

COLOMBIA

 OAS Pillar Security	 Name of Activity Course on Travel Document Examination and Fraud Prevention - Colombia	 Target Beneficiaries Unidad Administrativa Especial Migración Colombia, Fiscalía General de la Nación, Registraduría Nacional, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Policía Nacional.	 Donor Countries United States of America
 Additional Information	Link to web page	 Date	3/15/2016 to 3/18/2016

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Document Security and Fraud Prevention program responds to the evolving challenges in document security by strengthening Member States' abilities to: 1. Secure the document issuance process and improve the verification of identity, 2. Detect fraudulent travel documents, 3. Share information on travel document fraud, and 4. Address issues related to human rights and gender while improving border controls. To strengthen national, sub-regional, and regional capacity of the OAS Member States to comply with international standards concerning the emission and control of travel and identity documents in order to prevent and detect fraudulent use of travel and identity documents.

The Capacity Building for Travel Document Security, Border Controls, and Identity Management project seeks to enhance security in the issuance and control of travel and identity documents on the part of the OAS Member States. This includes promoting increased security in the issuance of such documents, largely by encouraging the development of integrated and secure national identity management systems, as well as more effective control over the use of these documents. With respect to the latter, efforts focus primarily on increasing the capacity of immigration, law enforcement, customs and other personnel responsible for controlling the movement of people across national borders to detect fraudulent documents and prevent their counterfeiting, forgery, or fraudulent use.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the National Training Course on Travel Document Examination and Fraud Prevention is to increase knowledge, skills and understanding among participating government officials of OAS Member States in the examination and detection of altered or counterfeited travel documents and the identification of impostors. Enhance the capacity of participating officials and their respective countries to prevent and detect the use of altered or fraudulent travel and other identity documents. Additionally, these course seeks to promote cooperation and the exchange of information among counterpart authorities within and between target countries, to prevent and control document fraud.

RESULTS

A total of 38 law-enforcement and immigration personnel from Colombia were trained in the detection of impostors and prevention of fraudulent travel documents and equipped with the necessary tools to practice a document examination (UV lamp, pocket guide and 10x loupe). The National Training Course on Travel Documents' Examination and Fraud Prevention in Bogota, Colombia post-activity survey, 84% of participants rated the entire training course as excellent and 16% as "very good". All participants were requested to complete a short quiz at the beginning and end of the course, the results were very promising reflecting an average improvement of 52% per participant.

 OAS Pillar	 Name of Activity	 Target Beneficiaries	 Donor Countries
Security	Enhancing Maritime Security through Capacity-Building	Agencies for port/maritime security in Colombia	Canada

Additional Information	Link to web page	 Date	9/1/2016 to 12/31/2017
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PROGRAM SUMMARY







The Maritime Security Program assists Member States to comply with international maritime security standards and best practices as well as to improve their overall maritime security capabilities on a national and regional level. This is accomplished by training maritime/port security officials to protect passenger transportation and trade; strengthen port capabilities to comply with the ISPS (International Ship and Port Facility Security) Code and other international port security standards/procedures; and identifying the vulnerabilities to mitigate the potential consequences in key ports of the region. The program has two different projects. The first project focuses on assessing vulnerabilities and training needs in target ports and promotes follow-on trainings to mitigate vulnerabilities identified during the assessment process. The second project includes a suite of activities on a national and sub-regional level on key areas of maritime security and national policy level crisis management exercises. The first set of activities, referred to as *National and Regional Capacity Building and Training in Key Aspects of Maritime Security*, include (1) strengthening maritime domain awareness and port state control; (2) enhancing supply chain security and risk assessment and management; (3) bolstering maritime resilience and commerce resumption; (4) improving the design, planning, and execution of drills and exercises; and (5) systematically addressing the critical matter of security IT systems in the maritime domain. The second set of activities consists of a series of National Crisis Management Exercises (CMEs) in the form of table-top exercises, placing special emphasis on resilience and post-crisis recovery.

