

Combating extremism

Manila workshop emphasizes info & intel sharing

An Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) outreach team conducted a three-day workshop entitled “Exploiting the Crime-Terror Nexus: Combating Violent Extremism through Multisectoral Information and Intelligence Sharing” in Manila, Philippines, Feb. 11-13.

The workshop consisted of 51 participants from the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia. The National Defense College of the Philippines co-hosted the event. Vice President of the Philippines Jejomar Binay and U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Phillip S. Goldberg attended opening ceremonies.

The APCSS-NDCP workshop team emphasized violent extremist groups’ deepening involvement in various transnational criminal activities. These activities include illicit weapons and drugs distribution, money laundering and human trafficking; all of which provide funding for terrorist activity.

Compounding the problem is crime “globalization” fostered in part by technological changes in transportation and communication, and new industrial vulnerabilities, such as cybercrime.

However, APCSS professor Dr. David Fouse said the crime-terror



(Top) Fifty-one security practitioners from the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia took part in the Crime-Terror Nexus workshop in Manila. (Bottom) Participants provide input on issues associated with internal and multilateral intelligence sharing.

linkage may improve detection, tracking and infiltration.

“(Terrorists’) deeper involvement in traditional criminal activity may make it easier to track them. For example, criminal informants are much easier to develop than the ‘true believers’ who fill the ranks of terrorists groups; and, criminal acts attract attention and widen chances that terrorists will make mistakes,” explained Fouse, who served as APCSS team lead.

Teams from participating countries assessed existing interagency processes for sharing information and intelligence associated with countering

extremism and organized crime. They looked at challenges and opportunities, national policy and legal guidance, and stakeholders’ roles and responsibilities. They then developed measures to exploit the crime-terror linkage through improved information and intelligence sharing internally and multilaterally.

Fouse noted that participants’ post-workshop briefs reflected “solid understanding of the importance of cross-sharing information, and laws and regulations that define sharing processes.”

The APCSS-NDCP workshop was held conjointly with a conference or-

ganized by the International Criminal Investigation Training and Assistance Program of the U.S. Justice Department. Titled “Investigation and Development of Terrorist Related Cases,” the event drew participants from the same three countries.

The two events maximized networking opportunities for the 100 shared participants through shared presentations, joint working lunches, combined opening and closing ceremonies, and a welcome reception for both events.



Dr. David Fouse was APCSS academic team lead for the Feb. 11-13 workshop.

Following closing ceremonies, APCSS alumni chief John Gasner

conducted a webinar with Comprehensive Security Responses to Terrorism Fellows worldwide over the internet with a live audience of more than 50 APCSS Filipino alumni.

During the webinar, APCSS Dean Carleton Cramer, who headed the workshop outreach team, updated Fellows on Center activities and presented first-ever Alumni Achievement Awards to professor Charie Joaquin and Jose Tale for their contributions to the Philippines APCSS Alumni Association.

Team conducts exchanges in Pacific Latin America

A team of four Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies faculty members traveled to Columbia and Chile in March to strengthen partnerships with the two Pacific Latin American nations.

Center Director Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Dan Leaf led a team comprised of professors Dr. Rouben Azizian, Dr. Justin Nankivell, and Lt. Nicholas Matcheck.

The four took part in, or facilitated workshops, lectures and office visits with a five-fold purpose: observe the status of the nations’ security sector development; share education philosophies and processes; brief on major security-related issues in the Asia-Pacific region; make contact with past APCSS alumni; and recruit future Fellows.

In Bogota, Colombia, March 26-29, the team addressed topics, such as the rise of China, regional security architecture, and World-wide Support for Development (WSD), at the Colombian War col-



Members of an APCSS team, led by Center director Lt. Gen. (Ret) Dan Leaf, met with Chile’s Senate Defense Committee. The group discussed, in part, improving humanitarian assistance planning and response.

lege and Military University Nueva Granada. They engaged with more than 200 host-nation defense, political and embassy officials.

