

EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE



Basic Course on Security Sector Reform

Activity Number 10

Standard Curriculum

11. 06. 2014

Reference Documents

Réforme du Secteur de Sécurité – Projet de document relatif aux équipes d’experts européens déployable	14576/1/08 Rev1
Security Sector Reform (SSR) : EU SSR deployable pool of experts – Item 1 – Profiles	PMG 12/09 Rev3
Security Sector Reform (SSR) – deployable European expert teams – Establishment of a pool of experts and deployment of experts	13246/09
Security Sector Reform – deployable European expert teams – Training and sharing of experiences	14804/09
EU Concept for ESDP support to SSR	(Dec 2005)
The Concept for EC support to SSR	(May 2006)
The EU Policy Framework for SSR	(Jun 2006)
The Conclusions on Security & Development	(Nov 2007)

Aim

Through an interactive and practical training approach, this course will help participants to:

- Better understand the concept and evolution of SSR, including actors, concepts and principles;
- Understand the political nature of SSR and the challenges faced when ‘supporting’ SSR processes in conflict- affected or fragile states;
- Understand the EU approach to SSR as the basis for their engagement in the framework of CSDP and EU external action activities;

The course is designed to:

1. Provide personnel of Member States and EU Institutions with a basic understanding of SSR as a concept and of its generic principles, and of the EU approach to SSR and related challenges.
2. Contribute to the SSR Expert Roster – to the creation of a pool of European SSR experts to be in charge of SSR activities carried out by the EU, within the framework of CSDP or Commission support for EU external action.
3. Enhance the sense of shared identity and common purpose among those who are working on EU SSR activities.
4. Identify areas of SSR where EU policies and mechanisms exist and where they do not.
5. Enhance the network of people working in the field.

General description and Organisation

Target audience

This course is aimed primarily at personnel within EU structures or EU Member States, involved in strategic or executive aspects of SSR. Participants should also have a basic knowledge both of the European Union, its history and its structure and also of the CSDP and EU external action activities.

Cognitive Objectives.

At the end of the course the participant will be able to:

- ✓ Describe the basic principles of SSR as a locally owned and politically governed process, based on human rights, democracy and the rule of law;

- ✓ Describe the comprehensive approach of the EU, including the civilian and military missions under the CSDP as well as the Commission's development work;
- ✓ Explain the EU SSR policy frameworks and implementation mechanisms;
- ✓ Summarize the holistic approach to SSR encompassing a wide variety of activities carried out by governmental and non-governmental actors;
- ✓ Understand various institutional approaches to SSR, including the approach of the UN, OSCE, the African Union (AU), NATO, as well as the importance of coordination of SSR interventions;
- ✓ Demonstrate the importance of adapting their own field of expertise to the challenges of a common approach to SSR and of collaborating with other actors from the various segments of the security sector;

Affective objectives.

At the end of the course the participant will:

- ✓ share core values of a holistic SSR approach based on the EU principles regarding SSR, including human rights, the rule of law, democracy, local ownership, gender sensitivity, efficiency, accountability, transparency, and sustainability in cooperation and coordination with other national and international state and non-state actors for creating/developing a stable environment.

Duration.

The duration of the course is one month, consisting of an Internet-based Distance Learning (IDL) preparatory phase of approximately four working days, followed by a residential module of three working days. IDL can be done at any time after selection and before the residential module.

Methodology

The methodology of the course aims at providing the participants with theoretical and practical knowledge which will be directly applicable in their daily work. Therefore, the training is based on blended adult learning principles which allow the participants to integrate its content both cognitively and experientially. The participatory co-learning methodology enables participants to contribute by sharing their experiences and their professional and practical insights with the facilitators and other participants. Contents are communicated through interactive information sharing in group work, and plenary discussions. A case- study approach is used primarily for passing on further factual knowledge on the course. In order to link the teaching as much as possible to the experiences of the participants, a pre-course questionnaire will be distributed and reviewed.

For creating common basic knowledge among participants and to achieve some of the learning objectives in advance, a reading list with reading material (available on the internet), together with IDL preparatory modules, are sent to the participants by e-mail before the beginning of the course. A case -study approach is used primarily for passing on further factual knowledge on the course. In so doing the focus is especially on recent EU/CSDP SSR activities.

