



UNCAP

UNITED NATIONS ACADEMY FOR PEACE OPERATIONS



CONTEXT

With over 100,000 authorized personnel deployed in often remote and high-risk locations, United Nations-supported peacekeeping operations require specialized and high-performing communication and technological capabilities to guarantee the flow of information between leadership, military, police and civilians.

The United Nations C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance) Academy for peace operations (UNCAP) training and capacity-building vision, governance framework, strategies, and future opportunities are critical aspects to consider in modern peacekeeping operations. UNCAP can enhance operational capabilities, improve decision-making processes, and ultimately contribute to more effective and successful peacekeeping missions.

OBJECTIVES

- » Support Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) objectives
- » Enhance preparedness of military signals, police information and communications technology (ICT) specialists and other targeted uniformed personnel prior to deployment in UN missions
- » Support the objective to increase women participation in UN Peacekeeping

VISION

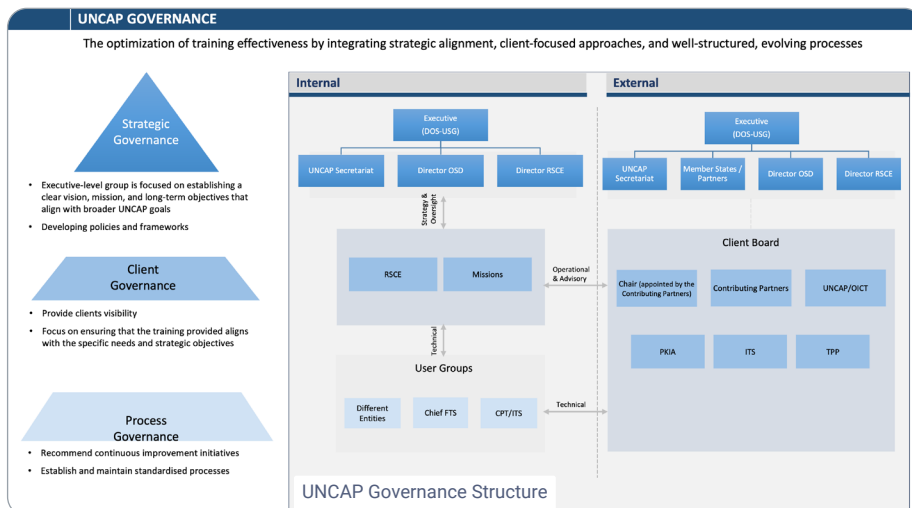
The UNCAP vision aims at establishing a seamless flow of information and communication for enhanced situational awareness and coordinated decision-making. Enhanced interoperability improves coordination, information exchange and collaboration among peacekeeping forces, leading to more effective mission outcomes by:

- » Prioritising the integration and interoperability of C4ISR systems across all components of peacekeeping operations. This includes military, police, civilian personnel, and international and regional partners.
- » Providing peacekeeping personnel with the tools and training to gather, analyse and disseminate relevant information in real-time. This includes leveraging sensors, surveillance systems, and intelligence analysis tools to improve situational awareness and support timely and informed decision-making.
- » Promoting the development of agile and adaptive capabilities in C4ISR training. This involves equipping peacekeeping personnel with the skills to quickly adapt to changing operational environments, leverage emerging technologies, and effectively respond to evolving threats and challenges.
- » Emphasising the importance of collaboration and partnerships with technology providers, training institutions, and other stakeholders. This includes fostering cooperation in research and development, knowledge sharing, and joint training exercises to enhance C4ISR capabilities in peacekeeping operations.