In Chile, March 30 to April 5, the team focused on similar topics, to include the U.S. Rebalance to Asia and International Court of Justice decisions impacting the Asia-Pacific region. They conducted events at the nations’s Navy, Air

and Army War Colleges and met with members of Chile’s Senate Defense Committee.

Leaf said he’s optimistic about future interaction. “The professors, students, military officers, and politicians we met displayed knowledge and curiosity of the Asia-Pacific region. And, they intuitively understand the importance of future Pacific Latin American engagement in the region,” said Leaf.

Relationship building

China outreach a step toward 'strategic trust'

By Herman F. Finley
APCSS Faculty

There is wide-spread consensus that the United States-China relationship is fundamental to Asia-Pacific regional and global security in the coming decades. Essential to the success of these national ties is trust, the sense that the “other side” will act in good faith.

“Strategic trust” is a level of trust applied to the highest and most important issues in the bi-lateral relationship. The idea of strategic mistrust contributing to recurrent difficulties in the relationship has gained



Professor Wang Rongjun, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences' Institute of American Studies, discusses issues associated with U.S.-China relations as APCSS' Dr. Mohan Malik looks on.

considerable attention over the past few years. However, Chinese and American scholars and policy makers seem willing to discuss vital politico-military, socio-economic and cultural issues impacting current and future levels of trust.

The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies facilitated such discussions in two Chinese cities.

The first, a workshop titled “Building Strategic Trust,” took place Nov. 20-21, 2013, in Beijing. The Institute of American Studies of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences served as co-host.

APCSS conducted a second workshop Nov. 22-25, 2013, in Lanzhou, China, on the topic of “Effective Security Governance to Address

the Impacts of Climate Related Global Change.” The Chinese Academy of Sciences Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute served as co-host.

The engagements were linked by the idea of moving from purely academic discussions to identifying practical measures designed to build strategic trust for a positive and constructive relationship.

Both workshops employed a “whole of society” approach to share perspectives across a diverse set of security practitioners and academics. The workshops also built a solid basis for future APCSS events in China.

The willingness by both sides to discuss what some might view as politically sensitive issues (the role of third parties) and internal issues (climate adaptation measures) was, in itself, a trust-building effort.

Beijing session

In Beijing, workshop participants included representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and Chinese and U.S. scholars. They gained a deeper under-



Professor Liu Deshou, IAS, listens on as Daniel Piccutta, former U.S. deputy chief of mission in China, provides input at the “Building Strategic Trust” workshop in Beijing. At right, APCSS faculty member Dr. Virginia Watson views a village mock-up at a Lanzhou facility.





An APCSS team paired with Chinese Academy of Sciences institutes for workshops in Beijing (*left*) and Lanzhou (*right*). Both workshops helped participants explore measures to improve U.S.-China relations.

standing of the current state of strategic trust between the two countries.

Participants discussed China's perspective on progress following the Xi-Obama Summit; cooperating on anti-piracy operations in the Horn of Africa; the role of third parties in shaping trust; and trust in the context of North Korea issues.

Meeting in Lanzhou

In Lanzhou, representatives shared knowledge on climate change adaptation within the Asia-Pacific security environment. This included discussions on possible roles for national security forces and the need for greater dialogue between scientists and national security policy makers. Participants also developed a draft concept and proposal for a Fiscal Year 2015 workshop.

In addition to APCSS and CAREERI staff, participants included faculty or staff from the U.S. National Center for Atmospheric Research and the Shanghai

Institute for International Strategic Studies.

