

Thematic Session  
Development in conflicts zones

# Conflicts

1. Conflicts are part of everyday life but we should know how to manage conflict without resorting to violence.
2. When ordinary aspirations, hopes and needs of the common people are not met and when the State excludes people from development, conflict takes place.
3. 2 ways of resolving conflicts – 1-Peaceful ways 2-Violence

# Issues from Development in Conflict Zones

States sometimes use force to deal with conflict. Lot of time, resources and money that could have gone into development work goes into arms and tackling conflict.

Only the State has legitimate authority for the use of force and it can be used for both – right purposes as well as wrong purposes. Many times the State uses force instead of meeting the needs of the people.

The systematic exclusion of people is a form of violence which is giving rise to many conflicts.

# Issues Contd

Vested interests and corruption are tools of conflicts.

‘Developmental conflict’ is another form of conflict that we have to take a look at.

The ownership and control of the media is such that the media is biased and does not reflect the complete truth.

Conflicts may be political and may not have anything to do with development.

# Recommendations

1. Dialogue is a necessity for resolving conflicts.
2. Need to understand the social, economic and cultural issues of an area to enable a fruitful dialogue.
3. If dialogue fails violence likely to begin for resolving it.
4. Efforts to be made to restore dialogue among all the parties
5. ICTs can help in mapping reasons for conflict and building a knowledge base to resolve these.
6. Using innovative approaches such as Peace messages, visuals can be use.
7. Experts and participants agreed that development should continue even in conflict zones.