Delivery of Coherent National Security Sector Reform and Governance

Brief description of the project

o **Objective of the project** The project will enable the implementation of Security Council resolution 2553(2020) on security sector reform (SSR) by **(i)** sustaining the availability of **highly specialized expertise** to support security sector transformation at the request of a peace operation and/or host government and **(ii)** strengthening the capacity of UNHQ to provide **policy advice** through an effective lesson learned practice and improved coordination with the World Bank in the area of financing and sustainability of SSR.

o **Why is the project required?** There is a growing demand for highly specialized SSR skill sets and policy tools to advance security sector governance, multistakeholder coordination, partnership with the World Bank and international financing institutions and gender-responsive reforms. SSR mission components and advisers are insufficiently equipped to undertake security sector analyses to inform UN good offices engagement and host country priorities. Also, (i) sustaining SSR gains post-mission exit; (ii) anchoring SSR in peacebuilding priorities, sustainable development frameworks and the Women, Peace and Security agenda; and (iii) instigating smarter investments in gender-balanced and sociologically representative security institutions require drawing lessons from the delivery of UN SSR assistance and forging partnerships. Expertise is currently available for a finite duration through (i) the SSR Standing Capacity in Brindisi financed only until February 2022; and (ii) a one-year HDDPF-funded programme to enhance policy collaboration with the World Bank particularly on SSR financing. However, predictable resources are required to render specific expertise available to Member States in a timely manner, and to develop and operationalize guidance for SSR practitioners.

o **What is the expected impact of the project?** Security Council resolution 2553(2020) calls for a comprehensive approach to SSR. This project will integrate various responses to recurring demands for support in mission start-up, transition planning, SSR process design and financing, capacity building. It will thus (i) create space for an inclusive policy dialogue on SSR; (ii) improve the UN ability to help establish resilient, inclusive, accountable, effective, and responsive security institutions and governance systems, and (iii) expand knowledge on the linkages between SSR and priority UN policy agendas, notably sustaining peace, conflict prevention and Women, Peace and Security.

Expected Outcomes, Outputs and Proposed Activities

Outcomes	Outputs	Proposed Activities
UN presences rapidly respond with political, strategic, and technical security sector reform and governance expertise in highly specialized areas, upon demand by host States	The **SSR Standing Capacity is operational** and available for in-situ to peace operations and host governments 70% of the year	Support UN SSR efforts in (but not limited to) priority settings: (i) **CAR** (support post-review of the national SSR strategy); (ii) the **DRC** (SSR benchmarks in the joint transition plan); (iii) **Sudan** (tackle conflict drivers in the security sector to facilitate the political transition)
Improved collaboration on SSR/G with the World Bank, the IMF and regional organizations – generates political support, technical assistance, and predictable and sustainable financing for SSR/G	Improved guidance and support to UN Resident Coordinator Office, country teams, peacekeeping operations and special political mission on integrating SSR/G in host State development, prevention, peacebuilding,	◊ Develop an action plan to implement priorities for the UN-World Bank partnership on security-development nexus as identified in the "Executive paper on the UN collaboration with the WBG on SSR" developed with the support of the HDPPF Facility ◊ Organize a high-level round-table with Member States to roll-out the

	and recovery plans and mobilize bilateral and multilateral financing for SSR/G	Guidance Notes on PER of Security Sector and raise-awareness of the importance of ensuring the financial sustentability of public security sector reforms ◊ Develop with the WBG national assessments in a FCV settings that identifies security sector-related risks to conflict and proposes options for joint engagement in addressing those risks and enhancing the financial sustentability of security sectors ◊ Develop with the WBG public expenditure review of security sector in a FCV setting that analysis and identifies measures to enhance the affordability of security sector expenditures ◊ Deliver 2 (two) trainings to governments and UN staff on the new UN Guidance Note on Public Expenditure Reviews (PER) of Security Sector. ◊ Conduct three public expenditure reviews of the security sector in priority transition countries

- **Implementation Timeline** One year, albeit the scope of work entails multi-year resourcing

- **Explain how the project will further the implementation of the A4P commitments and the A4P+ priorities**. The project will help ensure that UN assistance on SSR contributes as a matter of priority to the pursuit of political solutions to conflict and help establish an institutional environment conducive to stability, while fostering integration of strategic and operational support interventions.

- **Have gender aspects been included in the design and implementation of the project? How does it help the Department to implement their Women, Peace and Security and Gender Parity commitments?** The projects responds directly to gender provisions in Security Council resolutions 2151(2014) and 2553(2020) on SSR; is aligned with existing guidance on gender responsive SSR and the DPO-wide guidance on "Strengthening gender-responsive DDR and SSR in peacekeeping"; facilitates the recruitment of women experts and the provision of gender-responsive SSR advice.

- **Brief explanation of any risks that the implementation of the project may face and how to mitigate them, including with regards to the impact of COVID-19 (if relevant).** Faced with scarcity of funds, SSRU is approaching donors to retain the SSR Standing Capacity long enough to accumulate institutional knowledge and codify it in guidance. SSRU will mitigate the risks of possible low demand and of travel restrictions through active outreach to peace operations and UNCTs, and in the Global Focal Point arrangement to facilitate online deliberations.

- **Proposed Budget**

Item	Brief Description	Total Amount
1 SSR Standing Capacity	12 months @ P5 salary/Brindisi	$270,000
1 Programme Manager (UN-WB partnership on SSR)	12 months @ P3 salary/New York	$198,000
Assessments and public expenditure reviews of the security sector	Partnership with research organization for the development of assessments and public expenditure reviews in FCV settings	$150,000
Communication and training on SSR guidance	Hire external consultant to develop an interactive SSR course (2 months at 500$ per day rate), produce video on SSR work and social media inputs, publish guidance	$50,000
Programme Support Costs (13%)		$86,840
		Total:$754,840