

CHRISTOF P. KURZ

43 Ossipee Rd. #1
Somerville, MA 02144
617-460-0431
christof.kurz@tufts.edu

EDUCATION

Post-secondary education:

Ph.D.

The Fletcher School, Tufts University, Medford, MA Sept. 2005 - present
Fields of Study: Human Security, International Negotiation and Conflict Resolution;
Development Economics
Research interests: State formation and violent conflict in West Africa: Sierra Leone,
Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire; Senegal; peace- and statebuilding and post-conflict development

M.A. in Law and Diplomacy (MALD)

The Fletcher School, Tufts University, Medford, MA May 1999

M.A., Political Science (minors: French literature; international law)

Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms Universitaet, Bonn, Germany July 1997

Certificat d'Etudes Politiques (CEP)

Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, France June 1995

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Consultancies and Short-term Work

Political Advisor, Electoral Observation Mission, The Carter Center, Guinea Sept. – Nov. 2010

- Liaised with political parties, government officials, and civil society and provided regular written and verbal briefings to the leadership of The Carter Center's electoral observation mission on political developments before, during, and after the November 7, 2010, presidential runoff elections.
- Provided extensive briefing to long and short-term observer teams on Guinean history and political developments.

Facilitator, Conflict Prevention: Analysis for Action (CPAA) Support for the UN Country Team in Guinea, Conakry, Guinea

October 2010

- Designed and co-facilitated three-day conflict analysis skill building workshop UN Country Team to help participants understand the relevance of conflict sensitivity within their work and to reflect on how to integrate conflict analysis into UN Development Assistance Framework planning process.

Short-term Electoral Observer, The Carter Center, Conakry, Guinea

June-July 2010

- Served as short-term observer during the June 27, 2010, presidential elections in the Republic of Guinea. Assessed election preparations and observed Election Day procedures, vote count and vote tallying in four communes of the capital city Conakry.

Case study Consultant, The World Bank, Washington, DC

Feb-March 2010

- Researched and wrote background paper (desk study) on "The Impact of Conflict on Forest Livelihoods" to inform World Bank Agriculture and Rural Development Group's forest strategy and to contribute to World Development Report 2011.

- Lead Case Study Consultant for Liberia, Reflecting on Peace Practice Project, CDA - Collaborative Learning Projects, Monrovia, Liberia** Dec. 2009
- Conducted and wrote case study on lessons from international and national peacebuilding efforts in Liberia based on 40 key informant interviews with government, civil society, and international peacebuilding actors
- Project Evaluator, Kevin Murray Strategic Consulting/Rights and Resource Initiative, Cameroon and Ghana** Nov. 2009
- Evaluated country and regional projects in West Africa of the Rights and Resource Initiative focusing on community rights and empowerment and forestry resource management
- Evaluation Consultant, Conflict-Sensitivity Assessment of the Programme of Enhanced Assistance to Returnees (PEAR) Plus, Search for Common Ground/UNICEF, Eastern DR Congo** July-Aug. 2009
- Conducted assessment of UNICEF-funded IDP reintegration program in Eastern DR Congo and co-authored conflict-sensitivity assessment report analyzing conflict context and impact of PEAR Plus on conflict dynamics (http://www.sfcg.org/programmes/drcongo/pdf/English_SummaryCover_Final.pdf)
- Expert on Children and Armed Conflict UNICEF/Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), Monrovia, Liberia** May-June 2009
- Analyzed 280 statements by children and hearing transcripts and researched and wrote children's annex of the TRC final report (https://www.trcofliberia.org/reports/final/volume-three-2_layout-1.pdf)
- Technical Expert on Conflict Resolution, UN Development Programme North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo** May-July 2008
- Co-wrote North Kivu participatory conflict analysis final report and detailed conflict analysis for the territories of Masisi, Rutshuru, and Walikale covering the causes of conflict and obstacles to peacebuilding; post-conflict development needs; gender issues and the causes and consequences of Gender-Based Violence
- Technical Advisor, NURC Opinion Survey, International Rescue Committee, Kigali, Rwanda** Nov. 2007 – March 2008
- Analyzed survey data and wrote report on the status of national cohesion and reconciliation in collaboration with the Rwandan National Unity and Reconciliation Commission (NURC)
- Case Study Researcher, CDA – Collaborative Learning Projects, Monrovia, Liberia** March/April 2007
- Researched and wrote case study for United Nations Mission in Liberia on Government/UN strategy to seize Guthrie rubber plantation from ex-combatants based on 40 interviews with UN and government officials, ex-combatants, civil society groups and NGO workers
- Field Advisor, International Rescue Committee, Voinjama, Liberia** Oct. – Dec. 2006
- Oversaw and managed all operations and community reintegration, health, child-protection and gender programs by the IRC in Lofa County
- Peacebuilding Project Evaluator, CDA - Collaborative Learning Projects,**

