



An international network for education in emergencies
Un réseau international pour l'éducation en situations d'urgence
Una red internacional para la educación en situaciones de emergencia
Uma rede internacional para a educação em situações de emergência
الشبكة العالمية لوكالات التعليم في حالات الطوارئ



Health and Education in Conflict-Affected and Fragile Contexts *Bridging the development gap and enhancing collaborations*

**Roundtable Discussion
United States Institute of Peace
13 May 2013, 10:00-13:00 (TBC)**

Background

The role that education plays in conflict-affected and fragile contexts, including in state and peace building processes, is well documented. For example, a country which has ten percentage points more of its youth in schools cuts risk of conflict by four percentage points.¹ Similarly, there is a substantial body of evidence on the health sector's role in conflict-affected and fragile contexts. For example, by contributing to a stable demographic pattern and strong labour force ready to participate in the economic recovery of the state, the health sector can contribute to long-term peace building processes.² Moreover, there has been a dramatic rise in health aid in the past 20 years, which has been far greater than the rise of aid to other sectors generally, and the education sector specifically.³

Yet, beyond the experiences of two distinct sectors, how can the education and health sectors collaboratively address the challenges posed by conflict-affected and fragile contexts in the post-2015 world? How can they work together to strengthen state- and peace building processes in these contexts? And how can they collaborate to effectively influence donors to prioritise funding to both sectors individually, as well as combined health and education projects and programmes, in conflict-affected and fragile contexts?

Objective

The objective of this roundtable discussion is to identify the gaps in current collaboration, and the possible types of collaboration between the health and education sectors around state and peace building in conflict-affected and fragile contexts in the post-2015 world.

It is expected that by the end of the roundtable discussion, a document will be produced which will serve to identify possible collaborative efforts (e.g. joint research, plans for developing new ways of joint working), and which may also be used as a background document to inform policy discussions on the post-2015 agenda.

¹ Collier, P. *Economic causes of civil conflict and its implications for policy*. Oxford University, 2006, p. 6

² Filipov, F. *Post-conflict peacebuilding: Strategies and lessons from Bosnia and Herzegovina, El Salvador and Sierra Leone. Some thoughts from the rights to education and health*. UN Social Development Division, 2006, p. 49

³ Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, *Financing global health 2009: Tracking development assistance for health*. University of Washington, 2009, p. 26

Roundtable discussion

It is expected that the roundtable discussion will be attended by 25-40 experts and practitioners from both the health and education sectors. There may be a few short presentations, followed by discussions and work in breakout groups.

The roundtable discussion may be webcast.