

## **Inception report:**

### **Interlinkages between the Development, Peace and Security, Human Rights and Humanitarian Pillars in Southern Africa**

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## **Summary**

This inception report describes, the work to be undertaken, conceptual framing and delineation of the subject matter, the methodology, the work plan and an initial outline of the final report.

### **1. Introduction**

This inception report addresses the work to be undertaken on the Study on the interlinkages between development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars in Southern Africa. It demonstrates the understanding and approach that will be used to carry out the assigned task. It provides the research objectives, conceptual framework, methodology including consideration of the design of data collection instruments and sources in relation to an analytical framework. The inception report also spells out the work plan and initial outline of the study report. It is intended to provide guidance towards a comprehensive and robust study report on the interlinkages between the development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars for the Southern Africa sub region.

As spelled out in the terms of reference, the study report is aimed at promoting synergistic and complementary and joined-up implementation of interventions addressing peace and security, human rights, humanitarian and development situations in the sub region, to contribute to effective and lasting solutions to conflict in the sub region. The report will also address transboundary issues as well mainstream COVID-19, gender and youth issues.

The study report will contribute to enhancing awareness on harnessing the interlinkages between the four pillars to inform policy and practice in conflict prevention and resolution in the subregion. In addition, it will contribute to informing future work on the development of methodologies and tools for mainstreaming the interlinkages into policies and strategies, including those addressing Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. The Southern Africa specific study is one of four subregional studies which will feed into a regional (continental) study.

#### *Southern Africa Subregion*

Whilst the subregion has largely enjoyed a peace dividend over the past two decades, and the incidence of inter-state armed and violent conflicts have significantly reduced, the region is not

immune to challenges to peace and security, armed conflict, political crises, democracy and governance deficits. For example, Angola and Mozambique have experienced bouts of armed conflict whilst challenging political problems have set back democratic governance in Zimbabwe and Mozambique. South Africa has convulsed with repeated cycles of xenophobic attacks. Unresolved land issues continue to exert serious governance issues in South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and other states. At the same time, the development track for the subregion has not been even. Despite the region experiencing an admirable average growth rate of 4.8 percent per annum between 2000 and 2019, the economic indicators show that the benefits of such growth have been uneven. Poverty and inequality have deepened and unemployment rates have remained quite stubborn if not regressing within many economies. Another overarching issue is corruption which has the potential to reverse governance gains and deepen civil unrest. Such a background poses increasing risks to peace, security, development and human rights.

In order to address these challenges, a number of initiatives have been undertaken at the subregion level. For example, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has deployed institutional mechanisms including the Summit, the Organ for Politics, Defence and Security (OPDS), the Troika and various ministerial committees for peace to address peace and security issues within member countries including Angola, Madagascar, Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Similarly, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) established the Governance Peace and Security (GPS) Programme in recognition of the fact that regional economic integration can only be achieved when peace and security is guaranteed. COMESA's GPS focuses on the interlinked areas of capacity for governance, conflict prevention, conflict management, security and peace building interventions.

These subregional initiatives have been supported by the African Union, on the one hand and the United Nations on the other. The AU on its part has committed itself to Agenda 2063, an ambitious blueprint for the economic, political and social transformation of the continent with a very specific focus on policy coherence, bottom up approaches, and a result-focused orientation as key attributes.<sup>1</sup> Supporting this overarching framework are key policy instruments and structures of the African Union including the African Union Peace and Security Architecture; the draft AU-UN Human Rights Framework; and the AU-UNOCHA MOU on Humanitarian Action. These instruments are key in clarifying the overall objectives of humanitarian action as well as establishing pathways for cooperation from the global to the subregional level. Complementing this approach at the UN level is the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as encapsulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – which seeks to address root causes of conflict and more closely interlink the UN pillars of peace and security, human rights and development. Buttressing this is the Agenda for Humanity with its New Way of Working” (NWOW). Initiated as a UN reform process to the humanitarian system in 2016, the NWOW fosters working towards collective outcomes. This is based on joint action in areas such as data collection, joint assessments, planning processes and reforming financing modalities with a view to address needs, risk, and vulnerability.

