# Strengthening Evidence-Based Policy

Outputs from the Addressing and Mitigating Violence programme, May 2013 – October 2015



#### Front cover

Palestinian Territories, Gaza. The Gaza Parkour And Free Running team practice in a cemetery on the outskirts of their refugee camp in Khan Younis, Gaza. The walls show damage from past Israeli incursions.

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## Introduction

Knowledge and evidence are important elements of all policy processes. While the availability of more or higher quality evidence does not guarantee better policy processes, it is difficult to imagine how development policy and outcomes can be improved without it.

In addition to a myriad of development problems, the increasing recognition of diversity, complexity and context means that policy-relevant knowledge and evidence must address different scales of analysis, speak to different audiences and be accessible in a variety of formats.

This brochure presents outputs from the Addressing and Mitigating Violence strand of work within an IDS programme entitled Strengthening Evidence-based Policy funded through an Accountable Grant from the UK Department for International Development.

Work under the grant privileges the review and synthesis of existing knowledge and evidence over new primary research. The *modus operandi* is one of 'co-construction': a broad range of partners have played critical roles in the conception, generation and dissemination of these outputs. Beyond publication, IDS and its partners are actively working to integrate these outputs, and the lessons and recommendations that emerge from them, into policy processes at local, national and global scales.

All outputs from this programme, including those that will be produced in the next year, are available through the IDS website (www.ids.ac.uk) and through OpenDocs, the IDS institutional repository (http://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/). If you would like to stay abreast of developments in relation to this work, you can sign up to the IDS newsletter at www.ids.ac.uk/e-alert-signup.

James Sumberg Grant Director, October 2015

# Addressing and Mitigating Violence

## Political settlements, citizenship and violence

## Nigeria's Post-1999 Political Settlement and Violence Mitigation in the Niger Delta

Markus Schultze-Kraft (with the collaboration of Ike Okonta, Cassandra Biggs and E. Chizoba Unaeze) IDS Evidence Report 5

Almost 15 years after transitioning to civilian-electoral rule, Nigeria is still wrestling with the legacy of a protracted period of military government and the 'resource curse' associated with its huge oil wealth. This report analyses the nature and evolution of violence in the Niger Delta since the late 1990s, and the responses to it by the Nigerian state and international players, by using the 'political settlement' approach. This is based on the observation that elites, both Nigerian and international, have significant responsibility for, and are important actors in, the violence and large-scale organised criminal activities in the Niger Delta.

## Elites, Oil and Violence Mitigation in the Niger Delta

Markus Schultze-Kraft IDS Policy Briefing 35

The crisis in the oil-rich Niger Delta in Nigeria is one of the world's forgotten conflicts, in which thousands have been killed and the country's vital oil industry has been hit hard. In the past 20 years, environmental destruction, youth unemployment, poverty and organised crime (such as massive oil theft) in the Niger Delta have persisted or even increased. A bolder, longer-term approach to building lasting peace in the Niger Delta is urgently needed, in which Nigeria's elite and their international partners commit to building a pro-development political settlement through far-reaching governance reforms.

## Is it the Right Time for the International Community to Exit Sierra Leone?

Jeremy Allouche (with the collaboration of Cassandra Biggs, Ngolo Katta and James Vincent) IDS Evidence Report 38

A glance at key indicators – in terms of growth forecast and stable elections – will project Sierra Leone as a model for a successful post-conflict state. However, a detailed analysis of the country's socioeconomic trends, its political institutions and the logic and dynamics of violence show a more



disturbing picture where Sierra Leone today shares similar conditions with the Sierra Leone before the outbreak of the civil war.