Through the set of workshops, participants from the two sides developed understanding of challenges and opportunities involved in building strategic trust. They included:

Challenges

- Internal constraints and bureaucracies
- Economics
- Domestic public opinions/laws/policies/media
- Differing interpretations of history on specific issues
- Lack of effective multilateral security institutions in Asia
- Potential misperceptions of behavior in the context of shifting perceptions of national power
- Politically sensitive issues where nations may not be prepared to make concessions

Opportunities

Strategic-level

- Military-to-military

cooperation (expand and increase frequency)

- Enhancing existing personal relations between leaders
- Positive 3rd party relations with both nations
- Cooperation on avoiding militarization of outer space and the Arctic Ocean
- Management of Transnational security issues (i.e. HA/DR, anti-piracy; trafficking, climate change, internet crime (cyber))
- Cooperation on dealing with African instability/wars
- Cooperation on international hot spots

Operational-level (near-term)

- Visits by U.S. and China leadership to symbolic sites
- Collaboration between think tanks and academic facilities
- Strengthening the Military Maritime Consultative Agreement
- Integrating bilateral trust-building into existing

multilateral institutions and regional cooperation

- Coordination of crisis management and response training
- Increasing PLA and U.S. military joint exercises/dialogue, such as RIMPAC
- Education exchanges in military-focused educational institutions
- Prioritization of dialogue channels (energy, cyber, etc.)

These workshops were the latest in APCSS's ongoing process of engaging in meaningful dialogue with officials and academics from the Asia-Pacific region.

It was particularly gratifying for the APCSS team to see the level of support in Beijing and Lanzhou for continuing to focus on topics, such as strategic trust and climate change adaptation.

APCSS has begun to actively plan next year's discussions with hopes of extending the scope to multinational participation.

Collaborating on crises

India, Japan, U.S. reps gather to build disaster ops cooperation

Rapid population growth in the Asia-Pacific region's high-risk earthquake zones, and flood-prone coastal and urban areas makes the area especially vulnerable to natural disaster impacts.

Mitigating these impacts hinges on multi-national cooperation, according to Jessica Ear, professor and disaster management expert with the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies.

"Large-scale disasters, such as the 2011 Japan earthquake and tsunami and 2013 Typhoon Haiyan, illustrated how international support and partnerships can save lives and alleviate suffering."

Sixteen participants from India, Japan and the United States gathered at the APCSS for a workshop May 19-21 to enhance collaboration in regional humanitarian assistance and disaster management processes.

Titled "India-Japan-U.S. Trilateral Cooperation," the event enabled participants to share HA/DR perspectives through guided discussions and a "tabletop" disaster exercise.

Taking part were representatives of India's Ministry of External Affairs,



(Top) Officials from India, Japan and the United States discuss opportunities to strengthen trilateral disaster preparation and recovery cooperation. Participants included APCSS Deputy Director Lt. Gen. (Ret.) James Hirai (*middle left*), Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs representative Yukiko Fujisawa (*middle right*), and K. Nandini, from India's Ministry of External Affairs (*bottom middle*).

National Response Force and its embassy in Washington. Japan participants included members of the Ministries of Foreign Af-

fairs and Defense, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency. In addition to key APCSS staff, U.S. participants included officials

from the U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance.

Specific country teams met first to solidify their understanding of and document their nations' HA/DR policies, practices and issues. The APCSS facilitator team used these findings to frame broad discussions on the current state of trilateral cooperation.

The team then introduced a disaster response exercise focused on a densely populated flood-plagued delta. The scenario challenged participants to walk through required disaster-related processes in order to refine their understanding of HA/DR collaboration; identify associated challenges and opportunities; and develop steps to increase cooperation.

Adding complications in terms of disease, food availability and economic impact, the APCSS team moved the flood scenario ahead five days in the exercise's Phase 2. The progression prompted teams to employ and refine their Phase 1 findings to answer

questions, such as: What other concerns or regional implications should trilateral partners consider? Given the evolved scenario, what are the priority areas for a trilateral response?

“Discussion on scenarios allowed us to bring synergy into the thought processes of the three partners,” one participant said, adding that inputs will help solidify the future trilateral HA/DR framework.

Participants identified potential cooperation opportunities, to include academic and subject matter expert exchanges; shared recovery and developmental efforts; information sharing; and conducting search and res-

Large-scale disasters...illustrated how international support and partnerships can save lives and alleviate suffering.

