



# Regional Defense S&T Strategy

Dr. Dana J. Johnson

Director, International Outreach and Policy

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering)

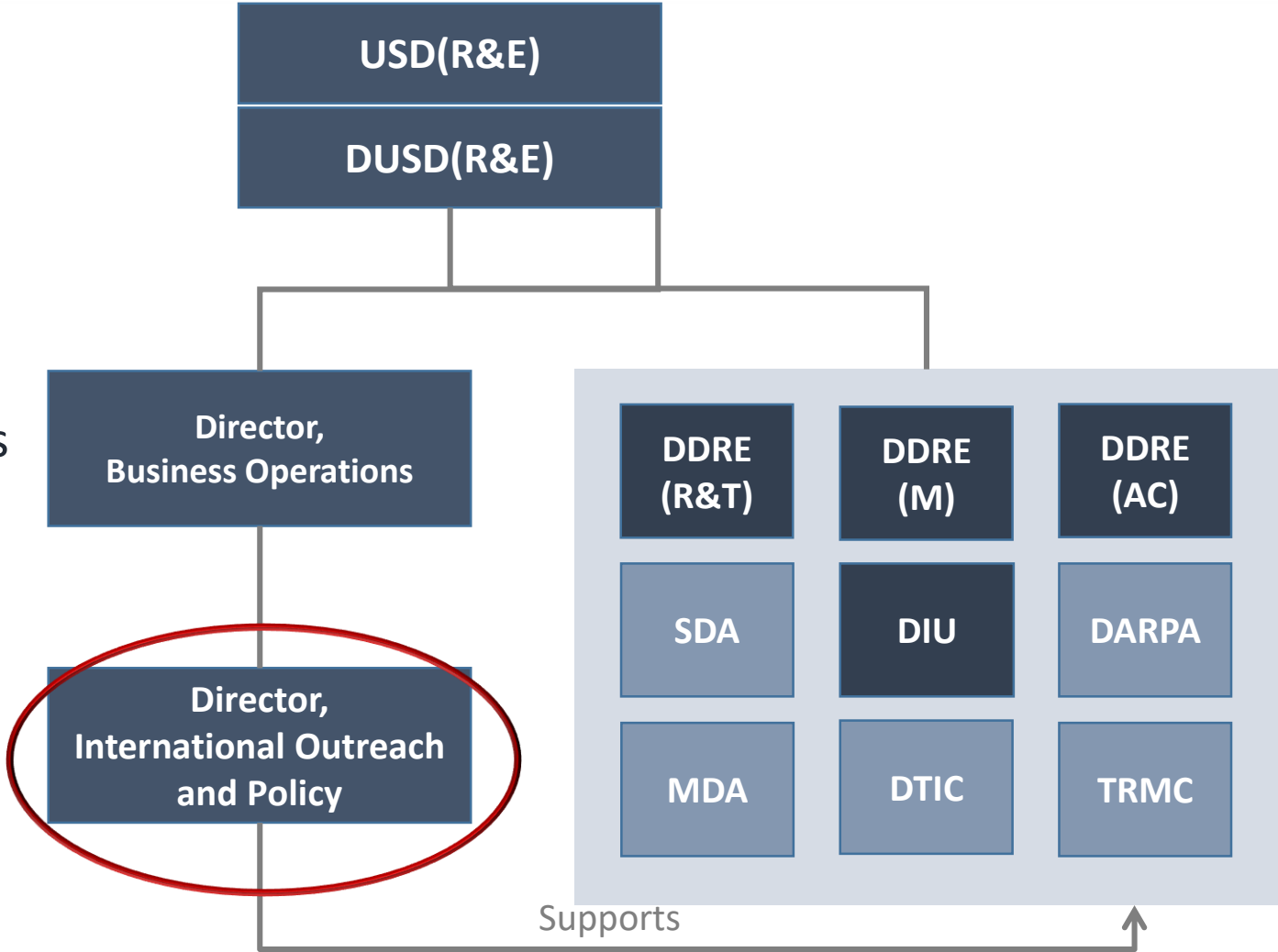
March 9, 2021, 11:20 am - 12:20 pm HST (4:20-5:20 pm EST)



