



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Emerging Security Sector Leaders (ESSL) Seminar

DISCUSSION GROUP EXERCISE

Thursday 13th June 2019

PARTICIPANTS' GUIDE

This exercise is designed to highlight the importance of critical thinking, innovation and adaptation in the development, design, implementation and monitoring of national security strategies in Africa. Participants should review content from prior sessions in Module One before starting this exercise. The exercise will be conducted in the various discussion groups, with the brief-back being in plenary.

Part One provides an interactive overview of key concepts and principles. Participants are encouraged to be innovative and draw on a wide variety of data sources to complete this part. In Part Two, participants will be applying the concepts and principles analyzed in Part One to real-world problem solving. Each group will work on a different case study.

Part One: Concepts and Principles

- Iteration and Adaptation Exercise (*55 minutes*)
- Problem Definition and Goal Setting (*25 minutes*)
 - Is insecurity in Africa a simple, complicated or complex problem? Discuss the implications of your answer.
 - What is goal setting/visioning? Who initiates the process, and why is this important?
 - Should your goal/vision reflect: (a) current threats, (b) society's aspirations, (c) future trends, (d) resource availability, and/or (e) other factors?
- Summary of Findings and Recommendations (*10 minutes*)

Part Two: Applied Analysis

Start by reviewing your case study. Then select a rapporteur, who would present detailed responses to the following questions during the plenary session. Group responses should reflect the wealth of knowledge and experience each participant brings, as well as all of the concepts and principles discussed in Part One.

QUESTIONS

1. Draft and discuss a vision statement for your case study country.
2. Which institutions could enhance security sector governance?
3. Identify key stakeholders. What role would they play in helping the country reach its goals?
4. Recommend mechanisms to improve inclusivity and coordination.
5. How would iteration and adaptation work in your case study country?
6. Recommend strategies to measure progress (and impact) in your case study country.

Brief-Back Session

Each discussion group will nominate one group member to make a 12-15 minute presentation during the brief-back session on Thursday 13th June. This oral presentation (no PowerPoint) should synthesize the findings and recommendations of the group, and should provide detailed and 'actionable' responses to the exercise questions.