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Human Development Report Office

This note should be read in conjunction with the Regional/ National Human Development Report Toolkit.

While the toolkit provides general guidance on preparing a Regional or National Human Development Report, this note gives specific suggestions on how to approach the concept of human security as a topic for such a report.

Human Security

A Thematic Guidance Note for Regional and National Human Development Report Teams

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Many important aspects of human development relate also to people's security: loosely defined as people's freedom from fear and freedom from want in a broad sense. Applying a human security approach offers an opportunity to analyse many issues in an informative way. This note explains how one might go about doing that.

Human security relates to much more than security from violence and crime. A report team wanting to look at the security of people's livelihoods (economic, food, environment or health security) might apply a human security approach. Human security can also be used to look into personal, community and political security. Indeed, human development reports from around the world have applied the approach in other innovative ways. But on each occasion, these reports have analysed a threat, or groups of threats, and how they affect particular groups of people.

And so if one is interested in preparing a human development report that is focused on one or more of the threats people face, then a human security approach is worth considering. This note explains how such an approach could help, and how it might be applied.

Contents

What is Human Security?

The human security approach was introduced in the 1994 global Human Development Report (HDR), which led to a range of literature and initiatives building on the idea (some of these are mentioned in the annex to this guidance note), and to a series of discussions in the United Nations. In 2012 the General Assembly (GA) adopted a common definition of the concept.[1]

The human security approach broadens the scope of security analysis and policy from territorial security to the security of people. The 2012 GA Resolution stresses the role of "Member States in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to survival, livelihood and dignity of their people". In other words, threat(s) to – and values under threat in – people's lives are the key starting point of a human security report.

The 1994 HDR highlighted two major components of human security: 'freedom from fear' and 'freedom from want'. These freedoms, from the preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, are part of the four human freedoms that President Franklin D. Roosevelt famously referred to in a speech in 1941. He was advocating a world founded on: freedom of speech and expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear.[2] Subsequent debate in the 1990s added the freedom 'to live in dignity'.

The 1994 HDR was more specific, listing seven essential dimensions of human security:

- Economic
- Health
- Personal
- Political
- Food
- Environmental
- Community

This list is neither comprehensive nor definitive, and the UN Charter refers more flexibly to 'fundamental freedoms'. National and regional HDRs aiming to address varying categories of threats and values can use the human security approach in analyzing the topic. Previous reports based on the human security approach have, for example, dealt with social exclusion, modernization and climate change; they have used examples where the State has been a threat; or explored possible future threats. Human security is a flexible approach and can be tailored to different contexts and topics, according to the specific context. No matter which topic is addressed, a guiding principle of the human security approach is that it requires understanding the particular threats experienced by particular groups of people, as well as the participation of those people in the analysis process. Threats to human security can exist at all levels of development. They can emerge slowly and silently or appear suddenly and dramatically.

Central to the approach is the idea that people have 'the right to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair… with an equal opportunity to enjoy all their rights and fully develop their human potential.'[3]

1 UN General Assembly, 66th Session "Follow-up to paragraph 143 on human security of the 2005 World Summit Outcome" (A/RES/66/290), 25 October 2012.

2 Franklin Delano Roosevelt's address to the United States Congress, January 6 1941, chapter 36. See http://www.wwnorton.com/college/history/ralph/workbook/ralprs36b.htm

3 UN General Assembly, 66th Session "Follow-up to paragraph 143 on human security of the 2005 World Summit Outcome" (A/RES/66/290). 25 October 2012

At the end of 2012, some 45 Human Development Reports in the HDRO database discussed human security in different ways. Around a third of these discuss the concept explicitly and this guidance note draws mainly on these latter reports. It synthesizes insights from these reports and draws on their lessons for developing an R/NHDR on different threats, using the human security approach. It is complemented with insights from the wider literature on human security analysis.

Overall, this guidance note will guide R/NHDR teams through the report writing process, not least by clarifying the human security concept, how it relates to human development and how it can help in structuring a report on a certain threat, such as environmental insecurity, food insecurity or violence and crime. It will help report teams in deciding the approach for an R/NHDR, using the human security approach. The note and its background material provide ample reference to previous reports on specific subjects that will be helpful.

Country Offices (COs) considering the human security approach should bear in mind two points at the outset:

- Not only reports on violence can use the human security approach. As we explain in the following section, there are at least four common types of human security reports and COs are free to choose (and adapt) the type of approach that helps them the most.
- The concept does not only apply to fragile states. Security, in the broad sense, is important for all societies. The human security approach is flexible and can be tailored to different countries.