OBJECTIVES

Contribute to strengthening maritime/port security in Member States by identifying vulnerabilities and training needs through assessments, organizing workshops to prompt inter-agency and regional collaboration, and measuring the impact on the application of new strategies to improve maritime security overall in the Americas.

RESULTS

In 2017, the Maritime Security will implement National Supply Chain Security Workshop in Barranquilla, Colombia. This workshop aims to strengthen OAS Member States' capabilities to secure their supply chain, maritime transportation infrastructure, and broader maritime domain through effective risk management and the development of comprehensive supply chain security strategies. Emphasis will be placed on increasing information-sharing and inter-agency coordination, and the activities will facilitate the development of policies and mechanisms to foster inter-agency risk analysis, and the formulation of integrated national supply chain security strategies. Furthermore these workshops look to train maritime and port security personnel in the aforementioned topics, to increase inter-agency collaboration on a national level, and to promote cooperation among OAS Member States on a sub-regional level.

 OAS Pillar	 Name of Activity	 Target Beneficiaries	 Donor Countries
Security	Inter-American Network for the Prevention of	<i>OAS 34 Member States</i>	Guatemala
 Additional Information	http://www.oas.org/ext/en/security/crime-prevention-network/		 Date 11/29/2016 to Completion

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Inter-American Network for the Prevention of Violence and Crime was created following the Resolution 2866 approved during the 44th General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Paraguay, in 2014. The Resolution reaffirms that the prevention of violence and crime is a strategic priority for the region and instructed the General Secretariat to establish a Network to provide assistance to Member States on the enforcement and implementation of public polices, programs and initiatives in the area of violence and crime prevention. Since then, the OAS Department of Public Security has been working on the creation and implementation of the Network and its activities, which has been officially launched on November 29th, 2017.

The interaction among the members of the Network takes place on in-person meetings that are carried out across the Americas and through its Website, where members can exchange experience and knowledge in the discussion forums, chats and learn more about different initiatives, policies and program in the area of crime and violence prevention around the world. The Website also features a variety of multimedia resources such as news, blog posts, videos, etc., available to its members.

Following the same Resolution a Fund for voluntary contributions was created to cover direct and indirect costs, which will not generate interest and is non-refundable. The Fund is managed by the DPS.

OBJECTIVES

To establish a dialogue and consultation mechanism, and foster the exchange of experiences, information, best practices, data and points of view among member states and different stakeholders on the issue of crime and violence prevention.

To facilitate the interaction and cooperation among different sectors to increase knowledge and promote the development of more efficient and effective policies, initiatives and programs to prevent violence and crime and to create safer and more peaceful societies in the hemisphere.

RESULTS

In 2016, the Network was officially launched during the event “Latin America and the Caribbean in action to reduce homicides” that took place at the OAS Headquarters. Additionally, in the same occasion, the Website of the Network, where the members have the opportunity to access a variety of publications, best practices, news, videos , among other materials and interact with other experts, professionals and people interested in the area of crime and violence prevention was made available through the OAS Website.

In the next months and years, it is expected, through the Network, to provide technical assistance to member states for the development and evaluation of actions, policies, and programs; provide inputs for the formulation of actions, policies, and programs; increase horizontal cooperation among States in the framework of prevention and promote interaction and exchange of knowledge and practices among different actors and stakeholders.

 OAS Pillar	 Name of Activity	 Target Beneficiaries	 Donor Countries
Security	Inter-American Network for Police Development and Professionalization	<i>Police Institutions of the 34 OAS Member States</i>	Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina (CAF); Italy; Honduras
 Additional Information		 Date	7/1/2015 to 7/1/2020

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Department of Public Security (DPS) has created the Inter-American Network for Police Development and Professionalization as a mechanism for international cooperation to strengthen the police capacity to address security challenges. The Police Network seeks to generate police skills adapted to new security situations in the region and to promote the exchange of best practices and lessons learned. The structure of the Police Network is based on a needs-assessment carried out by DPS, with the support of AMERIPOL, which allowed the identification and understanding of the main challenges and knowledge gaps regarding police training.

