The IOM preparedness framework aims to provide assistance and advise to sponsoring nations, the military and civilian partners on the transformational efforts underway to enhance education and training, provide inter-operability and capacities, assist in the development of doctrine and/or test and validate concepts through experimentation and simulation exercises.

By doing so, responses are optimized and events allowed to reach successful conclusions, ensuring that life can be saved quickly and effectively during times of crises or natural disasters, whilst also sustaining an environment that is conducive to reconciliation, reconstruction, peace, and stability, along with the protection of national assets.

Through the support rendered during the response in the Pakistan Earthquake (2005), Tsunami (Indonesia and Sri Lanka - 2004) and in Afghanistan (2003), IOM-CIMIC cooperation has contributed to the establishment of Disaster Preparedness and Management Teams that have strengthened and sustained the national capacity to more successfully deal with crises.

As part of the Tsunami Emergency Response in Aceh (Jan-March 2005), IOM partnered with the US Navy, Australian, Pakistani and French militaries to provide medical triage and evacuation services. IOM collaborated with the US Navy Mercy Ship’s Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit-6 Detachment on public health, drinking water quality, sanitation, vector and infection control assessments in 28 IDP camps and accommodation centers.

As part of complex emergencies preparedness, such as that related to the Avian and Human Influenza Pandemic, IOM-CIMIC interaction, through information sharing and simulation exercises at different national and regional levels, continues to build trust and understanding, whilst also developing effective response capabilities.

Due to the increasing complexity of today’s humanitarian emergencies and disasters (both human-made and natural), closer cooperation is required when it comes to the international community’s response in a globalized world. Bringing together solutions to such challenges entails the need for both civilian and humanitarian actors, governments, donors and military forces to work together, quickly and effectively, to save lives, create an environment that is conducive to peace and stability, whilst also protecting national assets.

Since it was established in 1951, IOM has developed its scope of activities and partnerships in its attempt to provide comprehensive responses to complex emergencies. Thus, IOM has sought to intensify interaction between selected military structures, such as NATO, mainly driven by the objective to achieve coherent effects in countries of intervention and through this, achieve a better understanding of each others’ respective mandates.

IOM’s involvement in civil-military interaction has been ongoing since the UN Mission in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) in the early 90s, including coordinating the implementation of the Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) of former combatants with the Department of Peace-Keeping Operations (DPKO) Military Observers.

In 1999, with regards to specific coordination with NATO, IOM spearheaded on behalf of the UN & donors, the reintegration and transformation of the former Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) combatants in close coordination with KFOR and UNMIK, through the design and implementation of the Information Counselling & Referral Service (ICRS) & Kosovo Protection Corps Training Programme (KPC-T). This first concrete partnership with NATO has become a model for stabilization and socio-economic reintegration initiatives in the region.

IOM and NATO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in February 2006 providing a framework for further concrete cooperation possibilities.

Other IOM programmes have also supported host governments to confront the problems related to unsafe migration, including Counter-Trafficking of migrants, the training and capacity building of both border authorities and the police to better process and understand the complex issues related to global irregular migration.

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IOM has developed over time a core expertise capable of applying IOM reintegration methodologies to the unique situation of any given country. The success of the strategies employed by IOM is well documented and despite the economic hardship of the targeted regions, the majority of beneficiaries have successfully achieved alternative livelihoods (Mozambique, Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Colombia and most recently Indonesia, among others).

Over a period of years, IOM has established ties with several of the various NATO ‘Rapid Deployable Corps’ (notably Italy and Turkey), largely stemming from the strong ties which have been developed with the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) HQ, firstly in the Balkans and subsequently through training exercises and events in Germany. And the IOM Mission in Washington D.C. is currently with NATO ACT ‘Integrated Capabilities Teams’ further developing institutional ties.

In addition to routine liaison with various NATO HQs, Brussels diplomatic missions, NATO Member State capitals and in-country military attaches, IOM has become the principal implementer of NATO defence reform interests in the Balkans. The NATO Partnership for Peace Trust Fund mechanism supports IOM DDR and Defence Reform programmes in the Balkans. The Trust Fund allows funds from NATO Member States to be pooled together to fund the implementation of IOM humanitarian programmes that fulfill agreed socio-political and strategic objectives for the region, under the supervision of a ‘lead nation’.