Consequently, at the policy level at least, both the AU and the UN recognize the need for an interlinked, systemic approach to an often-overburdened aid system. In this regard, the policy response frameworks envision a response to humanitarian needs whilst also tackling entrenched

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<sup>1</sup> Agenda 2063. The Africa We Want. Available at [https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/36204-doc-agenda2063\\_popular\\_version\\_en.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/36204-doc-agenda2063_popular_version_en.pdf)

and underlying development challenges and mitigating impacts of armed conflict in times of limited financial resources.<sup>2</sup> Given this background, there is clear recognition by key institutional players in the subregional, regional and international system that collaborative and complementary approaches to understanding the linkages as well as harnessing their potential is key. This report contributes to knowledge that operationalises this ambition by focusing on the specific context of the Southern African subregional context. The primary beneficiaries of the report include member states of the Southern Africa subregion including Angola, Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. It also includes the two African Union recognized Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the Southern Africa sub regions of Africa, namely; Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and Southern African Development Community (SADC). The study will be conducted in close consultation with these two RECs and the secondary beneficiaries of the study are the AUC, AUDA-NEPAD and APRM will benefit from the study findings. Member states will benefit from this study through an evidence-based and practical understanding of the interlinkages between development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars in their own policy development and implementation strategies. Additionally, the analysis and utilisation of case studies alongside the policy architecture available at the subregional and regional levels will highlight the practical opportunities for collaborative and complementary approaches to harnessing the interlinkages between member states and the subregional organisations. The articulation of these opportunities will contribute towards promoting synergistic and complementary and joined-up implementation of interventions addressing peace and security, human rights, humanitarian and development situations in the sub region and therefore contribute towards effective and lasting solutions to conflict in the sub region.

## **2. Research Objectives**

This section articulates and clarifies the research objectives for understanding and practical deployment of the interlinkages between the development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars with a specific focus on the needs and particular context of the Southern Africa subregion with a view to contributing effective and lasting solutions to resolving conflict and maintaining peace and promoting inclusive development in the sub-region. Secondly, the preparation of this report will include provision of substantive support to the organization and servicing of meetings for the validation of the findings of the study including but not limited to sharing the literature and data sets utilized in the study and offering key insights on the conclusions reached.

Toward this end, the study will offer comprehensive analyses of applicable data drawn from case study countries from the Southern Africa sub-region alongside applicable regional legal, policy and institutional frameworks. Where applicable, case studies will also include analysis of transboundary issues. These baseline materials will be analysed alongside complimentary tools and processes available at the regional and international level with a view to highlighting the risks, challenges and opportunities for coherent approaches in the design and implementation of measures intended to enhance collaborative and integrated approaches within and amongst states in the Southern Africa sub-region as well as the subregional and

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<sup>2</sup> Caparini, Marina, and Anders Reagan. 2019. "Connecting the Dots on the Triple Nexus." SIPRI. Topical Backgrounder. November 29, 2019. <https://www.sipri.org/commentary/topical-backgrounder/2019/connecting-dots-triple-nexus>.

regional institutions involved in initiatives related to development, peace and security, humanitarian and human rights work. Issues pertaining to mainstreaming the interlinkages into policies and strategies including those addressing Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda, such as methodologies and tools and capacity building needs will be analysed and presented. In view of its significance, the impact of COVID-19 on harnessing the interlinkages will also be examined.

