



## Lesson 3.5c

# Analysis of the Operational Environment (AOE)

# Steps of the UN MDMP



**Analysis of the Operational Environment**

**Mission Analysis**

**Course of Action Development**

**COA Analysis and Comparison**

**Decision and Order Development**





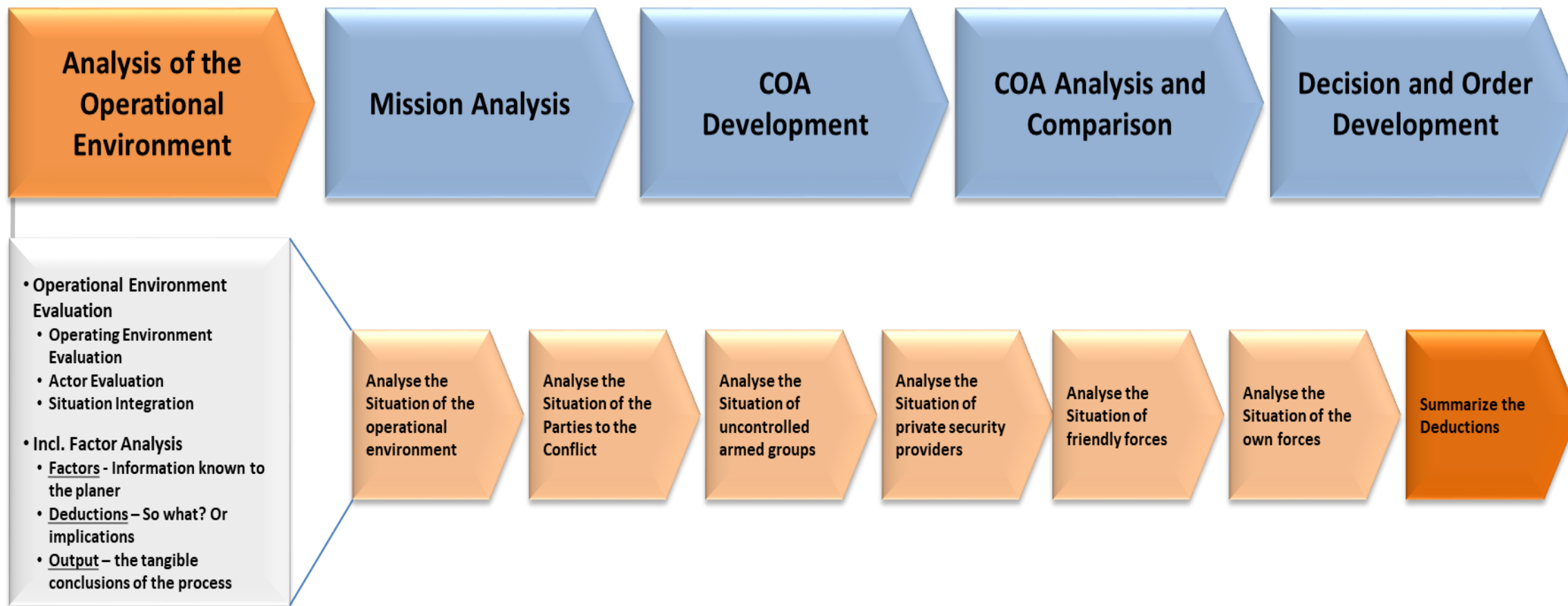
# Purpose of the AOE

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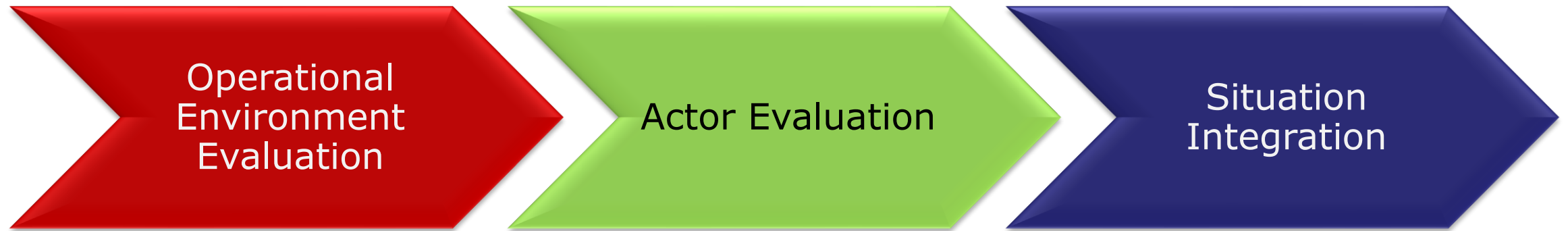
- Review existing situation
- Identify significant characteristics of the environment
- Determine AO limitations
- Identify intelligence gaps
- Determine key information requirements



# AOE Process



# AOE Sub-Steps



# Tools to support Factor Analysis



- **Common frameworks/tools might be used to:**
  - Identify the relevant factors and
  - Support the assessment and deduction
- **ASCOPE tool:**
  - Areas, Structures, Capabilities, Organization, People and Event factors
- **PMERSCGHII – PT tool:**
  - Political, Military, Economic, Religion, Social, Cultural, Gender, History, Information, Infrastructure, Physical and Time factors

# ASCOPE



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- **Areas.** Physical locations and terrain that affect all relevant actors e.g., boundaries or police districts
  - **Structures.** Significant infrastructure e.g., bridges, religious sites, hospitals and schools
  - **Capabilities.** Key functions such as administration, food/water supply, health/welfare provision
  - **Organisations.** Political, social, religious, tribal etc. These must be understood, and their likely influence assessed
