Environmental Conflict Resolution and Social Participation in Cities: Considering Public Sector Interface

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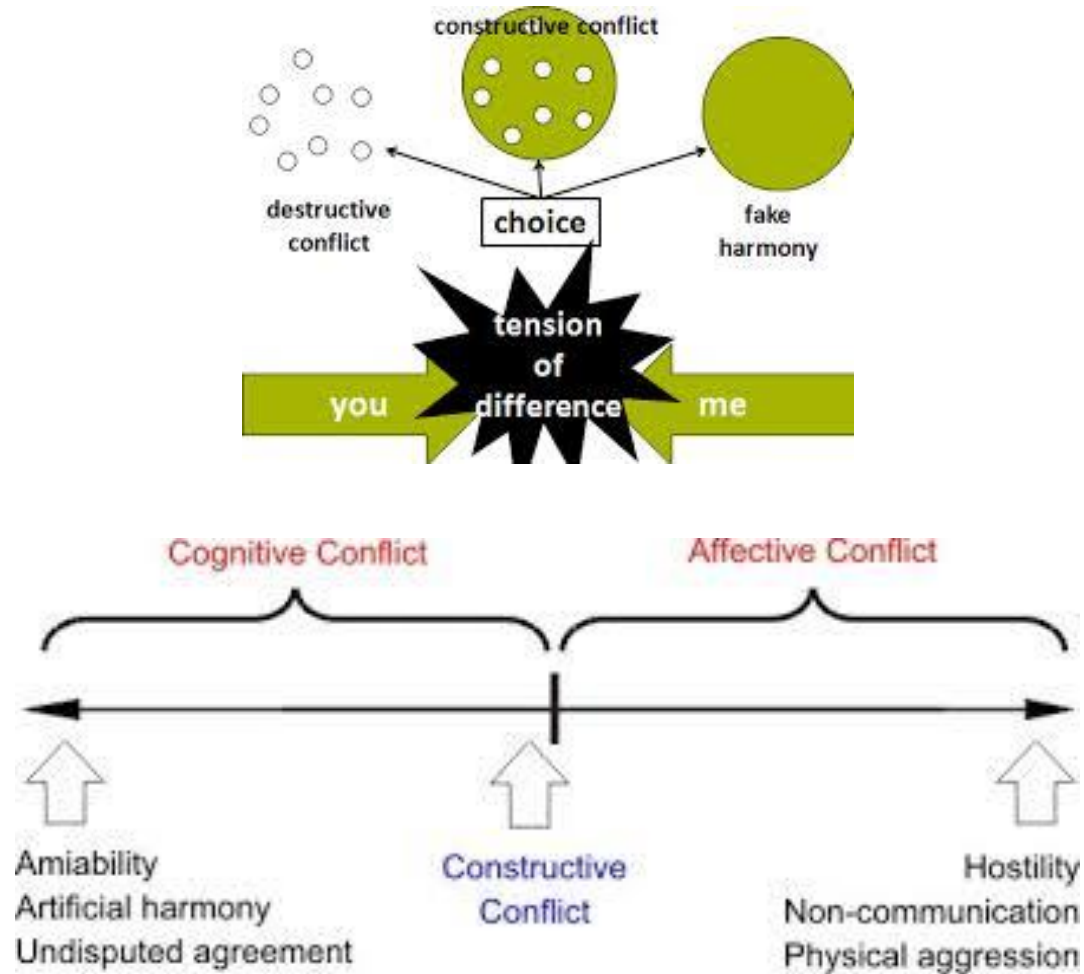
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Conflicts and Power

