Overview: The International Defense Acquisition Resource Management Program (IDARM) offers a two-week Spanish language in-residence course entitled “Principles of Defense Acquisition and Contract Management,” at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California. This course provides a practical examination of defense acquisition and contract management with an emphasis on acquisition planning, contract management, negotiation of defense contracts, and building and sustaining accountability in defense acquisition decision making. The course addresses the importance of managing risk throughout the defense acquisition life cycle with a focus on the pre-contract award phase during week one and the post-contract award phase during week two. International best practices and global trends are discussed with a tailored focus on specific challenges and opportunities within the Latin American context. At the end of this course, participants will have developed a better understanding of the fundamental concepts and challenges associated with national and global defense acquisition and contract management.

Objectives:
1. Provide course participants with an understanding of the fundamental concepts and challenges associated with defense acquisition and contract management decision making.
2. Examine capabilities based requirements planning along with the relationship among national security and military strategies and the defense acquisition, procurement and contracting systems.
3. Examine competition and sourcing methodologies with a focus on the characteristics of efficient and effective acquisition and contract management policies.
4. Assist countries in their efforts to develop and institutionalize transparent, efficient and effective defense acquisition and contract management systems.

Topics: The evolution and current state of defense acquisition and contract management policies and management practices in a defense environment characterized by civilian control of the military, acquisition planning, risk management, performance based logistics, requirements evaluation and definition, competition and sourcing, disagreements and complaints, contract negotiations, post-award contract management considerations, cyber security, and transparency, fraud, and ethics.

Faculty: The course is taught by resident faculty from the School of International Graduate Studies and Graduate School of Business and Public Policy. Faculty lectures are augmented by presentations from distinguished practitioners who are subject matter experts in various topics within defense acquisition and contract management.

Participants: This course is designed specifically for Spanish speaking international military officers and civilian equivalents of grades O4-O6 who are engaged in a broad range of defense acquisition (e.g., policy development, strategic planning, requirements definition, logistics, program management) and/or contract management fields (e.g., materiel planners, requirements developers, end users, contract managers, analysts, tender evaluators, contract negotiators, and source selection decision makers). Countries are encouraged to nominate more than one participant. Early programming is encouraged as the course quota is limited to 25 participants.

Materials: The course is taught in Spanish with simultaneous interpretation, and course materials will be provided in English and Spanish.

Course Dates: The course is offered annually in June. Participants shall plan to arrive at the Monterey Regional Airport (MRY) on the Saturday prior to the course start date and depart on the Saturday after the course end date. This two-week course can be exported and customized given a country’s specific requirements. In-country MASL is P319623.