TRIANGULAR PARTNERSHIP
Uniting Troop Contributors, other UN Member States and UN Field Support for Stronger Peacekeeping

CONTEXT
With some 125,000 troops deployed in often remote and demanding locations with weak infrastructure, UN-supported peacekeeping operations need strong enabling capacities. To strengthen military engineering units across peacekeeping missions in Africa, the UN and Member States launched a Triangular Partnership Project.

The Project brings together African troop-contributing countries, other UN Member States and the UN Department of Field Support (DFS). The goal is to enhance the capacity of African military engineering units through professional training and equipment. Trained units can then help peacekeeping missions set up and operate more rapidly.

The triangular partnership concept is a direct outcome of the 2014 UN Peacekeeping Summit and follows up on the recommendations of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) of 2015.

Designed for flexible expansion beyond military engineering, the Project offers ongoing and growing opportunities to foster partnerships between troop contributors and financial supporters of UN peacekeeping across two key objectives.

OBJECTIVES

TRAIN
Train units in horizontal engineering tasks, operating and maintaining heavy equipment, and delivering results at short notice

EQUIP
Procure equipment under UN-management and deploy to support training or operation in ongoing peacekeeping operations

TRIANGULAR MODEL

Engineering Units from African Countries
Receive professional training to strengthen their peacekeeping capacity

United Nations Field Support
Facilitates, plans and manages project implementation

Supporting UN Member States
Provide trainers, equipment, funding and other support

BENEFITS

TROOP CONTRIBUTORS
Opportunities to build long-term capacity for stronger military engineering capabilities

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS
Opportunity to flexibly support enabling capacity in peacekeeping missions

UNITED NATIONS
Enlarged pool of military engineering units to enable rapid deployment of peacekeeping missions

CROSS-CUTTING BENEFITS
- Potential to replicate the concept to other enabling capacities for medical services or communication
- Standardization of training and essential equipment requirements for UN peacekeeping
- Ability to support the rapid deployment of mission facilities in complex environments

SUPPORTED ENGINEERING CAPACITIES

- Road construction and repair
- Airfield construction and repair
- Helipad construction and repair
- Campsite preparation and repair
- Transport and recovery
- Borehole and well-drilling
- Military bridging and repair
A six-week trial to prove the concept was successfully conducted from 7 September to 16 October 2015.

The trial course supported 10 trainees from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania. They were trained in operating and maintaining heavy engineering equipment.

Two training sessions for Kenyan military engineering contingents are underway at the Humanitarian Peace Support School in Nairobi. In each session, 18 Japanese instructors train 30 Kenyan Army engineers.

A trial training-of-trainers course for 8 trainees from Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania is being conducted by Swiss instructors at the Humanitarian Peace Support School.

A curriculum development and integration workshop for the training was conducted in March 2016 to identify guidelines and key training modules.

A Training Needs Analysis (TNA) for the first nominated African TCC (Kenya) was conducted in May 2016 to identify critical capacity gaps.

Two courses at the static facility, one mobile training course, and one training-of-trainers course every year (subject to support from Member States and African Troop Contributors).

Sets of UN-managed equipment to be provided by the Project to support the deployment of trained units to active missions.

Expanding the triangular concept, inter alia, to medical services or communication (subject to support from Member States and African Troop Contributors).

Consultations by the High-level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations (HIPPO) revealed a strong interest in strengthening UN capabilities through the triangular partnership model. In his response to the panel's recommendations in the report "The Future of UN Peace Operations (S/2015/682)," the Secretary-General designated the partnership project a key tool for uniformed capability development.

The UN General Assembly’s Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) also stressed the need to assist in the development of regional and sub regional organizations’ ability to deploy peacekeeping forces rapidly in support of the UN and African Union peacekeeping operations, including through the triangular partnership model.

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