



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

MANAGING SECURITY RESOURCES IN WEST AFRICA

INFORMATION NOTE

- WHAT:** The Africa Center for Strategic Studies will facilitate a four-day workshop on tools and techniques for effective resource management in Africa's security sector and key approaches for aligning security resources with national security strategies.
- WHERE:** Lomé, Togo
- WHEN:** 12-15 February 2024
- WHO:** Approximately 50 mid- to senior-level officials with demonstrable experience in the management of resources for the security sector and/or the responsibility for strategic planning and policy drafting in their countries or institutions. Participants will be invited from Benin, Cabo Verde, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo. Nominees will be drawn from the following institutions: (i) security sector (defense, national security service/agency, interior), (ii) development/diplomacy sector (finance/economy and foreign affairs) and (iii) executive/coordination bodies (Office of the President/Prime Minister, National Security Council, Office of National Security Advisor). Invitations will also be extended to a limited number of key stakeholders with strategic interests in African security including senior U.S. officials from the Department of Defense, Department of State, and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as well as officials from the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the Centre des Hautes Etudes de Défense et de Sécurité (CHEDS). Female candidates are encouraged.
- WHY:** Since 1999, the Africa Center has supported capacity building initiatives in Africa's security sector. The efficient management of available resources is a key pillar of an effective national security strategy. As security challenges in Africa become more complex and as increasing demands for development force governments to make important trade-offs with available national resources, the efficient management of the resources allocated to the security sector becomes particularly important. While many African security professionals are familiar with the objectives, modalities, and outcomes of

national security strategy, applying appropriate resource management principles to national security strategy implementation remains challenging.

Many African countries face challenges generating, allocating, and managing security sector resources for reasons that include: weak institutions, capacity constraints, inadequate oversight, and lack of transparency and coherent national security strategies. Although some countries are taking steps to address these issues, significant challenges persist. The resulting fragility, inefficient institutions and (in some cases) corruption impact force readiness and the attainment of national/regional security goals. The judicious management of available security sector resources in West Africa is both urgent and critical.

HOW: The workshop will comprise: (a) interactive sessions, (b) case-based group discussions, and (c) scenario-building exercises. Participants will be introduced to sound principles and appropriate frameworks that support the creation and growth of effective resource management institutions in Africa. The workshop will be conducted in English and French, to allow all participants to contribute and interact effectively. A policy of non-attribution will be observed during and after the workshop.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

1. Enhance capacity and professionalism among participants responsible for the design, implementation, and oversight of security sector budgets in West Africa.
2. Explore the frontier issues in the management of security resources across West Africa while identifying key policy, institutional, and capacity achievements.
3. Introduce and demonstrate public financial management tools and approaches to align budgeting processes with implementation of national security strategies.