



The Rothschild Conference on Health and Security

“Peace is a prerequisite for Health”
(The Ottawa Charter for health Promotion, 21 November 1986)

I. Need for action

The planet is facing challenges to biological security, including pandemic diseases, resurgent diseases, or accidental or deliberately perpetrated outbreaks. Several regions suffer from hunger caused by food insecurity or conflict.

Areas where there is instability and weak governance are particularly vulnerable. This development shows the link between instability and disease and highlights the need for coordinated action. Therefore, to improve health it is essential to reduce violence and promote peace.

The recent outbreak of Ebola, its rapid spread, and the inability of weak states to cope with the epidemic shows that the world urgently needs to find a better way to anticipate and respond to such health disasters.

Furthermore, the unprecedented spread of Ebola demonstrates how dramatically a health crisis can become a humanitarian, security and economic crisis. As the epidemic spreads exponentially, doubling its death toll every few weeks, it is also affecting local security (like rioting), the stability of entire countries (like Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone) as well as regions (like West Africa).

The epidemic has paralyzed health care systems, also causing deaths among patients with curable diseases. Latest estimations are predicting that 1.5 million people might be infected by the beginning of January 2015. Expected GDP growth rates are reduced by multiple percentage points in the region, but the World Bank's Chief economist expects the negative economic impact to rather be in the order of billions of dollars.

In the case of polio the security situation is seen as the biggest barrier to the disease's global eradication. New ways to enable mass immunization need to be developed and implemented in remote areas which sometimes are not controlled by the central government. Diplomacy, strategic coordination and advocacy in combination with a broad range of health care services will be the key to access previously inaccessible regions.

II. Project Description, Methodology and Output

In order to deal with the multidisciplinary nature of public health problems and their interdependencies, primary activities will include convening two meetings on Health and Security, with a particular focus on Ebola and its implications for global health and security. The meetings will bring together political decision makers and high level officials of multi-lateral organizations with experts from various backgrounds (i.e. historians, sociologists, anthropologists, public health specialists, medical doctors, pharmaceutical specialist etc.).

In the **first project phase**, IPI will conduct initial **research** in order to provide **briefing materials** for the participants of the meetings. The research will focus on the security aspect of Ebola analyzing how health issues in particular epidemics can destabilize countries and regions.

In the **second project phase** IPI intends to discuss the following **topics** in a **high level meeting** in New York and a **multi-day workshop** in Geneva in the first quarter of 2015 with the goal to **develop policy recommendations**:

- i. Historical Overview of Epidemics
- ii. Impact and Spread of Epidemics
- iii. Case Study: How the Polio Eradication Initiative helped contain Ebola in Nigeria
- iv. Preparation: Building resilient health care systems
- v. Response: Effectively and quickly deploying measures to deal with health issues
- vi. Best practices in management and coordination of multiple stakeholders

In collaboration with its partners, IPI will then disseminate the output of the meetings and publish the recommendations.

As an Organization focusing on **creating impact and achieving results**, IPI will, in a **third project phase**, follow up with participants and key decision makers on the progress of policy implementation and its consequences. This will involve embarking on an **advocacy campaign** through private and public diplomacy.

In addition IPI will use its online presence (particularly IPI's global observatory) to reach a broader international audience. Finally, the **Independent Commission for Multilateralism** will use the output to present it to all donor countries as recommendation on how to effectively deal with the problems of health and security through innovative solutions.

III. IPI's Impact and Value Add

As an independent international think- and do-tank, IPI is particularly experienced in convening key decision makers from the public sector, international organizations and the private sector. In particular, IPI will draw on its existing network of contact and **long-standing partnership with key organizations** involved in the issue of peace and health as well as humanitarian issues. These include the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), the Edmond de Rothschild Foundations and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

In the case of fighting epidemics, **communication and collaboration amongst various stakeholders is crucial** in order to facilitate a systematic approach that is also flexible to new developments.

Desired outcomes of the meetings and workshops will be

- i. **Identifying and prioritizing short term tasks and long term development goals** in fighting Ebola and epidemic diseases in general
- ii. Develop **framework for collaboration, communication** and early warning
- iii. **Distributing tasks** and development goals amongst stakeholders
- iv. Developing solutions through **policy recommendations** and publications
- v. **Follow-up** with key decision makers through a multi-channel approach to ensure the **implementation** of policy recommendations

The aim is to proactively provide and implement solutions as well as encourage adaptive leadership in order to reduce the potential harm caused by conflict and instability, to enable policy makers to be better prepared to cope with these crises and to face the challenges of the future, save lives and improve wellbeing.

The International Peace Institute is serving as the secretariat of the **Independent Commission for Multilateralism (ICM)**, which was launched in 2014. One of the 15 core agenda items of the ICM is finding new ways and approaches to deal with health & security. Therefore, the ICM will be a valuable partner in providing an additional platform to host discussions (i) for high level decision makers, (ii) for additional outreach and communication of key findings and solutions and (iii) to follow up on the implementation of policy recommendations.

IV. Budget

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BUDGET: December 2014 - December 2015

EXPENSES

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Research, Analysis & Policy Development

Research & Program staffing	\$ 448.000
Research Activities:	
Consulting fees & expenses	\$ 84.000
Internship - stipend, expenses	\$ -
Books, periodicals, and subscriptions (specific to project)	\$ 1.000
Staff travel/accomodation	\$ 20.000
Total Research Activities	\$ 105.000
Total Research, Analysis & Policy Development	\$ 553.000

Meetings, Events & Dialogue

Events staffing	\$ 25.800
2 High level meetings (accomodation/flight/etc.) for 20 pax in New York & Geneva	\$ 197.900
Events Activities:	
Staff travel/accomodation	\$ 52.980
Professional fees (photographer, interpretation):	\$ 2.000
Total Events Activities	\$ 54.980
Total Meetings, Events & Dialogue	\$ 278.680

Publications & Dissemination (print & online)

Publications staffing	\$ 19.500
Publications Activities:	
Publishing & printing	\$ 10.000
Freight, delivery & postage (dissemination)	\$ 1.000
Miscellaneous / Other (photos)	
Total Publications Activities	\$ 11.000
Total Publications & Dissemination	\$ 30.500

Program Outreach

Membership dues & conference registration	\$ 2.000
Staff travel/accomodation	\$ 13.000
Total Program Outreach	\$ 15.000
Total Program Implementation	

PROGRAM SUPPORT & ADMINISTRATION

Program Support & Administrative Staffing	
Program & Administrative Operations	
Total Program Support & Administration	\$ -
Overhead	\$ 122.805
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 999.985