



# Ford Institute for Human Security

## Overview

Updated April 5, 2013



## *Ford Institute Overview*

- Our mission: “The Institute conducts research on the causes and consequences of political violence and economic underdevelopment, and works to advance the idea that governments have a sovereign responsibility to protect their people.”
- Program: Discussions, Practitioner Workshops, Applied Research



## *Ford Institute Goals*

- A Continuum from post-conflict, human trafficking and slavery, gender based threats, basic security (food, water, shelter) through human rights and governance issues, moving beyond collapsed and fragile states to sustainable development efforts
- Focus on faculty and student research on policy issues in human security
- Support Human Security majors in MID and MPIA programs
- Support student and faculty efforts to seek external funding



## *Public Activities*

- Current focus of the institute
- Beyond Research: Outreach, Dissemination - Public Presentations
  - Presentations
  - Visiting Fellow program
  - Katz Lecture
  - Workshops for Practitioners in Human Security in SW PA



# *Applied Research Initiative*

## **Governance Group**

- Partner with government subcontractors for research
  - United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
  - Non-Governmental Organizations
- Monitoring and Evaluation
  - Field and Desk research
  - Analytical Services
    - Decentralization Studies
    - Religion and political participation
  - Training for monitoring and evaluation (M&E)
- Human security theme, threats against individuals
  - Conflict resolution/ mitigation
  - Countering violent extremism
  - Political violence
  - Related work:
    - Civil Society Strengthening
    - Cash Transfer/ Livelihoods analysis
    - Relief and development evaluation



## *Evaluation and Analytical Services: Applied Research Project*

- Evaluation and Analytical Services (EAS) Contract
  - USAID/ West Africa Regional Peace and Governance Office
  - Partnered as subcontractor with The Mitchell Group in Washington DC
  - Total contract value: \$7.8m
  - Pitt's share: \$2.6m
  - Five year implementation
- Support USAID/WA monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and analytical capabilities:
  1. Consistent, high quality information collected, analyzed and presented in a professional manner; and
  2. Improved capacity of local and regional organizations to collect, analyze and present information



# Evaluation and Analytical Services: Project Overview

- Challenges to West African Region:

- Transnational crime
- Illicit drug trafficking
- Extremist ideology
- Acts of terrorism
- Political violence and poor governance
- High unemployment
- Youth Population Bulge

Future Risk of Instability or Conflict, ECOWAS States (2010-2012) <sup>1</sup>				
Risk Category	Country	Risk Score	Confidence Range	
			Low	High
<i>Highest Risk</i> (18 or more)	Mali	22.6	14.3	34.8
	Sierra Leone	20.6	12.5	30.9
	Guinea-Bissau	19.7	11	31.6
	Nigeria	19.4	11.7	28.6
<i>High Risk</i> (12-18)	Benin	13.8	9.3	19.9
	Liberia	13.8	6.7	24.4
	Burkina Faso	12.2	8.2	18.4
<i>Moderate Risk</i> (7-12)	Senegal	10	6.2	14.9
	Guinea	9.6	5.7	15.6
	Côte d'Ivoire	8.4	4.8	13.4
	Ghana	7.1	3.8	11.4
<i>Some Risk</i>	Niger	6.3	3.5	10.9

<sup>1</sup>Early Warning and Response Design Support. "Peace and Conflict in West Africa Report," January 2010.



# *Evaluation and Analytical Services: Program Evaluation*

## **Countering Violent Extremism**

- The Peace Through Development (PDEV) II program aims to deter extremism by strengthening community resiliencies against violent extremist ideologies:
  1. Improving local governance in target communities w/ emphasis on urban and peri-urban areas
  2. Empowering at-risk youth to become active participants in their communities and the economy,
  3. Supporting moderate voices and
  4. Increasing the capacity of civil society to address issues at the community level
- This is a five year, \$60 million project

## **Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation**

- USAID/WA is also currently in the process of designing a new regional conflict prevention / conflict mitigation program
- Follow up on recently completed activities concluded in September 2011 under the Early Warning and Response Design Support (EWARD) program

## **Political Competition and Consensus Building**

- USAID/WA is providing a rolling program of support to elections (including both pre and post-election support) in the West Africa region
  - Sierra Leone
  - Cote d'Ivoire





## *Evaluation and Analytical Services: Research and Staffing*

- Field and desk research, TMG-Pitt team:
  - Nine desk studies
  - Five field-based research projects
- Staffing:
  - Louis A. Picard, FIHS, Capacity Building Team Leader
  - Chris A. Belasco, FIHS, Research and Analysis Coordinator
  - Steven E. Finkel, Political Science, Lead Methodologist
  - Up to six graduate student assistants working between 300-440 hours per year
  - Short-term employment opportunities for students who qualify
    - Conduct evaluation research in the field
    - Teach methodology to partner organizations



## *Practitioner Group Outreach*

- The *Practitioner Initiative* brings together local organizations working in the field of human security
- Information about the organizations is made available to GSPIA students and others through the Ford Institute website
- Practitioner Workshops are held twice a year
- Goals of the initiative
  - Foster cooperation between organizations, such as Cameroon Football Project & Fields of Growth holding joint fundraisers
  - Create a relationship to foster internship opportunities with these organizations for GSPIA students
  - Help fund human security related programs through the annual Director's Award



