meeting 43**

14 March, Zoom

14 participants

Meeting participants were invited to introduce themselves, their work, and to share how their institution, if at all, connects to business actors.

Introductions

- PeaceNexus Foundation
 - Based near Geneva
 - Working for 4 years now with the conservation sector, helping them integrate conflict sensitivity
 - Currently partnered with 5 conservation/environmental organizations
 - <https://peacenexus.org/call-for-applications-for-west-africa/>
 - Supported with White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding
 - <https://peacenexus.org/conservation-international/>
- United States Institute of Peace
 - Portfolio with US Africa Command
 - Research in East and West Africa
 - Work has grown quite a lot since early 2022
 - Meeting in Botswana in early May, taking stock of
- World Bank
 - Environment support to conflict and violence-affected states
 - Work hard on the strategy and rationale for this kind of work, as well as operations, accountability to do no harm
 - Second phase of work now - conflict sensitivity and MEL
 - <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099520010272224660/p1771510b38fda01e0afec01edd810d8cd>
[e](#)
- SIDA
 - Swedish strategy for sustainable peace
 - Government has seen recent cuts, by 40%
 - Still waiting for the new strategy for peace and its priorities
 - Working to boost environment and climate in the strategy, as well as supporting partners in this area
 - Liaises with sister unit which operationalizes their strategy for climate and environment, raising profile of conflict sensitivity
 - Climate and environment are supposed to permeate all topics across SIDA
- 1.5 Degrees of Peace
 - Independent film, intersection and de-siloing of climate justice & militarization, focused on youth
 - They are actively looking for a few more projects by youth to feature in the film!
 - theglobalsunriseproject@gmail.com

- <https://www.1point5degreesofpeace.com>
- <https://www.vowpeace.org>
- Conciliation Resources
 - Workstream looking at intersection of climate change, environment, and their peacebuilding work
 - Making sure they codify the lessons learned on natural resources over their many years in peacebuilding
 - But also understanding the evolving impact of climate change on it
 - Recently completed a gender, climate, and conflict co-learning exercise
 - Should be coming out soon
- adelphi
 - Works quite a lot defining the relationship between climate change, conflict, and security through applied methodologies for risk analysis
 - Informing specific stakeholder groups on their engagement, providing sets of recommendations for different types of actors
 - Working with partners in the natural sciences to ground their analysis
 - Knowledge Platform: <https://climate-diplomacy.org>
 - Podcast: <https://adelph.it/CDpodcast>
 - Case-studies on environmental conflicts (great for briefs and reports): <https://adelph.it/ECCFactbook>
 - adelphi's Climate Diplomacy and Security Programme is looking for a (Senior) Advisor to cover for a colleague's maternity leave, feel free to share: <https://adelph.it/JoinUs>
- PAX for Peace
 - Looking at environmental consequences of conflicts, as well as the general intersection of climate change, conflict, and peace
 - Ukraine, Iraq, Syria, South Sudan
 - Satellite imagery to confirm environmental damage
- Ba'hai International Community
 - We've been engaging for a long time on peace, and are trying to learn more about climate change and environment
- Russian Mission to the WTO
 - Regulation of environmental services to the WTO
- Conservation International
 - Partnered with PeaceNexus for a few years, working on mainstreaming conflict sensitivity in their sector
 - Also work on making connections to environmental and climate justice
 - Partnering with researchers to develop a curriculum on justice, including marginalized voices
 - Integrating conflict sensitivity in risk management
 - Safeguards team, making sure conflict is included in the analysis
 - Working to build the evidence base, with the science team on social science to understand the flow of impacts between conflict dynamics and conservation actors
 - Kenyan rangeland
 - Have recently put out a lessons learned report
 - Spanish, French, Portuguese versions now available
- Wilson Center's Environmental Change and Security Program

- Working at the intersection of climate change, health, geopolitics, energy transition, water, etc.
- Recent events on geopolitics and critical minerals, as well as water security following the conflict in Ukraine
- Will host a side event at UN Water Conference, public-private partnerships

How, if at all, does your institution connect or work with business actors?

