NATO OTAN

The NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme

CountryFlyer 2018

August

Developing Practical Cooperation through Science

Georgia has been actively engaged within the framework of the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme since 1994.

The NATO SPS Programme enables close collaboration on issues of common interest to enhance the security of NATO and partner nations by facilitating international efforts to meet emerging security challenges, supporting NATO-led operations and missions, and advancing early warning and forecast for the prevention of disasters and crises.

The current SPS Key Priorities include:

- *Counter-Terrorism;*
- *Energy Security;*
- *Cyber Defence;*
- *Defence against CBRN Agents;*
- *Environmental Security;*
- *Security-related Advanced Technology;*
- *Border and Port Security;*
- *Human and Social Aspects of Security*.

Additionally, the SPS Programme helps to promote *regional security* through scientific cooperation among partners. The programme also helps to *prepare* interested eligible nations for NATO membership. SPS activities often have a high *public diplomacy* value.

GEORGIA

Georgia is a very active partner within the SPS Programme. At present, the leading areas for cooperation include **Energy Security, Emerging Security Challenges** and **Women, Peace and Security**. Below are some examples of ongoing and completed projects under the framework of the NATO SPS Programme.

Cooperative Activities

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE GEORGIAN ARMED FORCES

In November 2017, SPS launched a multi-year project to conduct an organisational assessment on the role of Women, Peace and Security in the Georgian Armed Forces. Led by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) of Georgia, the Slovenian and Swiss chapters of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), the MoD of the United Kingdom, and the MoD of Spain, this two-year project aims to develop institutional capabilities for conducting organisational climate surveys in the Georgian Ministry of Defence. It will also provide training with a view towards improving the conditions for both men and women in the armed force. *This activity is led by experts from Georgia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Spain, and the UK [ref. G5342].*

INNOVATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS FOR MILITARY APPLICATIONS (IESMA) CONFERENCE 2018

As part of NATO's Smart Energy Initiative that was launched in 2011, the IESMA conference has become a recognised platform for bringing together military, academia and industry, as well as civil servants. The fourth edition of IESMA will be hosted by the NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence in Vilnius, Lithuania in November 2018. IESMA 2018 will have a focus session on hybrid power generation and micro grids for dual use, using innovative energy solutions that could be especially interesting for partner countries and other international organisations, including the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisations and the United Nations. *This activity is led by experts from Georgia and Lithuania [ref. G5464].*

ASSISTING NATO IN ADDRESSING THE SECURITY CHALLENGES ON ITS EASTERN FLANK

This workshop, designed as a table-top exercise, addressed potential security vulnerabilities in the Black Sea and Balkans region by developing a set of "black swan" scenarios. Hosted in Bucharest, Romania, in April 2018, it brought together experts on cyber defence, counter-terrorism, border security and energy security to discuss challenges in their respective areas of expertise to inform and assist the Alliance in addressing security challenges on its Eastern Flank. The event, produced in an integrated analysis and the results are foreseen to be published in the NATO Science Series. *This activity was led by scientists and experts from Georgia and Romania [ref. G5438].*

GEOHAZARDS TO THE ENGURI HYDROPOWER INFRASTRUCTURE

The Enguri Hydropower Plant provides 75% of the electric power in Georgia. Security incidents at the dam could therefore have direct consequences for the social and geopolitical stability of Georgia and the wider Caucasus region. The research team of this SPS project studies natural hazards and develops scenarios that could affect the Enguri Dam. It focuses on the potential implications of security risks associated with seismicity, landslides, release of pollutants to this critical energy infrastructure. *This project is led by experts from Georgia, Italy, USA, United Kingdom, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan [ref. G4934].*

ADDRESSING EMERGING SECURITY RISKS FOR ENERGY FLOWS OVER SOUTH CAUCASUS

This SPS workshop took place in December 2016 and brought together representatives from scientific, governmental and security relevant sectors of energy producing, transit and consuming countries, to discuss emerging security threats to critical energy networks and to offer concrete instruments mitigating these threats. The focus of the workshop was on the South Caucasus and the Black Sea regions. It helped to address one of NATO's strategic objectives by addressing the safeguarding of critical infrastructure. *This Advanced Research Workshop was led by scientists and experts from Georgia and Lithuania [ref. G5112].*