Surge Security Sector Reform and Governance Country Support for Prevention, Peace and Sustainment

- **Brief description of the project**

Often, Security Sector Reform and Governance (SSR&G) capacities within UN Missions are not sufficiently equipped to undertake all the security-sector-specific activities relevant to assist with host-country priorities on reform of the security sector. Recent developments in e.g. Libya, Mali, Haiti and Sudan show the urgent need for solid work on setting up dependable, accountable security institutions.

Standing capacity mechanisms provide the most flexible and nimble UN support to peace operations and beyond. Established to bring in solid expertise in a limited, high-demand phase, they deliver excellent value for money.

OROLSI has established a standing capacity on SSR&G in 2021. This is our SSuRGe Team, based in Brindisi, Italy. It has a worldwide mandate. Our SSuRGe Team combines state-of-the-art policy awareness – SSuRGe is technically part of UNHQ – with deep field expertise.

In view of an increased number of requests from United Nations peace operations, UN country offices, regional organisations and Member States for temporary expert capacity in this crucial area on the nexus of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, this project will:

(i) Address the growing demand for specialized SSR&G skill sets to advance SSR and governance;
(ii) Implement Security Council resolution 2553 (2020) on SSR, which calls for the development of civilian capacities and support initiatives that address strategic aspects pertaining to security sector governance, management and oversight based on context-specific needs;
(iii) Ensure sustainability of the SSuRGe Team until regular-budget funds can be allocated through the UN peacekeeping support account, which we expect to occur later this decade.

This project will strengthen UN impact on SSR&G by providing rapidly deployable expert capacity to address risks stemming from ineffective and unaccountable security institutions and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular goals 16 and 5.

Note: This project is a core component of the United Nations Programme of Action (PoA) on SSR. The PoA is a system-wide, multi-year (2022 – 2025) effort to implement the new United Nations vision on SSR (as outlined in S/RES/2553 (2020) and the Secretary-General's most recent Report on SSR (S/2022/280)). The PoA is grounded in the 'Call to Action for Human Rights', as well as the agendas for sustainable development, women, peace and security, youth, peace and security, and action for peacekeeping+. The PoA also follows in the footsteps of the Common Agenda and considers the current 'five-alarm global fire', including the worsening climate crisis and diminished peace and security.

o **Expected outcomes, outputs and proposed activities**

Outcomes	Outputs	Proposed Activities
Strengthened UN impact on security sector reform and governance. and UN field presences provide short-term, solid security sector reform and governance expertise in highly specialized areas, upon demand by host States through SSuRGe standing capacity.	Strategic and technical assistance and training during planning and transition processes, delivered to UN entities, Member States and other clients in a variety of specialised areas; Gender-responsive advice and engagement with stakeholders/ partners.	Deployments carried out to UN field presences, disaggregated by mission, duration, country/UN entity and by strategic mandated area. Input to research, knowledge and guidance products developed under the UN Programme of Action on SSR&G.

o **Implementation timeline**

One year from January to December 2024.

- **Explain how the project will further the implementation of the A4P+ priorities**.

In line with A4P commitments, the project will help ensure that UN assistance on SSR/G contributes as a matter of priority to the pursuit of political solutions to conflict and help establish an institutional environment conducive to stability, while fostering integration of strategic and operational support interventions. It will provide technical advice to enhance the ability of UN entities and Member States to forge multi-stakeholder partnerships and develop analytical and programmatic toolkits that help advance SSR&G based on realistic planning assumptions and national needs. The SSuRGe Team works horizontally with UN partners on planning processes and will continue to ensure that the development and delivery of security sector reform initiatives are holistic and make best use of each UN partner's comparative advantage.

- **How have gender aspects been included in the design and implementation of the project? How does it help the Department to implement their women, peace and security and gender parity commitments?**

The project responds directly to gender provisions in Security Council resolutions 2151 (2014) and 2553 (2020) on SSR. It is aligned with the WPS Agenda and the existing guidance on gender-responsive SSR and the guidance on "Strengthening gender-responsive DDR and SSR in peacekeeping". To include gender, the SSuRGe capacity considers the specific needs of women, men, girls, boys, and vulnerable groups in deployment design, planning and implementation. The role of women in the society sector is an integral component of SSuRGe engagements and a gender lens is applied to all analyses and reports. This project also supports mainstreaming gender in all forms of United Nations support for security sector reform.

- **Brief explanation of any risks that the implementation of the project may face and how to mitigate them.**

There is a considerable risk of insufficient funding to sustain the existence of the SSuRGe Team, which was established with seed funding only. OROLSI will mitigate this risk by intensifying engagement with Member States, to mobilize political and financial backing.

There is a low risk to have periods of low demand for the SSuRGe experts. OROLSI will mitigate this risk through active outreach to peace operations and non-mission settings, and active engagement in the Global Focal Point arrangement, to ensure that they budget for this service, and make full use of it.

- **Proposed budget**

Item	Brief Description	Total Amount
1 P5 (12 months)	Surge capacity to provide support and head the SSuRGe team	$299,425.00
Consultancies based on demand	150 days at $450 per day	$67,500.00
Consultant	One junior project manager/coordinator	$72,000.00
Travel costs	14 deployments (airfare plus DSA) at $9,323[1]	$130,522.00
Other project costs	Rental of office space, communication and IT services, office furniture and supplies, medical and security services	$14,900.00
Programme Support Costs (13%)		$75,965.11
	Total:	**$660,312.11**

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[1] Based on calculation for DRC/Kinshasa DSA for 21 days plus a flight ticket.