Security and justice evidence mapping

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About this report

This report was prepared for the UK Department for International Development. The views expressed in this report are those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of GSDRC, its partner agencies or DFID.

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Suggested citation


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Executive summary

This evidence mapping was conducted to identify the empirical evidence on the outcomes of security and justice (S&J) interventions. The findings are presented in the form of an evidence gap map (pp.12-13), which provides an accessible and visual representation of where the evidence for S&J programming is strongest and where the key weaknesses lie.

The evidence mapping included a rigorous review of the S&J evidence base. Selected sources, including journal indices, online research and evaluation repositories, resource centres and experts were interrogated. Studies that explored interventions and results were selected for inclusion in a database (available to download) and coded according to the publication type, thematic focus, intervention, output and outcome categories.

Features of the evidence base

Research design: Ninety-five per cent of studies use observational research designs. The majority of these use a variety of qualitative techniques (interviews, focus group discussion, ethnography, case study analysis, historical analysis and political economy analysis). Only eight experimental studies were identified. These cover a range of country contexts (India, Nicaragua, Colombia, Liberia, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago) and focus on fairly specific and discrete interventions. Fifteen secondary studies were identified, largely consisting of non-systematic literature reviews and annotated bibliographies.

Publication form: The majority (49%) of documents are peer-reviewed journal articles. Thirty-five per cent of studies are classified as ‘other’ reports; they include analytical reports and case studies, and were mostly published by academic organisations, think tanks and non-governmental organisations. Few evaluations (6%) met the inclusion criteria. Those that did meet them include thematic evaluations of donor security and justice programming, synthesis programme evaluations and other individual programme or country evaluations.

Geographic scope: Western Africa is by far the most studied region. South Asia and Eastern Africa are the next most studied regions. There are very few studies exploring Central Asia, East Asia, Eastern Europe and Northern Africa.

Thematic focus: Policing is by far the most studied theme, followed by access to justice/legal empowerment, justice sector reform, legal reform and non-state actors. Few studies cover border security and intelligence. Individual studies often explore interventions that addressed more than one theme/sector.

Gap map analysis

Evidence gaps and areas of strength appear where one would expect them. The gaps appear where the outputs and outcomes are less tangible, and more difficult to operationalise and measure. The evidence is scarce for a number of output and outcome categories that are justice-specific, whilst stronger evidence can be found on outcomes and outputs are more general and applicable across a wider range of intervention types.

Interventions

- The evidence is abundant for: capacity building of organisations; strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation; community-based approaches; and restructuring of the security and justice sector. Many studies provide examples in which a combination of these interventions is used.

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The evidence is weak for: preventative interventions (integrated efforts to prevent violence and crime); capacity building for non-state justice forums and local justice facilitators; and integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will.

**Outputs**

- The evidence is abundant for: the capacity of state and non-state organisations to deliver; strategic frameworks; confidence, trust or satisfaction on the part of citizens in providers; and roles, coordination and dialogue amongst organisations and agencies. These are considered to be key outputs for S&J programming, they are relatively tangible, and are directly related to intervention categories.

- The evidence is weak for: application, compliance with and interpretation of laws; and state/non-state linkages. These are both justice-specific outputs.

**Outcomes**

- The evidence is abundant for: ownership of reforms by national and local stakeholders; resource allocation/funding stability and sustainability; access to provision; stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence; and human rights measures implemented to improve compliance. These outcomes are considered core tenets of S&J and/or are relatively tangible.

- The evidence is weak for: incentives for improved service delivery amongst security and justice actors; actual crime rates; legal awareness and confidence; gender-based violence rates; and judicial redress to protect rights. The evidence is particularly limited for longer-term development outcomes such as: economic development (local or national); poverty reduction; access to land, inheritance and property rights; access to public services and economic resources; and women’s empowerment and gender equality.

**Potential avenues for future research**

Synthesis research focusing on those themes and interventions for which there is strong evidence may help build a more rigorous evidence base. This project did not include a scoping study to collect information on those intervention, output and outcome areas for which there is a demand for evidence. DFID’s security sector reform (SSR) theory of change included a number of pre-determined interventions, which were built into the evidence mapping framework, so it is assumed that there is demand for evidence in these areas.

- The evidence is abundant for the following pre-determined interventions: organisational capacity building; strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation; community-based approaches; and restructuring of the security and justice sector.

- The evidence is abundant for the following thematic areas: police; defence; access to justice/legal empowerment; and justice sector reform.

The evidence is not as strong for some of DFID’s other pre-determined intervention types, but that is not to say that the evidence is scarce. For these, there are certain anomalies in the gap map that could be targeted for further synthesis or impact evaluation type research:

- The evidence is not as strong for the ‘developing accountability’ intervention, but there is abundant evidence on the accountability output. One might have expected the strength of evidence for these directly related interventions and outputs to be similar. Studies comment on the impact of different types of interventions on accountability as a normative measure of success, even when interventions to develop accountability are not explicitly mentioned.
For ‘non-state security and justice influencing reform and national level processes’, the strength of evidence for combinations with the outcomes ‘citizens feel safe and secure’ and ‘security actors protect’ is limited. One might have expected more evidence for these combinations.

The evidence for ‘integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will’ is much weaker than for the other pre-determined intervention types. Studies generally do not discuss these types of activities, even if they might be happening in the background of other more tangible interventions. There is limited evidence that political engagement/political will interventions can affect the outcome ‘incentives for improved service delivery’, even though these would appear to be directly related. Another anomaly is that one might expect stronger evidence to appear in combination with the outcome ‘political will to enact reforms’.

The evidence is yet more limited for the intervention types that were not pre-determined by DFID but were added during the coding stages of the evidence mapping. It is difficult to prioritise these without making assumptions about the demand for evidence, but listed below are a few intervention-outcome combinations where one might have expected the evidence base to be stronger. These intervention-outcome combinations could be targeted for impact evaluation type research:

- For gender-specific interventions, there is limited evidence on outcomes such as: judicial redress to protect rights; citizens feel safe and secure; security and justice actors protect; and gender-based violence rates.
- For legal services there is limited evidence on gender-based violence rates.
- For non-state justice forum and justice facilitator capacity building, the evidence is limited across all of the outcome categories. One might have expected more evidence for the outcomes: judicial redress to protect rights; and access to land, inheritance and property rights.
- Evidence on preventative interventions is limited across all categories. One might have expected more evidence for the outcomes: stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence; actual crime rates; and gender-based violence rates.
1. Introduction

This report discusses the findings from an evidence mapping conducted to identify the empirical evidence on the outcomes of security and justice (S&J) interventions. The findings are presented here in the form of an evidence gap map.

The security and justice evidence gap map provides an accessible and visual representation of where the evidence for security and justice programming is strongest and where the key weaknesses lie. This provides the basis for identifying potential areas of future research in order to strengthen the evidence base upon which S&J programming is based.

2. Design and scope

The gap map is the culmination of two related mapping projects: a mapping of the security sector reform (SSR) evidence base, which was then extended as part of a second mapping exercise to encompass the broader thematic area of S&J. In practice, the SSR mapping was more security-orientated, whilst the S&J mapping was more justice-orientated.

The evidence mapping was based on a detailed search protocol (see Annex A). It included a rigorous review of the S&J evidence base, whereby three journal indices, twelve online research and evaluation repositories, thirteen resource centres and several experts were interrogated. Studies that explored interventions and results were selected for inclusion in a database and coded according to publication type, thematic focus, intervention, output and outcome categories. This interactive database is available to download.2

2.1 Search strategy

The UK Department for International Development’s (DFID) draft theory of change (ToC) for SSR provided the initial framework of intervention, output and outcome categories for the SSR mapping. The search strategy was based on this framework. It utilised a combination of base search terms relating to various thematic areas of SSR and search specifiers relating to the ToC’s intervention categories. The S&J search strategy built upon this framework, but replaced the base search terms with a new set of justice-related themes.

2.2 Thematic scope

The search strategies of the mapping exercises focused on studies that explore interventions in the following thematic fields, which reflect some of DFID’s core areas of interest in S&J:

- Defence
- Policing
- Intelligence
- Justice sector reform
- Access to justice and legal empowerment
- Prisons

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2 The database provides a searchable list of the documents that met the inclusion criteria and enables users to generate bar charts showing the frequency of documents in each criterion. Download it at: http://www.gsdrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/SJEvidenceMappingDatabase.xlsm
During the coding stages, additional thematic categories were added to reflect the evidence base:

- Border security
- Non-state actors
- Legal reform
- Security promotion/violence reduction

DFID was interested in exploring the links between S&J and a number of emerging issues. These were built into the search strategy and include:

- Urbanisation
- Organised Crime
- Counter-terrorism

A number of limiting devices were introduced to keep the mapping manageable. The themes ‘transitional justice’ and ‘legal reform’ were originally included in the S&J search strategy. These were later removed in order to refine the focus after test searches generated a very large number of results. Documents focusing on commercial justice, juvenile and child justice, the war on drugs and drugs regulation, displacement and refugee-related justice in post-conflict or fragile contexts, and environmental justice in fragile contexts were also excluded.