## Undercurrents of Violence: Why Sierra Leone's Political Settlement is Not Working

Jeremy Allouche

IDS Policy Briefing 48

Debates over violence, security, humanitarian and development imperatives have long been polarised. However, as seen in Syria and Mali, the question is not simply whether one should intervene but rather how and for whose benefit. In this context, a closer look at the case of Sierra Leone – touted in many circles as a success story – yields interesting insights into the limits of its political settlement. Pro-poor development outcomes need to be at the heart of any negotiated political settlement. Failure to address fundamental issues around access to power, accountability regarding control of natural resources, and extreme poverty itself has resulted in marginalisation and disenfranchisement, and new forms of violence.

## Settling After the Revolts? Egypt's Political Settlements and Violent Transition

Mariz Tadros

IDS Evidence Report 57

This report presents the case study of Egypt, a country that between January 2011 and July 2013 witnessed two regime overthrows following mass uprisings of a scale unprecedented in the region. While the country has not fallen into a state of

shouts during a demonstration in Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, against President Mohamed Morsi and the Islamistled assembly. Thousands of people gathered to protest after the assembly pushed through approval of a new constitution that was itself a bid to end the crisis.

civil war such as Syria, it has nevertheless been experiencing rising levels of violence since the revolution of January 2011.

#### Roots and Routes of Political Violence in Kenya's Civil and Political Society: A Case Study of Marsabit County

Patta Scott-Villiers, Tom Ondicho, Grace Lubaale, Diana Ndung'u, Nathaniel Kabala and Marjoke Oosterom

IDS Evidence Report 71

Struggles to influence the balance of power and the distribution of economic resources in Kenya have a long history of violence: national and local, actual and threatened, physical and psychological. Somewhat controlled by sophisticated legal, administrative and political institutions and strongly tempered by a deep fund of intercommunity cooperation, violence has been kept in check, but remains persistent. This Evidence Report uses a definition of political settlements to frame the inquiry. The study aims to show one manifestation of how the political settlement in Kenya is upheld by a variety of interlinked forms of 'normal' violence, themselves linked to economic dependencies.

## The Underside of Political Settlements: Violence in Egypt and Kenya

Marjoke Oosterom and Rosemary McGee IDS Policy Briefing 62

Understanding political settlements is important for addressing and mitigating violence. This Policy Briefing is based on case studies from Egypt and Kenya which confirm that political settlements that only focus on formal actors and spaces at the national level are crucially flawed. Beyond this confirmation, the research also demonstrates that the viability of political settlements can be shaped by local-level dynamics and determined by citizens, who might rekindle the violence if excluded from the settlement. To be stable, political arrangements and leaders need to enjoy legitimacy and credibility conferred by citizens. Proponents of political settlements ignore citizen-level dynamics at their peril.

## Toward Effective Violence Mitigation: Transforming Political Settlements

Markus Schultze-Kraft and Scott Hinkle IDS Evidence Report 101

Recognising the centrality of violence in the development process (though not subscribing to the notion that conflict and violence are development in reverse), in 2012–14 a group of researchers at the Institute of Development Studies engaged in depth with the complex and thorny questions of how

'new' forms of violence in the developing world – as opposed to 'traditional' civil or intra-state war – should be understood; and through which policies they could best be prevented and/or mitigated. The result of this endeavour is a series of evidence-based reports that were produced in collaboration with Southern partners in a sample of four violence-affected countries in Africa: Nigeria (Niger Delta), Sierra Leone, Egypt and Kenya (Marsabit County).

## Mitigating 'Non-Conflict' Violence by Creating Peaceful Political Settlements

Markus Schultze-Kraft IDS Policy Briefing 81

Understanding and addressing 'non-conflict' violence is a key challenge for development. Different types of 'non-conflict' violence, such as homicide, massacres, armed robbery and gender-based violence, which occur outside of armed conflict contexts involving state or other parties, are not only reflections of social problems like youth unemployment and gang culture. They should not be unlinked from political processes. Given the weakness of formal institutions and the strength of hybrid political orders in most violence-affected settings in the developing world, the political settlements approach helps to understand the political factors that underpin and drive 'non-conflict' violence; and develop policy responses that tackle the roots of the problem, not just its symptoms.

