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Common Effort 2019 approach

Defence, Safety & Security

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Summary

Common Effort was initiated in 2010 as a training platform for furthering the cooperation between governmental, non-governmental, civil society, and military organizations. The Common Effort Community, launched in 2015 in Berlin, promotes a whole-of-society involvement in addressing issues of security and safety

The Common Effort Community gathered from 14-18 Oct 2019 in Berlin, Germany, with a total 183 registered participants (113 civil and 70 military), spanning 21 different nationalities representing 72 different organisations, including participants from the G5 Sahel countries. Common Effort adopted a multi-year regional focus on the Sahel region driven by security and development policies for many European countries, including Germany and the Netherlands.

For this gathering a free format setup was designed to allow diverse interactions between participants. This comprised parallel sessions in workshops, panels, and so-called Expert Groups and 'Comprehensive Planning' Groups (exploring civil-military cooperation), plenary keynote presentations and panel discussions.

In preparation focal policy questions and critical issues to be addressed were solicited to be addressed in Expert Groups challenged to develop innovative ideas and proposals to support G5 SAHEL initiatives and processes, aligned with NLD and DEU policies.

Here we report on the development and achievements of the Common Effort 2019 with a focus on the results the five Expert Groups and their related focal question:

- 1 Expert Group on G5 Sahel Joint Force – Justice Nexus
How to improve the relationships and cooperation between the security forces, justice chain and population?
- 2 Expert Group on Trust, Human Rights, Gender, and Dialogue
How to build/strengthen the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with the population, in particular women and youth, in the efforts to bring stability, safety and security to the Sahel?
- 3 Expert Group on Development and Security in Fragile Border Areas
How to strengthen a comprehensive approach in the cooperation of border communities and to improve integrated border management?
- 4 Expert Group on Engaging Youth for Security
Taking a comprehensive view, what are practical examples that have been effective to strengthen the involvement of youth in the security process?
- 5 Expert Group on Narrative Management
What (Community) Radio/ Communication narrative formats are most effective to enhance strategic communication and support the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with the population?

The results of the sessions are first steps toward deeper understanding and identifying innovative approaches to the complexities of the Sahel region, and will provide a basis for the next G5 Sahel Common Effort meeting 15-18 June 2020 in The Hague.

Contents

	Summary	2
1	Introduction.....	4
2	Common Effort 2019 approach	5
3	Policy-related Expert Groups short reports	8

Appendices

A Common Effort Community Statement

B Common Effort 2019 Berlin 14-18 Oct 2020 Week program

C Concept notes

1 Introduction

Common Effort gathered from 14-18 Oct 2019 in Berlin, Germany to discuss security and development challenges and opportunities for the G5 Sahel countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. Participants comprised 113 civil and 70 military, spanning 21 different nationalities representing 72 different organisations, including participants from the G5 Sahel countries, both representatives from government and from civil society.

Common Effort was initiated in 2010 as a training platform for furthering the cooperation between governmental, non-governmental, civil society, and military organizations. The Common Effort Community, launched in 2015 in Berlin, promotes a whole-of-society involvement in addressing issues of security and safety. One of the principles is that interaction and collaboration between actors is an essential element in setting the conditions for achieving the desired effects during operations.

Every year the Common Effort Community and representatives from government, civil society, the military and private sector, meet to discuss and understand the complex interplay of diverse, but often interrelated factors of local and regional fragility and conflicts, and to develop innovative, comprehensive, approaches to these adverse conditions. Improving stability and state building requires the use of multiple instruments such as of governance, development, rule of law, and power. Instability and fragility are characterized by complexity with multiple actors with diverse interests at multiple levels. Situational complexity needs to be matched by an (organisational) representation of that complexity (law of requisite variety). In this context, this means that the diverse dimensions and multiple perspectives present in the region of interest should be included in policy decision making and coordination and cooperation in action. This is what a comprehensive, whole of society, approach aims to achieve. The mission of Common Effort is to enable, drive and learn to apply this comprehensive approach (see Common Effort Community Statement, Appendix A).

Common Effort recently reshaped its agenda to become more policy- and output-oriented by introducing a multi-year regional focus on the Sahel region, a region that has become a foreign policy, security and development priority for many European countries, including Germany and the Netherlands.

This memo presents the agenda of Common Effort 2019, and the short reports (pitches) of the five Expert groups during gathering. Information on earlier Common Effort activities and related TNO reports (since 2015) can be found at <https://www.common-effort.org> or obtained via the author.

2 Common Effort 2019 approach

Common Effort's objectives were established early on with input from participants and evolved over the years into these four:

- To prepare and develop innovative ideas and proposals to support G5 SAHEL initiatives and processes, aligned with NLD and DEU policies, exploring cooperation opportunities of the Common Effort Community and stakeholders in the region.
- To gain deeper insight into the complexities of security, stability, and development in the region.
- To exercise effective interaction between the participating organisations and building mutual understanding of their different perspectives and policies.
- To improve our learning from experiences in the field with these comprehensive approaches.

Common Effort's main stakeholders stressed the need for more output-orientation linked to current and upcoming policies, adding relevance and impact to the efforts being made by the stakeholders and participants. Common Effort's potential to bring together a broad - whole of society - spectrum of perspectives on security, stability and development could lead to new, comprehensive, ideas and generate practical implementations related to these policies.

In preparation for Common Effort 2019 an effort was made to solicit concrete inputs to direct the discussion in terms of policy focal points, key questions, critical issues to be resolved. This process led to a focus on the following policy-related key questions around which five expert groups were formed:

- Expert Group on G5 Sahel Joint Force – Justice Nexus.
'How to improve the relationships and cooperation between the security forces, justice chain and population?'
- Expert Group on Trust, Human Rights, Gender, and Dialogue.
'How to build/strengthen the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with the population, in particular women and youth, in the efforts to bring stability, safety and security to the Sahel?'
- Expert Group on Development and Security in Fragile Border Areas.
'How to strengthen a comprehensive approach in the cooperation of border communities and to improve integrated border management?'
- Expert Group on Engaging Youth for Security.
'Taking a comprehensive view, what are practical examples that have been effective to strengthen the involvement of youth in the security process?'
- Expert Group on Narrative Management.
'What (Community) Radio/ Communication narrative formats are most effective to enhance strategic communication and support the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with the population?'

To allow for more flexibility during the meeting - to accommodate the different needs and levels of experience of the participants - the design of the week was changed to a free format with parallel discussion sessions, workshops, panels, resulting in three main strands: Expert Groups (labelled this way to bring high expertise on G5 Sahel and related problems together), 'Comprehensive Planning' Groups (exploring civil-military cooperation), and a Plenary strand with keynote presentations and panel discussions. The Common Effort Community was invited to propose additional themes to be discussed related to the central focus on the G5 Sahel.

Besides the Expert groups mentioned above, in the Expert strand additionally two other groups presented their findings:

- International Peace Operations: Contribution to peace and stability in the Sahel region with special emphasis on civilian capacities and its impact.
- Review of "Early Warning – Early Action" Pilot (Burkina Faso).

The three 'Comprehensive Planning' groups covered:

- G5 Sahel Security Forces and the Comprehensive Approach.
- Innovation for Development and Stability in the Sahel.
- Good Governance.

