The JALLC is NATO’s lead agent for Lessons Learned. The JALLC achieves its mission through the collection, analysis, and dissemination of Lessons-related information. The NATO Lessons Learned Portal is NATO’s primary tool to manage and analyse all Lessons-related information. This Portal, developed and actively managed by the JALLC, is the Alliance’s Lessons Learned hub and forms in addition an integral part of the Lessons Learned Process. Upon tasking, the JALLC conducts Joint Analysis projects on NATO-wide, enduring, and complex issues, providing recommendations in order to improve current NATO capabilities and support future capability development.

Activities Although the JALLC was originally conceived to primarily analyse exercises, changes to the NATO environment and growing NATO involvement in operations resulted in the JALLC’s focus shifting to operations and major NATO Response Force exercises. Gradually, the JALLC has become engaged in a wide range of activities, such as managing and maintaining the NATO Lessons Learned Portal, developing and delivering Training Courses, and maintaining the NATO Lessons Learned Handbook and the Joint Analysis Handbook. The JALLC also organizes the annual NATO Lesson Learned Conference which covers themes topical to NATO Lessons Community and draws participants from across NATO, Partner Nations, and other organizations.

Operational since 2002, the JALLC is located in Lisbon, Portugal. The JALLC has a multinational staff with its members coming from NATO and Partner Nations and includes both military and civilian staff members.

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The NATO Lessons Learned Portal (the Portal) is NATO’s centralized hub for all Lessons Learned information related to NATO’s Lessons and is managed and maintained by the JALLC, based in Lisbon, Portugal.

Observations that Lessons Identified, and even Lessons already Learned can be submitted to the Portal from all over NATO. The JALLC ensures that this valuable information finds its way through the NATO Lessons Learned Process and is tracked in the Portal.

The Portal is effectively the gateway to the NATO Lessons Learned Process which is how we learn as an organization and transform the Alliance. Once data (i.e. something we think needs to change) is fed into the Portal, trained and experienced Lessons Learned Staff Officers can analyse that data to determine whether or not it can be turned into Lesson Identified which needs to be endorsed and implemented. If it is a Lesson Identified, then concrete action is taken to make necessary changes within NATO. Once those changes have been implemented and validated, we have learned the Lesson and it can be disseminated throughout NATO so we don’t repeat mistakes and learn from our successes.

Communities of Interest

The Portal also contains dedicated areas for specific Communities of Interest (COI). These COIs can be requested by a sponsor organization and are set up by the Portal Managers at the JALLC but managed and populated by the sponsor organization. For example, the Portal currently hosts COIs for Geospatial, Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices, and Cyber Defence.

The Portal really is your portal and relies on your input. After all, the Portal is a collection of experiences, both good and bad, from the people who work (and have worked) within the organization. If we don’t capture these experiences, then the opportunity for Transformation, Innovation, and Improvement is lost. It is your responsibility to make sure we can capture it.

You Make it Work!