

Partnership for conflict sensitivity

Enhancing conflict sensitive project implementation

In the current humanitarian context in Lebanon, the concepts of conflict sensitivity and Do No Harm are still not receiving the due attention despite an abundance of local and international NGOs working in conflict-laden contexts. Many organisations and their staff planning and implementing humanitarian and developmental projects lack expertise in this field and are not sufficiently aware of potential backlashes of interfering in complex conflicts constellations. While only a limited number of qualified Conflict Transformation trainers in Lebanon are applying approaches for more conflict sensitivity, there is a growing interest among local organisations to develop such skills.

Our approach

Part of the goals of the Lebanon programme of forumZFD is to enhance conflict sensitivity. The joint project led by House of Peace (HoPe) and the Programme area Capacity Development of forumZFD addresses the lack of expertise in the field of conflict sensitivity by providing trainings for local and international NGOs working with Syrian refugees and their host communities. An increased application of conflict sensitivity techniques in Lebanon fosters a non-violent transformation of conflicts and helps to decrease social tensions between the different groups living in Lebanon.

What we do

HoPe, supported by forumZFD through advice and technical inputs, will conduct twelve three-day workshops on conflict sensitivity for groups of twelve local and international NGO staff members respectively. Throughout the workshops, HoPe's concept of social peace is introduced in



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various exercises. Conflict contexts are analysed in a participatory manner, and experiences from the field shared among the participants. In a comprehensive conflict analysis, the staff identifies main connectors and dividers using the conceptual Do No Harm framework. Through a tool developed by HoPe, the participants are enabled to see the result of the interaction between their interventions and the context and thereafter take concrete steps to enhance conflict sensitivity in their programmes and project design. Regular meetings are held to give the participating organisations the opportunity to jointly develop a participatory context analysis, share experiences made in the field and evaluate the impact of the trainings.

Our theories of change

If we increase conflict sensitivity awareness among NGOs and their staff and provide them with training, room to reflect, follow up activities, and organisational development skills, they develop and implement their work in a more conflict sensitive manner. This will reduce social tensions unintentionally caused by the work of NGOs in the humanitarian field.

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