Overall structure

Module Program. (indicative)

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Introductions of participants and programme Presentation of ESDC An Introduction to Security Sector Reform (SSR): Part I	SSR and State- building	EU SSR missions/operations Engagement, lessons learned, best practices
Who's Who in a Typical Security Sector?	Oversight and Accountability of the Security Sector and Principles of the RoL	Case Study on EU SSR Engagement, lessons learnt, best practices
The EU Approach to SSR: the Policy Frameworks	Strengthening Coordination for EU SSR Support, including international coordination	Continued
EU SSR in Different Contexts;	SSR and Gender	Course Evaluation and Follow-up

The Course Programme can be adapted according to recent needs and to national education systems.

IDL

AKU 1 (History and Context of CSDP)

AKU 2 (European Security Strategy)

AKU 7 (Lisbon Treaty)

AKU 11 (An introduction to gender-sensitive peacekeeping operations)

Contents for teaching. *See annex 1*

Materials

Materials used will have to represent current developments in the field of SSR in general and in EU policies in particular.

List of Annexes:

Annex 1: Contents for teaching and topics

ANNEX 1

CONTENTS FOR TEACHING AND TOPICS

ESDC SSR BASIC COURSE

Introductions:

Before the substantive sessions of the course start, the course objectives, the facilitators and the workshop participants will be introduced. Ground rules and participants' expectations - based on a pre-course questionnaire - will be reviewed.

An Introduction to Security Sector Reform (SSR): Part I

This session will present the key terms and principles underpinning SSR as well as the history and development of the concept. It will describe the special features characterising an SSR process and provide examples of a range of security sector challenges found across different contexts. This session will emphasise key elements of SSR, including SSR as a context-specific, nationally owned political process adhering to principles of human rights, democracy and rule of law.

An Introduction to Security Sector Reform (SSR): Part II

In this session, participants will learn about the different actors involved in implementing and supporting the implementation of SSR including the EU, UN, OSCE and the AU. Examples of national actors' efforts to conduct SSR will also be addressed. Participants will learn about the SSR programme cycle and the different programme areas addressed by SSR.

Who's Who in a Typical Security Sector?

Following a presentation of the main kinds of actor involved in a typical security sector, participants will develop a generic security sector map. Using this map as a platform, participants will identify the actors that play the most important role in managing, overseeing and coordinating the activities of the security sector in their home countries.

The EU Approach to SSR: the Policy Frameworks

This session will provide a discussion of the SSR policy frameworks developed by the Commission and the Council and examine how they relate to other activity areas and programmes of the EU. The focus will be on the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the European Development Fund, the Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace, EU Enlargement and Neighbourhood programmes and the role of Member States.

EU SSR in Different Contexts

This session will highlight the fact that SSR occurs and is required in many different contexts. Although the entry points may differ, the purpose- ensuring greater accountability and effectiveness of security and justice- remains the same. Special attention will be paid to SSR in post-conflict environments but this session will also stress that SSR deals in addition with security and justice as a public policy issue in mature democracies, countries in transition and countries in conflict. Particular attention will be paid not only to EU missions where there is an explicit SSR mandate but also to EU missions that are significant contributions to SSR. The session will highlight the various instruments of the EU, including the civilian and military missions under the CSDP and the development programmes of the Commission.

Oversight and Accountability of the Security Sector - Principles of the Rule of Law

This session will discuss the importance of security sector oversight and accountability and review the different ways it is exercised by different actors, in particular of the EU.

Strengthening Coordination for EU SSR Support

This session will discuss the rationale behind the need for coordination mechanisms for SSR, the obstacles to effective coordination, communication and cooperation that can arise in multi-actor SSR activity, and some of the techniques that have been developed to deal with such obstacles. The role of national security councils and national security strategies in ensuring coherence across the security sector will also be addressed.

SSR and Gender

This session will explore the importance of both men and women as active participants in peacebuilding and state-building processes, including participation in planning and implementation of SSR processes at political and executive levels. The session will also discuss differing security perceptions and needs of men, women, boys and girls. Possible entry points for integrating gender into SSR programming will be discussed, and examples of successful gender programmes will be provided. This session includes discussions on the linkage between SSR and UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820 and subsequent resolutions.

EU SSR missions/operations

In this session, participants will be offered an overview of the different lessons identified and best practices from the EU's operational engagements in the field of SSR.

Case Study on EU SSR

After acquainting participants with EU assessment tools and best practices in planning, conducting and following up assessments, techniques and challenges in the area of programme design will be introduced. Finally, various MR&E initiatives currently under development will be explored and assessed for their robustness and relevance.

Course Evaluation and Follow-up

This session will sound out participants on the overall effectiveness of the course, assess the various methodologies that have been used to monitor participants' reactions to the course as it has unfolded and launch a discussion of how the course can be effectively followed up to promote continued learning and experience exchange and help foster an EU SSR community of practice.