Human Development and Human Security: How Do They Differ?

Human development and human security are interlinked but are by no means identical. Human development is a broad concept, aiming at enlarging people's choices and freedoms. Human security is about assuring priority freedoms so that 'people can exercise choices safely and freely' (HDR 1994, page 23) and can be confident that the opportunities they have are protected.

Some elements of the 2012 GA resolution show the links between human security and human development and help with the conception of a human security report:

"Human security calls for people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses…". The first three elements are shared with human development, although human security analysis is focused on threats; the last element implies understanding the threats in order to implement preventive measures;

"… that strengthen the protection and empowerment of all people and all communities" – human security analysis considers multiple providers of security, including citizens themselves. Human security analysis explores using both empowerment and protection to tackle specific threats to people's lives, and empowerment especially links closely with human development.

"Human security recognizes the interlinkages between peace, development and human rights, and equally considers civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;" – thus human security forms part of the family of human concepts (including human rights, human needs, human development).

"Human security is based on national ownership." This is also a necessary standard that all NHDRs should meet."

Getting Started

SELECTING OBJECTIVES AND THEMES

An important initial question is whether the report should make a comprehensive review of the values under threat (usually presented as a list of securities) and the specific threats; or focus on one issue of special interest. Experience shows that both approaches are useful and have different applications.

Multi-issue reports can:

- Map the situation of the country or region, and help identify an agenda for action (part of which may eventually become the theme for a future HDR).
- Explore differences between perceived insecurities and documented threats, within and across different groups and different issues.
- Provide the basis for a future in-depth exploration of priority threats.
- Analyse issues that may become threats in the future, including climate change.
- Promote improvement in a nation's human-security related statistics.

Single-issue reports can:

- Offer in-depth analysis on selected threats (or values under threat).
- Raise awareness and motivate action on threats that are not yet widely recognized, but where evidence suggests they need to be taken seriously.

Based on existing experience in R/NHDRs, we have divided all reports dealing with human security into four main groups. The last three are types of single-issue reports whereas the first is a multi-issues report. This list offers a starting point for discussing the focus and theme of an R/NHDR on human security:

1. **Comprehensive mapping reports** try to cover major threats to all priority values, put them in perspective, and offer ideas on agendas for action.
2. **State-building reports** see state collapse/failure as the greatest threat to human security, and so focus on building a state.
3. **'Citizen Security' reports** focus on a subset of civil rights that is often of particular concern in the daily lives of citizens, notably physical safety and freedom from unlawful dispossession. Such reports could also be called citizen safety reports, but the name 'citizen security' has become more common for this set of concerns.
4. **Special-focus reports,** centered on key challenges other than state-building or violence and crime, focus on some other single threatened value or type of threat, e.g. food insecurity or climate change. For ease of reference, we here call them 'Challenge-driven' or, since the other types of report also respond to challenges, 'Lead-challenge driven'.

There is more to the report conception stage, however, than simply deciding which of these four styles of report to use. The human security approach can be used flexibly; the many threats offer many options for analysis, and so the country context should be assessed very carefully for each report. Some basic questions can help brainstorming during the report conception phase:

- Whose security? Human security work focuses on the security of people. Particular reports may focus on certain target (i.e. vulnerable)

groups, but should explain their selection criteria.

- Security of what? What values are in need of protection? The human security approach considers the 'survival, livelihood and dignity' of individuals. The 1994 HDR list of seven areas of security offers examples of important values, but it is up to teams to tailor their selection of values according to the context of the study.
- Security from what? What threats are most relevant at a particular time and place? One must also decide on the number of issues to be included and how they interrelate. Consider as well the perception of threats compared to their actual occurrence.
- Who can play a role? While recognizing the state's primary role, many actors can and should play a part, including individuals, businesses, communities and international organisations.
- What means for promoting human security can be used? While some common tools/strategies are suggested (e.g. the principles of being comprehensive, contextual, participatory, and preventive), reports should be creative, innovative, and differentiate according to the context.
- Target levels – are there examples of too little or too much (human) security? One should preferably use some form of cost-benefit analysis to explore trade-offs implicit in focusing on one threat rather than another, and on one type of response compared to another (Jolly and Basu Ray 2006).

Another consideration at this stage is whether to focus primarily on *institutional consolidation* or *institutional innovation*. These approaches are not exclusive, but the choice will have an impact on many aspects of the report. The decision to favor one over the other is usually justified by one or more of the following reasons.

