

Learning and Knowledge Uptake in Practice Workshop series

The overarching objective of the KPSRL is to contribute to improving policy making and program implementation in the field of Security and Rule of Law. Knowledge generation and knowledge brokering are at the heart of the KPSRL Secretariat's work to attain this objective. By investing in research into and debate and engagement about new and emerging insights and issues, lessons learned, and best practices, the aim is to foster the uptake of knowledge in the work of policy makers and practitioner organizations, which in turn is expected to enhance its quality and impact.

The Secretariat has gathered significant experience in brokering and fostering the generation of knowledge in the past years. Reflecting on this work and in seeking to continuously improve it, however, a series of conceptual and practical questions regarding the uptake of knowledge in the security and rule of law field has been identified, which the Secretariat would like to explore further with intensive participation of network stakeholders.

With this aim in mind, the KPSRL is pleased to announce the ***learning and knowledge uptake in practice workshop series***.

Between July and September 2018, the KPSRL will organize three workshops on institutional dynamics and the creation of an organizational learning culture for a constant knowledge inquiry, sharing and absorption. Practitioners, researchers and policy makers will reflect on the application of new information to adjust ideas, strategies, operating assumptions and/or activities in SRoL policy and programming.

The workshop series aims to unpack learning and knowledge uptake practices as well as dynamics of KPSRL's community members and to develop strategic approaches for:

- a better use of knowledge and research produced within the community
- the development of a common understanding of pathways to using that knowledge and research for policy and program improvement

The three workshops are scheduled as follows:

- **Understanding and linking knowledge, learning and policymaking in relation to security and rule of law - July 2018**
- **Learning and knowledge uptake in practice: Assumptions, Approaches and Dynamics - August 2018**
- **Strengthening knowledge absorption: pathways and obstacles identified - September 2018**

The KPSRL is pleased to invite you to the 1st workshop of the series which will take place on the 30th of July 2018 at Zeestraat 100 (2nd Floor), The Hague.

More information on the thematic scope of this 1st workshop can be found below, along with other practical details.

Participation: Registration is required.

To register or for any enquiries, please contact Messina Laurette MANIRAKIZA at m.manirakiza@kpsrl.org.

Regular updates on the workshop series programme will be found on the KPSRL's website. We warmly invite practitioners, researchers as well as policymakers from security and rule of law field to join us in discussing why "uptake" matters and how to foster it.

Workshop 1: Understanding and linking knowledge, learning and policymaking in relation to security and rule of law

When: Mon 30-07-2018 9:00-12:00

Where: KPSRL's secretariat- Zeestraat 100 (2nd Floor), The Hague.

Registration: required (kindly send an email to m.manirakiza@kpsrl.org)

On the 30th of July 2018, the Knowledge Platform Security and Rule of Law will host a workshop on the theme: ***Understanding and linking knowledge, learning and policymaking in relation to security and rule of law***

- **Scope**

The critical importance of knowledge in strengthening policy and practice in security and rule of law circles is widely recognized. However, we often fall into the trap of conceptualizing knowledge as a "ready to be used"/automatically transferred package, and policy-making process as a purely technical, rational activity. Our own conceptions on knowledge, learning and policy making often limit the ability for knowledge to translate into action.

Security and Rule of Law work being highly context specific and political, and both learning and policy making being complex processes, it's crucial to unpack those concepts and contextualize them in relation to security and rule of law field, to ensure the uptake and use of the most effective knowledge in policy and implementation work.

This require us to understand *the different bits and pieces that these processes of SRL policy making and implementation are built up from in practice, the role that knowledge plays in these processes and the ways it does so, and what can be done to foster the quality and impact of this work.*¹

¹ "Learning about learning Initiative: KPSRL's Participatory Learning Assessment", Terms of reference, May 2018.

- **Key questions**

Through this workshop, participants will be challenged to reflect on their own perceptions and the relevance of their standards and traditional reference frameworks on knowledge, learning and policy making.

Our starting points are the following:

- Both learning and policy making are iterative processes, and often based on experimentation, learning from mistakes, and taking corrective measures
- Technical practitioners, researchers and policymakers jointly build policy

and based on that, we try to reflect on the following questions:

- what do we mean when we talk about knowledge, learning and policymaking in relation to SRL policy and programming?
- What type(s) of knowledge are we referring to?
- What is the importance of political context factors?
- What policy sector or internal dynamics do we need to understand to better influence policy processes(at various levels)?
- How do we connect knowledge, learning and policy making(at various levels) on daily basis?