- Jessica Ear
APCSS HA/DR Expert

cue operations.

APCSS’ Dr. Jeffrey Hornung, who served as a workshop co-lead alongside Ear, added that key players “generally agreed cooperation focus should be on preparation and recovery; the third phase of HA/DR operations, response, is



already mostly covered by national and international norms.”

Dialogues are rooted in each government’s belief the three nations share common interests and would benefit from a deeper strategic partnership.

“The India-Japan-U.S.

trilateral meetings have predominantly focused on strategic dialogue, but could result in more substantive security cooperation in areas, such as HA/DR,” said Hornung.

He added, “These events seek to harmonize the three nations’ understanding of challenges, threats and areas of cooperation that contribute to peace and stability in the region, of which HA/DR is a key element.”

The APCSS conducted the May event in cooperation with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs and the Department of State.



USN photo by MC1C Matthew Bradley



U.S. PACOM Photo



USMC photo by Staff Sgt. Wayne Gray

(Left) Northeast Japan suffered monumental damage from a 2011 tsunami generated by an earthquake. (Middle) a Filipino soldier distributes food to Philippine citizens displaced by Typhoon Haiyan. (Right) A Pakistan town inundated by a 2010 flood.

In its Statistical Yearbook for 2011, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific states that from 2001 to 2010, disasters affected 200 million people in the Asia-Pacific region.

That number, according to the United Nations, accounted for 90 percent of all people impacted worldwide. The U.N. notes that during the same period, the region

Asia-Pacific region no stranger to natural disasters

suffered roughly \$35 billion in disaster-related damage. Residents in the region’s low-income countries were impacted at a rate 30 times higher than their richer neighbors.

Dr. Jeffrey Hornung, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies faculty member, noted, “The number of people affected by disasters is estimated to increase as rapid growth and development leaves populations more exposed to hazards.

“This makes efforts, such as the May humanitarian response/disaster response exercise, a key aspect of India, Japan, U.S. trilateral meetings.”

Meeting in Myanmar

Workshop emphasizes enhanced security, governance practices



Thirty people took part in the Comprehensive Security Sector Development in Myanmar workshop. APCSS' Dr. Rouben Azizian (*left*) leads discussions in a breakout session. Dr. Mieme Byrd served as academic lead for the Myanmar event.

Recent democratic changes in Myanmar have ushered in reevaluation of its comprehensive security needs in terms of national, transnational, and human security.

In the run up to the 2015 election, Myanmar's security sector is transforming to meet the nation's new security and political priorities.

The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, in cooperation with the National Defence College of Myanmar,

hosted a workshop entitled "Comprehensive Security Sector Development in Myanmar" Aug. 18-22, 2014, in Naypyitaw, Myanmar.

The workshop provided an opportunity for the over 30 Myanmar participants to expand their understanding of the concepts and best practices of security sector development and modern civil-military relations by examining a variety of experiences from other countries in the region and from

around the world.

Facilitated discussions gave participants an opportunity to share their experiences and recommend specific measures that may be taken to enhance security and governance in Myanmar and in the region.

By workshop's end, participants were able to identify relevant principles, best practices, and lessons learned from case studies and to apply them to the current transitional environment in Myanmar. They identified key areas of success and remaining gaps within the existing system.

Most importantly, they took ownership of the process of security sector development and enhanced civil-military relations by demonstrating a commitment to expanding and implementing these principles and practices long after the workshop.

To that end, the workshop concluded with briefings by participants of their shared findings and recommended next steps for Myanmar.

Dr. Miemie Byrd, APCSS academic lead, stated, "This workshop outcome exceeded my wildest dreams and expectations. I felt we were able to put some of the security sector and civil-military relations concepts in terms they could relate to and, as such, they seemed to have internalized them based on their quality recommendations and next steps at the end of the workshop."

