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Graduate School of International and Defense Studies (IDS) International Defense Acquisition Resource Management (IDARM)

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# IDARM

INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE ACQUISITION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM

FALL  
JUL-SEP  
2017



## **IDARM CONDUCTS ONE WEEK “DEFENSE LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT” COURSE IN KIGALI, RWANDA**

IDARM conducted its first one week Mobile Education Team (MET) in Kigali, Rwanda during 25-29 September, 2017. The “Defense Logistics and Supply Chain Management” course was a result of IDARM engagement with AFRICOM in support of the Africa Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership (APRRP) initiative. The Rwanda Defense Forces (RDF) selected 31 participants with a wide variety of background, including 26 active-duty officers, 4 non-commissioned officers, and one enlisted soldier. For the majority of the students, this course was the first formal classroom offering of military logistics and supply chain. The course was tailored for the RDF to address logistics and supply chain issues as related to support for rapid response peacekeeping missions at both the strategic and operational levels. It provided participants with an examination of the components and characteristics of effective defense logistics and supply chain management and an emphasis was placed on the critical role logistics support planning and supply chain management play in sustaining capabilities in a rapid response scenario. Course evaluation results indicated all participants were very satisfied with the course and an interest in follow on courses.

## MANAGING COMPLEX DEFENSE PROJECTS AND LIFE CYCLE MANAGEMENT IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

IDARM conducted a one week “Managing Complex Defense Projects and Life Cycle Management” course during 29 August- 1 September, 2017 in Bogota, Colombia. The course provided 28 participants with an examination of defense acquisition and program management, with particular focus on the management of complex defense project and life cycle management. The students were tasked to apply teaching concepts to a real-world scenario and benefitted from exchanging viewpoints to address managing a complex project. The Logistics Director, Vicealmirante (RA) Roberta Sahica Mejia, gave an impressive speech to the participants on the last day, emphasizing the importance of the course and stressing the key roles that course participants should expect to play in acquisition and life-cycle management across the Colombian MoD now and in the years to come.



## BUILDING AND SUSTAINING ACCOUNTABILITY IN DEFENSE ACQUISITION DECISION MAKING IN BEIRUT, LEBANON

16 participants from various Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) organizations attended the “Building and Sustaining Accountability in Defense Acquisition Decision Making” workshop in Beirut, Lebanon during 31 July- 4 August, 2017. The course explored the characteristics and conditions for successful defense acquisition resource management and decision-making and offered some suggestions for improving accountability in existing national level systems. The results from the course evaluations, coupled with participant comments during the week, indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the course as planned and delivered. Brigadier General Edmond Hakmeh, Chief of Security Assistance Programs Section, expressed his strong appreciation for the continued support provided by IDARM, explaining that through this engagement LAF personnel have significantly increased their professional capacity in defense acquisition, procurement & contracting, and related areas.

## MANAGING COMPLEX DEFENSE PROJECTS IN SOFIA, BULGARIA

IDARM conducted the final course of a three-course series for the Bulgaria Armed Forces during 11-15 September, 2017. This course provided participants with an examination of defense acquisition and program management, with particular focus on the management of complex defense projects.

All three courses were designed to expose personnel to project management principles and stimulate discussions on how principles can be applied in their national context.

Individual feedback, reinforced the value students placed on the material with favorable comments on the material and how it helped them better understand the complexity of the Acquisition process. Students shared that they gained a broader insight into the complexity of managing and procuring defense systems.

## MANAGING COMPLEX DEFENSE PROJECTS IN BELGRADE, SERBIA

In coordination with the Defense Government Management Team (DGMT), IDARM conducted a one week workshop during 18-22 September, 2017 for the Serbian Ministry of Defense (MoD) and General Staff. 25 participants from the Military Technical Institute and several departments within the MoD were in attendance to discuss project management best practices and lessons learned during the planning, implementation and operations and support phases.

Major General Bojan Zrnica, Deputy National Armament Director for the Serbian MoD, has been a strong supporter of IDARM and Defense Institution Building (DIB), and indicated the ongoing engagement with IDARM and utilization of funding resources such as DIB and International Military Education and Training (IMET) has attributed to the improvement of MoD policies, processes and procedures as well as Serbian law. He also discussed the importance and utility of building a “critical mass” of stakeholders and actors throughout the MoD with a shared understanding of key principles and global best practices related to defense acquisition and logistics.

