Building Bridges of Peace
Linking Peacebuilding & Infrastructure Development in Post-Conflict Zones

Masters Thesis in Human Rights and Democratisation

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Abstract

This paper assesses the importance of infrastructure development as a factor in successful peacebuilding and vice versa in post-conflict zones. By acknowledging the changing nature of war, it recognizes the need for changing methods of post-conflict intervention and describes how linking the different sectors of development and peacebuilding can lead to more sustainable and effective results. Successful methods of integration, implementation, and evaluation of the two practices are presented as well as a case study on development projects in Kosovo in order to demonstrate the ways in which peacebuilding and development projects can be integrated to varying degrees of success. Examination suggests that while there are obvious theoretical linkages between peacebuilding and development and some successful projects utilizing the two concepts, further integration and evaluation of such practices are needed in order to improve reconstruction and reconciliation in post-conflict zones.
# Table of Contents

1 OVERVIEW

1.1 INTRODUCTION 1
1.2 NEED FOR STUDY 2
1.3 GOALS AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS 4
1.4 LIMITATIONS 4
1.5 METHODOLOGY 5
1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY 5
1.7 DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS 6

2 THE CHANGING NATURE OF WAR: A TREND TOWARDS INTIMATE AND COMMUNAL VIOLENCE 8

2.1 INTRODUCTION 8
2.2 MAPPING TRENDS 9
2.3 THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS IN COMMUNAL CONFLICTS 10
2.4 CONSTRUCTING THE ENEMY 14
   2.4.1 NAMING AND BLAMING 15
2.5 DECONSTRUCTING THE ENEMY/REMAKING PEOPLE 18
2.6 FOSTERING INTERETHNIC COEXISTENCE 20

3 LINKING PEACEBUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK) 21

3.1 INTRODUCTION 21
3.2 THE ROLE OF DEVELOPMENT IN PEACEBUILDING 22
3.3 THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE INCLUSIVIST APPROACH 23
   3.3.1 ECONOMIC FACTORS BEFORE AND AFTER CONFLICT 24
3.4 BACKGROUND: INFRASTRUCTURE DURING WAR 26
   3.4.1 DAMAGED INFRASTRUCTURE 27
   3.4.2 LOOTED INFRASTRUCTURE 28
   3.4.3 NEGLECTED INFRASTRUCTURE 29
3.5 INFRASTRUCTURE AFTER WAR 29
3.6 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT 32
3.7 POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF LINKING PEACEBUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT 35

4 IMPLEMENTATION 37

4.1 INTRODUCTION 37
4.2 CONTEXT AND TIMING 37
4.3 STRATEGIES 40
   4.3.1 UN PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION 42
   4.3.2 DESIGNING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS 43
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