- Funding or partnerships with business actors:
 - Has an official program within their organization on “business engagement,” working with businesses that have a footprint in fragile contexts. Walks alongside them to help integrate conflict sensitivity in these communities.
 - Invest funding in businesses in fragile contexts, and use that investment like shareholder leverage to encourage greater conflict sensitivity.
 - An investment fund for entrepreneurs in the global south, but not with a specific security focus.
- Research on:
 - Case studies of energy transition’s impact on conflict and peace
 - Policy research on - What is the role of business actors in ensuring a just transition? Government actors? Workers?
 - How do we support and/or stabilize economies and livelihoods in the transition?
 - Due diligence related to business, environment, and human rights.
- Programmatic focus:
 - Working with chambers of commerce, or chambers of mining in certain communities on how they might integrate conflict sensitivity into work.
 - We have some partners that engage with the business sector, focused on creating and supporting learning from the fossil fuel transition, what could be done better, etc.
 - Our work on this varies so much from context to context - in some areas, we’ve been engaging with business actors since day 1. We support our partners to identify what the priorities are in their area - a lot of supporting the establishment of inclusive processes in communities vis-a-vis business actors.
 - Have an environmental peacebuilding project in a conflict-affected area, and are explicitly working on integrating the role of business actors there into the project.
- Other:
 - It seems a group is lobbying the EU to include conflict sensitive investments into the Green New Deal
 - Part of a global network of impact producers
 - New project coming out of UNFCCC - ECCA - Entertainment and Culture for Climate Action
 - Working through media divestment campaigns
 - Climate finance for peace is an increasing area for engaging the private sector.
 - Convene a variety of stakeholders from government, business, academia, etc. in the room for specific events to facilitate joint conversations and problem-solving.
- Challenges:
 - It is outside of our mandate/structure to engage directly with business actors.
 - Internal questions around reputational risks for who we engage with.

- Other parts of our organization work on this, but we do not yet. It's not clear how because we receive grants from governments that are not relevant to this domain.
- Resources:
 - <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6993977825041002496/>
 - https://peacenexus.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/ToR_PN-IGC-Renewable-Energy-Peace-and-Conflict_SL.pdf
 - <https://www.unsdsn.org/>

ECCP Community Updates

- This group started in March 2020, online. An archive of meeting and briefing notes is available here:
 - <https://www.gpplatform.ch/content/environment-climate-conflict-and-peacebuilding>
- Now, we have three tracks:
 - Evidence
 - In late February, we met to take stock one year after the publication of the *White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding*:
 - <https://www.ecosystemforpeace.org/>
 - If you missed that meeting but contributed to the White Paper project, please fill in the survey at this link here:
 - <https://forms.gle/zbMpYhZ8qL23efGH9>
 - We also recommend exploring resources from the Environmental Peacebuilding Association: <https://environmentalpeacebuilding.org/>
 - Policy
 - Currently collaborating to raise the profile of peace and conflict sensitivity at COP28.
 - We have multiple working groups going on policy, communications, activities, and fundraising. You are more than welcome to join us in a working group, or in general community calls.
 - Our notes and shared activities are here:
 - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1J4UiHDFef0bEVyUtN3EGLCZQPBK1bWHa?usp=share_link
 - You can also explore other policy processes and find collaborators using this sheet here:
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kOevAqiTLNa0cZtt8_Z0OUeLK1bu9twwbLYWLI6wg2g/edit
 - Practice
 - We have a brainstormed list of topics that we'll invite practitioners from conflict-affected communities to come and share about.
 - Our next session will be 13 April, 9h CET on the topic:
 - Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), an innovative ecological model pioneered by [Tony Rinaudo](#). Tony and [Irene Ojuok](#), award-winning FMNR practitioner.
 - Register here:
 - <https://share.hsforms.com/1RQ1rnYP6QI-u2lupStIMwA4eopz>
 - If you're interested in participating in any of these activities, please contact Annika at annika@gpplatform.ch.