

Module 1: Conceptual Framework

Lesson

1.1



Introduction to the
UN Engagement Platoon



Learning Outcomes

- Define the concept of engagement
- Understand their responsibilities within UNIBAT
- Ensure UN-EP members understand their mission and tasks



Lesson Content

- Background
- What is Engagement?
- What is UN-EP?
- UN-EP Mission
- UN-EP Tasks





Background

A4P Video

The **A4P (Action for Peacekeeping)** initiative is a set of 45 mutually-agreed commitments designed to strengthen peacekeeping that were endorsed by more than 150 Member States across 8 areas.

- The UN-EP is a direct outcome that supports the Secretary General's initiative on A4P.



Mainstreaming the Women Peace And Security (WPS) Agenda

Tier I Dialogue and Engagement

- Foster de-escalation and negotiation
- Interact with men/women with reduced cultural constraints
- Enable female leaders' engagement

Tier II Physical Protection

- Facilitate search and guarding
- Increase perception of security
- Recognise specific needs/ & risks of women & girls
- Provide a conducive environment for interaction

Tier III Protective Environment

- Support empowerment
- Provide role models
- Raise and integrate women's' concerns in planning

- Enhanced protection responses
- More effective community engagement
- Greater mission credibility amongst the population
- Increase information sharing



- Decrease in gender biased information collection
- Decrease in gender discrimination



What is Engagement?

- Civic engagement is individual and collective actions designed to identify and address issues of public concern.
- UNIBAT engagement is **interaction** with the population and partners in the Area of Operations (AO) to improve **cooperation**.
- An **engagement effect is a desired outcome**, that needs to be coordinated, synchronized, planned, and reported.

AIM – of UNIBAT engagement is to enable accomplishment of the objectives and tasks of the mission.



Engagement includes interaction with the Population and other Mission Partners:

- Local community authorities
- Local community organizations
- Key political and community leaders
- Host nation military and police
- Parties to the conflict
- Local population, including vulnerable populations



What is UN-EP?

The UN-EP is a tactical level UNIBAT capability. UN-EP personnel are:

- Sensors
- Engagement specialists
- 50% women
 - Including at minimum, either the Platoon Commander or the 2IC



UN-EP Core Functions

- Enhancing **situational awareness**
- Improving **the relationship** with the local community
- Fostering cooperative **information sharing**



UN-EP is NOT

- **Reconstruction**
- **Development**
- **Humanitarian Assistance**
- **Intelligence**
- **Combat/Security Platoon**
- **Administrative Platoon**
- **General Duties Platoon**



UN-EP Mission

The mission of the UN-EP is to enhance the situational awareness of the UNIBAT by supporting the mapping of the human terrain (to identify vulnerable areas and at-risk populations), and share information to advance the A4P commitments in the AO.



UN-EP Mission – Support UNIBAT Commander's Plan

Like all military functions, the aim of UN-EP is always to enable the military commander to accomplish the military mission





UN-EP Mission – Military Mission

Engagement is conducted **in Support of the UN Military Mission.**

- UN-EP personnel work for the UNIBAT Commander
- UN-EP are **NOT** the only asset conducting engagement



UN-EP Mission – Situational Awareness

The UN-EP personnel are one of the tools that can act as the **eyes and ears** of the UNIBAT Commander.

