

Peace and Stability Operations Training and Education workshop kicks off

Marcy Robey, Chris Browne, PKSOI

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Frank C. DiGiovanni, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Readiness) Directorate of Readiness, Training, Programs and Policy, asks a question during a plenary session at the 2013 Unified Peace and Stability Operations Training and Education and the Integration and Exercise Workshop.

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Day Three - The work groups explored the “Preserve and Adapt” aspects, respectively. Each workgroup concluded their efforts and compiled their insights, assessments and recommendations across the two days and prepared a presentation for the Senior Leaders panel for the following day.

This year’s workshop featured a new addition – the Marketplace. The intent of the Marketplace was to informally encourage attendees to mingle, share new ideas, discuss emerging concepts and display their research efforts in the form of publications, brochures etc. Many of the organizations represented at the conference erected displays at the Marketplace.

Day Four

Out-briefs to the Senior Panel members – Most of the attending organizations represented by this senior panel were also represented in the Integrated Education and Training Working Group (IETWG).

The Senior Panel Members, consisting of Ms. Pamela Aall, U.S. Institute of Peace; Ms. Mia Beers, representing Ms. Carol Change, U.S. Agency for International Development; Mr. Joel Charny, representing Mr. Sam Worthington, InterAction; Ms. Ann Cummings, representing Mr. Michael Vineyard, Department of Health and Human Services; Mr. Frank DiGiovanni, Office of the Deputy Under-Secretary of Defense, Director Training Readiness and Strategy; Mr. Sal Egea, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Mr. Denver Flemming, representing Mr. Robert Carr Trevallia, Department of Justice; Mr. Markus Geisser, International Committee Red Cross; Ms. Stacey Gilbert representing Department of State's Bureau for Population Refugees and Migration; Ms. Melanie Greenberg, Alliance for Peacebuilding; Dr. Keith Holterman, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Mr. Jason Ladnier, representing Mr. Jerry White, Department of State, Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations; Mr. Rob Lee, U.S. Department of Transportation; Ms. Stacey Nichols representing Ms. Ruth Whiteside, Department of State's Foreign Service Institute; Mr Chang representing Ms. Patricia Sheikh, Office of Capacity Building and Development United States Department of Agriculture; Major General Michael Stough, Joint Staff, J-7, were asked to focus their comments on the following:

- Shaping SOTEW and IEW workgroup efforts toward realistic and tangible outcomes that can be considered by the IETWG and sub-groups and by other attendees and their organizations.
- Any Interest your organization may have in using/supporting the workgroups efforts.
- Potential way ahead to continue efforts between and among stakeholder groups and other community of interest organizations.

The senior panel members arrived at GMU, were escorted to the waiting room, and were given an executive summary of the discussions and findings of the workgroups, presentation read-aheads, and a quick review of the agenda and expectations.

Each workgroup used a common framework (below) which enabled comparing and contrasting joint, interagency, inter-organizational, and multinational (JIIM) challenges across the communities in each of the following areas:

Envision: What are the challenges of future operating environments and the challenges that leaders must face?

Preserve: What is the current state of thinking/implementation in training/education in these areas that serves us well?

Adapt: Where do we need to move in the future (topics/methodologies/abilities) to prepare leaders for the future.

At 9 a.m. the workshop attendees entered the auditorium and the senior panel members were introduced

by the moderator Ms. Pamela Aall, of USIP. Next the members of each workgroup presented their findings to the panel members. Following each workgroup presentation, the panel members asked questions and provided comments about the findings.

Day Two

Day two of the four day workshop began with the participants dividing into four separate workgroups. Each workgroup began with a morning session composed of panel presentations and moderated discussions centered on presenting tailored ideas/concepts by subject matter experts and senior practitioners that informed discussions. The afternoon session continued with panel discussion and presentations.

Each workgroup was asked to approach their workgroup theme with the following framework in mind: “Envision” the environment, challenges and requirements ahead.

Each workgroup offered the attendees the option of presenting ideas, participating in discussions, and formulating recommendations in one of three communities of interest:

1. Work Group 1 - Conflict Prevention (CP): How do we prepare leaders and practitioners to understand - 1) the critical dynamics of how peaceful/constructive competition and latent tensions among local/regional actors can move toward violent, disruptive conflict, and 2) the options/methods/processes available for preventing the slide to violent conflict?
2. Work Group 2 - Conflict Response (CR): How do we prepare leaders and practitioners to - 1) understand the underlying causes and dynamics violent conflict, and 2) the processes and options available for transforming conflict in search of stability and a durable peace?
3. Work Group 3 - Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response (HA/DR): How do we prepare leaders and practitioners to understand - 1) the challenges and best practices of working effectively in a complex operational environment where civilian-military (civ-mil) cooperation, especially with humanitarian and international organizations, is a critical element of success, and 2) the “preparedness” options and actions available that can reduce the level/risk of widespread destruction and suffering?
4. Work Group 4 - Integrated Education and Training Working Group (IETWG): The Integration and Exercise Workshop (IEW) provides the opportunity for Department of Defense (DoD) and civilian partners to collaborate on mission and training needs and match those needs to DoD and partner exercises. Specifically, the IEW provides DoD and civilian partners the opportunity to identify specific exercises where Conflict Prevention (CP), Conflict Response (CR), Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HA/DR) can be incorporated to improve operational alignment and provide leader education. The IEW objectives are:

- (1) Develop agreements for collaboration and/or participation in remaining FY13 and upcoming FY14 Training and Education (T&E) events, including those that facilitate globally integrated operations;
- (2) Increase understanding of partner T&E objectives, capabilities, interests, and opportunities;
- (3) Develop a compendium of training/exercise interests and collaboration opportunities; and
- (4) Identify best practices for improving T&E collaboration.

Tomorrow, day three will continue with workgroups exploring the “Preserve” and “Adapt” aspects in morning and afternoon, respectively.

Day One

The unexpected harsh weather was no obstacle for trainers, practitioners, planners and educators from various institutions to gather at George Mason University, Arlington Campus on the first day of the **2013 Unified Peace and Stability Operations Training and Education and the Integration and Exercise Workshop** . Despite two hour delay of the program, participants started to arrive early waiting for the first work group led by the Department of Defense.

The first day afternoon began with the plenary session, setting the context for the work that will follow. The session opened with the welcome remarks by **Dr. Allison Frendak-Blume**, Academic Director for Peace Operations Policy Program, George Mason University. Former Congressman **Ike Skelton** (D-Missouri) gave a keynote speech to the audience following the introduction by **Frank C. DiGiovanni**, Director of Training Readiness and Strategy.

The plenary session continued with speeches by seven senior leaders, focusing on the question of how to better prepare governmental, non-governmental, and civil society organizations for conflict prevention, conflict response, and response to humanitarian emergencies. Here is the full list of senior leader speakers (in the order of appearance)

- **Ruth A. Whiteside**, Director of Foreign Service Institute
- **Pamela Aall**, Provost of Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding, US Institute for Peace
- **Melanie Cohen Greenberg**, President and CEO of the Alliance for Peacebuilding
- **Maj. Gen. Michael S.Stough**, Vice Director of Joint Force Development,J7

- **Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo III**, Commandant, United States Army War College
- **David F. Davis**, Professor at George Mason University, Peace Operations Policy Program (POPP)
- **Frank C. DiGiovanni**, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Readiness) Directorate of Readiness, Training, Programs and Policy

As workgroups will fill the days to come, the first day closed with initial meeting and introductions for each workgroup.

For more information about the conference visit http://pksoi.army.mil/conferences/sotew_iew/default.cfm

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