



The Research Council  
of Norway

## Workshop Invitation

### 'Understanding Gender, Human Security and Development in Post-Conflict Swat, Pakistan: Implications for Policy and Practice'

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> 2015, 9:30-16:00

Venue: Serena Hotel Islamabad, Sheesh Mahal-2

Post-conflict development is ridden with complexity, and often compounded by additional crises in the form of natural disasters and continued political turmoil. The impacts of these crises on the population can be very uneven, making effective transitions from military to civil security, and humanitarian to development assistance difficult to achieve in practice. In such scenarios, a plethora of local, national and international actors scramble to assist, often representing very different perspectives on what the security and development needs in fact are. The most vital, but indeed the most difficult perspectives to consider are those of the women, men and children who are directly affected by these crises, as access to these areas is often highly restricted for security and practical reasons. To what extent would a better understanding of the experiences of these women, men and children lead to improved security and development policy and practice by national and international actors engaged in post-conflict development?

We would like to invite academics, policymakers, and others interested in Pakistan, gender, human security and development to a one-day seminar to explore this question. The seminar will be organized in two parts. In the first part of the seminar we will share some of the key findings from our three-year research program focusing on the post-conflict case of the Swat Valley in northwestern Pakistan. Taking a broad human security perspective, the research has studied post-crisis development in Swat with particular attention to uncovering women and men's different experiences and understandings of insecurity, vulnerability, and development, analyzing how these relate to security and development discourses, policies and practice in post-conflict situations. We will encourage policymakers and organizations to participate actively, and reflect on the relevance of the research findings for their own activities.

The second part of the seminar will offer reflection on how this research has impacted research competence and capacity at CIIT, as well as wider development in the area. As a part of the Norwegian Research Council's NORGLOBAL program, the project had as an important aim to support research competence-building in the South, and link research more directly to societal challenges. The seminar will end with a panel discussion of the implications of this research to development policy and practice with representatives from the government, academia, humanitarian organizations and NGO community. We will provide time and opportunity for networking! Please find attached the preliminary program, the final program will be provided as soon as it is ready.

Please confirm your availability and participation by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June to Ms. Hala Sabri (h\_sabri@comsats.edu.pk) and with cc to bahadar@ciit.net.pk

We hope to see you on June 10<sup>th</sup>!

Very best regards,

<p>Dr. Ingrid Nyborg Research Project Leader, Norway Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Noragric Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) Ås, Norway</p>	<p>Dr. Bahadar Nawab Research Project Leader, Pakistan Department of Development Studies, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, CIIT Abbottabad, Pakistan</p>
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