

Conflict and
Public Health: A
Framework for
Conceptualizing
Their
Interconnections

United States Institute of Peace Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Conflict and Public Health Task Force



What is USIP?

The United States Institute of Peace is an independent, nonpartisan, national institution established and funded by Congress to:

- Prevent and resolve violent international conflicts
- Promote post-conflict stability and development
- Increase conflict management capacity, tools and intellectual capital worldwide



Goals of the Task Force

- Bring the social sciences and health sciences together to compare approaches and share expertise
- Extract lessons learned into a usable menu of competencies for application in the public health curriculum
- Further the possibility of cross-campus cooperation and collaboration



Task Force Activities to Date

- Inter-campus meeting to discuss skill sets for public health graduates (April 2006
- Symposium Series on conflict and public health (November 2006, February, March 2007)
- Workshop at JH-SPH on conflict resolution skills for public health professionals (January 2007)
- Public event at USIP: Armed Conflict as a Public Health Problem (April 2007)
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- Group A Students will be able to
 - Describe the political determinants/processes
 of health outcomes
 - Use a comparative historical approach to describe a political event that had health outcomes
 - Explain why the best public health
 interventions at times have nothing to do
 with health
 - Provide a working definition of conflict
- Group B Students will be able to
 - Understand inequality and vulnerability
 - Understand risky behavior
 - Understand the political context and competing political agendas of areas where they work
 - See how health can stem conflict
 - Engage in health care reconstruction
 - * Inform policy makers to (advocacy) eace



Conflict and Public Health Symposium Series Case Studies

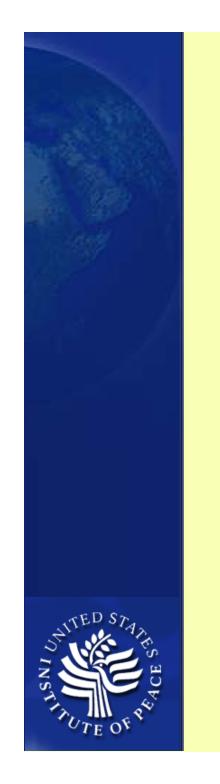
- North Korea
- Afghanistan
- Iraq

Format: half day with three sessions, including panels on political and social analysis, voices from the region, and public health research and issues.

USIP published peace briefings on each symposium

http://www.usip.org/events/2006/1116_jhu_usip.html

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Workshop on Conflict Resolution Skills for Public Health Professionals

- Conflict Analysis
- Conflict Styles
- Negotiation Skills
- Humanitarian Aid Simulation





- Dr. Christopher Murray
- Dr. Scott Barrett







Next Steps

- Engage with members of the international health community
- Involve practitioners, educators and international institutions in laying the groundwork for building a curriculum
- Integrate interdisciplinary perspectives on conflict and conflict resolution among schools of public health and international affairs