

Key Learnings and Reflections

ASEAN Regional Forum – Seminar on
Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation
training

Mediation and Preventive
Diplomacy are useful
tools for preventing and
resolving conflict

Mediation is
facilitated
dialogue

What is mediation?

Mediation is a process, whereby a third party assists two or more parties, with their consent, to prevent, manage or resolve a conflict by helping them develop mutually acceptable solutions

Mediation can be used as a tool
at all stages of a peace process –
as prevention, intervention,
conflict resolution,
reconciliation, etc.

Seven Deadly Sins

1. Ignorance
2. Arrogance
3. Partiality
4. Impotence
5. Haste
6. Inflexibility
7. False Promises

Eight Fundamentals – UN Guidelines

1. Preparedness
2. Consent
3. Impartiality
4. Inclusivity
5. National Ownership
6. International Law and Normative Framework
7. Coherence, Coordination and Complementarity of the Mediation Effort
8. Quality of the Peace Agreement

Overall Lessons and Reflections

- Models of mediation – third party, insider
- Link between the mediation and the implementation
- Mediator needs to be recognized and accepted by both parties
- Mediation should be based on deep understanding of the conflict and its dynamics

Mediators are...

- Honesty
- Valued based
- Ego-less
- Emotionally Intelligent
- Aware
- Patient
- Capacity to Listen
- Sense of humour
- Legitimate
- Credible
- Honest broker

Mediation Support and Architecture

- Flexible mechanisms which address problems along the way
- Ability to evolve new mediation support Infrastructure as new issues emerge

What else?

- Negotiating tactics
- Ego-less? Value based?
- Opportunity for regional organization can be involved in mediation or conflict management; mediation support (capacity needed in this area for ASEAN)
- Complexity – role play showed us how complex mediation process can be.
- Conducting conflict analysis is key to understanding the complexity
- Prepare for ensuring work towards positive peace – address a lot of political problems and causes. Long term transformation.
- Discussion of cases – showed 6 ASEAN countries supporting these processes. Very valuable experience – “blow ASEAN trumpet”. How might ASEAN help to valorize the experience?
- Value of drawing on a range of stakeholders to reach local solutions on local problems.