

NORGLOBAL - 203913/H30

Tittel	Gender and Human Security in Post-Conflict Pakistan: Policy implications of local, gendered perceptions of security and development	Gender and Human Security in Post-Conflict Pakistan: Policy implications of local, gendered perceptions of security and development
Prosjektansvarlig	-	Institutt for internasjonale miljø- og utviklingsstudier, Noragric
Prosjektleder	Ingrid L. P. Nyborg	Ingrid L. P. Nyborg
Prosjektperiode	01.03.11 - 31.07.15	01.03.11 - 31.07.15
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	0	4 998 000

Prosjektsammendrag

A major challenge in assisting women in post-conflict contexts is understanding the complex and dynamic links between security and development, and how they are gendered. In the shift from military to civilian security such as the police, and from humanitarian to development activities, particularly the gender dimensions of security and development are difficult to grasp. This project takes the case of post-conflict Swat in NWFP Pakistan, and explores how women and men perceive and experience different kinds of insecurity as they attempt to pursue their livelihoods following the government operation to expel Taliban militants. Using human security as an overarching framework, the project will investigate the ways in which women and men may have different opportunities and strategies as they maneuver amongst the plethora of traditional institutions and authorities, civil society groups, NGOs, local government, the judiciary, the police and the military in order to secure their lives. Using participatory, qualitative methods, we will investigate how local understandings of security and insecurity, threats and vulnerabilities, rights, conflicts and negotiations compare with those of state and non-state institutions, moving from local, to district, to province to national/international levels, and what the implications of these differences mean in terms of changes in policies and programs such that women's position in Swat is strengthened and gender equality achieved. This will link micro-macro processes to understand not only local contexts, but how they are embedded in a wider social, political and economic context. The project includes PhD and MSc students from both Pakistan and Norway, and there will also be opportunities for staff from CIIT to visit Norway for capacity building, particularly in gender and conflict studies. Government and civil society organizations, as well as international NGOs working in Swat, will be an important part of the project network.

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Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

A major challenge in assisting women in post-conflict contexts is understanding the complex and dynamic links between security and development, and how they are gendered. In the shift from military to civilian security such as the police, and from humanitarian to development activities, particularly the gender dimensions of security and development are difficult to grasp. This project takes the case of post-conflict Swat in NWFP Pakistan, and explores how women and men perceive and experience different kinds of insecurity as they attempt to pursue their livelihoods following the government operation to expel Taliban militants. Using human security as an overarching framework, the project investigates the ways in which women and men may have different opportunities and strategies as they maneuver amongst the plethora of traditional institutions and authorities, civil society groups, NGOs, local government, the judiciary, the police and the military in order to secure their lives. Using participatory, qualitative methods in six villages of the Swat Valley, we are investigating how local understandings of security and insecurity, threats and vulnerabilities, rights, conflicts and negotiations compare with those of state and non-state institutions, moving from local, to district, to province to national/international levels. If there are in fact differences in these understandings, then what implications would this have for policies and programs such that women's position in Swat is strengthened and gender equality achieved? The research revolves around four specific objectives: 1) To explore how women, men and communities cope with different kinds of insecurity (i.e. food, environmental, political, and personal) as they pursue their livelihoods in post-conflict contexts; 2) To explore how women and men perceive the role of state (government officials, local police, military) and non-state institutions (village leadership, religious leaders, civil society groups, local and international NGOs) in contributing to, preventing or mitigating different types of conflicts i.e. access to natural resources, inheritance, divorce, denial of rights etc; 3) To explore how state and non-state institutions perceive their roles and responsibilities in securing women and men in local communities, including accountability issues; and 4) To explore the policy implications of incorporating a gendered perspective on understanding human security in post-conflict Pakistan. Our research so far has made it clear that these local experiences of insecurity are highly gendered, and very much embedded in a wider social, political and economic context, but are often rather invisible to policymakers and development actors. The reasons for this lie not only in the difficulties of investigating local needs in a rather insecure context, but also from the use of assessment and analysis methodologies which are inadequate in addressing the complexity of these local contexts. This has led to policies which are based on false assumptions rather than evidence from the field. As researchers, we have also gained valuable knowledge and experience in conducting research in a somewhat insecure context, which will contribute to the development of improved methodological approaches as well. The project includes three PhD fellows from both Pakistan and Norway, and has formed a platform for the development of a new MSc program in Pakistan in gender and conflict studies. At the end of the project period, the findings will be presented to policymakers and development actors in both Pakistan and Norway.