  - **People.** The local population, including tribes, political parties etc. Within each, leadership, intentions, relationships etc. can be considered
  - **Events.** Harvest season, market timings, public holidays and religious festivals etc.



# PMERSCGHII-PT



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- Political
  - Military
  - Economic
  - Religious
  - Social
  - Culture
  - Gender
  - History
  - Infrastructure
  - Information
  - Physical
  - Time

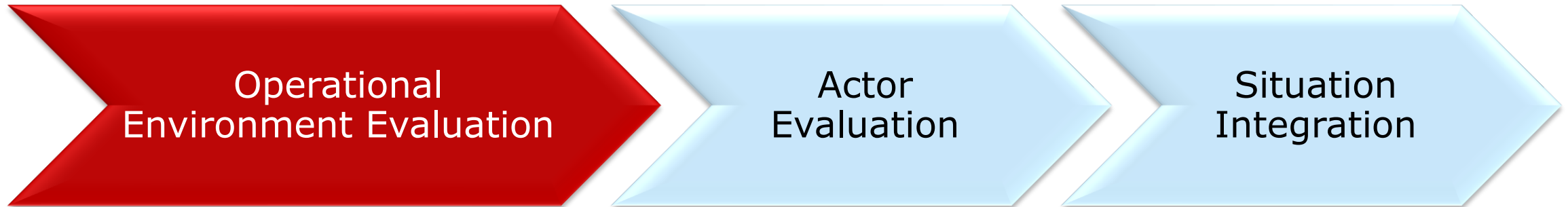
# Tool to Collect/Summarise Data: ASCOPE - PMERSCGHII-PT Matrix



Cross PMERSCGHII PT ASCOPE	P Political	M Military	E Economic	R Religious	S Social	C Cultural	G Gender	H History	I Infrastructure	I Information	P Physical	T Time
A Area												
S Structures												
C Capabilities												
O Organisation												
P People												
E Events												

# Sub-Step 1: Operational Environment Evaluation

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# Operational Environment Evaluation

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- Review the existing situation
- Identify significant characteristics of the environment
- Determine AO limitations
- Identify intelligence gaps
- Determine key information requirements

# Factors to consider when analysing the Operational Environment

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The Factor **Operational Environment** includes the following elements:

