

### BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Congress granted the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) International Cooperative Programs Office (ICPO) authority to establish legal mechanisms and serve as the DHS's experts for international cooperative activities (6 U.S. Code 195(c)). ICPO strives to:

- Increase capability development and deliver solutions to operational end users.
- Harness global innovation to ensure a technological edge.
- Expand the impact of U.S. investments, technologies, and scientific leadership.

ICPO establishes international technology partnerships that provide an enhanced, cost-effective, cooperative approach to advance Department goals and Component capabilities worldwide. ICPO enables strategic engagements and collaborative research and development efforts that improve global interoperability and alliances to mitigate threats before they reach U.S. soil. ICPO supports the full spectrum of DHS operations in activities where both partners mutually contribute resources and benefit from the solutions.

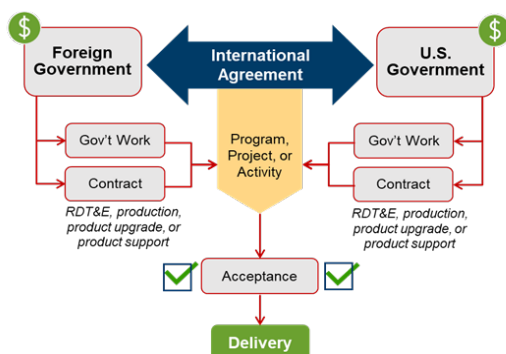


Figure 1: International Technology Partnership Process

ICPO is a centralized DHS resource supporting over 16 U.S. Government agencies to execute more than 500 U.S.-foreign activities with more than 30 countries and international organizations since its inception. These activities save U.S. taxpayer dollars by leveraging foreign funding and expertise. Through ICPO, foreign governments have invested nearly \$40M in DHS programs.

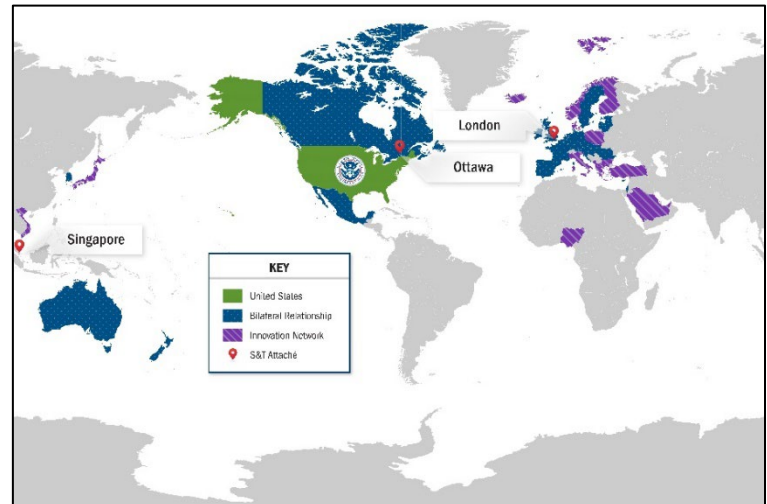


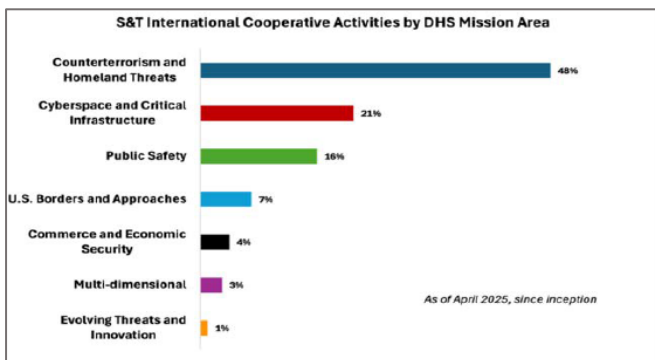
Figure 2: DHS S&T's International Partnerships

