



CBA TO SECURITY AS A PEACEBUILDING STRATEGY

Points of discussion



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- Relevance for SSR, DDR and SALW in transition or fragile contexts
- Relationship between CBA to security and Peacebuilding
- Ensuring interventions are effective

1. SSR in fragility / transition



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Message:

Technical
SSR, DDR or
SALW

projects are
not always:

(a) enough

(b) feasible

(c) the right
thing to do

- Institutional reforms does not equate to changes in culture
- ‘Official’ security institutions can be resistant to reform
- ‘Official’ security institutions may not be the relevant actor on the ground
- Technical projects do not necessarily take motivations into account
- Do no harm implications

How can CBA help?



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- It focuses on the **'culture'** of security by working with communities as much as institutions
- Allows for a **sequenced** approach to engaging with state, non-state and communities – dependent on context
- It engages with **non-state actors** and encourages them to play a positive role
- It focuses on **sustainable formats** for partnerships between state, not-state and communities

2. CBA and Peacebuilding



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Message:

**Building
peace
depends on
delivering
local security**

**Delivering
local security
depends on
progress
towards
peace**

- ‘Security’ is one of the fundamental tools for managing conflicts
- Conflicts are often created or deepened because of how security is done and how state / non-state actors operate
- Changing security practice – so that more professional and accountable – is often less of a priority in conflict contexts

Deploying CBA to security



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- Alternative processes for early warning and action
- Community-level conflict management processes
- Dealing with practical needs as an entry point to ‘reconciliation’
- Providing opportunities and support for community activism

Deploying CBA to security



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- Indirect method of engendering better practice by disputed security providers
- Rebuilding community-security provider relations
- In support of SALW and DDR processes by addressing motivations

3. Ensuring effectiveness



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Message:

Interventions should be at the right scale and of the right type to change

a) How security is done

b) How conflict is managed

- Link SSR, DDR and SALW to peacebuilding at strategic level
- Early decisions on sequencing of technical and community level actions
- Base the type / scale of intervention on:
 - ▣ The stage in the conflict cycle
 - ▣ Available political space
 - ▣ The role of security actors in the conflict
- Don't pilot – clear strategy for linking projects to macro-level change!



Meek, Begging for change, 2004. © Meek



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CBA to security as a peacebuilding strategy

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