IOM’s goal for achieving sustainable security and development seeks to test new approaches and be transformational in nature. It works to encompass a more holistic approach and aims at promoting and improving training, information exchanges and coordination between all concerned partners, at the earliest opportunity, so that available resources and knowledge can be maximized in the identification and stabilization of common concerns related to humanitarian, developmental and security interests.

**IOM CIMIC EXPERIENCE (II)**

- IOM has seconded a civilian Development Advisor (DEVAD) to NATO’s “International Security Assistance Force — ISAF” (CJ9 CIMIC Branch) in Afghanistan, which deals with issues related to humanitarian assistance, development practices, civil-military coordination/relations (including liaison with UN, Government of Afghanistan and NGOs) and the formulation of policy and tools related to community stabilization and sustainable development in the country.
- Since the signature of the MoU between IOM and NATO SHAPE in February 2006 and up to the end of March 2007, IOM participated in over 30 related trainings, workshops and simulation exercises, mainly sponsored by SHAPE. At these events, the Organization has facilitated an improved understanding as to the humanitarian mandate of IOM, whilst also gaining valuable insight into NATO activities.

**IOM and NATO MoU**

- Exchange information with respect to policies, activities and concepts, as appropriate.
- Participation of IOM in NATO planning and training exercises, as well as associated conferences related to the humanitarian relief phases.
- Exchange of information on lessons learnt, including training and cultural orientation, in support of better planning and implementation of activities that promote community stabilization.
- NATO – IOM liaison in order to establish common areas of interest relevant to strategic and operational planning.
- IOM secondments to enhance civil-military cooperation initiatives, including the establishment of common areas of interest, as well as strategic support in operational planning and implementation.

**IOM/CIMIC INTERACTION**

**IOM – NATO PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE TRUST FUND**

**Bosnia & Herzegovina**

With assistance from the NATO Trust Fund, IOM is supporting Bosnia & Herzegovina’s defence reform process, which is marked by a drastic reduction in their Armed Forces personnel. This programme contributes to maintaining regional peace and stability, fostering economic recovery, reducing unemployment and generating income for Bosnia & Herzegovina’s citizens.

The programme facilitates the reintegration into civilian and economic life of up to 6,000 personnel who are going to be discharged in the course of the defence reform process over 2006 and 2007 and those who were demobilized through a previous staff downsizing in 2004.

**Serbia**

Funded by 12 different NATO countries led by Norway, through the NATO Trust Fund and in partnership with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) of Serbia, IOM provides technical and financial support to complement and further increase the impact of the existing MoD Programme for Resettlement of Redundant Military Personnel (PRISMA).

During the first two years of implementation (June 2006-2008) the NATO TF/IOM programme aims to assist approximately 1,850 redundant military personnel, as well as their families and dependants (categorized as “high risk” by the MoD), to reintegrate into productive civilian life. Micro-credits and/or grants for setting up or joining micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are provided, as well as technical support services, assistance in employment generation, referral services and where appropriate vocational training and other capacity building.

**Montenegro**

At the request of the Government of Montenegro and with the financial support of the Royal Norwegian Embassy, IOM conducted an assessment of the Montenegro Security Sector Reform Plans for the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior and Police Directorate. The aim of the assessment was to support the establishment of appropriate measures that will assist the Government in pursuing its downsizing policies, whilst ensuring the successful reintegration of an initial 2,500 redundant personnel into mainstream society. Discussions are presently ongoing to extend further assistance to the Government of Montenegro.

**Afghanistan**

Funded by the European Community, IOM is presently managing a Provincial Reconstruction Facility (PRF), which is a Trust Fund that serves to strengthen the Government of Afghanistan’s capacity to meet the needs of their communities at large, through requests for projects that are received and supported through the NATO International Security Assistance Force’s (ISAF) Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs).

The projects funded through the PRF serve to enhance the better planning, allocation of resources and delivery of development projects and services at provincial level in connection with other ongoing reconstruction and reintegration efforts from other international partners and local government.

The programme is managed by IOM Kabul who administers the PRF including facilitating the assessment of project proposals, disbursement of grants and the monitoring of activities. This is not only, allowing for the best cost-effective management of the Facility’s own resources, as a gap-filler, but is improving overall coordination, monitoring and information sharing, especially important when needing to capacity build government structures and for the leveraging of additional resources from other entities in a timely, accurate and unbiased manner.