**Agenda for the meeting on the 18th September at 11:00.**

1. Update of process so far on
* Database/scoping study
* Activities in Burundi and Afghanistan
* Southern Reference group
* Platform Website
1. Assessing general strategy of WG
2. Online needs of WG
3. Planning date ToC meeting
4. Introduction to the Partos Fragile States WG
5. Evaluation of facilitators

**Participants** in the mtg were:

SFCG – has two projects; Gabrielle coordinates the East African one.

Kees van den Broek of IKV Pax; has overall involvement in recon projects, incl M&E.

Piet Posthuma of ICCO (one recon project in Central America); sector specialist.

Fardau Procee of BUZA; focal point for RT.

Lina Titulaer of Clingendael Conflict Research Unit; replaced Mariska van Beijnum

Marco Lankhorst of THIGJ; researcher on (post) conflict countries

Robert de Wolf of OXFAM NOVIB

Goossen Hoenders of Save the Children; responsible a.o. for PAK/AFG recon project.

Ralph of NIMD.

Jan Gerrit of ZOA Relief-Hope-Recovery

RT WG facilitator: Berlinda of CARE; knowledge manager fragile states

RT WG facilitator: Pascal of GPPAC; coordinator of their Great Lakes project, funded by BUZA RT.

**Brief report of discussions**

We started with a recap of the action plan of the working group and discussed, ‘what we are aiming for?’. The action plan consist of 4 goals:

* Setting up a database to gather basic information on projects supported for meaningful exchanges and possibilities for collaboration to be identified
* Organizing coordination and networking activities
* Investigating Theories of Change and the underlying assumptions of the respective projects
* Exchange and research on M&E practices

Marco Lankhorst is working on the **database** now, he will get back to implementing NGOs in case (additional) info is necessary. The ToR was finalized last week. The work on the database will be finalized late-Sept, and the scoping study will be completed mid-Nov. Based on the information of the database, Marco will start the analysis and will suggest possible clusters of ToC. The WG RT will be asked to give their first comments around 15 Nov. After which Marco will finalize the work. (The input he has received so far is quite heterogeneous, but he first wants to focus on that information before asking for additional info from NGOs (not all have submitted yet).)

IKV Pax makes the point that they have started to focus more on intervention logic in a project, rather than using the concept of ToC. Reason is that there are various meanings for ToCs while an Intervention Logic is more limited in scope. Marco Lankhorst does not disagree with this point, but the concept ‘ToC’ is the starting point for the work now at hand. According to Marco, we need to embrace a step-by-step approach in order to be able to contribute to future tenders and M&E procedures concerning FCAS.

Pascal summarizes the role of the WG RT:

* knowledge mgt/ internal cap building and networking
* facilitating BUZA policy devt and the process of further decision making
* contribute to the research agenda of the KPSRL as a whole.

These goals were confirmed by the BUZA rep. She emphasizes the need for a pro-active attitude by participating NGOs in the WG RT, these are to be complemented by BUZA’s actions.

Marco asks the members of the WG to provide information to the group originating not only from the reconstruction tender projects but broader.Pascal agrees and would like the WG to have a more think-tank type character . Save the Children makes the point that for them the relevance of the WG RT’s work is in NL, not so much within the implementing countries, due to a lack of time and their focus on the implementation of the project.

Marco emphasizes that no additional workload is to be given to people in the field by the WG RT. In this respect ZOA asked the BUZA rep about news from the discussion on ‘incorporation of recon results in the RNE’s MASP mid-term evaluation results fiche’? The representative indicated that she will inform us later, the issue of the results fiche is ministry-wide (both embassies and departments in The Hague) and will be fed back to parliament. Marco also mentioned that the Reconstruction WG should find a way as a group, after the exercise of the ToCs , to influence the research agenda of the research working groups within the platform.

Coordination and exchange activities have been started up in **BDI and AFG**. These working groups are encouraged to run their activities independently of the working group here in NL.

About the **Southern Reference group**; a document was sent yesterday evening as input for our mtg. This group seems to be more relevant to the three research groups in the KPSRL, rather than the two working groups. The Steering Group is very much in favor of a Southern Reference Group; a question raised was about the involvement of practitioners and the lifetime of the research groups itself (after awarding the research grants)? In general, there were doubts expressed about a proper role for the group. The (related) issue that 75% of the research grants should be allocated to the six mentioned countries, was questioned. It was agreed that Pascal will summarize the discussion and send the summary to the participants for their consent by the end of the week. After that, the Steering Group will be informed of the RT WG opinion.

The knowledge platform’s **website** was launched on 1st August. The website is still in a trial period. Address is [www.kpsrl.org](http://www.kpsrl.org). Take a look and register! All communication concerning the working group will go through the website in the future.

**Next meetings** of the RT WG and ToC subgroup: we planned (tentatively) for next mtg of the RT WG to be on Tuesday 15th October at 10.00 hours. We may deal with agenda items that were not addressed today. The first meeting of the ToC subgroup is now scheduled for Tuesday 17th December. In this mtg, we’ll deal with a review of Marco Lankhorst’s consultancy work (database/ scoping study). In March/ April 2014 (perhaps 1st week of April) we will plan a ‘full ToC meeting’ with Southern partners present.

It was emphasized that we want the keep the flow/momentum in our working group and not slow down. Any (additional) ideas that participants may have, as to activate more RT WG members, are very much welcomed by both facilitators.

The participants communicated their appreciation for the two **facilitators** who have been doing a good job so far. The character of the KPSRL does not always make it easy to facilitate the working group, but Pascal and Berlinda have really done well and thereby contributed to the relevance of the RT WG!

Agenda points 2, 3 and 5 were not dealt with in this meeting. We closed at 13.30 hours.

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