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ESTONIAN SOF EOD TRAINING PLAN

Many thanks for your email dated 26 Feb 26 requesting additional detail for the proposed EOD training in August 2026; there are several details still to be confirmed by the unit which may affect the current plan but the aim and objectives are unlikely to change.

It should be noted that we have not received a specific Statement of Work (SoW) to shape this plan or conducted a detailed Training Needs Analysis (TNA) to confirm its suitability; however, the proposed training plan is a direct result of our collective understanding of the current operational training needs based on a review of our previous deliverables in this subject with the Estonian Defence Forces.

SOF EOD operations demand a high level of coordination between teams and specialists, who in turn need high levels of technical knowledge and tactical flexibility to be effective under combat conditions. This course will revise many existing subjects and practical skills to develop these higher levels of competence and then facilitate a tactical exercise to develop the planning and coordination abilities for combined SOF EOD missions.

Aim

The aim of this training is to develop individual and collective skills for tactical operations involving explosive threats such as Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV).

Training Objectives (TO)

TO1 – to revise EOD operators in IED Technology and develop individual skills for Assault IEDD operations

TO2 – to revise SOF operators in C-IED Tactics, Techniques & Procedures (TTP) and to adapt plans for integration of EOD specialists into SOF teams.

TO3 – to develop UAV pilot skills for EOD operations.

TO4 – to develop Estonian Defence Forces capability for SOF missions in high threat IED, non-permissive environments.

Program of Instruction (POI)

A draft POI is provided below and will be confirmed once training venues, student numbers and resources are known.

Week 1

EOD operators

	0830 - 1030	1045 - 1230	1330 - 1530	1545 - 1730	Remarks
Day 1	Threat brief	IED Technology	CONOPS	Demonstration	CL1
Day 2	Operator Search TTPs		Ground Sign Awareness		CL1/TA2
Day 3	Mark & Avoid	Fast Disruption		IED Mitigation	CL1/TA1
Day 4	MNT Theory Revision		Stabilisation & Access practice		CL1
Day 5	Diagnostics practice		Disablement practice		CL1/TA1

SOF operators

	0830 - 1030	1045 - 1230	1330 - 1530	1545 - 1730	Remarks
Day 1	Threat brief	IED Tech	CONOPS	Demo task	CL1
Day 2	IED Theory	IED Tactics	Assault IEDD TTPs		CL2/TA2
Day 3	Ground Sign Awareness		Special Recon tactics		TA2
Day 4	Direct Action tactics		Direct Action tactics		TA1
Day 5	Hostage Rescue tactics		UAV/EOD demo		TA1

UAV operators

	0830 - 1030	1045 - 1230	1330 - 1530	1545 - 1730	Remarks
Day 1	Threat brief	IED Technology	CONOPS	Demo task	CL1
Day 2	Planning	UAV Prep	UAV Pilot skills practice		CL3/TA1
Day 3	UAV prep	EOD attack skills			CL3/TA2
Day 4	Rural Mini task - Recon		Rural Mini task - Attack		CL3/TA2
Day 5	Urban Mini task - Recon		Urban Mini task - Attack		CL3/TA1

Notes:

CL – Classroom (CL1,2,3)

TA – Training Area (TA1 – Urban, TA2 – Rural)

Week 2 – Final Exercise

	0830 - 1030	1045 - 1230	1330 - 1530	1545 - 1730	Remarks
Day 1	Exercise brief	Ex Prep	Group practice		CL1
Day 2	Task 1 – Special Recon				CL1/TA2
Day 3	Task 2 – Direct Action				CL1/TA1
Day 4	Task 3 – Hostage Rescue				CL1/TA1
Day 5	Debrief & Critique		Equipment coord & dispersal		CL1

The FINEX is designed to provide collective training and develop skills for integration of EOD and UAV specialists into SOF missions. The exercise scenarios will reflect real world IED threats with a hostile peer-enemy.

Post-Training

The above training will conclude with a constructive debrief from the instructional team on student performance and a discussion on possible areas for development; students will also be given the opportunity to critique the training for the following areas:

- Course design and content
- Standard of Instruction
- Any other issues

All points raised will be collated into a written report for the unit along with a photo diary of the training.

Financial

A quotation for this year's proposed training is attached and is a Firm Fixed Price of €86,500.00 for the duration of the agreed contract which is scheduled for 3 more years.

Future training plans

For the subsequent years of 2027/28/29, it is proposed to offer a selection of training subjects which the EST EOD can then decide upon to best suit their operational requirements. The following course options are:

- NATO IEDD (Conventional IEDD training)
- High Threat IEDD (Advanced IEDD training)
- MNT IEDD (Category A IEDD incidents)
- SOF EOD (Assault IEDD training)

It is also possible to consider selecting a combination of the above or to focus on a specific IED threat or IEDD skill if required; it is requested that a decision on the desired training is made by EST EOD no later than 31 May each year to enable adequate preparation. Once confirmed then a detailed program of instruction will be produced for approval by the relevant contracting authority.

Please direct any further queries to the undersigned.



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