NORGLOBAL - 217148/H30

Tittel	Making Women Count for Peace: Gender, Empowerment and Conflict in South Asia
Prosjektansvarlig	INSTITUTT FOR FREDSFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Åshild Norun Kolås
Prosjektperiode	01.06.12 - 31.03.16
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	5 946 000

Prosjektsammendrag

With a focus on Northeast Indian experiences and a comparative look at Nepal, this project addresses the role of women in local governance and politics, particularly within the context of peace and security processes. The goal of this project is to investigate the empowerment of women in peace and security processes in different contexts, i.e. in protracted conflict without third party mediation in Northeast India, and post-conflict settings with heavy multilateral and international involvement in Nepal. Recognising the active but understudied and often unacknowledged role of women in conflict as well as peacebuilding, we approach this question by studying how gendered political power is transformed in conflict and post-conflict situations, assuming that differences in the forms and expressions of political power and gendered power relations during and after conflict have an impact on what empowerment might mean and how it might be achieved. By contextualising and tracing manifestations of gendered power in conflict as well as post-conflict settings, our project will contribute new knowledge on processes of disempowerment and empowerment in conflict and peacebuilding. This project is a collaborative effort by the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and partners in India and Nepal: Malaviya Centre for Peace Research (MCPR) at Banaras Hindu University, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG), WISCOMP in New Delhi, North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC) in Assam, Nambol L. Sanoi College in Manipur and National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South in Nepal. The project will contribute to scholarly debates on the implementation of UNSC 1325 as well as the literature on gender, conflict and women's empowerment in South Asia. The project seeks to combine the study of women's empowerment in peace and security processes with new theorization of armed conflict through grounded empirical research.

NORGLOBAL - 217148/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

This project investigates women's participation in local governance and politics in Northeast India and Nepal, focusing on women's participation in peace processes. The project examines women's equality in conflict and post-conflict contexts. We look specifically at the understanding of concepts such as gender equality, empowerment and political participation. Post-conflict settings like Nepal have received a lot of attention in research on women's participation in peacebuilding. The focus has primarily been on the situation of women and measures for equality prescribed by international organizations. On the other hand, gender perspectives have been rather peripheral in the study of armed conflict in India. In other words, there is still a lack of research on women's contributions to peace processes as well as conflicts in India. Nor have studies of gender and conflict in India been central to international research on women and security. This may be because Indian conflict researchers tend to use a conventional security perspective. Conflict resolution also tends to involve negotiations behind closed doors, without civil society participation. However, research on women's participation in Indian peacebuilding is important because it provides the opportunity to reflect on the cultural and political premises of the liberal peacebuilding paradigm of multilateral organizations, and the use of women's participation as a key objective for democratic state-building. Our research shows that one should not take for granted the positive effects of women's participation in peacebuilding. It is also important to question how to strengthen women's equality in conflict areas, and whether this can be achieved through the peacebuilding templates currently promoted by multilateral agencies, often perceived as culturally inappropriate and dogmatic.

This project is a collaborative effort by PRIO and six partner institutions in India and Nepal: Malaviya Centre for Peace Research (MCPR) at Banaras Hindu University, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, WISCOMP (New Delhi), the North East India Studies Programme at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Omeo Kumar Das Institute for Social Change and Development and Nepal Centre for Contemporary Research. Through coordinated research including fieldwork and workshops, the project investigates how women might be empowered by engaging actively in peacebuilding, whether in the context of protracted conflict or in a post-conflict setting. Two target group workshops have been organized since the project started in July 2012. The first was held in Northeast India (2-3 August 2012), and the second in Nepal (27-28 September 2013). Participants were academics, activists and members of civil society, politicians, writers, and parliamentarians. The project also sponsored a plenary session on Gender, Conflict and Displacement: The Case of Northeast India at the 14th Conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM14) in Kolkata (6-9 January 2013). The project has held four partners meetings to ensure close collaboration on activities, two meetings in connection with workshops and a third in Oslo (26 May 2013). A seminar was held at PRIO (27 May 2013) with Rita Manchanda, South Asian Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR), entitled Conflict Resolution in Kashmir and Northeast India: Do Women Have a Voice. Papers have also been presented at conferences in Geneva (at the Graduate Institute) and in Nagaland (St. Josephs College) and project researchers have carried out fieldwork in Nepal and four states in Northeast India: Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Assam. To present project results and engage with academics, the project organised an international conference on Gender, Empowerment and Conflict in South Asia in Kolkata (6-8 November 2014) hosted by MCRG. To engage a broader audience of policymakers, a Policy Dialogue on Women and Peacebuilding was held in Delhi (27 February 2015) hosted by WISCOMP. A PRIO policy brief, Women's empowerment in India: From participation to political agency, was presented at the roundtable event, and a report, Women and Peacebuilding: Engendering Policy, has subsequently been published by WISCOMP.

