



Follow-up research within Sustainable Peace Network

Background to Irish Peace Centres (IPC)

The Irish Peace Centres is a consortium of peace-building organisations working together to extend and embed reconciliation within and between communities across the island of Ireland. The consortium comprises Co-operation Ireland, The Corrymeela Community, The Donegal Peace Centre at An Teach Ban and Glenree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation. Irish Peace Centres delivers a range of interrelated activities that seek to transform communities and individuals affected by conflict. Our activities include experiential learning exchanges, discussion, group challenges, storytelling and tailored activities. Irish Peace Centres has successfully engaged a wide range of stakeholders in society including faith groups, women's groups, ex-combatants, young people, minority ethnic groups and other communities. For more detail please see www.irishpeacecentres.org

Background to Sustainable Peace Network (SPN)

Since at least 2001 the Glenree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation has been promoting enduring positive relationships between former combatants, wider society and victims/survivors connected in different ways to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. Working in partnership with the Wilderness Foundation UK and INCORE (University of Ulster) carefully selected groups have participated in an annual series of workshops combining dialogue, sharing of life experiences and discussion with outdoor activities in places such as the Wicklow Mountains, the Scottish Highlands and the Imfolozi wilderness in South Africa. Those who completed their initial cycle of activities have been invited to remain involved with their year group and previous year groups through the **Sustainable Peace Network**, thus supporting each other in promoting lasting peace within and between their respective communities. For more detail please see www.glenree.ie and follow links to Sustainable Peace Trail Map.

From mid-2008 this work has been incorporated and expanded within the Irish Peace Centres (IPC) under the banner of Activity 4 "core group" and "planting seeds" processes.

Background to research project

Each year group has been asked to fill in questionnaires at the beginning and the end of the initial cycle of activities to help capture the "journey travelled", primarily at personal and interpersonal levels. The 2007-8 group also included some video feedback at different stages. With the help of INCORE, and guided by a capturing of learning working group within the SPN, for the first time all this material was coded and analyzed using Nvivo software. A draft paper



has been completed and is available on request. What has NOT been captured thus far is the enduring qualitative impact of this core group process, as well as the data from the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 group questionnaires.

Aim of research

IPC in partnership with INCORE (University of Ulster) wish to recruit a researcher on a fixed term contract to help document the impact of the programme on the participants. This will include two processes, i.e. conducting in depth qualitative interviews with the 15 members of the 2007-2008 group of SPN participants to capture the enduring impact of this particular “core group” process, and adding additional questionnaires to the Nvivo database and analyzing these.

Key elements

Working closely with the SPN capturing of learning working group, led by Prof Brandon Hamber of INCORE, the researcher will be asked to:

- Code the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 questionnaires and input them into the Nvivo database;
- Analyse the material coming from the questionnaires;
- Conduct individual interviews with SPN 2007 participants (15 people);
- Transcribe these interviews;
- Code the interview material using Nvivo software (in line with existing coding);
- Complete initial analysis;
- Complete draft paper for comment by SPN based on the interviews, and using supporting data from the questionnaires;
- Complete final paper for publication;
- Adhere to the milestones agreed in the contract.

Essential Criteria

1. Proven research experience within the peace-building sector;
2. Understanding of the sensitive nature of qualitative interviews, especially with former combatants and survivors;
3. Ability/experience in conducting qualitative interviews;
4. Familiarity with Nvivo software or qualitative data management software;
5. Availability to complete this research and final report before June 30th 2011;
6. Access to transport/ ability to drive.



Tenders

Tender applications should briefly outline why the candidate feels they meet the essential criteria listed above, as well as a brief statement as to why they feel they are a suitable candidate to carry out this research. Applicants should include a detailed action plan with milestones setting out the number of days and the daily rate, the total not to exceed £6,500.

Applications should not exceed three pages excluding an up to date CV which should be added.

Complete tenders should reach the office of IPC at Co-operation Ireland, 5 Weavers Court Business Park, Linfield Road, Belfast BT12 5GH, before noon on Tuesday 1 March 2011 marked for the attention of Claire O'Hare. Further information can be obtained from Brandon Hamber at INCORE on b.hamber@ulster.ac.uk or Wilhelm Verwoerd on wilhelm.verwoerd@glencree.ie



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