

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC Gender Equality Network



Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Conflict – a Legacy for Post-Conflict Transformation, Sustainable Development and Peace

Tuesday, 11 November 2014, 14.00 -16.00 Cinématte, Bern

- 13:30 Arrival and coffee
- 14.00 Welcome Manuel Sager, Director-General SDC

Key note

Zainab Hawa Bangura, Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict *Key messages from the Secretary General Report 2014 on conflict-related sexual violence*

Input

Dr. Monika Hauser, executive member of the board and founder of medica mondiale

Lessons of 21 years supporting survivors of sexualized war time violence

14.30 Panel discussion

Ursula Salesse, Psychosocial Program, Great Lakes Region, SDC

Dalia Abdel-Hameed, Gender Director, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights

Danaé van der Straten Ponthoz, Legal Adviser, TRIAL – Track Impunity Always

Karen Barnes, expert on gender and statebuilding, author of the OECD/DAC Report on Gender and Statebuilding in Fragile and Conflict-affected States

Moderation: Ursula Keller, Senior Gender Policy Advisor, SDC

- 16.00 Reception
- 17.00 Swiss Premiere of the film "Three windows and A Hanging" by Isa Qosjan (Kosova 2014, 93 min) – Introduction by Igballe Rogova, Executive Director of the Kosovo Women's Network

Information on the event

Sexual violence in conflict is a uniquely destructive act and method of war and constitutes a severe violation of human rights and international law. It profoundly hurts victims, destroys their livelihoods and disrupts families and communities and undermines for a very long time the basis for reconciliation and reconstruction. This event aims to highlight the different dimensions and devastating consequences of such violence for post-conflict transformation, sustainable development and peace.



Experts and partners of Switzerland's international cooperation will discuss strategies on how to become more effective in implementing the commitments under the UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the Swiss National Action Plan 1325 to protect women's and girl's rights in fragile and conflict-affected countries. The panel will present lessons from community based psychosocial work and working with men and discuss strategies and practical experiences on how to link emergency responses with prevention and empowerment approaches. Furthermore, a comprehensive strategy does not only respond to individual plights but needs to address the wide spread impunity at local and international level, strengthen women's agency and participation and promote gender equality and women's rights in post-conflict transformation and statebuilding processes.

The event takes place in the context of the Swiss hosted donor conference of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict and is part of the event series "Women and Girls in Conflict, Crisis and Disaster" of the Swiss Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs which allows a wider dialogue on women's rights in conflict, crises and disaster.



Swiss Premiere of the film "Three windows and A Hanging" by Isa Qosjan (Kosova 2014)

In a traditional village in Kosova, a year after the war, the female school teacher Lushe tells a journalist, that she and three other women from the village were raped by Serbian forces. After the village men realize that it was Lushe who spoke to the journalist, they start a hate campaign against Lushe and her little boy, asking her to leave the village. An insightful portrait of a Balkan village, of a patriarchal microcosm, and of its mayor who desperately wants to control the village life. A reflection of

rituals which not only show gender inequality, but also the absence of freedom of expression within the male community. The film was first presented this summer at the Sarajevo Film Festival where it won the CINEUROPA prize.

