



## CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



### ANNEX 3-22 FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE

## INDIRECT SUPPORT

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Indirect support emphasizes Air Force efforts to develop and sustain [host nation](#) (HN) self-sufficiency and is often associated with Phase 0 shaping. [Security assistance](#), appropriately supplemented by joint and multinational exercises and other joint initiatives, constitutes the primary Air Force contribution to indirect support [foreign internal defense](#) (FID) operations.

Air Force security cooperation efforts are defined by the Air Force Global Partnership Strategy, and security assistance is one of the tools available for FID operations. The principal objective of security assistance in FID is to establish secure environments in which foreign governments can pursue social, economic, and political initiatives to relieve tensions in their nations and to prevent insurgent or terrorist organizations from establishing a safe haven. Although security assistance encompasses far more than FID, it is an important component inherent in other FID operations such as logistics, training, and advisory support.

Air Force security assistance efforts should focus on defense equipment and services that reduce host-nation dependency on continuous in-country supervision and support by the United States. Recipient nations' personnel should be trained to operate and maintain the systems provided. In some cases, they should also be shown how to employ these systems for specific operations. As HN proficiency in air operations improves, developing internal training capabilities within host-aviation units can reduce dependence on in-country Air Force assistance. To overcome sustainability problems inherent in maintaining older generation aircraft and systems, Air Force security assistance operations may also include administration and logistics support of nonstandard items.

The [Department of State](#) has the overall responsibility for military and economic security assistance. The Department of Defense administers the military assistance portion, under the direction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs. The Air Force is responsible, as an implementing agency, for those security assistance programs assigned by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). Of the several security assistance programs, involving the Air Force, the main programs typically include mobile training teams, foreign military financing, and

international military education and training. See the [Air Force Global Partnership Strategy](#) for types of security assistance.

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