Overview:
In this simulation, students will take on the role of an organization tasked with resolving disputes over the construction of a health facility in the Paramillo region of Colombia. After reading a detailed yet concise description of the situation and their objectives, they will work together in teams to develop a solution. In the process, they will use basic conflict analysis frameworks.

This is a great activity for introducing students to the practice of conflict analysis and resolution. It is also a great way to practice team building, leadership, and collaboration.

Learning Outcomes:

- Learn basic methods for conflict analysis and resolution.
- Build capacity for collaboration, cooperation, and problem solving.
- Respond to and develop compelling questions, use valid information sources, and connect acquired knowledge to civic participation.

Information for the Instructor:
Student handout included, "Conflict Analysis Scenario" student handout (includes conflict analysis frameworks).

Instructions:
Split class into groups and give students "Conflict Analysis Scenario" handout. Have the class read through instructions, and check for any questions or need for clarification. Teacher may wish to go through the conflict analysis frameworks before students start.

Students work together in teams to achieve their objectives. The time allotted for this exercise can be adapted based on the time available to the instructor. The teacher might have students share their work with the class or turn it in to the instructor.

Applications:
This activity can be used in advanced classes pertaining to many subject areas including government, leadership, language arts, social studies, current events, and team-building. It might be a very useful and fun exercise for a class to do with a substitute instructor or after grading periods have concluded. It will keep students engaged while equipping them with critical life skills relating to problem solving.

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Conflict Analysis Scenario

Flooding has caused considerable damage in three remote villages in the Paramillo region in Northwest Colombia. Schools, clinics and housing have been significantly damaged. Hundreds have died. Many villagers are angry with authorities for what they consider to be a slow and inadequate response. At least 50 families are displaced and the school that served the 3 villages has been completely destroyed. The health clinic has suffered considerable damage. Much of the local agriculture, a mix of subsistence crops and poppies, has been damaged. Food prices have risen dramatically. Your organization has been asked to help rebuild the health clinic that serves the three villages.

A large but unknown number of displaced persons have moved to the regional capital, where they have joined migrants that flocked there in search of security or improved livelihoods in the past few years. Guerilla activity had lessened the past few years but public services had declined significantly and crime has risen. There is a concern for returning violence.

The Paramillo area had been under the control, at different times, of drug lords and a national paramilitary group dedicated to the overthrow of the government. During that time, most villagers had little respect for government officials or security officials from the military or the police because there was a perception that most officials are corrupt and the authorities have often treated most in the village as collaborators. While the territory is now under government control, there remains great distrust. But, the government wants very much to respond to the needs of the local populace, particularly due to the humanitarian disaster that swept the region. Both the regional government of Paramillo and the national government in Bogota see construction projects and rebuilding the devastated areas as a means to help create greater governmental legitimacy in the eyes of the local people.

While most of the violent conflict has ended, and some Government officials have called for land reform and re-distribution of land titles, particularly ancestral domain and indigenous rights, little has been done. As a consequence of the announcement, land values have gone up considerably as have food prices. There are many rumors circulating that a rapid delivery of clear land titles will lead to a "land grab" in which the privileged, powerful and wealthy will benefit. There is concern that land will be appropriated.

Those displaced by war, or by poverty and lack of employment, particularly because of rising food costs, feel especially vulnerable. Some have accused the government, large landholders and timber companies of buying off desperate farmers and small landholders because of their economic situation. And, the rising market, due to the recent regional trade agreement, may lead to greater demand for cash crops instead of subsistence crops which in turn could lead to larger numbers of farmers continuing destructive "slash and burn" agriculture practices and resumption of poppy growing. The trade agreement could also make subsidized foods cheaper and compete with local food products, thus undermining food security.

One of the local village mayors, from one of the three affected villages, has become a spokesman for those who do not want a greater presence of the Colombian government in and are resistant to big

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agricultural and reconstruction projects. At the same time, the villages want to rebuild the health clinic and the school. There are also upcoming local elections for the first time in a generation and some reform candidates are claiming that entrenched political interests must be voted out.

1. Your overall objective is to develop an action plan and determine strategy and priorities or the construction of a health clinic. In order to do so, it will be important to analyze the nature of the conflict so that rebuilding a health clinic does not have negative consequences that could trigger a resumption of violence or escalate conflict.
2. First, however, you need to begin a process of conflict analysis that will enable you to identify conflict factors and how they inter-relate. Such analysis should then help in the thought process by which priorities can be developed and a conflict (and context)-sensitive health clinic project can be designed.

In analyzing the conflict context, your team should consider the following questions:

- What is the nature of the conflict? Can you identify any specific drivers of violent conflict? What would you want to look for? Who would you like to speak to? What questions would be most appropriate to ask?
- Who are the stakeholders? Can constructive relations between stakeholders be created?
- Who are potential spoilers? How might such spoilers be dealt with?
- What information do you still need?
- How might your conflict analysis help you gain the support of the local community for an action plan, particularly the local mayor who remains wary of government's intentions?
- How can a project to construct a new clinic avoid "doing harm" by inadvertently exacerbating conflicts?
- How can the project be designed in a way that can help address conflict drivers and thus contribute to preventing future escalation of conflict?

Use the attached conflict analysis frameworks to help you answer the questions above.

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Analytical Framework – 1

Actors	**Root Causes**
Who are the primary actors?	What is driving the conflict?
Who else has influence over events?	What are the needs and fears of each group?

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Analytical Framework – 2

Issues and Relationships	**Resources**
What are the key issues for each side? What is the relationship between the leaders?	What are the resources and capacities of each party?

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Conflict Dynamics	Dividers	Connectors	Trajectories
Strategic Factors			
Political Factors			
Socioeconomic Factors			

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Conflict Dynamics	Dividers	Connectors	Trajectories
Psychological Factors			
Cultural Factors			

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