



ISSSS Factsheet

Supporting stabilization in DR Congo



What is the ISSSS?

ISSSS stands for International Security and Stabilization Support Strategy, the main planning and coordination framework for stabilization interventions in DR Congo (DRC). The ISSSS was developed in 2008 to support the implementation of the national Stabilization and Reconstruction program (STAREC). Both the ISSSS and STAREC were developed to deliver tangible peace dividends and reinforce political process following the signature of the 2008 Goma accords and the 2009 Peace Agreements.

Milestones since 2012

08/2013 – 04/2014	Revision and validation of stabilization approach and ISSSS pillars
07/2014 – 12/2014	Identification of priority zones and realization of conflict analyses
12/2014 – 08/2016	Implementation of ISSSS pilot projects in Mambasa and Kalehe
02/2015 – 04/2015	Development and validation of Provincial strategies and action plans
10/2015 – 08/2016	Establishment of Stabilization Coherence Fund and funding boards
12/2015 – 09/2016	Operationalization of call for proposals for Kitshanga, Ruzizi and Sud Irumu
04/2016 – 05/2016	Development and validation of alignment criteria
05/2016 – 11/2016	Revision of conflict analyses and needs assessments in ISSSS priority zones
08/2016 – 09/2016	Deployment of M&E cell and validation of M&E framework
01/2017 – 11/2017	Development and launch of programs in Kitshanga, Ruzizi and Sud Irumu
04/2017 – 09/2018	Extension of pilot projects in Kalehe and Mambasa
06/2017 – 12/2017	Approval of fund allocation for Beni and operationalization of call for proposals

ISSSS Technical Secretariat

The ISSSS Technical Secretariat is housed within MONUSCO's Stabilization Support Unit (SSU) and provides coordination between the Government of the DRC, international partners and UN agencies. The Secretariat is in charge of the management of the Multi-donor Stabilization Coherence Fund, the coordination of bilaterally funded programs aligned to the ISSSS, the provision of policy advice and conflict analysis as well as the overall monitoring and documentation of lessons learned of the ISSSS.

Operational mechanisms

To support the roll out of the ISSSS and to maximize results of stabilization efforts the ISSSS Technical Secretariat has two mechanisms:

Mechanism 1: Multi-donor Stabilization Coherence Fund (SCF)

The SCF was established in 2015 and is governed by a National Funding Board, co-chaired by the Minister of Plan and MONUSCO's DSRSG/RC/HC, and three Provincial Funding Boards, co-chaired by the Provincial Governors and MONUSCO's Heads of Offices. Financial support has been provided by the following partners:

UN PBF: \$12 million

United Kingdom: \$12.5 million

Sweden: \$5.2 million

The Netherlands: \$5.2 million

Norway: \$2.3 million

The framework of the ISSSS consists of five core objectives:



Democratic Dialogue: Support national and provincial governments to advance peace processes and implement key commitments under existing agreements.



Security: Reduce threats to life, property and freedom of movement.



Restoration of State Authority: Progressively restore and strengthen public security, access to justice and administrative services.



Return, Reintegration and Recovery: Support the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees and contribute to local economic recovery.

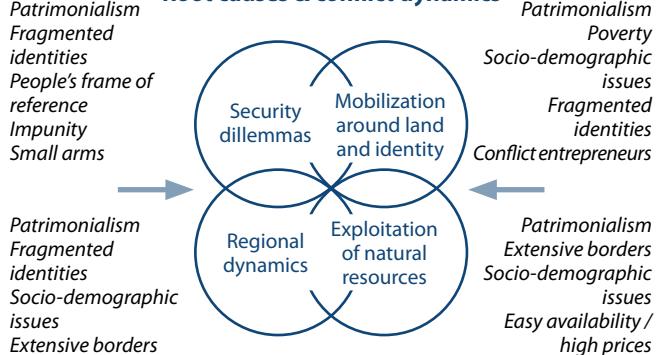


Fight Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: Ensure a coordinated response in combating sexual and gender based violence and mainstreaming gender considerations globally.

Stabilization approach

In 2013 the ISSSS went through a profound revision to address the short falls of the first phase (2008-2012). The projects implemented in the first phase were mainly technical responses which did not provide stability nor provide answers to complex political problems. The revised ISSSS aims to address the specific conflict dynamics in Eastern DRC which relate to an interplay of security dilemmas, mobilization around land and identity, the exploitation of natural resources and regional dynamics (see figure below). The revised ISSSS defines stabilization as 'an integrated, holistic, but targeted process of enabling state and society to build mutual accountability and capacity to address and mitigate drivers of conflict, creating the conditions for improved governance and longer term development'.