Cambridge, MA and Lofa County, Liberia June/July 2006

- Evaluated USAID-funded peacebuilding project in Lofa County

Emergency Field Advisor, International Rescue Committee,
Khartoum and Bahr el Ghazal, Sudan May-August 2005

- Conducted assessment of humanitarian situation in returnee areas of Bahr el Ghazal in Southern Sudan and developed US\$6m assistance strategy

Permanent Employment

Acting Country Director, International Rescue Committee,
Freetown, Sierra Leone Sept. 2004 – Jan. 2005

- Oversaw all program and operations and supervised all senior staff for implementation of multi-sector US\$6m program portfolio of comprehensive refugee and IDP reintegration program including child protection, Gender-Based Violence, education, health, economic rehabilitation

Deputy Country Director, International Rescue Committee,
Freetown, Sierra Leone Dec. 2003 – May 2005

- Oversaw and directed all program development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of US\$6m multi-sector refugee and IDP reintegration program portfolio

Program Coordinator, International Rescue Committee,
Kenema, Sierra Leone Feb. – Nov. 2003

- Oversaw all operations and program activities in the Kenema field office including management of Gerihun refugee camp, GBV, health, education, and child protection programming

Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator Aug. 2002 – Feb. 2003

Program Development and Information Manager Aug. 2001 – Aug. 2002
International Rescue Committee, Baku, Azerbaijan

- Managed all program development, donor reporting and donor relations for US\$8m post-conflict development program

Program Assistant, Africa & Near East Nov. 1999 – Aug. 2001
International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), Washington, DC

- Provided programmatic support to electoral assistance and civil society support projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, and Ghana
- Co-organized election observation missions for African election commissioners for the 2000 elections in Ghana and the United States

Training and professional courses:

Training of Conflict Prevention: Analysis for Action (CPAA) Resource Persons, United Nations Staff College, Torino, Italy March 2010
One-week training for resource persons on CPAA methodology and application for UN system planning processes

Graduate Institute for Teaching (GIFT), Tufts University June 2008
Intensive three-week summer course on pedagogy and teaching methods for doctoral students.

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ January 2008
Intensive two-week seminar on qualitative and mixed methods in political science, organized by the Qualitative Methods section of the American Political Science Association

Reflecting on Peace Practice (RPP) Training on Conflict Program Evaluation tools, CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, Cambridge, MA April 2007
Three-day training on conflict analysis and conflict project evaluation tools and approaches developed by the CDA RPP program

Teaching

“State Formation, Conflict and Intervention in Comparative Perspective: The cases of Afghanistan, Rwanda, and Sierra Leone,” The Fletcher School, Tufts University Fall semester 2008

- Full-semester graduate seminar co-taught with Prof. Peter Uvin and Dipali Mukhopadhyay

“Violence, War, and Viruses - Africa’s Development Challenges in the 21st Century,” Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Tufts University Fall semester 2007

- 8-week continuing education seminar with 22 students
- Topics covered include the concept of development; analyzing development data; environmental causes of underdevelopment; slave trade and colonial legacy; international aid; big man rule and corruption; ethnic identity and conflict; U.S. interests in Africa

HONORS and PRIZES

- Summer field research grant for eight-week field research in Guinea – Feinstein Center for International Studies, Tufts University June-Aug. 2008
- Dissertation research grant, Institute of Human Security, The Fletcher School June 2007
- Provost Fellow, Tufts University Sept. 2005 – June 2007
- ERP Fellow for graduate studies in the U.S., German Government July 1998 – June 1999
- Merit Scholar, German National Scholarship Foundation 1992 – 1998

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

- (forthcoming fall 2011) “Limitations of International Analyses and Post-Conflict State-Building in Sierra Leone.” In Berit Bliesemann de Guevara. *Statebuilding and State-Formation: A New Framework of Analysis*. London: Routledge
- (forthcoming 2011) “Review of ‘The Trouble with Congo: Local Violence and the Failure of International Peacebuilding by Séverine Autesserre. In *Journal of Politics*.”
- “What you see is what you get: Analytical Lenses and the Limitations of Post-Conflict State-Building in Sierra Leone.” *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 4, no. 2 (June 2010), pp. 205-236.