Institutional consolidation, often emphasised in state-building and citizen security reports, is most relevant when:

- Institutions for a particular issue already exist, but need to be strengthened (and offer good possibilities for strengthening).
- The relation between particular institutions and the issue is very close.

Institutional innovation, most relevant when:

- The issue is an emerging challenge requiring new institutional approaches.
- The report would like to explore the roles of different stakeholders in the provision of security.
- The present approach to the issues would benefit from a far-reaching reinterpretation.

Some additional considerations in choosing the overall approach are:

- Degree of structural ownership: if national stakeholders are well accustomed to the production of R/NHDRs, it can be easier to deal with sensitive issues.
- Precedents: previous reports could have opened the opportunity to follow-up in depth on certain issues.
- Timeliness: forthcoming events can determine the focus—e.g., approaching the end of the MDG period can trigger a comprehensive mapping report to explore how to set the post-2015 agenda.
- COs, especially if preparing their first human security report, may wish to include issues already conventionally recognized as 'security' matters, in order to show the value added by also broadening the meaning of 'security' beyond these conventional topics.

THE PROCESS

The key steps in the process for preparing every R/NHDR apply here (see Section 2 in the R/NHDR toolkit). But adopting a human security focus also requires highlighting the following aspects.

- Build strong partnerships throughout the whole report process. The process of preparing an R/NHDR depends on established partners and new strategic ones, the choice of which should vary according to the type of human security report and issues selected.
- Broad consultations around strategic choices are important in order to decide an approach and framework. As human security reports are tailored to the context, and the choices taken must take into account sensitivities around the issues discussed, involving all stakeholders is important. The consultations could start by asking what human security means in this specific country at this time.[4]
- Given the novelty of human security reports in some places, it can be useful to identify jointly with all stakeholders a distinctive profile/rationale for the report, to clarify its specific contribution to the nation.
- Involve strategic partners. The choice of emphasis on institutional change or institutional consolidation has implications for which organizations would be of most strategic interest for the report team. A report focused on consolidation would seek a close interaction with the organizations targeted. One focused on innovation could be catalyzed by the involvement of recognized agents of change (Such as those seeking change through advocacy, investment, building knowledge and/or political will).
- Match the budget and the methodology selected. Different types of reports have different budget requirements. Comprehensive mapping reports and those including elaborate surveys are more expensive.
- Consider the need to train people in human security analysis, particularly if it is new to the country, and ensure there is a range of different skills and perspectives present in the report team. The team should reflect the transdisciplinary nature of human security.
- The background papers are the backbone of the report, and thus it is crucial that agreement on all the basic questions about the perspective of the study has been reached and is reflected in the terms of reference for commissioned work.
- The final report can be greatly improved through extensive peer review, throughout the course of the project that gathers feedback on conceptual, statistical and political issues, etc.
- A long-term perspective is important. Human security is an exploratory and relatively new approach, which partly will deliver impacts in the longer term because it can stimulate rethinking and promote new cross-sector linkages. Therefore it is valuable to engage actors in the process who will reflect on the concept and have a capacity/willingness to innovate after they return to their daily roles (e.g. in the police, military, or planning offices).
- Be sure to nurture the technical networks that are created around the report process. The capacity created is an impact of the report and those people can go on to champion human security thinking.

4 As the UN General Assembly Resolution notes, human security is based on national ownership. Since the political, economic, social and cultural conditions for human security vary significantly across and within countries, and at different points in time, a human security approach must strengthen national solutions which are compatible with local realities.

Preparing the report

Once the type of report and process has been decided, it is time to plan the preparation. The process combines three components: preparing the conceptual framework, planning the approach to data, and designing and using the validation and consultation mechanisms. The components do not change very much according to the type of human security report, so we present them in general terms first, and then offer specifics for each of the four types of report.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. Conceptualize the theme: build a conceptual framework

- Agreeing on definitions, terminologies and language – the process for the report conception, composition and refinement will benefit from building a general agreement on the definitions, terminologies and language to be used.
- No idea is beyond discussion. For instance, the question "whose security?" is one of the less explored questions in existing human security reports and often needs more careful attention—in terms of identifying vulnerable populations, exploring improved targeting strategies, and the like.
- Human security usually acts as an umbrella concept, that is, it helps in linking approaches and other concepts that actors use in their daily work related to the issue(s) at hand. We mention some of those concepts in the examples of human security reports given below, but there are plenty more.
- Human security reports do a better job when they link to the other human concepts, especially human development and human rights. Examples include: (1) moving the perception of an issue from one based on fear to seeing it as also an opportunity; (2) strengthening the bridge to human development themes through working with the concept of *securitability*, which concerns people's ability to contribute to their own security, the ability to avoid, cope with and overcome situations of human insecurity[5]; (3) avoiding unnecessary *securitization* of issues that could be dealt with through a human needs perspective on welfare systems[6]; (4) and combining human security and human rights perspectives to identify various ways to overcome challenges.
- Some successful teams have found it useful to agree on a *conceptual map* of the report, or some other *visual representation* of the concepts behind the report (e.g. Benin NHDR

