Community Based - Ready - Focused on People
“We must try harder to understand their cultures, norms and values. We must be able to look at life, with all its heartache and joy, from their perspective. ...in some places we defend the interests of the United States best by defending the right of others to live free, by seeing the world through their eyes and by being the best of all possible ambassadors.”

ADM Mike Mullen
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
SD State Partnership Program (SPP)

- National Guard SPP established in 1993
- **Why**: In response to the radically changed world-political-military situation following the collapse of Communism
- **Strength**: Guard's citizen-soldiers
- **Concept**: Link NG with democratic nations in cooperative activities of mutual benefit and interest
- Develop across the full spectrum of society

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Overall Objective: Build a “2 Way Bridge between partners,” establishing and nurturing bonds of mutual understanding at the grass roots level

Focused Objectives:
- Improve military interoperability
- Demonstrate mil subordination to civil authorities
- Develop democratic institutions
- Foster open market economies
- Share humanitarian values
• Processes:
  - Executed with National Guard Bureau (NGB), USSOUTHCOM, and Department of State Directives
  - Funding through NGB/USSOUTHCOM/Department of State/government and private sources in South Dakota
  - Bi-lateral exchanges: information and technology transfer
Types of SPP Cooperation

- Professional Military Education
- Command and Control Command Post Exercises
- Small Unit Exchanges
- Consequence Management
- Environmental Management and Education
- Military Medical Exchanges
- Civilian Medical Exchanges
- Civilian Education Exchanges
- Search and Rescue (Command Post Exercise and Actual)
- Emergency Preparedness
- Counter Drug
- Humanitarian Construction
- Border Control
- Senior Leader Development
- Civic Leader Development
- Public Affairs
- Business partnership

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Benefits to South Dakota and Suriname Citizens

• Increase Economic Opportunities between Partners
• Promote Civilian to Civilian Partnerships
• Share Information and Technology: Agriculture, Medicine, Mining, Education, Public Safety, Tourism, State Government
• Extend Business Opportunities
• Expand Cultural Awareness of Citizens
NATIONAL GUARD SPP
Linking American States to Partner Countries for effective bilateral relations

Today 56 countries linked with 44 states, 2 territories and DC

Participating States

- Alabama / Romania
- Alaska / Mongolia
- Arizona / Kazakhstan
- Arkansas / Guatemala
- California / Ukraine
- Colorado / Jordan
- Connecticut / Uruguay
- Delaware / Trinidad-Tobago
- District of Columbia / Jamaica
- Florida / Venezuela
- Florida / Guyana
- Georgia / Georgia
- Hawaii/Guam / Philippines
- Illinois / Poland
- Indiana / Slovakia
- Kansas / Armenia
- Kentucky / Ecuador
- Louisiana / Belize
- Louisiana / Uzbekistan
- Maryland / Estonia
- Maryland / Bosnia
- Massachusetts / Paraguay
- Michigan / Latvia

- Minnesota / Croatia
- Mississippi / Bolivia
- Missouri / Panama
- Montana / Kyrgyzstan
- Nevada / Turkmenistan
- New Hampshire / El Salvador
- New Jersey/New York / Albania
- New Mexico/ Costa Rica
- New York / South Africa
- North Carolina / Moldova
- North Dakota / Ghana
- Ohio / Hungary
- Oklahoma / Azerbaijan
- Pennsylvania / Lithuania
- Puerto Rico / Honduras
- Puerto Rico / Dominican Republic
- South Dakota/ Suriname
- Tennessee / Bulgaria
- Texas/Neb / Czech Republic
- Utah / Morocco
- Vermont / Macedonia
- Virginia / Tajikistan
- Washington / Thailand
- West Virginia / Peru
- Wisconsin / Nicaragua
- Wyoming / Tunisia
South Dakota

Wyoming & Montana to the West – Minnesota and Iowa to the East – North Dakota to the North-Nebraska to the South

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South Dakota Facts

- **Governor:** Mike Rounds (re-elected November 2006)
- **Government:** State Government consisting of 35 Senators and 70 Representatives-105 total legislators
- **Land area:** 77,163 square miles (slightly larger than Suriname)
- **Population:** 781,919 with an annual growth rate of .7% (2004 estimate)
- **Capital and largest city:** Pierre (Pop: 14,095) & Sioux Falls (Pop: 151,000)
- **Language:** English
- **South Dakota National Guard:** 4,400 members (1,000 Air & 3,400 Army)
- **Terrain:** Fertile plains to shrublands to rugged hills with dense forest
- **Climate:** Four very distinct seasons ranging from typically very cold winters and hot summers.
- **Waterways:** Missouri River is largest and longest. The Cheyenne, James, Big Sioux, and White are other notable rivers.
- **People:** 88.5% white, 8.8% American Indian, 2.1% Hispanic, 0.8% Black, 0.7% Asian, and 2.1% ‘other’.
- **Religions:** 86% Christian denomination (largely Lutheran and Roman Catholic), 8% agnostic, 3% faith in a non-Christian religion
- **Education:** Compulsory to 18 yrs of age - literacy rate 99%. State has 15 Universities/Colleges/Technical Schools supporting secondary education needs.
South Dakota Facts

• Economics:
  - **GSP**: US $32.3 billion
  - **Natural resources**: Beef, poultry, wheat, corn, wool, soybeans, oats, timber, etc.
  - **Major employers**: Agriculture, financial services, construction, manufacturing, retail trade, education, and health services.
Pierre- South Dakota’s Capital

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Military Exchanges

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Badlands

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Status of SPP

• Initial Coordination Visit to Embassy Conducted 20-25 Sep 06
• 24-30 Nov 06 Fact-Finding Trip Conducted
• Initial SD Leader Visit to SUR 14-19 Mar to meet w/Suriname and US Embassy officials
• First SUR Business Visit to SD 9-11 Apr 07
• First Surimanese Armed Forces Visit to SD Jun 07
• Working 1-2 Year Program Development with Partner Nation and SD Organizations
• SDNG Captain working in US Embassy to coordinate events and programs
• Presentations to SD Institutions/Organizations on SPP to develop interest and plan future exchanges
SPP Future Focus

• Economic Development: tourism, trade, training
• Education: faculty, students, research
• Mining: environmental, processes, education
• Medical/Public Health Exchanges
• Military: professional development, exercises
• Small Business Development: agriculture, consumer products
• Business Engagements
• Civic Organization Partnerships: Rotary, Lions, Optimists, Boy/Girl Scouts
• Church and Relief Organizations
• Cultural, Arts, Tribal Exchanges

Community Based - Ready - Focused on People
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State Partnership Program

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Security through Cooperation

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