

# New approaches to delivering Security Sector Reform in Sub-Saharan Africa



---

Wednesday 14 November (09:00-13:15), World Bank Group office, Paris

---

## Background

Security Sector Reform (SSR) is an essential element in addressing challenges pertaining to peace and state-building, democratisation and the rule of law. International support to SSR has undergone significant experiential learning in recent years, particularly with regards to its implementation in difficult and sensitive contexts in Sub-Saharan Africa. Knowledge and experience from the African continent have contributed prominently to the evolution of the SSR concept, which has resulted in increased and diversified engagement by regional actors and intergovernmental organisations to meet a growing demand by countries for external support in the security sector. An example of this trend is the growing role of international finance institutions, such as the World Bank, in establishing a framework for budget planning, public financial management, financial accountability, and oversight of the defence, police, and criminal justice systems.

The goal of this workshop is to exchange views and policy practices on new approaches to deliver SSR in Sub-Saharan Africa, assessing their contribution to broader peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts. The workshop is divided in two sessions. The first one discusses the role of public expenditure management and review in SSR programmes, through the analysis of four country cases where PER have been recently implemented: Somalia, the CAR, The Gambia, and Guinea. The second one addresses the use of SSR as an instrument to help prevent conflicts and build resilience, which implies moving away from a "business as usual" and state-centric approach to SSR and identifying the early entry points that can help mitigate conflict risks.

The discussion gathers stakeholders from international institutions, think tanks and civil society, and should guide the formulation of a set of recommendations to devise innovative and impactful SSR programmes relating to Sub-Saharan African reform contexts.

## Agenda

09:00-09:30

Welcome breakfast and registration

09:30-09:45

Opening remarks: Rethinking SSR in Sub-Saharan Africa

**Florence Gaub**

Deputy Director, EUISS

09:45-11:15

**Session I: Integrating public expenditure management into SSR processes: lessons learned from pilot countries**

*Moderator:*

**Giovanni Faleg**

Senior Analyst, EUISS

*Speakers:*

**Paul Maximilian Bisca**

Conflict & Security Consultant, World Bank

**Bernard Harborne**

Lead Social Development Specialist, World Bank

**Christophe Pradier**

SSR Officer, Office for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, OROLSI, UN

**Victoria Walker**

Head of DCAF's International Security Sector Advisory Team, ISSAT

11:15-11:30

Coffee break

11:30-13:00

**Session II: Going beyond business as usual: SSR as a prevention and resilience tool**

*Moderator:*

**Paul Maximilian Bisca**

Conflict & Security Consultant, World Bank

*Speakers:*

**Niagalé Bagayoko**

Chair of the African Security Sector Network, ASSN

**Marina Caparini**

Senior Researcher, SIPRI

**Patrick Ifonge**

Facilitator, Thinking Africa

**Aline Leboeuf**

Research fellow, IFRI

**Denis Tull**

Researcher on West Africa, IRSEM

13:00-13:15

**Closing remarks: Operational entry points to deliver better and more integrated SSR programmes**

**Florence Gaub**

Deputy Director, EUISS

**Niagalé Bagayoko**

Chair of the African Security Sector Network, ASSN

13:15

**End of meeting**