NORGLOBAL - 217185/H30

Tittel	Self help or social transformation: The role of women in local governance in Kerala (India) and South Africa	Self help or social transformation: The role of women in local governance in Kerala (India) and South Africa
Prosjektansvarlig	HØGSKOLEN I OSLO OG AKERSHUS (HIOA) SENTER FOR VELFERDS- OG ARBEIDSLIVSFORS	NORSK INSTITUTT FOR BY- OG REGIONFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Guro Aandahl	Guro Aandahl
Prosjektperiode	01.08.12 - 31.12.17	01.08.12 - 31.12.17
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	1 010 000	4 990 000

Prosjektsammendrag

The project will investigate the conditions for and effects of increased participation of women in the local political sphere in contexts of a supportive policy environment that coincide with patriarchal gender norms limiting the agency of women. To what extent does women's political participation in diverse local civil-society organizations and local governments enhance substantive democracy (understood as capability to exercise rights and voice demands)? How is women's political participation structured by the kinds of political spaces the women are active in ('invited' or 'invented'). The contrast between 'invented' and 'invited' spaces for political participation and the interplay between these will allow the project to engage in an empirically informed theoretical discussion about women's agency, substantive democracy, and local politics and culture, including gender norms.

Answers will be sought through a comparative case study of women's public participation in four localities, two in Kerala and two in South Africa. In each locality we will study how women act as elected councillors on local government bodies as well as women's participation in selected civil-society organisation operating locally. The different organisations selected for study represent different types of arenas or spaces within local civil society. This approach enables us to investigate the relationship between women's participation in civil society and women's political effectiveness as elected local councilors and the inter relationships between women officials in these diverse local organisations.

The project will use qualitative research methodologies with a combination of semi-structured interviews, observation at local organisations' meetings and political events, analysis of media, and collection of key documents from the archives of local governments and organisations.

NORGLOBAL - 217185/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

Dette internasjonale forskningsprosjektet er en dyptpløyende studie av kvinners politiske og økonomiske deltakelse i sine lokalsamfunn i delstaten Kerala i India og i Sør Afrika. Vi forsker på økonomisk og sosialt marginaliserte kvinner og forutsetninger for og effekter av deres deltakelse i sine lokalsamfunn. Studier av kvinners politiske deltakelse har lenge fokusert på formelle politiske organer som kommunestyre, regjering og statsapparat, men i økende grad har betydningen av deltakelse i uformelle grasrotorganisasjoner og lokalsamfunnsforeninger i det sivile samfunn blitt gjenstand for forskning. Særlig er det hevdet at slike fora eller møteplasser er viktige for fattige og marginaliserte kvinner. I hvilken grad er disse organisasjonene en vei til økt deltakelse i samfunnslivet for kvinner fra sosialt og økonomisk marginaliserte grupper, og dermed også en strategi for et mer substansielt demokrati? Og hvordan struktureres politisk deltakelse av hvorvidt rommene for offentlig deltakelse er etablert av staten (såkalte "invited" spaces) eller etablert nedenfra av kvinnene selv (såkalte "invented" spaces)?

I Kerala fokuserer vi på deltakelse i "Kudumbashree", Keralas viktigste offentlige program for fattigdomsbekjempelse. Kjernen i Kudumbashree er organisering av kvinner i smågrupper for mikrokreditt og mikroentreprenørskap. I Sør-Afrika har et viktig virkemiddel for fattigdomsreduksjon vært statlig støtte til kooperative organiseringsformer og oppfordring til frivillig innsats. Vi ser også at kvinner er sentrale aktører og drivkrefter i de mange kooperativene for småskala håndverk eller jordbruk.

Studien baserer seg på etnografisk feltarbeid og kvalitative intervjuer og observasjon i et slumområde i Trivandrum og en fiskerlandsby sør for Trivandrum i Kerala (India), og kvalitative intervjuer og observasjon i utvalgte kooperative organisasjoner for selvbergingsjordbruk og sosiale tjenester i en township i Johannesburg og på landsbygda i Eastern Cape provinsen i Sør-Afrika. Prosjektet er et samarbeid mellom NIBR, Centre for Development Studies i Trivandrum, University of Witwatersrand i Johannesburg og University of Sheffield i England.

NORGLOBAL - 230270/H30

Tittel	Gender in Politics in Somalia: Access and influence in a post-conflict state
Prosjektansvarlig	INSTITUTT FOR FREDSFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Cindy Horst
Prosjektperiode	01.01.14 - 30.06.16
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	3 360 000

Prosjektsammendrag

Post-independence politics in Somalia has been largely defined by instability, internecine conflict, and state-failure. During the regime of President Siad Barre women gained greater societal freedom and actively engaged in local and national politics. Following the downfall of the Barre regime, as warlords and Islamic militants sought authority in south-central Somalia, women were forced to retreat from formal politics. In the past year Somalia has begun to reestablish a degree of stability. As hope grows that the country is finally turning a new page women find themselves with an opportunity to firmly establish themselves in the political arena.

