



Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of  
Armed Forces (DCAF)

# **The SSR-DDR Interface: Experiences in Sub-Saharan Africa**

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International Seminar on Disarmament and Globalisation: How can International and Regional Conventional Arms  
Regulation Efforts Help in Achieving Stability and Security?, 9 July 2008



## DDR-SSR linkages (I)

- **DDR sets the terrain for SSR by establishing the numbers and nature of the security sector.**
- **Decisions on the mandate, structure and composition of the security sector should inform who is demobilised/retained**
- **Former soldiers may be employed in other parts of the security sector**
- **DDR is SSR: Demobilisation as defence reform**
- **Failed reintegration puts pressure on police, courts and prisons**
- **Successful DDR can free up resources for SSR**



## DDR-SSR Linkages (II)

- « **The Organisation's approach to SSR could also build on the United Nations-wide disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) standards. This approach to SSR could inform the design and implementation of DDR strategies in order to facilitate the establishment of effective and accountable security institutions. »**

*Securing Peace and Development: the role of the United Nations in supporting security sector reform. Report of the Secretary-General*

- « **DDR should be adequately linked to other security-related interventions, such as mine action, SALW control and reduction, and security sector reform. »**

*Operational Guide to the IDDRS*

- « **The two issues are often best considered together as part of a comprehensive security and justice development programme. »**

*OECD DAC Handbook on SSR*



# Coordination

- **Levels of Coordination**
  - **Strategic policy level**
  - **Interface between HQ and field operations**
  - **Between different strands of a UN field mission and country team**
  - **Across the range of external actors**
  - **Between external actors and national actors**
- **How is it working?**



# Resources (I)

## Human Resources

- **Shortage/wrong kinds of SSR capacity. What about DDR?**
- **How to optimise available capacity? (double-hatting/DDR & SSR units)**



## Resources (II)

### Financial Resources

- **DDR and SSR programmes compete for funding?**
- **Link between Reintegration and SSR**
- **Resources as an entry point for encouraging DDR-SSR linkages e.g. MDRP**



## Sequencing (I)

- **Peace agreements have provisions on SSR and DDR**
- **Political will to include?**
- **Political will to implement?**



## Sequencing (II)

- **Entry Points for DDR and SSR**
- **Flexibility in programming**
- **Transferring responsibility to local actors**



# Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Easier to monitor and evaluate DDR than SSR?**
- **How to meaningfully evaluate the impact of one on the other?**