

# INITIATIVE FOR PEACEBUILDING

IfP Holds First Andean Regional Workshop and Roundtable for Cluster on Regional Cooperation, Environment, Economy and Natural Resource Management

International Alert, on behalf of the Initiative for Peacebuilding, organised a research planning workshop with partners from Colombia, Ecuador and Peru on March 10-11, 2008 in Lima, Peru. At the workshop the partners developed a common research design to look at conflicts related to non-renewable natural resource extraction such as petroleum, mining and emerging sources of bio-fuels such as African palm. The research will focus on the role of international and regional cooperation to prevent conflict and promote best practice in natural resource management, including private sector initiatives such as the Global Compact, Voluntary Principles in Security and Human Rights and the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative. The research will build upon and feedback into the report on Addressing the Interlinkages between Natural Resource Management and Conflict in the European Commission's External Relations.

Taking advantage of the presence of experts from Europe and the Andean Region the IfP also hosted a roundtable to promote dialogue on issues of conflict and natural resource management in Peru. Participants in the roundtable included the Peruvian Council of Ministers, the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office, the European Commission, UNDP, the British Embassy, Oxfam, Universidad del Pacífico, Vigila Perú and representatives of the private sector. Inputs from the roundtable fed into the final research design for the three national studies in the Andean Region to be completed by October 2008. Phase II of this effort will integrate partners from Bolivia and Venezuela.

Consult the websites of the Andean partners of the IfP Cluster on Regional Cooperation, Environment Economy and Natural Resource Management:

Instituto de Estudios para el Desarrollo y la Paz (Colombia) <http://www.indepaz.org.co>  
Plataforma de Acuerdos Socioambientales (Ecuador) <http://www.plasa-ecuador.net>  
Socios Perú: Centro de Colaboración Cívica (Peru) <http://www.sociosperu.org.pe>