

Cooperation and contestation: national and international civil society in DDR and reintegration

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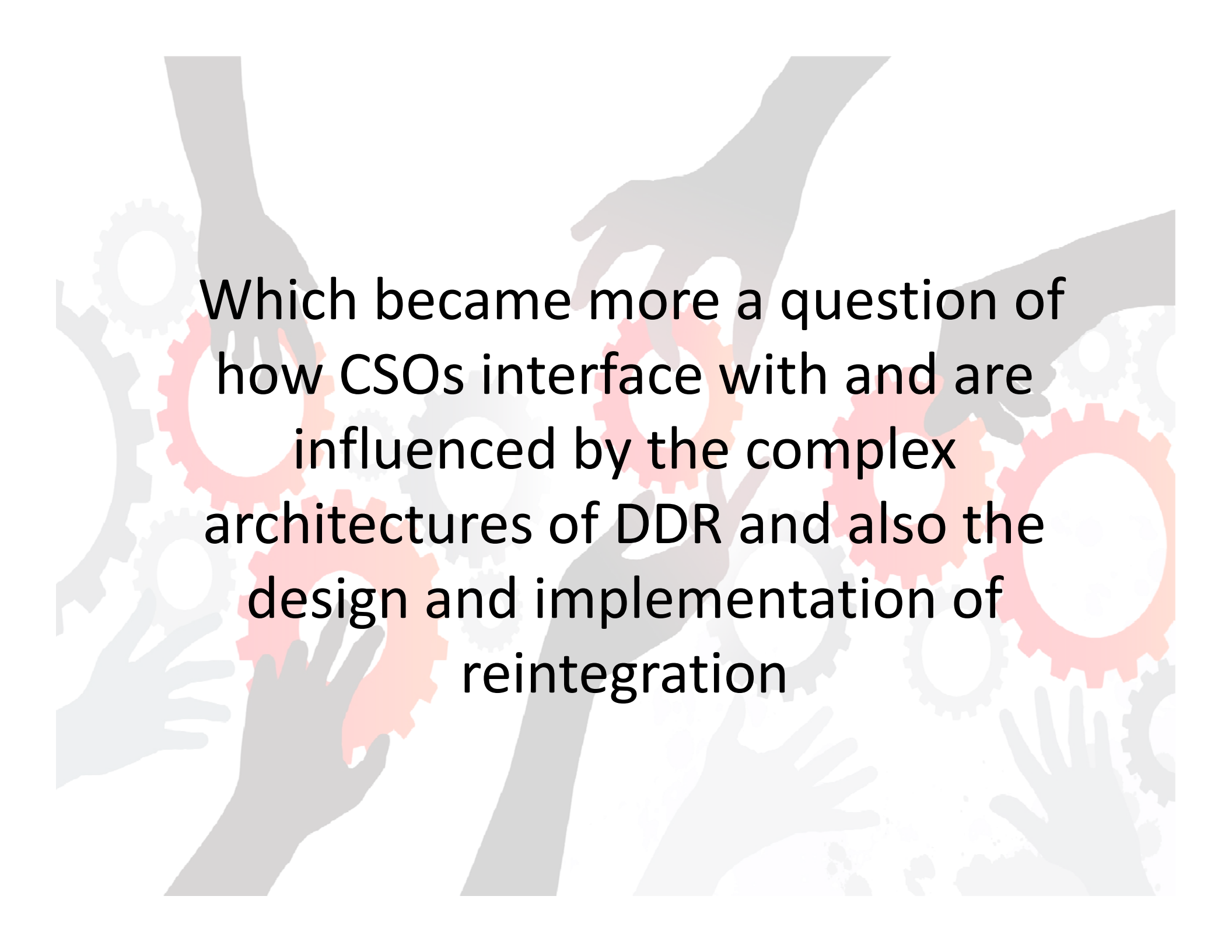
Questions and topics discussed in the presentation

- What are the frameworks and principles influencing the contribution of CSOs implementing DDR, particularly reintegration?
- What are the opportunities for these CSOs to influence DDR and reintegration?
- “The value we add” – the self identified roles of CSO implementing partners in Uganda

Origins of the questions ...



- Lie in a debate over what is the best option for the implementation of reintegration: a national Commission or NGOs?

The background features a complex arrangement of grey hand silhouettes and red gears. Some hands are reaching upwards, while others are positioned as if holding or supporting the gears. The gears are of various sizes and are interlocked, creating a sense of mechanical complexity and interconnectedness. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, with a focus on human interaction and technical systems.

Which became more a question of how CSOs interface with and are influenced by the complex architectures of DDR and also the design and implementation of reintegration

Frameworks, architectures and factors affecting the roles of civil society

- *Standardization* of concepts, terminologies and models and to the importance of principles such as coherent if not harmonized strategies by international donors.
 - Expectations and clarity of purpose
 - Security orientation
 - Development orientation
 - Consequences regarding high level objectives
- DDR *architectures* are informed by bringing diverse aspects of stabilisation and development programs and principles together into a common understanding and approach.
 - Architectures and DDR as process
 - The principle of *putting into practice* requires that architectures be suited to the fluid but specific circumstances of national and local conditions

Frameworks, architectures and factors affecting the roles of civil society

- “Inclusive-enough coalitions”
 - flexibility and responsiveness to changing peace and security and changing development circumstances of the communities in which DDR is implemented.
- Conceptualising reintegration
 - Contested debate but nonetheless, influences the role of implementing partners and the kind of implementing partners required.
 - Sequencing in DDR
- Capacity
 - Civil society in general
 - Coalitions of CSO actors
 - Long term benefits of a robust civil society

The “value we add”: self identified roles of NGO implementing partners

- Service providers
 - Extension of national Commission into communities?
 - Subordinate to and “managed” by the national Commission
 - Supplementing the reach of the Government
- Advocates
 - Influenced by service provision contracts?
 - Giving voice to vulnerable groups
 - Informing political reintegration
 - Confidence in institutions of the state
- Community mobilizers
 - Agency
 - Community-focused reintegration activities and development
- Shared “fundamental principles” working for the same or similar goals
 - and/or relationships in need of greater formalisation

The “value we add”: self identified roles of NGO implementing partners

- Community mobilizers
 - Agency
 - Opinions on community-focused reintegration activities
 - Consciousness of local conditions
 - Addressing barriers to reintegration
 - Contributing to addressing local shadow economies
- Knowledge capture
 - Planning, implementation and monitoring
- Shared “fundamental principles” working for the same or similar goals
 - and/or relationships in need of greater formalisation?

**Conclusion
and end**