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INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES (ISS)

REGION

LIBERIA

SUBJECT

PEACE-BUILDING
POSTWAR RECONSTRUCTION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT--PLANNING

TOPIC

POST CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION
STATE AUTHORITY
ECONOMIC RECOVERY



"The purpose of this situation report is to discuss the progress in the post-conflict reconstruction process in Liberia. It analyses the various initiatives and challenges associated with Liberian post-war experiences, taking into account domestic imperatives against the background of regional and international environments. The imperatives include the restoration of state authority, security sector reform, economic recovery, national reconciliation plans. In the words of the Governance Reform Commission of Liberia, the country has inherited both internal and external predicaments that the new administration and the Liberian people must confront in order to make relapse into armed conflict difficult, if not impossible. Internally, these predicaments include social, economic, political and security problems that continue to afflict the country while externally they include the perennial problem of insecurity engendered by the lingering crisis in Cote d'Ivoire and the unstable political situation in Guinea (Jaye, 2006)."

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Request PDF on ResearchGate | Different Paths of Reconstruction: Military Reform in Post-War Sierra Leone and Liberia | Security Sector Reform (SSR) has developed into a key component of international peacebuilding agendas. However, there is a lack of sufficient knowledge of the advantages and drawbacks of different reform processes. Conventional wisdom urges the creation of capable, legitimate, and inclusive postwar states to reduce the risk of relapse into civil war, and international peacebuilders have often encouraged the formation of a new national army that would include members of the war's opposing sides. However, both the theoretical logics and the empirical record identifying military integration as a significant contributor to durable post-civil war peace are weak. Managing Post-Conflict Liberia: An Update (July 7, 2008). The Security Council stresses that reforming the "security sector" (army and police) in Liberia is critical to consolidating long-term peace. The country's 14-year civil war left the entire country under the protection of only 2,000 trained soldiers and less than 800 policemen. Cautiously Optimistic: the Case for Maintaining Sanctions in Liberia (2006). Global Witness warns the Security Council against lifting sanctions on Liberian diamonds and timber. Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf asked the UN to lift the sanctions, providing a much needed boost to Liberia's damaged economy. However, the new government has still not gained full control over these resources from former militiamen. Liberia is a nation that has a long history of bitter civil war. This has been manifested through anger, fear, hatred and other stress-related emotions often exhibited by the youths who find themselves trapped in diverse community. Although many of the conflicts in the schools may not be symptoms of problems arising from the school system, they often interfere with the operation of the learning environment. In a nut-shell, the introduction and teaching of peace education in Liberian schools could be a pedestal upon which students, teachers as well as parents can draw inspiration to handle conflict in a non-violent manner. It will also trigger-off social networks in schools which are vital for peer learning, sharing and improving the life-skills.