



JCABRN Defence COE

per virtutem ad securitatem

Crosscutting Functions in CBRN Defence

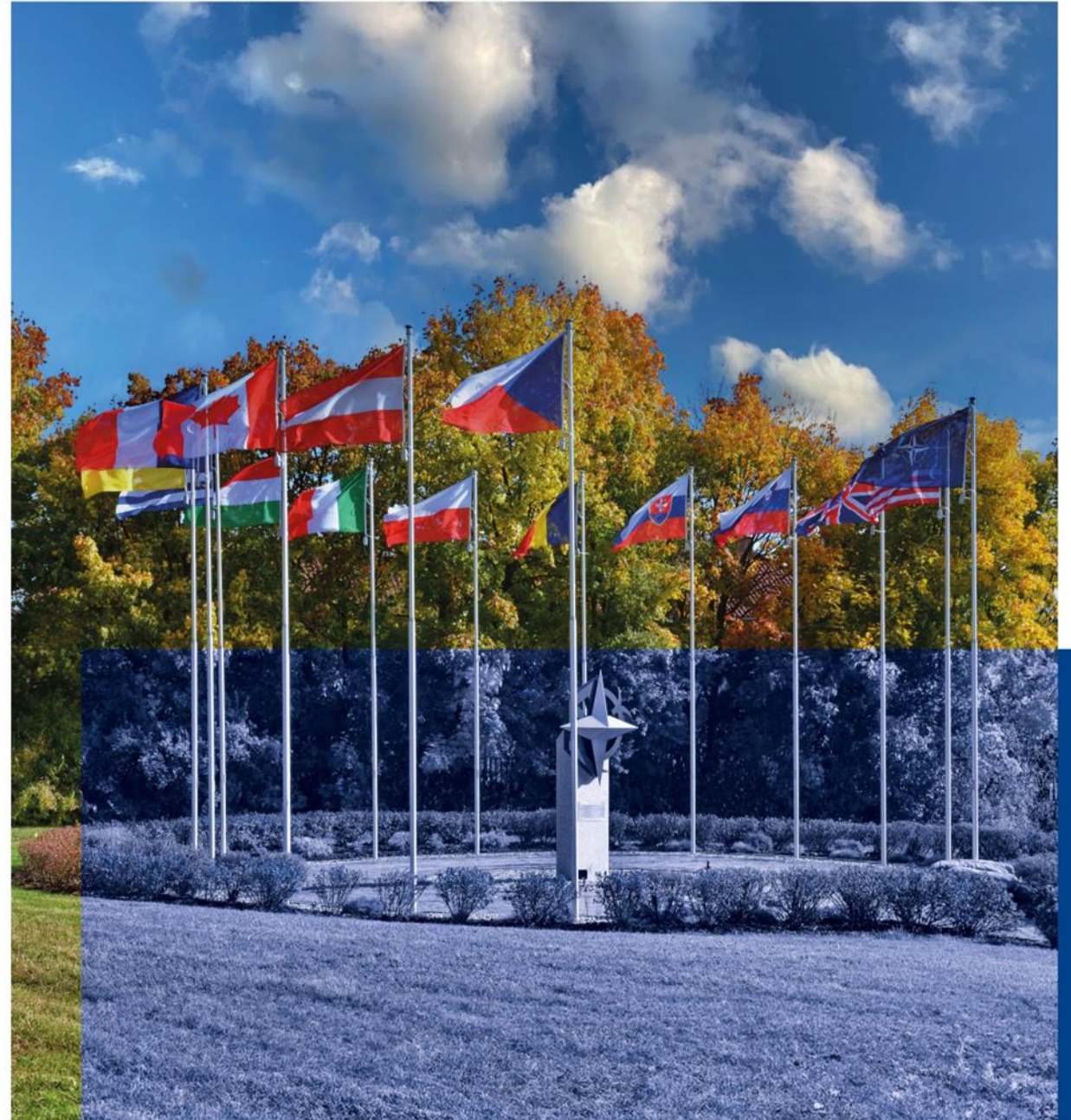
COL Michael FIRMIN

Director, ETED

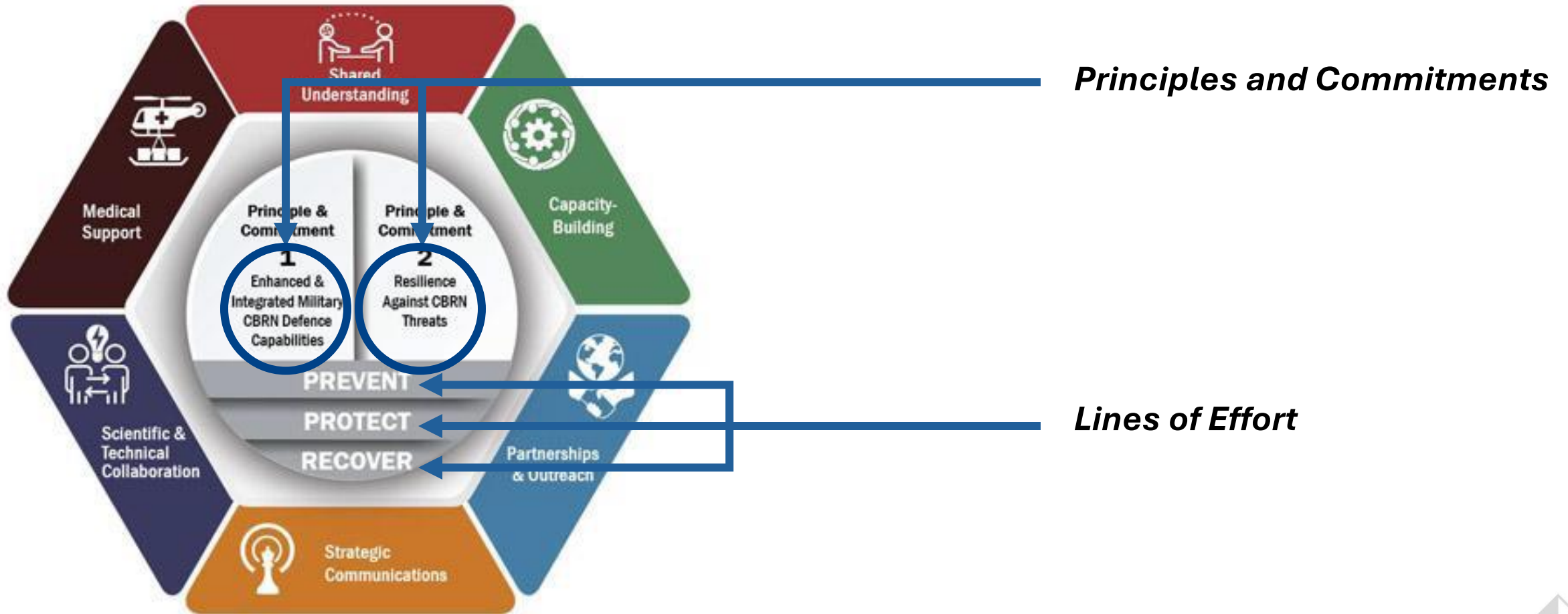
6 November 2024

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NATO CBRN DEFENCE POLICY



NATO'S CBRN DEFENCE CONCEPT

Crosscutting Functions

- **“...disciplines that converge with CBRN defence throughout all CBRN defence Lines of Effort...they contribute to strengthening the deterrence and defence posture of the Alliance.”**
- **“...support NATO to fulfil its two CBRN defence core principles and commitments.”**



NATO'S CBRN DEFENCE CONCEPT

Crosscutting Functions

- **Joint Functions**
- **Medical Support**
- **Climate Change and Environmental Protection**
- **Gender Inclusivity and Considerations**
- **EOD/Counter IED**
- **Technical Exploitation (TE)/CBRN Forensics/Attribution**
- **Emerging Disruptive Technology**
- **Strategic Communication**



IMPORTANCE OF CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS

- ✓ Conflict, fragility and instability in Africa and the Middle East directly affect our security and the security of our partners... *These are aggravated by the impact of climate change*, fragile institutions, health emergencies and food insecurity. (NATO 2022 Strategic Concept)
- ✓ Climate change is a defining challenge of our time... *Our forces need to operate in more extreme climate conditions*, and our militaries are more frequently called upon to assist in disaster relief. (NATO 2022 Strategic Concept)
- ✓ Changes in operating conditions due to climate change will affect the types of CBRN challenges that NATO forces face and the capabilities required to overcome them... *the Alliance will incorporate climate change considerations into its work, to enhance CBRN defence capabilities and the resilience of the Nations.* (MC 0603 (draft))



Flooding in Slovenia, August 2023



IMPORTANCE OF CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS

Education and Training Considerations

- ✓ CBRN related ETEE should incorporate and reflect ... *changes in the threat environment and the adaptation of specific CBRN defence capabilities.* (MC 0603)
- ✓ Climate. *Consider impact of climate on agent persistency and performance degradation of personnel.* (ATP-3.8.1, VOL I)



Kammena Chaloupka, Czechoslovakia
circa 1962



Precise Response, Canadian Forces Base Suffield, July 2024
Photo by Capt. Stephen Stecura



GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

Mainstreaming gender into CBRN defence makes an important contribution to increasing readiness and supporting national resilience CBRN threats (NATO Strategic Communications Framework on CBRN Defence)

