

COMMUNITY BASED (RE)INTEGRATION AND SECURITY

TRAINING COURSE FOR PRACTITIONERS

Depending on COVID-19 travel restrictions, planned for March/April 2021, Barcelona, Spain

The Barcelona International Peace Centre (BIPC) and Transition International (TI) are pleased to announce the Community Based (Re)integration and Security (CBRS) course for practitioners, focusing on community based (re)integration and security of ex-combatants, returnees, refugees, internally displaced persons, women and children released from armed forces and groups and other youth at risk. The course will take place in Barcelona, Spain in March/April 2021 (new dates will soon be announced).

INTRODUCTION

This course aims to bring together mid-level practitioners, policy makers, researchers, and donors from around the world to share experiences and develop a common understanding of possible and innovative approaches to (re)integration and improving community security. Best practice is shared by a pool of experienced trainers, and further explored and challenged by the participants.

The rationale for this course stems from reality, where several targeted (re)integration, resilience, self-reliance, and community security projects usually occur in parallel, creating further divisions in the communities and often not sustainable. Most programmes are highly centralised and thereby do not adequately respond to local contexts, or empower local actors to plan, execute, and own the processes.

This course proposes different means to build bridges between the different approaches, programmes and its target groups to foster durable solutions, stability, local economic development, and (re)integration of the different groups in their host- or receiving chosen communities. It explores responding to new realities, new practices, and theories, including on (re)integration and prevention approaches in ongoing conflicts, recruitment and disengagement from extremist groups, sustainability of (re)integration, among others. As such, the course presents an innovative approach for more comprehensive context and community driven (re)integration, integration, resilience, and community security programming, named Community Based (Re)integration and Security (CBRS). The practitioner course will dive deep into the “how” of this approach, considering today’s complex realities.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

The participants will:

1. Obtain a common understanding of the different approaches in (re)integration, release and (re)integration of children, resilience, community violence reduction, community security and youth in conflict programming, and build bridges between the participants coming from these different fields
2. Obtain the tools to effectively assess local context dynamics for (re)integration programming in insecure areas
3. Learn how to design and adapt context driven CBRS-like interventions, in a participatory way
4. Obtain the tools to implement context driven CBRS programming including: information, counselling, and referral systems, targeted (re)integration assistance, local economic development, social support and development, local security and small arms and light weapons management
5. Learn how to address cross-cutting issues including natural resource management, gender and age responsiveness, conflict sensitivity, and especially capacity development of local actors including service providers
6. Explore how to work on (re)integration in contexts of radicalization and violent extremism; and
7. Explore implementation modalities and innovative community-driven monitoring approaches.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The course is designed for government officials, civil society actors, UN staff, research institutes, other international organisations and donors in countries where (re)integration programming is relevant.

TRAINING APPROACH

Participants will be encouraged to share experiences amongst themselves, in addition to learning from the experienced trainers. Lessons from past and recent (re)integration and community security experiences are constantly used to illustrate theory and standards, and participants are expected to contribute their experiences, thereby creating a wealth of comparative knowledge and experiences into the discussions. Practical hands-on adult learning techniques are combined with transfer of knowledge. A wide variety of teaching methods are used including lectures, discussions, role-plays, a full day simulation exercise, cooperative learning, teamwork, among others.

TRAINERS

TI puts great emphasis on delivering the course with a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary team. The course will be led by Irma Specht of Transition International (TI) who brings over 25 years' experience working on socio-economic (re)integration programmes. Other senior trainers from TI and experts with experience of different programmatic areas will be brought in for particular sessions, to ensure a variety of approaches and perspectives. Guest trainers from international organisations will be brought in to share their experiences.

DATES & LOCATION

The course will be held from Sunday at 08:45h to Sunday at 15:30 in Barcelona, Spain. **Depending on COVID-19 travel restrictions, the course will take place in March/April 2021 (new dates will soon be announced).** Please be aware of a possible change of location if needed in the light of the COVID-19 situation and the public health recommendations.

LANGUAGE & COST

The course will be taught in English. The course duration is 7.5 days, and the course fee is 2000 Euros. This fee includes daily refreshments, lunch, and all course materials. It does not include lodging, dinners or the cost of insurance and travelling to Barcelona. We can help you find cheap or middle-class accommodation. Unfortunately, this course has no scholarship scheme, but we can provide participants with letters of support in obtaining a sponsorship, within the participant's country of work.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application **deadline is 1st February 2021**, but acceptance onto the course will be granted on a rolling basis. To apply for the course, please submit your current Curriculum Vitae and the completed application form to Eva Lopez, course coordinator, at info@bcnpeacecenter.org with copy to operations@transitioninternational.com. Please see the enclosed application form for further details. We can provide logistical assistance and letters in support of participants' visa applications upon request and after receiving 50% of the fees (non-refundable). Payment arrangement information will be included in acceptance letters.

ABOUT US

Barcelona International Peace Center (BIPC) – www.bcnpeacecenter.org

The Barcelona International Peace Center (BIPC) is the outcome of an initiative to promote the culture of peace through dialogue, awareness-raising, and training in crisis management and conflict resolution. Created in 2009, the BIPC is the only center of its kind in Spain. Its work is inspired by the philosophy of centers around the world specializing in crisis management and peace operations. The BIPC's main activity is an international specialised training program designed to meet the extensive learning needs of civilian personnel and to equip them with the skills they need to engage in field operations around the world. The center offers a range of training courses aimed at professionals working in peacebuilding, complex crisis management, and humanitarian affairs.

Transition International – www.transitioninternational.com

Transition International (TI) is a Netherlands-based, international consultancy firm with a network of senior consultants around the world, specialised in assisting key actors with knowledge, training, and advisory services on transitions from conflict to peace. TI, while operating on a commercial basis, is a value-driven consultancy firm. We are guided by the ambition to contribute to a peaceful and more secure world, in which human dignity and our environment are both respected and protected. We demonstrate this commitment and promote these values in everything that we undertake. At TI, we understand that context is often at least as important as the substance of a programme and therefore employ a conflict, culture, gender, and age-sensitive approach, and strive towards the broadest possible participation of stakeholders, and affected communities. This course truly reflects TI's multidisciplinary approach and solid expertise.