Developing Practical Cooperation through Science

Jordan has been actively engaged within the framework of the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme since 1998.

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 forecasting 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.

JORDAN

Jordan is an active partner in the SPS Programme with two ongoing activities. At present, the leading areas for cooperation include Counter-IED, Cyber Defence, and Border security. Below are some examples of ongoing and completed activities led by scientists and experts from Jordan and NATO countries under the framework of the NATO SPS Programme. Activities on cyber defence, border security and C-IED are in support of Jordan’s Defence and Related Security Capacity Building Package.

Cooperative Activities

COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE FOR STRENGTHENING JORDANIAN COUNTER-IED CAPABILITIES

Following on from the training courses delivered to the Jordanian Armed Forces in 2015 on C-IED, the primary goal of this project under the Defence Capacity Building (DCB) package for Jordan is to bolster its C-IED capabilities and assist in developing a more robust national and operational level programme capable of addressing the IED threat. This will be achieved through the provision of a comprehensive training package, train-the-trainer programme, and assistance in the implementation of national interagency C-IED doctrines and programmes (IED Lexicon, Reporting, and Lessons Learned programmes). 

This project is led by experts from Jordan, Spain and Ireland [ref. G5387].

www.nato.int/science
SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTING A CYBER SECURITY STRATEGY FOR JORDAN

Launched in 2014, this Multi-Year Project (MYP) was part of the Defence Capacity Building (DCB) package for Jordan and responded to a key national priority. It supported the country in developing capabilities to defend its infrastructure, mitigate the impact of cyber-attacks, and enhance the overall security situation in the country. The project significantly enhanced Jordan’s cyber defence posture, and on a practical level, established Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT) for the Jordanian Armed Forces; a major milestone in Jordan’s national cyber defence programme. Through training and professional development, the project contributed to the creation of a qualified and well-trained workforce. In addition, two conferences were organized as part of the project to create a network of cyber defence experts. The success of the project was underscored by a decree by the Jordanian Government, declaring the project a national activity. The project also enabled the Alliance to enhance cooperation with other partner nations in the Middle East by developing widely usable cyber defence solutions, and creating regional networks for knowledge transfer within cyber defence communities. On 19 July 2017, NATO and the Jordanian Armed Forces inaugurated the newly establish CERT in Amman, Jordan. This activity was led by Germany and Jordan [ref. G4895].

HYBRID SENSOR NETWORKS FOR EMERGENCY CRITICAL SCENARIOS

This project will develop a rapidly deployable high-performance hazard monitoring system for situational awareness in critical scenarios including hostile environments, battlefields, and areas subject to natural or industrial disasters. It will extend existing static monitoring systems into a more active and adaptable realm. The proposed system will be autonomous, and thus more reactive and energy conserving; employ wireless communication and charging technologies; and may be more efficient than the current approach. This project is led by experts from Italy, Jordan and the United States [ref. G4936].

BORDER SECURITY SYMPOSIUM

In March 2017, the US and Jordan led a SPS-supported symposium on border security. It aimed to better understand Jordan’s overall strategy, current capabilities, and needs in the area of border security. The symposium resulted in a set of recommendations on the way forward, including, for example, the facilitation of a policy review process, to establish a requirements orchestration effort, and to organise a follow-up workshop to look at best practices. This Advanced Research Workshop (ARW) was led by experts from Jordan and the United States [ref. G5343].