



# International Military Education and Training

## U.S. Africa Command Fact Sheet



### Program Overview

The International Military Education and Training (IMET) program provides funds for international personnel to attend U.S. military professional training programs. The IMET program specifically targets current and future military and civilian leadership in African nations.

Sustained support for a robust IMET program directly supports long-term U.S. interests and is critical for building relationships with African nations.

◆ Funding for IMET programs in 2008 was \$17.9 million benefitting participants from 46 African countries. Projected funds for 2009 are \$18.3 million for programs in 49 African countries.

◆ The IMET program is funded through the U.S. Department of State and jointly coordinated by the Departments of State and Defense. State Department policy requires that candidates be screened for human rights violations before participating.

### Program Objectives

The overall objectives of the IMET program are to:

◆ **Further the goal of regional stability through effective, mutually beneficial military-to-military relations** that culminate in increased understanding and defense cooperation between the United States and foreign countries;

◆ **Provide training that augments the capabilities of participant nations' military forces** to support combined operations and interoperability with U.S. forces; and

◆ **Increase the ability of foreign military and civilian personnel to instill and maintain democratic values** and protect internationally recognized human rights in their own government and military.

### Program Benefits

IMET training offers many benefits to its international participants:

◆ **IMET training is professional and non-political**, exposing foreign students to U.S. professional military organizations and procedures and the

manner in which military organizations function under civilian control.

◆ The IMET program's **mandatory English-language proficiency requirement establishes a baseline of communication skills** for students to attend courses.

◆ The IMET program **introduces military and civilian participants to elements of U.S. democracy** such as the U.S. judicial system, legislative oversight, free speech, equality issues, and U.S. commitment to human rights.

◆ **IMET training graduates fill key leadership positions** in militaries of many African nations.



# International Military Education and Training (IMET)

## IMET Sub-Programs

IMET objectives are achieved through a variety of technical training and professional military education activities conducted by the DoD for foreign military and civilian officials. **These include more than 4,000 courses taught at approximately 150 military schools and installations to approximately 10,000 foreign students annually.**



**maintaining effective military justice systems and military codes of conduct** in accordance with internationally recognized human rights.

A less formal, but still significant, subset of IMET is the **Field Studies Program**, which **exposes students to the U.S. way of life, including regard for democratic values, respect for individual civil and human rights, and belief in the rule of law.**



The following programs are part of IMET:

The **Expanded IMET (E-IMET) component**, a subset of the IMET program, provides educational opportunities to key military and civilian leaders with a focus on **managing and administering military establishments and budgets; promoting civilian control of the military; and creating and**

### For more information:

Defense Security Cooperation Agency – IMET page

[http://www.dsca.mil/home/international\\_military\\_education\\_training.htm](http://www.dsca.mil/home/international_military_education_training.htm)

Department of State -- IMET page  
<http://www.state.gov/t/pm/65533.htm>

## Participating IMET countries in 2008 – 2009

Algeria	Democratic Republic of Congo	Liberia	Rwanda
Angola	Djibouti	Libya*	Sao Tome and Principe
Benin	Equatorial Guinea*	Madagascar	Senegal
Botswana	Ethiopia	Malawi	Seychelles
Burkina Faso	Gabon	Mali	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Gambia	Mauritania	South Africa
Cameroon	Ghana	Mauritius	Southern Sudan
Cape Verde	Guinea	Morocco	Swaziland
Central African Republic	Guinea-Bissau	Mozambique	Tanzania
Chad	Kenya	Namibia	Togo
Comoros	Lesotho	Niger	Tunisia
Cote d'Ivoire*		Nigeria	Uganda
		Republic of Congo	Zambia

\*Scheduled to begin IMET in 2009

(Source: Department of State 2009 International Affairs Budget Request, February 2008

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/100014.pdf> ).