

Fact Sheet

Course on Security Sector Governance & Reform

Security Sector Reform (SSR) aims to improve the safety of women, men, girls, and boys through a more effective, affordable, accountable and transparent security sector. It places technical reforms in a political process where local ownership is key. With a specific focus on democratic governance of the security sector. The Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) offers a SSG/R course for mid- to senior-level practitioners where conceptual approaches are combined with practical examples and methods for improved Security Sector Governance.

Deadline for applications

30 November 2021

Dates

Online phase:

1 February – 18 March 2022

Residential phase:

28 March – 1 April 2022

Location

Online and FBA campus on the Island of Sandö, 450 km north of Stockholm, Sweden

E-learning

Participants are required to complete approximately 40 hours of e-learning before attending the residential phase of the course.

PURPOSE

This course aims at strengthening the capacity of participants (civilian, political, police and military personnel) to improve Security Sector Governance through effective and efficient reform. After completion of the course, participants are expected to be able to:

- Explain the concept of SSG/R and its key elements;
- Promote the importance of needs-based, tailor-made reform programmes for successful and sustainable results;
- Apply tools and methods for SSG/R analyses and assessments;
- Contribute to individual and organisational change processes in SSG/R.

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the course, participants will explore the concept of SSG/R. Experts and experienced practitioners will share theory and practical case studies to illustrate the comprehensive process of improving governance of the security sector. The challenges and opportunities arising in post-conflict situations will be analysed with a focus on sustainable reforms, ownership, and political commitment. The participants will also build new skills that are essential to planning and implementing individual and institutional change processes, such as advising and building trust with counterparts.

By working with a professional community of practitioners, FBA aims to inspire and support actors (both state and non-state) within the security sector to adopt behaviours, relationships and practices that are conducive for a security sector governed by democratic principles. FBA does so by providing non-prescriptive comparative knowledge and options rather than solutions, and facilitate processes that help key actors explore and adopt solutions that suit their context.

“For me, the most useful aspects of the course were critical analysis of specific challenges and opportunities in post-conflict examples and also tools and methods which can be used in order to improve and modernize a country’s security sector.”

Kujtim Bytyqi,
Senior Analyst,
Kosovo Security Council
Secretariat

“The course has better equipped me for working in SSR in Somalia. It made me realize that we need a holistic approach to security sector reform in Somalia, to make it work in the long run and for people to be able to feel safe. Security is not only about reforming institutions, it is also about institutions’ accountability to its people. Therefore, the success of SSR is dependent on national ownership and the meaningful participation of the whole population, especially women and youth.”

Fartun Ibrahim
Security Sector Reform Officer
UN Assistance Mission in Somali

METHODOLOGY

This course uses a blended learning approach, combining in-person delivery of training content with online distance learning. This approach gives the participants more influence on where, how, and when learning takes place. This approach also allows for active knowledge application in participants day-to-day work, something that is further supported by the development of individual Work Plans and on-the-job application.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course consists of two phases (e-learning and residential) and spans over a period of two months, starting 1 February 2022 with six weeks of e-learning and ending 1 April 2022 with a week-long residential phase at Sandö. If the spread of Covid-19 does not permit safe travels, the residential phase will also take place online.

During the e-learning, FBA employs both synchronous and asynchronous methods. Examples of synchronous methods are live workshops using specific conference software where attendance is mandatory. Examples of asynchronous methods involve reading, pre-recorded videos, interactive tools for learning, quizzes, and more. Please note that participants are required to participate in all live workshops and complete all tasks in order to be eligible to attend the residential phase.

CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION

Selection of participants will be communicated during December 2021. Selected participants are required to confirm their participation by 16 December 2021. Upon confirmation of attendance, participants will gain access to the FBA e-learning system.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For additional information, please contact:

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