#### Agency and Citizenship in a Context of Genderbased Violence

Thea Shahrokh and Joanna Wheeler IDS Evidence Report 73

This pilot evaluation explores how citizenship and agency among social activists can be fostered in contexts of urban violence at the local level. The focus of the pilot is to understand how a sense of democratic citizenship and the ability to act on that citizenship at the local level can contribute to reducing different types of urban violence and promote security, and how becoming an activist against violence can contribute to constructing a sense of citizenship. The case study for this analysis is based in the informal settlement of Khayelitsha, Cape Town, and focuses on community activism against gender-based violence.

#### Tackling Urban Violence in Mumbai and Cape Town through Citizen Engagement and Community Action

Jaideep Gupte, Thea Shahrokh and Joanna Wheeler IDS Policy Briefing 71

Urban violence is an urgent and growing problem in

many cities across the world. It comes in a multitude of forms such as gender-based violence, gangs and drug-related violence, police violence, religious riots, vigilante groups, and others. This Policy Briefing focuses on gender-based violence in Cape Town, South Africa, and juvenile crime in Mumbai, India, to explore how those living with this violence may be enabled to address it themselves. Those living in poverty find a variety of responses to violence and this briefing shares evidence of how citizens can contribute both independently and through collective action to building safer communities.

#### Service provision, policing and violence

## Unemployment, Service Provision and Violence Reduction Policies in Urban Maharashtra

Jean-Pierre Tranchant IDS Evidence Report 17

This report analyses the relationship between violence and economic vulnerability among urban populations in the Indian state of Maharashtra. It draws on: the results of a large-scale household and neighbourhood survey in urban Maharashtra conducted by Gupte et al. in 2010; a policy roundtable held in January 2013 in Mumbai involving key actors of slum and violence-reduction policies; a series of participatory exercises on the issue of safety in slum areas in Mumbai; and an extensive review of existing academic literature and policy documents.

## Missing the Point: Violence Reduction and Policy Misadventures in Nairobi's Poor Neighbourhoods

Mutuma Ruteere, Patrick Mutahi, Becky Mitchell and Jeremy Lind

IDS Evidence Report 39

Violence and crime are part of everyday life in many of Nairobi's poor urban neighbourhoods. While wealthier enclaves of the city are heavily guarded by private security firms, violence and protection provided through criminal organisations and vigilante groups have become commonplace in the poor neighbourhoods.

## Making the Urban Poor Safer: Lessons from Nairobi and Maharashtra

Jean-Pierre Tranchant IDS Policy Briefing 47

Mumbai and Nairobi have acutely unequal urban development, with respectively 40 per cent and 60 per cent of their urban population living in slums. Urban violence is deeply rooted in the multiple vulnerabilities experienced by slum-dwellers, such as lack of steady income, lack of access to amenities and lack of connection to state resources. Yet security

provision fails to address violence in this broader social and economic context, while efforts at tackling urban vulnerability often do not address its links with violence and physical insecurity.

#### Civil Unrest and Government Transfers in India

Patricia Justino

IDS Evidence Report 108

This Evidence Report investigates empirically the role of government expenditure on social services in mitigating and preventing civil unrest (riots) in India. The empirical analysis makes use of a unique longitudinal data set compiled across the 16 largest Indian states for the period 1960–2011. The data set contains disaggregated information on government expenditure on a variety of social services, levels of rioting, measures of inequality and poverty, and other relevant social, economic and political variables. India was chosen as a case study because it is a particularly good example of a society characterised by a high propensity for civil unrest, and where demand for government provision of public goods and services is high.

#### Do Government Transfers Reduce Conflict?

Patricia Justino

IDS Policy Briefing 90

How can we mitigate civil unrest before it results in the breakdown of social order? Not all forms of civil unrest escalate into violence, but why do some deteriorate and others do not? Social conflicts have been solved through fiscal policy and the provision of public goods and services over the centuries. Data from India, too, show that government expenditure on social services has had a significant effect on reducing riots across the country. These findings have important lessons for other countries where social order breaks down frequently, but large-scale conflict may be avoidable.