2.3 Intervention, output and outcome categories

Short- and medium-term results, which are tangible, operational and directly related to intervention categories, are labelled ‘outputs’, while longer-term and more indirect results are labelled ‘outcomes’. The distinctions were based on DFID’s SSR ToC, and refined through further discussions with DFID advisors.

Flexibility was built into the coding for the mapping exercises. New intervention, output and outcome categories identified during the coding process were added progressively, and then back-coded. Additions and amendments to the coding categories were made during the S&J mapping to accommodate the justice-orientated literature. The documents selected during the SSR mapping exercise were recoded using the new S&J categories before the two databases were combined.

*Table 1* overleaf lists all of the intervention, output and outcome categories. Definitions are provided in the search protocol (see Annex A).

2.4 Inclusion criteria

Documents were selected for inclusion according to the following criteria (see further details in Annex A):

- **Relevance**: Studies that include information on interventions and results, irrespective of the nature of the relationship.
- **Types of publication**: Academic journals, peer-reviewed materials, working papers, grey literature, books, and book chapters that were available online at no cost to the reader.
- **Date of publication**: Materials published from 2008 onwards were included.
- **Geographic focus**: Low- and middle-income countries.
- **Language**: Only studies available in English were included.
- **Research design**: Primary empirical research, evaluation (quantitative or qualitative), and secondary reviews were included. Theoretical, thematic and conceptual literature was not considered.
### Table 1: Coding framework – intervention, output and outcome categories

#### Intervention categories

- Developing accountability mechanisms (at national and local/community level)
- Non-state security and justice influencing reform and national level processes
- Community-based approaches
- Capacity building of organisations
- Strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation
- Restructuring the security and justice sector
- Gender-specific interventions
- Investment in infrastructure and equipment
- Integrated political engagement/Activities that promote political will
- Demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration
- Non-state justice forum and justice facilitator capacity building
- Legal services
- Preventative interventions

#### Output categories

- Accountability
- Non-state actor inclusion in reform processes or negotiations
- Community participation and voice
- Capacity of state and non-state organisations to deliver
- Confidence, trust or satisfaction on the part of citizens in providers
- Gender sensitivity and balancing
- Roles, coordination and dialogue amongst organisations and agencies
- Strategic frameworks developed
- Application, compliance and interpretation of laws
- State/non-state linkages

#### Outcome categories

- Security and justice actors have incentives for improved service delivery
- Provision is responsive to citizens’ needs
- Resource allocation/funding stability and sustainability
- Political will to enact reforms
- Ownership of reforms by national and local stakeholders
- Citizens’ perceptions of safety and security
- Access to provision
- Stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence
- Security and justice actors are a source of protection not insecurity
- Local or national economic development
- Judicial redress to protect rights
- Human rights measures implemented to improve compliance
- Actual crime rates
- Legal awareness and confidence
- Gender-based violence rates
- Poverty reduction
- Access to land, inheritance and property rights
- Access to public services and economic resources
- Women’s empowerment and gender equality
3. Search results

Figure 1 illustrates the evidence mapping process. The SSR and S&J mapping exercises were conducted separately as distinct projects, but the two databases were combined at a later stage. This report analyses the data from the combined evidence base.

The S&J searches generated 128,276 results whilst the SSR searches generated 85,269 results. The initial screening of S&J results yielded 880 documents (after refining the timeline to 2008-2015). From these, 192 were selected for coding, an inclusion rate of 22%. In comparison, the inclusion rate for the SSR mapping was 50%.

Why were such a large number S&J search results rejected? The justice-orientated search terms used for the S&J mapping were broader than the security-orientated search terms used for the SSR mapping. SSR-related search terms such as ‘defence reform’, ‘police reform’, ‘intelligence reform’ and ‘justice reform’ are much more specific and represent discrete thematic areas when compared to some of the search terms used for the S&J mapping, including ‘justice’, ‘access to justice’ and ‘legal empowerment’. These justice-related themes are

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3 It should be noted that for the S&J mapping, 7,158,539 results were generated, but only 128,276 results were checked. This is because a number of the bibliographic indices only display the first 1000 results of each search. It should also be noted that these figures do not represent unique results, as many of the searches generated duplicate results.
enormous and varied fields in their own right; their thematic scope goes beyond S&J and they cover much broader philosophical and academic areas of enquiry. The use of ‘justice’ as a base search term in itself generated a particularly high number of results.

Fewer documents in the S&J searches focused explicitly on interventions and results. A good portion of the justice-orientated literature was thematic, exploratory or descriptive. For example, there were several ethnographic studies on how customary justice systems function, but many had little or nothing to report on the results of interventions with these systems. This thematic literature may have seemed relevant at the screening stage, but it is difficult to determine at that stage whether documents contain explicit information on interventions and results.

In other cases, the emphasis was on programming process and management issues, rather than the relationship between interventions and results. A number of studies were forward-looking and not sufficiently focused on existing or completed interventions and results.

4. Features of the evidence base

Figure 2: Research design, publication form and geographic scope of the evidence base

4.1 Research design

Figure 2 provides data on the research design, publication form and geographic scope of the evidence base. 95 per cent of studies use observational research designs. These combine a variety of qualitative techniques, including interviews, focus group discussion, ethnography, case study analysis, historical analysis and political economy analysis. Few use quantitative data collection and data analysis techniques.

Only eight experimental studies were identified. These analyse and evaluate fairly specific and discrete interventions in India, Nicaragua, Colombia, Liberia, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago. The experimental studies identified include: randomised trials of programmes to increase police efficiency and community contact (see Banerjee et al., 2012a; 2012b; García et al., 2013; and Wilson et al., 2011); randomised trials of a community paralegal programme (see Sandefur & Siddiqi, 2013) and quantitative and qualitative impact evaluations of
access to justice and legal empowerment programmes (see Barendrecht et al., 2013; and Asian Development Bank, 2009).

Fifteen secondary studies were identified, largely consisting of non-systematic literature reviews and annotated bibliographies. Prominent examples include Cox (2008), who reviews the state of knowledge on the role of security and justice in the development process, and Maru (2010), who reviews the World Bank’s work in access to justice.

4.2 Publication form

The majority of documents were peer-reviewed journal articles (49%) and ‘other’ reports (35%). Few evaluations (6%) met the inclusion criteria.

Studies classified as ‘other reports’ include analytical reports and case studies, the majority of which were published by academic organisations and think-tanks (such as the United States Institute of Peace and the Overseas Development Institute), followed by non-governmental organisations (such as Saferworld, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, and the Open Society Justice Institute). This also includes reports by multilateral organisations (such as the World Bank, the OECD-DAC and the International Development Law Organization), and national government organisations (such as the UK Government Office for Science and the American Bar Association).

Few evaluations have been included. Many of those rejected were evaluations of broader peacekeeping or fragile states programming, with little explicit detail on S&J. In other cases, evaluations explored very short timeframes (such as quarterly reports) or commented on progress against process and management indicators rather than actual results and impacts.

Of those included, there are thematic evaluations of donor security and justice programming, including an Evaluation of Australian Law and Justice Assistance (Cox et al., 2012), and a thematic evaluation of the European Commission’s support to Justice and Security System Reform (European Commission, 2011). Examples of multi-donor, individual programme and country evaluations were also identified.

4.3 Publisher

72 per cent of studies have been published by academic organisations and think tanks. This is to be expected given the prominence of peer-reviewed journal articles in the mapping database. 12 per cent of studies were published by non-governmental organisations, the most prominent of which are the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, Saferworld and the Open Society Justice Initiative.

4.4 Geographic scope

Figure 3 shows that Western Africa is by far the most studied region. South Asia and Eastern Africa are the next most studied regions. There are very few studies on Central Asia, East Asia, Eastern Europe and Northern Africa.¹

¹ It was necessary to use a standard means of classifying the geographic focus of documents. The UN classification system has been used for this mapping process. See http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm for further details.
Ninety-one countries have been studied in the evidence base. Figure 4 shows the number of studies per country, for those countries that appear ten times or more. The most studied countries are Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Liberia and Timor-Leste.
4.5 Thematic focus

Figure 5: Frequency of studies by thematic focus

Figure 5 shows the numbers of studies by thematic focus. Policing is by far the most studied theme, followed by access to justice/legal empowerment, justice sector reform, legal reform and non-state actors. Few studies cover border security, and intelligence. Individual studies often explored interventions that addressed more than one theme/sector.