### **3. Conceptual framework**

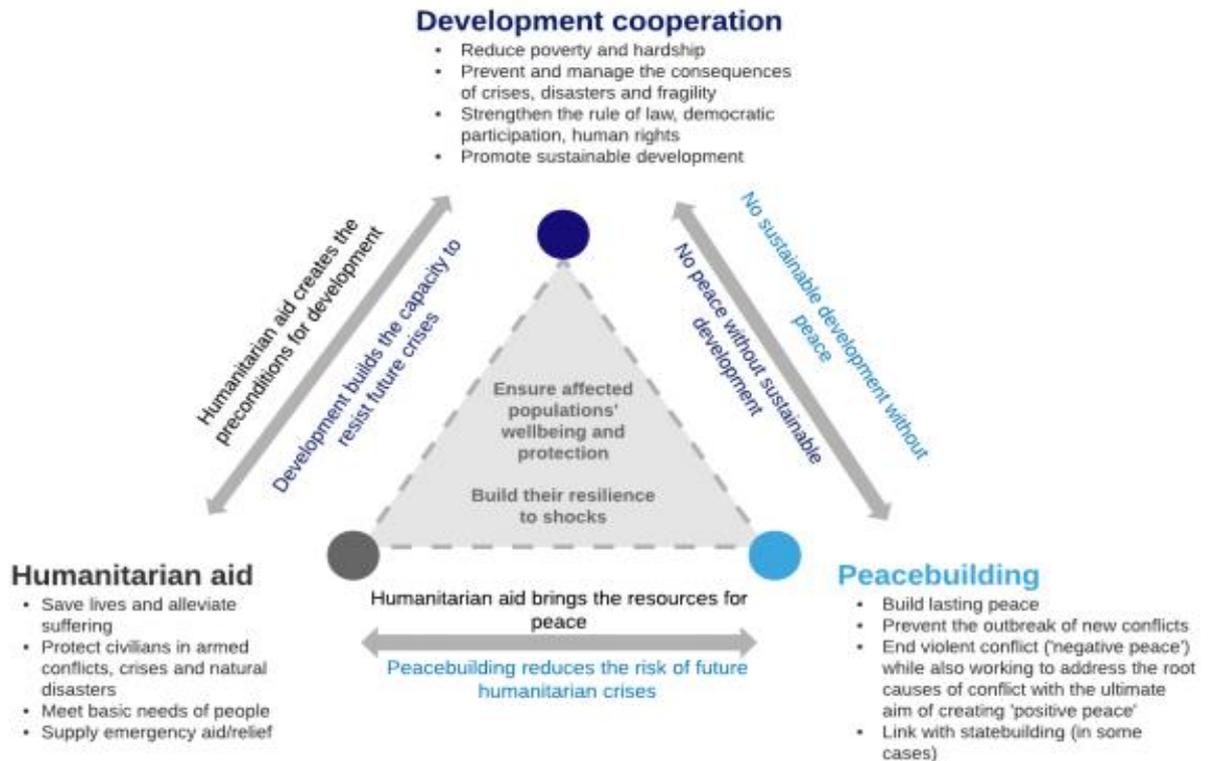
Debates around linking better immediate relief with long-term development activities as well as peace are far from new. Since the 1980s discussions on how to overcome output-oriented aid operations in silos with limited coordination used terminology such as Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD), coherence or resilience. While in the early 1990s the focus was on improving the transition between humanitarian action and development cooperation, the debate shifted in the late 1990s, and included linking assistance more closely with state and peacebuilding objectives in fragile states. This was known as ‘early recovery’ or ‘whole-of-government’ approach.<sup>3</sup> In recent times, these context-led approaches have been captured under the guise of the “Triple-Nexus” approach. The humanitarian–development–peace and security nexus (often referred to simply as the ‘nexus’) refers to the interlinkages of humanitarian, development and peace-building aims and interventions and the cohesiveness of the agencies that pursue them. Though widely discussed in the NWOW, the nexus as a policy concept has largely remained centred on the United Nations and has had little impact in terms of its translation into programming and operations (IASC, 2017).

More recently, the idea of a ‘triple nexus’, i.e. also including security, conflict prevention and peacebuilding, has become prominent. This has come into being mainly out of a concern that, in conflict contexts, humanitarian aid can easily exacerbate the situation. Indeed, aid can disrupt existing power dynamics, be perceived as a ‘resource’ to contest, and be instrumentalised as a means of achieving political gains (for example by serving or depriving certain communities). Aid can also sustain warring parties or allow governments to shift resources to military budgets, by providing essential services no longer delivered by the state (Lange and Quinn 2003).

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<sup>3</sup> Macrae, Joanna, and Adele Harmer. 2004. “Beyond the Continuum: An Overview of the Changing Role of Aid Policy in Protracted deCrises.” Research Briefing. London: HPG. <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/341.pdf>.

