CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study has walked through the steps of analyzing TAF's contribution to Peacebuilding and Development through its DDP. First, the range of developmental contributions were explored, showing that development actors are capable of having a positive, ineffective, and even a negative effect on Peacebuilding, as seen in the examples given with respect to the conflict in Southern Thailand.

Moving forward in the analysis of developmental contributions to Peacebuilding, it was noted that identifying measurements of success depends on the framework of conflict intervention in mind. In terms of the contribution of development actors, many scholars have identified Conflict Transformation as the most suitable framework for its contribution. Relating back to the two dominant discourses at play, it is worth noting how an approach that seeks both structure and process-oriented outcomes would be most comprehensive. This means that the outcomes stressed or intended by development actors in situations of complex emergency should focus on both process and structure oriented outcomes that focus on both the quality of interaction while also taking into high consideration the transformation of unjust social and structural relations, so as to avoid reinforcing structural violence.

Further, the dynamic nature of Peacebuilding highlighted how the three conflict intervention frameworks- conflict settlement, conflict resolution, and Conflict Transformation- actually reinforce each others efforts towards a sustainable peace. However, through an examinations of each of the framework's shortcomings, it was concluded that developmental efforts founded in transformative peace play to their strengths in facilitating capacity building and empowerment. a first step towards transforming relationships and attitudes. and eventually legislature as well.

Finally, after having first looked at the range of developmental contributions to Peacebuilding and considered the most suitable framework of conflict mitigation in terms of the desired and corresponding outcomes intended, the contribution of the TAF's DDP, selected case study, was able to be endeavored under the framework of Conflict Transformation, seeking to understand in what ways and to what extent did TAF's DDP fulfill the role of dialogue projects for Conflict Transformation. This case study provided an example as to how Development and Peacebuilding efforts can reinforce each other toward process and structure oriented outcomes that focus on the intrinsic value of interaction and communication, and empowerment, as well as their potential in addressing structural changes.

The indicators analyzed for TAF's DDP did show spaces for improvement and reconsideration of new strategies, particularly in terms of the quality of the communications and interaction skills practiced- as it seemed only a handful in each dialogue were the main participants. Secondly, in terms of the opportunities for encounter and learning between polarized groups, improvement could be made especially with respect to vertical relations, which are very important for structural transformation, which would further support empowerment of both local CSOs and local attendees of the forums. Lastly, in terms of 'empowering groups' it was noted that perhaps the most important contribution to Peacebuilding efforts was the capacity building of the local CSOs and in developing collective capacities for local organization. In terms of development efforts, learning and approaching problem solving through dialogue on community issues informed by and facilitated by community members is a realization of participation and engagement in the institutions that affect their lives, and a step toward the negotiation, influence, control and holding accountable of these institutions. However, practically, even if there was a strong upsurge of local citizen involvement on a high scale in seeking procedural and substantive justice, still these efforts would need to be coordinated. Further, in terms of holding the institutions accountable, local CSOs together are much more

capable and probable to be able to achieve this, through their social links with one another and to other INGOs and other development actors, than local citizens, whose relative power toward the government and resources, in time and money, are also further constraining factors.

In sum, much this research not only argued for the integration of development and Peacebuilding efforts, but further the need for a comprehensive and integrated peace agenda that includes all frameworks of conflict intervention. Although this the findings specifically highlighted the importance of the development of an active civil society, through organizations, organizing, and inclusive participation, still more could be learned about the process of empowerment, as much for local attendees of community dialogues as for the local CSOs facilitating them. Further investigation into this field could benefit from research into the realization of empowerment, through follow up interviews, which unfortunately was beyond the scope of this specific research, yet would serve to provide more information as to specifically how and in what ways empowerment can contribute to people's lives in the deep south and how they, in turn, can contribute to the peacebuilding process.