5 http://www.lu.lv/fileadmin/user_upload/lu_portal/projekti/citi_projekti/undp2003_ful_en.pdf (securitability is a concept developed by the Latvia NHDR 2003)

6 Securitization means calling something a security problem, including when it might not necessarily be one. If a subject is successfully 'securitized' this legitimizes resort to extraordinary means to solve the problem, e.g. declaring a state of emergency or mobilizing the military. Further, if something is labeled a as a security problem, it can be seen as illegitimate for ordinary public debate—see Barry Buzan, Ole Waever, and Jaap de Wilde, Security: A New Framework for Analysis (Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1998). Some issues like HIV-AIDS have been presented as security threats but some experts have resisted this approach given the consequences it can have— Michael J. Selgelid and Christian Enemark, "Infectious Diseases, Security and Ethics: The Case of HIV/AIDS," Bioethics 22(9) 2008 pp 457–465; a security focus can be of help in the moment of crisis to raise awareness and momentum for action, but the nature of the HIV threat and the relevant policy responses better fit an approach framed in terms of needs and welfare. For a perspective that frames also understanding conflict in terms of (frustrated) human needs and drives, see Burton, J. W. 1990. Conflict: Basic Human Needs. New York, NY: St. Martin's Press.

2011, *see also* box on page 11). Teams can try to do the same during their consultations.

2. Integration with human development

One common task for all teams working on reports is to explain the links between human security and human development. According to the kind of human security report envisioned, the explanation might differ:

- Integration can happen at least at three different levels: (1) at the conceptual level (Arab Countries 2009, Afghanistan 2004), (2) at the data level (Benin 2011, Costa Rica 2005), or (3) at the policy relevance level (Latvia 2003). Previous reports offer examples, some of which are named below, and new teams are encouraged to explore the options.
- At the conceptual level, there are different aspects noted in the literature, among them: (1) human security criteria help *prioritize* human development concerns and protect the most fundamental choices and freedoms inherent in the human development approach; (2) human security analysis is concerned with assuring basic *threshold levels*, as emphasised for example by the MDGs; and (3) human security analysis is concerned with *downside risks* that could endanger and destabilise human development achievements.
- At the data level, the analysis will benefit from comparing human development measurements with the data on human security gathered for the report.
- The constructive perspective of human development policies complements the threat-focused human security approach.

Bear in mind that human security reporting may involve sensitive issues that require special handling, through (1) establishing deep and inclusive national ownership and (2) robust grounding of the research including support wherever necessary by solid data.

Regional (and global) reports are also helpful for addressing thorny issues at a national level, and offer advantages for dealing with many transnational issues, such as migration or climate change.

3. Data mapping

Data, whether primary or secondary, must be at the heart of the report. Sources can be primary or secondary.

- *If possible include some primary data collection:* Undertaking a survey or other data gathering activity to support the NHDR will increase the chances of having a successful report. Collecting data is a demanding activity in terms of time, effort and resources, so each group has to make a cost-benefit analysis before deciding what to do. In any case, the more sensitive the issue at stake, the more important it is to have solid evidence.
- *Considerations for deciding to collect primary data include:* (1) when gaps in data critically affect a report's analysis and can't be filled by in-depth analysis of existing surveys; (2) when there is capacity and budget to collect and analyze the data in a timely manner.
- Reporting on human security will often benefit from *understanding both the objective and subjective sides of threats* (and of the values threatened) and then systematically comparing them. Such an analysis is encouraged, as perception data complement objective data and may increase the impact of a study. Perception data can be gathered through group discussions or individual surveys, can offer insights about a population's state of mind and can identify ungrounded perceptions (and/or weaknesses in official data). Perception surveys can offer a fruitful niche for primary data gathering for human-security oriented HDRs and offer an attractive starting point for teams: see e.g. Latvia 2003, Benin 2011; several citizen security reports offer good examples too (e.g. Caribbean Regional Report 2012, Costa Rica NHDR 2005).

