



Workshop on Using Data Sharing to Improve Coordination in Peacebuilding
of the
National Academies and
United States Institute of Peace

May 23, 2012

U.S. Institute of Peace
2301 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C.

AGENDA

The goals of this workshop are to identify what needs a data sharing system must address in order to secure the participation of other federal agencies and non-federal organizations with a role in peacebuilding, and create more effective coordination in conflict zones.

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Welcome and Goals for the Day

Melanie Greenberg, Alliance for Peacebuilding; Elmer Roman, Department of Defense

9:00 a.m. Defining the Challenges of Coordination

Despite rapid change in the capacity of technologies to manage and analyze data, coordination among government and non-government actors in peacebuilding interventions remains a challenge. Why? In this session, we will discuss the principal technological, ethical and cultural challenges faced by peacebuilding actors as they struggle to break down the organizational information silos in which they work.

*Speakers: Robert Loftis, USIP
Susanna Campbell, Columbia University
Lisa Schirch, Eastern Mennonite University*

Moderator: Melanie Greenberg, Alliance for Peacebuilding

10:15 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Overcoming the Challenges to Sharing Information

Across multiple crises and interventions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Haiti, the USG and NGO communities have improved processes for managing inter-community interaction by developing guidelines to define when and where cooperation is possible. These guidelines enable cooperation while protecting both groups' independence and security. What are the characteristics of a data sharing process that would enable cooperative planning while securely maintaining executional autonomy?

*Speakers: Marcia Hartwell, USIP
Randy Tift, World Vision International*

Moderator: Melanie Greenberg, Alliance for Peacebuilding

12:15 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Using Data for Impact

Establishing the processes that allow collection and sharing of data between organizations can be costly. Furthermore, not every stakeholder in the sharing process may see the same value. Monitoring and evaluation is a crucial element of the project management process that can increase the benefits from data sharing. Can innovations in data acquisition, data analysis, and data visualization when used properly create value that positively incents broader participation in the data sharing process?

*Speakers: Stephen Lowe, USDA
Niall Keleher, Innovations for Poverty Action
Patrick Vinck, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative*

Moderator: Elmer Roman, Department of Defense

2:30 p.m. Demonstrating Data Sharing – The UNITY Platform

In partnership, the Department of Defense and USAID have developed a platform for sharing unclassified planning information. By making the scope and scale of humanitarian and peacebuilding investment in a given conflict zone visible, the goal is to enable better allocation of scarce resources and thereby improve outcomes in the society receiving those resources. This session will demonstrate how even limited information sharing can positively affect intervention outcomes.

*Speakers: Mark Hainsey, USACE
Steven Wood, Integrasure*

Moderator: Elmer Roman, Department of Defense

4:00 p.m. Final Thoughts

Melanie Greenberg, Alliance for Peacebuilding; Elmer Roman, Department of Defense

4:30 p.m. Adjourn