RAPID CONFLICT ANALYSIS

The time required to complete this can be shaped to fit the time available, however it is unlikely that much will be gained from anything less than a half a day workshop. Key however will be to get the right people in the room. You should aim to have a mix of those who are familiar with the context and the culture with those who come with fresh eyes and who can challenge accepted norms and perspectives.

What is the history of the conflict in the area being assessed?

- What is the conflict about?
- How long has it been going on?
- How intense or open is the conflict?
- How is faith impacting on the conflict?

What groups of people are involved?

- What are their various positions and interests?
- What kinds of things divide these groups? What kinds of things connect these groups? [Consider using a force field analysis to visualise these]
- What role are faith groups playing in the conflict - both positive and negative?
- What is the level of interest and activity of external players such as regional or international organisations?
- What is the level of media interest in this conflict, locally, nationally and internationally? What impact is this or could this have on the conflict?
- Plot a stakeholder map and identify potential stakeholders that you might work with, those that you will need to engage with and those that you need monitor.

Where (geographically) are the conflict affected areas?

- How static or fluid are these areas? How does this map with areas that you are working in or where your partners are working? What are the implications of that mapping?

Does the conflict get better or worse at any particular time or period?

- Are there any times of the year when things get better or worse? [Consider using a timeline to draw these patterns out]
- Are there any times of the day which are better or worse?
- Are there any events or festivals that have an impact on the conflict? Could any of these act as potential triggers or alternatively provide opportunities?
- What are the implications of this?

What are the best, worst and most likely scenarios for the future of the conflict?

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Consider using a scenario planning technique to develop plausible scenarios. Describe these scenarios. What are the implications of these scenarios? What would bring these alternative scenarios about? How would you recognise if you were moving towards one of these scenarios? What would you need to monitor?

Where and how is Tearfund best placed to influence the course of this conflict?

Where and with whom do we have influence - geographically, with organisations or institutions, with individuals? What specific knowledge, skills, expertise or experience do we have that is relevant to this conflict? What resources do we have or could reasonably expect to access that would assist? With this in mind, how could you strengthen the connectors and weaken the dividers? How would the different scenarios influence your ability to do this? What would you need to do to bring this about?