Figure 1: Triple Nexus



However, despite appearing in many policy assessments, the nexus approach remains largely conceptual, with differing definitions, terms, understandings and interpretations of the concept by different aid actors (De Castellarnau and Stoianova, 2018) particularly in relation to how existing governance structures both at the member state and supra-state level could be deployed to realise its full potential. Typical challenges to the use of nexus approaches in practice are:

- Different normative frameworks: Development cooperation pursues openly political objectives, including strengthening governance and transforming economies, while humanitarian assistance is based on the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence (OCHA 2012: 1). On the one hand, these principles are central to establishing and maintaining humanitarian access and providing assistance and protection according to needs. In complex conflict situations such as Somalia, the role of the international community is such that it is difficult, if not impossible, to be perceived as neutral and impartial by the local population.
- Institutional incompatibility. Development cooperation, humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding are fragmented, both conceptually and in their implementation.<sup>4</sup> As a result, they come with different time frames and lines of funding. This often limits their flexibility and interoperability.
- Capacity and nexus skills within organisations. Humanitarians may lack the skills (or the time) to integrate conflict analysis in their work, while many peacebuilding organisations have neither the technical capacity nor the financial resources to engage and collaborate with their development and humanitarian counterparts. There is also no

<sup>4</sup> Please see OCHA report for a comprehensive take on institutional misalignment. OCHA. (2017) New way of working. Geneva: OCHA/UN. ([www.alnap.org/help-library/new-way-of-working-1](http://www.alnap.org/help-library/new-way-of-working-1)).

consensus on what a triple nexus precisely entails. Some interpret it as an approach to coordination (with each actor playing its own respective role), while others see it as an attempt to make peacebuilders out of development practitioners and development actors out of humanitarians

It is now widely recognized that different iterations of the Triple Nexus have so far not adequately facilitated a continuous and reliable transition between humanitarian and development work. Key challenges as to why the gap continues to exist include a divided and disparate aid structure, separated donor funding, and profoundly different modus operandi and mandates. At the same time, due to progressively worsening conflicts and humanitarian crises, the pressure to achieve better outcomes by working in a more integrated, effective and efficient way is high. There is growing recognition that including considerations relating to human rights has the potential to add coherence to the application of the Nexus concepts.

### *Consolidating the Triple Nexus: Human rights as a fourth pillar?*

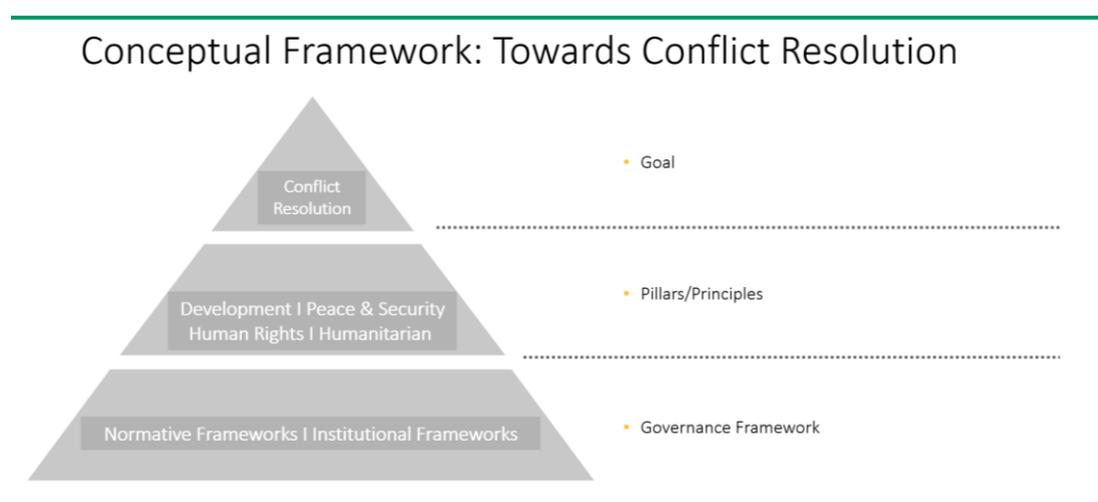
Whilst analyses of the Triple Nexus are aplenty including studies on conflict and humanitarian management in the Southern African sub-region, the inclusion of human rights as pillar in this context adds fresh impetus to an urgent problem. The nexus between human rights and peace and security is important because to be able to find durable solutions to conflicts, human rights must be guaranteed, and to safeguard human rights, violent conflicts must be kept at bay. Contemporary human rights research and policy-making are concerned with a wide spectrum of programmes focusing on civil and political as well as economic, social and cultural rights and with many principles and processes that can influence all programmes regardless of their goals. Contemporary peace and security research and policymaking is likewise a wider endeavour focusing on all different phases of the conflict circle including submerged tensions, rising tensions, violent conflict and post-conflict situations. The creation of structural stability is an overarching question for peace and security to avoid getting into or going back to violent conflict. If one takes the wider view on both areas, it becomes even clearer that human rights-promoting policies and peace-building policies go hand in hand towards sustaining peace. **To focus on one set of policies without the other is at best ineffective and at worst counterproductive.** Both fields focus on empowerment, equality, participation and inclusion and reinforce each other and development. This appears to be a solid base on which to further build co-operation. In the final report, the relationship between the Triple Nexus and the four pillars will be analysed. Such an approach recognises the equal roles that the pillars have in resolving conflict and maintaining peace. The study will ensure that this balanced approach is reflected in the analysis

