

The Collaborative & Adaptive Security Initiative of the US Naval Postgraduate School

In partnership with the

Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding of the United States Institute of Peace

offer the following workshop:



“*Perspectives on Conflict Prevention*”

**September 24 - 26, 2012
United States Institute of Peace
Washington, DC**

As the U.S. transitions from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and redefines its role in fragile environments, the utility of conflict prevention is becoming increasingly relevant for the Department of Defense. As the Obama administration articulated in the 2012 Defense Strategic Guidance, entitled *Sustaining U.S. Global Leadership: Priorities for 21st Century Defense*, the military has an opportunity to engage all tools, including diplomacy and development, to promote regional and global security with its allies and partners. Preventive strategies that avoid violent conflict are at the

forefront of these tools. The purpose of this workshop is to facilitate timely and open dialogue about different conflict prevention frameworks and perspectives that exist among the DOD, non-governmental, and interagency communities.

Conflict prevention has a mixed history of success and failure – due in part to varying commitment by policymakers – nonetheless, advances in both thought and practice have continued to improve lessons learned and best practices for practitioners in the field. Participants in the workshop will explore these approaches and practices, debate their utility, and consider opportunities for future innovation in the conflict prevention field. Through interactive panel discussions, group-led vignettes, and facilitated dialogue participants will not only enrich the course but play an integral role in shaping its content.

Workshop Objectives:

- Explore perspectives on conflict prevention through open dialogue with the community of practitioners and experts
- Identify the best application of various conflict prevention tools throughout the peace-to-war conflict cycle.
- Engage conflict prevention experts across the community in discussions about conflict prevention strategies, cases, and future direction
- Expand and enhance conflict prevention practitioner networks

Facilitators/Faculty:

The workshop will be led by staff from the Collaborative & Adaptive Security Initiative of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School and the Academy of International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding of the United States Institute of Peace. Participants themselves will enrich and substantively contribute to the content of the program by providing their own insights and experiences.

Methodology:

Plenary discussions, small-group interactions, and expert presentations will be used to achieve the objectives. Participants will be asked to play an active role in sharing their experiences, perspectives and questions to stimulate reflective dialogue and creative approaches to conflict prevention.

Desired Participants:

Approximately 40 participants (from the United States and abroad) from government civilian agencies, the armed forces, non-governmental organizations and inter-governmental organizations will attend. Efforts will be made to obtain a representative group from each community. Participants should be mid- to senior-level representatives from their communities with policy-making and/or field experience. From the U.S. military, priority will be given to officers serving in planning positions within the Combatant Commands; a limited number of travel stipends are available for these officers.

Specific Dates:

The course begins at 9 am on Monday, September 24 and runs through Wednesday, September 26 at 5 pm. Registration will be from 8:00 am – 9:00 am on Monday, September 24, at the United States Institute of Peace, 2301 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC.

Travel and Accommodation:

All international and domestic participants should plan to arrive in Washington, DC, for the opening session on the morning of Monday, September 24, 2012. All accommodation expenses are the participants' responsibility. Event organizers can provide recommendations for local hotels.

Cost:

- There is no tuition or conference fee.
- Participants are responsible for their own travel, lodging and per diem expenses. Lunch and coffee/tea breaks are offered gratis during the workshop. (DoD employees, including service members, assigned to the Washington DC area are required to pay for their lunch.)

Application:

The application period will close on August 31, 2012. We anticipate that demand for this workshop will exceed the space available. Admission decisions will be announced on a rolling basis starting August 21. Applications are accepted via the CASI online system: <http://www.ccmronline.com/#lcasi/c1iu4>.

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