United Nations Approach for Supporting Security Sector Reform

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Why is SSR important?

The example of Liberia

• 1989: Civil War

• 1993: UNOMIL

• 1997: UNOL

• 2003: UNMIL (including SSR)

UN Security Council Resolution 2086, January 2013
What is the security sector?

**security providers**

Non-statutory security actors
- Private companies
- Rebel groups
- Organised criminal organizations
- Political party militias
- Traditional providers

Statutory security actors
- Defence forces
- Paramilitary forces
- Intelligence and secret services
- Police and gendarmerie
- Border and customs guards
- Criminal courts, prisons

**non-State**

Non-State oversight actors
- NGOs
- Media
- Religious groups
- Citizens

State

Formal oversight mechanisms
- External oversight bodies
- Legislature
- Ombudsman offices
- Internal oversight structures
SSR: A Comprehensive Process

needs, threats, objectives, vision of the State and its people

sector-wide (strategic political) level

national security policies/strategies & plans coordination

defence
police
intelligence
border security
prisons
non-State security providers
civil society
parliament
judiciary
other...
governance and oversight
management incl. financial
human rights
gender
child protection
SSR in the UN

- The SSR Unit serves as the focal point and technical resource capacity on SSR for the United Nations system, as well as national and international partners.

  - Supports the rapidly expanding range of field Missions involved in assisting national SSR efforts, primarily at the sector-wide level of SSR.

  - Serves as a global centre of excellence by developing guidance and fostering an international normative basis for SSR.

  - Leads UN efforts to develop a “One-UN” approach to SSR, with the goal of enhancing the United Nations capacity to deliver more efficient and effective support to national and regional SSR efforts.
Mission support at the sector-wide level has focused on a range of highly valuable strategic-political activities, such as:

- design of national security sector strategies;
- the development of security sector legislation;
- the conduct of security sector reviews;
- the design of national security sector development plans;
- the facilitation of national dialogues on SSR;
- the development of national management and oversight capacities;
- the establishment of national coordination bodies for SSR.

[General Assembly, A/66/19, September 2012]
Leading a “One UN” Approach

UN Inter-Agency SSR Task Force

DPKO and UNDP (co-chairs)

- DPA
- OHCHR
- OSAA
- OSRSG-SVC
- PBSO
- UNITAR
- UNODA
- UNODC
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- UN Women
- UN Women

SSR Unit (secretariat)

- Coordinated support to national SSR efforts
- Implementation of specific projects on SSR in field Missions
- Management of SSR roster of experts
Defence Sector Reform

DSR is a nationally owned process intended to develop an effective, efficient, accountable and affordable defence sector which operates without discrimination, with full respect for Human Rights and the Rule of Law.

**Mandate**

UN DSR support must be based on a request from national governments and/or in response to a SC resolution or GA mandate.
UN DSR Policy: Core Tasks

UN support could include the following tasks:

- Governance and oversight
- Defence legislation, norms and doctrine
- Administration, budget and management
- Training and Education
- Consensus-building
- Coordination and Review
Limits

- Avoid support in absence of oversight, accountability and management

- No support that compromises the sovereignty of the state or the human rights of the people (in line with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy - HRDDP)

- No field training or related support to enhance war-waging

- No military armaments, military equipment or related operational funds
Support for DSR in Practice

- Likely: International stakeholders
- Most Likely: International stakeholders, United Nations
- Unlikely: International stakeholders, United Nations
- Very Unlikely: United Nations

Defence Sector Reform
References

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abZbXA4vMVM