

Peace and Development Cluster Meeting Minutes

18 October 2017

1. Process of performance evaluations

- Rushed schedule (need to be finalised and sent back to management by 17 November)
- Job descriptions are finalised now and will be signed off on today
- Dan will send out guidance note on Friday or Monday
- We each need to have our evaluations done by next Friday (conditional on availability of line manager)
- There will be a meeting next week (hosted by Dan/Jakob) to review the process of performance evaluations

2. Update on research strategy

- Gary and Sibylle are refining their cluster strategies, which are based on the questions we want to answer through our research.
- Lora is revising the Conflict & Peace cluster strategy before she leaves because it lacked the focus of the other two.
- The strategies are at the objective level, based on questions we want to answer through our research.
- Gary will revise this weekend and distribute on Monday to P&D team.
- After strategy is finalised, we can go through the internet content and pages. Alexandra is the go-to person for quick updates, but new content has to go through a larger communications process.

3. Overview of fundraising expectations and salary coverage

- The budget for next year looks pretty strong
- Can start thinking about new projects and setting aside resources to fund them so that we have space to attend conferences and initiate new work streams.
- Budget goal for SIPRI in 2018 is SEK 80 million (not at SEK 77 mil), setting aside 1% for reserve; Increase staff by 8 people
- There has been a discussion about the tipping point in terms of new work and staff and the corresponding need to hire additional support/operations staff (HR, finance, comms/editorial, other admin)
- Salary adjustments will happen a few weeks after performance evaluations (first part of December)
- 85M is SIPRI's target budget goal for next year, of which 850K would be set aside as reserves. The idea is to hire 8 new staff and work toward securing 85% of total funding from sources other than core grant
- That does not mean that individuals have to fundraise 85% of their salaries or they will lose their jobs. That is a stretch goal.
- Application deadlines for research grants are coming up, so now would be a good time to talk about what proposals people are considering. Could set up a time during Gary's next visit.
- Lena can check each staff member's net (after deductions) and gross (inclusive of tax + pension) salary rate.

4. Conferences

- Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development will take place on (insert your best guess here)
- The Regional Security Dialogues (Baltic, Arctic, Nordic) will take place in June (one off event)
- The Stockholm Security Conference will take place in October
- Emma: It would be useful to have a discussion about the two events (objective, target audience) and how they are different. It is still very unclear.

5. Tour de Table Readouts

General

- Everyone should put the World Bank Fragility Forum on their calendar: 5-7 March 2018
- There are now distribution lists for conflict and peace team (ConfPeace@sipri.org) and the peace and development team (PDCluster@sipri.org), should you want to email all members of either cluster.
- The email PeaceDev@sipri.org goes to the cluster email account and is checked by Kate daily.

Gary

- Participated in the Alliance for Peacebuilding conference last week where he moderated a session on financing for peacebuilding (opening from Minister Cardenas on how they will finance their peace process). He made contact with a 'peace bonds and blended capital' guy. A lot of our Forum partners were at the AfP event.
- The Knowledge Platform is now being led by Megan Price. They will have a new call in February related to political economy analysis for peacebuilding and prevention.
- There will be a CalCon Event (in May) on GIS for Peace. Peace researchers and ESRI programmers will lead the event.
- Gary met with Frontier Design Group (Steve Schiemers) on the cost effectiveness of prevention. He wants also to highlight SDG16+ Pathfinders Initiative that CIC has been working on at the Forum.
- In 2018 we aim to have 'featured initiatives' at Forum for projects/studies that are interesting and could be presented but don't need a stand alone session.

Anastasia

- Is working on a report on peacebuilding training (3IE), which she wants to turn it into a journal article.
- Damir, Gulzhan and Anastasia are going to Oslo in two weeks for Social Cohesion workshop.
- The Journal of Development Effectiveness published Anastasia's article on impact evaluation of humanitarian assistance:
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19439342.2017.1388267>
- She had a meeting with the Mali team--they need to find a person to help them with their data.

Gulzhan

- Just got back from the LiK conference in Bishkek
- Is expecting the final data on social cohesion next month.
- Will participate in Oslo conference on social cohesion jointly lead by SIPRI and UNDP

Suyoun

- Is working on a background paper on Swedish development policies with Emma. Will have brownbag lunch on N. Korea on 1 November.

