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Introduction
The MICROCON consortium came together on the 14th and 15th June 2010 at the University of Ghent to continue the synthesis of the programme’s findings and to discuss how to increase the programme’s policy impact over the final phase. This report briefly summarises the proceedings and gives a list of attendees.
**Event Agenda**

Day 1 Monday 14th June 2010

9.00  Introduction  
      Patricia Justino and Koen Vlassenroot

9.20  MICROCON EC Review Year 3  

9.40  WP Presentations  
Chair: Koen Vlassenroot

WP1 Overview  
Michalis Lianos

10.10 WP2  
- Overview of WP  
- World Bank Module Presentation  
  - Discussant  
- Discussion  
  15 minutes  
  15 minutes  
  5 minutes  
  15 minutes  
Lutsen Boas/ Anne Hatløy  
Alexandra Avdeenko  
Jeremy Seekings

11.10 Break

11.40 WP7  
- Overview of WP  
- Entrepreneurship, Expectations and Conflict  
  - Discussant  
- Discussion  
  15 minutes  
  15 minutes  
  5 minutes  
  15 minutes  
Philip Verwimp  
Carlos Bozzoli  
Julie Litchfield

12.30 WP3 and 4  
- Overview of WPs  
- Microanalysis of violence in urban Maharashtra - a description of methods  
  - Discussant  
- Discussion  
  25 minutes  
  25 minutes  
  5 minutes  
  15 minutes  
Michael Emerson  
Jaideep Gupte  
Anne Hatløy

13.20 Lunch

14.20 Chair: Julie Litchfield

WP5  
- Overview of WP  
  15 minutes  
  Colette Harris  
- Challenges of Women's Land rights in the  
  15 minutes  
  Fred kindi
Return Process, Northern Uganda Post-Conflict. Reconstruction: What Solution is there in the PRDP?
- Discussant 5 minutes Els Lecoutere
- Discussion 15 minutes

15.10 WP6
- Overview of WP 15 minutes Susan Zimmerman
- Somalia's ongoing conflict and how it affects refugees' integrations and lives: a qualitative study in London and the Netherlands
  - Discussant 5 minutes Tim Raeymaekers
- Discussion 15 minutes

16.00 Break
16.30 Communications Presentation
- Final year communications strategy
- Discussion

17.00 Close

17.30 – Space Available for Work Package Meetings
19.00

Day 2 Tuesday 15th June 2010
8-9am Work Package Leader Breakfast Meeting – Ghent River Hotel All WPL

9.30 Welcome Patricia and Koen

9.45 Chair: Carlos Bozzoli

WP8
- Overview of WP 15 minutes Julie Litchfield
- Incentives and Self-Selection in Violent Conflicts 15 minutes Moshik Lavie
  - Discussant 5 minutes Morten Boas
- Discussion 15 minutes

10.35 Break

11.00 WP9
- Overview of WP 15 minutes Debby Sapir
- Final results of mortality study in Darfur
  - Discussant
- Discussion

11.50
- WP10
- Overview of WP
- Who starts water scarcity conflicts? A field experiment with irrigators in semi-arid Africa
- From making a living to making a life. Post-conflict and youth displacement in north-east DR Congo
  - Discussant
- Discussion

12.40
*Lunch*

**Chair: Patricia Justino**

13.40
WP11
- Overview of WP
- The EU, Civil Society and Conflict: A Comparative Analysis of Five Conflict Cases
  - Discussant
- Discussion

14.30
WP12
- Overview of WP
- Evaluating Interventions in Conflict Areas: The case of Uganda, Colombia and Northern Ireland
  - Discussant
- Discussion

15.20
*Break*

15.50
Exploring Norms Around the Use of Violence in Everyday Settings

16.20
Final Group Discussion

17.30
Depart

17.30 – 19.00 *Space Available for Work Package Meetings*
Overview of event

The Workshop was hosted by Koen Vlassenroot at the University of Gent. It was attended by thirty five MICROCON consortium members (full list below) and two policy makers from the federal public service for foreign affairs in Belgium. Many others were invited but sent apologies. Angela Liberatore, the EC Project Officer for MICROCON attended both days of the workshop. The workshop had three objectives:

1) Share progress from each Work Package
2) Discussing our dissemination strategy
3) Discuss cross-cutting themes and messages

As an introduction, and to focus discussion Patricia Justino (MICROCON Director) introduced the areas that the coordination board had identified as cross cutting:

1) The idea that individual household and group behaviour matters significantly in conflict affected countries/areas.
2) What people do matters, identity building etc.
3) Challenging the idea that conflict is a ‘shock’ – it’s a legacy. Challenging the idea that you can’t do research in conflict affected areas.
4) Multi-disciplinarity is possible – and done well within MICROCON.