The Plenary strand comprised (in order of presentation):

- Keynote 1 Conflict lines in the Sahel (Mathieu Pellerin, Sahel-Expert, Int. Crisis Group).
- Keynote 2 EU Perspective (Vivian Huijgen, Franck Haaser, Office of the EUSR on Sahel).
- Keynote 3 (a): Regional Perspective (G5 Sahel) (Norbert Souako Kohoun, Coordinator G5 Sahel Presidency of Burkina Faso)
- Keynote 3 (b): Regional Perspective (G5 Sahel) (Abdel Aziz El Mamy, Special Advisor to the Permanent Secretary of G5 Sahel).
- Keynote 4 German Perspective (Gordon Kricke, Head of inter-ministerial Team on Sahel, German MoFA1).
- Keynote 5 NLD Perspective (Josephine Frantzen, (Head of Sahel, West Africa and Great Lakes section, Dutch MoFA).
- Keynote 6 German (Security) Perspective on Sahel G5 (StS Silberhorn, German MoD).
- Keynote 7 FRA perspective (LTG (FRA) Xavier De Woillemont).
- Panel Discussion 1 A Comprehensive Approach for Sahel G5.
- Panel Discussion 2 Innovation for Development and Stability in the Sahel (I4DS).
- Pitches on a Comprehensive Approach in the Sahel.
- (High Level) Panel Discussion 3 G5 Sahel Force and Comprehensive Approach: Opportunities for the Common Effort Community.
- Measures of Success - lessons learned from civil-military cooperation practice.

¹ Ministry of Foreign Affairs

During these sessions participants assessed the current situation identifying key challenges and development gaps, and were challenged to formulate new approaches, and recommendations for comprehensive solutions. These observations, conclusions and recommendations were captured in pitches and short notes. These can (and should) be seen as first steps in further deepening the understanding of the situational complexity. For the policy-related Expert Groups the aim was to make a first stab at concrete actions and interventions to address the identified challenges and gaps related to the given key questions. These results will be presented in the next section.

3 Policy-related Expert Groups short reports

Given the complexity and the relatively fast changing of the G5 SAHEL conditions any discussion about 'solutions' has the risk of drowning in the enormity of the task. As the invited reviewer (Mr. Grünewald Executive and Scientific Director Groupe URD) summarized it "Some problems need to be solved fast, but finding the right set of solutions might take time".

The organisations leading the Expert Groups developed a concept note before the meeting with description of the background of their topic (see concept notes in Appendix) to focus the discussion. In two meetings of about four hours each they started out with sharing their experience and insights concerning the current situation in the Sahel in order to arrive at a common ground for understanding the subject in terms of key challenges. In the second meeting they worked to address these challenges again drawing from their diverse experiences.

The results of these two half days sessions can only be seen as first steps in this complex process toward deeper understanding and formulating innovative approaches. The following 'Short Reports' capture the headlines of the rich discussions on their assessment and recommendations for further development.

These reports are intended to provide a basis for continued efforts and preparation and deepening of the topic in preparation for the next G5 Sahel Common Effort 2020 meeting in June.

Assessment & Plan for further development of:

- 1 Expert Group on G5 Sahel Joint Force – Justice Nexus.
- 2 Expert Group on Trust, Human Rights, Gender, and Dialogue.
- 3 Expert Group on Development and Security in Fragile Border Areas.
- 4 Expert Group on Engaging Youth for Security.
- 5 Expert Group on Narrative Management.



Common Effort 2019 - G5 SAHEL

Expert Group on G5 Sahel Joint Force – Justice Nexus

1 Central (policy) question

How to improve the relationships and cooperation between the security forces, justice chain and population?

2 Assessment (Challenges-gaps)

- 'Security' and 'Justice' mean different things in context of Sahel, but are linked when addressed through SSR².
- Security actions with collective arrests and lack of valid evidence (militaries not trained for) and poorly equipped and staffed police lead to overcrowding of the prisons, judicial backlog, more security risks, and loss of confidence in the justice system and in the state: in other words a justice crisis.
- A dysfunctional state is preventing regular law enforcement. Characteristic are the grievances against security actors, as well as politicians, with an average of 78% rating low levels of trust in the police, politicians and military. Threat to security has changed: from among states to within states. In Mali population, 55% does not trust the State institutions.
- Lack of understanding about traditional authorities and conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Lack of recognition of existing threats and dangers to the population vis-à-vis coordination with the Force.
- In countering violent extremism groups, security providers abuse the population, the trust in them is broken (e.g. Barkhane in Kidal, or Malian forces in Central Mali) and countering violent extremism becomes obsolete and feeds into the perpetual increase of violent extremism.

1 Concrete recommendations (actions/interventions) to address #2

- Create and invest in **knowledge and understanding** about
 - a. the operational environments;
 - b. Governance structures, role of traditional actors;
 - c. Clarify and narrow the **mandate** / the **role of the Force**.
- Strengthen **the Rule of Law / Police / Judiciary** component in G5 Sahel ecosystem and mutual trust to facilitate the provision of state services.
- Work with **public information systems** to improve knowledge and understanding of the population.
- Promote development initiatives on the principle of **subsidiarity**, this will strengthen the legitimacy of **local government** (state & traditional).

² Security Sector Reform

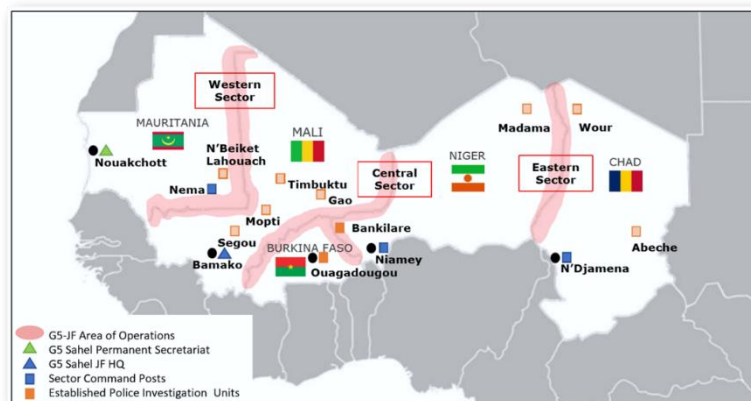
2 Proposed steps and timeline for further developing #3 (period Dec 2019 - June 2020) plus global plan for implementation (to be presented at CE2020)

Spring 2020: Identify and reach out to relevant stakeholders of **security forces, justice chain and population** for mapping initiatives.

June 2020: Stakeholders meet at CE2020 to design a proposal.

3 Lead organisation(s) and partner organisations to develop #4

DCAF-ISSAT³; UNODC⁴ Dakar; Search for Common Ground; VNGi⁵, 1GNC⁶



³ Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) - International Security Sector Advisory Team (ISSAT)

⁴ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

⁵ The Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG) International

⁶ 1.(German/Netherlands) Corps



Common Effort 2019 - G5 SAHEL

Expert Group on Trust, Human Rights, Gender, and Dialogue

1 Central (policy) question

How to build/strengthen the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with the population, in particular women and youth, in the efforts to bring stability, safety and security to the Sahel?

