



National Infrastructure Protection Plan

International Issues for CI/KR Protection

The National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) brings a new focus to international security cooperation and provides a risk-based framework for collaborative engagement with international partners and for measuring the effectiveness of international critical infrastructure and key resources (CI/KR) protection activities. The NIPP provides the mechanisms, processes, key initiatives, and milestones necessary to enable the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of State, the Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs), and other security partners to address international implications and requirements related to CI/KR protection. The NIPP and associated Sector-Specific Plans (SSPs) recognize that protective measures do not stop at a facility's fence line or a national border.

Many U.S. CI/KR assets, systems, and networks are interconnected with a global infrastructure that has evolved to support modern economies. Each of the CI/KR sectors is linked in varying degrees to global energy, transportation, communications, information technology, and other infrastructure sectors. This global system creates benefits and efficiencies, but also brings interdependencies, vulnerabilities, and challenges in the context of CI/KR protection. Because disruptions in the global infrastructure can have cascading effects around the world, the NIPP and SSPs also must consider cross-border CI/KR, international vulnerabilities, and global dependencies and interdependencies. The Nation's safety, security, prosperity, and way of life depend on these "systems of systems," which must be protected both at home and abroad.

The NIPP strategy for international CI/KR protection coordination and cooperation is focused on:

- Instituting effective cooperation with international security partners, as well as high-priority cross-border protective programs. Specific protective actions are developed through the sector planning process and specified in SSPs;
- Implementing current agreements that affect CI/KR protection; and
- Addressing cross-sector and global issues such as cyber security and foreign investment.

International CI/KR protection activities require coordination with a wide range of security partners and must be designed and implemented to benefit the United States as well as its international security partners. As part of overarching international CI/KR protection, DHS will continue to work

to implement existing agreements with international security partners that include bilateral and multilateral partnerships. The key partners involved in these efforts and some examples of existing agreements include:

- **Canada and Mexico:** The United States entered into the 2001 Smart Border Declaration with Canada and the 2002 Border Partnership Declaration with Mexico, in part, to address bilateral CI/KR issues. In addition, the 2005 Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) of North America established a common approach to security to protect North America from external threats, prevent and respond to threats, and further streamline the secure and efficient movement of legitimate, low-risk traffic across the shared borders.
- **United Kingdom:** DHS has formed a Joint Contact Group with the United Kingdom that brings officials into regular, formal contact to discuss and resolve a range of bilateral homeland security issues.
- **Group of Eight:** The group issued a Statement on Counter-Terrorism in July 2005, citing three areas of focus related to CI/KR protection:
 - To improve the sharing of information on the movement of terrorists across international borders;
 - To assess and address the threat to the transportation infrastructure; and
 - To promote best practices for rail and metro security.
- **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):** The organization addresses CI/KR protection issues through the Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee, the senior policy and advisory body to the North Atlantic Council on civil emergency planning and disaster relief matters. The committee is responsible for policy direction and coordination of planning boards and committees in the NATO environment.

These and other DHS programs will help enhance the cooperation and coordination needed to address the unique challenges posed by the international aspects of CI/KR protection. Through the engagement of international security partners and cross-sector coordination, the United States will enhance its capabilities for protecting CI/KR, regardless of geographic location.



Homeland
Security

For questions or more information, please contact NIPP@dhs.gov or visit www.dhs.gov/nipp.