National and Regional Approaches to Counter the Multifaceted Threats Posed by IEDs

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

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Acknowledgments
The different dynamics and threats posed by cross-border trafficking of IED components make the proliferation of IEDs difficult to address and resolve.

The capacity of those acquiring, manufacturing, trafficking and using IEDs and components to adapt to changing contexts and operate across borders suggests that a coordinated regional approach is one of the most effective measures to counter the threat posed by IEDs in the region.

Cooperation and collaboration with ECOWAS promoting a coordinated regional approach to tackle the threats posed by the proliferation of IEDs; cooperation and collaboration with NVISEA promoting a regional approach in South East Asia.
UNIDIR C-IED Capability Maturity Model (CMM) and Self Assessment Tool (SAT)

UN GA mandated UNIDIR to develop a voluntary self assessment tool to support States in identify gaps and challenges in national regulations and preparedness regarding IEDs.

→ UNIDIR developed, through an inclusive, multi stakeholder process the voluntary C IED Self Assessment Tool (SAT) and Capability Maturity Model (CMM), launched in 2020.

Findings generated from the use of the tool can inform:

- National priorities for the design, implementation and review of national measures;
- National and sub-/regional strategic approaches;
- Assistance programming.

UN Secretary General recommended, and UN GA encouraged, interested States to use the Tool. CCW APII GoE uses it to inform the sharing of good & effective practices.

UN GA/RES/72/36 (4 December 2017 ), para. 25; UN GA/RES/73/67 5 December 2018 ), paras. 18, 22 & 28; UN GA/RES/75/59 7 December 2020 ), para. 28; A/RES/77/64 (2022)
Upstream counter-IED activities

- National Policy, Legislation and Regulations
- Security and Control of Explosives
- IED Risk Education
- Counter-IED Capability Development
- Border Controls
- Control of IED Precursors
- Regional and International Cooperation and Information Sharing
- Intelligence-Led Operations

Before an IED incident

Downstream counter-IED activities

- Development of IED Countermeasures
- Judicial Process
- Identification of Perpetrators
- Technical Exploitation of Recovered IEDs
- Recovered Evidence Analysis
- IED Response – Scene Exploitation
- IED Response – Render Safe

After an IED incident

Feedback loop
Lessons learned
Capability Maturity Model used in the Tool

A set of *structured levels* that describe the extent to which *current practices* are producing the *expected results*. Key benefits include:

- Providing a *benchmark* for comparison
- Identification of *possible gaps* and *areas* where process *improvement* may be needed
The approach to countering IEDs is not well defined, and the process of countering IEDs is conducted by low-level units responding with little or no equipment or training and not in accordance with a nationally defined policy.

The State understands that it has an issue with the use of IEDs, and the basic legislative and regulatory framework is in place to establish the judicial basis for countering IEDs.

The State has probably faced a substantial IED threat for some time and has been engaged in a protracted campaign against groups that commit acts of terrorism and that have employed IEDs.

The State generally has a very good understanding of the nature of the current IED threats it is facing and has well-proven measures to deal with IEDs.

The State has a fully functioning apparatus that can deal with the complete range of IED threats. International cooperation is most often based on the exchange of mutually beneficial IED intelligence.
How to Use the Tool

- **Evaluate** each counter-IED component/activity and assign a capability maturity level for each activity.
- **Informs and strengthens** the national C-IED capability, including preventative and response measures to the threat posed by IEDs.
- **Elements** to report on the development of national, comprehensive, and strategic approaches and plans, as well as capacity building activities.
How to use the data visualisation application?

- A simple Data Visualization Application (app), based on a macros-enabled Microsoft Excel software
- The application uses a series of linked tabbed sheets to enter data, with one tab for each component of Counter-IED capability.
- The application also provides a mechanism for the collation of free-text based information acquired during operational assessments.
- Two separate summary tabs (one each for upstream and downstream components of Counter-IED capability), display the consolidated results.
Upstream Counter-IED Measures - Summary of Counter-IED Capability Maturity

Upstream Components of Counter-IED Capability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component of Counter-IED Capability</th>
<th>CMM Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U1 - National Policy, Regulations and Legislation</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>U2 - Security and Control of Explosives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U3 - IED Risk Education</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>U4 - Counter-IED Capability Development</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U5 - Border Controls</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>U6 - Control of IED Precursors</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>U7 - International Cooperation and Info Sharing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U8 - Intelligence-Led Operations</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mean Upstream Counter IED Maturity Level: 3

Date: 1-Jul-20
Assessment Description: Country X
Assessor(s): Author
Use of the UNIDIR C-IED CMM & SAT since 2020

based on information available to UNIDIR

2020: Spain, Yemen, Somalia
2021: Sri Lanka, Maldives, Côte d'Ivoire, Sahel, Pakistan
2022: Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, Philippines, Somalia
2023: Thailand, Maldives, Pakistan, Ghana, DRC
Towards a regional approach in the Southeast Asian Region

Objectives and outcomes:

- Increased knowledge of the nature of the threat and efforts
- Use by at least two Southeast Asian states of the UNIDIR’s counter IED SAT
- Share information on effective upstream and downstream C-IED measures

Key results:

- Enhanced understanding of regional IED threats through collaborative discussions between national authorities. Identification of common challenges as well as variations in threats across the region.
- Strengthened commitment to regional cooperation on counter-IED efforts. Participants highlighted the need for formalizing multilateral frameworks and information sharing to more effectively address transnational networks.
- Development of actionable recommendations to guide the potential establishment of a unified regional approach. This includes potential creation of a working group, joint training programs, and leveraging respective national strengths through networking and partnership.
Towards a regional approach in the fight against the proliferation of IEDs in West Africa: national data collection

Step 1. Assessment of IED threats and preventative, preparedness and response capabilities in ECOWAS Member States

➢ Support the conduct of ECOWAS Member State national self-/ assessments: By use of the voluntary UNIDIR C-IED CMM SAT
  
  o Establish the priorities for a regional ‘roadmap’ (or strategy)
  o Help to monitor and evaluate progress in the implementation of national and sub-/regional roadmaps and strategies.

Step 2. Regional dialogue for the development of a coordinated sub-regional ‘roadmap’ (or strategy) to counter IEDs

➢ Convene a regional dialogue that uses the data and input from key partners to identify:
  
  o Common threats and challenges
  o Effective measures for preventing and tackling IED proliferation & use
  o Areas for harmonization and regional cooperation
CONTRACTS

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