The GENSOM project consists of three sub-projects, which study 1) the history of women in politics in Somalia, 2) the level of access women have to formal and informal arenas of power, 3) the influence that women have in Somali politics, particularly in relation to a gender agenda. Women's ability to pursue gender sensitive development within government is constrained by the degree of influence they hold, the loyalties they maintain and the desire they have to achieve gender equality. The proposed project will investigate the impact women have upon gaining public office. How or why are they constrained from pursuing gender-focused agendas? What opportunities do women have to exert political pressure beyond the confines of the national government? What linkages exist between women in politics and popular women's movements in Somalia?

The GENSOM project is a collaboration between the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS). Over a two-year period, 40 life histories, 70 semi-structured interviews and 10 focus groups will be held with women in Mogadishu, Har geisa, Garowe, London and Oslo. The project will produce a documentary, 3 peer-reviewed articles, 3 policy briefs, 2 roundtable workshops and 2 policy briefs.

NORGLOBAL - 230270/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

Post-independence politics in Somalia has been largely defined by instability, internecine conflict, and state-failure. During the regime of President Siad Barre (1970-1991), women gained greater societal freedom and actively engaged in local and national politics. Following the downfall of the Barre regime, as warlords and Islamic militants sought authority in south-central Somalia, women were forced to retreat from formal politics. In the past year Somalia has begun to reestablish a degree of stability. As hope grows that the country is finally turning a new page women find themselves with an opportunity to firmly establish themselves in the political arena.

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In 2014, the project was officially launched with a kick-off workshop. The GENSOM team met in Oslo in March to discuss the content and management of the project. Before that, in January 2014, the project leader conducted a 5-day fieldwork methods course at the University of Hargeisa to train HIPS researchers and potential research assistants in qualitative research; based on a PhD course offered at PRIO bi-annually. Since the official kick-off, GENSOM researchers have conducted 15 life histories in Somalia (Mogadishu) and North America with women in powerful positions in business, civil society and politics. Data collection is currently ongoing in Hargeisa, Garowe, Oslo and London. Data analysis will start in November, in preparation for a conference in which results from the first sub-project are presented in Nairobi February 2015. This conference will also screen the documentary that is in preparation.

NORGLOBAL - 230271/H30

Tittel	Mapping Gender-based Violence and Access to Justice: Retraditionalization in Liberia (GENTRA)
Prosjektansvarlig	NORSK UTENRIKSPOLITISK INSTITUTT
Prosjektleder	Morten Bøås
Prosjektperiode	06.01.14 - 31.12.17
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	4 000 000

Prosjektsammendrag

The research project is focused on the topic of gender-based violence and the continuation of programs to help victims access justice when international presence and donor support under the umbrella of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) is significantly reduced. The aim is to support knowledge- and capacity-building on legal pluralism in Liberia, i.e. the interplay between the modern legal institutions of law and customary justice, and how they are used.

The key challenge GENTRA seeks to address, is the knowledge gap between assumptions about how gender-based violence is best addressed, and how it is addressed in practice. The project will be of an exploratory character, with a view to contribute to our understanding of legal pluralism in Liberia specifically, as well as in sub-Saharan Africa more broadly. In so doing, we hope to build systematic knowledge on how to best address problems of gender-based violence.

It is against this backdrop that the GENTRA project proposes to address these crucial challenges, through the following questions:

- 1) How do the modern court system and the traditional justice institutions address gender-based violence in Liberia?
- 2) What type of challenges do women face in the different court

In order to answer these questions, the project will follow and compare a small number of specific cases and analyze how they have been dealt with in the traditional and modern system. In so doing, it will rely on Liberian researchers and practitioners to undertake empirical studies based on in-depth interviews with traditional leaders, key national and regional politicians, as well as focus-group sessions with a selection of women who have been involved in the cases. In addition, there will be a series of smaller targeted surveys to address some crucial topics identified during the comparative case studies in Liberia.

NORGLOBAL - 230271/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

The project stems from an interest in understanding better the situation for women affected by gender-based violence in Liberia and their access to justice now that the United Nations mission is slowly coming to an end. Before the wars started in Liberia (1989-), considerable amounts of anthropological studies was conducted on the topic of Liberia's traditional court systems. In addition, scholars have written about the system of dual legal practice concerning natives and American Liberians as a way of extending central government authority and creating legitimacy by accepting the rule of traditional chiefs.