2 Assessment (Challenges/gaps)

- Lack of knowledge and information sharing between various actors operating in the Sahel, and especially between civilians and (local and foreign) security actors, who often do not understand each other's "languages" and viewpoints due to a lack of communication.
- There are no safe spaces for women and youth to engage with security, justice and defence actors.
- Gap between policy and practice: we have UN Resolutions and National Action Plans on 1325, 2250, etc. Also, there are SEA⁷ policies and preventing and combatting (S)GBV⁸ policies. But these regulations and policies are (often) poorly implemented and there are no reporting or accountability mechanisms in place.
- Limited and/or exclusive community engagement: while security actors sometimes recognise the fact that religious and traditional leaders hold important roles within communities, only the key male leaders are approached and consulted, leaving women and youth behind. This deepens the lack of ownership especially when security and justice needs are not fully met.
- In the Sahel the feelings of mistrust towards security actors and people in uniforms in general are particularly strong. People do not understand what security actors are doing. They are not informed about the mandate or experience a gap between the mandate (with emphasizes on human rights, rule of law, inclusion) on paper and the daily practice (with more often a focus on technical 'train and assist' support). When they see that violence gets worse, they feel the military is failing them or making things worse as there seems to be no proof of accountability, which can sometimes lead to a feeling of revenge
- Lack of political will and operational will (general awareness) among almost all actors operating in the Sahel about the importance of the role of women and youth for peace and security. Foreign security and defence actors are not (fully) aware of pre-existing civil society infrastructures or informal and traditional decision-making mechanisms in society.
- There is a lack of female peacekeepers and gender advisers among security forces.

⁷ Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

⁸ Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

- Women often lack the level of education required to meaningfully participate, or their existing engagement is not valued/ taken in consideration.
- There is a gap between what is being done at local level and the national peace and security processes. Many initiatives at local level do not have weight at national level because of this disconnect. There is no comprehensive strategy that links local, national and international level. The different perceptions of security are not being included, widening the gap further.

3 Concrete recommendations (actions/interventions) to address #2

- Cooperation between civilians and military should start before the start of any operation in the countries. Prior to planning and operations, they should conduct joint mapping of stakeholders and situation analyses
 - To achieve this, there is a need to create **safe spaces and dedicated multi-stakeholder platforms** for civilians and security actors to communicate, share, and get to know and understand each other's perspectives.
- Key policy frameworks need a stronger emphasis on civil-military interaction, such as the Dutch NAP⁹ 1325.
 - During the revision of the NAP 1325 in 2020, the Dutch MoFA should include a mention of the importance of civil-military cooperation for WPS¹⁰, including allocated budget.
- Take concrete steps towards improving the policy and practice environment for meaningful participation of women in the peace and security processes.
 - For example, develop joint recommendations for inclusion of women in the national security sector council in Mali.
 - Develop joint advocacy initiatives for the revision of and better reporting on NAPs 1325 in G5 Sahel countries.
 - Develop a joint civil-military communications campaign to raise awareness of the importance of including women and youth in security and stability processes.

4 Proposed steps and timeline for further developing #3 (period Dec 2019 - June 2020) plus global plan for implementation (to be presented at CE2020)

- Spring 2020: Joint mapping of stakeholders and initiatives in the Sahel Workshop.
- June 2020: Meeting of all stakeholders identified at CE2020 The Hague
> Joint situation analyses leading to project concept note.

5 Lead organisation(s) and partner organisations to develop #4

GPPAC, Mercy Corps, Women's Initiatives Network Mali, Cordaid and 1GNC (civil and military staff have volunteered to co-coordinate follow up multi stakeholder sessions. WO=MEN can support if needed.)

⁹ Dutch National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325)

¹⁰ Women, Peace, and Security



Common Effort 2019 - G5 SAHEL Expert Group on Development and Security in Fragile Border Areas

1 Central (policy) question

How to strengthen a comprehensive approach in the cooperation of border communities and to improve integrated border management?

2 Assessment (Challenges-gaps)

- Room for improvement regarding overview of activities and programs on border management/development.
- Lack of IBM¹¹ strategies within the region.
- Invest more in people and training.
- Isolated communities in border areas.
- Lack of trust between communities and security forces / authorities.
- Lack of identification management (breeder documents, etc.).

3 Concrete recommendations (actions/interventions) to address #2

- Strengthen a shared recognized picture of border management related projects, in order to identify gaps → strive to synchronize future comprehensive border management projects in the field.
- Enhance participation of communities within border management and development strategies.
- To further explore concepts of identity management.

4 Proposed steps and timeline for further developing #3 (period Dec 2019 - June 2020) plus global plan for implementation (to be presented at CE2020)

Winter/Spring 2020: Identify and reach out to relevant stakeholders of integrated border management and development.

Spring 2020: Stakeholders contribute to mapping of relevant initiatives in Sahel.

June 2020: Stakeholders meet at CE2020 to design a proposal.

5 Lead organisation(s) and partner organisations to develop #4

International Organization for Migration (IOM), Danish Demining Group (DDG), SNV, Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (RNLM).

¹¹ Integrated Border Management (IBM)



Common Effort 2019 - G5 SAHEL

Expert Group on Engaging Youth for Security

1 Central (policy) question

Taking a comprehensive view, what are practical examples that have been effective to strengthen the involvement of youth in the security process?

2 Assessment (Challenges-gaps)

- Definitions of terms are not always clear (youth, peace, security).
- Mandates of (foreign) missions unknown to the population and especially young people.
- Spread of rumours and miscommunication can decrease youth' trust in security forces.
- Mutual lack of trust between youth and military.
- High levels of unemployment and lack of prospects for young people.
- Education mismatch.
- Exclusion of youth from social, economic and political processes is feeding their grievances towards the government/security actors.

3 Concrete recommendations (actions/interventions) to address #2

- Breaking down bias by increasing adequate communication between young people and security forces through the creation of (social media) platforms for interactions between young people and government/security actors.
- Increase investments in and support for youth-focused service provision.
- Aligning education to market needs: Use specific projects (e.g. Agricultural support) and Creating platforms to stimulate entrepreneurship.
- Investing in trust-building activities at community-level.

4 Proposed steps and timeline for further developing #3 (period Dec 2019 - June 2020) plus global plan for implementation (to be presented at CE2020)

Winter/Spring 2020: Identify and reach out to relevant stakeholders for the creation of a communications platform for young people and security sector/governments.

Spring 2020: Stakeholders contribute to mapping of relevant initiatives in Sahel.

June 2020: Stakeholders meet at CE2020 to design a proposal.

5 Lead organisation(s) and partner organisations to develop #4

- **Lead Organisations:** Human Security Collective and Mercy Corps.
- **Partner organisations:** 1CMI/IDEA, Berlin Africa Start-ups, Think Peace, Réseau des jeunes des pays de G5 Sahel, CELLRAD (Mali, Niger, Burkina-Faso).

Relevant material:

Report “[We hope and we fight: youth, communities and violence in Mali](https://bit.ly/2RdHBAr)”

(reference link: <https://bit.ly/2RdHBAr>)



Common Effort 2019 - G5 SAHEL

Expert Group on Narrative Management

1 Focal issue: The Creation and Influence of Narratives and Counter-Narratives, responding to the policy questions:

- How to build/strengthen the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with the population, in particular women and youth, in the efforts to bring stability, safety and security to the Sahel? (NLD MoFA).
- Role of (Community) Radio/ Communication as a Practical Tool (NLD MoFA).
- Enhancement of a Strategic Communication (DEU AA) (additional DEU policy question for 2020).

2 Assessment (Challenges-gaps)

- Rumours, half-truth and fake news are widespread in the Sahel and West African area with negative impacts on trust in governmental or non-governmental services (e.g. the Ebola case in West Africa in 2014 – 2016 showed the negative impact of narratives based on fake news and rumours during the crisis).
- The media landscape in the Sahel countries covers mainly urban areas and neglecting rural areas.
- Combined with a low level of professional journalism standards.
- The information flow into communities and related influencer structures are mostly unknown.
- Related to that it is difficult for organisations (governmental, non-governmental, security forces, ...) to reach communities and to build trust through communication relations and information sharing.
- Widely absence of communication access to communities and access of communities to relevant governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and enablers. (e.g. to communicate demands, offers, needs, opportunities, threats, support, ...).