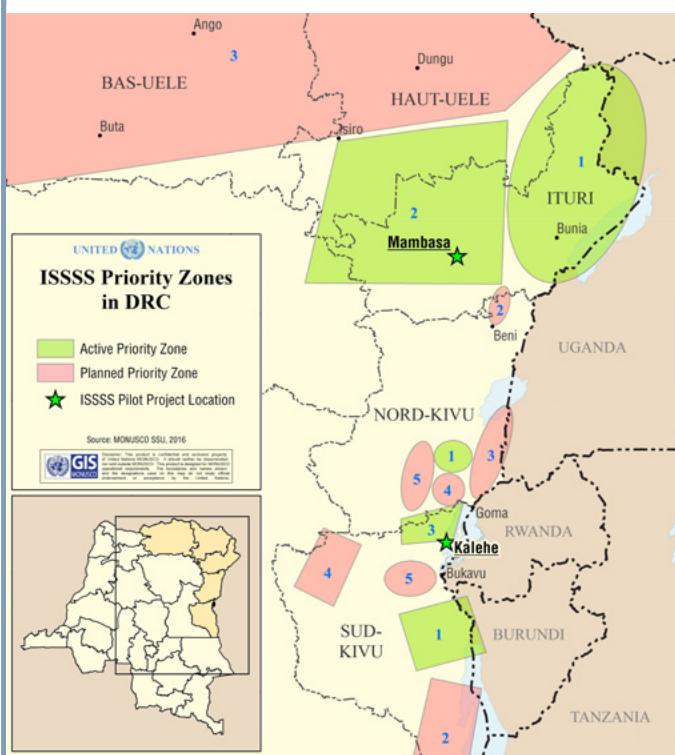
Root causes & conflict dynamics



Mechanism 2: Alignment of bilateral funded projects

The Technical Secretariat also collaborates closely with bilateral donors and their implementing partners to align their projects to the ISSSS framework, enabling a coherent and holistic approach towards conflict transformation in the different priority zones. It further maximizes the impact of stabilization efforts funded through different mechanisms. The current aligned portfolio amounts to a budget of 90 million USD funded by the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States, Sweden and Germany.

ISSSS Priority Zones in Eastern DRC



Ituri, Haut-Uélé and Bas-Uélé (Ex-Orientale)	North Kivu	South Kivu
1. Sud-Irumu	1. Autour Kitshanga	1. Plaine de la Ruzizi
2. Mambasa à Bafwasende	2. Beni Nord	2. Territoire de Fizi
3. Haut et Bas-Uélé	3. Volcans	3. Plateaux Numbi-Ziralo
	4. Centre Masisi	4. Habunda Ouest
	5. Masisi-Walikele	5. Chule-Walungu-Kabare

Pilot projects in Kalehe and Mambasa: promising results

The ongoing support for the ISSSS is anchored in the success of two pilot projects in Kalehe (South Kivu) and Mambasa (Ituri) implemented between December 2014 and August 2016. The projects had a total budget of 8.3 million USD financed through the UN Peacebuilding Fund and Norway. Both projects addressed multi-sectorial and multidimensional challenges and mobilized the communities and the state around a common framework to address key drivers of conflict and improve conditions for longer term development. This political dimension has led to high-level engagement and support of Congolese authorities with regard to the planning, development and implementation of stabilization programs, as evidenced by the validation of compacts with provincial authorities containing strategic commitments from the authorities, which will contribute to increased sustainability of future stabilization interventions. External evaluations demonstrated that the projects proved successful in resolving inter-communal conflicts and land disputes, providing alternative economic opportunities for vulnerable groups, governance of natural resources, restoration of state authority through improved police capacity and establishing services for victims of sexual violence.

Role of government

As part of MONUSCO, the ISSSS engages high-level political discussions with the Government of the DRC for stabilization interventions to succeed and be sustainable. Hence, the ISSSS Technical Secretariat prioritized the developed of 'compacts' with provincial authorities. The first compact was officially validated in South Kivu on 6 June 2017, signed by the provincial Government, donors and MONUSCO. The compact contains agreements regarding roads maintenance, land access, illegal taxation, state agent deployment, coordination of stabilization programs and support to STAREC.

Overview of ISSSS programs funded by the multi-donor Stabilization Coherence Fund

Province	Ituri, Haut-Uélé and Bas-Uélé		North Kivu*		South Kivu	
Priority zone	Mambasa	Sud Irumu	Autour de Kitshanga		Plat. Numbi-Ziralo	Plaine de la Ruzizi
Program name	Amani Ni Njiya Ya Maendeleo	Pamoja Kwa Amani	Njia Za Makubaliano	Pamoja Kwa Amani Na Maendeleo	Projet Intégré du Nord Kalehe	Tujenge Pamoja Kwa Ajili Ya Amani
Implementing partners	UN Habitat, UNDP, IOM, UNESCO, FAO, local partners	UN Habitat, IOM, SFCG, Mercy Corps, COOPI, local partners	International Alert, Pole Institute, local partners	UN Habitat, UNFPA, UNESCO, local partners	UNDP, UN Habitat, IOM, local partners	International Alert, local partners
Secteur/ Chefferie	Babila Babombi, Bombo, Bandaka, Babila Bakwanza, Mambasa, Walese Karo, Walese Dese	Bahema Mitego, Bahema Boga, Bahema Sud, Banyali Tchabi, Walendu Bindu, Walese Vonkutu, Andissoma	Bwito, Bashali, Localité de Pinga	Bwito, Bashali, Localité de Pinga	Buhavu	Plaine de la Ruzizi, Bafulero, Cité de Kamanyola, Bavira, Secteur d'Itombwe,
Main objectives	Enhance peaceful co-existence and collaboration, increase support for the stabilization process, improve land governance and local governance, reinforce social cohesion and community resilience, reduce SGBV	Reduce tensions through democratic dialogue, improve land governance, enhance transparency in the exploitation of mineral resources, strengthen the capacity of local leaders and public services, increase social cohesion, reduce SGBV	Implicate local actors in an inclusive democratic dialogue process to resolve local conflicts	Improve land governance, increase social cohesion and community resilience through the reintegration and socio-economic recovery of youth, promote gender equality, reduce SGBV	Increase support of local, provincial and national actors for the stabilization process, improve functioning of government services, reinforce social cohesion and community resilience through reintegration and socio-economic recovery	Identify and implement peace solutions within community structures, reduce land conflicts, enhance security governance, increase social cohesion, reduce SGBV
Direct beneficiaries	± 54.000	± 315.400	± 3.500	± 25.750	± 1.500	± 22.500
Budget (USD)	1.582.000	6.500.000	2.000.000	3.000.000	1.080.000	7.065.000

*On 4 October 2017 the National Funding Board approved an additional funding envelop of 5-7 million USD for the Beni territory (North Kivu).