

### NEW PUBLICATION

#### *The Security Needs Assessment Protocol: Improving Operational Effectiveness through Community Security*

By improving the design of field-level activities that pertain to community security, UNIDIR's Security Needs Assessment Protocol (SNAP) project is working to improve operational effectiveness—meaning the impact and sustainable success of any undertaking designed to effect social change in a community. The SNAP project aims to create a systematic and rapid means of assessing local security problems as they are understood by community members themselves. This protocol can be applied by interested agencies to conduct cooperative cultural research in the community, providing knowledge that can be used to better align resources with local needs.

This report documents how the agendas of agencies working in the humanitarian, development and security domains are converging on the effort to make operations more effective. A range of operational agencies have come to identify community security as a key element for achieving effectiveness.

A crucial challenge now facing these agencies is how to understand community security from the vantage point of community members themselves and how to use this knowledge to enable the design and planning of culturally attuned operations. Agencies currently lack the tools to achieve this, while the vast differences between communities mean that efforts to apply lessons learned and best practices can prove counterproductive.

Cooperative cultural research can surmount this problem, but it appears to have not yet been applied to this challenge. The report details some of the constraints under which research and project design must operate in the UN system, and how SNAP could help implementing agencies achieve greater operational effectiveness within such constraints.

---

In each issue of *Disarmament Forum*, UNIDIR Focus highlights one activity of the Institute, outlining the project's methodology, recent research developments or its outcomes. UNIDIR Focus also describes a new UNIDIR publication. You can find summaries and contact information for all of the Institute's present and past activities, as well as sample chapters of publications and ordering information, online at <[www.unidir.org](http://www.unidir.org)>.

### ***The Security Needs Assessment Protocol: Improving Operational Effectiveness through Community Security***

D. Miller and L. Rudnick

UNIDIR, 2008

76 pages

ISBN 92-9045-008-F

English

Free of charge

## **NEW PROJECT**

### ***Multinational Approaches to the Nuclear Fuel Cycle***

Over the next three years, UNIDIR proposes to carry out a detailed study on the political and legal aspects of the various proposals for multinational approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle. These include the 3 July 2007 bilateral agreement between the Governments of the Russian Federation and the United States of America; the Reliable Access to Nuclear Fuel proposal from France, Germany, the Netherlands, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States; the IAEA Multilateral Nuclear Approaches (MNA) proposal; the World Nuclear Association's Assuring Security of Supply proposal; Japan's Standby Arrangement proposal; the UK Enrichment Bond proposal; and the NTI Nuclear Fuel Bank proposal.

The study will seek to involve experts from Canada, France, the Russian Federation, Sweden, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and other relevant countries, from the International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM), the Independent Group of Scientific Experts (IGSE) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Outputs of the study will include a series of short reports or study papers in English and Russian detailing fundamental political and legal questions connected to these initiatives. Detailed papers by leading scholars linking technical issues with the legal and political possibilities will also form part of the output. The release of these papers will be timed for input into the bilateral coordination mechanism meetings, the Conference on Disarmament, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty meetings and other relevant forums. The project will further produce seminars and workshops and joint publications with other institutes. Outreach work, ensuring awareness and increased uptake by the international community of the proposals developed, will be a significant aspect of the study and will ensure the sustainability and distribution of the proposals made.

For more information, please contact:

#### ***Kerstin Vignard***

Tel.: +41 (0)22 917 15 82

Fax: +41 (0)22 917 01 76

E-mail: [kvignard@unog.ch](mailto:kvignard@unog.ch)

# disarmament forum

All the back issues of *Disarmament Forum* are available at <[www.unidir.org](http://www.unidir.org)>, including:

Engaging Non-State Armed Groups	no. 1, 2008
Central Asia at the Crossroads	no. 4, 2007
ICTs and International Security	no. 3, 2007
The Peacebuilding Commission	no. 2, 2007
Missile Control?	no. 1, 2007
Cluster Munitions	no. 4, 2006
Toward a Stronger BTWC	no. 3, 2006
CTBT: Passing the Test	no. 2, 2006
Taking Action on Small Arms	no. 1, 2006 and no. 4, 2005
Investing in Security	no. 3, 2005
North-East Asian Security	no. 2, 2005
Science, Technology and the CBW regimes	no. 1, 2005
The 2005 NPT Review Conference	no. 4, 2004
Human Rights, Human Security and Disarmament	no. 3, 2004
India and Pakistan: Peace by Piece	no. 2, 2004
Strengthening Disarmament and Security	no. 1, 2004
Women, Men, Peace and Security	no. 4, 2003
Disarmament, Development and Mine Action	no. 3, 2003
Nuclear Terrorism	no. 2, 2003
Making Space for Security?	no. 1, 2003
The CWC Review Conference	no. 4, 2002
Children and Security	no. 3, 2002
Human Security in Latin America	no. 2, 2002
NGOs as Partners: Assessing the Impact, Recognizing the Potential	no. 1, 2002
(R)evolution in Military Affairs	no. 4, 2001
Education for Disarmament	no. 3, 2001
The Middle East	no. 2, 2001
NMD: Jumping the Gun?	no. 1, 2001
Biological Weapons: From the BWC to Biotech	no. 4, 2000
Peacekeeping: Evolution or Extinction?	no. 3, 2000
Small Arms Control: The Need for Coordination	no. 2, 2000

[www.unidir.org](http://www.unidir.org)