- Two helpful classifications for thinking about the security situation are presented in the following tables:

Table 1: Perceptions versus evidence

Security	*Perception is of low threat*	*Perception is of high threat*
Evidence shows threat is low	Security	Excessive worry
Evidence shows threat is high	Excessive confidence	Insecurity

Table 2: Expert views versus popular views **

	EXPERTS UNDERESTIMATE DANGER	EXPERTS ASSESS DANGER ACCURATELY	EXPERTS OVERESTIMATE DANGER
THE PUBLIC UNDERESTIMATES DANGER	Time bomb	Public blindness	Expert alarmism
THE PUBLIC ASSESSES DANGER ACCURATELY	Professional blindness	Threats are well understood	
THE PUBLIC OVERESTIMATES DANGER	Unfounded public panics		Society-wide panic

** Beyond this classification are the unknown unknowns which no one can estimate properly.

There are at least two strategies for surveys and they serve different goals:

- *Short thematic surveys devised to deal with specific issues*—e.g., identifying the degree of discrimination towards an ethnic group; documenting public perceptions of specific threats; or evaluating reliance/trust in different security providers. These studies are cheaper and easier to carry out than longer surveys (discussed next). But while careful design can help ensure they provide good information, reports will often require more information than those provided in such surveys.
- *Comprehensive surveys covering a wide range of issues* allow the testing of several hypotheses and building comprehensive measurements or indexes. Devising these surveys is more demanding in terms of resources, time, capacity and coordination but, given the potential wealth of information from them, some reports can make such surveys their main pillar.
- *Consider preparing an HS Index, to focus discussion and attention*: preparing a country index can help synthesise information, add appeal to the report, and help communicate the findings. An additional added value of new measurements is that they can help with a report's follow-up, especially if the data collection is mainstreamed through partnerships forged during the report preparation. The reports of Benin 2011 (*see* box on page 11) and Costa Rica 2005 provide impressive examples.[7]

7 There are several approaches to measuring human security and producing an index.

POTENTIAL AREAS OF ANALYSIS

1. Comprehensive-mapping reports

Description:

R/NHDRs that present an overview of the key threats to priority values in a given country (or region), including challenges that require institutional innovation.

Application:

- Mapping reports can be used to study a variety of threats, including those that are not yet on the radar-screen but which may soon become big issues. They can provide a basis for future reports and inform preventive action.
- Mapping offers an opportunity to ponder the real importance of threats versus the attention society places on them, as well as whether some of those threats are (or could be) seen as opportunities —e.g., migration.
- This kind of report offers an opportunity to examine the statistics used by local institutions for policy and to identify data gaps.
- The design of the report can also be tailored to assess the situation of different networks (seen as security providers) and how these networks protect and empower the population.

Supporting concepts:

Risk perception, Network theory, Governance, Securitability.[8]

Role of perception measurement:

The relationship between objective threats and subjective threats is fertile ground for analysis.

- It can be useful to consider both the personal and social spheres separately, especially to help understand empowerment and to understand how different threats can be tackled.
- Consider using different approaches to gather information on difficult issues—e.g. some sensitive topics might be better covered via written questionnaire than through face to face interviews (illustrated by the Latvia report).

Points to bear in mind:

- The standard seven security categories — economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community and political security — can be used if they are useful for the particular report, but feel free to adapt, or add to them.
- Make sure the list of threats examined includes both popular issues and less well known ones.
- Comprehensive mapping reports cover many issues, so it is essential to frame the report's objectives clearly.
- There is a trade-off between examining all threats or taking a detailed look at fewer threats and their interconnections. It is not realistic to expect that one report can suggest solutions for all issues.
- A mapping report is useful for identifying future research agendas, but usually less useful for an in-depth study of root causes of threats.

2. State-building reports

Description:

R/NHDRs using a multi-issue framework to consider the complexities of institutional consolidation and to help reconstruct a failed, or near-failed, state.

Application:

- This type of report is specific to fragile or failed states.
- Emphasis is often placed on human security providers and the strengthening/consolidating of institutions. That means the question of orienting state institutions towards providing

8 For more information on supporting concepts, please see: Oscar A. Gómez S., Des Gasper, Yoichi Mine: Good practices in addressing human security through Human Development Reports – report prepared for the Human Development Report Office, UNDP, 2013.

Putting human security analysis into practice: The 2011 Benin National Human Development Report

The 2011 Benin NHDR makes a broad array of policy recommendations, following an analysis of the seven securities, and highlights the most urgent issues. Recommendations often target multiple levels and sectors – the individual, the local and the national level, the private sector, civil society and development partners and they correspond with recommendations for enhancing human development. However, they are not able to analyse many threats in depth and instead provide a basis for further analysis.