A key question remains what normative and institutional frameworks provide the most robust means for synthesizing the work of the various agencies under the four pillars. A review of the policy framework under the relevant regional documents, such as the AU-UN cooperation frameworks, UN-AU Peace and Security Framework, AU-UN Development Framework, Draft AU-UN Human Rights Framework, and AU-OCHA MOU on Humanitarian Action reveals the

normative and institutional priorities that are required in order to efficiently deliver the interlinkages. .<sup>5</sup>

Bearing in mind that sustainably addressing the challenges posed by development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian action are neither sequential nor compartmentalized, especially not in states affected by conflict, this study therefore centres the analysis of the key issues, challenges and opportunities, modalities and tools for harnessing the interlinkages on the gaps that hampered the effective delivery of the Triple Nexus by enhancing the integrative role of the human rights pillar with a view towards a more coherent and complimentary governance frameworks both from its institutional and normative guises.<sup>6</sup> In this regard, it is pertinent to note that all member states in the Southern Africa sub-region are parties to the African Charter and are therefore bound by regional human rights mechanisms. Coupled with this fact, the recent articulation of overarching policies on human rights and sustainable development by the core Southern African RECs which complement the policy frameworks set by the African Union and at the UN level,<sup>7</sup> present an opportunity to reframe the coherence and sustainability aspects of action in a comprehensive and more integrated way. A revised conceptual model of the nexus would therefore locate the four pillars as an encompassing base that provides both institutional as well as normative support to the interlinkages with a view to conflict resolution as the ultimate goal. In particular, it is critical that governance structures within states and within institutions within the subregion are enabled to deliver coherent and complimentary action towards conflict resolution.

Figure 1: Four-pillar interlinkages



<sup>5</sup> ECA, 2016. Human and Economic Cost of Conflict in the Horn of Africa: Implications for a Transformative and Inclusive Post-Conflict Development

<sup>6</sup> Hailbronner, M. (2016) 'Laws in conflict: The relationship between human rights and international humanitarian law under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights' in *African Human Rights Law Journal* 16 (2), pp.339-364. Available at [http://www.scielo.org.za/scielo.php?script=sci\\_arttext&pid=S1996-20962016000200003&lng=en&nrm=iso](http://www.scielo.org.za/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1996-20962016000200003&lng=en&nrm=iso)

<sup>7</sup> United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (2016). Human Security Handbook – An integrated approach for the realization of Sustainable Development Goals and the priority areas of the international community and the United Nations system <https://www.un.org/humansecurity/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/h2.pdf>

This study will build on the practice and application of Triple Nexus by Southern African states, sub-regional and regional institutions in their peace and security, humanitarian and development mandates with a view to building on the experiences of the Triple Nexus with a fourth crucial pillar: human rights. Whilst paying due regard to the four AU-UN cooperation frameworks, these understandings will be supplemented by lessons of the Nexus' application in other subregions and other parts of the world through analysis of cross-cutting governance issues which are evaluated through their normative and institutional functions. This addition to Nexus thinking is crucial because it recognizes the interlinkages between development, peace security, human rights and the humanitarian pillars. Evidence from various protracted crises in the Southern African region shows that development cannot happen when there is no peace, and without development peace is precarious, whilst without respect for human rights, it is unlikely that the peace and security necessary for development will be achieved.