#### Key Challenges of Security Provision in Rapidly Urbanising Contexts: Evidence from Kathmandu Valley and Terai Regions of Nepal

Jaideep Gupte and Subindra Bogati IDS Evidence Report 69

We know that urban violence not only affects people's health and wellbeing, it has a devastating impact on the social fabric and economic prospects of entire cities. It can also set recursive cycles of vulnerability in motion – violence-affected individuals find it increasingly harder to be gainfully employed, while poverty is sustained through intergenerational transfers. However, the mechanisms through which violent crime and urbanisation are interconnected are not straightforward. While higher rates of violent



A Kenya,
Turkana District,
Rift Valley
Province. A
Nilotic Turkana
herdsman
carries an AK-47
Kalashnikov rifle
as he watches
over his camels
grazing in the
Kenyan-Ugandan
border region.

crime are generally seen in the larger urban centres, not all urban centres experience similar degrees of violence.

#### carries an AK-47 Policing Urban Violence: Lessons from South Asia

Jaideep Gupte

IDS Policy Briefing 57

Well-managed urban economies have the potential to provide a route out of poverty; however, poor urban communities are disproportionately affected by violence, making the provision of effective and sustainable security in urban centres a key issue in developing countries. IDS research in South Asia shows that urban insecurity tends to receive an overtly militaristic response. While urban police forces continue to play a central role in creating safe and secure urban environments, it is also evident however, that sustainable security results from wider collaborations between state and non-state actors.

#### Can Targeted Transition Services for Young Offenders Foster Pro-Social Attitudes and Behaviours in Urban Settings? Evidence from the Evaluation of the Kherwadi Social Welfare Association's Yuva Parivartan Programme

Jaideep Gupte, Jean-Pierre Tranchant and Becky Mitchell

IDS Evidence Report 136

In Maharashtra, state-sponsored programmes that support school dropouts and young offenders in finding employment and integrating into society are severely limited by a lack of resources and capacity. While several government-sponsored schemes do exist, in reality, however, support for school dropouts is largely provided on an ad hoc basis, and predominantly by non-governmental organisations. In this context, we conducted a mixed-methods evaluation of Kherwadi Social Welfare Association's

Yuva Parivartan programme. This is one of the largest non-governmental interventions directed towards school dropouts and juvenile offenders. The overarching evaluation question adopted was 'Can targeted preventive action and access to employment for school dropouts act as a preventive measure against delinquency and crime?'

## Transnational actors and flows, regional dynamics and violence

#### 'External Stresses' and Violence Mitigation in Fragile Contexts: Setting the Stage for Policy Analysis

Markus Schultze-Kraft IDS Evidence Report 36

Following on from the World Bank's World Development Report 2011 on conflict, security and development, a debate has emerged about the role of so-called 'external stresses' in generating 'new' forms of violence and insecurity in poor and fragile countries. The Bank posits that the combination of internal stresses (e.g. low income levels, high youth unemployment) and external stresses (e.g. cross-border conflict spillovers, illicit drug trafficking) heightens the risk of different forms of violence, which are not confined to inter-state and civil war but range from communal conflicts to criminal violence and terrorism.

# Getting Real About an Illicit 'External Stressor': Transnational Cocaine Trafficking through West

Markus Schultze-Kraft IDS Evidence Report 72

Concerns over West Africa's increasingly prominent role as transhipment point of South American cocaine en route to Europe are mounting. Gathering pace in the mid-2000s, large-scale drug trafficking has been associated with recent episodes of political instability and violence in Guinea-Bissau, Guinea and Mali. It is also perceived as a serious threat to democratic institutions, governance and development in other, more stable countries of the region, such as Ghana; and as potentially contributing to reversing the hard-won end to the armed conflicts that ravaged Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea-Bissau and Côte d'Ivoire in the 1990s and 2000s.

