

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PEACEKEEPING TRAINING CENTERS, BANGLADESH 2022

Incorporating Digital Transformation into Peace Operations Training



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Aims of the strategy

- Enhance situational awareness.
- Build peacekeeping data systems and encourage use of technology.
- Boost uniformed safety and security.
- Recognize Member States as an integral actor.
- Level the playing field by supporting T/PCCs.



Current baseline in peace operations & T/PCCs

- Member States different levels of use and access to digital technologies: bandwidth; data storage; mismatched requirements and access.
- For example, Uruguay deploys micro-UAVs and C-IED jammers; Viet Nam deploys short range UAVs; Ghana plans to deploy drones; and Germany deploy mobile apps for background checks.
- Peacekeeping training centres have varying levels of access and use of technology ranging from computers to simulation software.



A better understanding of the capacities is needed

Training Needs Assessment

• A TNA may be conducted in phase two of the Leveraging Technology Project.

Light Coordination Mechanism

- LCM survey in early phases to all Member States.
- Findings may include: updates on onboarding, training and readiness pre-deployment.
- Survey can include digital technologies needs and gaps of T/PCCs
- Survey summer 2023.



Issues to address in pre-deployment training

- A more systematic approach is needed from and for T/PCCs
- Digital technology training often a one-off, but must be maintained across rotations
- Women must be included in a digital-ready peacekeeping force
- How to address different technology capacities among T/PCCs



Doctrine, training, equipment

- Standard setting to be in conjunction with T/PCCs
- Training capacity is required to level the playing field
 - Strengthen technological awareness
 - Equip T/PCCs with digital tools
 - Develop requisite digital training
 - Utilize data driven tools to analyze and prioritize threats
 - Provide appropriate technological solutions
- Contingent-owned equipment vs. UNowned equipment



Short-term training issues

- Post-COVID, T/PCCs have greater acceptance of e-learning.
- Personnel are required to learn digital training development skills.
- Member State trainers need to adopt digital skills.
- Training is required to ensure interoperability and utilization.
- Training is needed on mis/disinformation and hate speech.
- Greater emphasis on digital technology should not come at the expense of full representation of T/PCC participation in peacekeeping.



Challenges to digital transformation

- Increased use of technologies may increase vulnerabilities:
 - Attacks from TAGs/sponsors
 - · Information leaks & data theft
 - Cyber threats
 - Mis/disinformation
- Digital threats need to be considered and responses needed
- Need to enhance interest in technology
- "Openness" of peacekeeping and Member State scrutiny may be antithetical to national technology security standards



Next steps for the Department of Peace Operations

- Identify current levels of digital technology in T/PCCs.
- Include digital technology tools for cyber-crime and cyber security prevention, counter UAV technology, greater use of satellite imagery, GPS tracking of vehicles and equipment, and expand radio and mobile satellite phone monitoring.
- Decisions on what is UNOE and what is COE.
- First timeline is the Jan 2023 COE working group.



What are some good practices and lessons learned? (Spare slide)

- UNITE Aware a positive tool for decision-making processes and visualizing situations
- Requires specialised training to utilize effectively
- Senior leadership training includes digital learning tools
- E-learning can provide pre-course knowledge and screen participants

