**Annual Review - Summary Sheet**

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| **PROGRAMME TITLE: Sudan Improving International Standards in the Defence Sector (IISDS)** |
| **Country/Region:** | Sudan |
| **HMG Partners** **(LEAD in bold)** | **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** |
| **Total Spend :** | ODA: £0.078m | Non-ODA: £0.4m  |
| **Start Date: April 2015** | **End Date: March 2021** |
| **Outputs** | **Score**  |
| Programme of training and study tours/visits designed to build exposure, skills and knowledge in key aspects of international standards for security sector actors (International humanitarian law (IHL); conflict and peacekeeping; management skills, English Language) targeting both men and women | B |
| A solid programme of engagement and influencing with Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) leadership in respect of IHL and respect for international standards | B |
| Regular insight and analysis of SAF developments relevant to NSC objectives, together with identification of opportunity areas for UK Government influence | B |
| **Overall output score: B** |  |
| **Outcome Assessment: Outcome (s):** (1) SAF senior personnel (including women wherever possible) gain greater professional skills and knowledge in international standards and IHL(2) SAF leadership display evidence of increased commitment, leadership and openness in respect of IHL and international standards(3) UK Government has a stronger understanding of SAF actors and dynamics, its approach on key issues such as IHL, and opportunity areas for longer-term transformation of the security sector. |
| **Outcome Score: B** | **Risk: Medium High**  |

**Summary of Programme Performance**

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| Year | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **2017/18\*** |
| Programme Score | B  | A / B  | B | B |
| Risk Rating | **Medium High** | **Medium High** | **Medium High** |

**\*output/outcome scores**

**What support is the UK providing?**

The programme seeks to improve respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) and democratic accountability, through inculcating thinking on governance and the development of ‘human capital’ within the senior leadership of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF). This is achieved through the delivery of courses primarily in Sudan, but also in the UK. The programme is underpinned by a package of English Language Training (ELT) supporting the delivery of defence training and education.

**Summary of progress and lessons learnt/actions taken since last review**

A revised defence engagement programme was approved by the Local Strategy Board (LSB) in March 2017. Reporting on progress has primarily been activity based e.g. number of courses or number of participants. Good progress has been reported against some of the expected outcomes.

Access, as an output indicator, is reported as good, but SAF rotations are a challenge to maintaining relationships and reporting indicates no insights or influence gained of SAF developments of IHL and PSVI, or of the UK Government’s ability to influence IHL and international standards.

Evidence supplied to support the Annual Review indicates that the programme is not governed, monitored and administered in a robust, systematic way, in compliance with CSSF programme management. This is likely due to being delivered as a stand-alone programme, divorced from other CSSF programmes. There is clear MoD ownership and oversight of this programme, however, wider CSSF oversight and governance requires substantial review and re-engagement in order to instil CSSF programme principles and management. There are obvious tensions between programme management and the MoD programming legacy, coupled with the challenges of measuring and assessing impact.

**Summary of recommendations for the next year**

* A fuller review to assess the programme’s fit as a CSSF programme and as part of the wider CSSF portfolio. Currently as a stand-alone element, it operates completely divorced from wider CSSF discussions, governance and oversight. Consideration should be given to how to address this serious challenge. It should set out the strategic case for the programme based on key DE contributions to the UK-Sudan Strategic Dialogue (SD), a main element of the UK Government effort.
* Establish greater clarity on the relationship of the CSSF element of Defence Engagement (DE) with the MoD element. This would spell out clearly which projects are CSSF and which are not, for management, administration, oversight and reporting purposes. The rationale for CSSF funding to international defence education should be clearly articulated. There a need for a better understanding of the criteria for using CSSF within the Defence Section via training and guidance.
* There is need for a more senior programme manager, or oversight from a senior member of the Embassy.
* A programme review should be underpinned by institutional analysis to assess the SAF’s potential future role. This should include: mapping of other partners, stakeholder analysis and an influence map.
* Improve the programme’s compliance with CSSF requirements, particularly by Implementing Partners (IPs). This may require a review of IP contracts. If this is not possible or different arrangements are put in place, these need to be clearly articulated and agreed.