## External Stresses in West Africa: Cross-border Violence and Cocaine Trafficking

Jason Collodi

IDS Policy Briefing 60

The 2011 World Development Report on conflict, security and development highlights the centrality

of 'external stresses' for generating insecurity and increasing the risk of violence in fragile areas. West African states are particularly vulnerable, with serious concerns around cross-border violence and illicit drug-trafficking. Policy responses need to: tackle the region's recent legacy of conflict and violent upheaval; address weak governance and entrenched corruption; improve regional cooperation; and support border and outlying communities that have been marginalised by insecurity, poverty and unemployment.

#### Cross-border Violence as an External Stress: Policy Responses to Cross-border Dynamics on the Border between Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia

Jeremy Allouche and Janet Adama Mohammed IDS Evidence Report 77

One of the key issues identified in the new policy literature on external stress is the incidence of cross-border violence and the current lack of efficient and permanent mechanisms supported by international organisations, governments and civil society to deal with the violence. The focus of this Evidence Report is the border region between Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. The protracted violence which has affected the region for many years stems from the internal conflicts which afflicted both countries at different times, and which had regional dynamics and implications. In 2012–13 the region experienced a resurgence of cross-border violence linked to the 2011 electoral and political crisis in Côte d'Ivoire.

## Tangled Ties: Al-Shabaab and Political Volatility in Kenya

Jeremy Lind, Patrick Mutahi and Marjoke Oosterom IDS Evidence Report 130

In recent years, a spate of attacks has destabilised a swathe of Kenya's peripheral counties as well as bringing terror to its capital, Nairobi. As violent insecurity spreads, it has fomented fear and stoked ethnic and regional divisions, precipitating security crackdowns and roiling the country's infamously tumultuous politics. These developments belie sweeping constitutional reforms that have taken place to address and prevent violence in Kenya. Since Kenya stepped up its military involvement in Somalia in 2011, ostensibly to buffer the country from violence wrought by Al-Shabaab – the Somalia-based jihadi organisation - attacks have multiplied, ranging from the September 2013 siege of Nairobi's Westgate shopping centre, to village massacres, to the targeted killings of police and religious figures. Yet Kenya's government, while widening its military engagement in Somalia, was at first slow to recognise and respond to the hand of Al-Shabaab in the country's widening

violent insecurity since the start of its Somalia military operations.

## Understanding Insurgent Margins in Kenya, Nigeria and Mali

Jeremy Lind and Caitriona Dowd IDS Rapid Response Briefing 10 In recent years, violent insurgency has gripped the margins of Kenya, Mali and Nigeria. Militant Islamist groups have attacked civilian populations, state security personnel and political-administrative officials, spreading insecurity across large areas and exploiting the mistrust between societies at the margins and central authorities. More attention

needs to be focused on the role of local political, economic and social conditions in the areas where attacks are taking place, and a long-term solution to addressing violence in each country must involve resolving long-standing political grievances, a legacy of past state violence towards minority populations, and intra-regional inequality.

I was really impressed by the depth of your understanding of the Kenya situation. I believe there is much we can do together that can be of mutual benefit to both our work.

#### Towards Conflict-sensitive Regional Integration in East Africa

Alan Nicol

IDS Policy Briefing 100

Regional integration and development in East Africa have been portrayed as inextricably linked. Integration involving investment in trade and transport corridors to move goods, services and people between coast and resource-rich hinterlands is seen as part of development and economic growth, even peace-building. However, top-down implementation and assumptions about development 'trickle-down' pose questions, including how growth 'corridors' might exacerbate violence. Equitable, sustainable and conflict-sensitive processes must start with a better understanding of socio-political context; focus more on local integration; and establish ways of tracking and monitoring development impacts over time.

