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Title : Assessing Security Cooperation: Improving Methods to Maximize Effects

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Abstract : Security cooperation professionals work towards the development of a standardized assessment framework that not only provides the most complete data for recommendation development, but also is compatible across geographic boundaries and interagency boundaries. Across the inter-agency a common language does not exist when referring to the planning and assessment process. In order to maximize the efficiency of US Government programs in security cooperation around the globe, there must be some efforts to not only improve assessment, but also to build some commonality among assessment frameworks and progress measures. This paper aims to highlight some considerations when planning and implementing security cooperation and should provide the reader with some critical-thinking tools to continue discussion with interagency partners involved in security cooperation. The paper discusses assessment based on current policy, considers strengths and weaknesses of three assessment or research methodologies, then current practices and opportunities. Finally it provides some recommendations for further academic study and discussion.

Descriptors : *INTERAGENCY COORDINATION, BOUNDARIES, COOPERATION, PLANNING, STANDARDIZATION, STRATEGY

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