

**Selecting Credible Messengers:** This chart corresponds to Guide pages 19-21. It outlines key considerations for selecting a messenger credible and influential among our target audience. To illustrate how a messenger’s influence varies with the target audience, the chart overviews how a particular messenger may be effective for one situation and target audience but ineffective for another.

Selecting Credible Messengers			
Key questions to ask about the messenger you suggest	Messenger:	Messenger:	
<p><b>Is this messenger considered credible and important by the majority of your audience?</b> Credibility is key in influencing audiences.</p>			
<p><b>Is the messenger from an existing social network?</b> People are highly influenced by the perceptions and actions of those in their social network.</p>			
<p><b>Does the messenger have anything in common with the audience group you aim to influence?</b> People are more likely to believe speakers they think share their identity, value system, or worldview.</p>			
<p><b>Does the messenger represent multiple parties or identities? Is the messenger neutral/non-partisan among the involved communities?</b> Speakers that represent multiple identities involved in the conflict are likely to hold influence among more involved parties and be better positioned to influence key audiences. These multi-partisan speakers are more influential than those with purely neutral opinions or who aren't involved in the issue (e.g., speaker groups consisting solely of peace actors).</p>			
<p><b>Can the messenger simplify more complicated information?</b> Effective messengers are able to synthesize complicated situations into a core message. This makes it easier for others to follow along and get involved while avoiding misinterpretation.</p>			
<p><b>Is the messenger readily available or accessible?</b></p>			