The Strategy for the Digital Transformation of UN Peacekeeping

BIPSOT, 31 October 2022
The Need for Digital Transformation of Peacekeeping

- Part of a system-wide digital transformation and the 2020 UN Secretary General’s Data Strategy
- The UN Security Council and C34 have highlighted the need to better integrate new technologies
- An A4P+ priority
Key Priorities for Phase 1 of the Digital Transformation Strategy

**Digital Enablement Team & Networks**
- Partnership
- Data Ecosystem
- Innovation

**Governance**

**Capacity Building**

**ENABLERS**

**PROJECTS**
- Enhancing Situational Awareness
- Countering Mis/Disinformation
- Leveraging Technology for Uniformed Peacekeepers

Enhancing Situational Awareness

Countering Mis/Disinformation

Leveraging Technology for Uniformed Peacekeepers
Leveraging Technology for Uniformed Peacekeepers

PROJECT GOALS

- Strengthened uniformed peacekeeper performance through digital technologies
- Improved capabilities for uniformed peacekeepers through digital technologies
- Drive digital technological innovation for uniformed Peacekeeping
Leveraging Technology for Uniformed Peacekeepers

**Initial Findings**

**Safety, Security, and Performance**
- Operations and welfare negatively impacted by limited or no internet, especially in temporary bases.
- Host nations/regional restrictions limit use of new technologies (e.g., counter IED, weaponized UAVs).
- Base/perimeter defense require greater coordination and monitoring/surveillance tech.
- Information sharing across HQ/sector/battalion levels is still lacking and uncoordinated.
- Processes are dated/offline/unintegrated stymying operational/tactical decision making.
- Policies are required for responsible use of emerging technologies (weaponized UAVs).
- Technical literacy and analytical capabilities of uniformed personnel varies considerably.
- Institutional knowledge is lost during rotations resulting in information/process gaps.
- Innovation occurs in silos; there are no clear pathways for uniformed personnel to innovate.

**Processes and Structures**
- Information sharing across HQ/sector/battalion levels is still lacking and uncoordinated.
- Processes are dated/offline/unintegrated stymying operational/tactical decision making.
- Policies are required for responsible use of emerging technologies (weaponized UAVs).

**Skills and Capabilities**
- Technical literacy and analytical capabilities of uniformed personnel varies considerably.
- Institutional knowledge is lost during rotations resulting in information/process gaps.
- Innovation occurs in silos; there are no clear pathways for uniformed personnel to innovate.

**Key Actions**

- Address critical operational needs, gaps and challenges by leveraging digital technology as an enabler.
- Increase awareness of existing solutions and expand use of their capabilities.
- Identify future fit-for-purpose digital technology solutions.

**Project Timeline**

**Discovery**
- Desk Review
- Mapping
- Consultations
- Survey

**Analysis**
- Findings
- Insights
- Recommendations

**Implementation**
- Beginning December 2022
Leveraging Technology for Uniformed Peacekeepers

Framing the Recommendations

Enhancements to Existing Systems
(e.g., upkeep with evolving requirements, UX/UI, integration)

Process Reengineering and Simplification
(e.g., single-source data entry, integration, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning)

Piloting Emerging Technologies
(e.g., Weaponized UAVs; Robotics for Counter IED, CubeSat, OSINT/SIGINT)

Increasing Pre-Deployment Preparedness
(e.g., hybrid training programs, eLearning)

Institutionalizing Uniformed Peacekeeper-driven Innovation
(e.g., innovation labs, training)

New partnerships / structures
(e.g., regional post-blast labs, hybrid teams, industry-teams)