



# National Academy of Engineering – United States Institute of Peace *Roundtable on Technology, Science, and Peacebuilding*

2301 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20037

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The National Academy of Engineering and the U.S. Institute of Peace have established a Roundtable on Technology, Science and Peacebuilding to make a measurable and positive impact on conflict management, peacebuilding, and security capabilities.

The principle goals of the Roundtable are:

- 1) to accelerate the application of science and technology to the process of peacebuilding and stabilization
- 2) to promote systematic, high-level communication between peacebuilding and technical organizations on the problems faced and the technical capabilities required for successful peacebuilding, and
- 3) to collaborate in applying new science and technology to the most pressing challenges faced by local and international peacebuilders working in conflict zones.

## Membership

Including senior executives and experts from leading NGOs, government organizations, universities, and corporations, the Roundtable seats some of the most influential scientific, technological and peacebuilding organizations in the world. At the most recent meeting of the Roundtable on December 12, 2011, leaders from 20 organizations participated.

The membership is the policy-making and decision-making body for the Roundtable.



**Leadership:** Co-chair USIP President Richard Solomon consults with USAID Deputy Administrator Nancy Lindborg, while Co-chair NAE President Charles Vest listens to the discussion. Inaugural Meeting (5/17/11)

### Roundtable Participant Organizations 2011-2012

#### NGO

Alliance for Peacebuilding  
CRDF Global  
Engineers Without Borders  
InterAction  
International Center on  
Nonviolent Conflict  
International Crisis Group  
Mercy Corps  
Search for Common Ground  
UN Development Programme

#### Corporate

Capital One Financial  
Corporation  
CH2M HILL  
Google  
Qualcomm  
SAIC, Inc.

#### Government

National Science Foundation  
White House Office of Science  
and Technology Policy  
U.S. Agency for International  
Development  
U.S. Department of  
Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Defense  
U.S. Department of State

The secretariat, managed jointly by the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) and U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP), provides planning and support services to the Roundtable.

## Agenda

Following the second Roundtable meeting in December, 2011, the Roundtable membership validated a portfolio of high-impact peacebuilding problems around which to deploy the technical and peacebuilding expertise of Roundtable members.

The topics include:

- 1) Adapting Agricultural Extension Systems to Peacebuilding (workshop held May 2012),
- 2) Sensing Emerging Conflicts,
- 3) Harnessing Systems Methods for Delivery of Peacebuilding Services, and
- 4) Using Data Sharing to Improve Coordination in Peacebuilding (workshop held May 2012).

The membership authorized the creation of working sub-committees to develop action plans that address each topic area. Sub-committees are comprised of experts drawn from member and non-member organizations and are supported in their work by Roundtable staff.

In May 2012, workshops were held on Agricultural Extension and Data Sharing, where experts convened to address specific countries and challenges and outlined avenues for possible collaboration and potential uses of technology.

## Process

The Roundtable is strongly committed to action-oriented projects. Although each project will initially require a period of study by its sub-committee to better understand the problem and develop potential solutions, the long-term goal of each project is to demonstrate its viability with a successful field trial.

The Roundtable membership meets every six months to advise and evaluate the sub-committees on their progress towards a successful demonstration project.



**Breadth of Membership:** Professor Linton Wells of the National Defense University makes a note, while USDA Assistant Under Secretary Bartuska and CH2M Hill Vice President Salah Abdelhamid listen to the discussion. Second Roundtable Meeting (12/12/11)

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For more, visit online at: <http://www.usip.org/programs/initiatives/roundtable-science-technology-and-peacebuilding>