**Building Standardization and Interoperability through Cooperation**

**NATO DEEP Perspective**

Summary of the presentation

To support the implementation of the defence education component of PAP-DIB, in 2006, Allies agreed the Education & Training for Defence Reform Initiative (EAPC(C)D(2006)0011). In 2007, in accordance with the tasking set out in para 28, tire 4, the NATO International Staff (IS), together with the Partnership for Peace Consortium of Defence Academies and Security Studies Institutes (PfP Consortium), launched the Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP).

DEEP is one of the core elements of the Defence and Related Security Capacity Building (DCB) initiative as set out in PO(2014)0582 and confirmed in 2014 in Wales, where Allied Heads of State and Government stated that “…We will continue to build defence capacity and interoperability through such initiatives as the Defence Education Enhancement Programme…” (Wales Summit Declaration, Para. 81).

DEEP is a flexible, effective and efficient tool to support partner nations in development of their military education. Through DEEP, the Alliance advises partners on how to build, develop and reform educational institutions in defence and security domain. It enables, supports and sustains any assistance offered by NATO and Allies bilaterally. It strives to build intellectual interoperability which enables tactical interoperability as well as standardize key takeaways from military education at different levels.

***Five pillars of DEEP:***

* **Curriculum Development (What to teach?).** DEEP helps interested partner institutions to develop their teaching curricula and to enable their faculties to teach new subjects. It also develops reference curricula, designed to conform to Alliance education standards, available to all interested nations.
* **Faculty Development (How to teach?).** DEEP organises exchange of best practices and experience in teaching methodologies for the classroom (e.g., how to determine learning objectives, create a lesson plan, ask questions, measure student knowledge, etc.) among faculties and assists through peer-to-peer advice and assistance.
* **Institutional Reforms (How to do it in practice?).** DEEP helps individual partner countries tomodernise and professionalise the organisational structure of their educational institutions. It also helps to review or establish national concepts of military education to guide those institutions through the educational process at all levels.
* **English language training and testing in accordance with STANAG 6001.** Since English is NATO’s operational language, many DEEP military educational institutions have received assistance in developing their language programs. DEEP works through BILC (Bureau for International Language Coordination), which is a community of language teaching and testing professionals from the defence ministries and defence-sponsored organisations of some 45 countries. It is NATO’s consultative and advisory body for language training and testing issues. The main objective is to extend NATO support in the fields of language training, education, and language assessment.
* **Advanced Distributed Learning (e-learning).** To support building capacity in the e-learning area,DEEPcreated eAcademy, which offers tailored assistance in the creation of learning management systems, electronic courses, and instructors’ and administrators’ training in addition to hosting a plethora of electronic courses on DEEP ADL Portal.

There are **15 active individual country DEEP programmes**: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Mauritania, the Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Serbia, Tunisia, and Ukraine.

***How DEEP country programmes work***

A country programme starts with a request from a partner nation followed by a scoping visit of a multinational team of experts. During the scoping visit both sides agree on an action plan. An annual programme review is conducted every year to evaluate past activities and plan the activities for the following year.

The Defence Education Clearing House, meeting annually, helps identify and meet partner needs and harmonise bilateral efforts by nations while also developing synergies and cooperation between DEEP programmes

To carry out the activities with partner nations, DEEP recruits experts from national Defence Education Institutions in NATO and Partner nations. The PfP Consortium and George Marshall Center assist recruiting on the US side. DEEP recruits European and Canadian experts. More than 75 PME institutions providing support from more than 900 officer, NCO and civilian Subject Matter Experts on an annual basis.

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