

## **Peacebuilding and the Private Sector: Business in Conflict Zones**

**Tuesday, November 9th from 9:30 – 11:00am**

Johns Hopkins SAIS  
Nitze Building, Kenny Auditorium  
1740 Massachusetts Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

### **Forum Details:**

From the East India Company to Google we have seen multinational companies playing almost every conceivable role in an increasingly interconnected world. When a strong company engages with a weak or conflicted state there can be massive unintended consequences associated with irresponsible or even insufficient responsible action. It is not necessarily the goal or responsibility of a company to build a better society, but it is certainly in a company's interest to operate in a peaceful society. In the third forum in a series exploring the connections between economics and conflict, we will explore the role of business in conflict zones. What actions can or should companies take to mitigate or prevent conflict in their areas of operation? What actions should they avoid? To what level is it in the company's interest to promote peace and what responsibilities do companies have beyond protecting their own interest? How do we reconcile a strong company and a weak state to avoid or mitigate conflict?

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### **Speakers:**

#### **Dost Bardouille-Crema**

Director, Corporate Engagement Project, CDA Collaborative Learning Project

#### **Melissa Powell**

Head of Strategy and Partnerships, Global Compact Office, United Nations

#### **Tam Nguyen**

Senior Advisor on Corporate Responsibility, Chevron

### **Moderator:**

#### **Virginia Haufler**

Associate Professor, University of Maryland

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### **Bios:**

#### **Dost Bardouille-Crema**

Dost Bardouille-Crema is the Director of the Corporate Engagement Project at the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, where she collaborates with companies in the development and implementation of practical management options to build positive, constructive relationships with local communities where they operate. Since 2000, the Corporate Engagement Project has worked with more than 60 companies around the world; the findings of which have been captured in the book *Getting it Right: Making Corporate - Community Relations Work*. The project is

presently working with several initiatives, such as the UN Global Compact, UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights, Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, and Institute for Human Rights and Business, to ensure that practices of constructive engagement and economic development are incorporated into international guidance tools and standards. Prior to joining the project, Dost researched and managed global health and international community development projects for several years within Latin America and the Caribbean. Dost has an MPH in Global Health from the University of Washington and a BSE from the University of Michigan, where she studied civil engineering and worked for a leading US construction management firm.

### **Melissa Powell**

Melissa Powell is Head of Strategy and Partnerships with the United Nations Global Compact, the corporate citizenship initiative launched by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in 2000. Ms. Powell joined the Compact Office shortly after its operational launch and since then has been involved in virtually every aspect of the program. In her role as Issue Coordinator, she has worked closely with the broader UN community, NGOs, labor, governments and the private sector to convene Policy Dialogues focused on “The role of the Private Sector in Conflict Prevention and Peace-Building”. As a Project Manager, Ms. Powell was responsible for supporting the development of Global Compact Networks in South Asia and in Canada and she was part of the team who organized the UN Global Compact China Summit which took place in November 2005 in Shanghai. In addition, she managed a variety of projects which contributed to the development of UN policies in the area of UN/business partnerships and which served to enhance the capacity of UN staff to partner with the private sector. Prior to joining the Global Compact Office Ms. Powell worked as a Junior Professional Consultant in the Speechwriting Unit of the Executive Office of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. A graduate of the London School of Economics, where she earned a Masters degree in International Relations, Ms. Powell also holds an honors bachelors degree in Political Science from Queen's University, Canada.

### **Tam Nguyen**

Tam Robert Nguyen serves as senior advisor for corporate responsibility, and global implementation advisor for Chevron's human rights policy. In this role Mr. Nguyen helps direct social responsibility strategy, policy planning, change management, and issues engagement. He represents Chevron on a number of industry groups, international initiatives, and standards bodies. He is currently the vice chair of the Social Responsibility Working Group of IPIECA, a global oil/gas industry association based in London. Prior to joining Chevron Corporation, he worked for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the Philippines, and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Washington, DC. He worked with The World Bank, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), public-private sector partnership programs supported by the US Agency for International Development (USAID); and was a political strategist for a US-Japan consulting firm contracted by the Government of Japan. Mr. Nguyen orchestrated, and later managed, the first inter-agency partnership agreement between two of the world's largest multilateral finance institutions. Mr. Nguyen is a graduate of George Washington University, and holds two masters degrees in international business and international development. He is currently completing a doctorate in business administration on the topic of organizational behavior and corporate responsibility

### **Virginia Haufler**

Virginia Haufler is an associate professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland, and Director of the Global Connections program. She is affiliated with the Harrison Program on the Future Global Agenda, and the Center for International Development and Conflict Management at the University of Maryland. Dr. Haufler's research examines the role of the private sector in global governance, the global regulation of industry, and the rise of industry self-regulation and corporate social responsibility. Her current projects include research on corporations and conflict prevention, and a project (with Deborah Avant) on the security strategies of non-state actors. In 2009, she was an associate of the International Studies Program at the University of California-Irvine and the Center on Public Diplomacy at USC. Dr. Haufler serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF/ HSFK), and is an advisor to the UN Global Compact Principles for Responsible Investment. She has been a Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and has served as an officer and Board member of Women in International Security. She has consulted for both international organizations and the non-profit sector. Virginia Haufler received her Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University in 1991.

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