With this conceptual model in mind, and in order to develop a critical understanding of the interlinkages between the four pillars, – the study report will answer the following research questions:

1. What are the interlinkages between the various pillars, and why are they important?
2. What relationships can be identified between the various pillars and how do they enhance or detract from each other?
3. How best can the interlinkages between the pillars be harnessed with a view to delivering coherent and interlinked interventions in relation to peace, security, development, humanitarian relief and human rights protection?
4. What normative and institutional frameworks available at the national, subregional and regional levels could be utilized to deliver this approach?
5. Governance issues relevant to the interlinkages between the four pillars as they relate to solutions to conflict situations in the subregion
6. How could the different strands be brought together for a coherent approach for sustainable and lasting solutions to conflict in the subregion?
7. What roles do the different stakeholders including governments and other national actors, subregional, regional and international actors play and what roles could they play in shaping and realizing this approach in the future?
8. What transboundary issues exist that call for intraregional cooperation and how does a joined-up approach resolve such issues
9. What imperatives arise from mainstreaming of crosscutting issues such as gender and youth?
10. What are the impacts of Covid-19 on measures designed to realise the achievement of the pillars?

In answering these questions, the study will apply the mixed methods described below.

#### **4. Methodology**

The study will be informed by primary data and information obtained through a questionnaire survey, and secondary data and information obtained mainly from desk reviews of relevant

documents, including, but not limited to those pertaining to the development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars and their interlinkages, with particular attention paid to regional and sub regional development frameworks and priorities, including Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN-AU Peace and Security Framework, the AU-UN Development Framework, the UN-AU Human Rights Framework, the MOU between the UN and AUC on Humanitarian Action, the guiding and operational frameworks and mechanisms related to the pillars and COVID-19 reports and publications relevant to the assignment.

Furthermore, it is crucial that in addition to lessons drawn from other subregions of Africa and parts of the world, sub-regional perspectives and experiences from Southern Africa are prioritized to ensure that recommendations from the report are grounded within the context and background of the subregion and that they enjoy the support of key stakeholders within the sub-region right from the inception. The study will therefore ensure these outcomes by maintaining collaborative approaches throughout the steps described below.

Finally, a study focused on articulating more collaborative and integrated working must engage a wide-ranging set of stakeholders. Southern Africa region member states and subregional institutions and agencies have had experience in applying the Triple Nexus approach. Some of these institutions have already been identified by the TOR. Further, a number of countries within the region, such as Angola, DRC and Mozambique have had experiences in the transitions from conflict, towards sustainable peace, security and development. The participation of these stakeholders in the preparation of this report is key in ensuring a bottom-up approach and will be critical in ensuring ownership of the outcomes and recommendations, whilst maintaining the primacy of the coordinating and integrative role of international mechanisms and frameworks.

The study will therefore combine robust **desk-based reviews**, a **comprehensive survey** and the definition of **case studies** that will engage multilevel policy and governance structures alongside the perspectives of multiple stakeholders identified in consultation with the Commission. The production of these resources will involve close consultation with other consultants from the sub-regions. These key aspects of the methodology are outlined below.

#### **4.1 Literature review**

A comprehensive review of the literature will be undertaken to establish the state of the art in relation to the interlinkages between development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars in southern Africa. The literature review will also identify the challenges and opportunities, modalities and tools for harnessing interlinkages. Key primary documents that form the legal and policy framework for member states selected from the Southern Africa subregion will be examined alongside material from subregional, regional and international institutions including but not limited to COMESA, SADC, the AU and will be analysed alongside commentary from secondary analysis. This stage of the analysis is crucial as it lays the baseline and conceptual framework as well as setting the context for the questionnaire survey.

## **4.2 Questionnaire survey**

A questionnaire designed in consultation with the ECA Southern Africa subregional office will provide better context for the issues raised by the TOR, particularly by highlighting the specialties of the Southern Africa region including raising key capacity development challenges and opportunities, particularly those that flow out of the Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account the four AU-UN cooperation frameworks. For better fit, the survey instrument will be adapted depending on the informant whether they are an official of a member state or an office of a subregional institution etc. Such an iterative and adaptive process ensures that relevant information is obtained.