Comprehensive mapping reports can thus guide future analysis and influence policy decisions, as the Benin example shows:

1. The report developed a Human Security Index[1] and introduced it into the national statistical system. The partnership with the national statistical agency assured the sustainability of the Human Security Index and also made it easier to monitor the impact of the report through the new index.
2. The report also came up with 21 human security priorities[2], covering all the categories proposed by the first UNDP human security report in 1994. While the government (and parliament) must decide the policy agenda, the report can catalyze their considerations.

1 http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/national/africa/benin/NHDR_Benin_2010-2011.pdf, page 108

2 http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/national/africa/benin/NHDR_Benin_2010-2011.pdf, page 25

human security is pursued. The capacity to provide human security depends on an effective state that can manage public goods.

- This type of report could also be relevant for cases of catastrophic disaster and crisis response.

Supporting concepts:

State building, security sector reform, peace building, good governance.[9]

Role of perception measurement:

- Perception measures are useful to understand the instability of institutions.
- Depending on the context, perception surveys also cast light on whether conflict is the main concern or threat affecting populations.

Points to bear in mind:

- Multiple concepts are important in state-building reports and it can be demanding to work with all of them – so be careful to avoid conceptual confusion or using too many concepts at the same time. Human development and human security can serve as umbrella concepts under which other aspects can be elaborated. Remember that the integration can be done at different levels: the conceptual, data, or policy proposition levels.
- Data tends to be scarce in such countries, so the problem of how to get it (including through innovative methods) can be central to the report.
- State-building challenges and opportunities are different in each country, so the structure of the report and its adaptation to context will differ and help determine whether the report has policy relevance.
- Prioritization between topics may be less important than in other report types. As

9 For more information on supporting concepts, please see: Oscar A. Gómez S., Des Gasper, Yoichi Mine: Good practices in addressing human security through Human Development Reports, Report prepared for the Human Development Report Office, UNDP, 2013.

presented by the Afghanistan team (*see* box), the threats underlying the fragility of the state are strongly interrelated, and the extent of interdependence prevents giving a hierarchy to them. Effective institutional consolidation requires dealing with all key challenges simultaneously, notwithstanding the pragmatic need to prioritize.

- State-building reports should have an optimistic outlook that can inspire institutional consolidation, possibly through offering a new development vision for the state.

3. 'Citizen Security' reports

Description:

These R/NHDRs concentrate on a single set of values that are often known as citizen security and on the institutions that deal with that set. Citizen security reports serve as an example of how to concentrate on one specific set of threats/values to help consolidate existing institutions/organizations (see the contrast with the other types of reports).

Application:

- Fundamentally oriented to explore issues of crime and violence.
- Be aware that the broad approach of human security is narrowed by this focus on rather traditional threats, specifically violence and crime.
- It is important to relate the concept to the human security component of 'personal security': lay out the reasons for that explicit focus and ensure that the linkage to broader human security is kept in mind throughout the report.
- This report model is also useful when assessing institutions/organizations dealing with a specific issue—e.g., the police.
- Experience in citizen security perception surveys shows the possibility of sophisticated questionnaire design for data collection.
- This is a useful approach for analyzing root causes of crime and violence.

Putting human security into practice: Policy recommendations in the 2004 Afghanistan National Human Development Report[1]

- The report's recommendations are centered on addressing the causes of conflict in order to achieve at least a minimum standard of security that allows for survival, livelihood, and dignity.
- All development strategies based on human security and human development analyses need to address inequalities between groups in order to avoid failure and renewed conflict. Disaggregated analysis across social, ethnic, gender and regional groups is essential.
- The government should deal with issues of justice and stability simultaneously.
- The government needs to regain its monopoly of ensuring physical security, ending the privatization of physical security services.

1 http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/national/asiathepacific/afghanistan/name,3292,en.html

Supporting concepts:[10]

Citizen security, Fear of crime, Security sector reform, Conflict studies.

Role of perception measurement:

- To compare the level of fear with the actual occurrence of the phenomenon.
- To assess the perceived ability of institutions in tackling the phenomenon.

Points to bear in mind:

- It is fine to do this sort of report using a traditional 'security sector' focus, human security

10 For more information on supporting concepts, please see: Oscar A. Gómez S., Des Gasper, Yoichi Mine: Good practices in addressing human security through Human Development Reports, Report prepared for the Human Development Report Office, UNDP, 2013.

research certainly includes room for more traditional analysis. Make sure though to link the analysis with human development, and ensure that the links are well understood and guide the report.

