

## **Ministry of Defence**

### **Innovation Center**

Innovation Center (Hub) in the Ministry of Defence is considered a community where people can collaborate easily. *The mission of the Center is to bring some out-of-the-box solutions to problems that this sector encounters, including problems that might arise at NATO level. In addition, the Innovation Center is focused on the development of new ideas and startups by encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship, stimulating demand in the fields of national security, civil defense, and cyber security, and building connections between important ecosystem actors, such as academia, industry, think-tanks, NGOs, and non-governmental organizations.* The Innovation Center will be open to the public, so it's not located at the same place as the Ministry of Defence, but will be located next to the new Museum of the Armed Forces. It's very convenient because this place is in the middle of nature and major communities, such as **academia, industry, and the military can coexist easily together.**

The Innovation Center will engage also with Programs such as the **Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Program** which promotes civil security-related practical cooperation based on scientific research, innovation, and knowledge exchange. The Mission of the Center is fully in line with the focus of this Program to link the scientific community to NATO through civil science cooperation that addresses emerging security challenges..

*Major areas where the Center will focus are:*

- **Civil Defence (CD)**
- **Cyber Security**
- **Secure systems that support National Security institutions**
- **ICT capacity building for the entire MoD / FA system**
- **Systems Integration**

**Main objectives of the Innovation Center:**

- Promoting innovation and increasing efficiency in processes and tools used by the Armed Forces and Civil Defence;
- Increasing cyber security and performance of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and Armed Forces systems according to NATO standards and guaranteeing the functionality of networks and computer systems;
- Cyber incident prevention, detection, response, and restoration of operational status in the Armed Forces' Communication and Information Systems;

- Improving communication service through the transition to a more advanced technology, using voice and video communication in all Armed Forces structures, and improving the operating capacity of the Communication and Information Systems for the secure exchange of information in real-time.
- Establishment of the necessary hardware and software infrastructure to support the work of the Photogrammetry and Geodesy sectors of IGJIU
- Increasing the capacities and knowledge of IGJIU and the relevant workforce, including other community actors on new technologies such as drones, as well as all necessary components such as sensors, specific cameras, and software, etc.

### **Services offered:**

Depending on the needs and priorities, the services offered at the Center are subject to an annual review of the Center's operation and objectives. They are classified into the following categories:

- Support for the creation of innovative projects within the structures of the Armed Forces and Civil Defence
- Startup Creation Support (Startup Incubator)
- Training and Educational programs
- Facility-based services and FABLAB
- Development of cyber security capabilities

**The Center will establish a sustainable support program focused on capacity building in the areas such as Information and Communication Technology, Civil Protection, Cybersecurity, etc.**

The proposed support program will provide financial assistance to start-ups through access to funding schemes secured by the budget of Ministry of Defense. In addition, the Center's target beneficiaries will also be encouraged to seek funding from donors and international organizations. The support program can also provide financial assistance to more advanced start-ups by investing in the form of equity, thereby encouraging and improving start-up operational costs.

### **Target segments:**

- MoD / AF structures (with a focus on the Armed Forces Academy)
- Start-ups, SMEs, Entrepreneurs
- Governmental Institutions
- Academia and Non-Governmental Organizations
- Development Organizations
- Working Professionals, Consultants, Researchers, and General Public