Linked to gaps identified by Expert Group on Trust, Human Rights, Gender, and Dialogue:

- Limited and/or exclusive community engagement.
- Lack of knowledge and information sharing between various actors operating in the Sahel, and especially between civilians and (local and foreign) security actors.
- In the Sahel the feelings of mistrust towards security actors and people in uniforms in general are particularly strong.
- There is a gap between what is being done at local level and the national peace and security processes.

3 Concrete recommendations (actions/interventions) to address #2

- Community building and stabilisation through participation of citizens via community podcasts and radio based on empirical data on information and influencer structures in the respective community.
- Understanding how different kinds of information (news, rumours, fake news) are reaching the border communities and how this information is spread within them is a pre-condition for supporting community development and stabilisation.
- Community podcasts and radio as a means for counter-narrative capability (e.g. rumours countering).
- Women and youth are target groups (voice of the women and youth), women and youth empowerment through training them as citizen journalists.
- Enabling communities to raise their voice through podcasts and radio (needs, demands of communities addressed to external stakeholders, like government, international community).
- Strengthening resilience of communities through training of citizen journalists by external experts (community podcasts as access gate for trusted and pluralistic information from external organisations, like regional and national governments, security forces, NGOs, IOs).
- Additionally, community participation and disseminating reliable information via radio and podcasts can also have a positive effect on security force behaviour.
- Focus area is the Liptako-Gourma region. For a first pilot project one or two rural communities in the northern part of Burkina Faso shall be identified. A selection criterion has to be the presence of a basic infrastructure like the availability of radio sets and radio programs in the region.
- Focus groups are Women and Youth. The project aims on changing structures of information production, dissemination and perception. In order to make such social change sustainable, the social structures of communities must not be neglected but have to be the main focus of the program. Communication research has shown that media and communication practices quickly turn into habits that become part of everyday life, which means that changing communication patterns is easiest and most sustainable with young people. Furthermore, women are not only a group that is affected more than others from underdevelopment and violence, but as organizers of families and educators of children they are key persons in disseminating values and practices and therefore should be regarded as important actors for the project.
- General remark: If we consider the identified challenges and gaps of the other groups (especially the Expert Group on Trust, Human Rights, Gender, and Dialogue) we see a lot of overlapping factors directly or indirectly linked to Narrative Management and the conclusions our group has taken. Therefore a pilot project in Narrative Management could complement activities of other expert groups and modules. The workshop in calendar week 11 or the CE20 event could serve for synchronising concepts.

4 Proposed steps and timeline for further developing #3 (period Dec 2019 - June 2020) plus global plan for implementation (to be presented at CE2020)

- Regular follow up meetings of the facilitators in order to discuss and draft a concept for a possible pilot project based on a compilation of the three proposed project ideas of the expert group (two meetings have been executed – end of October and end of November 2019, next meeting scheduled for Jan2020).
- Developing a draft concept paper and budget plan for a pilot project “Narrative Management” in the Sahel (done from Nov – Dec 2019).
- Identifying and confirming possible project partners (Nov 2019 – Feb 2020).
- Developing a detailed concept paper and budget plan for a pilot project “Narrative Management in the Sahel”, with focus on rural communities in the border area of Burkina Faso. (Dec 2019 – March 2020).
- Cross-check of the project concept with key stakeholders, experts and CEC. (Jan – March 2020, incl. CE WS in calendar week 11 and CE week in June).
- Looking for funding options (March – June 2020).

5 Lead organisation(s) and partner organisations to develop #4

Lead:

- Freie Universität Berlin, (DEU), Prof. Dr. Martin Emmer.
- 1 (German/Netherlands) Corps, Münster, (DEU), LTC Matthias Duchscherer.
- DEKRA Hochschule für Medien, Berlin, (DEU), Prof. Dr. Michael Beuthner, Prof. John Kantara.

Partners (current state):

- ELVA Community Engagement, (NLD), Jonne Catshoek (visualisation of information and influencer structures).
- Deutsche Welle Akademie, Bonn (DEU), Pax Sahel project, Carine Debrabandère, (advice and training of citizen journalists/podcaster >TBC).
- Zentrum für Operative Kommunikation der Bundeswehr, Mayen (DEU), N.N. (field survey development), TBC.
- L'Université d'Ouagadougou, (BFA) Dr. Justine Couliadiati-Kielem (conceptual advice, field survey development), TBC.
- IOM, N.N. (field access for survey), TBC.
- Pax, N.N. (field access for survey), TBC.

Appendix: Relevant material and findings that emerged during the CE discussions (supporting information)

- Concept Note CE19 Narrative Expert Module - Agenda CE19 Narrative Expert Module.

A Common Effort Community Statement

WE

as signatories and observers to this statement launching the Common Effort Community, coming from government, civil society, the military and private sector in Germany and the Netherlands as well as others interested from within the UN and other countries

*

are convinced that it is our common concern to contribute to a safe and secure world in which men and women live with dignity enjoying their universal human rights

*

are aware that conflicts and fragility generally result from a complicated interplay of diverse, but often interrelated factors, such as economic (lack of jobs and income), political, social, cultural and religious aspects. Recent history shows that this interplay can easily lead to a lack of identity amongst youth, poor basic services, weak state structures, unable or unwilling governments, which eventually can generate fundamentalism and extremism

*

conclude that sustainable solutions for fragility and conflict can only be achieved with a comprehensive, whole-of-society approach, comprising a wide range of governmental and non-governmental actors, internationally as well as in the country at stake; and that the UN, the international civil society and the international military organisations that work in the field of humanitarian aid, reconstruction, development and peace building should interact in an effective manner, while respecting each other's mandate, in order to address the multiple dimensions of fragility and conflict

*

Intend to

build and expand relevant networks to combine and coordinate efforts, expertise or experience;

train, learn and share knowledge and experiences to improve our understanding of fragility and conflict, including also local security dynamics and perceptions of civilians in conflict areas, which will also enhance our strategies in the field of Protection of Civilians;

develop and evaluate our concepts and approaches by formulating and implementing yearly Action Plans that translate this Statement into concrete joint actions, wherever needed and whenever possible within the capacities and mandates of each and every signatory;

promote public and political support in Germany, The Netherlands as well as in other countries and with international forums like NATO, EU and the UN for the Integrated (comprehensive) Approach.