Looking to the future, APCSS Director Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Dan Leaf said, "This workshop was carefully designed and executed to enhance Myanmar's commitment to a rule-of-law-based security sector, characterized by legitimacy and accountability.

"Participants were very well-prepared, eager, and earnest – I look forward to seeing the progress enabled by this important engagement."

Pacific islands security focus of Vanuatu workshop

Examining the effectiveness of regional security cooperation and the broader regional security architectures in the Pacific Islands region was the focus of a workshop held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, Aug. 4-8, 2014.

The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies and the Pacific Institute of Public Policy hosted the workshop titled “Regional Security Governance and Architecture in the Pacific Islands Region: Priorities for a Resilient Future.”

Forty-eight participants from 21 nations and territories, and six regional international organizations shared their understanding of regional issues and recommended specific measures to enhance security and governance.

“The workshop was a good opportunity to assess the regional security architecture and highlight the growing linkages between development and security and ways nations can also strengthen their internal peace-building processes,” said Derek Brien, PiPP executive director.

Vanuatu Prime Minister Joe Natuman and, via video, Walter North, U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, opened the workshop. Carleton Cramer, APCSS academic dean,



Forty-eight participants from 21 locations addressed security cooperation issues in the Pacific Islands region during an August workshop in Vanuatu.

noted the event coincided with Secretary of State John Kerry’s recent trip to the region and his speech in Honolulu promoting regional cooperation.

Participating security practitioners and experts came from Australia, China, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Guam, and Indonesia. They also came from Japan, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Taiwan, Tonga, Tuvalu, the United States, and Vanuatu.

Pivotal regional organizations represented included the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the Melanesian Spearhead Group.

Also present were members of the United Nations Development Programme

Regional Pacific Center; the Pacific Institute for Public Policy; and FemLINKPACIFIC, an important regional non-governmental organization addressing work related to United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

The diversity of expertise and experience present helped shape potential near- and long-term benefits for the Pacific Islands region.

Dr. Rouben Azizian, APCSS academic lead, stated, “The workshop enabled participants to build multinational and whole-of-government professional contacts for future collaboration.”

Permanent Secretary, Mr. Beraki Jino, of Solomon Islands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, added, “I think the workshop was -- particularly for the Solo-

mon Islands -- very, very useful...It was relevant to the work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our national security environment.”

Jino added, “Solomon Islands is working on a new security policy, and this workshop will help a lot in our understanding some of the security issues that need to be addressed, not only for Solomon Islands, but in relation to the region.”

At workshop’s end, participants briefed to senior officials their findings and recommended steps for enhancing regional cooperation. Among those briefed was a representative of the important Pacific Islands Forum.

APCSS’ next workshop in Oceania will be a Security Sector Development Workshop in Fiji next summer.

Maritime Security is one of several focus areas for the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies. APCSS partnered with the World Ocean Council to conduct a multi-national workshop on preserving the Gulf of Thailand's maritime assets Aug. 12-14 in Singapore.

Titled "Enhancing Maritime Resource Security: A Cross-sectoral Dialogue for the Gulf of Thailand Initiative," the workshop enabled officials from four coastal nations to address the anticipated impacts of developing trends in the marine industries most active in GoT waters over the next three to five years.

Participants were from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The seminar was part of an ongoing international effort (GoTI) funded by the U.S. State Department to support Gulf of Thailand states as they work to effectively manage the impacts of fisheries, offshore oil and

Gulf of Thailand workshop addresses resource security



Attendees of the "Enhancing Maritime Resource Security: A Cross-sectoral Dialogue for the Gulf of Thailand Initiative," workshop are pictured with APCSS Director Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Dan Leaf.

gas activity, shipping and port operations, and coastal development.

Those involved in the GOTI seek to ensure that economic activity in Gulf waters can be sustained long-term through broad-based development planning.

The three-day workshop

teamed government officials from maritime law enforcement, and transportation and trade agencies with their private sector counterparts and subject matter experts. Fifty-five people took part in the event.