However, very little has been written about how the 'traditional' systems work in the post-war context when it comes to the problems of gender-based violence. The aim for this project is to support systematic knowledge in Liberia and internationally on how the court system works in rural parts of the country, and from there build up the knowledge about to which extent and how women who are victims of gender-based violence have access to justice and the court system.

The project will be based on extensive data collection in the field in collaboration with local partners, among others The Kofi Annan Institute for Conflict Transformation (KAICT) at the University of Liberia. Ongoing and finished court cases relating to gender-based violence in rural and semi-rural Liberia will be of primary interest. Interviews, focus groups and surveys will be used for this purpose.

The outcome of this project will be a knowledge base physically located at KAICT on Liberia's justice systems in some of the more remote counties and the legal practice when it comes to gender-based violence cases and women's access to justice. The publications will be a combination of empirical working papers freely accessible to e.g. researchers and policy-makers and journal articles.

NORGLOBAL - 230273/H30

Tittel	Female Empowerment in Eastern DRC: A PRIO-ICART Partnership
Prosjektansvarlig	INSTITUTT FOR FREDSFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Ragnhild Nordås
Prosjektperiode	01.01.14 - 31.12.16
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	5 000 000

Prosjektsammendrag

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has been named one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a woman. This project focuses on improving the situation for women in eastern DRC, a region with massive levels of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against the civilian population. The project is based on a partnership between the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the International Centre for Advanced Research and Training (ICART) which is a recent collaborative initiative between researchers from the Panzi Hospital, Panzi Foundation DRC, and the Université Evangelique en Afrique in Bukavu, DRC.

A key component and separate work package (WP1) is devoted to building local research capacity through intensive training of ICART researchers. The thematic research foci of the project are covered by two additional work packages (WPs 2 and 3) capturing key challenges for women in the eastern DRC as well as major R&D challenges and knowledge gaps, as identified by the Congolese partner and a review of the relevant literature: The empowerment and reintegration of SGBV survivors and the impact of conflict on domestic violence and gender-roles.

The project takes a multi-method approach providing new qualitative data from interviews and group discussions, as well as quantitative survey data. The collected data will be combined with existing disaggregated data from PRIO on geographical factors and violence events in the DRC. Research will be carried out and disseminated through close collaboration between researchers based in Norway and DRC.

It is our ambition that the research findings from the project can be used by policy-makers and NGOs to set up more efficient programs to empower women and prevent SGBV in DRC in the future. The project will generate knowledge within a field of critical importance globally and for Norway's development aid policy, and lessons from the project may also be transferable to other settings beyond the Congolese context.

NORGLOBAL - 230273/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has been named one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a woman. This project focuses on improving the situation for women in eastern DRC, a region with massive levels of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The project is based on a partnership between the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the International Centre for Advanced Research and Training (ICART) which is a recent collaborative initiative between researchers from the Panzi Hospital, Panzi Foundation DRC, and the Université Evangelique en Afrique in Bukavu (UEA), DRC.

The project has two main parts: (1) building local research capacity through workshops and intensive training of ICART researchers in topics such as research methodology and academic publishing, particularly for female researchers; (2) investigating how survivors of SGBV can be empowered and reintegrated into society through socioeconomic support programs and understanding gender relations in the area more broadly by considering both gender roles and intimate partner violence. Here we will explore general perceptions and attitudes towards gender roles and the potential for strengthening gender equality. Our methodological approach combines surveys and in-depth interviews.

In January 2014 initial project meetings were held in the Bukavu, and the PRIO team facilitated a workshop on academic writing, publishing in academic journals and grants proposal writing at Université Evangelique en Afrique.

Currently there are five support programmes for SGBV survivors in place through Panzi Foundation DRC and Panzi hospital that assist women survivors of SGBV. The local team has produced a report with detailed information on the individual programs and have also written a second report mapping relevant background characteristics of South Kivu province. Based on these reports we have developed qualitative interview guides and are now in the process of interviewing SGBV survivors in various locations in South Kivu. Furthermore, we have conducted a survey of SGBV program beneficiaries. we have also conducted a three-week intensive workshop on research methodology in Bukavu 13-29 October 2014, and are planning additional trainings to strengthen local research capacity.

Research will be carried out and disseminated through close collaboration between researchers based in Norway and the DRC. Our aim is that findings from the project can be used by policy-makers and NGOs to set up more efficient programs to empower women and prevent SGBV in the future. The project will generate knowledge within a field of critical importance globally and for Norway's development aid policy, and lessons from the project may also be relevant beyond the Congolese context.

