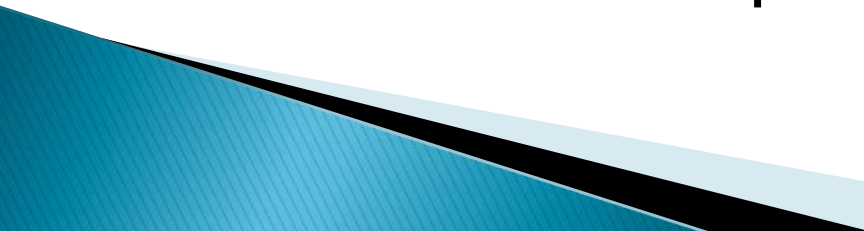


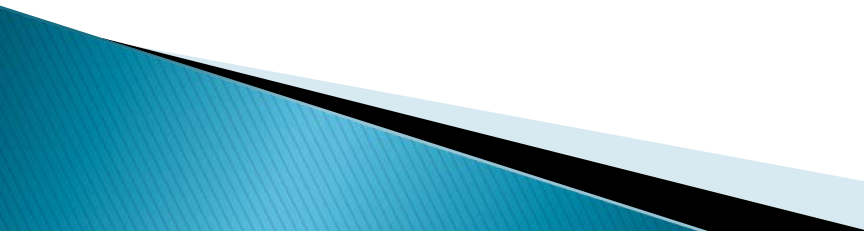
REIMAGINING PEACEBUILDING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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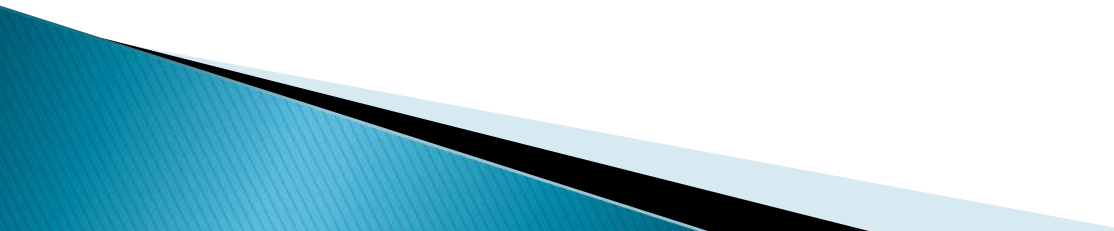
Structure of the Presentation

- ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ The ambiguities and contradictions in both the understanding of peacebuilding and activities that need to go into peacebuilding mechanisms
 - ▶ Challenges of reorienting political and security settings after violence
 - ▶ How to effectively implement DDR programme
 - ▶ Need for reinterpretation of peacebuilding
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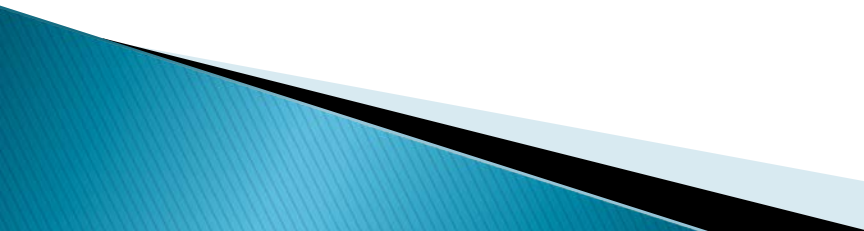
Introduction

- ▶ Post-conflict societies are faced with the challenge of altering and reconfiguring their societies after debilitating violence
 - ▶ Southern Africa is not immune to this
 - ▶ In southern Africa, the questions are how to reorient the political and security milieu after violence; how to effectively implement DDR and more importantly how to restore trust and rehabilitate ex-combatants
 - ▶ This presentation argues for a reinterpretation of peacebuilding
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Understanding Peacebuilding

- ▶ The concept of peacebuilding has moved from a narrow understanding to a more broadened, expansive (including social and psychological reconstruction, systems of governance).
 - ▶ Mechanisms of ensuring peacebuilding has also mutated (importance of developing peacebuilding approaches which are holistic, inclusive and long-term in their thinking).
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Southern Africa

- ▶ SADC countries have undergone major political and security changes since the 1990s
 - ▶ Constitutional issues, democratic elections, political party building are some of the challenges affecting the region
 - ▶ In addition there are ethno-political, social and cultural disparities
 - ▶ Not only are these experienced in post conflict societies but also in countries that are not at war
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Reinterpreting Peacebuilding

- ▶ Reinterrogate peacebuilding theories and approaches
- ▶ Rethink peacebuilding approaches and activities by bringing in:
 - ▶ Democratisation and empowerment for political participation
 - ▶ – Constitution building and the role of elections
 - ▶ – Human rights and peace-building
 - ▶ – The role of gender in peace-building

Rethinking Peacebuilding

- ▶ Support for sustainable socio-economic development
 - ▶ – The role of development co-operation and peace-building
 - ▶ – Disarmament, demobilisation and security
 - ▶ – Education and peace-building
 - ▶ – Information dissemination and peace-building
 - ▶ – Networking and peace-building
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