The course is expressively designed to familiarize defense and military officials as they prepare to organize and conduct any type of review of their armed forces and/or the defense estate. Based on ISG’s extensive experience assisting in designing and conducting strategic defense reviews, the course supports officials as they frame the challenges facing the defense institution and assists and advises them as they identify those areas that require review/analysis. A major element of any review is to ensure that the financial aspects of all activities and organizations within the defense institution are properly costed and assessed.

PARTICIPANTS
The course is designed for civilian defense officials and military officers in all ranks who are supporting a defense review. This can also include members of the executive and legislative branches of the government, as well as civil and private sector representatives (from academia, political parties, and NGOs).

OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

♦ Understand the key aspects and likely challenges to be faced when conducting a defense review
♦ Frame cost-benefit/capability trade-offs ensuring comparisons are accurate and reflect policy guidance
♦ Inform senior leadership of the key importance of accurate costing of the entire defense estate
♦ Utilize financial and accounting data in support of decision-making
♦ Brief defense/military officials on experiences of other democracies conducting defense reviews
♦ Appreciate the importance of the implementation phase of a defense review

TOPICS
The course curriculum is richly developed from professional experience in the field and a deep study of the literature. As such, it is highly adaptable to customizing for countries, thereby addressing specific topics that are a priority to partner nations’ senior leadership. Instruction is highly interactive and uses simulations and exercises to delve into country-specific issues which enables the course to discuss and determine practical solutions. If agreed, the results can be formatted as a briefing for senior leadership. Possible modules include:

♦ Understanding defense reviews: lessons learned
♦ How to use cost-benefit/capability trade-offs methods and techniques
♦ Determining the total cost of the defense estate
♦ Essential financial tools needed to support a defense review
♦ Importance of communication during and after a defense review
♦ Comparative implementation methods and techniques

PARTICIPANTS
The course is designed for civilian defense officials and military officers in all ranks who are supporting a defense review. This can also include members of the executive and legislative branches of the government, as well as civil and private sector representatives (from academia, political parties, and NGOs).
FACULTY
ISG employs a diverse faculty with strong professional, academic, military, and government backgrounds. This faculty core is augmented by other government experts (both civilian and military) and subject matter experts (SMEs) drawn from universities, think tanks, international organizations, and industry.

ENROLLMENT
Courses are conducted for partner countries as part of the United States government’s security assistance and security cooperation efforts. As such, participation in ISG courses is managed through the security cooperation office of the US Embassies in partner countries. Interested, non-US persons should contact the international cooperation section of their own government or the relevant US Embassy for selection processes and enrollment. ISG reserves limited space in courses for US citizens. Interested US citizens may contact ISG to discuss availability.

FUNDING
ISG can accept most types of US government funding. Courses are typically funded by IMET, FMF, FMS, CTIWFP, PKO, and other DoD-wide O&M funds (333, MSI, etc) on a case-by-case basis. Cost estimates can be obtained by contacting ISG.

ABOUT ISG
The Institute for Security Governance (ISG) is a global security cooperation organization established to build partner capability and grow the field and practice of institutional capacity building (ICB). Located in Monterey, California, ISG serves as the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA)’s primary resource for ICB integration and implementation, project scoping and design, and education and advising expertise.

This course is a key component of ISG’s 25-year-long effort to provide military and civilian officials with unique education and professional development programs. Designed to cultivate individual understanding of complex issues and foster peer-to-peer learning, this custom-tailored course offering brings theoretical and applied learning practices into an exciting and rich classroom environment.