UNCAP TRAINING & CAPACITY-BUILDING GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The governance framework for C4ISR training and capacity-building in peacekeeping operations focuses on:

- » Setting strategic oversight, monitoring performance, and integrating stakeholders' perspectives to ensure value-added services and user satisfaction.
- » Transparent allocation and use of time and resources.
- » The continuous interaction between stakeholders based on the agreed terms and conditions included in the approved grants and resources.
- » Standardizing training programs and procedures. This ensures that all personnel involved in peacekeeping missions receive consistent and comprehensive training in C4ISR technologies and practices.
- » Covering various aspects of C4ISR, including command and control systems, communications protocols, intelligence gathering and surveillance techniques. The curriculum is regularly updated to incorporate technological advancements and evolving operational requirements.
- » Outlining the delivery mechanisms for C4ISR training, such as instructor-led courses, simulations, hands-on exercises and online modules. It also emphasizes the importance of practical training in real or simulated operational environments to enhance the skills and readiness of peacekeeping personnel.
- » Establishing criteria for certification and evaluation of C4ISR training. It defines the competencies and performance standards that peacekeeping personnel need to achieve and provides mechanisms for assessing their proficiency and effectiveness in utilizing C4ISR capabilities.





WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- » As highlighted in the Santos Cruz Report, "Improving Security of United Nations Peacekeepers" (2017), between 2014 and 2017, a consistent increase in peacekeeper fatalities resulted in 195 deaths. With 56 fatalities, 2017 was the deadliest single year on record since 1994.
- » Fatalities are occurring because personnel are unprepared regarding training and equipment to deter and respond to hostile acts. In this respect, improving capacity has been identified by the Report as one of the critical areas where the UN and Member States must act.
- » The project is in line with the recommendations from the Secretary-General Report on a mechanism to fill uniformed capability gaps. The Report is a response to UN Security Council Resolution 2378 (2017) and identifies enhancing specialized capabilities through targeted training and capacity building support and triangular partnership projects as a high-level priority.

PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

The academy, managed by the Department of Operational Support (DOS) and the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), adopts the triangular partnership framework for the UN and its supporting Member States to provide training and capacity building assistance to uniformed peacekeepers.



UNCAP Partners and Donors

APPROACH

The project offers flexible opportunities to foster partnerships between troop and police contributors (TCCs/PCCs) and financial supporters of UN peacekeeping **around two key objectives:**



TRAIN

Provide standardized and mission-specific training on field technologies to UN military and police signals personnel:

- » **On-site training** delivers courses at RSCE training facilities in Entebbe (pre-deployment; train-the-trainers)
- » **Mobile training** provides training in missions through mobile training teams (induction and continuous learning)
- » **E-learning and Virtual instructor-Led training (VILT)** online training.



EQUIP

- » Procure UN-owned equipment to support training.



VILT room, RSCE, Entebbe

Women's Outreach Course, 11-22 Sep 2023, RSCE



ICT Training of Trainers, 23 Oct-2 Nov 2017, RSCE



BENEFITS



TROOP CONTRIBUTORS

Better coordination & interoperability between contingents from different countries



FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Opportunity to flexibly support enabling capacity in peacekeeping missions



UNITED NATIONS

Enlarged pool of UN personnel with strengthened communication and technological capacities



CROSS-CUTTING BENEFITS

- » Enhanced performance and efficiency of signals staff, in line with UN standard operational requirements
- » Improved gender equality among signals personnel
- » Economies of scale for missions' operations

ACHIEVEMENTS

- » To date, more than **16,158 ICT uniformed specialists (16% female) from 130 countries** have been trained.
- » **Eleven editions of the Women's Outreach Course** for women ICT uniformed specialists have been organized, training 264 female officers from 63 countries.
- » **One Hundred and fourteen course graduates (25%)** have been deployed as signals/ICT staff officers, military observers, and police advisors. Some of them are among the first female to be deployed to signals staff officers' positions.
- » **E-learning** has reinforced traditional classroom-based training through its flexibility in terms of reach, time, mobility and language.
- » **VILT room** has enabled remote learning.
- » Development of **five new courses (UN PKO Spectrum Management, C4ISR Technology Orientation, UN PKO Cyber Security Fundamentals UN PKO CIS Planning and CIS Technical Instructor Course)** for UNCAP in cooperation with the NATO Communications and Information Agency.

