

2016 Peace and Stability Operations Training and Education Workshop

Work Group 1

Develop a training strategy for Foreign Humanitarian Assistance



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Objective: Establish a Foreign Humanitarian Assistance (FHA) training and education strategy that is focused on both disaster preparedness and response in order to improve effectiveness and efficiency of timely relief efforts.

Participants: USAID, UN OCHA, OSD(P&R), Interaction, CAA, PKSOI, JS J7 JCOA, Army G3/5, US Army CA, NDU, USACAPOC, MCCMOS, USUHS, USJFKSWCS

Discussion:

- Operations United Assistance (Ebola Support) and Operation Unified Response (Haiti Earthquake) scalable planning and execution of foreign humanitarian assistance.
- Analyzed the Ebola Support and Haiti Earthquake relief operations in order to identify lessons learned and gaps in FHA operations.
- Identify top ten lessons learned
- Outlined initial procedures to integrate lessons learned in planning, training and education models.

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Top 10 Lessons Learned

- Define roles and responsibilities during international crisis response, to include infectious disease outbreaks.
- Be more inclusive in the planning process.
- Prepare for “all-hazard” environments (e.g., HAZMAT, FCM, infectious disease risks).
- Understanding the disaster requirement gaps for host nations.
- In JPME, emphasize laws, policies, and timelines as they apply to emergent and contingency requirements.
- Identify unclassified communication/IT network during disaster.
- Improve coordination and information sharing with non-DOD partners.
- Implement stronger “upstream” and “downstream” coordination mechanisms (e.g., USAID-led MOAs, MITAMs).
- Develop scalable follow-on force packages where hybrid hazards (e.g., seismic & extreme weather) persist.
- Incorporate the FHA education into all levels.

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Recommendations/Way Ahead:

1. Add skill identifiers to individual records – based on education, training, and deployment experience.
2. Clearly identify the FHA training requirements/ competencies for personnel filling FHA mission activities & tasks .
3. Teach/share the best practice of establishing early coordination with LFA/ partners
4. Educate on available resources that contain country or regional assessment and capabilities i.e. USAID, CFE-DM.
5. Increase participation by DOD planners in FHA courses/education (e.g. USAID JHOC, UN CM coordination course HART-CDMHA).
6. Review current country disaster preparedness plans- host nation disaster plans and identify gaps.
7. Create DOD level TF among agency SMEs to conduct COCOM HA/DR CONPLAN review .
8. For operational planners leverage existing exercises to foster greater coordination/ training.
9. Identify coordination/collaboration information systems with non DOD community.
10. Create DOD guidelines (policies) that address the sharing of information during FHA operations, i.e. sharing of surveillance drone video.
11. Provide and support a non-secure communications system (radio, internet) that is acceptable to a majority of the humanitarian community.