- The approach carries the risk of giving lower priority to other, sometimes more fundamental, issues of human security in a society and also to the rights and needs of non-citizens, who risk exclusion, possibly leading to stigmatization.
- A major challenge — and opportunity — for human security analysis arises when the perception of crime and its impacts is (considerably) greater than the reality.
- While it seems in principle a focused approach, many different threats can be considered under 'citizen security'. Sensitive issues, such as domestic violence, are often overlooked, though they are important for citizen security.
- The analysis offers the chance for strong and rich policy messages. Keep in mind though that these reports often analyze institutions that are not necessarily accustomed to having their performance evaluated, such as the police, and that objective evaluations of their performance are hard to find, while negative perceptions often prevail. Because of that, robust scaffolding for the report, including solidly grounded data, is highly recommended, as seen in the Costa Rica 2005 and the Caribbean 2012 reports (*see* box).
- Due to the mentioned sensitivities, robust sample sizes are particularly desirable to ensure the data are beyond reproach.
- A careful preliminary assessment is necessary in order to decide on the approach to take – whether to apply the concept of citizen security; to try addressing the issue as one of personal security through a challenge-driven report; or by re-assessment in comparison with other threats through a comprehensive mapping report. Citizen security reports can add valuable inputs but at the same time can have limitations, e.g. if they concentrate too much on the traditional security apparatus, or fail to suggest alternatives when perception of crime is much greater than its actual occurrence.

Putting human security into practice: Policy recommendations in the 2012 Caribbean RHDR

- Perceiving citizens as co-producers of security: the report recommended the strengthening of citizen participation and community engagement.
- Overhauling the justice system, e.g. by improving access to justice through reducing costs and providing low cost alternatives for case settlements or by establishing rehabilitation strategies for juveniles.
- Ensuring that national security policies are linked to long-term development policies
- Scaling up prevention programmes. The report calls for greater attention to crime as a social problem and for programmes targeting the roots of crime and promoting greater social justice.

4. (Lead) Challenge-driven reports

Description:

R/NHDRs that concentrate on a single challenge while exploring its multiple determinants; the challenge is typically found to be open to multiple responses, which need not be constrained to act only within conventional institutions.

Application:

- The model makes a comprehensive review of one selected family of threats (or one threatened priority value).
- The focus on one lead issue allows a sharper focus, and leads to testing hypotheses and connections between different possible causes and effects.

- It can also explore complex issues such as social exclusion from a threat perspective.
- The approach allows flexibility in proposing institutional consolidation or innovation.
- Often these reports can be based on an established conceptual framework (e.g. if the selected challenge is food security), which also provides the opportunity for the R/NHDR to go further and add additional/alternative human security based concerns to the established definition (e.g. Africa RHDR 2012, *see* box on page 15).
- Conceptual clarity and a focus on causes and challenges helps lead to specific and clear policy recommendations.

Supporting concepts:

Other securities (e.g. food security, energy security, water security; perhaps climate security, cultural security); social exclusion, modernity, transition.[11]

Role of perception measurement:

- Perception surveys offer a new lens through which R/NHDRs can re-examine phenomena that have become viewed in a standardized way.
- Lead-challenge survey reports can learn from citizen security reports, as they provide useful experiences in perception surveys.[12]

Points to bear in mind:

- Including more than one lead challenge can affect the final result by diluting the report and preventing in-depth analysis. If it is not essential to add a second or third lead challenge, then it is better to discuss those themes as issues related to the selected lead. For instance, a report addressing food security and climate change – two related issues, but huge topics in their own right – is probably better off focusing on one of the two challenges and presenting the other through the framework of analysis established for that first challenge.
- To be clear: looking at multiple threats/causes relevant to a particular lead issue remains essential in this type of study, and adds value compared to more conventional studies in these sectors. The problem mentioned above concerns trying to consider two or more *lead* challenges (leading threatened values) in a single report.

Putting human security into practice – Policy recommendations in the 2012 Africa RHDR:

The report ensured food security was seen as a multi-faceted challenge, therefore policy recommendations should encompass various areas, such as:

- Encouraging adoption and sustainable use of agricultural inputs.
- Investing in infrastructure and developing financial markets (including credit and insurance).
- Creating and applying local knowledge (e.g. via agricultural extension services, which promote new agricultural practices and support to generate and diffuse localized knowledge).
- Engaging youth in agriculture.
- Stimulating individuals to take action for good nutrition (e.g. during pregnancy and breastfeeding).
- Generating public action and nutrition-focused policies (e.g. micronutrient campaigns, behavioral change, food supplementation).
- Voice and participation, e.g. through producer organizations.
- Social justice and accountability e.g. through social audits, access and control over land.

