Overview

The Military-to-Military (M2M) Program assists African militaries in enhancing the professionalism of their service members by familiarizing them with U.S. military values, standards and other relevant concepts with personal, face-to-face contacts. The United States benefits from enhanced military professionalism, since this in turn strengthens democratic values and stability. M2M engagements are not designed to provide training to partner nations, but to familiarize them with the U.S. military.

Facts and Figures

The M2M Program budgeted $6 million for fiscal year 2011. Approximately 50 nations participate in the program. Approximately 350 events will be executed in fiscal year 2012, familiarizing thousands of African service members with U.S. military concepts, procedures and practices. The M2M program is one of the most flexible programs in AFRICOM’s security assistance repertoire, which allows for steady and recurring engagement with partners across the continent.

Impact

M2M fills a unique niche, offering the United States and participating nations opportunities to engage at informal levels on a consistent and predictable basis. Topics which are demonstrated and discussed include: unit and individual training concepts; military doctrine; strategy and tactics; NCO and Officer Professional Development and Education; Peacekeeping Operations and Doctrine; Laws of War and Military Justice; Military Chaplaincy; Environmental Engineering; and Preventive Medicine etc.

Common Q&A

Can M2M be used for training? No. M2M can only familiarize or demonstrate partners with U.S. military concepts.

Can civilians participate? Yes. U.S. Department of Defense civilians and/or host nation Ministry of Defense civilians may participate.

How many foreign military members have benefited from this program? Depending upon the type of event, each event can reach anywhere from a handful of individuals to a larger organization like a company or battalion or brigade staff. This represents thousands of foreign military members each year.

Is equipment given to members during training? No, but the use of U.S. equipment can be demonstrated.

How many foreign military states have participated in this program? Approximately 50 nations in USAFRICOM’s Area of Responsibility (AOR). Countries under sanction are excluded from direct participation.

Other Sources

Mil to Mil Training Enables Counter-IED Capacity Building in East Africa

African Senior Foreign Military Leaders Discuss African Security Issues at Symposium