NORGLOBAL - 230315/H30

Tittel	Violence against women and criminal justice in Afghanistan
Prosjektansvarlig	CHR MICHELSENS INSTITUTT FOR VIDENSKAP OG ÅNDSFRIHET
Prosjektleder	Astri Suhrke
Prosjektperiode	01.01.14 - 31.03.16
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	4 032 000

Prosjektsammendrag

This project focuses on violence against women (VAW) as it is treated in the criminal justice system in Afghanistan. Although progress has been made, most cases, even if registered with the prosecution, fail to make it through the criminal justice system. The complex reasons for such attrition are poorly understood and form the subject of this research project.

The project will be divided into two phases. First, it will map the course of registered cases through the legal process, disaggregating them by type of incident and outcomes in eight provinces. This will provide important data on what types of VAW incidents are most commonly registered with the prosecution, and what offenses have the highest and lowest attrition rates through the legal chain. Such data is currently not available. Secondly, in four sample provinces, we will map the reasons for why individual VAW cases exit the criminal system. This will help us identify the factors influencing the failure to move from registration to prosecution and/or conviction, such as withdrawal of complaint, lack of evidence, quality of the legal defense, the judges interpretation of the law or ideological outlook, or extra-legal considerations such as family relations, political pressure or bribes. Finally, as part of this qualitative research we shall systematically consider the legal basis for convictions as well as the socio-political identity and status of convicted perpetrators.

The proposed project is a collaboration between an established Afghan research and advocacy institute, Research Institute for Women Peace & Security (RIWPS,) and the Chr Michelsen institute (CMI). RIWPS and CMI have jointly developed the proposal based on previous research, policy analysis and activism.

NORGLOBAL - 230315/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

Violence against women has emerged as perhaps the single most important issue for women's rights activism and gender-oriented development aid in Afghanistan since 2001. Efforts to counter such violence have mostly focused on strengthening the Afghan government's ability to prosecute and punish perpetrators. This strategy is based on the recognition that an important cause of violence against women in contemporary Afghanistan is the prevailing tendency to consider such violence a private matter rather than a criminal act requiring public action.

Progress has been slow, however, despite the enactment of a landmark law on Elimination of Violence Against Women (2009). The vast majority of cases, even if registered with the prosecution, fails to make it through the criminal justice system, including murders of women. The complex reasons for this high rate of attrition are as yet not well understood and form the subject of this research.

Through fieldwork in eight of Afghanistan's 34 provinces we will identify patterns in the cases that drop out of the legal chain and cases where a criminal conviction is obtained. What are the conviction rates of rape, murder or domestic violence? Are there any patterns in the social, political or economic background of convicted perpetrators and victims, their access to legal aid, and in the legal basis of indictments, convictions or acquittals? What does this tell us about the ways that the functioning of the justice system in Afghanistan is shaped by class, ethnic relations, political dynamics and particular gender ideologies? The project will produce insights useful for both activism and policy makers.

This is a collaborative project between an Afghan research and advocacy institute, the Research Institute for Women Peace & Security and the Chr. Michelsen Institute. Since the project start up in January 2014, a team of researchers, including a Kabul-based senior researcher and eight provincial researchers have been recruited and authorization to review the records of the prosecution offices in eight provinces has been obtained from the Attorney General in Kabul. Quantitative data for these eight provinces, both in the provincial capitals and in the districts have been collected and is currently being analyzed.

Preliminary findings from the fieldwork suggest that conviction rates are even lower than previously thought, particularly when it comes to domestic violence, where it appears that less than five percent of cases registered with the prosecution leads to a conviction. This is due to the fact that cases that are officially recorded as pending have in reality been dismissed by the prosecution office. In general, justice officials state their belief that violence within the family are not matters that belong in a criminal court, either because such issues are not as serious as to merit criminal prosecution, or because a criminal conviction of a relative will cut the woman off from the family support she is dependent on. The next phase of the research will explore how victims interface with justice officials and what women hope to, and can, achieve by bringing their cases to the authorities.