The questionnaire survey will seek to establish:

1. How member States and RECs view the conflict situations in their countries and subregion
2. How member states, subregional institutions and other stakeholders have experienced the implementation of the four pillars including transboundary matters
3. Practical steps that they have undertaken or plan to undertake to achieve better coherence and coordination in implementing the key pillars, challenges and opportunities
4. What practical benefits do they envisage in (re)articulating the triple nexus to include a fourth pillar on human rights
5. What contexts have they applied the pillars (This typology of deployment scenarios will be used to develop relevant case studies.)
6. The integration of gender and youth issues in conflict situations and solutions in the context of the interlinkages.
7. The impact of COVID-19 on the interlinkages and the complementary implementation of interventions across the four pillars
8. Considerations related to harnessing the interlinkages between the four pillars to inform policy and practice in the search for effective and lasting solutions to conflicts.
9. Transboundary issues that require intraregional cooperation to address conflict situations in the context of the interlinkages interlinkages.
10. What methodologies and tools do they consider applicable for mainstreaming the interlinkages into policies and strategies, including those relevant to Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda
11. The role of governance and institutions in promoting complementary and joined up interventions to addressing conflict situations.

## **4.3 Case studies**

Alongside the above approaches, the study will utilize a case study approach and will describe at least two case studies drawn from the subregion. Each case study will be selected in consultation with the ECA Subregional Office for Southern Africa based on criteria that ensures that the themes sought to be examined by this study are present. Thus, the general questions outlined in the conceptual analysis above will be used to include or exclude countries from the case study selection. In particular, the study will identify and analyse issues of a transboundary

nature relevant to coherent and joined up responses to conflicts across the various subregions and Africa as a whole.

**4.4 Consultations**

Consultations with key regional stakeholders on early drafts and recommendations will also form a key part of establishing ownership. Due to the ongoing COVID\_19 pandemic, it is likely that these consultations will take place over digital platforms. Stakeholders to be consulted include Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the subregion, selected member States, Relevant African Union Commission (AUC) Departments, AUDA-NEPAD, APRM and other relevant AU organs and agencies.,

**5. Collaboration and knowledge co-production amongst consultants**

Furthermore, given the reports contribution to a unified Africa region study, it is important to include in the methodology a structured programme of review involving the sub-regional consultants. This ensures consistency with the analytical base established by the TORs. In this regard, regular digital consultations with the other consultants for methodological and analytical discussion will be scheduled. This collaboration will include peer review of the report, will incorporate adjustments to the conceptual framework following consultation, and provision of support to the validation process, including the validation meeting and finalization of the report.

**6. Work plan**

The study work plan follows the time lines set by the TOR but also builds in the opportunities for consultation, feedback and review.

Date	Output/Activity	Feedback and review
22 August	Submission of draft inception plan	Y (Dates to be agreed at inception meeting)
24 August	Consultation with Commission staff and other regional consultants	Y (Amendment of work plan and outline in line with feedback)
10 November	Submission of revised inception plan	N
15 November	Submission of questionnaire and consultation	Y (Amendment in line with feedback)
20-30 November	Administration of questionnaire survey	Collation of survey responses

10-12 December	Submission of first draft report	Y
17 December	Presentation of first draft for consultation approval and validation	Y
TBA	Presentation of final report	N

## 7. Annotated structure of the final report

Overall, the study will result in a robust, analytical report on the interlinkages between development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars as they relate to the search for effective and lasting solutions to conflict in the subregion in the Southern Africa region. The study will include the analysis of governance and institutions issues as overarching/crosscutting issues relevant to the study objectives. To this end, it shall include the following chapters:

### 7.1 Executive summary highlighting the key findings and messages

### 7.2 Introduction, including the analytical framework

This chapter will detail the interlinkages between the development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars from a practical and theoretical viewpoint and will outline an overarching analytical framework. It will draw on the theoretical framing drawn from ‘Triple Nexus’ and its manifestations in the practice of member states from the Southern Africa subregion, subregional and regional institutions as well as international institutions and other partners. It will bring to bear Human Rights as the fourth pillar to allow for a coherent analysis that factor in the objectives of the study and analyse the relationship between the Triple Nexus and the four pillars as they relate to the search for solutions to effective and lasting solutions to conflicts in the subregion.

It will demonstrate how current policy priorities as expressed in key policy and legal frameworks for member states require a comprehensive rethink of previous approaches. This will factor governance and institutions as overarching policy issues relevant to the study.