- Distributive versus Integrative Conflicts
  - Zero Sum Games and non-Zero sum games
- What are the Sources of Power in Conflict ? Power of skill and knowledge
  - Power of a good relationship
  - Power of a good alternative to negotiating
  - Power of an elegant solution
  - Power of legitimacy
  - Power of commitment
    FISHER, ROGER. 1983. "Negotiating Power: Getting and Using Influence." *American Behavioral Scientist* 27 (2): 149–66.
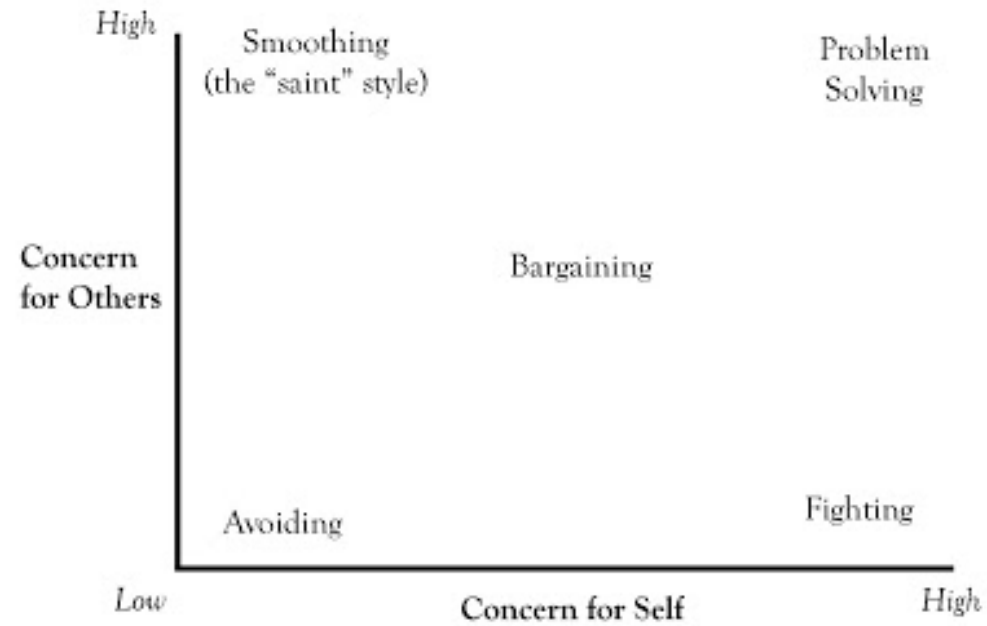- Motivation: Conflict Management or Conflict Resolution
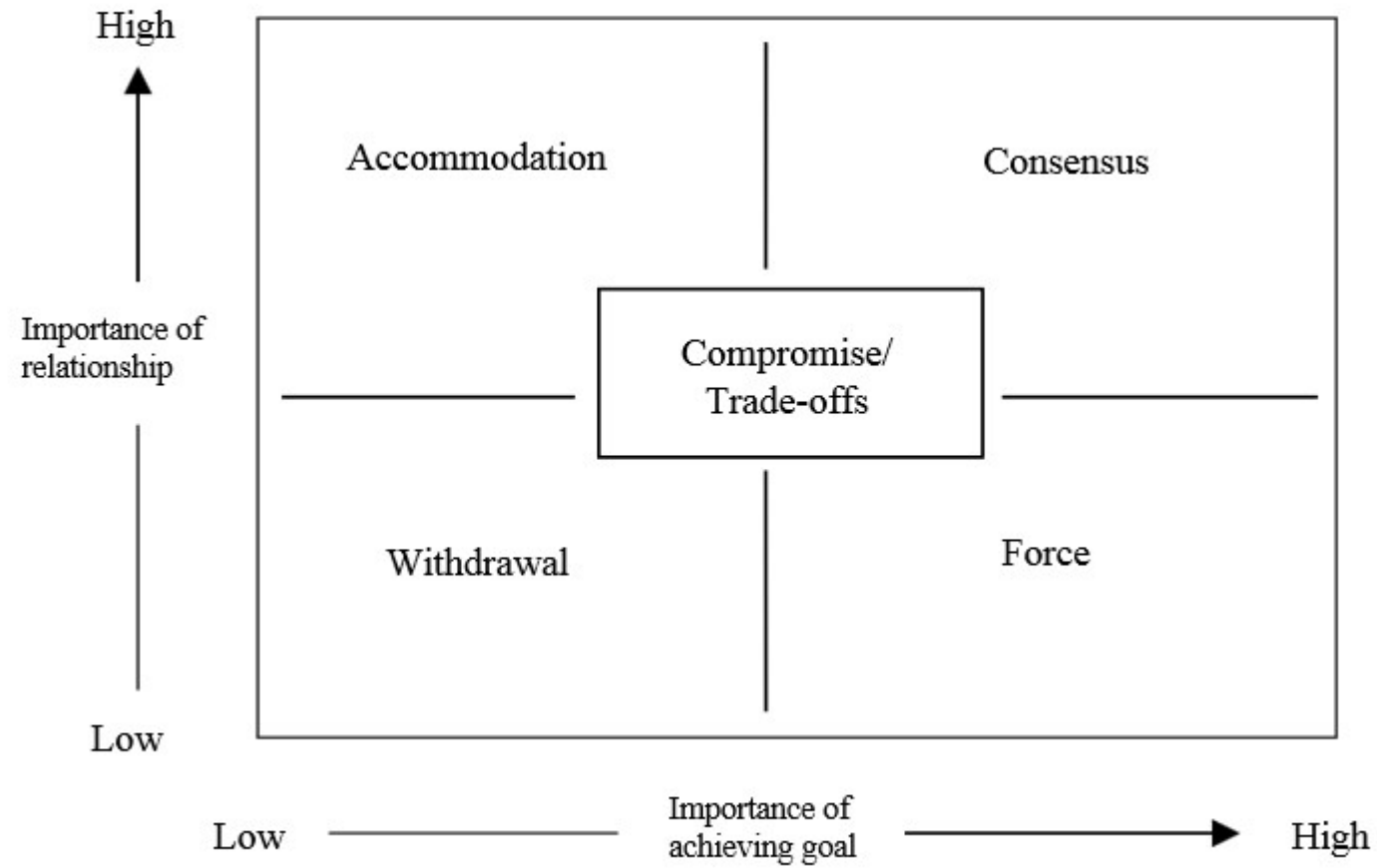
Conflicts can be Socially Constructive