NORGLOBAL - 249685/H30

Tittel	Gender Equality, Peace and Security in Nepal and Myanmar (WOMENSPEACE)	Gender Equality, Peace and Security in Nepal and Myanmar (WOMENSPEACE)
Prosjektansvarlig	-	INSTITUTT FOR FREDSFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Wenche Iren Hauge	Wenche Iren Hauge
Prosjektperiode	01.02.16 - 31.12.18	01.02.16 - 31.12.18
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd		5 861 000

Prosjektsammendrag

This project compares gendered experiences of war and post-conflict demobilization and reintegration in armed conflicts with different types of fault-lines; ideological in Nepal and ethnic in Myanmar, and with different political frameworks for addressing group and identity-based rights. The aim is to generate new knowledge and synthesize lessons learned about the effects of peace and security processes on post-war gender equality and the political participation of women. The research is designed to encourage cross-case learning and comparisons between the cases of Nepal and Myanmar. During the first phase of the project the method of structured, focused comparison will be applied focusing on how gender equality was/is handled by the respective armed groups in the two countries during the war. The second part of the project is adjusted to the specific conditions in each country, focusing on female participation in the peace processes in Myanmar and on the gendered experiences from the DDR process in Nepal. In Myanmar data will thus be collected on the participation of women and its implications for the peace process. In Nepal data will be collected on education provided in the transition camps, how well this was adapted to the particular needs of women and men and the needs of the community in which they were reintegrated, how and by whom reintegration was planned, what kind of support was provided for receiving communities, economic resources made available to ex-combatants, and how reintegration was conducted, whether individually or into a co-operative. Our research will further address the impact of reintegration on post-conflict political participation, especially how and for what purposes female ex-combatants are politically active, and the broader implications of this for post-conflict gender equality and women's rights in each country. Partners in this project are Nepal Centre for Contemporary Research (Nepal) and Ar Yone Oo (Ayo) (Myanmar).

NORGLOBAL - 249685/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

This project focuses on the gender dimension of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) processes in Nepal and Myanmar, and on the post-conflict political participation of female and male ex-combatants. In addition, it investigates the consequences of DDR processes for post-conflict gender equality, women and men's social inclusion and women's rights. A considerable amount of theoretical studies have been conducted on the gender dimension of DDR processes, but so far very few case studies exist. The WOMENsPEACE project is important - not only for providing new case studies - but also for bringing in case studies from two different types of conflict; the primarily ideological conflict in Nepal and the ethnic conflicts in Myanmar. With this new perspective, this project will contribute to moving the frontiers of knowledge on women, peace and security in particular and on post-conflict transformation in general. The WOMENsPEACE project is a collaborative effort between PRIO and the partner institutions Nepal Centre for Contemporary Research (NCCR) in Nepal and Ar Yone Oo (AYO) in Myanmar. In addition, the project will work with local women's associations in Nepal and Myanmar. In 2016 NCCR will organize a workshop in Kathmandu and in 2017 AYO will organize a workshop in Yangon. The objective of these workshops is to bring together women's organizations, female politicians, activists and civil society, to share experiences on the role of women in conflict, peace processes and post-conflict contexts. An international conference will also be organized in Bangkok in 2018. The conference will bring together all project partners in addition to key people from NGOs, multilateral organizations, relevant Norwegian embassies and researchers working on women's empowerment and gender equality in peace processes.

NORGLOBAL - 249686/H30

Tittel	Competing discourses impacting girls and womens rights: Fertility control and safe abortion in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zambia
Prosjektansvarlig	Senter for internasjonal helse
Prosjektleder	Astrid Blystad
Prosjektperiode	01.01.16 - 31.12.18
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	5 862 000

Prosjektsammendrag

The project examines global and national policy discourses surrounding fertility control and abortion, and local practices and moralities related to these issues among adolescents in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zambia. Fertility control and safe abortion demonstrate the controversies over sexual and reproductive health policies and the gendered socio-cultural and religious norms impeding progress on girls and womens rights. Unsafe abortion, which is tightly linked to restrictive abortion laws and lack of access to contraception and safe abortion services, is a problem of enormous scale. With 20 million cases yearly it caters for a high proportion of the continued high maternal death- and morbidity rates globally.

The project consists of three interlinked components; Component A explores the main normative messages underpinning global policies and the campaigns of global civil society actors in the field of fertility control and safe abortion, and how these global normative messages are reflected in national policies. Component B investigates how national public discourse surrounding fertility control and abortion in media, religious organizations and court rooms intersect with national policy and with grassroots discourse on sexuality, motherhood and the status of the foetus. Component C explores how adolescent girls manoeuvre between moral obligations embedded in socio-cultural and religious norms, restrictions/liberalisation in their countrys abortion law, and their own needs for fertility control. It also identifies how masculinities play out in the reproductive arena in general and on abortion in particular.

Our contention is that the gendered socio-cultural dynamics, which sexual and reproductive health policies enter into, play out differently in the three countries. Diverging laws, policies and differing access to fertility control and safe abortion services make this an interesting case for comparison with relevance beyond the study contexts.

