



our project

Communicate the complex connections between conflict, natural resources, and human and environmental safety using images

Our Bass Connections in Energy project is a partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme, to help preserve and describe over a decade's worth of environmental assessment footage, and to create materials that help educate the broader public about their work



2013-2014 project team

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Special Thanks

The Franklin Humanities Institute,
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The Nicholas School of the
Environment, and UNEP

What do you see?



Bass Connections in Energy



Exploring the Intersection
of Energy and Peace-
Building through Film



process & outcomes

How can images convey the complex connections between natural resource management, human and environmental health, and conflict?

CHALLENGE

Help the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) communicate about its work beyond the standard policy report, in ways that help it reach new audiences

Create educational materials using over a decade of un-cataloged footage shot during UNEP's post-conflict environmental assessments in a dozen countries

Communicate the connections between natural resources, human and environmental safety, and peace-building, while also balancing the needs of creating outreach materials for UNEP with creating educational materials for Duke

GOALS

Catalog footage from over a decade of environmental assessments by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Create educational materials showing the role of energy resource management in human and environmental safety and conflict reduction

Balance competing interests of different stakeholders in the process of constructing accurate and compelling accounts of post-conflict environmental issues

Build teamwork skills through shared problem-solving and task completion

METHODS

Film logging (time-coded description with keywords, summaries, and transcriptions; video file index)

Interviews (semi-structured and unstructured, with UNEP personnel)

Storyboard and script writing (2-column film script template)

Film editing (identifying selects, creating rough cuts, assemblies, and docs-in-the-works trailers)

OUTCOMES

Described over 300 files (nearly 100 hours)

Created 2 short films (oil pollution in Nigeria, deforestation and livelihoods in the DRC) for UNEP outreach and Duke instruction

Gained insights into team dynamics, working with external stakeholders, and communicating complex ideas through images