#### Miscellaneous

#### Understanding and Tackling Violence Outside of Armed Conflict Settings

Jeremy Lind and Becky Mitchell IDS Policy Briefing 37 Understanding and tackling violence that occurs outside of armed conflict settings is essential to improving the wellbeing of some of the world's poorest communities. Whilst advances have been made in terms of designing policies that address violence in fragile or conflict-affected countries, progress has been slower in relation to dealing with violence happening outside of these settings. New forms of violence, such as organised crime and political instability, often arise in states which have undergone rapid economic growth and social transformation. These forms of violence are difficult to address because they are part of the very structures and processes that drive and shape development.

## A New Deal? Development and Security in a Changing World

Jeremy Allouche and Jeremy Lind
Development policy and practice in fragile and
conflict-affected areas needs to be rethought. A
growing proportion of aid budgets is going to fragile
and conflict-affected states and conflict prevention
is becoming an important focus of aid spend even
in countries that are not affected by widespread
violence. Thus, there is a rationale for development
and security being increasingly brought together. The
issue is how to do this most effectively to promote
the security of the poor. Development stakeholders
need to invest more in understanding local realities,
politics and power. This report proposes a 'new deal'
based on concepts of entrustment and brokerage to
help them do so.

## On a Wing and a Prayer? Challenges for Reducing Armed Violence

Jeremy Lind IDS Policy Briefing 61

Most deaths due to violence now occur outside traditional conflict settings. In these contexts, violence is complex and often hard to understand, linked to a variety of conditions, situations and trends which are deeply embedded and difficult to shift without considerable investment, contextual knowledge and risk. Development is indispensable to reducing armed violence, while aid efforts are expected to be informed by rigorous evidence and qualify as good value for money. Therefore, defining and determining success in this field is urgently needed. This Policy Briefing explores the challenges of generating better evidence as well as how to respond to complexity, proposing where efforts should be focused.

# Sustainable Development Goals Must Consider Security, Justice and Inequality to Achieve Social Justice

Jeremy Allouche IDS Policy Briefing 88 Security and social justice have a crucial role to play in the newly proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The goals, which aim to establish a safe, sustainable and just society for all, require a truly transformative approach, one that places inclusivity, safety, equity and justice at the centre of a global pursuit for sustainable development. However, some United Nations member states are reluctant to securitise the sustainability agenda, and are advocating against their inclusion in the SDGs. The reality is that insecurity and inequality are at the crossroad of security and sustainability, making them significant issues to overcome.

## Does War Empower Women? Evidence from Timor Leste

Patricia Justino, Marinella Leone and Paola Salardi IDS Evidence Report 121

Conflicts may change the material conditions and the incentives individuals face through death, displacement and other consequences of violence. Being a victim of a war can also profoundly change individual beliefs, values and preferences (Bellows and Miguel 2009). Several counts have linked violent conflicts – including the two World Wars – to changes in the roles of women, as well as social norms and beliefs towards gender roles within societies. The aim of this Evidence Report is to investigate the medium- and long-term consequences of a long-lasting conflict – the Timor Leste conflict – on various dimensions of women's empowerment.

#### Understanding 'Urban Youth' and the Challenges they Face in Sub-Saharan Africa: Unemployment, Food Insecurity and Violent Crime

Jaideep Gupte, Dolf J.H. te Lintelo and Inka Barnett IDS Evidence Report 81

Much of Africa is urbanising fast and its young population is projected to constitute the largest labour force in the world. While urbanisation can be linked closely with economic development, we also know that it is the least developed countries that have younger populations than the rest of the world. This duality implies that understanding the nature of risks and vulnerabilities faced by urban youth, how they are impacted by them, as well as how they respond to and may be resilient against them, continue to be important questions for furthering development in sub-Saharan Africa.



▼ Female soldiers, from the YPJ (Women's Protection Unit), maintain their rifles.