B Common Effort 2019 Berlin 14-18 Oct 2020 Week program

Common Effort Program 2019 (Version 0.29)

NATO UNCLASSIFIED – RELEASABLE TO COMMON EFFORT 2019

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri		
Location	Julius Leber Baracks (JLB) Kurt-Schumacher-Damm 41 10465 Berlin-Weißhof	JLB	JLB	Kornel Adenauer-Stiftung, Forum, Targartenstr. 35, 10785 Berlin	JLB		
AM	Traveling	08:30-09:00 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote 3 (a): Regional Perspective (GS Sahel) (Norbert Soukou Khouss, Coordinator GS Sahel Presidency of Burkina Faso) Keynote 3 (b): Regional Perspective (GS Sahel) (Abdel Aziz El Mary, Special Advisor to the Permanent Secretary of GS Sahel) 09:00-09:20 Break 09:20-09:50 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote 4: German Perspective (Gordon Kische, Head of interministerial Team on Sahel, German MuFA) 09:50-10:30 Break 10:30-11:00 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote 5: NEP Perspective (Josephine Franzen, Head of Sahel, West Africa and Great Lakes section, Dutch MuFA) 11:00-11:20 Break 11:20-11:50 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote 6: German (Security) Perspective on Sahel GS (Stef Silbertshorn, German MoD) 11:50-13:00 Lunch	08:30-17:30 Comprehensive Planning (BUILDING 27) Syndicates: - GS Sahel Security Forces and the Comprehensive Approach (BUILDING 27, ROOM 114) - Innovation for Development and Stability in the Sahel (BUILDING 27, ROOM 211) - Good Governance (BUILDING 27, ROOM 204)	08:30-12:00 Expert Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Trust building, Human Rights & Dialogue in the Sahel Region (Session 2) Anne-Fleur Dekker (WOMEN), Susan Casten (Mercy Corps), Anne Kwakendans (CORDAID), Gabriella Vogelgar (OPFAC), Antoinette Mutua (Women's Initiatives Network Mail) (CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION)	08:30-12:00 Expert Strand (KLEINER SAAI) Regional border management and development (Session 2) Joachim Jansen (RNDM), Lisa Boyle (DOD), Baptiste Amieux & Massimo Ramanzini (COM), Mahamadou Badji (SNG) 08:30-12:00 Expert Strand (JULIUS-LEBER-ZIMMER) Engaging Youth for Security (Session 2) Sarah Casten (Mercy Corps), Theophile Djedjela (Human Security Collective) 12:00-13:00 Lunch	08:30-09:30 Pitch on a Comprehensive Approach in the Sahel Moderator: Geraldine de Baetion Outcomes of the Comprehensive Planning Syndicates and the Expert Modules 09:30-09:50 Break 09:50-11:00 Pitch on a Comprehensive Approach in the Sahel Moderator: Geraldine de Baetion Outcomes of the Comprehensive Planning Syndicates and the Expert Modules 10:30-11:00 Break 11:00-12:00 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Strategic Discussion: Why No Common Effort 2020? Steven Melville (LINC)	08:30-10:30 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Measures of Success Suzanne Upwater (Ständerberg International, Jangfron), Dr. Mark Rowak (Gustav Stresemann Institut), MAB Ulrich Lachke
PM	13:00-17:30 Arrival / Preprocessing (Full time participants)	13:00-18:00 Comprehensive Planning (BUILDING 27) Syndicates: - GS Sahel Security Forces and the Comprehensive Approach (BUILDING 27, ROOM 114) - Innovation for Development and Stability in the Sahel (BUILDING 27, ROOM 211) - Good Governance (BUILDING 27, ROOM 204)	13:00-18:00 Expert Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Trust building, Human Rights & Dialogue in the Sahel Region (Session 2) Anne-Fleur Dekker (WOMEN), Susan Casten (Mercy Corps), Anne Kwakendans (CORDAID), Gabriella Vogelgar (OPFAC), Antoinette Mutua (Women's Initiatives Network Mail) (CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION)	13:00-18:00 Expert Strand (KLEINER SAAI) Regional border management and development (Session 2) Joachim Jansen (RNDM), Lisa Boyle (DOD), Baptiste Amieux & Massimo Ramanzini (COM), Mahamadou Badji (SNG)	13:00-18:00 Expert Strand (JULIUS-LEBER-ZIMMER) Engaging Youth for Security (Session 2) Sarah Casten (Mercy Corps), Theophile Djedjela (Human Security Collective)	13:00-18:30 Expert Strand (GROSSER SAAI) International Peace Operations: Contribution to peace and stability in the Sahel region with special emphasis on civilian specialists and its impact Tobias von Gersdorff & Astrid Ingens (DIT), Anne Krosning (MNU/OMA) The Creation and Influence of Narratives and Counter-narratives Moderator: Dr. Dennis Reinick (DW Akademie) 15:00-17:00 Expert Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Review of "Early Warning - Early Action" Pilot (Berlin Focus) (CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION) Wilbert van der Ziel (PAF), ECOMAS	18:00-18:30 High Level Event (EXHIBIT) Panel Discussion: GS Sahel Focus and Comprehensive Approach: Opportunities for the Common Effort Community (7) Moderator: Geraldine de Baetion Marlier Schuurman (NED MuFA), Heike Thiele (DEU MuFA), Norbert Khouss (Coordinator of GS Sahel Presidency), Justine Couillard (GS Women Platform), Francis Guemard (NED NGO Rep), Stefan Alfons Mals (COM LINC) 18:30-19:00h Reception (EXHIBIT)
Evening	18:00-18:30 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Opening (DCOM, COM LINC) and Program Announcements (Moderator: Peter Evans, TNC) 18:30-19:15 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote 1: Conflict Issues in the Sahel (Mathieu Pellerin, Sahel-Expert, Int. Crisis Group) 19:15-19:30 Break 19:30-20:15 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote 2: EU Perspective (Václav Hrdý, French Mission, Office of the EU/Sahel) 20:30-21:30	18:00-19:00 Dinner 19:00-20:30 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Keynote: FRA perspective (LTS (FRA) Xavier De Wollmeant) Panel Discussion 1: "A Comprehensive Approach for Sahel GS" Organizer: Haas Raven Moderator: Dr. Gerd Hentzel Panelists: MAB Gisela Mendelke, LTS (FRA) Xavier De Wollmeant, Shahrazad Chida (DCAF-IGATS), Elise Sabouni (Alliance Sahel), GS Sahel Representative (Int.) 20:30-21:30 Networking Opportunity	18:00-19:00 Dinner 19:00-20:30 Primary Strand (GROSSER SAAI) Panel Discussion 2: "Innovation for Development and Stability in the Sahel" (M2) Moderator: Daniel McCormick (FAARC) Panelists: Dr. Omer Sheriff (Akhwat), Kumbina Chigada (Akhwat), Justine Couillard (GS Women Platform)	18:00-19:00 Dinner	18:00 Visit Berlin		

C Concept notes

Concept Note Expert Group on G5 Sahel Joint Force – Justice Nexus

Central Question: How to improve the relationships and cooperation between the security forces, justice chain and population?

Lead organisations

Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance International Security Sector Advisory Team (DCAF-ISSAT); UNODC Dakar; Search for Common Ground; NL Ministry of Justice and Security; VNG International; IDLO; 1 GNC (moderator).

Suggested participants

Participants should have sufficient level of expertise on security and rule of law in order to be able to discuss the challenges and opportunities for strengthening of cooperation between the G5 Sahel Joint Force, local population, local authorities and (in)formal justice mechanisms in the G5 Sahel.

Description

The G5 Sahel Joint Force created officially in July 2017 by Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, aims to combat terrorism, atrocity crimes and transnational organized crime in the G5 Sahel zone. Its headquarters are in Bamako, Mali and the Force operates across three sectors: West, Central and East. It is composed of around 5,000 officers. The role of its Police Component is to ensure that the Joint Force can adequately fulfil its mission by ensuring transparent, efficient and accountable judicial proceedings.