- share the right information, at the right time to the right people



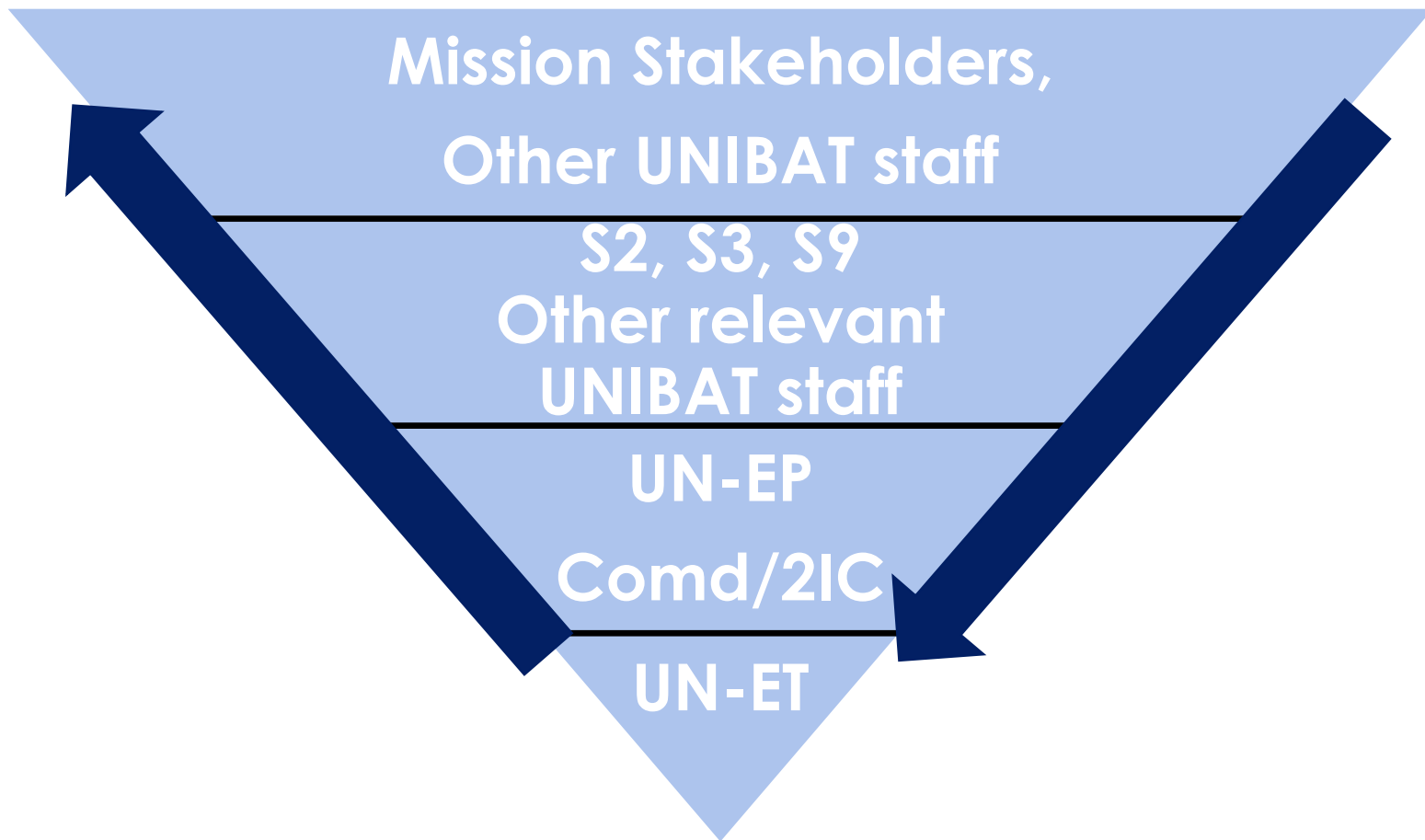
UN-EP Mission – Support Human Terrain mapping

Data collection is a crucial role of the UN-EP to support the UNIBAT. The UN-EP supports both:

- Human Terrain Mapping
- Human Terrain Analysis



UN-EP Mission – Information Flow





Core Tasks of the UN-EP

The individual functions of members of the Engagement Platoon lead to three core tasks:

- Observe
- Engage
- Report



UN-EP Tasks

OBSERVE

- Map local communities and local groups
- Observe and monitor on areas with vulnerable and at-risk populations
- Identify past, current and future roles, missions and structure of local leaders/major actors of communities
- Collect data on key sites



UN-EP Tasks

ENGAGE

- Engage with the local population especially women and vulnerable populations
- Support the flow of information to mission partners within the AO
- Facilitate and Liaise with other mission partners
- Maintain regular contact with local communities
- Coordinate, integrate and liaise with UNIBAT Staff



UN-EP Tasks

REPORT

- Determine and report threats
- Determine and report indications of violations of UN policies or international law
- Determine and report imminent humanitarian crises or concerns
- Report local leaders and structures
- Determine and report the local social, economic, and security situation



Take Away

- The **aim of UN-EP** is always to enable the UNIBAT commander to accomplish the military mission
- UN-EP personnel have:
 - **Three core functions** (situational awareness, relationship building, and information sharing) and
 - **Three core tasks** (observe, engage, report)
- UN-EP personnel are **trained to ask the right questions of the right people at the right time**. UN-EP are NOT intelligence, Humanitarian or development specialists
- UN-EP gather and report data, managing the UN-EP information flow
- The UN-EP is not the only one conducting engagement



QUESTIONS?