ENTRi
EUROPE'S NEW TRAINING INITIATIVE FOR CIVILIAN CRISIS MANAGEMENT

Course Concept*
for the
SPECIALISATION COURSE ON:

SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

I. INTRODUCTION

This four-day residential course will use experiential learning, reflection and simulation exercises to develop the skills, knowledge and competencies of participants with regard to SSR. The course methodology will use the breadth and depth of experience among participants and course facilitators to reach a shared understanding of how SSR can be implemented most effectively.

II. OVERALL OBJECTIVES

A) Course Aim

The aim of the course is to provide participants with knowledge about concepts and themes of Security Sector Reform (SSR) and hands-on practical skills to apply in Security Sector Reform programmes for civilian crisis management.

B) Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:
- Explain the underlying principles and main concepts of SSR and their relevance for crisis management;
- Understand the importance of cross-cutting themes for SSR, such as governance, holism and gender;
- Explain the multidisciplinary character of the security sector and how their reform can be addressed in an integrated manner;
- Have knowledge of the EU-approach to SSR;
- Have hands on knowledge of the instruments available at the EU for addressing SSR;
- Identify the main challenges and limitations for SSR-programmes in the practice of crisis management.

C) Methodology

This four-day residential course will use experiential learning, discussion, reflection and simulation exercises to develop the skills, knowledge and competencies of participants with regard to SSR. The course methodology will use the breadth and depth of experience among participants and course facilitators to reach a shared understanding of how SSR can be implemented most effectively.

III. GENERAL BACKGROUND

The concept of 'security' has been traditionally viewed in purely state-centric terms, focusing on the protection of states from military threats. Following the end of the Cold War, however, attention gradually shifted towards the people and their well-being. This had a profound impact on the conceptualization of security and threats to security. As a result, the notion of security came to encompass not only classic military threats, but also the need for states to promote and safeguard the livelihoods of their people – what is widely referred to today as human security. The concept of SSR developed along with this shift towards human security. It explicitly emphasized the

linkages between security and development, prompting the development community to redefine its role in the field of security, while also highlighting the importance of security in the establishment of sustainable peace and development. Today, SSR is viewed as central to the international community's efforts to help prevent violent conflict and build lasting peace in states as diverse as Afghanistan, Burundi, Sierra Leone, and Timor-Leste. In order to underscore the importance of SSR in their developmental and peace building efforts, many international, regional and bilateral actors have placed SSR on their agenda through the development of various SSR policies and guidelines. For these reasons it is highly important to gain understanding of this concept and to get familiarized with all its different aspects.

IV. SUBJECT AREAS

The course covers the following core topics:

- SSR Principles and Concepts
- Implementing SSR – Cross cutting themes: Gender and Governance
- Dealing with SSR's multidisciplinary character
- The EU's SSR tools
- Learning from experience: problems and chances of SSR implementation
- Skills and competences in SSR programmes: UN supports peacebuilding and SSR in Karina (simulation exercise)
- Scenario's for the international community (advising exercise and brainstorm)