

Please join us...

Multilingual Education and Peacebuilding

When: Thursday, February 21, 2019 from 10:30 a.m. to noon

Where: Alliance for Peacebuilding
1800 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 40, Washington, D.C., 20036

February 21, 2019, marks the 20th anniversary of International Mother Language Day. It will also launch the first in a series of language-themed events taking place in Washington, D.C., during this International Year of Indigenous Languages. We invite you to join us for a discussion on the importance of education in one's mother tongue in support of peacebuilding and reconciliation.

Dr. Kirk Person of SIL International will present his report titled [Bridge to a Brighter Tomorrow: The Patani Malay-Thai Multilingual Education Programme](#), authored for UNICEF Thailand. The 14-year insurgency in southern Thailand has claimed the lives of over 7,000 Thai-speaking Buddhists and Patani Malay-speaking Muslims, including some 180 government teachers. Issues related to ethnic identity and language simultaneously feed the unrest and offer potential footholds for reconciliation through community engagement in the reform of the local education system.

The report examines various facets of this ten-year longitudinal study, including teacher training, curriculum development, and bridging over to the national language. The results have been extraordinary, with Patani Malay-speaking children surpassing native Thai-speaking children in a number of ways, and the program itself garnering international recognition and several awards. The program also highlights the challenges and successes of working in a conflict area and the importance of building bridges between communities to create lasting peace.

Dr. Person will be joined by other panelists to address the impact of education on peacebuilding.

RSVP to Bill Bremmer at bill_bremmer@sil.org by February 19

The event will also be live-streamed and include a Q&A session following the report.

Complimentary copies of Dr. Person's report will be available in limited numbers.

This event is co-sponsored by the Alliance for Peacebuilding, SID Washington, and SIL International.



2019 | INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
Indigenous Languages