

## The NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme

The SPS Programme is part of the NATO Emerging Security Challenges Division (ESCD). As a partnership programme it enhances practical cooperation and dialogue between NATO and its partners. It is based on security-related civil science and technology, helping to contribute towards the Alliance's core goals.

The Programme...

... offers funding for security-relevant projects, workshops and training courses jointly developed by at least one NATO and one partner country;

... provides concrete deliverables and capacity building for security challenges of mutual concern to NATO Allies and partners through scientific and technical expertise;

... promotes Euro-Atlantic and international security, peace and stability and raises awareness of NATO's role and activities through enhanced public diplomacy.




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You can find further information and the latest news about the SPS Programme on our website:

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and Security Programme

## Improvised Explosive Devices Disposal and Search Capacity Building for Iraq



# Improvised Explosive Devices Disposal and Search Capacity Building for Iraq

## Background

This NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) project was launched rapidly to respond to a critical capability gap and to an immediate Iraqi priority area. Initiated in February 2016, it is part of NATO's Defence Capacity Building (DCB) package for Iraq, which identifies Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED), Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Demining as the most urgent requirements for Iraq.

Meeting the post-conflict Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) search and clearance requirements for the return of displaced populations is posing a significant challenge for the Iraqi security forces. This project will generate a cadre of experts and pyramid support structure of master trainers, instructors and operators to cascade training within Iraq. This is a niche area for NATO where it can significantly add value.

## Project Description

The project composes the two major components of expert training and related specialist equipment.

### Training:

- Training of Iraqi security forces, in particular from the Ministry of Interior, in the following domains:
  - **Search capability:** advanced level of individual and squad C-IED Tactics, Techniques and Procedures to enable free and secure of movement in an IED environment;
  - **IED clearance capability:** "Urban area clearance" with a substantial component of tactical IED disposal skills;
  - **Train-the-Trainer (T3) capability:** enable trainees to train soldiers on IED Search and Clearance.

### Equipment:

- Equipping experts at the individual level to safely conduct the extremely hazardous task of humanitarian clearance;
- Equipment will provide protection, reduce the manual work and exposure. It includes:
  - Protective EOD Suit and Body Armour
  - Dual Sensor Detectors
  - Hand-Held Metal Detectors
  - Firing Cables and Firing Devices

## Project Implementation

This SPS project is implemented with a number of internal and external stakeholders:

- **The NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA)** is the executing agency responsible for the overall project implementation;
- **The NATO C-IED Centre of Excellence** in Madrid, Spain, is supervising the training activities, has certified the training curriculum and is conducting an assessment;
- **Selected experts from Allied countries**, will reinforce the instructor team;
- **The King Abdullah Special Operations Training Center (KASOTC)** in Amman, Jordan, is the venue for the first two training cycles.

The project was also coordinated with the **Counter-ISIL Coalition** and other international organisations such as the **United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)** in order to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication.