Peace-building and Conflict

Credit: Overseas Development Institute

TABLE 4
STAKEHOLDER PROFILE

Left to Right	Stakeholders	Actions	Positions/Interests	Strengths & Weaknesses
Political	Identify groups inside or outside the community who contribute to tensions or peace. Put each stakeholder in a separate row. Example: • XYZ People's Party • Etc.	What are the easily identifiable manifestations (what you see) of activities by each stakeholder to promote peace or conflict? Example: • Introduced Public Order Act • Repress civil dissent	What is the official position of the stakeholders – the public face they show about their motives? What are their vested interests and what do they really want? Example: • Position: promote peace & security, to appear governing for the people Interest: to stay in power, to reduce international & public pressure	Assess which groups have (or don't have): significant numbers, support from their constituency, financial resources, etc. See above Example: • Strengths: military power, support of privileged elites, control natural resources to finance power, support from businesses to generate income • Weaknesses: growing dissatisfaction of populace, international pressure for reform
Economic	• ABC Trade Union • Etc.	• Hold worker's demonstrations • Organise labour strikes against racially-limited employment	• Position: seek employment equity • Interests: same	• Strengths: moral authority, legitimacy, representative, int'l allies • Weaknesses: few financial resources, no military might
Social	• XYZ newspaper • Etc.	• Prints a national newspaper favourable to govt.	• Position: to publish the news • Interests: to remain in favour and promote govt. agenda	• Strengths: financial resources, legal authority, freedom to operate • Weaknesses: biased reporting, lack of legitimacy, no moral authority
Security	• ABC Dissident Faction • Etc.	• Hold public demonstrations • Promote civil unrest	• Position: to overthrow Government Interest: respect for human rights, freedom of association and right to practice religion	• Strengths: access to weapons, financing, support of disenfranchised population, legitimacy in community, support of international HR orgs • Weaknesses: growing conflict-fatigue, no power to win militarily
Reg'l / Int'l	• XYZ Foreign multinational company • Etc.	• Invest in major infrastructure for natural resource extraction	• Position: to operate a profitable business in collaboration with Govt. • Interest: to maintain profitability with minimal costs for social responsibility	• Strengths: financial resources, legal authority to operate, international allies • Weaknesses: lack of legitimacy amongst populace, infrastructure vulnerable to vandalism

United Nations PCIA Methodology Handbook

Process 13: Planning follow-up measures

Process 1: Elaboration of concept paper
Process 2: Context analysis

A
Concept development

Follow-up measures

F

E

Data analysis

Process 10: Data analysis by the Reference Groups
Process 11 Gaining acceptance of the results
Process 12: Elaboration of conflict analysis report

