



## **FACT SHEET**

# Defense Threat Reduction Agency

On the Web: [www.dtra.mil](http://www.dtra.mil)

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### **The Defense Threat Reduction Agency**

The Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) is both a Defense Agency and Combat Support Agency with two distinct yet highly integrated roles countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and emerging threats. Its origins stretch back to World War II and the Manhattan Project, but today the agency encompasses a wide variety of strategic and operational functions that deter, prevent, and ultimately prevail against these unique threats.

#### **MISSION**

DTRA enables the Department of Defense (DoD), the United States Government and international partners to counter and deter weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and emerging threats.

#### **WHO WE ARE**

Our experts bring a variety of skill sets and expertise, and a diverse range of perspectives to address critical challenges facing our nation.

#### **WHAT WE DO**

DTRA protects national security interests in a rapidly evolving, globalized threat environment through its trans-regional focus while enabling the understanding of our adversaries and providing solutions to WMD threats.

#### **WHO WE HELP**

Dual-roles as a defense agency and combat support agency, we support the U.S. Combatant Commanders and military services.

#### **CORE FUNCTIONS**

DTRA's five core functions cover a wide variety of programs, projects, individual missions, and research and development efforts aimed at preventing the development or acquisition of WMD, the use of WMD, and responding to the use of WMD or an incident involving CBRN materials. The core functions are:



### **Ensuring a reliable, resilient strategic deterrent through nuclear surety, mission assurance, and crisis response activities.**

- DTRA supports the U.S. nuclear deterrent through nuclear readiness and modernization, mission assurance, force preparedness and response, and treaty verification. In an evolving and complex geopolitical environment, the Agency is dedicated to maintaining a reliable strategic deterrent while increasing the resiliency of our Joint Force capabilities.

### **Developing and delivering novel capabilities to the warfighter across the threat spectrum.**

- DTRA's portfolio contains critical technologies that enable the Joint Force to disrupt, defeat, disable, and dispose of WMD threats and advance deterrence against WMD through cross-cutting technologies for the USG, our Allies, and partners.
- Capabilities developed by the Agency address our intelligence community's hardest problem sets, the posture of the Joint Force, and the inspection and detection mechanisms that underpin international stability.

### **Preventing, reducing and eliminating CBRN threats through risk reduction, arms control, partner capacity building and warfighter support.**

- Agency activities improve our ability to interdict WMD proliferation and secure vulnerable WMD materials through cooperative threat reduction, treaty implementation and verification, and partner capacity building.
- China, Russia, and North Korea have confirmed WMD stockpiles and all seek to undermine U.S. and allied interests. DTRA provides support to Joint Force operations focused on integrated deterrence and denying the benefits of coercion and aggression.
- By combining cutting-edge technology with sustained engagement and security cooperation initiatives, DTRA improves U.S. and partner nation ability to mitigate the threats posed by nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

### **Providing strategic and operational support through subject matter expertise reachback, tailored technical analysis, and exercise support.**

- DTRA enhances the Department's ability to counter revisionist powers' foreign influence and military forces across the globe.
- China and Russia seek to degrade established U.S. relationships while expanding and modernizing their WMD capabilities to exploit U.S. and allied vulnerabilities.
- Agency subject matter experts, analysts, planners, and strategists examine scenarios related to potential future conflicts with WMD-capable adversaries and emerging WMD threats. Further, DTRA assesses developments among scientific disciplines, technologies, and materials that may shape or advance WMD threats and opportunities, including strategic and operational analyses focused on National and Departmental priorities.

### **Supporting combatant commands with plans, concepts, exercises and materiel solutions to address CBRN operational risks.**

- The Agency provides the Joint Force, Allies, and partners with unique insight into adversary WMD force posture, doctrine, and systems. In particular, DTRA examines how potential adversaries plan to employ and integrate WMD during conflict. DTRA activities and resources equip U.S. and allied forces to overcome operational challenges in a WMD battlespace.
- The risks and consequences of conflicts with WMD-armed adversaries are mitigated by developing counter-WMD technical solutions, highlighting WMD warfighting challenges and adversary vulnerabilities through strategic and operational analysis, and supporting DoD plans and exercises focused on countering WMD threats.



## AGENCY DIRECTOR LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES

*While the functions identify what DTRA does, the Director's Priorities identify how:*

### Team Oriented

This Agency is large, complex, diverse, multifaceted, and dispersed, but we must still aspire to be a single cohesive team. We will emphasize transparency and open lines of communication as the foundation of teamwork. Historical stovepipes must be replaced with Agency-wide integration impacting our ability to anticipate customer needs during crisis, synchronize our considerable resources to increase effectiveness, and working with key partners where our purposes align.

### People Centric

People are the most valuable resource in an organization. We have a unique body of capabilities, well-suited to tackle the dynamic WMD challenges on the horizon. The Agency can maximize the strategic impact of its human capital through innovative partnerships, both internal and external. By embracing our individual capacity to advance shared goals, we will achieve our mission and realize the vision of fewer WMD threats.

### Mission Focused

Everything we do at DTRA comes down to one thing: protecting the American people and our way of life. We must prevent, reduce, and counter current and emerging WMD threats, sustain a safe, secure, and effective nuclear deterrent, and enable the Joint Force, Allies, and partners to compete and win against WMD-armed adversaries. It is a complex and dynamic mission because of the nature of the CWMD challenge – from adversary conceptualization and development of innovative WMD threats to U.S. forces' mitigation and recovery from those threats.

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