Improving Information Management in Myanmar: Workshop with MIMU

In crisis areas, quick and informed decision-making can protect and save lives. Good and reliable data can improve decision-making in development cooperation and aid efficiency. New web, mobile and Internet-based media and information dissemination platforms are constantly evolving, producing increasing amounts of content. The speed with which information is created, published and disseminated on the web, especially with the growth of mobiles and tablets, keeps increasing. This allows for a multiplicity of perspectives to surface. The challenge for experts working in civilian crisis management and development is finding a way to filter the information and determine what is relevant with the overload of information, and further, to communicate that effectively to the right people in an efficient manner.
Additionally, new tools are being developed to help experts visualise data in a clear way, so that it can be easily shared, interpreted, and understood by different users.

In light of these developments, a workshop was held in Yangon, Myanmar on 2nd and 3rd October around using new and social media on the web for crisis information management. Facilitated by Sanjana Hattotuwa from the ICT4Peace Foundation in cooperation with the MIMU, Myanmar and supported by UNESCO, the workshop offered a forum to discuss big data’s volume, velocity and variety, web based social media verification basics as well as practical ways to keep abreast of social media production (through personal and institutional filters).

To read the full article, click here.

ICT4Peace’s Daniel Stauffacher participated in the Sino-European Cyber Dialogue

Daniel Stauffacher from the ICT4Peace Foundation was invited to participate in the Sino-European Cyber Dialogue (SECD) convened on 25-26 September 2014 in Beijing, China, following the first meeting in Geneva on 31 March - 1 April 2014.

As recorded by the GCSP, thirty-seven participants attended the second meeting of SECD. Of these, 16 delegates were from seven European countries, including six governmental cyber policy coordinators. The discussions concentrated on two broad topics:
overall issues within international cybersecurity and possible futures of the Internet governance system.

Read the full update here.

IDB and OAS Workshop on Regional Cybersecurity Policies, Washington DC

ICT4Peace Foundation was invited to contribute to the Workshop on Regional Cybersecurity Policies organised by the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) and Organisation of American States (OAS) on 22 to 24 October in Washington, DC.

Dr. Eneken Tikk, Senior Fellow for Cyber Security at IISS, London and Senior Advisor, ICT4Peace Foundation was invited to Chair a Panel on Multiple Approaches to a Cyber Security Strategy and Daniel Stauffacher, President, ICT4Peace Foundation made a presentation on the Role of Non-Governmental Organisations in Improving Cybersecurity.

Access the full article here.

Supporting ICRC's Global Partnerships for Humanitarian Impact and Innovation

Daniel Stauffacher and Sanjana Hattotuwa from the ICT4Peace Foundation were invited to attend the inaugural Global Partnerships for Humanitarian Impact and Innovation conference held on October 16th 2014 at the IMD Business School in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The mandate of the Global Partnership for Humanitarian Impact and Innovation (GPHI2) is to promote the development of innovative solutions to humanitarian challenges by harnessing the creative capacity of ICRC partners to respond to the needs of conflict victims. The GPHI2 brings together partners from the corporate sector, academia, research institutes, and leading humanitarian actors from the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and beyond.

For more details, click here.
UAV Experts Meeting at the United Nations

Co-sponsored by the ICT4Peace Foundation, the UAViators.org Experts Meeting on Humanitarian UAVs was held at the UN Secretariat in New York on Thursday, 6th November 2014.

A full report by the organisers around the closed door meeting, which was held under the Chatham House rule, will be made public soon.

The ICT4Peace Foundation is a founding member of the advisory board of UAViators.org, focussing in particular on the use of UAVs in conflict zones and the ethics around the use of UAVs for even humanitarian aid.

Read more details of the meeting [here](#).

International Conference of Crisis Mappers 2014: New York

The ICCM 2014 conference in New York, which the ICT4Peace co-funded and co-curated, concluded successfully. The Foundation’s support of ICCM extends a number of years. In 2011, the Foundation organised ICCM in Geneva, the first time it was held outside the United States. Since then the Foundation has been part of the core team of organisers and as was the case in Nairobi in 2013, helped in the selection of sponsored fellowships for well over half a dozen individuals from around the world to attend ICCM.

Working with Google, the Foundation also led key revisions around the ICCM’s format for New York, allowing for more audience interaction and feedback during the conference, especially around the Ignite Talks and keynotes also through the use of the web based Google Moderator tool. These changes were extremely well received by the participants, making the Q&A sessions one of the most probative and lively they have been since the launch of ICCM.

Read more [here](#).
ICT CBMs: Promoting implementation, supporting negotiations

ICT4Peace, along with a number of representatives from think-tanks, academia, civil society organisations and the private sector participated in the OSCE Swiss Government Chairmanship Event on ICT CBMs: Promoting implementation, supporting negotiations, held in Vienna, Austria on 7 November 2014.

Paul Meyer, Ambassador (Ret.), Simon Fraser University, Canada, and Dr. Eneken Tikk, Senior Fellow for Cybersecurity, IISS, Camino Kavanagh, all Senior Advisors to the ICT4Peace Foundation as well Daniel Stauffacher, President, participated in the event.

More details here.
Paragraph 36 by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunis in 2005 which recognises “…the potential of ICTs to promote peace and to prevent conflict which, inter alia, negatively affects achieving development goals. ICTs can be used for identifying conflict situations through early-warning systems preventing conflicts, promoting their peaceful resolution, supporting humanitarian action, including protection of civilians in armed conflicts, facilitating peacekeeping missions, and assisting post conflict peace-building and reconstruction”.

The ICT4Peace Foundation works to promote the practical realisation of Paragraph 36 and looks at the role of ICT in crisis management, covering aspects of early warning and conflict prevention, peace mediation, peacekeeping, peace-building as well as natural disaster management and humanitarian operations.

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Download a report on the use of Information and Communications Technologies for peacebuilding (ICT4Peace), with a Preface by Kofi A. Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations here. An updated version of this report, with critical analysis on current policies and practices of ICTs in peacebuilding and crises was published in early 2011. Published in collaboration with the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University and GeorgiaTech, Peacebuilding in the Information Age: Sifting Hype from Reality can be read here.

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