Insecurity in the G5 Sahel zone undermines the resilience of the population. Human security and resilience are crucial for people's well-being and prosperity. When security forces and other state actors are able to offer the population effectively security and protection, relations between population, security forces and state actors will be strengthened. Constructive, trustworthy and pragmatic relations between security, police and judicial institutions are crucial to local stability and effectively tackling networks of organized crime, cross-border terrorism, atrocity crimes and violent extremism. Principles of rule of law, local governance and development services are key reference points in this, involving a large number of actors, including both state and non-state organizations or parties. Strengthening the rule of law by building the capacity of judicial institutions will increase the capability of a society to come to peaceful conflict resolution and the protection of human rights. In addition, political inclusiveness is crucial for sustainable peace and it can rebuild trust and confidence of population in state actors. This leads to the question: How to improve the relationships and cooperation between the security forces, criminal justice chain and population?

Format

This expert module consists of two sessions.

During the first session DCAF-ISSAT, UNODC (tbc), VNG international together with Africa Study Centre will introduce the participants into the security challenges from SSR/G, rule of law and local governance perspectives. Participants will assess the current relations between security forces, police, judicial institutions, local and traditional authorities and the population. The group will identify gaps in the current cooperation.

During the second session Search for Common Ground will start by sharing their experiences with SSR in DRC and by discussing how these lessons could be applied for the G5 Sahel region. Participants will tackle the question how to strengthen the cooperation between Joint Force, police, other judicial actors, local and traditional authorities and the population.

Objectives

- 1 Sharing insights and providing the participants with thorough understanding of the relations between Joint Force and others security actors, population, judicial institutions and local authorities.
- 2 Identifying existing gaps and opportunities to strengthen the relations between the security actors, population, judicial institutions and local authorities.

Key questions

- 1 How does the group assess the current relations between security actors, the population and local authorities in the areas of operation? Are they willing and able to cooperate with each other? Strengths, weaknesses, gaps and opportunities.
- 2 How does the group assess the relations between security actors and formal law enforcement institutions such as police, attorney general and judiciary?
- 3 Which role play traditional conflict resolution mechanisms, how do they connect to formal security and justice institutions?
- 4 What role play local authorities in fostering relations between the Joint Force, local population and other judicial institutions? Current situations, gaps and opportunities?
- 5 How does the police component within the Joint Force fulfil its role? What are the challenges and opportunities? More specific questions amongst others:
 - a. To what extent are judicial proceedings concerning acts committed during an armed conflict addressed through the cooperation between the Joint Force and the national authorities
 - b. How does the Joint Force handle situations where an armed conflict has taken place and has ceased to happen?
 - c. Are steps taken to investigate eventual committed atrocity crimes?
- 6 Which experiences and practises in other regions aiming to promote cooperation between security forces, judicial institutions, state actors and population (i.e. SSR, DDR) could be effective in the Sahel?

Planning**Tuesday 15 October 13.00 to 18.00:**

Work focused on the current situation in the Sahel.

- 1 Each of the 3 experts (Rahmane Idrissa, Cristina Lampieri, and Shahrazad Chida) provide a brief PPT each on our own experience and on main guidelines/questions we would like the groups to think about (5 to 20 min).
- 2 Participants will then divide into 4 working groups based on 4 questions, to discuss those questions and the relation with SSR/G, RoL and local authorities.
- 3 The working groups will be facilitated by us.

End of day Goal: A common understanding of the subject from all three perspectives (SSR/G, RoL and local authorities).

Wednesday 16 October 8.00 to 12.00:

Work focused on the way forward.

- 1 Each group gives a feedback of its discussions and proposed results in plenary.
- 2 The experts summarize the outcome of the two days.
- 3 *Search for Common Ground* (Niankoye Bolamou (Julien) and Patrick Mugula) will present lessons learned from SfCG Program in DRC. They will discuss to what extent these lessons can be applied in G5 Sahel region.
- 4 Participants will work out again in 3-4 groups to find three concrete recommendations on how the cooperation between the different actors can be strengthened.
- 5 Plenary discussion and integration of the results of the working groups in a summative PPT.

Concept Note Expert Group on Trust building, Human Rights & Dialogue in the Sahel Region

Central Question: How to build and strengthen the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with communities, specifically with women, to increase stability, safety and security in the Sahel region?

1 Context

Trust building and dialogue with local communities in the Sahel region

Trust building and dialogue with local communities have become key in sustainable peace and security strategies of international non- and (inter)governmental organizations and governments. Both are crucial for support for peace and security processes and to ensure that local people's perspectives and security needs are reflected and addressed. Trust building and dialogue are therefore preconditions to increase stability, safety and security in conflict affected regions, such as in the Sahel.

However, the international community is still searching for effective methods of community engagement. Specifically with groups that are barely represented at the national and political level. How to engage with religious or ethnic minorities, with youth, or other groups that are part of the community, but whose perspectives and needs are barely reflected at the decision-making level? In this expert session we'll focus on women. How to ensure effective engagement with the 50% of society that often is overlooked in peace and security processes?

Engaging with women's groups

Women are among the social groups most deeply affected by the current crisis in the Sahel. They pay the 'stark cost' of war as was recently emphasized by UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed. Women are terrorized by violent extremists, have been disproportionately targeted by sexual violence and gender based attacks, and to this day are still unable to move around safely, restricting their access to markets or limiting their ability to organize across communities. At the same time, experience has showed that women's meaningful engagement in efforts to bring stability, safety and security is essential.

On one hand, as key drivers and influencers of local opinion, women can help secure broad-based popular support for the peace process, and influence the male leaders of the community, such as their husbands and sons to reject violence. On the other, women in the Sahel can be part of violent extremist groups and have a role in continuous armament of their boys and husbands. That is why adding women's perspective to stability, safety and security challenges and understanding the power dynamics between women, men and youth in the Sahel, is fundamental to tackle these challenges.

Common Effort Exercise 2019

The Common Effort community provides space for civil-military cooperation to strengthen stability, safety and security in a comprehensive way. Every year development workers, diplomats, think tank experts and military meet to practice comprehensive cooperation on the basis of an existing country or region facing challenges with stability, safety and security.

From 2019 to 2022 Common Effort will focus on the Sahel region, a region that has become a foreign policy, security and development priority for many European governments, including Germany and the Netherlands. The first annual Common Effort meeting on the Sahel takes place from 14-18 October 2019 in Berlin. By hosting an expert session on Trust Building, Human Rights and Dialogue, focusing on women in the Sahel, WO=MEN, Cordaid, Mercy Corps, GPPAC and Women's Initiatives Network Mali would like to contribute to the better understanding of this agenda as a crosscutting goal through all stability, safety and security challenges.

2 Objectives & key questions

The aim of this expert session is to provide the participants a better understanding **of the conditions for effective engagement and dialogue with communities, specifically with women, to increase stability, safety and security in the Sahel region.**

The **specific objectives** are:

- 1 Providing the Common Effort community with an understanding of women's role - in all their diversities - and women's engagement in stability, safety and security in the Sahel region.
- 2 Providing the Common Effort community with elements and tools of best practice for ensuring that women can meaningfully participate in local decision-making and the national peace process in Mali and other countries in the Sahel.
- 3 Providing the Common Effort community with elements and tools of best practice of gender sensitive SSR.

Key questions to be addressed during this session are:

- 1 How to build and strengthen conditions for engagement and dialogue with communities, specifically with women groups and organizations (while preventing tokenism of women's groups)?
- 2 How to include a human security lens in your planning of/and operations?
- 3 How to assess and include women's needs and perspectives in peacekeeping and SSR processes?
- 4 How to support civil society's local peace processes (and prevent any harm on these processes), including the support of women leaders as mediators and as civil society's legitimate representatives during local or national negotiations and decision making?
- 5 What policy recommendations do we have for the Netherlands and Germany, also in relation to the Dutch and German National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security?