#### Green Development, Natural Resource Financialization and Emerging Conflict in Southern Africa with Examples from Implementation Contexts in Madagascar, Tanzania and South Africa

Amber Huff

IDS Evidence Report 148

In recent years, widespread uncertainty around global economic and environmental futures has contributed to growing advocacy for a global 'greening' of the economy involving the coordinated establishment of pro-environment economic policies and programmes around the world. Following the dominant framings favoured by the United Nations (UN) and partners, the term 'green economy' refers to a flexible policy toolkit that includes recommendations for environmental regulations, market-based and financial instruments, and voluntary initiatives to promote capitalisation of pro-environment goods and services and stimulate green economic growth. Along these lines, a number of UN-affiliated international and regional intergovernmental organisations and development banks have developed their own complementary green growth strategies and frameworks that link up with the UN approach through a number of collaborations, agreements, mechanisms and partnerships

## Understanding Relationships between the Green Economy, Resource Financialization and Conflict

Amber Huff

IDS Policy Briefing 95

A key aspect of the United Nations' sustainable development approach centres on creating markets for financialized 'natural capital' products, particularly in resource-rich, lower-income countries. The appeal

of this comes from a set of policy promises termed the 'triple-win': achieving environmental sustainability, socially inclusive economic growth and poverty alleviation. Yet, these policies are controversial for many reasons, including their potential to foster inequitable property regimes, leading to increased potential for conflict. There is a need to understand the context and relationships among the green economy, resource financialization and emerging areas of conflict within the Southern African region. This will be pivotal in achieving sustainable policy reform and coordinated action.

#### Inequality: Trends, Harms and New Agendas

Patricia Justino and Mick Moore IDS Evidence Report 144

The notion that inequality matters has spread and gained currency over the last years. After decades of neglect, inequality is finally 'in from the cold' (Atkinson 1997), and firmly at the centre of research and policy agendas.

## Whose Security? Building Inclusive and Secure Societies in an Unequal and Insecure World

Robin Luckham

IDS Evidence Report 151

Development researchers, governance specialists, security and international relations analysts are cartographers of the modern world. Their job is to untangle the tangled, yet in doing so they all too often make flat all that is high and rolling. This paper considers one particular piece of map-making: the interface between security and development. It tries to render visible some of the bumps, joins and turnings which lie beneath the maps.

## About Institute of Development Studies

The Institute of Development Studies (IDS) is a leading global institution for development research, teaching and learning, and impact and communications, based at the University of Sussex. Our vision is a world in which poverty does not exist, social justice prevails and sustainable economic growth is focused on improving human wellbeing. We believe that research knowledge can drive the change that must happen in order for this vision to be realised. For more information go to: <a href="https://www.ids.ac.uk">www.ids.ac.uk</a>.

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IDS also publishes six issues each year of our flagship journal, the IDS Bulletin. Individually-themed issues bring together the latest thinking and research from programmes and events at IDS for an audience of development practitioners, policymakers and researchers.

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### IDS Bulletin to go Open Access in 2016

IDS is pleased to announce that its journal, the IDS Bulletin, is to be relaunched from January 2016 as a gold open access publication.

The IDS flagship journal is currently published in partnership with Wiley Blackwell, but with the expiry of the current agreement at the end of 2015, IDS has decided to bring the Bulletin back inhouse and make all content freely downloadable and published under a Creative Commons license.

The entire back catalogue, going back almost half a century, will also be digitised and shared without restriction from 2016 onwards.

The relaunch is planned to coincide with IDS' 50th anniversary celebrations. Since 1968, the IDS Bulletin has been an integral part of IDS' research dissemination strategy, covering the major themes and influencing debates within international development.

By going open access the *IDS Bulletin* is able to reach more Southern and worldwide readers and contributors, with immediately free downloadable articles, allowing some re-use of material. We want to retain our existing readers and find new ones, whether students, policy actors or academic researchers, or anyone interested in the cutting-edge debates around international development.

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