



Training on Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting & Learning in Peacebuilding Practice

Language of facilitation: English

Dates: 12th to 16th March

Venue: Nairobi, Kenya

Charges: US\$1300

(The amount covers tuition, full board accommodation at the training centre, a certificate of participation and airport transfers)

For day scholars, charges are **US\$800** (The amount covers tuition, a certificate of participation, airport pickup and the day to day conference package)

Target Group:

These will be peacebuilding practitioners working in the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes and Eastern Africa regions. Participants from any other African region not mentioned above will also be considered as long as they are working in countries either in or emerging from violent conflicts

Contacts

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1.1. Background Information

Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL) is an integral part of every intervention whether in development, peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance or livelihood support. When systematically done, MERL makes it easy to articulate a project's theory of change, determine if the implementation schedule is still on course and determine if desired results are being achieved. It also enables programme staff to easily draw lessons from what is working and recommend appropriate measures. Though MERL is beneficial, many organizations and project staffs shy away from it particularly because many see it as technical in nature, others find it to be time consuming while others fear negative appraisals either because the projects failed to produce visible results or those results were not achieved within the project cycle. In spite of this, it is important for project staff to be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills that would in turn allow them to effectively engage in MERL.

1.2. Course objectives

1. Introduce participants to MERL from a peacebuilding perspective
2. Enhance participants understanding of the various contextual tools of analysis applied in MERL
3. Expand participants' knowledge of the different MERL tools used in the peacebuilding practice
4. Build participants understanding of a project's Theory of Change
5. Enhance participants' skills in developing a learning agenda for their projects

1.3. The Course Content

1. **Introduction to monitoring and evaluation for conflict prevention and peacebuilding:** In this session, participants will be introduced to MERL from the peacebuilding practice including an understanding of the different criteria that is used to assess the effectiveness of a peacebuilding project.
2. **Contextual analysis tools:** This session will introduce participants to the different contextual analysis tools used in MERL.
3. **Developing effective monitoring tools for conflict prevention and peacebuilding:** In this section, participants will be taken through the process of developing an MERL plan for their specific projects. The session will focus on creating a common understanding of what an MERL

plan is, what it is used for, who is involved in its designing, the most appropriate time for its designing and who it is used on

4. Developing a Theory of Change: the session will focus on understanding what a Theory of change is, how it is developed, its relationship to the project cycle and who really should be involved in its designing. This session will enable participants broaden their knowledge of the project cycle and the logical linkages from one stage to the other. The session will examine how proposed project activities lead to the desired social change. At the end of the session, participants should be able to identify and expound on the various theories of change that inform their projects.

5. Evaluation and developing a learning agenda: The session will take participants through the concept of evaluation and its importance and applicability in projects, the different types of evaluation and audiences will also be discussed including how to develop an evaluation schedule for a project. At the end of the session, participants should be able to develop an evaluation schedule for their projects and to identify some learning agenda questions for their projects.

1.4. Expected Training results

- Participants will be able to articulate the different analysis tools used in MERL for Peacebuilding projects
- Participants will be in a position to develop M/E plans for their projects using different tools
- Participants will better understand the concept of ‘Theories of Change’
- Participants will be capacitated to develop learning agendas for their Peacebuilding projects

1.5. Application process

Filled in application forms should be sent to COPA by email. All received applications will be acknowledged and if successful a corresponding letter of admission and other necessary documentations will be sent to the applicant. Please send your completed application to martha@copafrica.org or copa@copafrica.org

1.6. Payment Process

Kindly note all payments should be made before the commencement of the training and can be done by either cheque payable to the Coalition for Peace in Africa (for Kenyan organizations) or by direct bank transfers (please ask for banking details).

1.7. Selected COPA trainings in 2015, 2014, 2013 & 2012

- *Peacebuilding and Conflict transformation training, 13th to 17th April 2015 and 21st to 25th September 2015, Nairobi. The training attracted participants from South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, DR Congo, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Rwanda, Japan and Sweden*
- *Engendering Human Security, Peacebuilding and Conflict transformation, 18th – 22nd May 2015 and 7th – 11th December 2015, Nairobi. The training attracted participants from Liberia, Somalia, Iraq, Kenya, Ethiopia*
- *Strengthening Policy & Practice, 1st to 5th June 2015, Nairobi. The course attracted participants from United Kingdom, South Sudan, Kenya, Sudan and DR Congo*
- *Monitoring Evaluation, Reporting and Learning, 27th – 31st July 2015, Nairobi. The training attracted participants from Uganda, Somalia, South Sudan, DR Congo and Kenya*
- *Training for Trainers (ToT), 23rd to 27th November 2015, Nairobi. The training attracted participants from Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, DR Congo, Kenya, Somalia*
- *Gendering Human Security, Peacebuilding & Conflict Transformation Training, 30th June to 4th July 2014, Nairobi; The training attracted participants working in peacebuilding, gender and development in Sudan, Kenya, South Sudan, Burundi, DRC and Lebanon.*
- *Fundamentals in conflict analysis and Resolution Training; held for 60 partners and staff members of the Danish Demining Group from 23rd to 26th February 2014 and from 31st May to 4th June 2014 in Somaliland*
- *Strengthening Policy and Practice; Meeting the challenges of working in complex environments Course; 7th to 11th April 2014, Entebbe, Uganda; This training was held in partnership with Responding to Conflict-UK and aimed at broadening practitioners knowledge to link practice and policy and attracted participants from Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Liberia, Tanzania, Somaliland and DRC*
- *Interrupting cycles of violence; Integrating healing and emotional wellbeing into peacebuilding & development initiatives; Nairobi, 1st to 5th July 2013; The training aimed at enabling participants to better understand linkages between cycles of violence and unhealed trauma*

and how it relates to peacebuilding and conflict transformation. Participants were drawn from Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and DRC.

- *Training of Trainers course in peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation for IGAD Partners:* The training took place in Nazareth, Ethiopia and brought together 15 IGAD South Sudan partners representing the government and civil society organizations. This was from 17th to 21st April 2012
- *Enhancing Local Capacities for Peace Training,* a 5 day course held in Gulu, Uganda for 31 peace, development and humanitarian aid partners of UN agencies operating in Northern Uganda in the period 20th to 24th June 2012
- *Conflict Analysis and Peace Building training* for the African Union held in Nairobi, Kenya from 31st October to 2nd November 2012
- *Conflict Management and Peace Building Course* organized by the Eastern Africa Standby Force in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 31st October to 11th November 2012

1.8: Information on COPA

The Coalition for Peace in Africa (COPA) is a network of peace builders in Africa formed in 1995 when a group of concerned Africans met in Kenya to exchange their insights and experiences on the prevention of the escalation of violent conflicts in Africa. They were convinced that they needed to offer continual practical support to people and organizations on the ground faced with volatile and potentially violent conflict situations. They also recognised conflict as a major contributor to Africa's deplorable state of poverty and underdevelopment.

The practitioners who came together found that there were no appropriate support networks in Africa for them to access and work together. Initial membership of the network came from different parts of Africa mainly alumni of Responding to Conflict (RTC) *Working with Conflict Course* offered once or twice a year in England. Later on, membership expanded to include other individuals and organizations interested in peace and security all over Africa.

Currently COPA is a registered in Kenya and has close relationship with regional and local organizations and practitioners in Africa and with collaborative activities in the Southern, Eastern, Horn, Central, and Great Lakes regions of Africa. Today COPA has memberships of over 200 individuals and organizations and supports their efforts through trainings, advocacy, and research initiatives throughout the African continent.