- “A Quarter-Century of Violent Upheavals: A Review of Works on the Causes of War and Lessons for Reconstruction in Liberia.” *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 3, no. 3 (November 2009).
- “Greed, Grievance and Atrocities: Recent Literature on the Causes and Dynamics of the War in Sierra Leone 1991–2002.” *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 1, no. 1 (March 2007), 132-140.
- “Sifting Through the Fog of an African Conflict: Explaining Sierra Leone’s 10-year War – A Review Essay,” in: *The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*, Vol. 30:2 (Summer/Fall 2006), 235-240.

Conference papers

- *State formation and large-scale violent conflict in four West African states*, paper presented at the African Studies Association annual meeting, New Orleans, November 19, 2009.
- *Potential and Pitfalls of Conflict-Sensitive Development in Conflict Zones: Reflections on the Case of North Kivu*. Paper presented at the International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, New York, February 17, 2009.
- *The Deep Determinants of State Formation, War, and Peace in Sierra Leone*. Paper presented at the ISA Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, March 27, 2008.
- *African Regional Conflict Complexes and the Challenges of Understanding and Preventing Conflict Spread*. Paper presented at the ISA Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, February 28, 2007.
- *Using Early Warning Methods for Monitoring Peace- and State-building Processes*. Paper presented at the conference on “The Idea of a Failed State” at Westfield State College, MA, October 12-14, 2006.

Published reports

- *Cumulative Impact Case Study: The Cumulative Impacts of Peacebuilding in Liberia*. Cambridge, MA: CDA-Collaborative Learning Projects, June 2010. [Available at http://www.cdainc.com/cdawww/pdf/-casestudy/rpp_cumulative_case_study_liberia_final_Pdf.pdf]
- (with Valeria Izzi) *Etude sur la sensibilité aux conflits du Programme PEAR Plus*. Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo: Search for Common Ground. October 2009. [Available at http://www.sfcg.org/programmes/drcongo/pdf/French_SummaryCover_Final.pdf]
- (with V. Izzi, D. Masumbuko, and C. Moyroud) *Exercice participatif d'Analyse des Conflits et des Capacités de Paix pour la Planification du Développement dans la Province du Nord-Kivu – Rapport Final* (Final Report of the Participatory Analysis of Causes of Conflict and Capacities for Peace). Cellule Provinciale d'Appui à la Pacification (CPAP) and UNDP. Goma, North Kivu, DRC, April 2009. [Available at <http://www.undp.org.cd/ws017.alentus.com/Downloads/rapport/Rapport%20Finale%20du%2019%20juin%202009.pdf>]

REFERENCES

- Academic Advisor: Prof. Peter Uvin, Henry J. Leir Professor of International Humanitarian Studies, The Fletcher School, Tufts University, Medford, MA; Tel: (617) 627-5982; email: peter.uvin@tufts.edu.
- Academic Advisor: Prof. Anna Seleny, Professor of the Practice of International Politics, The Fletcher School, Tufts University, Medford, MA; Tel: (617) 627-2733; email: anna.seleny@tufts.edu.
- Recent Supervisor: Ms. Diana Chigas, Co-Director, Reflecting on Peace Practice, CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, Cambridge, MA; Tel: (617) 661-6310; email: DChigas@cdainc.com
- Recent supervisor: Mr. Randall Harbour, Field Office Director, The Carter Center, Conakry, Guinea (until Dec. 10, 2010); email: randall.harbour@graduateinstitute.ch.
- Recent supervisor: Ms. Lena Slachmuisjlder, Country Director, Search for Common Ground, Kinshasa, République Démocratique du Congo; Tel: +243-812411375; email: lenas@sfcg.org.

- Recent supervisor: Ms. Marie Dimond (former Head of Office, UNDP Goma), Deputy Country Director, UNDP Somalia, Nairobi, Kenya; Tel: +254-20-4183640/2; email: marie.dimond@undp.org.