11 For more information on supporting concepts, please see: Oscar A. Gómez S., Des Gasper, Yoichi Mine: Good practices in addressing human security through Human Development Reports, Report prepared for the Human Development Report Office, UNDP, 2013.

12 *ibid*, for more information on perception surveys.

Resources

Background material for this guidance note

Oscar A. Gómez S., Des Gasper, Yoichi Mine: Good practices in addressing human security through Human Development Reports. Report prepared for the Human Development Report Office, UNDP, 2013.

UNDP *Human Development Report 1994, New Dimensions of Human Security* (New York, UNDP, 1994). Available at http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr1994/

Commission on Human Security, *Human Security Now: Final Report* (New York: CHS, 2003).

Richard Jolly and Deepayan Basu Ray, *The Human Security Framework and National Human Development Reports: A Review of Experiences and Current Debates*, NHDR Occasional Paper 5 (New York: Human Development Report Office, UNDP), 2006. Available at http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/NHDR_Human_Security_GN.pdf

Regional and National HDRs reviewed for this guidance note

COMPREHENSIVE FOCUS	NARROWER FOCUS		
Investigation of the context-specific range of primary threats to primary values, and without restriction in terms of how to organize security provision	Focus on a priority threatened means: the State	Focus on a priority set of threatened values: citizen safety, often with main attention to use of conventional security instruments	Focus on a selected, context-specific primary threatened value or primary threat, without restriction in terms of how to organize security provision
Comprehensive mapping reports ◆ Arab Countries (2009) ◆ Benin (2011) ◆ Kenya (2006) ◆ Latvia (2003) ◆ Thailand (2009)	**State-building reports** ◆ Afghanistan (2004) ◆ Democratic Republic of Congo (2008) ◆ Occupied Palestinian Territories (2009/10)	**'Citizen security' reports** ◆ Caribbean (2012) ◆ Costa Rica (2005) ◆ Philippines (2005)	**Lead-challenge driven reports** ◆ Africa (2012) ◆ Chile (1998) ◆ Macedonia (2001) ◆ Mali (2009) ◆ Senegal (2010)

Other relevant literature, resources, stakeholders for human security analysis

The **report database of the Human Development Report Office**, includes all reports drafted on the subject of Human Security:

National reports
http://hdr.undp.org/xmlsearch/reportSearch?y=*&c=n&t=human_security_and_conflicts&lang=en&k=&orderby=year

Regional reports
http://hdr.undp.org/xmlsearch/reportSearch?y=*&c=r&t=human_security_and_conflicts&lang=en&k=&orderby=year

Human Security Unit, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

The Human Security Unit (HSU) is part of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) since 2004. It manages the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) and supports ongoing discussions at the General Assembly. Its objectives are:

- Underscore the importance of human security for all
- Respond to different situations of human security
- Develop practical tools
- Disseminate lessons learned and foster collaboration

Contact details: humansecurity@un.org

The HSU maintains a list of relevant UN documents and some literature at:

http://www.unocha.org/humansecurity/resources/publications-and-products

Human Security Index

The Human Security Index (HSI) results from over 25 years of indicator development. It was first released at the Conference 'Towards a Sustainable and Creative Humanosphere in 2008 (GIS IDEAS) and as a refined version by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in 2009 (http://www.unescap.org/pdd/publications/workingpaper/wp_09_03.pdf). It has an economic, an environmental and a social component and could provide useful input for the development of indices within NHDRs. Information on the Human Security Index: http://www.humansecurityindex.org/

Human Security Alliance

The Human Security Alliance works to create regional coordination in South and South East Asia for human security through a networked alliance of organizations and specialists that are assisting communities and organizations in addressing their human security challenges. http://hsa-int.net/

Focus on political and personal security:

Ford Institute for Human Security

The Ford Institute for Human Security engages in independent and collaborative research on causes of political violence, the effects of conflict on civilians, methods of conflict resolution, and transitions from conflict to stable peace. We make our research findings available through publications, presentations and consultation to national and international policy makers, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties. The Ford Institute treats human security and national security as mutually reinforcing. The gravest threats to human security arise when governments are unable or unwilling to protect their population from internal and external threats. Governments face their greatest challenges when the lives and livelihoods of the people they govern are threatened. http://www.fordinstitute.pitt.edu/

Human Security Report Project

Analyzing trends in organized violence around the world: www.hrsgroup.org

Human Security Gateway

Related to the Human Security Report Project, the Gateway is an online database of human security related resources: http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/aboutUs.php