

# Press Releases: Global Peace Operations Initiative Promotes International Peacekeeping

Media Note  
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The Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs and the Department of Defense's Office of the Secretary of Defense are co-hosting the 11th annual [Global Peace Operations Initiative \(GPOI\)](#) Worldwide Consultations at the State Department on June 12-16, 2017. Participants from the Department of State, Department of Defense, other key U.S. government organizations, and the United Nations are discussing the evolving nature of peacekeeping; ways to strengthen performance and operational readiness of peacekeeping units; and efforts to address sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers. Participants will also review ongoing GPOI activities, share implementers' best practices, and discuss program priorities for the years ahead.

GPOI represents the U.S.'s primary global investment for strengthening international capacity and capabilities to execute peace operations around the world. The GPOI program accomplishes this goal by enhancing partner-country capabilities to train and sustain peacekeeping proficiencies and by building the capacity of the UN and regional organizations to conduct such missions.

GPOI has created a tangible return on investment by helping to expand the base of capable peacekeepers. For example, GPOI partners have increased their military deployment rates to UN and African Union (AU) peace operations by 161 percent since becoming GPOI partners. Additionally, GPOI is helping the majority of its partner countries develop critical enabling capabilities which are in short supply in UN and regional peace operations, such as aviation, engineering, logistics, and medical support. GPOI is also helping partner countries recognize the important role women play in peace operations. For example, over the past five years, active GPOI partners have increased the number of female military peacekeepers deployed by 62 percent. GPOI's positive impact can be seen in virtually every UN or regional organizations' peace operation around the world today.

For more information, please contact the Bureau of Political-Military

Affairs, Office of Congressional and Public Affairs at [PM-CPA@state.gov](mailto:PM-CPA@state.gov) and follow us on Twitter @StateDeptPM.

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