# International Outreach and Policy (IO&P)

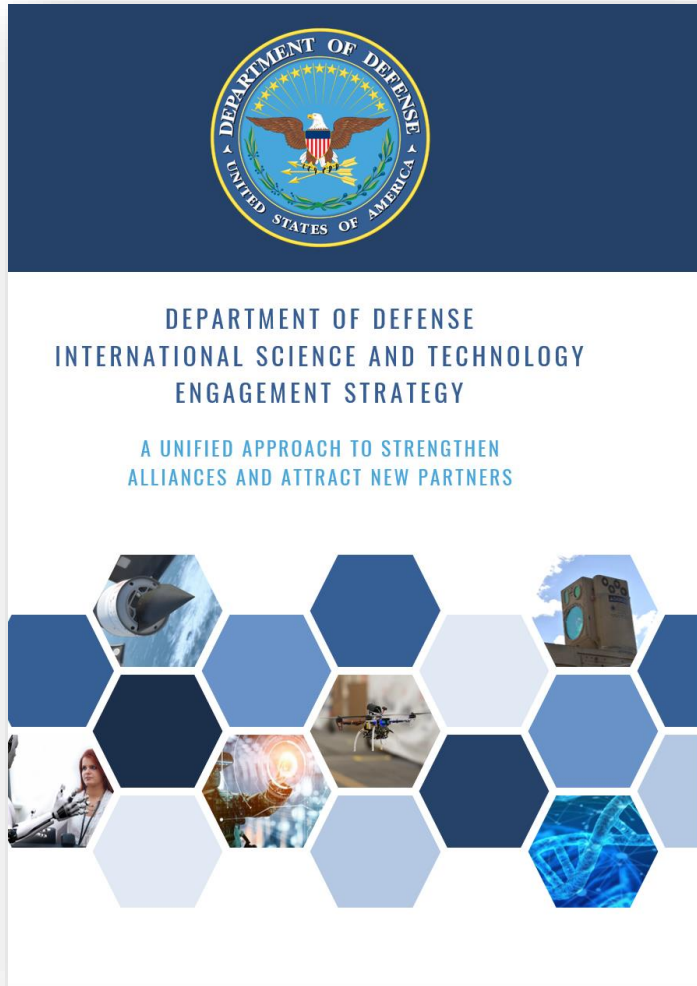
Advises USD(R&E) and supports OUSD(R&E) on defense strategy, policy, and engagement for international matters

- OUSD(R&E) focal point for all international S&T engagement activities
- Provide subject matter expertise and assist OUSD(R&E) in pursuing international S&T cooperative activity aligned with DoD Modernization Priorities
- Strive for continuous business process improvement and establish policies for international S&T cooperation





