

Using the Gender and SSR Training Resource Package

A gender-responsive SSR process seeks to:

- » Address the different security needs and priorities of women and men
- » Confront gender-based violence against men and women, boys and girls
- » Promote the equal participation of men and women in decision-making within the security sector
- » Create security sector institutions that are representative of society at large—and thus are more trusted and effective
- » Ensure comprehensive and effective security sector oversight
- » Establish SSR that is locally-owned and sensitive to the needs of all parts of the community
- » Comply with international and regional laws, instruments and norms concerning security and gender, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Beijing Platform for Action, and UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820

Security sector reform (SSR) transforms security policies, institutions and programmes. The integration of gender issues in SSR—by taking into consideration the different security and justice needs of women, men, boys and girls and strengthening the participation of women and men in security decision-making—is increasingly being recognised as key to operational effectiveness, local ownership and oversight. As a result, countries undergoing SSR, as well as donor nations and international organisations supporting SSR processes, have committed to implementing SSR in a gender-responsive way.

In order to support gender-responsive SSR, DCAF, OSCE/ODIHR and UN-INSTRAW published, in 2008, the **Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit**.^{*} The Toolkit is a practical introduction to gender and SSR issues for policymakers and practitioners. It sets out why gender is important to SSR processes and gives concrete recommendations and examples. The Toolkit is composed of 12 Tools and 12 Practice Notes on different SSR topics, such as police reform, defence reform, parliamentary oversight and civil society oversight.

The publication of the *Gender and SSR Toolkit* prompted a strong demand for materials to support training on gender and SSR issues. This **Gender and SSR Training Resource Package** has thus been developed as a companion to the *Gender and SSR Toolkit*. The *Training Resource Package* is a series of practical training materials to help trainers integrate gender in SSR training, and deliver effective gender training to SSR audiences.

The Training Resource Package

The first part of the *Gender and SSR Training Resource Package* is the **Guide to Integrating Gender in SSR Training**. This Guide provides useful information on how to take into account gender issues throughout the SSR training cycle: in training needs assessment, learning objectives, design and development of training, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and follow up.

The rest of the *Gender and SSR Training Resource Package* is divided into sets of resources focused on particular SSR topics:

- **Security Sector Reform and Gender**
- **Police Reform and Gender**
- **Defence Reform and Gender**
- **Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender**
- **Civil Society Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender**
- **National Security Policy-Making and Gender**
- **Justice Reform and Gender**
- **Border Management and Gender**
- **SSR Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation and Gender**

Copies of the *Gender and SSR Toolkit* can be downloaded or ordered, on CD ROM or in print, at: <http://www.dcaf.ch/gssrtoolkit>

^{*} DCAF is the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces

^{*} OSCE/ODIHR is the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

^{*} UN-INSTRAW is the United Nations International Research and Training Institution for the Advancement of Women

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Each set of training resources contains the following:

Key messages: taken from the companion tool in the *Gender and SSR Toolkit*.

Training exercises: 10–19 exercises covering a range of possible subjects, methodologies, audiences and durations. Each exercise is organised under the following headings:

- *Type of exercise*
- *Audience*
- *Time required*
- *Intended group size*
- *Supplies*
- *Guidance to trainers*
- *Learning objectives*
- *Exercise instructions*
- *Handouts, worksheets and trainer's cheat sheets (if applicable)*
- *Possible variations (if applicable)*

Examples from the ground: short case studies that can be used as a resource for training.

Discussions: possible gender and SSR discussion topics, and tips on how to make discussions effective.

Training challenges to consider: additional challenges to those discussed in the Guide to Integrating Gender in SSR Training.

Additional training resources.

The trainees

These training resources take into account the many different types of audiences for SSR training. Your trainees might be from a country undergoing SSR or a donor country supporting SSR, or from different countries. They may be from the same institution or from many. They may be experienced in SSR or not.

Your SSR trainees might include, for example, representatives of:

- Ministries of Defence, Justice, Interior or Foreign Affairs
- Security sector institutions, e.g., police services, armed forces, border management services, justice and penal institutions
- Parliaments, including both parliamentarians and parliamentary staff
- Security sector oversight bodies, e.g., office of the ombudsperson and national security advisory bodies
- Civil society organisations (CSOs), including international, national and local organisations and research institutions that focus on security sector oversight and/or gender, including women's organisations
- Donors, international and regional organisations such as the United Nations, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, European Union or African Union

Each set of training resources contains exercises suitable for different types of audience. Many of the training exercises can also be adapted to fit your specific group of trainees.

Using the training exercises

The greater part of the *Gender and SSR Training Resource Package* is made up of training exercises. These exercises are designed to help you to deliver training on gender and SSR issues in an engaging and interactive manner. You will find exercises in the form of action planning, role plays, stakeholder analysis, SWOT analysis, case studies, gaps

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identification, mapping, and many other formats. Icebreakers, energisers and introductory exercises on gender are in the *Training Resources on SSR and Gender*.

The exercises focus on either one or a number of SSR issues. Some focus on particular gender issues (such as recruitment of women or addressing gender-based violence). Others are on general SSR issues in which skills to integrate gender are needed (such as consultation or project planning). The exercises can therefore be used either in a:

- Gender and SSR training session, e.g., Police Reform & Gender, Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector & Gender; or
- SSR training session not explicitly focused on gender.

A sample outline of a gender and SSR session and a sample schedule for a two day gender and SSR training are included in the *Guide to Integrating Gender in SSR Training*.

The exercise formats are not designed to be prescriptive but to spark your creativity as a trainer. We encourage you to adapt them to meet your training objectives, audience, subject matter emphasis, available time and your own needs. You can use the *Gender and SSR Toolkit* to provide background information on a wide range of gender and SSR-related topics.

The exercises are not designed to be used "in order" or as a "module." Instead, the *Training Resource Package* is designed to provide you with a diverse set of exercises that you can combine and adapt to suit the particular needs of your training.

When selecting an exercise, keep in mind:

- What are your learning objectives? Which exercise best meets these objectives?
- Who are your trainees? How many are there? Is this exercise appropriate for their level of experience?
- Does this exercise fit your timeframe?
- How could you modify the exercise to better fit your learning objectives, trainees and available time?

The exercises are organised in three categories: (1) application-in-context, (2) conceptual and (3) topic-specific.

- *Application-in-context exercises* are designed to allow trainees to apply the principles of SSR and gender to their own real world organisations, or to real or simulated cases that are used as learning aids. In general, these exercises are best suited to audiences with broad policy-level responsibilities and experience; however, depending on the subject matter and training needs and objectives, any audience could benefit from participation in these exercise formats. From a pedagogical viewpoint they are probably the most effective exercises (fastest learning), as the primary goal of each exercise is to allow trainees to explore and internalise key concepts by applying them to their own contexts.
- *Conceptual exercises* focus on wider concepts and theories, aiming for a broad understanding of the key message being pursued. These exercises are best suited to audiences with detailed programme-level responsibilities and experience (in order to broaden their perspective), or those with more senior-level policy responsibilities.
- *Topic-specific exercises* focus on a particular key point which requires training. These types of exercises would be best suited to an audience that has a specific training need or is composed largely of trainees who are new to the concepts of gender and SSR.

The point of this *Training Resource Package* is to help you to improve your gender and SSR training while being creative with the materials presented. Used together with the *Gender and SSR Toolkit*, we hope that it will encourage you to include gender as a key aspect of all your SSR training.