The Interamerican Police Network is structured in four main pillars: (i) development and implementation of a training curriculum, with on-site courses and virtual courses, that seeks to answer the knowledge needs identified in the needs-assessment and to reduce the asymmetries among the police forces in the Americas; (ii) creation of a permanent network for cooperation with the goal of strengthening the training process through the continuous exchange of information and knowledge between police officers and the training institutions and instructors; (iii) horizontal cooperation that promotes the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices among police institutions (iv) certification of police forces in excellence management.







OBJECTIVES

To contribute in a systematic and ongoing manner to the strengthening of professional development of OAS Member States' police institutions. Its specific goals are: (i) to develop a police knowledge management system based on on-site and virtual training; (ii) to promote a comprehensive and holistic approach that includes continuous training and exchange of knowledge and best practices among police institutions, as well as certification in police management; (iii) to generate greater coordination among Member States to address present and future public security challenges; and (iv) to add scientific value in the professional development of police officers through accreditation of the courses by renowned universities.

RESULTS

In the framework of the Interamerican Police Network, with the support of strategic partners, the DPS has carried out a needs assessment to identify the main challenges and gaps in police training; an educational guide for the on-site police training was developed based on the conclusions of the needs-assessment. The curriculum and the material for this training are being finalized and they will be validated by the strategic partners of the Police Network. Simultaneously, the first edition of the training is being organized and it is expected to take place at the Police Academy of Honduras in 2017. The DPS has also elaborated a mapping of the police institutions and their processes certified in quality management in the hemisphere.

It is expected that in the following years the Interamerican Police Network trains at least 340 police officers to promote the program in the OAS Member States during a one-month on site police course and 200,000 officers on the virtual platform, who will be connected through a network for police cooperation and exchange of experiences. The police network also aims to add scientific value in police professional development through accreditation of the courses offered by renowned universities and foster horizontal cooperation among police institutions in the Americas.

 OAS Pillar Security	 Name of Activity AICMA-Comprehensive Mine Action Program	 Target Beneficiaries Colombian govt, population of 199 municipalities	 Donor Countries Canada, Italy, Japan, Spain, United States
 Additional Information	http://www.oas.org/dsp/english/cpo_desminado.asp_desminado.asppage		 Date 3/5/2003 to Completion

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Comprehensive Program against Antipersonnel Mines (AICMA –for its initials in Spanish), has been implemented in several countries in the hemisphere for the past 25 years. This program seeks to strengthen the capabilities of the Colombian government to coordinate, direct and conduct humanitarian demining activities in the areas of the country that are most seriously affected by the threat of antipersonnel landmines and unexploded munitions. The program supports the peace process between the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. Their 2016 bilateral agreement on a comprehensive ceasefire has opened many more municipalities in formerly conflictive zones to mine clearance, risk education and redevelopment activities. Because of the risk of landmines, many rural Colombian communities suffer severe economic consequences even after the end of conflict. The lingering threat of landmines in these areas also impacts the Colombian government’s efforts to return over 4 million displaced people to their communities and inhibits the restitution of about 4 million hectares of land. The OAS-AICMA program has a unique position in Colombia through its 2003 and 2012 agreements for cooperation and technical assistance with the government for support of mine action, as well as through its ability to mobilize and integrate resources from multiple international donors. OAS-AICMA’s activities in Colombia emphasize an integrated approach to mine action through cooperation with all relevant stakeholders and organizations, whether international, governmental, nongovernmental, civil society or commercial.

