Business for People

Peacebuilding and Human Security

Universidad Panamericana International Programme
2023

The business for peace paradigm

- establishes businesses as partners in local peace.
- B4P tries to harness the pre-existing role of business in fragile and conflict-affected states to expand and deepen private sector action
- cornerstone of the United Nations vision for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – Goal 16
- complement to traditional aid and development mechanisms
- 20,000 companies are signatories to varied peace and development initiatives around the world.
- philanthropy and development aid to diplomacy

Driving conflict versus ensuring Do No Harm

- Conflict sensitivity analyses + enhanced HRDD

- Deciding a 'red line' for terminating operations. Do it early - before situations deteriorate to set a clear pathway for withdrawal and clear guidelines to host governments

- the most peace-positive business strategy in a region with ongoing conflict is often simply to stay away

- the parts often are less than the sum. Sierra Leone, DRC and Myanmar examples where a host society cannot manage business-peace interventions leading to a collective negative effect

Key lessons for business and policy-makers

- 'Peace' and 'security' are not universally-defined concepts – need local action and dialogues

- Actions that are clear, concrete, done in partnership with local partners, and achievable are more effective and durable

- Assess unique skills that can contribute to peace initiatives; 'peace-writ-little' initiatives versus 'peace-writ-large'.

- Unintended consequences: actions that can inadvertently strengthen illicit power-holders and the conflict economy

Human Security Business Partnerships

- New form of governance to enable business (companies and investors) to work with local stakeholders in conflict and crisis-affected environments

- This model combines the ideas and methodology of human security – such as people-centred bottom- up, locally-driven and inclusive, and a partnering approach to structure long-term engagements by business with conflict-affected communities.

- a process for addressing the most pressing human security needs at local level; identify and combat threats to both local people and companies.

- better understanding of local conditions, risks, capacities and opportunities and how to act on them. Expand common ground, co-construct peace and development and create mutual commitments and trust. Accountability and shared benefits.

- Trialled in 5 conflict-affected municipalities in Colombia

- Applied to corporate social investment projects in Mexico

The Human Security Business Partnership Framework

PRINCIPLES	PROCESSES	TOOLS
L Locally driven	Map participants	Consultation methodology
I Inclusive	Dialogues to ■ identify needs and risks ■ agree baseline and target objectives ■ assess capacities/ available resources	Action checklist
F Forward-looking		ICT-enabled communication and information sharing
T Trust	Management protocols	Training
	Joint monitoring and evaluation	Documentation
S Sharing	Review and grievance process	Monitoring and evaluation metrics

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