### 7.3 The state of development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian action in the sub region, interfaces with other sub regions, transboundary issues and implications for regional responses;

This chapter will detail the current state of development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian action in the Southern Africa region. An outline of key issues militating against the synergy and complementarity, and implementation of institutional interventions aimed at addressing peace and security, human rights, humanitarian and development situations in the will be outlined. It will identify and analyse the interlinkages as they relate to conflict; taking into account dimensions of governance and institutions. Particular reference will be made to gender and youth issues and the AU and UN, COMESA and

SADC cooperation frameworks. This chapter will incorporate contextual the findings from the questionnaire survey alongside the data from the desk review.

Although Southern Africa has seen the cessation of inter-state armed and violent conflicts the region is not immune to challenges to peace and security, armed conflict, political crises, democracy and governance deficits are still pressing concerns. Ongoing violent conflict in northern Mozambique and repeating cycles of xenophobia and violence in South Africa as well as governance deficits in countries like Madagascar and Zimbabwe and increasingly in Zambia pose ongoing threats. Additionally, uneven development benefits which have seen increased poverty in the face of abundant natural resources will likely trigger instability and humanitarian. In order to concretise the report's findings, the study will identify and analyse issues of a transboundary nature relevant to coherent and joined up responses across the various subregions and Africa as a whole.

#### **7.4 Key issues pertaining to the synergistic and complementary implementation of interventions aimed at addressing peace and security, human rights, humanitarian and development situations in the sub region, taking into account gender and youth issues and the UN-AU Cooperation frameworks;**

This chapter will highlight the interlinkages between the development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars in the Southern Africa region with a view to articulating the challenges and opportunities for more synergistic and integrated and deeper collaborative working as they relate to conflict situations.. It will accomplish this by outlining the methodologies that utilize practical tools to integrate In doing so, it will examine how UN, AU, COMESA and SADC legal, policy and institutional frameworks, and the AU-UN cooperation frameworks could be leveraged to contribute to achieve a reflexive and better integrated ways of working by harnessing the interlinkages in the search for effective and lasting solutions to conflicts in the subregion.

Existing international and regional agreements provide the foundation for delivering improved coherence through inter-linkages for conflict prevention and resolution. This chapter will demonstrate how a better understanding of the pillars adds value to these approaches.

The analysis in this chapter will mainstream gender and youth issues as relate to complementary and synergistic implementation of the four pillars and conflict prevention and resolutions. The results of the survey will also be incorporated in this and other chapters.

#### **7.5 Challenges, and opportunities for harnessing the interlinkages between the development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian pillars, taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic**

Implementing the Triple Nexus has shown how difficult it has been to move the approach beyond a conceptual level. It is crucial that enhanced interlinkage approach does not fall into a similar predicament. Consequently, this chapter will demonstrate the challenges and opportunities for harnessing the interlinkages with a view to showcasing the benefits for such an integrated approach as well as the risks associated with it. The chapter will also examine the challenges and opportunities presented by COVID-19 in harnessing the interlinkages in the search for effective and lasting solutions to conflicts.

## **7.6 Methodologies and tools for harnessing the interlinkages and promoting complementary implementation and approaches, and associated capacity building needs**

Based on the findings established in the previous chapters, this chapter begins to integrate the perspectives developed into a set of practical measures for mainstreaming interlinkages between the pillars across UN, AU and sub-regional institutions and frameworks in Southern Africa. In particular, measures that incorporate actions promoting Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are highlighted. The conceptual framework highlighted in figure 2 above will inform the bulk of this chapter. It will show the deep interrelationships between the pillars by examining their common relationships in a balanced manner as they relate to conflict prevention and resolution. . Further, the chapter will examine existing methodologies and tools for analysing and harnessing the interlinkages, particularly in regard to conflict situations and their relevance and applicability to the subregion.

Further, this chapter will detail a comprehensive range of measures on how the interlinkages can be mainstreamed into programming on peace, security, development, human rights and the humanitarian function. Drawing on insights from the case studies and the questionnaire survey, this chapter will be led heavily data-led and will articulate how to identify win-win partnerships amongst diverse stakeholders. More importantly, the chapter will examine and analyse capacity building needs in relation to harnessing and mainstreaming the interlinkages into policies and strategies including those related to Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda at the level of the subregion.

## **7.7 Conclusions and recommendations**

This chapter outlines robust and action-oriented recommendations at various levels (including member States; RECs; AUC and other AU organs and agencies) that are based on the findings of the study.

## **8. Indicative bibliography**

### **UN documents**

- Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa Report of the Secretary-General. Available at <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3826681>
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