



Interpreters in Conflict Zones

an Expert Roundtable Discussion

Conflict and natural disasters know no linguistic boundaries. Delivering emergency and humanitarian aid across language barriers is a major challenge. Are the humanitarian organizations working in the field well equipped? Most interpreters are recruited because they “know” the local language and English. Most of them are untrained. They need essential professional skills to perform adequately as interpreters and professional ethics to support humanitarian efforts in a stressful environment. Language barriers have become a major obstacle at many levels, especially as expectations of engagement with local communities grow. Many humanitarian programs rely on remote management processes and national staffs carry increasing operational and strategic responsibility. We need to have coherent approaches to deliver humanitarian aid in a multi-lingual and cultural environment.

swissnex Boston invites you to be a part of this expert roundtable and to share your valuable knowledge and expertise with our guests from the University of Geneva.

What:

Expert Roundtable
Discussion on
Interpretation in
conflict zones

When:

Thursday
October 4, 2012
7.30 – 10.30 AM

Why:

swissnex Boston
420 Broadway,
Cambridge MA



Professor Barbara Moser-Mercer, Director of the Department of Interpretation of the University of Geneva, Switzerland, will speak about her project InZone, which is committed to improving communication in conflict zones, to delivering virtual skill training to interpreters in the field and looking at the role of the interpreter as well as humanitarian ethics.

We are honored to also welcome the President of the University of Geneva, Dr. Jean-Dominique Vassalli to this event.

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