DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

SECURITY SECTOR GOVERNANCE PROJECT

OVERVIEW

Security actors and systems play a critical role in advancing peace and stability in their countries while enhancing USG national security interest and USAID's foreign assistance and development priorities. USAID has played an important role in establishing, maintaining, and improving the security sector in many countries by providing technical, material and financial support to their human rights and justice actors, including police, judicial, legal, prison, military, and paramilitary institutions. This also includes stated and civilian-oversight mechanisms such as parliaments, national ombudsmen, the inspector general office, and civil society and media actors. As part of this work, USAID supports security sector governance (SSG), which is the set of policies, plans, programs, and activities that a government implements to provide services that promote safety, security, human rights, and justice in an effective, transparent, and accountable manner responsive to the needs of the public.

USAID's global SSG project, which ended in January 2021 and was implemented by Chemonics International, provided technical, analytical, and material assistance to USAID missions on SSG and reform. The SSG project also provided USAID officers worldwide with tools and resources to assist in the design, implementation, and evaluation of SSG-related programs.

ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

- **Studies and Guides**: The SSG project produced publications on specific technical topics related to the security and justice sectors. For example, the project researched and published a police accountability report in 2020, which captures current evidence of what works to strengthen and improve police accountability. The report analyzes a range of accountability programming to identify effectiveness and specific options for SSR practitioners.

- **Workshops and Trainings**: The SSG project convened technical workshops focused on elements of security sector reform, such as community policing best practices, institution-building best practices, and civil society engagement in security sector governance. For example, the project facilitated a workshop with the NATO Building Integrity team, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, USAID, and USAID implementing partners to discuss lessons learned and best practices from NATO's Building Integrity Programme, the Security Governance Initiative, and USAID programs in the sector.

- **Assessments and Technical Advice**: The SSG project provided short- and long-term technical experts to conduct assessments on topics such as security sector reform, gender and social inclusion, community policing, or the rule of law; and to provide support in areas such as human resources reform, strategic communications, police reform, prison reform, community policing, accountability mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation, or logistics systems. For example, the project provided technical experts to help with the program design of Ghana's case-tracking system project and offers toolkits on SSR and justice sector indicators and institution building.

- **Pilot Programming**: The SSG project implemented pilot programming, including advisory services, training and education, and other tools through long- and short-term technical assistance as requested by USAID and host national partners. For example, the project provided a grant to the World Justice Project to conduct education efforts for civil society members in Niger, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, and Mali on findings from their rule of law index.

This SSG project enhanced USAID's ability to respond to SSG challenges and better assess, design, and implement security sector programs while ensuring human rights respect and observance of national and international human rights law. To date, the SSG project has provided short- and long-term technical assistance to several missions in Africa on a range of topics and developed an introductory SSG course and security sector reform programming guide for USAID Mission staff. See a complete list of resources here.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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