- Terrain
- Infrastructure
- Climate, weather
- Security situation of the civilian population
- Humanitarian situation
- Cultural situation (religion, ethnicity, gender)
- Human rights situation
- Mine/Unexploded Ordonnance (UXO)/Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) situation

# Sub-Step 2: Actor Evaluation

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# Actor Evaluation



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- Identify relevant non-UN actors' intent, capabilities, strengths, weaknesses and other critical factors
  - Assist planners to understand key local personalities, influencers and community groups
  - Conduct threat and risk assessment

# Actor Evaluation



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## **The following actors are analysed at the tactical level:**

- Parties to the Conflict
- Uncontrolled Armed Groups (UAGs)
- Private Security Providers (PSPs)
- Friendly Forces
- Own Forces





# Method of Analysis

- **All factors should be analysed according to the following method:**
  - Description of the relevant fact in a factor
  - Assessment of the relevant fact (favourable, unfavourable, probabilities, possible developments, etc.)
  - Deduction (derivations for own actions)

Example:

Fact	Assessment	Deduction
MPC has already executed several attacks against government institutions. They have frequently stated that they are against free elections and will not tolerate them	Terrorist attacks by MPC against the polling stations in the southern district and in the main cities in the West are expected. Attacks against the polling stations in the other districts cannot be ruled out	Polling stations must be protected

# Threat and Risk Assessment



- Importance of providing early warning of threats:
  - Protect the lives of UN personnel, both uniformed and civilians
  - Protect the lives of the local population
  - Counter-planned destruction of critical infrastructure or natural resources
  - Identification of risks and opportunities for the protection of UN personnel and civilians
- Military threat assessment should be focussed on armed threats

# Threat



**Any factor (actions, circumstances, hazards or events) which have the potential or possibility to cause harm, loss or damage to the operations**

**Threat = Capability x Intent**

# Threat Assessment and Evaluation



- Evolves throughout the UN MDMP
- Determine the targets, perpetrators, capabilities, most likely and most dangerous COAs, and overall intentions of identified threats
- Provides the FC with situational awareness that reduces the probability of surprise, enhancing decision-making
- Identify likely threat actors' COAs and their reactions to each of the Friendly Forces' COA

# Threat Assessment and Evaluation

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## **The following factors on the threat actors are to be evaluated:**

- Political, economic & social agenda
- Leadership
- Force size
- Force structure and disposition
- Logistics and sustainability
- Training of threat actors
- Capability and known tactics

# Risk




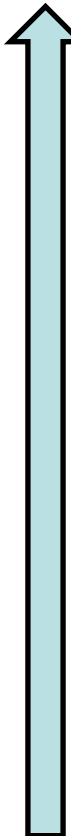
The combination of the impact and likelihood for harm, loss or damage to the Operation from the exposure to threats

**Risk = Likelihood x Impact**

**RISKS** are categorized in LEVELS from **LOW** to **HIGH** for their prioritisation



# Risk Assessment Matrix



<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>CATASTROPHIC</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>VERY HIGH</b>	<b>VERY HIGH</b>
	<b>SEVERE</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>VERY HIGH</b>
	<b>MODERATE</b>	<b>VERY LOW</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<b>HIGH</b>
	<b>MINOR</b>	<b>VERY LOW</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>
	<b>NEGLIGIBLE</b>	<b>VERY LOW</b>	<b>VERY LOW</b>	<b>VERY LOW</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>LOW</b>
		<b>VERY UNLIKELY</b>	<b>UNLIKELY</b>	<b>MODERATELY LIKELY</b>	<b>LIKELY</b>	<b>VERY LIKELY / IMMINENT</b>
		<b>LIKELIHOOD</b>				

# Risk Management (Mitigation)

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- Identify threat
- Assess threat
- Develop control/mitigation measures
- Disseminate control/mitigation measures
- Monitor
- Evaluate