OBJECTIVES

Program objectives include: increased access to land cleared for safe use by existing population and returning displaced population; improved confidence on the part of the population and local and national authorities in the quality of humanitarian demining activities; decreased number of landmine accidents nationwide and total elimination of accidents in priority municipalities as population adopts safe behaviors relative to encountering mines and explosives; increased coordination of national and donor resources in coherence with local needs to ensure community support for humanitarian demining operations and; incorporation of all newly identified victims into national rehabilitation and reintegration programs.

RESULTS

In 2016 alone, AICMA provided logistic support to the Colombian military’s humanitarian demining units to facilitate the release of nearly 1 million square meters of land, as well as to permit the declaration of three municipalities as landmine-free. Part of this support includes the ongoing purchase of demining equipment that will outfit an additional 500 military deminers during 2017. The program also increased its own quality management staff from 15 to 48 technicians to permit expanded monitoring coverage of demining organizations to ensure compliance with national and international standards and to inspect cleared areas to ensure their safe turnover to local authorities. AICMA also evaluated and certified 2,500 additional military and civilian deminers for their accreditation by the national mine action authority, significantly increasing national capacity by more the four-fold. By expanding the mine risk education component of the AICMA mission in Colombia, the coverage for these activities was increased from 12 to 22 municipalities. With respect to landmine victims, AICMA provided assistance to 134 Colombians to improve access to physical and psychological rehabilitation services, as well as to vocational education and training to facilitate their socio-economic reinsertion into their communities.

 OAS Pillar	 Name of Activity	 Target Beneficiaries	 Donor Countries
Security		Agencies, sectors, civil society, etc	
 Additional Information	Link to web page	 Date	Commencement to Completion

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Inter-American Committee against Terrorism began implementing the “Fortifying Authorized Economic Operator Programs in the Hemisphere” project in 2014, with the financial support of the United States Counter-Terrorism Bureau. The project coordinates with the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the International Monetary Funds, the World Customs Organizations, and other international organizations to reduce the duplication of efforts and the meet the double sided goal of minimizing risks in the international supply chain while supporting free trade. The project has been executed in 7 countries in the hemisphere and has coordinated with 14 of the 17 Authorized Economic Operator programs in the Americas.

The project is comprised of three missions intended to fortify AEO programs and trains AEO officials: one evaluative mission and two technical assistance missions. In the evaluative mission, CICTE creates a Findings Report reflecting strengths and weaknesses of the program and a work plan for the following missions to address the identified security topics. The activities in the two technical assistance missions include observation of a validation, workshops for the private sector, seminars for other departments inside the customs agency, training in security topics related to the supply chain and practical exercises to reinforce learning.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Project focus on: contributing to the implementation of developed, mature and sustainable AEO Programs in the hemisphere; support the Regional AEO Strategy and the Coordinating Committee; facilitate technical assistance and training for Member States; foment the practice of exchanging experiences, best practices and lessons learned between customs administrations; encourage the harmonization of practices, requirements and AEO program structures to support the eventual creation of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs).

RESULTS

In Colombia, the project has been able to the support the AEO program in various areas. First, after we submitted our initial recommendations in the Evaluative Mission’s Findings Document in 2014, the AEO program has altered the requirements with the intention of being able to include more companies. The requirements were too strict and although in 2014 the program has already been launched for 3 years, not one company was certified. The process has been long and complicated but in 2017 the program has certified 25 exporting companies. Second, the AEO customs officials have received technical training regarding the appropriate techniques employed while executing complete security validations through detailed observations, practical activities and feedback. Third, the project has worked with the AEO team and other customs officials in private sector outreach workshops in 4 cities.

Under this project, 25 companies became certified, 9 AEO officials received specialized training in supply chain security, 300 companies received information about the international figure of the AEO and how to improve the security of their supply chain, and the program modified its requirements to reflect the current security situation. With the support of CICTE and our implementation partners, the AEO program in Colombia is in an excellent position to expand its membership, include more sectors in the program and secure the international supply chain.