Department of Defense
State Partnership Program (SPP)
SPP supports the Security Cooperation Objectives of the Combatant Commands (COCOM) and the Country Teams by creating strategically aligned relationships which posture the United States to maintain our global advantage in Strategic Competition.

- SPP is a Department of Defense (DoD) Security Cooperation Program
- Managed by the National Guard Bureau
- Executed by the COCOMs
- Sourced by the National Guards (NG) of the U.S. States and Territories

The Indiana Air National Guard’s 122nd Fighter Wing hosts members of Niger’s armed forces.
SPP History

- Established in 1993 to assist ten former Soviet Union and Yugoslav countries
- SPP is authorized by law (section 341 of Title 10, United States Code) and governed by DoD Instruction 5111.20
- Focused on building partner military capacity and defense capability thru relationship building
- Now includes one-third of the world’s countries and every U.S. State and Territory
- Continues to grow with an average of two new partners per year

1992: Then-Chief of the NGB, Lt Gen John B Conaway, lays a wreath at the Freedom Monument in Riga, Latvia

Tailored approach per country:

- Developed with COCOM and Embassy
- Senior Leader engagements
- Subject Matter Expert exchanges
- Familiarization visits
- Cooperative training and exercises
- Co-deployments

Historic Areas of Focus:

- Disaster response / emergency response
- Leader, staff, officer & NCO development
- Aviation operations, maintenance & safety
- Cyber defense & communications security
- Infantry tactics
- Engineer activities
- Counter-terrorism
- Military medical
-Building Relationships, Access and Influence-

• Best return on investment
  ➢ Less than 1% of the $6B Security Cooperation budget
  ➢ 20-30% of all COCOM engagements are SPP

• Key Leader Engagement with Presidents, Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, Chief of Defense

• Supports Country Team, Partner Nation and COCOM Objectives (5 Year Plan)

• Whole of Society approach (Diplomatic, Informational, Military, and Economic)
  ➢ Beyond Defense
  ➢ Civic Institutions (Governance, Economics, Law Enforcement)
  ➢ Academia
  ➢ Medical community
  ➢ Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Reduction
How are Partnerships Developed?

**Request**

- Requests State Partnership
- Endorses partnership concept
- Endorses partnership concept & provides request(s) to OSD/JS
- Selects which country(ies) and forwards to CNGB
- Provides information and nomination packets to the states

**Approval**

- Approves of state partner – Partnership activities begin
- Endorses partner selection & notifies requesting country
- Endorses partner selection & coordinates with US Ambassador
- SECDEF icw SECSTATE Makes Selection and Tasks States
- Coordinates w/ OSD(P) & JCS J5; Performs selection analysis and nominates state partner

States self-nominate