Emma

- Will attend Susan Jackson's conference on militarisation and social media.
- She is working on the Yearbook chapter.
- She has an article on gender and peace processes due in November.
- Emma will be working 50% with climate team and is moving to New York in December, where she will continue to work for SIPRI from CIC.

Jiayi

- Is finishing a report on the P5's climate security policies
- She started her PhD
- Jiayi attended a conference in Moscow over the weekend that was set up by BRICS-based institutes working on rural politics (i.e. land grabbing, food security). China presented a paper on a Belt and Road for Agriculture (how China is positioning itself as a development actor within agriculture).
- She submitted a journal article on Russia and China's food security policies
- Gary: Would like a representative from the New Development Bank or the BRICS institutions at the Forum and asked if Jiayi could scan the conference participant names to see who might be interesting.

Amiera

- Just finishing a draft of the background paper on gender, climate change and security.
- Florian and Amiera had a good chat with the UNEP Disasters and Conflicts Coordinator for Asia (Jonathan Gilman) and identified three areas of potential cooperation: (i) an improvement and delivery of training package on environmental security; (ii) work on institutional capacity building at ASEAN and (iii) trans-boundary water security in the Mekong basin.

Marina

- Is heading to Tunis to present on democratic control in the context of radicalisation and terrorism. The conference was organised by legal experts on Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform at Carthage University, who are struggling in the face of an increasingly securitised SSR field.
- Next week Marina will facilitate at the NATO comprehensive approach training in Brussels. She and Anastasia are about to start the NATO building integrity assessment.

- Marina is organising a police peacekeeping seminar in December with Jair and Timo (and the Swedish Police).
- She is writing paper on gender sensitivity training for police peacekeepers for a conference on women's role in peace and security in Wuerzburg at the end November.

Florian

- Global Environmental Politics just published an article assessing the research agenda on post-conflict natural resource management:
http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/abs/10.1162/GLEP_a_00431
- Florian got a book contract with Cambridge University Press on that topic for a comparative book.
- He published an expert comments during the week on food security.
- Florian was in Rome last week at the Committee on World Food Security event with FAO and WFP and participated in side event on conflict prevention, sustaining peace and food security/nutrition.
- He also presented papers at a Manchester peace conference and at a Bonn water security conference.
- Florian is going to Sri Lanka at end of November/beginning December for workshop on South Asian security actors on climate change.
- In February, he is going to Lund on role of UNSC regarding climate change.
- He had several papers accepted to ISA (conference next year after Easter) and will present climate change fragility risks and what works to build peace, in addition to hosting a roundtable on the UNSC and climate change.
- The climate team is currently courting UNEP for collaboration on natural resource management and mediation, on one hand, and the intersection of climate, gender and security, on the other.

Kate

- Will send a separate email with instructions on how to enter events into the group calendar. She will request updates once a month and work with the other cluster coordinators to produce a calendar noting upcoming conferences, workshops, brownbag lunches, etc. that SIPRI staff are leading and/or participating in.
- Currently working on logistics for the expert meeting on UNSC and climate change and the seminar on MENA IMAGES study, both taking place next week.
- Ongoing work relates to evaluating and selecting the Forum sessions, reaching out to partners and prospective partners, finding a venue.

Katja

- Is putting together a list of all on-going projects in the Conflict & Peace Cluster. She will share it with the other two clusters to facilitate a discussion about common themes.

Jose

- Is helping Emma with the Yearbook chapter but they need clarity on the structure (S Sudan, Colombia and the Philippines). Working on this evaluation

of women's participation in peace processes, but info on Colombian case is only in Spanish.

Steph

- Is working with Ian Davis to make sure that the Yearbook process is more organised so that people aren't left in the dark about what is expected and when.
- Alexandra is the first go-to person for the website (minor tweaks). Redrafting and new content should go to Harri.
- Marina suggests promoting the two open access chapters of the Yearbook as the line about access is buried on the website. She also inquired about how to cite chapters in Yearbook because of all authors of subsections.