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The Security Sector Reform (SSR) in Transitional Settings

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Agenda

- SSR Definitions and Concepts
- Issues for Consideration in Transitional Settings
 - Peace Accords
 - Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)
 - Transitional Governments
 - Legacy Issues
 - Multilayered Service Delivery
- Department of Defense (DOD) Guidance, Organization and Authorities
- Department of State (DOS) Organization and Authorities



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Definitions and Concepts



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Security Sector Reform

Security Sector Reform (SSR) is the set of policies, plans, programs, and activities that a government undertakes to improve the way it provides safety, security, and justice.

The overall objective is to provide an effective and legitimate public service that is transparent, accountable to civilian authority, and responsive to the needs of the public.

Draft State-USAID-Defense Policy Statement on SSR



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The Security Sector

Non-state Actors

Rebels
Militias
Gangs
Criminal orgs.
Cartels
Private security companies

Armed and Public Security Forces

Police/Military
Paramilitary
Border security
Coast guards
Intelligence community
Customs agents

Civil Management/Oversight Bodies

Executive
Civilian ministries
Legislatures
Justice system
Municipal and district governments/councils

Other Actors

Donors
Intl. Financial Institutions
Neighbors
Regional orgs.

Civil Society

Media
Academia
Civic groups
Think tanks
Business communities



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Illustrative Areas of SSR Engagement

- National Security Architecture (strategy, policy, legal framework)
- Civil-Military Relations
- Governance
- Defense Reform
- Police Reform
- Justice Reform
- Penal Reform
- Intelligence Reform
- Integrated Border Management
- Public Sector Management
- Internal and External Oversight Mechanisms
- Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR)
- Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)
- Civil Society Capacity Building



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Guiding Principles

- Support Host Nation Ownership
- Incorporate Principles of Good Governance and Respect for Human Rights
- Balance Operational Support with Institutional Reform
- Link Security and Justice
- Foster Transparency
- Do No Harm

These principles assume greater importance in transitional environments



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SSR in Transitional Contexts



Why does it matter?

- **Cost of Conflict:** A recent World Bank study estimated that the benefit of averting a typical civil war is \$54bn.
- **Return to Conflict:** There is a significant chance that a country that has suffered a conflict will revert into conflict within a 10 year period.
- Low Income Countries are **15 times** more likely to go into conflict than OECD countries.
- Recent Bradford University study highlights that **\$1** spent on conflict prevention saved **\$4** in post-conflict reconstruction.



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Inclusion of SSR in Peace Agreements

- Provides an important entry point
- Sets the parameters for SSR
- Clarifies roles and responsibilities
- Links SSR to other rebuilding priorities
- Establishes a process for public participation
- Establishes required political and legal frameworks
- Facilitates donor coordination





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Linking SSR and DDR

- Sequencing and coordination
- Linking peace-building to state-building
- Preventing a security vacuum
- Restructuring/rightsizing/vetting security forces
- Identifying economic opportunities
- Small arms/light weapons





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Transitional Governments

- Types of governments
 - International administrations
 - Post-conflict power sharing governments
- Immediate priorities
 - Immediate security and justice needs
 - Threat and mission analysis
 - Planning and budgeting
 - Data collection
 - Transitional justice
 - Public consultation
 - Vetting



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Context Matters: The Legacy of the Past

- Post-authoritarian transitions
 - **Goal:** Increase transparency and accountability
 - **Key challenges:**
 - Politicization
 - Ingrained undemocratic practice
 - Corruption
 - Bloated forces/services
- Post-conflict transitions
 - **Goal:** (Re-)build systems and structures; restore peace and security
 - **Key challenges:**
 - Human capacity
 - Destroyed or damaged infrastructure
 - Security vacuum



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Multilayered Security and Justice Service Delivery

- Linking state and non-state service providers
 - Severe financial and human resource limitations
 - Weak and incomplete institutional infrastructure
 - State agencies provide less than 50% of the justice and security provision
 - Local justice and non-state providers are often providers of choice
- Proportions assistance to state agencies, local justice and non-state providers
- Targets the multiple points where service occurs