Format

This expert session will be hosted and facilitated by a group of international and Dutch Subject Matter Experts working in and on the Sahel region. They will provide the participants with introductions and insight in the current context, as well as case examples. The session will consist of two parts of approx. 3 hrs. The sessions will be an interactive mixture of knowledge transfer, Q&A and break-out multi stakeholder discussions.

1 Tuesday 15 Oct. 2019 (13.00 - 16.30): Community engagement: Key challenges and gaps

During this session the participants will take stock on and get a common understanding of the key challenges and gaps for effective engagement, trust building and dialogue with communities, specifically with women. As well as for gender sensitive SSR and peacekeeping. Subject matter experts (SME's) of Mercy Corps, Cordaid, GPPAC and Women's Initiative Network Mali will provide introductions and interventions during the session.

Program

13.00 – 13.30	Introduction of the program, participants and SMEs
13.30 – 13.45	Trust building and community engagement: Realities in the Sahel – an introduction
13.45 – 14.45	Case examples from the Sahel – An interactive panel debate on gaps and challenges with: Ms Gabriella Vogelaar (Training and Capacity Building Coordinator and Regional Coordinator for GPPAC Europe): A human security lens in EU's conflict prevention and peacebuilding interventions in Mali: Lessons identified from EUTM and EUCAP-Sahel Mali. Ms Titilope F. Ajayi (Security Sector Specialist): A Gender Responsive Approach in Security Sector Reform: Beyond engagement of the elite. Mr Alliou Traoré (Peacebuilding Programme Manager Mercy Corps Mali): Women's engagement and ownership in peace processes at the local community and national level Ms Antoinette Mutesa (Executive Director Women's Initiatives Network Mali): The role of traditional leaders: Using existing community frameworks.
14.45 – 15.15	Coffee and tea break
15.15 – 16.15	Breakout sessions (4 groups, incl SME's), per case: 1 What are the 2 key challenges? 2 What are the opportunities for a civil-military approach (e.g. on community, staff, organization or policy level)?
16.15 – 16.30	Wrap up.

2 Wednesday 16 Oct. 8.30 till 12.00: Roadmap to solutions

During this session the participants will jointly identify integrated approaches, tools and interventions and road maps to bridge the gaps and address the key challenges and policy questions.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8.30 – 9.00 | Recap Tuesday and introduction of today's session's program |
| 9.00 – 9.45 | Presentation of the cases' challenges and opportunities by the participants, and feedback (tips and tricks) of the SME's |
| 9.45 – 10.45 | Breakout sessions (participants choose 1 case to work on, SME's join the subgroups): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Develop a roadmap to realize the identified opportunities for a civil-military approach2 Make use of existing good practices and lessons identified3 Include milestones for the following 2 years |
| 10.45 - 11.15 | Coffee and tea break |
| 11.15 - 12.00 | Presentation of the roadmaps and dialogue on follow up next 2 years. |

Both sessions will be co-moderated by **Anne Kwakkenbos** (Gender, Peace & Security Expert at Cordaid) and **Anne-Floor Dekker** (Gender, Peace & Security Program Manager at WO=MEN Dutch Gender Platform).

Concept Note Expert Group on Development and security in fragile border areas

Central question: How to strengthen a comprehensive approach in the cooperation of border communities and to improve integrated border management?

Lead Organizations: Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (RNLM), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Danish Demining Group (DDG), SNV Netherlands Development Organisation.

Suggested Participants:

- Experts on border management and development.
- MoFA Germany / France / NL.
- MOD Germany/ France / NL.
- G5 Sahel focal points.
- IO's working on border management and/or migration.
- NGO's promoting trust ship or otherwise working on the relation between authorities and civilians.
- NGO's working on civil military/police cooperation.
- NGO's working in border areas.
- NGO's working on promoting human rights.

Context:

Over the past few years the Sahel region received increasingly attention from the international community. This attention and effort in the Sahel region is a result of an increasingly challenging security context regarding humanitarian access, socio-economic development, (youth) unemployment, climate change, rapid population growth, conflict, terrorism and extremism, transnational crime such as drug smuggling, weapon smuggling, human trafficking and human smuggling. Frameworks such as the G5 Sahel has developed and coordinated development initiatives to be implemented in fragile border areas. Several international organizations like UN, EU, IOM are conducting missions in an effort to stabilize the region. Many NGO's of different size contribute with various projects to address root causes, connect to the local population or attempt in many ways to lessen human suffering within the region.

Learning from contemporary border management and development programs, what are lessons learned, best practices, gaps, approaches, concepts, solutions and possible approaches - to address the central question: How to strengthen a comprehensive approach in the cooperation of border communities and to improve integrated border management?

Objectives:

- 1 To provide insight in the current situation regarding comprehensive border management (security), border communities and the relation between population and authorities in the Sahel region.

- 2 Discussion on border management measures in relation to economic living in fragile border areas; discussion on how local people in border areas can contribute to border security and the civil military cooperation; What role do soldiers (who are central to G5 joint force) have vis-a-vis police units and community police.
- 3 To share experiences, best practices, lessons learned, operational and practical gaps, and to share concepts of integrated border management.
- 4 To have an interactive discussion and simulation regarding the aforementioned objectives.
- 5 To work towards approaches and solutions to strengthen comprehensive approach in the cooperation of border communities and to improve integrated border management within the various frameworks such as G5 Sahel.

Format:

Two sessions over two consecutive days (Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning).

SESSION 1:

This session will be designed as a roundtable with designated speakers and commentators on integrated border management and trust building.

Part 1: Contemporary border management in the region? Development, drivers, projects, partners, trust building, civil/military/police cooperation, NGO's involved (3 hours) from local, regional to national level

- Opening Presentation / discussion Danish Demining Group about Border Security and Management in the Liptako-Gourma region:
DDGs Border Security and Management Programme: How can safety and security be ensured with a Human centered and whole of community perspective?
 - 1 Perceptions and experiences of populations in border areas of the Sahel (Liptako-Gourma).
 - 2 Good practices for community engagement in borderlands and cross-border.
 - 3 Good practices for engagement and trust-building with duty-bearers.
 - 4 Lessons learnt, challenges, perspectives going forward.
- SNV presentation / discussion about development projects in fragile border areas on access to natural sources and conservation of protected areas in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Benin.
- Presentation / discussion IOM about a Holistic border security: the inclusion of the fourth pillar in the IBM¹² concept. Examples of IOM interventions in West and Central Africa and solutions needed. Presented by Massimo Ramanzin, Programme Manager, Immigration & Border Management, IOM Senegal.
- Presentation / discussion Dutch Marechaussee about experience and the concept of Border Security Teams during migration crisis in 2015/2016.
- Moderator: TBD.

¹² Integrated Border Management (IBM)

Part 2: Concepts of integrated border management and developments and experience in the region. (2 hours)

- Presentation / discussion Dutch Marechaussee about concept multi-disciplinary team human smuggling / human trafficking. Sharing concept and experience in tackling human smuggling and trafficking.
- Opening by IOM around the absolute necessity and added-value of integrated border management boosting regular migration and trade within the strategic frameworks of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and ECOWAS¹³ Freedom of Movement implementation, while ensuring security, respected immigration policies and close communication with border communities (ensuring their resilience to fight border desertification) - Baptiste Amieux, Programme Manager, Immigration & Border Management, IOM Niger.
- Discussion in light of the theme objectives.
- Moderator: TBD.

