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<http://cufa.org.au>

## CUFA RELEASES PODCAST ON AID AND CONFLICT FOR INTERNATIONAL DAY OF UN PEACEKEEPERS

Cufa announced today the release of a new episode in their podcast series, **Conversations in Development**, hosted by Cufa's CEO Dr Peter Mason and journalist Olivia Rosenman.

*What is the role of aid in conflict?* This episode features special guest Aime Saba who provides valuable insight from his experiences in both peacekeeping field operations and international development. He has served on the Iraq desk of the Department of Political Affairs at the UN and worked for AusAID on humanitarian programs in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, North Korea and the Philippines. After serving as a civilian peacekeeper with the UN in Liberia, Aime is working as a visiting research fellow at the University of Sydney.

The International Day of UN Peacekeepers, 29 May, celebrates 70 years of UN peacekeeping and pays tribute to the contributions of the 3700 peacekeepers that have lost their lives with the theme, "70 Years of Service and Sacrifice".

This **Conversations in Development** episode explores the relationship between aid and conflict and draws from examples in Myanmar, Syria and multiple countries in Africa. Aime uses his knowledge to investigate this relationship and discusses what an aid response to stop conflicts escalating to violence would look like. Can aid prevent conflict escalating? How prepared are we for the conflicts climate change may bring?

*"Aid is multifaceted and is not only used in alleviating poverty but also addressing issues of conflict in our region."* said Dr Peter Mason, CEO of Cufa. *"At a time when the Australian aid budget is continually under review, the public needs all the benefits of aid clearly communicated with them."*

**Conversations in Development** is available to download and stream with Apple Podcasts or your favourite podcast platform.

Visit the podcast website: <http://ConversationsInDevelopment.com.au>

**Conversations in Development:** [RSS feed](#)

**Dr. Peter Mason** is the CEO of international development agency Cufa. Cufa's programs focus on economic development of underserved and disadvantaged communities across the Asia Pacific region. With multiple approaches including education, employment, enterprise, and financial institution development, Cufa's projects are implemented by local Cufa offices and country staff who work with local communities, organisations, and government. Peter has worked in Cambodia, Timor Leste, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, and the Federated States of Micronesia. His research interests include examining the way in which the social and the economic interact within the development environment and he has recently published a chapter, Credit Unions, in *The Routledge Companion to Alternative Organization*.

**Olivia Rosenman** is the executive producer of Fourth Estate, a weekly media affairs show radio broadcast in Sydney on 2SER. She has previously worked as a reporter for news agencies in both

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Sydney and Asia. As an AusAID Youth Ambassador for Development, Olivia ran the communications department of a disability services organization in Nanning, China. Olivia holds a Master of Journalism from the University of Hong Kong and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Sydney.

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For all media enquiries, interview and image requests, please contact:

**Tanya Ho**

**Marketing and Communications Manager**

1300 490 467 | 0438 227 479

[tanya.ho@cufa.org.au](mailto:tanya.ho@cufa.org.au)

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**Cufa** is an Australian government-accredited international development agency committed to alleviating poverty across the Asia Pacific. Cufa currently works in Cambodia, Myanmar, Timor-Leste and the greater Pacific. Cufa creates infinite value by reaching over 4 million people each year through grassroots programs focusing on economic, education, enterprise and employment activities.

**Cufa** | <http://cufa.org.au> | Suite 303, 275 Alfred Street, North Sydney, NSW 2060 Australia

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