### PROGRAMS AND TOOLS

- **Bilateral Agreements** – ICPO manages government-to-government agreements that enable the exchange of personnel, resources, funding, and technical information. These agreements execute cooperative research, development, test, and evaluation (RDT&E) activities that enhance U.S. and partner capabilities, address DHS Component requirements, and reduce risks.
- **Multilateral and International Innovation Networks** – S&T's global science and technology awareness and leadership is increased through ICPO's outreach efforts, engagement with the European Commission, and participation in multilateral forums, such as the 5 Research and Development (5RD) Council and Networks.
- **Targeted Partnership Arrangements** – ICPO enables targeted engagement on specific challenges through focused, international arrangements, Memorandums of Understanding, and Letters of Intent.
- **Overseas Attachés, Senior Exchange Officers, and International Cooperation Specialists** – ICPO's team, including three overseas attachés and two foreign embeds within S&T, aid in the development of the relationships that further the goals of S&T, the Department, and the U.S. Government.

### IMPACT ON DHS MISSION

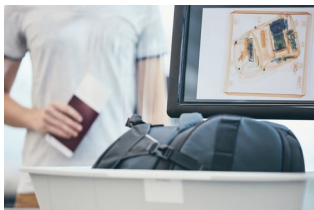
ICPO enables security technology partnership with governments around the world that help protect and promote the homeland, its infrastructure, and its citizens. By extension, these activities include U.S. and foreign industry and academic leaders in science and innovation. Cooperative partnerships enable the U.S. to access specialized foreign assets and testing environments, accelerate innovation, achieve financial efficiencies and expand U.S. technology marketability. ICPO reaches beyond U.S. borders so that DHS has access to the best technology and scientific advancements worldwide.



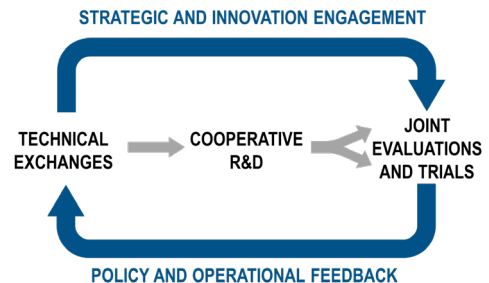
**Understanding Threats** – By enabling work with international partners, ICPO assists DHS components in developing a shared understanding of risks and threats, which is imperative to understanding what vulnerabilities need to be addressed. These cooperative activities, which can include knowledge, data, and material exchange, provide a fundamental basis for DHS to address risk from rapidly evolving global threats, while saving money for U.S. taxpayers.

#### Investing in Solutions –

ICPO seeks novel opportunities to share costs and influence global science and technology innovation. Since 2014, S&T and the United Kingdom have jointly invested in technologies that have improved screening capabilities for airports and crowded spaces. Projects have maximized screening efficiency, advanced baggage screening, and improved bottle screening.



**Operationalizing Countermeasures** – International cooperative activities raise security baselines around the globe. ICPO coordinates joint solution evaluations and field trials to increase effectiveness and interoperability with DHS's global partners needed to counter bad actors. For example, multilateral cooperation on unmanned aerial systems builds consensus around security measures and enables partners, such as U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to find answers to growing threats and conduct joint operations with partner nations, to include the first joint drone detection network on the Northern Border.



### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

ICPO developed the Departments' [Global Innovation, Research and Development \(IRD\) Strategy](#) to enable international activities across the breadth of DHS's mission areas. End states of the strategy include:

- Robust international cooperation that provides rapid and long-range delivery of technologies, evidence-based knowledge, and subject matter expertise;
- Science cooperation that increases global security capability innovation and adoption, reducing the burden to domestic operations; and
- Strategic engagements that reinforce U.S. leadership on security science and technology issues on behalf of DHS, consistent with U.S. government foreign policy objectives.

S&T's ICPO works with DHS, across the U.S. Government, and with international partners to successfully implement this strategy to increase understanding of the global threat and solution landscapes, accelerate innovation, and further the adoption of new technologies.