# International S&T Engagement Strategy (ISTES): Systematic, Structured Approach

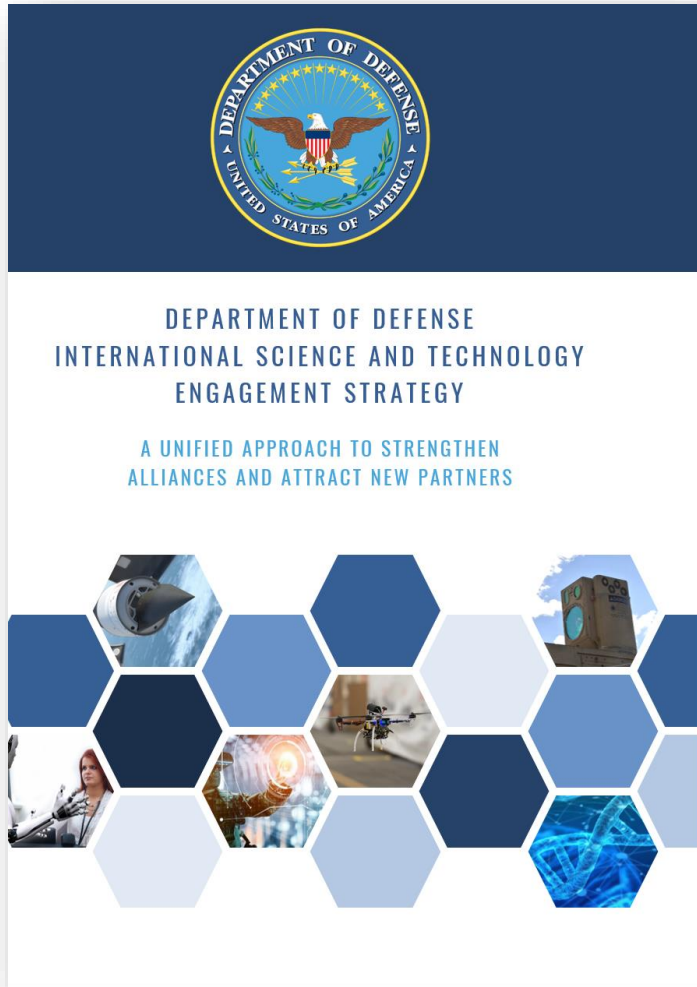


- Provides strategic level guidance and coordinates individual U.S. DoD Component engagement activities towards common objectives
- Directs international outreach efforts towards **opportunities with highest return on investment**
- **Seeks new opportunities** with friendly nations that are pursuing **niche S&T capabilities of interest** to the United States
- Provides structured approach for creating enhanced awareness, coordination, and strategic planning of defense international S&T engagements





# International S&T Engagement Strategy (ISTES): Systematic, Structured Approach (Cont.)



- The Strategy's framework provides:
  - **Explicit linkage and traceability** to higher-level guidance
  - Recognition of **Component uniqueness and plans**
  - Concept of **Integrated international S&T plan**
- Does not direct which nations to partner with or what S&T to pursue
  - S&T priorities may change over time
  - Alliance and regional interests may affect choice of nations with which to partner
- Does **provide a framework** to reach those conclusions per Component, and to **coordinate across the U.S. DoD**



# ISTES Mission and Vision

## MISSION

Leverage foreign defense S&T capabilities; develop relationships with other countries to access these capabilities, maximize coalition interoperability, and achieve U.S. national security objectives

## VISION

- **Consistently deliberate engagement** with allies and partners
- **Shared awareness of global sources of technology**
- **Well-established international relationships** and **effective mechanisms for cooperation**
- **Visible senior leaders** to engage with foreign counterparts and promote/steer international cooperation
- **Thriving international networks** of researchers with flourishing collaborations in priority S&T areas producing high-value outcomes
- **Continuous improvement** to business processes underpinning international engagement



# ISTES Principles



## PRINCIPLES

### International S&T engagement shall:

- **Align with U.S. national interests**, including national security objectives, specific S&T needs, and international policy
- **Balance between strengthening existing alliances and forging new partnerships** to secure U.S. access to world-class S&T and achieve desired defense posture
- **Prioritize S&T investment and resources** according to U.S. S&T needs, foreign S&T strengths and opportunities, and U.S. policy
- **Protect security of critical U.S. technologies**
- Be justified with **benefits that exceed those that could be achieved independently**
- **Be equitable for all parties**
- Strive for **measurable outcomes** that accelerate pace of U.S. R&D and ultimately benefit defense mission
- **Be underpinned by suitable agreements and arrangements** offering flexibility
- Through business processes, enable **timely and effective interactions** and accommodate foreign governmental requirements



# Framework Elements



- **Prepare the Plan** by understanding **U.S. S&T needs, priorities, and programs**; **foreign S&T strengths**; **regional cooperation drivers** (e.g., CCMD requirements); and **foreign S&T cooperative potential**
- **Coordinate Plans** to gain shared awareness of global sources of technology
  - Enables **identification of gaps or duplication of priorities**, and any priorities subject to **technology protection or controls**
- **Execute the Plan** by understanding the **portfolio** of international S&T activity; whether it needs to be adjusted based on **changing priorities or resources**; **partner expectations or limitations**; and **depth and breadth of engagement**
- **Manage international engagements**: face-to-face vs. video teleconferencing; **visibility of senior leaders' engagement** vs. managing expectations (e.g., demands on time)



# Key Takeaways



- Nature of international S&T cooperation is **varied and diverse**
- International S&T investments and resources prioritized according to **U.S. DoD S&T needs, U.S. policies, and foreign S&T strengths and opportunities**
- Deliberate consideration of **technology protection**, as well as **promotion**
- Strive for **measurable outcomes** to accelerate technology development, and ultimately, benefit defense mission and U.S. warfighters
- Underpinned by suitable **agreements or arrangements**





# Questions?