The emerging themes urbanisation, counter-terrorism and organised crime appear scarcely in the evidence base. Evidence on the emerging theme of organised crime is most abundant, whilst evidence on urbanisation and counter-terrorism is very limited.

5. The quality of evidence

A good indication of quality is the fact that the majority of documents in the evidence base are peer-reviewed journal papers. Furthermore, many studies classified as ‘other reports’ have been published by academic institutions and non-governmental organisations that are renowned for publishing quality output. Prominent examples include Saferworld, the United States Institute of Peace, Namati, and the International Development Law Organization, amongst others.

A few features may count against the rigour of evidence. There are few experimental or quasi-experimental studies, and therefore limited coverage on the presence and nature of causal linkages between interventions and outcomes. In addition, single country studies are far more prominent than multi-country comparative studies, which arguably provide a more powerful basis for the analysis of interventions and results.
6. Evidence gap map

Figures 6 and 7 are the evidence gap map. It is presented in two parts for ease of viewing: Figure 6 maps the interventions against outputs, and Figure 7 maps the interventions against outcomes in two charts. Individual cells show the number of studies that address each combination of interventions and outputs or outcomes. Green cells show where the review found a significant number of studies – darker shades of green indicate more studies found. Red cells highlight evidence gaps – darker shades of red indicate greater evidence gaps.

The gap map only illustrates where there is evidence. It does not provide information on what the evidence says, nor does it comment on the nature of linkages between interventions and outputs or outcomes. In particular, dark green cells do not indicate that there is a lot of evidence supporting a positive relationship between the intervention and output or outcome. Indeed, the evidence may show positive, neutral or negative effects or be inconclusive. Individual studies may appear in multiple cells because the majority explore multiple types of intervention, outputs and outcomes.

Figure 6: Evidence gap map – interventions against outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Accountability</th>
<th>Non-state actor inclusion</th>
<th>Community participation</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Confidence/trust/satisfaction</th>
<th>Gender sensitivity/balancing</th>
<th>Roles/coordination/dialogue</th>
<th>Strategic frameworks</th>
<th>Application/compliance</th>
<th>State/non-state</th>
<th>linkages</th>
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<td>125</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>92</td>
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<td>Strategic/statutory frameworks</td>
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<td>Restructuring the security and justice sector</td>
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<td>92</td>
<td>114</td>
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<td>Gender-specific interventions</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political engagement/Political will</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>42</td>
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### Figure 7: Evidence gap map – interventions against outcomes (in two parts)

#### Interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Incentives</th>
<th>Responsiveness</th>
<th>Political will</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Citizens feel safe and secure</th>
<th>Access to provision</th>
<th>Stability/conflict/violence</th>
<th>Resources/sustainability</th>
<th>Security and justice actors protect</th>
<th>Judicial redress</th>
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6.1 Overview

Generally, evidence gaps and areas of strength appear where one would expect them. The gaps appear where the outputs and outcomes are less tangible, and more difficult to operationalise and measure. As a result, there is less coverage in the literature and less evidence that interventions make an impact in these areas. The evidence on longer-term development outcomes such as economic development, poverty reduction, and women’s empowerment and gender equality is particularly limited.

Evidence on outputs and outcomes is generally more abundant in combination with those intervention types that appear more frequently (i.e. ‘capacity building of organisations’, ‘strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation’, ‘community-based approaches’ and ‘restructuring the security and justice sector’).

As stated earlier, coding categories were added during the S&J coding process, and then back-coded. Evidence on many of the newer categories is sparse. Many of these new categories are more justice-specific, whilst many of the original outcomes and outputs are more general and applicable across a wider range of intervention types.

6.2 Analysis: interventions

Figure 8: Number of studies by intervention type

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5 For the outputs, the new categories include: ‘application, compliance and interpretation of laws’ and ‘state/non-state linkages’. For the outcomes, the new categories include: ‘legal awareness and confidence’, ‘gender-based violence rates’, ‘judicial redress to protect rights’, ‘poverty reduction’, ‘access to land, inheritance and property rights’, ‘access to public services and economic resources’, and ‘women’s empowerment and gender equality’.
Figure 8 displays the number of studies by intervention type. Evidence is **abundant** for the following interventions, and many studies provide examples in which a combination of these interventions is used:

- Capacity building of organisations
- Strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation
- Community-based approaches
- Restructuring of the security and justice sector.

Evidence is **scarce** for the following intervention types:

- **Preventative interventions**: This was a new intervention type added during the coding for the S&J mapping to reflect the extension of the thematic scope into emerging areas such as urbanisation and organised crime. Few studies were identified that focus on the themes of security promotion and violence reduction and few include evidence on integrated efforts to prevent violence and crime, particularly in urban areas. This is not to say that there are few studies on crime and violence reduction in general. Rather, this means that there are few documents that our search strategy identified as being specifically and explicitly related to S&J.

- **Non-state justice forum and justice facilitator capacity building**: This was another intervention added during the S&J coding stage, and is specifically related to the thematic area ‘access to justice and legal empowerment’. This category refers to interventions to build the capacity of non-state justice forums (including the full spectrum of traditional and customary justice providers), and local justice facilitators (those individuals working with communities to provide legal aid, dispute resolution, and para-legal or mediation services).

- **Integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will**: This intervention was not covered significantly in the literature, perhaps because it is not something that is easily reported on or measured. Studies generally do not discuss these types of activities, even if they might be happening in the background of other more tangible activities.

- **Non-intervention** was coded for evidence that identifies outputs or outcomes of interest, but where it is not clear that there was any aid intervention, or what it entailed. Only two instances were found.

### 6.3 Analysis: outputs

*Figure 9: Number of studies per output*
**Strong evidence for outputs**

Figure 9 shows that evidence is abundant for the following outputs:

- Accountability
- Capacity of state and non-state organisations to deliver
- Strategic frameworks
- Confidence, trust or satisfaction on the part of citizens in providers
- Roles, coordination and dialogue amongst organisations and agencies

**Accountability:** Evidence on accountability was often expressed in terms of: the level of politicisation of security and justice organisations; the extent of judicial independence; the presence and functioning of internal and external oversight mechanisms; the extent of democratic control; and whether security and justice actors behave in a manner accountable to citizens. One would expect evidence on accountability to appear frequently in the evidence base. Whilst evidence on this output appears quite frequently in combination with the intervention category ‘developing accountability mechanisms’, the evidence is stronger for combinations with other intervention types, including ‘capacity building of organisations’, ‘strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation’ and ‘restructuring the security and justice sectors’. It may be the case that these interventions included accountability objectives or activities that were not explicitly mentioned in studies. It could also reflect the fact that studies comment on the impact of different interventions on accountability as a normative measure of success, even when interventions to develop accountability are not explicitly mentioned.

**Capacity of state and non-state organisations to deliver:** Many programmes include an emphasis on capacity building to achieve results. Evidence was often expressed in terms of: levels of operational capability; performance, effectiveness, skills, professionalism and leadership; the ability to plan; and the presence of management and performance systems. Studies also commented on the ability of justice actors to resolve or settle cases and disputes, and their ability to enforce judgments and prosecute cases.

**Strategic frameworks developed:** S&J programming often includes interventions towards the development of national security and justice policies and strategies, and the statutory and legal frameworks to address the security and justice needs of citizens and the state. Evidence for this output was often expressed in terms of development of strategic or statutory frameworks, and adoption and/or reform of legal codes, norms and standards.

**Confidence, trust and satisfaction:** A number of studies expanded upon anecdotal evidence or user perception surveys to comment on the extent of user confidence, trust or satisfaction in provision. This related to state, local and non-state provision of security and justice services.

**Roles, coordination and dialogue:** The extent of coordination and dialogue between different actors is considered an important element towards the success or failure of reforms. Evidence was presented on the reform or the presence of legislation or frameworks that clearly define the roles and responsibilities of different security and justice actors, and the extent of cooperation between them.

