

Fact Sheet

Revised course on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR)

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Location

Stockholm, Sweden

Date

4–15 November 2019

Deadline for applications

15 August 2019

Contact

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Following violent conflict or serious political and social crisis, a successful post-conflict transition is key in the peacebuilding and reconciliation process. Within this post-conflict transition, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants (DDR) is instrumental, seeking to increase security levels locally and nationally, but also enabling those associated with armed groups to (re)join mainstream society following the end of conflict.

Contemporary challenges and developments within the field have challenged the traditional use of DDR as a post-conflict tool. Responding to these challenges, the United Nations Inter-Agency Working Group on DDR has initiated a revision of the Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS) for the standards to better suit contemporary challenges of peacebuilding environments. In light of this revision, the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) has revised its global course on DDR, which is re-launched in November 2019.

PURPOSE

The course aims at deepening the participants' understanding of the role of DDR and related processes in the post-conflict transition. After completing the course, the participants are expected to be able to:

- Discuss the conceptual evolution of DDR
- Analyze the difference between national DDR initiatives and UN-led DDR processes
- Explain the key components of a DDR program or process
- Connect DDR to other peacebuilding processes
- Apply different DDR-related tools to differing conflict- and post-conflict settings
- Plan and assess a context specific, differentiated and evidence based DDR program or process

COURSE CONTENTS

During this ten-day course, the participants will explore the concept of DDR and gain a deep understanding of its role within the international peacebuilding architecture. Furthermore, the course will cover a number of DDR-related tools and tangent thematic areas.

“I am overall very satisfied with the content and setting of the course. I am still in contact with several of the participants and I have met some of them abroad during my travels after the course. The facilitators are not only professional but also friendly as to make the course truly enjoyable, knowing that some of the material is quite heavy.”

Participant, 2018

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“The DDR course is on the whole very timely in its contribution to upgrading DDR practitioners.”

Participant, 2017

The course will cover nine thematic areas:

- Introduction to DDR
- DDR planning in practice
- Security issues in DDR
- Transition processes
- Social issues in DDR
- Political issues in DDR
- Economic issues in DDR
- DDR and political processes
- A differentiated approach to DDR

METHODOLOGY

The course adopts an interactive, learner-centered pedagogical approach combining presentations, discussions, group work and scenario-based exercises. Individual and group-based reflections are incorporated to support knowledge sharing and promote the learning experience. With facilitators and participants of multiple professional and geographic backgrounds, this course offers a dynamic and synergetic learning environment with extensive networking and peer-learning opportunities.

TARGET GROUP

The participants are expected to have an intermediate knowledge of peace-building mechanisms and/or structures, dynamics of internal armed conflicts, and a need or strong interest to learn about DDR. Invited participants are civil servants, diplomats, police, military personnel, academics and representatives from international and non-governmental organizations. FBA strives to have a gender balanced participation as well as participants with a mix of institutional and geographic backgrounds and experiences. Participants will be selected by means of professional background and personal motivation in order to create a dynamic and interactive group. Additionally, in order to fully assimilate the contents of the course, participants are expected to actively engage with trainers, the course material, and with other participants. As the course is taught fully in English, fluency is a requirement.

COST AND LOCATION

There is no course fee for participants. However, the participants are expected to cover their own travel expenses as well as accommodation in Stockholm for the duration of the course. A limited number of scholarships can – in exceptional cases – be offered, covering parts of these expenses, for qualified participants who otherwise would not be able to attend. If you are interested, please indicate this on your application form, including a motivation statement. FBA will not be in a position to provide admitted participants with visa assistance in excess of a formal letter of invitation.

APPLICATION

Applicants are welcome to submit their application until 15 August 2019. As we normally receive a high number of applications, we encourage applicants to carefully explain their professional experience and motivation for applying to the course. In addition, CVs are welcome.

Applicants are kindly requested to use the [online application form](#).