SESSION 2: GETTING TO AN INTEGRATED APPROACH ON BORDER MANAGEMENT AND TRUST BUILDING IN THE REGION

Part 1: Interactive simulation on border management and migration. (2 hours)

- Interactive simulation (SIMEX) organized by IOM:
- Participants (by groups) will be virtually taken to a region in Niger, bordering the country LIMA. We will give a scenario of a cross border movement happening from LIMA after a crisis occurred. They will be immersed in the regional crisis operational room, with maps of the border area, holding the responsibility of a public service (police, gendarmerie, civil protection, health, local mayor, etc.). We will show them the real exercise video and stop at different key stages, to ask participants to provide their response to the crisis and the main steps of intervention and response. We will then show the response from the Nigerien authorities during the real exercise.

¹³ Economic Community of West African States

- Presentation on SIMEX organized by IOM :
 - **Cross border crisis simulation exercises (SIMEX) – The Concept and steps forwards** : real simulation exercises on massive cross border movement integrating both a humanitarian and security response (this was developed following repeated infiltrations from BH members into mass displacements). It helps to test authorities and host communities response and preparedness. IOM organized 9 with 4 more to come in the G5 Sahel. It comes with CCCM equipment, table top exercise, observers from central government and an exercise evaluation report. One example of SIMEX in Agadez, Niger (video).
 - **Enhancing institutional capacities on cross border crisis response and preparedness** : beside SIMEX, it was realized there were major gaps and discrepancies within the existing crisis plans of the respective authorities and ministries. IOM initiated the drafting process of a national contingency plan for cross border crisis in Niger, with 5 ministries, the document is now validated, and a similar process is ongoing in Burkina Faso. Based on each SIMEX, the committee improves the document, and we develop regional intervention plan specific to every region.
- Moderator: Baptiste Amieux, Programme Manager, Immigration & Border Management, IOM Niger / Massimo Ramanzin, Programme Manager, Immigration & Border Management, IOM Senegal.

Part 2: How can we address the gaps? (group discussion / solutions / formulate action plans) (1 hour)

Moderators: TBD.

Concept Note Expert Group on ENGAGING YOUTH FOR SECURITY

Central Question: Taking a comprehensive view, what are practical examples that have been effective to strengthen the involvement of youth in the security process

CONCEPT NOTE

Context

Young people, who represent the majority of the Sahel's population, continue to face many challenges in their daily lives. Lack of employment prospects and opportunities, poor access to education and other basic services, as well as exclusive social norms all contribute to undermining young people's progress. Despite these challenges, youth remain the region's biggest source of hope for restoring security and stability in the region. While many fill the ranks of armed groups, many more have remain non-violent or even actively engage in building peace. Any long-term solution to the Sahel stability and security crisis will require understanding and addressing not only the pathways to violence, but also the capacities that support youth in remaining peaceful and engaging in the security of their countries — even when the odds are stacked against them. So what is the solution? While heavy investments are currently directed towards employment and entrepreneurship programmes in the hope of addressing the situation, some evidence suggests that those interventions, if not combined with other forms of support or empowerment for youth will have little to no peace outcomes. Today, as the crises keeps worsening, a comprehensive approach is needed, seeking the best balance of security (military) and social-economic measures. What are the experiences and practical examples in the Sahel so far? What are promising best practices that fit local conditions and gaps that still need to be addressed? A group or experts from the security, civil society and public sectors working in the Sahel will come together in those sessions for an attempt at finding answers.

Lead Organisations: Human Security Collective, Mercy Corps

Objectives:

- 1 Gain a common understanding of issues related to youth engagement in security and stability efforts in the Sahel.
- 2 Take stock of the evidence existing on this thematic area.
- 3 Articulate an integrated action plan for better and increased engagement of young women and men in the security and stability of the Sahel region.

Format:

Two sessions over two consecutive days (Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning).

SESSION 1: TAKING STOCK OF THE EVIDENCE AND GAINING A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUE

This session will be a combination of roundtable discussions and group work on case studies.

Part 1: What is our common understanding of the problem regarding youth and security in the Sahel? Taking stock of the evidence. (1h30)

- Introduction to youth and security in the Sahel – Think Peace.
- Deep-dive: Youth engagement in violence, drivers and resilience capacity - Rebecca Wolfe, Mercy Corps.
- Deep-dive: Youth exclusion (economic, social, political) as a barrier to peace – Human Security Collective, Spark, 1DCMI.
- Question to participants:
 - Why are young people not engaging more in the security sector and peace process? What are the barriers?
 - Who needs to be involved in engaging young people? (i.e. women, religious leaders, etc.).
 - Moderator: Think Peace.

Part 2: What are the main opportunities for meaningfully engaging youth in the stability and security process? Group discussions. (1.30)

- Opening by Réseau des jeunes des pays de G5 Sahel (15 min).
- Pitches for group discussions by 3 organizations. (15 min).
 - Group 1: Youth as peacebuilders (Mercy Corps).
 - Group 2: Youth & security forces (Human Security Collective).
 - Group 3: Youth employment and other alternatives (1CMI IDEA).
 - Moderator: Réseau des jeunes des pays de G5 Sahel.

SESSION 2: GETTING TO AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO ENGAGING YOUTH FOR SECURITY IN THE SAHEL

Part 1: What works? Each group presents their objective contributing to increased engagement of youth in stability and security. (1.30 hour)

- Pitches from group discussions by 3 groups' rapporteurs.
- Plenary discussion.
- Facilitator: Human Security Collective.

Part 2: How do we get there? A roadmap for a joint approach. (1.30)

- Group work.
- 1 facilitator per table.

Number of participants: 20-30.

Concept Note Expert Group on Media and Communication in a Stabilization Context

Focal issue: The Creation and Effects of Narratives and Counter-Narratives.

Objectives & format

The participants of the module identify social communication processes in the context of instable structures and develop starting points for dealing with problems such as rumors, fake news and mobilization of the public. At the end of the module, a first sketch with ideas should be available for a possible project, which during the next three years of the focus period will be developed and possibly be implemented.

1 Module part: Case analysis of example (60 min)

The participants will be confronted with a case example and will do research of the case in groups: What is the core of the story? What is the “spin”?

Subsequently, the group is discussing possible backgrounds of the stories and objectives behind. Also at which level negative effects could occur (political, regional, confidence, force etc.)? At the end of the group session the results will be brought together.

Guiding questions will be:

- What are the characteristics of the narratives? (fake news, propaganda, rumors, half-truths).
- Which effects do the narratives have?

2 Module part: Actors and Action patterns (120 min)

In a further step the participants will discuss on the basis of the results of two studies which actors, action patterns and analysis options exist in the framework of the narrative development.

Guiding questions will be:

- Which actors/stakeholders exist for the creation of narratives and counter-narratives?
- Which media play a role?
- What are the action patterns for the creation of narratives?
- What are the possibilities to identify and to analyze such narratives in (social) media?

3 Module part: Approach/development of a project sketch (120 min)

In a last step the participants will discuss, which concrete measures are necessary and available in order to address and counter such narratives. The result of the discussion should result in a first sketch with ideas for a possible project in the context of a development of narratives in the Sahel zone.

The guiding question could be:

- Which options and concepts (e.g. empowerment, education and professionalizing programs) could lead to addressing and countering such narratives - for GOs, NGOs, IOs but also representatives of the media (journalists, blogger) and the grey zone (influencer)?

Facilitators:

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