Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation (KAICT)/BICC Workshop

Best and worst practices in (re-)integrating the displaced: Lessons from Liberia

Monrovia, 19 April 2018, 09:00am to 4pm

The Global Compact on Refugees intends to reshape the international approach to displacement. It aims at establishing a "virtuous cycle" where refugees and host communities empower each other mutually – both socially and economically. According to the Comprehensive Refugee Framework (CRRF) this is to be achieved by easing pressure on host communities, improving refugee self-reliance, increasing access to third country solutions, and creating conditions in countries of origin for voluntary return in safety and dignity. UNHCR's recently published zero draft sketches out how CRRF and the programme of action are going to foster sharing "the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees" as envisioned in 2016's historic New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.

On this occasion we cordially invite you to reflect jointly on the experience Liberia has been having in the post-conflict period in regard to refugee and reintegration policy. The workshop hopes to concretise shortfalls and benefits of the zero draft by juxtaposing it to specific cases. Liberia and Sierra Leone have not been appreciated enough as ideal case studies how "Sustaining peace in practice" (ISS Policy Brief 114) works. We address this deficiency and hope to learn from the participants about challenges and opportunities. By scrutinising concrete "best" and "worst practices", we intend to highlight possible risks, potentials, and alternatives that may be relevant for putting the compact into practice. The workshop will bring practitioners, officials, and experts form CBOs, NGOs, INGOs, Government and the international community together to exchange ideas, learn from each other, and to equip participants with knowledge of best practice.

The project <u>"Protected rather than protracted—Strengthening refugees and peace"</u> was started by BICC as a response to the challenges posed by reintegration and local integration of displaced persons and their participation in peace processes. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in the framework of its Special Initiative "Fighting the causes of refugee movements, reintegrating refugees". At the centre of the project is the collection of empirical data from seven regions, their comparative analysis and the elaboration of concrete proposals for action.

Venue:

KAICT

GD Building, Ground Floor Hall Capitol Hill Campus, University of Liberia, Monrovia

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