**Weak evidence for outputs**

Figure 9 shows that evidence is scarce for the following outputs:

- Application, compliance and interpretation of laws
- State/non-state linkages
Application, compliance and interpretation of laws: This is a justice-specific output. Evidence appears most frequently in combination with the intervention ‘strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation’ followed by ‘capacity building or organisations’ and ‘legal services’. Studies commented on whether the adoption of new codes, norms and standards had resulted in the fair and consistent application and interpretation of law by judges and traditional or customary justice facilitators. Evidence on this output was often demonstrated through subjective user perceptions or external analysis, and whether this is considered to be consistent and fair across different types of cases and for different types of users.

State/non-state linkages: This output is specific to access to justice and legal empowerment. The evidence is strongest in combination with the interventions ‘community-based approaches’ and ‘strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation’. This output was often expressed in terms of the level of coherence and linkages between official and customary justice through the recognition, regulation, institutionalisation or integration of non-state legal orders. This includes codification and the diversion of cases from state to non-state forums and vice-versa.

6.4 Analysis: outcomes

Figure 10: Number of studies per outcome
**Strong evidence for outcomes**

Figure 10 shows that evidence is abundant for the following outcomes:

- Political will to enact reforms
- Ownership of reforms by national and local stakeholders
- Resource allocation/funding stability and sustainability
- Access to provision
- Stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence
- Human rights measures implemented to improve compliance

**Political will to enact reforms:** Evidence was mostly provided in the form of: opinion or perceptions on the political will amongst local and national stakeholders to enact reforms or support interventions; the perceived presence of motivation, commitment or consensus amongst stakeholders for change; and the presence or absence of spoilers. One would expect the strongest evidence to appear in combination with ‘integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will’. This perhaps reflects the fact that there is little explicit coverage on the intervention ‘integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will’. There is more coverage on whether other types of activities have impacted on ‘political will’ as an outcome. Evidence on political will appears more frequently in combination with the intervention types ‘capacity building for organisations’, ‘strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation’ and ‘restructuring the security and justice sector’.

**Ownership of reforms by national and local stakeholders:** Ownership is a core tenet of S&J, and one would expect substantial evidence. The evidence base explores this outcome in terms of: the extent of perceived ownership by national and local stakeholders; the extent to which reforms are internally initiated by national and local stakeholders; the involvement of a broad range of stakeholders (not just elites) in reform; and the extent to which donors take a controlling role in the planning and implementation of reforms.

**Resource allocation/funding stability and sustainability:** The evidence base is particularly concerned with issues of sustainability after the implementation of interventions. This outcome was often explored in terms of the absence of resource shortfalls and the extent of dependency on donor funding.

**Access to provision:** Evidence is most likely to be found in combination with the intervention types ‘community-based approaches’ and ‘legal services’, both of which are primarily concerned with local-level delivery and engaging citizens where provision might normally be lacking. Evidence is presented in terms of: the extent of provision across territories; the extent of access in rural areas; the impact of cultural, financial or gender-related issues upon access; and the extent to which legal services have enabled access to formal provision.

**Stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence:** There is significant evidence on the impact of interventions on stability, conflict and violence. This output is often discussed in terms of: political stability or conflict between competing factions and actors; the ability of security and justice agencies to prevent outbreaks of conflict and violence amongst society; and reductions in local-level legal conflicts between disputing parties.

**Human rights measures implemented to improve compliance:** Human rights are a core tenet of S&J. The relative strength of evidence for this outcome is perhaps explained by the relative tangibility of indicators such as: the adoption of relevant legislation, ethical codes or codes of conduct; human rights training; and vetting and certification and removal procedures to ensure that personnel are human rights abiding.
Weak evidence for outcomes

Figure 10 shows that evidence is scarce for the following outcomes:

- Incentives for improved service delivery amongst security and justice actors
- Actual crime rates
- Legal awareness and confidence
- Gender-based violence rates
- Judicial redress to protect rights
- Economic development (local or national)
- Poverty reduction
- Access to land, inheritance and property rights
- Access to public services and economic resources
- Women’s empowerment and gender equality

Incentives for improved service delivery amongst security and justice actors: This outcome was not very tangible and it was difficult to identify in the literature. Evidence occurs most frequently in combination with the intervention type ‘restructuring the security and justice sector’, with analysis focusing on the political or economic incentives for reform. Few studies provide evidence that ‘integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will’ impact upon incentives.

Actual crime rates: A few instances were found where the literature explicitly comments on crime rates in locations where interventions had taken place. Evidence on crime rates is most significantly correlated with the thematic area of policing, and the intervention types ‘community-based approaches’ and ‘capacity building’. Half of the experimental studies in the database provide evidence on this outcome, suggesting that its measurement is particularly suited to experimental or quasi-experimental impact evaluation.

Legal awareness and confidence: The relative scarcity of this outcome is explained by the fact that it is quite specific to access to justice and legal empowerment. Evidence for this outcome appears most frequently in combination with the intervention types ‘legal services’ and ‘community-based approaches’.

Gender-based violence rates: Evidence is more numerous in combination with the thematic areas of ‘access to justice/legal empowerment’, ‘police’ and ‘justice sector reform’, and the intervention types ‘gender specific interventions’, ‘capacity building’ and ‘community-based approaches’. The coverage of this outcome in studies that explore ‘legal services’ interventions is perhaps lower than expected. A fairly significant portion of studies (42%) that include evidence on ‘legal services’ also include evidence on ‘gender-specific interventions’, but less than half of these provide evidence on gender-based violence rates.

Judicial redress to protect rights: This outcome was not very tangible and it was difficult to identify in the literature. Evidence appears most frequently in combination with the intervention types ‘legal services’ and ‘community-based approaches’. It is discussed in terms of the increased ability for citizens to seek redress, or through the existence of reparation measures that aim to redress past wrongs and provide compensation or rehabilitation for victims of abuses.

Economic development (local or national): Evidence is sparse across all the intervention types – only 12 studies in the database include evidence on this outcome. Evidence appears most frequently in combination with the intervention type ‘community based approaches’. This suggests that there is more evidence on the impacts of locally targeted initiatives on local level economic development than on change at a national level.

Poverty reduction: Evidence is sparse across all the intervention types – only 12 studies in the database include evidence on this outcome. Evidence appears most frequently in combination with the intervention type ‘community based approaches’. A few documents provide evidence that interventions in the thematic
area of access to justice and legal empowerment contributed to reducing poverty at a community level through increasing incomes and/or improving health and education indicators.

**Access to land, inheritance and property rights:** Evidence appears most frequently in combination with the intervention types ‘community-based approaches’, ‘legal services’ and ‘gender specific interventions’. Access to justice and legal empowerment initiatives operating at a local community level often target women and consider this as an important outcome.

**Access to public services and economic resources:** Evidence is most likely to be found in combination with the intervention types ‘community-based approaches’, ‘capacity building’ and ‘gender specific interventions’. Access to justice and legal empowerment initiatives often claim this as an important outcome, both in terms of making citizens more aware of their rights and making public service delivery more responsive. The coverage of this outcome in studies that explore ‘legal services’ interventions is perhaps lower than expected.

**Women’s empowerment and gender equality:** There is limited evidence that interventions can influence broader societal attitudes on gender equality and empowerment. Evidence on this outcome is most closely associated with the thematic area ‘access to justice/legal empowerment’ and it most frequently appears in combination with the intervention types ‘community-based approaches’, ‘gender-specific interventions’, and ‘legal services’.

### 7. Potential avenues for future research

The evidence base for security and justice programming is generally considered to be weak. ‘Much of the literature is normative, presenting recommendations with little empirical evidence about what works. There is little in the way of rigorous evaluation on the effects of institutional reform programmes on security and justice provision’ (Bakrania, 2014: p. 22). Whilst 386 documents is a substantial sample of evidence upon which to base assessments about evidence gaps, one could argue that our rates of inclusion (and the large number of documents rejected for coding) reinforce this widely held belief.

There are very few experimental or quasi-experimental studies in the database and thus analysis on the causal linkages between interventions and outputs or outcomes is lacking. This is particularly concerning given that little is known on the impact of S&J programming on broader development outcomes (Cox, 2008; Roseavare, 2013). Indeed, the analysis here suggests that there is very limited evidence on the impact of S&J interventions on broader development outcomes such as crime rates, gender-based violence rates, economic development and poverty reduction.

Diversifying the research to include more impact evaluations based on experimental and quasi-experimental approaches, and systematic or non-systematic reviews focusing on specific S&J themes and interventions, may help build a more rigorous evidence base.

