CBA to Security as a Peacebuilding Strategy

Lessons learned?
Points of discussion

- 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

**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?

- 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

**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

- 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

- 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

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!
CBA to security as a peacebuilding strategy

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