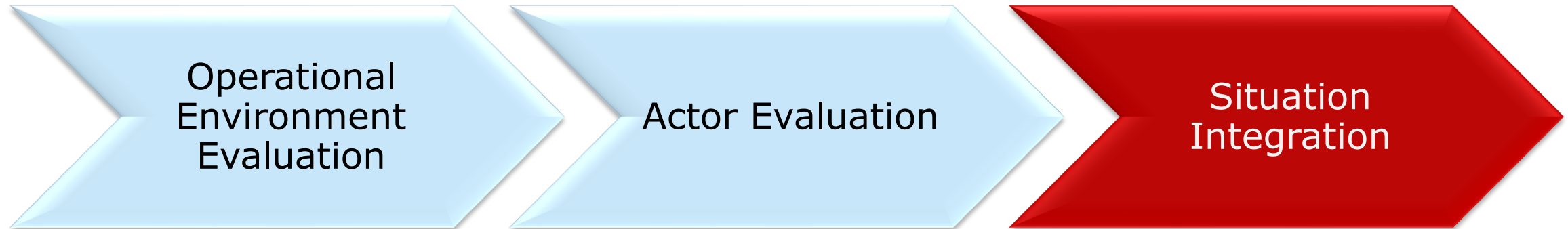


# Example of Risk Management

ID	Threat	Imp.	Lik.	Risk	Measures required to mitigate against the highest risk	New Risk.
1	Attack Civilian Population	<b>Severe</b>	<b>Very High</b>	<b>HIGH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1- Increase patrols</li><li>2- Increase Peace enforcement activities</li><li>3- Increase Humanitarian Efforts</li></ul>	<b>MODARATE</b>

# Sub-Step 3: Situation Integration

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# Situation Integration



- Conduct a comprehensive and informed assessment of the operational environment
- Identify potential future scenarios based on current trends and patterns
- Develop and evaluate COAs for key actors
- Anticipate local key leaders' reactions to UN operations
- Analyse the likely response of vulnerable population groups to UN operations
- Tailor the UN approach and engage local leaders

# Situation Integration



Available information is analysed to support the daily reporting and planning cycle or build the basis for further action to be taken. Such action may be:

- Incorporated into routine briefings
- Flash or Situation Report
- Report to the FC
- Report to or by JOC
- Report to or by JMAC
- Conducted re-assessment of the situation
- The Sector/Battalion level planning



## **Determination of threat actors COAs:**

- View the operation from the perspective of the threat actors
- Analyse the threats and risks of each COA to the peace operation force
- Assess Conflict Parties' Most Dangerous and Most Likely COAs in detail



# Outputs of Step 1 - AOE

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- Intelligence gaps identified
- Threat actors most likely and dangerous COA
- Terrain and weather effects on operations
- Civil considerations
- Risk assessment
- Intelligence products
- Integrating intelligence into the operational plans

# Learning Activity 1 - AOE

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Type: Syndicate Group

Suggested Time: 270 mins (preparation) + 90 min (presentation – all groups)

Activity: AOE briefing

# Learning Activity 1 - AOE



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## SCENARIO

Based on the current situation (M +180) and updates (M+181 and 182), the situation in the mission started deteriorating.

The UNAC FC anticipates receiving the mission to intensify military operations in CARANA as part of the mission-wide plan to restore the country to normalcy.

You have been deployed as an MSO in the UNAC FHQ.



# Learning Activity 1 - AOE



## Requirement:

- Based on the CARANA country study, current situation (M+180), and Updates (M+181 and M+182), prepare a briefing for the FC on the following key information (in general terms):
  - The AOE (terrain and weather effects on UNAC operations)
  - The humanitarian situation
  - The security situation of the civilian population
  - The Threat Actors evaluation:
    - Parties to the Conflict (MPC, CISC, FDC)
    - Uncontrolled Armed Groups (UAGs)
    - Private Security Providers (PSPs)
    - Friendly forces
    - Own Forces
  - Threat actors most likely and dangerous COA
  - Risk Assessment
  - Identify intelligence gaps and the Priority Peacekeeping-Intelligence Requirements (PIRs)
- Time of the Briefing: DD MM YYYY, HH MM hours (maximum 30 minutes)