One could argue that the nature of S&J activities, where results are often intangible, makes impact evaluation difficult. S&J programming often takes place in risky, dynamic and less stable environments. Generating data in these contexts is challenging due to physical risks, restricted access to data sources and weak statistical capabilities (OECD-DAC, 2012; SAS, 2013). Notwithstanding the difficulties, our analysis suggests that impact evaluations of specific and discrete interventions, which include the analysis of longer-term development outcomes, are possible in a variety of contexts.

The following sections highlight areas of strong evidence that may be suitable for synthesis research, and areas of limited evidence where further impact evaluation may be desirable.
7.1 Areas suitable for synthesis research

There are a relatively large number of studies in the thematic areas:

- Police
- Defence
- Access to justice/legal empowerment
- Justice sector reform.

There are also a relatively large number of studies for the intervention areas:

- Capacity building of organisations
- Strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation
- Community-based approaches
- Restructuring the security and justice sector.

For these thematic areas and intervention types, a large number of outputs and outcomes have been analysed in the evidence base. Studies exploring these themes and intervention types could provide a good basis for synthesis research to generate rigorous evidence on the linkages between interventions and outputs or outcomes, particularly those that have been highlighted in this report to be abundant. This could help elucidate on activities and indicators that may contribute to achieving and measuring outputs and outcomes.

7.2 Priority research areas

This project did not include a scoping study to garner information on those intervention, output and outcome areas for which there is a demand for evidence. DFID’s SSR theory of change included a number of pre-determined interventions – these were not added during the coding process – so it is assumed that there is demand for evidence in these areas.

The evidence for some of these pre-defined intervention types is not as strong as for those mentioned above, but that is not to say that the evidence is scarce. For these interventions, there are certain anomalies in the evidence base that warrant further investigation. These could be targeted as priority research areas.

Developing accountability mechanisms (at national and local/community level): the evidence is abundant on the accountability output, but not as strong on the ‘developing accountability’ intervention. One might have expected evidence for these directly related interventions and outputs to appear as frequently as each other. Studies comment on the impact of different types of interventions on accountability as a normative measure of success, even when interventions to develop accountability are not explicitly mentioned.

Non-state security and justice influencing reform and national level processes: the strength of evidence for combinations with the outcomes ‘citizens feel safe and secure’ and ‘security actors protect’ is limited. One might have expected more evidence for these combinations.

Integrated political engagement/activities that promote political will: The evidence for this is weaker than for the other pre-determined intervention types. Studies generally do not discuss these types of activities, even if they might be happening in the background of other more tangible interventions. There is limited evidence that political engagement/political will interventions can impact upon the outcome ‘incentives for improved service delivery’, even though these would appear to be directly related. One might also expect the evidence to be stronger in combination with the outcome ‘political will to enact reforms’, but there is more coverage on
whether other interventions, such as ‘capacity building for organisations’, ‘strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation’ and ‘restructuring the security and justice sector’ have impacted on ‘political will’ as an outcome.

The evidence is yet more limited for intervention types that were not pre-determined in DFID’s SSR theory of change, but were added during the coding stages of the SSR and S&J mapping exercises. These are:

- Gender-specific interventions
- Infrastructure and equipment
- Demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration
- Legal services
- Non-state justice forum and justice facilitator capacity building
- Preventative interventions.

All of these intervention types may serve as a basis for further impact evaluation. It is difficult to prioritise these without knowing the demand, but listed below are a few intervention-outcome combinations where one might have expected the evidence base to be stronger:

- For gender-specific interventions, there is limited evidence on outcomes such as ‘judicial redress to protect rights’, ‘citizens feel safe and secure’, ‘security and justice actors protect’ and ‘gender-based violence rates’.
- For legal services, there is limited evidence on ‘gender-based violence rates’.
- For non-state justice forum and justice facilitator capacity building, the evidence is limited across all the outcome categories. One might have expected more evidence on the outcomes ‘judicial redress to protect rights’, and ‘access to land, inheritance and property rights’.
- Evidence on preventative interventions is limited across all categories. One might have expected more evidence on the outcomes ‘stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence’, ‘actual crime rates’ or ‘gender-based violence rates’.
References

A searchable list of the documents included in the rigorous review is available in the accompanying database: http://www.gsdrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/SJEvidenceMappingDatabase.xlsm


Annex A: Search Protocol

Evidence Mapping for Security and Justice

Search Protocol

Revised version after 1st coding review

Version 8: 06/08/15

1. Objectives

This rigorous mapping will expand upon the SSR evidence mapping exercise, broadening the thematic scope to identify empirical evidence of the outcomes of security and justice interventions. Evidence will be catalogued and coded in an Excel spreadsheet.

This includes an evidence gap mapping of the global evidence base for security and justice, in order to identify where the evidence is strongest and where the key weaknesses lie. This will inform priorities for knowledge generation in DFID and HMG and will ultimately inform programming and policy decisions.

This project forms part of DFID’s management response to the recent report from ICAI on security and justice, and will also inform the refreshed position paper on security and justice to be produced late 2015.

This paper outlines the proposed strategy for compiling the spreadsheet of evidence.

2. Phases

The mapping will be conducted in three phases.

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<th>Milestone and Feedback dates</th>
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<td>Test the search strategy to assess how well it is likely to work in practice, and to check the feasibility of using search terms related to several of DFID’s emerging and cross-cutting themes for security and justice. Test searches will be conducted using the draft search terms and inclusion criteria on three different sources of materials (Google Scholar, one research institute, and one independent</td>
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</table>
resource centre). The team will deliver a report to DFID that includes a description of the search protocol, the number of materials returned from each of the three test sources, and a list of the materials returned from each of the three test sources (including bibliographic information only), so that DFID can assess whether the results being returned by the strategy meet expectations.

A template Excel spread sheet will also be delivered to provide DFID with an indication of the database design.

Phase 1 designed to be flexible. The test searches will provide an indication of the scope and breadth of the literature, and the utility of the search terms (including the cross-cutting themes). DFID will review the proposed search strategy, results and Excel template and may request changes.

**Phase 2: Carry out searches, compile bibliography and complete coding (weeks 3-7)**

Carry out the searches within all of the sources of material following the agreed strategy. Apply inclusion criteria and remove duplicates. Consult experts (see Annex B) for their recommendations.

The lead researcher and research assistant will undertake the coding and data entry, including the quality coding. Each researcher will review the other’s work to ensure consistency and quality.

An in-depth assessment of the validity of findings in each study is beyond the scope of this exercise. A gap analysis will be undertaken, and the evidence base will be categorised (and documents from the previous SSR evidence mapping re-categorised) according to the characteristics presented in table 3 below.

**Phase 3: Evidence gap mapping (weeks 8-9)**

A gap map table and narrative report will be produced detailing the trends presented in the gap analysis.

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**3. Sources to be searched**

Although this mapping is not a full systematic review, and therefore cannot claim to capture all relevant research published in this area, the researchers will apply a multi-pronged and rigorous search strategy, entailing:

- **Database searches**: A wide range of citation and journal indexes, online research and evaluation repositories, resource centres and other search engines will be interrogated. A proposed list of sources included in Annex A. The variety of sources is designed to capture peer-reviewed materials, working papers, and grey literature (e.g. evaluations of donor-led interventions).
Building on recent relevant meta reviews: Any recent similar reviews undertaken by leading international organisations will be identified, and the key texts referenced within them will be assessed against the inclusion criteria (a process known as ‘pearl-growing’).

Expert consultation: Consultation with experts will run alongside the online literature searches. Early on in the process, suggestions for studies will be solicited from a selection of policymakers, practitioners and academics working in this area, including grey literature difficult to obtain online. A list of experts is provided in Annex B.

For each source examined, we will record the number of initial search results and the number of these documents that meet the inclusion criteria and are therefore included in the review. This data will be presented to DFID in an annex. The purpose is to record the primary locations of the evidence base and to keep a record that future reviews can compare against. A short summary of the implementation of the search protocol used will be provided in the final report, detailing any changes to the planned search strategy.

4. Search terms

The key search terms and synonyms to be used are listed in the tables below. Two strategies will be used, depending on the search capabilities offered by each data source. The search terms are all formulated around the proposed intervention categories. For research centres, independent resource centres and similar websites that offer free-text search capabilities, the terms in table 1 will be used. Where independent resource centres have organised their document libraries into pre-defined categories (such as the SSR Resource Centre and the GSDRC), the relevant key terms or the closest synonyms to the column 1 search terms will be selected. On some research institute websites (such as the ODI) it is not possible to search using key-word search terms, and in such cases, relevant documents listed on their security and justice publications pages will be included. For databases like journal indexes that have the capability to conduct Boolean (and/or) searches, the terms in table 2 will be used.