Patricia Justino) thanked the University of Gent for organising the conference, and welcomes everyone to the 4th Annual MICROCON conference. She reminded the MICROCON researchers that we are entering the crucial last phase, the final 18 months, of the programme, and states that we will now begin the process of synergising final results, and policy messages.

Each work package presented their most recent results, or paper, to the group. Each presentation had a chair person and a discussant. The presentations were as follows:

Work Package 1: Conceptual Framework – Michalis Lianos
Work Package 2: Data Collection and Methods – Morten Boas, Anne Hatloy and Alexandra Avdeekno
Work Package 3: Group Formation, Identities and Mobilisation
Work Package 4: Contemporary Conflict and Ethnic Religious Tensions – Michael Emerson and Jaideep Gupte
Work Package 5: Gender Aspects of Violent Conflict – Colette Harris and Fredrik Immanuel Kindi
Work Package 6: Migration, Displacement and Refugees – Susan Zimmerman
Work Package 7: Risk, Security and Coping Mechanisms – Philip Verwimp and Carlos Bozzoli
Work Package 8: Poverty, Inequality and Social Exclusion – Julie Litchfield and Christophe Muller
Work Package 9: Violent Conflict and Health Outcomes – Olivier Degomme
Work Package 10: Governance and Institutions – Koen Vlassenroot
Work Package 11: Conflict in the European Neighbourhood – Nona Mikhelidze
Work Package 12: Evaluating Conflict Interventions – Carlos Bozzoli

There was useful critique and analysis of each presentation, and therefore of MICROCON work carried out so far. There was also a good discussion, in small groups, followed by a wider discussion, of cross cutting themes, policy implications and dissemination pathways. This is summarised below:

Cross cutting themes:
- Critique of greed and grievance
- Corruption and its relation to violence (this should interest policy makers as well)
- Research methods
- Tipping points (into or out of conflict)

Policy implications/relevance/topics for briefings:
- Recovery from the consequences of conflict
- The process that brings about polarisation that prepares the possibility of conflict
- Rephrase the questions we have from a policy point of view – so that it is not just methodology that is in our papers.
- Look at the ways we engage already, particularly at the micro-level – raising awareness, lobbying and direct collaboration.
- We need to communicate our themes and consolidate our existing views so we have key messages

Dissemination pathways:
- One page policy briefs that contain the most relevant things for specific policy makers – with links to longer working papers.
- ‘hot topic’ section on website – aimed at policy makers
- ‘advertising’ with think tanks
- Create the needs and not only serve ideas
- We could translate our policy briefs for key audiences

Dissemination plans for the final phase of MICROCON were presented by John Spall, including plans to increase policy impact through more targeted Policy Briefings and other outputs, and a strong policy focus in the last two MICROCON consortium events: the workshop and the congress in year 5. Also discussed were the new MICROCON blog to be launched at the beginning of year 5, press releases and the content of the project books.
### List of Attendees

Becky Mitchell  
IDS  
Carlos Bozzoli  
DIW  
Christophe Muller  
Aix-Marseille  
Elodie Douarin  
Sussex  
Els Lecoutere  
Gent  
Fredrick Immanuel Kindi  
MU  
Jeremy Seekings  
UCT  
John Spall  
IDS  
Koen Vlassenroot  
Ghent  
Patricia Justino  
IDS  
Philip Verwimp  
UAntwerp  
Roman Mogilevsky  
CASE  
Tilman Brück  
DIW  
Nona Mikhailidze  
IAI  
Ingunn Bjorkhaug  
FAFO  
Anne Hatloy  
FAFO  
Michalis Lianos  
UR  
Colette Harris  
ODG  
Moshe Lavie  
Aix-Marseille  
Jean-Pierre Tranchant  
IDS  
Olivier Degomme  
UCL  
Christian Geiselmann  
IZZ/DVV  
Jaideep Gupte  
IDS  
Michael Emerson  
CEPS  
Adeline Delavande  
Nova  
Angela Libertarone  
European Commission  
Teodora Karamelska  
IZZ/DVV  
Vanya Ivanova  
IZZ/DVV  
Juan Vargas  
IDS