NORGLOBAL - 249686/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

The project examines global and national policy discourses and local practices surrounding fertility control and abortion among adolescents in Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zambia. Fertility control and safe abortion are controversial issues in sexual and reproductive health and health policy, and are closely linked to gender and socio-cultural and religious norms. This has implications for girls and women's rights. Unsafe abortion, which is tightly linked to restrictive abortion laws and to lack of access to contraception and safe abortion services, is a problem of enormous scale. With 20 million cases yearly abortion continues to be responsible for a high proportion of death and illness in pregnancy and childbirth globally. The law, public opinion, health services and access to contraception and safe abortion services differ between the three study countries which make them important cases for comparison.

The project consists of three components. The first component explores the main messages underlying global policies and campaigns in the field of fertility control and safe abortion, and how these messages are reflected in national policies. The second component studies how national public discourse on fertility control and abortion in mass media, religious organizations and court rooms communicates with national policy on the one hand and with community ideas on sexuality, motherhood and the status of the foetus on the other. The third component examines how adolescent girls manoeuvre between their own needs for fertility control, moral obligations rooted in socio-cultural and religious norms and in their country's abortion law. It also looks at how adolescent boys' roles are played out in the reproductive arena.

It is a collaboration between Centre for International Health, UiB, Dep. of Public Health, Univ. of Zambia, Dep. of Sociology, Univ. of Dar es Salaam and Dep. of Sociology and Inst. of Gender Studies, Univ. of Addis Ababa together with OSSREA.

NORGLOBAL - 249707/H30

Tittel	New Afghan Men? Marriage, Masculinities and Sexual Politics in Contemporary Afghanistan (AFMEN)
Prosjektansvarlig	CHR MICHELSENS INSTITUTT FOR VIDENSKAP OG ÅNDSFRIHET
Prosjektleder	Torunn Wimpelmann
Prosjektperiode	04.01.16 - 02.01.19
Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd	5 792 000

Prosjektsammendrag

This project will approach the question of changing notions of masculinity in contemporary Afghanistan by examining the experiences of Afghan men who have entered into or exited marriage through non-traditional or non-prestigious ways. We explore how men by eloping, entering or cultivating modern love marriages, migrating in order to raise dowry or divorcing their wives, in various ways either defy, transcend or exit out of hegemonic or traditional (married) masculinities, or cling onto them at great personal costs. Furthermore, we ask whether these experiences point to novel ways of organizing family and intimacy, and to new and more inclusive ideals of Afghan manhood. The main research questions are: What do the experiences of these men say about conventional and emergent masculinities and how they are sustained, challenged, and negotiated? What are the consequences of changing or alternative notions of masculinity for Afghan men and women? Do emergent ideals of masculinity and marriage alter vulnerabilities for men and women, and do they support more egalitarian gender relations?

The project will be a collaboration between the Peace Training and Research Organisation (PTRO) in Kabul and Chr. Michelsen Institute in Bergen. Our research will be qualitative and ethnographic, cast around mens marital life stories. The findings of the project will be of policy and public relevance to both international and Afghan audiences. Given the strong international commitment to promote equality and participation of women, better and updated knowledge about what changing male roles and concepts of masculinity mean for both men and women in post-2001 Afghanistan is clearly important. At the same time, making visible the marital stories of non-traditional or marginalized men, and documenting the multiple ways in which marriage is currently entered into and experienced is also important for Afghan public debate and policy.

NORGLOBAL - 249707/H30

Populærvitenskapelig fremstilling

Since 2001, the question of gender relations and womens rights in Afghanistan has been a topic of extensive debate within Afghanistan as well as abroad. Much of the focus however, has been on womens experiences, with less attention to how ideals of manhood affects both men and women. Older literature, written before the war, emphasized the senior patriarch presiding over the extended family, as an important role model for many men. However during the last 40 years of conflict important socio-economic changes seem to have brought new ideals of manhood, and of what it means to be a good husband and father. Displacement, urbanization, access to new job opportunities and sources of income, social media and Turkish TV series have all played a part in changing aspirations and practices. At the same time, the war-and-aid economy have inflated the costs of marriage and wedding celebrations. Some men spend years laboring in neighboring countries to raise the necessary funds. Others might find themselves eloping with a local girl. For many women, but also an unknown number of men, such elopements end not with married life, but instead with lengthy prison sentences.

This project will examine changing notions of masculinity in contemporary Afghanistan. We explore how men by eloping, entering or aspiring to modern love marriages, migrating in order to raise dowry, or divorcing their wives, in various ways either challenge or ignore traditional male ideals, or cling onto them at great personal costs. Furthermore, we ask whether these experiences point to new ways of organizing family and relationships, and to new and more inclusive ideals of Afghan manhood, and finally whether they support more equal gender relations.

The project will be a collaboration between the Peace Training and Research Organisation (PTRO) in Kabul and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) in Bergen. The team consists of senior Afghan, Norwegian and British researchers