Table 1: Search terms and synonyms for databases without Boolean search capability

For databases and websites that provide free-text searching without Boolean (AND/OR) capability, use each of the terms in column 1 in combination with each of the terms in column 2. This produces 2 x 9 = 18 search terms to run on each source, such as “security accountability” and “justice capacity building”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column 1: base search terms</th>
<th>Column 2: search specifiers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘Security and Justice’ OR ‘Justice’</td>
<td>Accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-state actors&lt;sup&gt;6&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capacity building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legislation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organised/Organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Counter-terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urbanisation/Urbanization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>6</sup> The SSR theory of change offers a spatial distinction between ‘non-state actors’ and ‘community-based approaches’. ‘Non-state actors’ refers to work with organised groups of security actors, typically at national level, to create an enabling environment for SSR. ‘Community’ refers to initiatives that operate at grassroots level.
Table 2: Search terms and synonyms for databases with Boolean search capability

For databases that provide Boolean (AND/OR) search capabilities, such as journal indexes, use the term in column 1, ‘AND’ed with each term in column 2 in turn. This produces 9 searches to run on each source, where each search contains two main clauses that are ‘AND’ed together, with many ‘OR’ clauses to broaden the search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column 1: Base search term</th>
<th>Column 2: search specifiers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security and Justice OR</td>
<td>Accountability OR Grievance mechanisms OR ombudsman OR oversight OR parliamentary committees OR financial management OR complaints commissions OR victim support OR dispute resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice OR Judicial reform OR</td>
<td>Non state actors OR informal OR multi-layered - OR customary OR traditional OR civil society OR non governmental organisations OR human rights organisations OR women’s organisations OR religious organisations OR media OR non-state armed groups OR rebel groups OR warlords OR militias OR vigilantes OR criminal groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal empowerment OR</td>
<td>Community OR gender-based approaches OR women’s groups OR community policing OR community-based policing OR empowerment OR participation OR grassroots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to justice OR Penal reform</td>
<td>Capacity building OR train OR organisational development OR technical OR professionalism OR leadership OR ministry of internal affairs OR ministry of Justice OR ministry of finance OR budgets OR human resources OR databases OR [demobilization/demobilization] OR salaries OR mentoring OR skills OR incentives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Legislation OR regulation OR statutory frameworks OR strategic frameworks OR planning and coordination OR review commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluation OR monitoring OR indicators OR review OR results OR outcome OR impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Emerging theme] Organised/Organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Emerging theme] Counter-terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Emerging theme] Urbanisation/Urbanization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Inclusion criteria

The researchers will select materials to be included in the spread sheet according to the following criteria:

- **Date of publication**: The emphasis of the review will be on recent evidence; materials published from 2008 onwards will be included. The time horizon may be adjusted to keep the number of studies to be coded within the time/budget allocated for mapping.

- **Types of publication**: Academic journals, peer-reviewed materials, working papers, grey literature, books, and book chapters that are available online at no cost to the reader. Books and book chapters will only be included where the text is available electronically directly from the publisher in PDF full text format. This excludes scanned copies and Google Book previews. Only materials whose primary purpose is to present research-based evidence will be included. Policy statements, guidance notes, and advocacy-oriented materials will not be included.

- **Relevance**: Studies must explore the relationship between S&J interventions and a given set of outcomes, irrespective of the nature of the relationship (e.g. positive / negative / no evidence of a relationship found). Evidence that identifies outputs or outcomes of interest, but where it is not clear that there was any intervention, or what it entailed, will be included in the database but marked as ‘non-intervention’. Donor, international, national government-led, and NGO/CSO level interventions will all be considered.
- **Geographic focus**: Low- and middle-income countries.
- **Language**: Only studies available in English will be included.
- **Research design**: Primary, empirical research or evaluation (quantitative or qualitative) or secondary reviews; theoretical and conceptual papers to be excluded.

**Exclusion criteria**

Based on test searches, it was agreed that the following sub-themes would be excluded:

- **Commercial Justice**: Evidence on commercial justice reform, or judicial reform focussed towards providing an enabling environment for economic activity, such as commercial training, commercial courts, contractual obligations, will not be included. Economic issues such as implementation of land or labour rights might be included as part of the evidence on legal empowerment or access to justice.
- Juvenile and child justice
- Transitional justice
- War on drugs and drugs regulation
- Displacement and refugee-related justice in post-conflict or fragile contexts
- Environmental justice in fragile contexts
- Probation and parole, except when specifically related to penal reform interventions
- EU’s ‘Area of freedom, security and justice’

**6. Data to be recorded on spread sheet**

- Bibliographic data (authors, publication date, source)
- Hyperlink to the publication
- Abstracts/summaries (NB: Abstracts or summaries will be included where readily available and exportable into the database. Not all documents will have abstracts or summaries).
- Research characteristics (see table 3 below)
- Intervention category (see below)
- Outcome and outputs that the study is investigating (see below)
- Geographic focus by region
- Sub-sector addressed by the intervention (e.g. police / military / non-state actors / intelligence / border control / holistic or sector-wide / governance/ access to justice / transitional justice / legal empowerment etc.).

It would be impossible to undertake a thorough quality assessment of all of the materials selected for inclusion in the database. However, we will record certain characteristics of the studies which provide some information about quality and relevance, and which can be easily determined. Database users will be able to use this information to judge the size and quality of the evidence base.

**Table 3: Research characteristics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Possible classifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publication form</td>
<td>o Peer-reviewed journal article</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Book or book chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Workshop or conference report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Other report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>o Academic organisation or think-tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Multilateral or inter-government organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o National government organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Non-governmental organisation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Geographic scope
- Multi-country comparative analysis
- Single country studies

### Research design
- Experimental or quasi-experimental
- Observational
- Secondary review (systematic and other literature reviews)

## 7. Coding of interventions, outputs and outcomes

In line with ToR requirements, studies have been selected that explore the relationship between S&J interventions and a given set of outcomes, irrespective of the nature of the relationship (e.g. positive / negative / no evidence of a relationship found). The coding of outputs and outcomes follows this logic.

### Interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-intervention</td>
<td>Evidence that identifies outputs or outcomes of interest, but where it is not clear that there was any aid intervention, or what it entailed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing accountability mechanisms (at national and local/community level)</td>
<td>Interventions directed at enhancing and developing accountability mechanisms and democratic oversight, to ensure that security and justice agencies meet expected standards of behaviour and performance, including the prevention of abuses and violations by personnel. At the local community-level, this includes interventions to develop the capacity of civil society organisations to actively monitor security and justice policies and practices. This may also include legal empowerment initiatives, which aim to make the law more responsive to the needs of the poor and the vulnerable, and to assist them in protecting their rights and demanding accountable governance. At the national level, this includes interventions to develop and strengthen oversight mechanisms at the executive level. It also includes supporting independent oversight institutions, including the legislature (parliament), the judiciary, and other independent bodies with specialised mandates in the governance and accountability of the security and justice sectors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Non-state security and justice influencing reform and national level processes

Interventions directed at legal or statutory non-state actors to support their engagement in the reform process at a national level. This includes supporting the engagement of diverse groups in dialogue on security and justice, supporting confidence building between the security and justice sectors and civil society, or supporting civil-society to undertake outreach and awareness raising programmes.

This includes interventions initiated by non-state actors, such as non-governmental organisations, to influence national-level processes.

This category also includes interventions directed at extra-legal or non-statutory non-state actors who may influence security and justice processes at a national level in different ways through DDR, integration, transitional justice and peace processes.

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*Based on DFID How-to Note Assessing the Strength of Evidence, 2014*
Community-based approaches

Interventions directed at local-level developments and actors. This includes interventions to support the engagement of marginalised and vulnerable groups, and to promote formal interaction between communities, customary justice mechanisms, local officials and authority, and security and justice agency representatives. This also includes legal empowerment initiatives, which aim to use the law to benefit the disadvantaged, in terms of assisting people to protect their rights, pursuing their economic interests and demanding accountable and responsive governance. This also includes attempts to communicate information about the functioning of security and justice institutions and respective reforms to the wider public.

Organisational capacity building interventions

Interventions to improve the institutional and organisational capacity of state security and justice institutions and agencies. This will typically be technical assistance comprised of training and organisational development interventions focussed on agencies and the appropriate ministries governing them. Capacity building interventions include those focussing on increasing capabilities, professionalisation and leadership, as well as in areas such as improving human rights compliance, access to redress and gender equality. This includes the development of professional legal education and qualifications.

