



NIGER



Launch of the DSF-CSO exchange framework

On February 21 and 22, DCAF-Niger organized a capacity-building workshop in Niamey to launch the framework for dialogue and exchange between the Defence and Security Forces (DSF) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) active in the security sector. H.E. Ms Catherine Inglehearn, the Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Niger participated in the launch session chaired by the Inspector General of Security Services representing the Minister of the Interior and Decentralization

This activity aims to promote the protection of human rights and to encourage the creation of spaces for exchange and dialogue between the DSF and CSOs to break down and address existing prejudices and barriers. In addition, the activity seeks to create a sense of trust and collaboration between the DSF and CSOs in their daily activities.

This workshop allowed the 53 participants, including 6 women, to highlight the different forms of exchange frameworks that can exist between the DSF and CSOs and to establish an updated mapping of CSOs involved in SSR/G. The workshop was an opportunity for the DSF and CSOs to understand the main roles and missions of CSOs in SSR/G in Niger.

The activity resulted in the identification of key actors in the technical and political implementation of budget programming for each institution as well as in the creation of a consensus on the need to involve politicians in all decision-making processes.



Campaign to popularize the mapping of complaint mechanisms in the regions of Diffa, Dosso, Maradi and Zinder

From February 23 to March 3, DCAF supported the institution of the Ombudsman of the Republic in the dissemination of the mapping of complaint mechanisms in cases of abuses by defence and security personnel. The objective of this campaign is to allow the population to learn about the various mechanisms available for better protection of human rights.

This campaign concerned the regions of Diffa, Dosso, Maradi and Zinder and was led by the Secretary General of the institution Mrs Mounkaila Mina Chapé.

The activity brought together 100 people per region, about 400 people in total, including 80 women and is part of the project: "Promoting accountability in the security sector in Niger and Mali" funded by the United Kingdom.

MALI



Consultation workshop with youth and women's organizations

As part of the operationalization of the regional and communal security consultative committees (SCCs), DCAF-Mali organized two meetings on February 17, 2023, with representatives of women's and youth civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Bamako district. A total of 15 representatives, including 7 women, participated in these initial meetings whose purpose was to identify each group's main security priorities and to better understand their perceptions and expectations of the SCC. Some of the priorities common to both groups are:

- Role awareness challenges due to communication deficits and language barriers.
- Raising awareness of peers and traditional authority for appropriate communication approaches.
- Consideration of the situation of child offenders.
- Capacity building needs in terms of communication and advocacy and improvement of their knowledge of local and national security dynamics, and knowledge of the security architecture.
- Support for the realization of certain outreach actions for each group.

Specific needs for each group were also identified during the meeting:

- Women expressed a need to train facilitators on gender-based violence (GBV) to better take into account the situation of GBV survivors and a need to strengthen women's representation in the communal SCCs
- Young people expressed a need to increase their role in raising awareness about the harmful effects of drugs, and a need to raise awareness among the DSF about working with young people in the context of police-population collaboration.

Based on these exchanges, DCAF will develop capacity-building activities with CSOs to help them play a more active and impactful role in the SCC and society overall.



Training seminar for DMJ legal advisors

The Directorate of Military Justice (DMJ) organized a training seminar for (24) legal advisors in Bamako from February 21-23 with the support of DCAF.

The seminar aims to build the capacity of legal advisors in international humanitarian law and human rights law and administrative and judicial litigation. Moreover, trainers and instructors from the Directorate of Military Justice seized the opportunity to update their knowledge. A quarter of the participant received this type of training for the first time.

The training equipped legal advisors to better advise decision-makers and increase their capacity to monitor the respect of human rights and international humanitarian law in theatres of operation. The Directorate of Military Justice invited civilian and military experts to deliver the various

workshops. Among the participants were legal advisors from the various army corps and other defence and security institutions as well as some members of the DMJ.

BURKINA FASO



CSO Toolkit Delivery Workshop

From February 13 to 18, DCAF organized workshops in the North Central and East Central regions of the country for several civil society organizations that form "citizen control committees. The goal of these workshops was to provide these CSOs with the tools they need to monitor and contribute to security sector governance in their localities.

For several days, DCAF Burkina and its partners (the Ombudsman of Faso, the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), le Groupe Recherche-Action pour la Sécurité Humaine (GRASH) and the Center for the Quality of Law and Justice) presented to participants the legal avenues of referral and recourse in terms of security sector regulation. The CNDH representative told the participants that "there are ways of referring cases to the courts and you have the right to do so". These workshops are part of the continuity of the work initiated in 2021 for the benefit of citizen control committees and contribute to their operationalization.

What about other parts of the world ?

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