



Global Legislators Organisation for a
Balanced Environment (GLOBE-EU)
and
Institute for Environmental Security (IES)



Greening Foreign and Security Policy: The Role of Europe

GFSP Working Group D: Recovery and Transition Report of the Working Group Meeting 26 October, 2006

1. Introduction

1.1 The cost of post-conflict reconstruction is high. It is estimated that the majority of the annual ODA - approximately 106 billion sterling pounds per year - is spent on post-conflict reconstruction. Recent reports estimate the average cost of each conflict to be around 56 billion sterling pounds.

1.2 Our working group departs from the position that conflict prevention should be first priority. But in case of conflict, our report will stress the message on what needs to be done and provide the background for policy making on this issue.

1.3 Complexity of post conflict situation is as complex as conflicts. Each conflict has its own set of causes and consequences. The complexity of the issue prioritises the importance of further research on the area of post-conflict situation and the typology used in this area.

1.4 We cannot take a cookie cutter approach, but we can have common elements in a response framework.

1.5 Every conflict has environmental impacts and dimensions, but these are often not prioritized by the international community. It only becomes a priority when we can clearly demonstrate and quantify risks to human health, livelihoods and ecosystem services.

1.6 It is vital to stress that there is an international convergence on the need to address environment but it is not clear way how. There are a number of parallel processes IASC, UNDG, SC, PBC, OECD, plus bi-lateral donors. Group D argues that there is a large opportunity for the EU to lead the way - if the EU can come up with the vision, others will follow.

2. Policy Need - EU/Areas to focus on

2.1 EU needs a post-conflict policy which integrates environment at the EU policy, programme and project level. Two targets

- European Common, Foreign and Security Policies (CFSP)
- European Commission CEPs

2.2 There is a need for policy convergence between EU and member states with a

coordination structure. One area to explore is strategy papers and country environmental profiles.

2.3 Environment should be treated as a cross-cutting issue and at the same time as a separate sector.

2.4 At the level of funding; the EU has leverage especially in putting conditions for multi-donor trust fund and in screening of software and hardware projects.

2.5 At the institutional level; to continue to include environment within public administration reform programme. To stress as well on green procurement. Environmental audit would be effective for evaluation of the impact of projects. It is also important to undertake awareness raising to programme managers and those involved in post-conflict rehabilitation projects.

2.6 At the level of tools for post-conflict assessment

- To draw the environmental linkages to conflict (definition of conflict resources)
- To assess environmental impacts of conflicts
- To look at pre-existing chronic environmental problems
- To assess future pressures on natural resources
- To build institutional capacities

3. Actors

3.1 Number of actors that should be included:

- National and local actors
- NGOs
- Military
- UN
- Private sector
- Bi-lateral donors

3.2 Multilateral advocacy

- UN (PBC, SC, IASC, UNDG, IASC, HC/RC)
- AU
- NATO
- OSCE
- OECD
- The World Bank

4. Cross-cutting issues

- Differential impacts on gender and the poorest of the poor (and other vulnerable groups)
- Involvement of international or European security forces in monitoring or managing conflict resources. No blurring of international security lines.
- To include environmental rehabilitation in the DRR of national troops.
- Humanitarian and natural disasters should not be ignored.

- Environmental projects as opportunities for peace building
- To stress on bottom-up approach with conflict affected communities
- The need for an integrated approach
- To stress that post-conflict states are weak states that need robust efforts in institutional building

5. Further research

Further research is needed on specific areas, namely but not exclusively:

- EU CFSP
- EU
- EC's post-conflict development initiatives.
- Environmental monitoring and remote sensing (camps, forests, etc) [To look at the GMES initiative]

The research will build on the recently published Inventory study as well as other sources.

6. Next steps

Group D coordinator will elaborate and expand on the points raised and discussed in the meeting of 26 October 2006. With the feedback from chairperson, a draft report will be shared by email and will be posted on the blog for group members to comment on. Draft report should be finished on the week of 20 November 2006. The two weeks before the conference - that will be held in Brussels on 6th and 7th of December - will be for incorporating members' feedback and suggestions before finalisation.

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