

Monitoring Progress

The monitoring and coordination structures for the Global Partnership have evolved to meet needs. The Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG), chaired by the current G8 President, brings together all Global Partnership participants to review implementation, coordinate activities, exchange experiences, identify opportunities for cooperation, including "piggybacking," and prepares the annual report to G8 Leaders. As well, in some areas, coordination groups have been established to facilitate cooperation in specific areas. One such body is the 16-member Contact Experts Group, which provides a forum for facilitating work related to submarine dismantlement. Another, in the CW destruction area, is the Shchuch'ye Coordination Working Group, comprising Canada, Russia, the U.K. and the U.S. Experience is showing the value of these informal arrangements as a mechanism to consult and coordinate, avoid duplication, fill gaps and share experiences and best practices.

Domestically, the Global Partnership Program operates on a whole-of-government basis, involving over two dozen federal government departments and agencies. The Program receives advice from the senior level interdepartmental Global Partnership Advisory Group and also from the Science, Technology and Trade Advisory Group, which ensures that projects involving the redirection of former weapons scientists reflect Canada's priority R&D interests and needs.

Outlining the horrors of terrorism and WMD, Kofi Annan said:

"Many experts tell us the question is not whether, but how soon, the two will be combined—and we see, for example, a 'dirty bomb' detonated in central London, or some other major capital. The loss of life would be shocking, but as nothing [compared] to the social and economic effects."

— Kofi Annan, Secretary General, United Nations; from an article by the UN News Service (February 10, 2005)



Canadian monitoring visits