Community based

Process oriented

Circular process

Community Participatory Peace and Conflict Assessment

B
Planning Implementation process

Process 3: Plan of operations
Process 4: Detailed identification of thematic and geographical focus of the conflict analysis

C
Stakeholder participation

D
Data gathering

Process 8: Setting up and ensuring conflict sensitive communication
Process 9: Conducting Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussions (FGD)

Process 5: Formation of Consultative Group (CG)
Process 6: Final selection and formation of Reference Groups (RG)
Process 7: Training of the Reference Group members
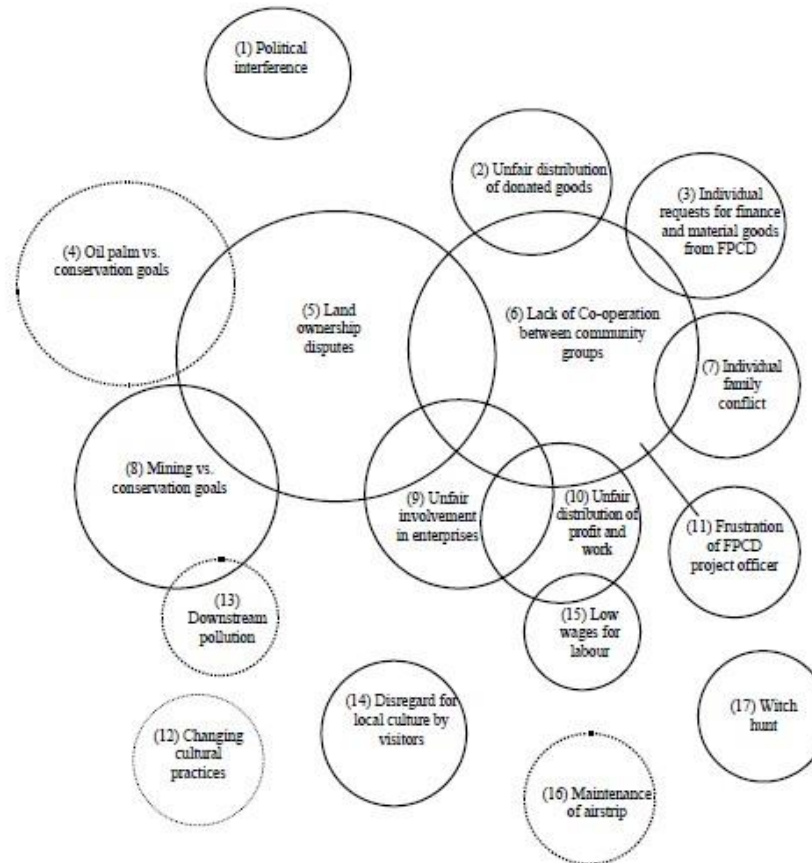
Credit: GIZ

Conflict Mapping – Resource Dependent City

Method:
- brainstorm current and potential conflicts (potential = dotted lines);
- cluster related conflicts;
- differentiate conflicts by scale (represented by size of circle);
- compile Venn diagram with inter-related conflicts overlapping.

(1) Political interference

(2) Unfair distribution of donated goods

(3) Individual requests for finance and material goods from FPCD

(4) Oil palm vs. conservation goals

(5) Land ownership disputes

(6) Lack of Co-operation between community groups

(7) Individual family conflict

(8) Mining vs. conservation goals

(9) Unfair involvement in enterprises

(10) Unfair distribution of profit and work

(11) Frustration of FPCD project officer

(13) Downstream pollution

(15) Low wages for labour

(14) Disregard for local culture by visitors

(17) Witch hunt

(12) Changing cultural practices

(16) Maintenance of airstrip

The Evolution of Cooperation

What does research suggest are the key determinants of cooperation?

- Long time horizons for agreements
- Regularity of Stakes
- Reliability of Information about the others' actions
- Quick feedback about changes in the others actions

(Robert Axelrod)

Sustainable Consensus

- Promoting environmentally viable outcomes in terms of planning criteria

- Being able to maintain a cooperative bond among potentially adversarial parties

- The use of the word "sustainable" to describe this process implies that there is a self-correcting mechanism built into a contract. Whenever there is a proclivity for violation of a contract, the environmental basis for the cooperation prevents the party from going forward with that violation because there is mutual aversion of environmental harm.