## *New Research Project: Marginalized Peoples*

- Current approach reflects dichotomies between:
  - Assimilation and equality
  - Separation and preservation (or multi-culturalism)
- Our Approach:
  - Property rights and social obligations are essential to engaging the debates around marginalized peoples
  - Land-based approach:
    - cultural affiliation
    - mobilization based on common identities
- Compare marginalized peoples mobilization at different levels of property rights:
  - Indigenous communities of the Amazon
  - Roma of Southeastern Europe
  - San of Southern Africa
  - Tuareg of the Sahel region of Africa
  - Pastoral Peoples of Kenya



## Research on Major Human Security Issue: Modern Slavery

- Ongoing research (2012)
  - Literature Review Development and Data Set Construction
- Principal Investigator, Dr. Lisa Alfredson
  - Over 300 laws and agreements written since 1815
  - However, 12 million slaves by conservative estimates and around 29 million people by higher estimates.<sup>2</sup>
- Existing Research
  - Non-Customary practices.
  - Study has focused on some types of slavery that are illegal, hidden, and privatized.
- Goal of research project:
  - Advance understanding of particular neglected populations *as* slaves, which include major forms of *customary* slavery
  - Public, normatively accepted, sometimes even legal
  - Focus on:
    - Marital slavery
    - **Slave child soldiering**

<sup>2</sup>ILO. A Global Alliance Against Forced Labor, Global Report Under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 2005; Bales, Kevin. *Disposable People: The New Slavery in the Global Economy*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999.



# Publications Strategy

Publication	Requirements	Series Title	Compensation	Competition
Series 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 3 pages</li> <li>• Editorial or opinion piece</li> <li>• On an issue(s) of present importance to the field of human security</li> </ul>	“Voices of Human Security” - Opinion Pieces	NA	By Semester – peer reviewed
Series 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 pages or less</li> <li>• Demonstrates a professional understanding of a dilemma and possible policy solutions</li> <li>• On an issue(s) of present importance to the field of human security</li> </ul>	“Voices of Human Security” - Briefing Notes	NA	By Semester – peer reviewed



Danielle Loustau-Williams, Research Associate  
***Publications Strategy***

Publication	Requirements	Series Title	Compensation	Competition
<b>Research Reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Length to be negotiated; Ideally less than 10 pages</li> <li>• Preference for papers incorporating one of the Working Groups topics into their submission</li> <li>• Demonstrates a professional understanding of the dilemma and possible policy solutions</li> <li>• On an issue(s) of present importance to the field of human security</li> </ul>		Potential for research funding available	NA – Peer reviewed

# *Professional Internships with the Ford Institute*



Ford Institute hosts student interns, whose work may include:

- Monitoring human security conferences and calls for papers
- Writing lecture summaries and news stories for GSPIA publications
- Assisting professors with research
  - Example from 2013: Marginalized Peoples
  - Example from 2012: Gender, policy, and development in Turkey and the Middle East
- Additional projects, such as:
  - Monitoring and researching grant opportunities
  - Annual report preparation, writing and editing



## *Field Internships*

- Assist with Placement for human security internships:
  - Governmental:
    - United States Mission to the United Nations, United Nations Development Programme, USAID, the Asia Foundation
  - Analytical Services Consulting:
    - Democracy International, Management Systems International, PADCO
  - East Africa NGOs:
    - Bright Kids Children's Home plus Primary School, Entebbe, Uganda
    - PACT in Kenya
    - Kampala Centenary Development Bank, Uganda (Future placement)
  - South Africa NGOs:
    - Africa Institute in South Africa
  - West Africa NGOs:
    - Anticipated opportunities with partner institutions in West Africa





## *Student Exchange*

- Graduate School of Public and Development Management of the University of Witwatersrand (P&DM), Johannesburg, South Africa
  - 3 GSPIA students to take courses and intern each year
  - Sample list of South African NGO internship sites:
    - PlanAct Johannesburg
    - Institute for Democracy in Africa (IDASA)
    - Democracy Development Programme (DDP)
    - Development Action Group (DAG)
    - Eastern Cape NGO Coalition (ECNGOC)
    - Electoral Institute for the Sustainability of Democracy in Africa (EISA)
    - Mvula Trust
    - Project for Conflict Resolution and Development (PCRD)
  - 3 doctoral students from Wits will study in GSPIA's doctoral program to obtain first-year methods training
    - Awarded Certificate of Attendance in Social Science Research
  - Collaborative research opportunities among faculty at both locations



## *Field-Based Course*

- First offered in Summer 2013, as an independent study for 3 credits
- Undergraduate and Graduate course linked to Eastern Africa Internships and the African Studies Swahili Program in Tanzania
  - Focus on Assessment of Sustainability in Human Security and International Development Projects
  - Skills development: Rapid Assessment techniques
    - Interviews, community discussions, transect walks, focus groups, mini-surveys, community mapping, secondary data collection, group discussions, and direct observation.
- Course plan:
  1. Six Hour Workshop in Pittsburgh Prior to Travel (Mid-May)
  2. Students engage with reading list
  3. Three-Hour Workshop in Entebbe, Uganda (Banana Village Retreat) (Mid-July) and Karagwe Tanzania (Late July) to prepare for visits to project sites
  4. Visit 4-5 on-site educational and health facilities over a four-five day period, one day per site.
  5. Six Hour Workshop in Pittsburgh on Return from East Africa (Late August)



Dr. Louis A. Picard, Director  
*Thank you!*

- Questions?
- A copy of this presentation is available at:
  - Ford Institute for Human Security
    - [www.fordinstitute.pitt.edu](http://www.fordinstitute.pitt.edu)
  - Dr. Louis A. Picard's website
    - <http://drlouisapicard.wordpress.com/>