Session 2: Understanding Africa’s Development-Security Nexus

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The Security-Development Nexus

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1. Concepts
2. Operational Example
The Policy Discourse

- Rwanda and Somalia interventions
- Emergence of ‘security sector reform’
- Adoption of ‘whole-of-government approaches’ and translated into ‘defence-diplomacy-and-development’
- 9/11
- 2005 *In Larger Freedom*
After a decline - #s killed by violent conflict has been increasing sharply since 2010

Source: Uppsala Conflict Database
Violent conflict is becoming more complex

Data Source: UCDP/PRIO Dyadic Dataset + UCDP Non-State Conflict Dataset
The majority of violent conflicts are occurring in Africa,
Insecurity as impediment to development

World Development Report 2011
Insecurity as an impediment to development

- Crime and violence – costing El Salvador 16% GDP/year (UNDP)
- Civil war costs a medium sized development country the equivalent of 30 years of GDP growth (WDR 2011)

Underdevelopment = insecurity

Causes of violence and conflict very contentious

- Individual risk factors associated with poverty, unemployment, lack of education etc
- (see Caroline Moser 2004 Urban Violence and Insecurity)
- National risk factors – the evidence is far more uneven
- Greed vs grievance debate (Collier, Frances Stewart etc)
Underdevelopment = insecurity

The WDR 2011 – shifted the focus more on the capacity of institutions to manage conflict vs simply on low income

- Institutions = the rule of the game and shared values as transacted by or enforced by organizations
- How to build effective institutions – particularly those that provide security, justice and jobs
Development as an instrument – causing insecurity

Understanding the nature of conflict and the interaction of external agents:

• Do no harm and political economy literature (e.g. Mary Anderson, David Keen, Alex de Waal);

• Use of aid in counterinsurgencies (Strandow, Findley & Young)

• Corruption as source of insecurity – Sarah Chayes Thieves of State

• Macro levels - exclusion, lagging regions, fiscal imbalances
Development as an instrument – with security objectives

Development assistance being provided in wars to reduce violence/ improve security

• From pacification in Vietnam to winning hearts and minds in Iraq and Afghanistan – but with mixed results (Beath)

• Disarmament and demobilization – literature e.g. Uvin, Humphreys and Weinstein

• Peacebuilding and peacekeeping – Andy Mack

• Whole of government approaches –
Public Expenditure Reviews – The nexus between security and public finance

From Billions to Trillions –

The instrument: Public Expenditure Reviews –

1. Affordability
2. Effectiveness
3. Efficiency
4. Accountability