Strategic/statutory frameworks and legislation

Interventions focussed on national security and justice policies and strategies, and the statutory and legal frameworks to address the security and justice needs of citizens and the state. These laws, standards, policies, strategies, plans and frameworks are typically based on a country’s constitution and legislation. They concern the relationship between security and justice providers and the public, and clarify behaviours, roles and responsibilities of state institutions in providing security and justice. This includes interventions towards the adoption and/or reform of legal codes, norms and standards, with the aim of improving clarity, to specify the legal position of non-state legal orders in relation to official law, and to ensure compliance with international standards of fairness, due process and human rights norms.

At another level, this includes efforts to provide strategic national guidance to S&J programmes, ensure that spending is driven by inclusive national priorities, and are cost-effective and sustainable.

Restructuring the security and justice sector

High order interventions focussed on restructuring the security and justice sector or specific institutions and agencies. This includes structural reforms of existing institutions and interventions to create or establish new organisations and agencies, for example, as part of state-building efforts in fragile or conflict-affected contexts where they do not exist or have broken down.

Gender-specific interventions

This includes efforts towards gender balancing or ensuring equal representation of men and women in institutions and oversight bodies. This also includes gender-specific interventions such as training and capacity building, creating gender units within the police, raising awareness of women’s rights within security and justice institutions, and efforts to prevent gender-based violence.
Security and justice evidence mapping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment in infrastructure and equipment</td>
<td>Interventions that focus on the provision of physical infrastructure (e.g. buildings, police stations, training centres) or equipment (e.g. law enforcement equipment, uniforms, information technology).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated political engagement/Activities that promote political will</td>
<td>Activities that promote political will, focusing on support that makes the case for change, rather than on-going pressure. This includes activities such as bringing politicians/heads of agencies to meet counterparts in country (e.g. guest of government visits), or sustained lobbying from donor/international community in country, or support to government commissions/task forces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration</td>
<td>DDR typically involves dismantling the command structures of armed groups and reducing the size of fighting forces and the number of weapons in circulation. Ex-combatants are either assisted to return to civilian life, with reintegration packages including cash or non-monetary benefits such as vocational training or counselling, or merged into new national security forces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal services</td>
<td>Interventions to provide or broaden the range of legal services available to citizens as part of access to justice or legal empowerment programmes. This includes alternative dispute resolution, legal aid, para-legal services, mediation and legal education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-state justice forum and justice facilitator capacity building</td>
<td>Interventions to build the capacity of non-state justice forums (including the full spectrum of traditional and customary justice providers), and local justice facilitators (those individuals working with communities to provide legal aid, dispute resolution, para-legal or mediation services).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventative interventions</td>
<td>Integrated efforts to prevent violence and crime, particularly in urban areas. These are often described as integrated development and governance strategies that combine elements of public health, education and employment, voluntary arms collection (demobilisation), community reintegration and urban environmental design programmes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Outputs**

The ultimate aim of this review is to explore links between interventions and outcomes, but because it is anticipated that few studies will rigorously explore these links, any intermediate output and outcome measures will also be coded.

**Outputs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>Are the security and justice sectors perceived as accountable? Key indicators include: the level of politicisation; the extent of judicial independence; the presence and functioning of internal and external oversight mechanisms; the extent of democratic control; whether security and justice actors behave in a manner accountable to citizens and up to expected standards of behaviour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The inclusion of non-state actors in reform processes or negotiations</td>
<td>Have non-state actors been included as part of reform efforts? This includes the involvement and engagement of legal and statutory actors (including traditional leaders, civil society organisations and non-governmental organisations), and extra-legal and armed non-state actors in national decision-making processes,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community participation and voice</td>
<td>Have citizens, communities and traditional leaders (including customary justice ‘elders’) had opportunities to participate and voice their opinions and needs with regard to the delivery of security and justice? Key indicators include: whether citizens, communities and traditional leaders have been involved in community-based initiatives; whether initiatives have supported the engagement of marginalised and vulnerable groups; whether interactions have occurred between communities, traditional leaders, local officials/authority/security and justice agency representatives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The demonstrable capacity of state and non-state organisations to deliver</td>
<td>Have state or non-state actors’ capacities to deliver security and justice been impacted? What is the overall quality of institutions, organisations and customary justice or alternative dispute resolution mechanisms? Key indicators include levels of operational capability, performance, effectiveness, skills, professionalisation and leadership; the ability to plan; the presence of management and performance systems, including recruitment and management and human resource processes. This includes evidence provided on the ability of justice actors to resolve, settle cases and disputes, and the ability to enforce judgements and prosecute cases. It also includes evidence on rates of pre-trial detention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen confidence, trust or satisfaction in providers</td>
<td>Do citizens or communities report confidence or trust, or are they satisfied with levels of service? This is normally demonstrated through perception surveys or anecdotal evidence. In addition to confidence, trust and satisfaction, another key indicator is whether citizen or communities perceive providers as legitimate. Another aspect of this is whether interventions have led to behaviour change amongst citizens, which means they are more confident of accessing justice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender sensitivity and balancing</td>
<td>Have interventions affected the responsiveness of actors and institutions to gender-based violence? Have reform efforts impacted the equal representation of men and women? Key indicators include: perception of how security and justice actors respond to gender-based violence; the implementation of gender-related legislation; equal representation through recruitment policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roles, coordination and dialogue amongst organisations and agencies</td>
<td>Are the roles and responsibilities of different actors within the security sector clearly defined? Is there dialogue and coordination amongst different security and justice organisations? Key indicators include: the presence of legislation or frameworks that clearly define the roles and responsibilities of different security and justice actors; the extent of cooperation and lack of conflict between different security and justice actors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic frameworks developed</td>
<td>Have strategic frameworks been developed by national governments to set out resource allocation and inform implementation decisions? The key indicator is whether frameworks – in the form of strategies, plans, reviews, or legislation – actually exist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application, compliance and interpretation of laws</td>
<td>Have legal reforms or the adoption of new codes, norms and standards affected the fair and consistent application and interpretation of law by judges and traditional leaders? This is demonstrated through user perceptions or external analysis of the application of law by different official and non-state justice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
forums, and whether this is considered to be consistent and fair across different types of cases and for different types of users, especially women and other disadvantaged groups.

**State/non-state linkages**

Have interventions had any impact upon the level of coherence and linkages between official and customary justice? Have interventions resulted in linkages and coordination between state agencies and non-governmental organisations advocating for security and justice reform? This could be through recognition, regulation, institutionalisation or integration of non-state legal orders, including codification. It could also be through the clarification of boundaries between state and non-State jurisdiction, through the diversion of cases from state to non-state forums, or the creation through legislation of hybrid forums.

### Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Security and justice actors have incentives for improved service delivery</td>
<td>Has political engagement resulted in political incentives for improved service delivery? The key indicator was where the literature directly referred to impacted incentives for security and justice actors to participate in processes or reforms. This relates to whether there is political or economic benefit for stakeholders to pursue or enact reforms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision is responsive to citizens’ needs</td>
<td>Is provision reflective of citizen concerns and responsive to their needs and priorities? Key indicators include: whether service delivery has been informed by citizen perceptions; the extent to which provision is centred on the needs of citizens and society rather than those of the state or political elites; whether service delivery is responsive to the needs of marginalised and vulnerable groups; whether provision is culturally appropriate; the extent of customer orientation in service delivery; perceptions or evidence of improved service delivery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political will to enact reforms</td>
<td>Has political engagement resulted in the political will amongst local and national stakeholders to enact reforms or support interventions? Key indicators include: the perceived extent of political will amongst stakeholders; the perceived presence of motivation, commitment or consensus amongst stakeholders for change; the absence of political resistance or spoilers for change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ownership of reforms by national and local stakeholders</td>
<td>Do national and local stakeholders demonstrate on-going ownership in the planning or implementation of reforms or interventions? Key indicators include: the extent of perceived ownership by national and local stakeholders; the extent to which reforms are internally initiated by national and local stakeholders; the involvement of a broad range of stakeholders (not just elites) in reform; the extent to which donors take a controlling role in the planning and implementation of reforms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens feel safe and secure</td>
<td>Do citizens feel safer and more secure during or after interventions have been implemented? This is demonstrated by subjective citizen perceptions or anecdotal accounts of safety and security. This also includes subjective feelings of legal empowerment. This might relate to the perceived ability of citizens to protect their rights or the perception of fewer legal problems in resolving legal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to provision</td>
<td>Have interventions impacted access to provision for citizens – at a variety of levels, from state to customary? Key indicators include: whether provision exists in significant numbers across territories; the extent of access in rural areas; whether cultural, financial or gender related issues prevent access to provision; whether legal services interventions including legal accompaniment have affected access by citizens to the formal justice system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stability and outbreaks of conflict or violence</td>
<td>Have interventions impacted stability and/or conflict and violence, including local-level conflicts? Have interventions contributed to peacebuilding, political stability and community reconciliation? This is demonstrated by: the absence of political instability or conflict between competing factions and state agencies; and the ability of security and justice agencies to prevent outbreaks of conflict and violence amongst society; and reductions in local-level legal conflicts between disputing parties. Key indicators include recorded instances of violence or political instability between competing factions or cases of local-level community reconciliation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource allocation / funding stability and sustainability</td>
<td>Have reforms or interventions contributed to resource allocation, funding stability, or sustainability? Key indicators include: whether funding has been strategically allocated; the absence of resource short-falls; the extent of dependency on donor funding to continue funding the security and justice sectors or reforms after donor interventions have ended.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security and justice actors are a source of protection, not insecurity</td>
<td>Do security and justice actors, in all of their variety, protect citizens after reforms have been enacted? This is demonstrated by the absence of criminality, human rights violations, intimidation, exploitation, abuse, extra-legal methods and violence by security actors against citizens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial redress to protect rights</td>
<td>Have interventions impacted the ability for citizens to seek redress? Key indicators include the existence of appropriate customary justice or alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, which engage with dispute resolution and adjudication, reparation measures that aim to redress past wrongs and provide compensation or rehabilitation for victims of abuses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures implemented to improve compliance with human rights standards</td>
<td>Have measures been implemented to ensure the compliance of the security and justice actors with international human rights standards? Key indicators include: the adoption of relevant legislation, ethical codes or codes of conduct; human rights training; vetting, certification and removal procedures to ensure that personnel are human rights abiding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual crime rates</td>
<td>Have crime rates altered as a result of reforms, or after reforms have been implemented? This is demonstrated through measuring crime in locations where reform initiatives have been implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal awareness and confidence</td>
<td>Has the provision of legal services affected awareness amongst citizens of their legal rights? Key indicators include the implementation of activities designed to increase citizen’s knowledge of the law, procedures and available resources for accessing justice, and about how their legal rights are being violated. This could include awareness raising sessions, advocacy and educational campaigns and open forums. The literature may also contain evidence of behaviour change.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
whereby citizens are more confident in applying the knowledge and skills they have acquired to access justice or other public services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evidence Category</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Example Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rates of gender-based violence</td>
<td>Have interventions had any impact on rates of GBV, including domestic violence? This is demonstrated through explicit analysis on the levels of GBV in locations where initiatives have been implemented.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local or national economic development</td>
<td>Have reforms contributed to local or national economic development? Key indicators include: impacted GDP; confidence of businesses and entrepreneurs to invest due to security or laws that promote economic activity; the confidence of businesses to operate and/or return to previously insecure locations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty reduction</td>
<td>Have interventions led to poverty reduction? The key indicator is where the evidence presents poverty reduction as an explicit outcome of interventions. This could be through increased incomes or though other human development indicators, such as increased education rates or improved health indicators, where the intervention has taken place.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to land, inheritance and property rights</td>
<td>Have interventions affected access to land, inheritance or property rights? Many legal empowerment and access to justice initiatives claim this as a key goal, especially in the case of women and other marginalised groups.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to public services and economic resources</td>
<td>Have interventions impacted access to education, health or public utilities, or to services that may help increase incomes, such as employment services, livelihood materials and credit facilities? This could be through making citizens more aware of their rights with regard to accessing public services and/or making public service delivery more responsive.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s empowerment and gender equality</td>
<td>Have interventions influenced gender equality within communities or perceptions of women’s empowerment? This could be through changing attitudes within local communities on the rights of women or their overall standing in relation to men.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Quality control

The coding will be reviewed to ensure quality control. The peer review is also part of the process of defining and finalising new intervention, output and outcome categories. The review will not include existing documentation from the previous SSR evidence mapping exercise. There will be two review stages:

1. Check a sample of 20% of the first 100 documents entered into the database.
2. Check a sample of 20% of the rejected documents to ensure accuracy in the inclusion of documents.
3. Check a sample of 20% of all of the documents coded at the end of the coding process.

Any intervention/output/outcome codes added during the cataloguing process will be reviewed and recoded after both review stages.
9. Evidence gap mapping

This assessment will produce both a series of graphical outputs and a narrative report commenting on the evidence trends. Graphical outputs will include:

- An evidence gap map: this will compare interventions to outputs/outcomes, providing an easily accessible illustration of the number of studies and their characteristics indicative of quality (as per Table 3 above).
- A series of charts comparing interventions to outputs/outcomes illustrating the quantity of evidence occurrences, disaggregated by methodology, focus, or region.

The narrative report will provide an analysis of the characteristics of the evidence base, including:

- Commenting on the nature of the evidence base.
- An assessment of the scope of the evidence base – disaggregated by methodology, focus, region, country interventions, and outcomes/outputs.
- A description of where evidence is abundant, patchy, or missing – referring to the gap map and commenting on the characteristics of evidence available for different category types.
- A clear and accessible summary of the key evidence gaps as a means of highlighting potential areas for future research.

10. Sources

CITATION INDEXES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASES

- Google Scholar
- JSTOR
- IngentaConnect

RESEARCH INSTITUTES

- Bingham Centre
- The Danish Institute for International Studies
- The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces / ISSAT document library
- Harvard Kennedy Program in Criminal Justice
- Hiil Innovating Justice
- INPROL
- International Development Department, University of Birmingham/GSDRC
- The Justice and Security Research Programme (LSE)
- Namati
- Open Society Justice Initiative
- Overseas Development Institute
- United States Institute for Peace
- Vera Institute of Justice

OTHER WEBSITES

- 3ie
- AusAID/DFAT
- EC
- Eldis
Security and justice evidence mapping

- Knowledge Platform – Security and Rule of Law
- OECD-DAC
- Research For Development (DFID)
- Saferworld
- SSR Resource Centre
- Stability Journal
- USAID
- World Bank

11. Experts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expert</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peter Albrecht</td>
<td>Danish Institute of International Studies/UNSOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruce Baker</td>
<td>University of Coventry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piet Biesheuvel</td>
<td>Independent Consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Carothers/Rachel Kleinfeld</td>
<td>Carnegie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freddie Carver</td>
<td>SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Denney</td>
<td>ODI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deval Desai</td>
<td>World Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilar Domingo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy Donais</td>
<td>Balsillie School of International Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heidi Hudson</td>
<td>University of the Free State, Bloemfontein</td>
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<td>Eboe Hutchful</td>
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<td>Paul Jackson</td>
<td>University of Birmingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vivek Maru</td>
<td>Namati</td>
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<td>Robert Muggah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Downes</td>
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<td>Karen Barnes Robinson</td>
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<td>Eric Scheye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erwin Van Veen</td>
<td>Clingendael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivienn O’Conner</td>
<td>United States Institute of Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macha Farrant</td>
<td>DFID CHASE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Rejected search terms and exclusions from S&J phase 1 testing

Base search terms

- ‘Transitional justice’ has been removed as a base search term. It is a large thematic area in its own right, and although related to S&J, covers a number of different areas. A copy of the test search results using transitional justice will be kept for review by DFID.
- ‘Legal reform’ has been removed as a base search term because it did not add much value to the search process. It is a large and complex thematic area and covers many sub-themes not related to S&J.
- ‘Legal services’ has been removed as a base search term because it did not generate relevant results.
Search specifiers

- ‘Migration’ and ‘Climate Change’ have been removed from the ‘emerging areas’ search specifiers because they did not generate many relevant results. ‘Extremism’ has been replaced by ‘Counter-terrorism’.

13. Rejected sources

These sources were rejected either as a result of the test search in the SSR mapping order to reduce duplicate searches, or are sources used in the SSR mapping that have been replaced with more justice orientated sources.

CITATION INDEXES AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASES

- EconPapers
- EconLit
- ERIC
- Sage
- Oxford University Press Journals
- Pro-Quest
- REPEC/IDEAS
- Science Direct
- Web of Science

RESEARCH INSTITUTES

- Conflict, Security and Development Group, King’s College London
- The Centre for International Governance Innovation
- Folke Bernadotte Academy
- RAND

OTHER WEBSITES

- CODESRIA
- Campbell Collaboration
- Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Co-ordinating Centre (EPPI)
- Poverty Action Lab
- 3ie
- UNDP Oslo Governance Centre
- United Nations SSR Task Force
- UNDP