A Vietnam participant related that integrated coastal and ocean management

was a key takeaway from the August workshop.

According to Dr. Lori Forman, APCSS development advisor and professor, participants' sense of shared marine geography quickly pulled them together into meaningful and actionable dialogue.

The group addressed the region's strategic challenges, then began discussions about future collaborative measures to address them.

"Knowing first-hand what is at stake, representatives developed a menu of interagency and multi-sectoral actions needed to secure the gulf's maritime resources," said Forman, an expert on international economic development.

She added that such actions could benefit millions of people depending directly on GoT waters for food, trade and employment.

"Ultimately, the health of the Gulf's marine resources is essential to their nations' long-term prosperity, stability and security," Forman said.



The workshop titled "Enhancing Maritime Resource Security: A Cross-sectoral Dialogue for the Gulf of Thailand Initiative," enabled attendees to discuss means to preserve resources in the area.

APCSS profs attend global anti-crime events

Conference on Transnational Crime and Terrorism highlights need for info sharing

Dr. David Fouse, a professor with the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, attended the International Conference on Transnational Crime and Terrorism (ICTOCT) in Las Vegas, April 13-18, 2014.

Below is an edited excerpt from his report.

Sponsored this year by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and Federal Bureau of Investigation, the ICTOCT is one of the largest elite law enforcement gatherings worldwide with international delegates representing law enforcement agencies from many countries worldwide.

Participating U.S. agencies included the FBI, Se-



Dr. David Fouse

cret Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Drug Enforcement Administration (among others). The conference featured plenary sessions and electives taught by specialists on various Asian crime organizations, narco-terror-

ism, human trafficking and smuggling, counterfeiting, fraud, and cybercrime.

Conference keynote speakers highlighted the growing problem of transnational crime organizations' ability to launder their substantial illicit proceeds and invest in sensitive areas of the legitimate economy.

With billions of dollars of annual profits to invest, transnational crime organizations are now moving into the manipulation of securities exchanges to further increase their impact on the legitimate economy.

Speakers also raised concerns about transnational crime organizations willingness to cross ethnic lines

to cooperate for "business" purposes.

This makes it all the more important for law enforcement agencies to share information and establish their own networks in order to combat the rising tide of organized crime.

Many conference presentations included case studies of recently completed investigations. These emphasized the use of law enforcement networks and multiagency task forces in combating transnational crime and terrorism...*Read the full article at <https://www.apcsslink.org/news-story/international-conference-transnational-crime-and-terrorism>.*

Sovereign Challenge Conference focuses on illicit criminal networks, violent extremism

APCSS professors Dr. David Fouse and Dr. Alfred Oehlers attended the 2014 Sovereign Challenge Conference held at National Defense University, Washington D.C., April 22-24.

The following is an edited excerpt from their report.

Hosted by U.S. Special Operations Command, this was the twelfth in the series of Sovereign Challenge conferences. This year's conference focused on connections between illicit networks, violent extremism, and the power of non-state actors.



Dr. Alfred Oehlers

At a time when there is growing recognition of evolving networks tying together organized crime and terrorist groups, this focus

was timely and appropriate.

The conference featured a stimulating program of speakers and discussions. Admiral William H. McRaven, then USSOCOM Commander, set the tone with a keynote address. He challenged the audience with a global threat assessment, emphasizing the need for whole-of-government approaches and international partnerships to successfully counter the threat posed by non-state actors.

Trust remains a critical ingredient in nurturing such interagency and interna-

tional relationships, and the admiral made a compelling case for persistent engagement to counter illicit criminal and terrorist networks.

Through illuminating presentations, it became very clear how non-state actors and their emerging power posed serious threats to the sovereignty of independent nations. Corrosive practices, such as corruption, undermined effective governance...*Read the full article at <https://www.apcsslink.org/news-story/apcss-faculty-attend-sovereign-challenge-conference>.*