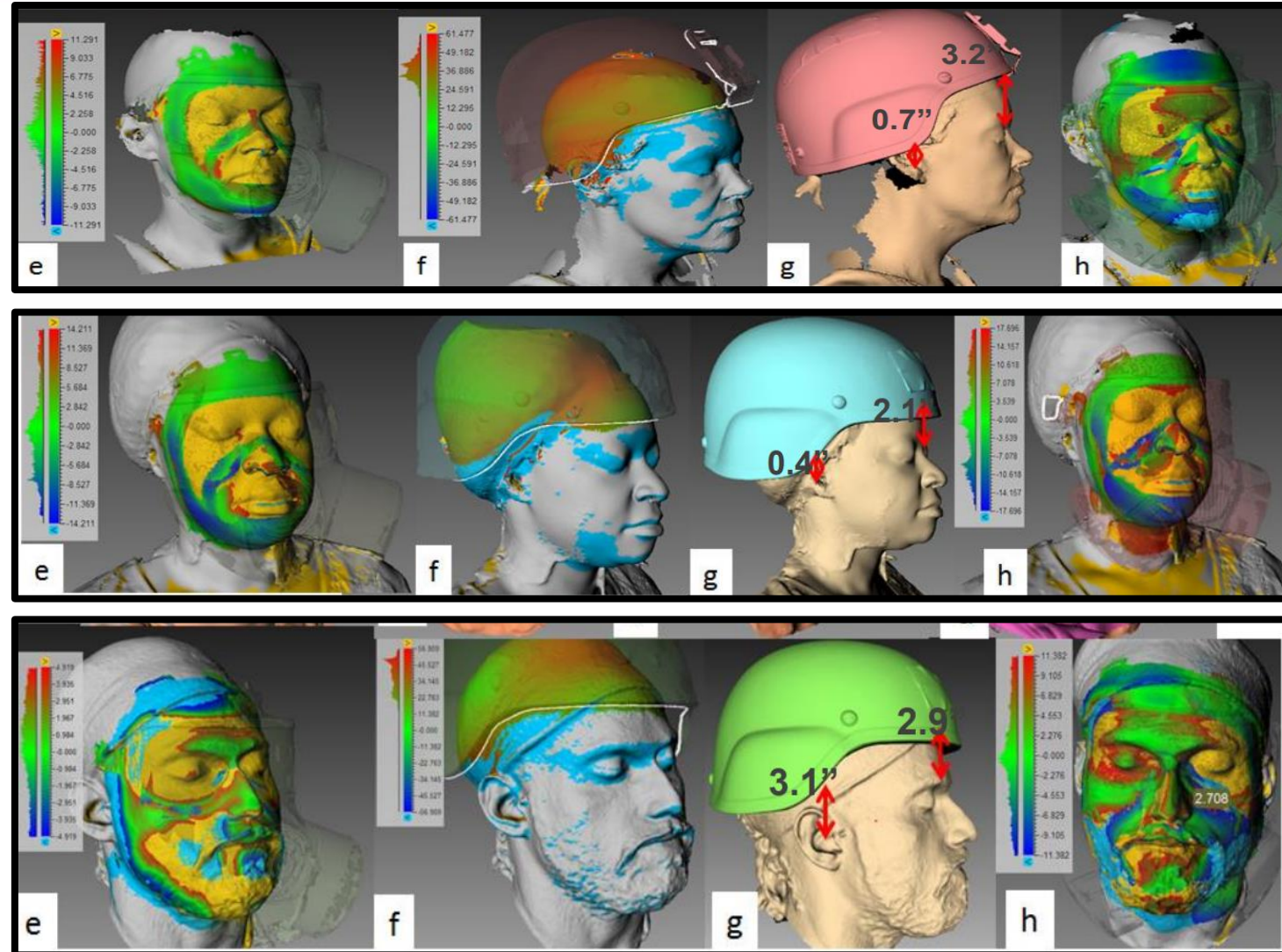
*Gender perspective is defined as the ability to detect if and when **men, women, boys and girls** are being affected differently by a particular situation due to their gender (MC 0603 (draft))*



GENDER CONSIDERATIONS

Changing Service Member demographics

- Beards
- Non-conventional headgear
- Bulk hair
- Small cranial dimension
- Facial fit challenges



STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

Our own fear is as much an adversary as those who seek to cause fear (Unknown)

The strategic center of gravity is public trust (Consequence Management Guide for CCMRF Operations)

*In order to maintain Alliance credibility and cohesion, NATO will continue to execute deliberate and proactive StratCom activities to **explain and ensure support for NATO's CBRN defence and counter-proliferation activities and mitigate the effects of hostile information activities, including disinformation and propaganda (MC 0603 Draft).***

