







North Atlantic Treaty Organization



Media Backgrounder Media Backgrounder

As of 29 November 2012, nations contributing Operational Coordination Centre Advisory Teams (OCCATs) are:

• Australia: 1

NATO

OTAN

- Finland: 1
- France: 1
- Germany: 2
- Italy: 3
- Lithuania: 1
- Poland: 1
- Spain: 1
- Sweden: 3
- United States: 16
- Turkey: 1
- United Kingdom: 1

NATO supporting initiatives

The NATO-ANA Trust Fund

Created in 2007, the NATO-ANA Trust Fund provides a mechanism for the broader international community to support the following activities:

- ANA sustainment,
- ANSF long-term literacy, English language training and professional military education,
- Transportation and installation costs for equipment donations by ISAF nations to the ANA, purchase of ANA equipment and services for engineering infrastructure projects, in- and out-of-country training.

The NATO-ANA Trust Fund acts in complement of other bilateral and multinational trust funds which support the ANSF financially and with equipment donations. The US Afghan Security Forces Funding represents the most significant bilateral financial initiative. The Law and Order Trust Fund established by the United Nations Development Programme supports the Afghan Police, whereas the NATO ANA Trust Fund allows the broader international community to support the capacity and capability development of the Afghan National Army.

At the Chicago Summit, nations pledged significant financial commitments to the sustainment of the Afghan Security Forces after 2014. As of September 2012, national contributions and pledges made to the NATO-ANA Trust Fund total 490,628,500 Euros.

The NATO Equipment Donation Programme

Created in 2006, the NATO Equipment Donation Programme provides a mechanism through which Allies donate essential equipment, from uniforms and medical equipment to ammunition and helicopters.

The NATO-Russia Council (NRC) Helicopter Maintenance Trust Fund

Launched in March 2011, the NRC Trust Fund provides vitally-needed maintenance and repair capacity, including the provision of spare parts and technician training, to the Afghan Air Force helicopter fleet.

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Public Diplomacy Division (PDD) - Press & Media Section
Tel.: +32(0)2 707 1010/1002
E-mail: mailbox.moc@hq.nato.int

www.isaf.nato.int



Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF): Training and Development

ANSF capacity in numbers

Current Force Level

- Afghan National Army (ANA): 178,501 troops.
- Afghan National Police (ANP): 148,536 officers
- Afghan Air Force (AAF) (created in 2007): 6,325 personnel; 96 aircraft
- ANA Special Operations Command: approximately 10,000 (includes Commandos and special forces)

ANSF size and cost post-2014

The current ANSF total growth target remains of 352,000 forces by February 2013. The Afghan National Army achieved its growth target ahead of schedule. The Afghan National Police is also well on track to achieve its goal ahead of schedule.

Discussions on the future size and cost of ANSF are currently ongoing between the International Community and the Afghan authorities.

The sustainment of the ANSF post-2014 remains the responsibility of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the International Community as a whole. At the Chicago Summit, Afghanistan, NATO Allies and ISAF partners announced an agreed vision for the ANSF. NATO will pay a contribution to ANSF long-term funding.

Growing ANSF capacity

- Since its creation in 2002, the Afghan National Army has been moving from an infantry-centric force to a fully-fledged army to comprise both fighting elements and enabling capabilities such as military police, intelligence, route clearance, combat support, medical, aviation and logistics.
- The role of the Afghan National Police is shifting from countering the insurgency to a more civilian policing role, by further developing capabilities from criminal investigations to traffic control.
- Meanwhile the Afghan Air Force now has more than 150 trained pilots and 96 aircraft, including gunship, attack and transport helicopters and light aircraft. Special Mission Wing stood up on 18 July in support of ANA Special Operations Command.
- According to the Afghan National Quarterly Assessment Research survey of June 2012, 75% of Afghans consider ANSF as very capable or capable to protect their community. 91% perceive the security level as good or fair.

Training and Leadership

- Since November 2009, the ANSF have trained over 50,000 officers and NCOs through a variety of leadership courses. Leadership institutions, such as the Afghan National Military Academy, have been established in Afghanistan to provide the ANSF with a long-term self-generation capability.
- Approximately 85% of training is carried out by Afghans themselves, with a total of 3,667 trainers.
 All training at the Kabul Military Training Centre (KMTC) is completely led and taught by ANA
 personnel, where over 100 instructors provide instruction to between 7,000 and 9,000 ANA soldiers
 every day.
- On 18 September, Afghan Infantry Branch School at Darulaman Garrison, Kabul, was handed over to the Afghans.
- Police training centres are also being handed over to the Afghans. Full leadership of the largest Afghan National Police training centre in the north of Afghanistan was handed over to the Afghans on 26 April.



- Up to a dozen vocational schools have opened, trained leaders have increased by 500% and retention is higher than ever with 87% of the Basic Warrior Training recruits passing Grade 1 literacy testing.
- Back in 2009, 86% of all new ANA recruits were illiterate and there was no mandatory literacy training.
 By contrast, nearly 300,000 ANSF have now completed basic literacy training or higher.

Conduct of operations

ANSF participate in all and lead nearly half of conventional operations. All ISAF Special Forces operations are partnered, 80% are Afghan-led.

Since the beginning of transition in July 2011, the ANSF have been taking on their security responsibilities. Today, 75% of the Afghan population live in areas increasingly protected by their own troops and police. ANSF assume leadership for both the planning and executing of operations, with a clearly reduced level of ISAF involvement.

ISAF support for the ANSF remains critical, notably in the provision of key enabling capabilities. This support will remain until such time when the ANSF are fully capable of acting independently.

Women in the Armed Forces

There are currently 380 women in the Afghan National Army. Women currently represent approximately 3% of new ANA recruits and the numbers continue to increase steadily.

There are 1,467 women in the Afghan National Police. On 9 August, ANP Women's Police Corps graduated 13 female NCOs from its inaugural course at Regional Training Center-West.

There are 27 women in the Afghan Air Force, including five female pilots.

Afghan Local Police

Established in July 2010, the Afghan Local Police (ALP) program is led by the Afghan Ministry of Interior. It is village-focused and complements counterinsurgency efforts by targeting rural areas with limited to no ANSF presence in order to enable conditions for improved security, governance and development.

The ALP program districts exist in locations where the local populace has requested an ALP presence. These communities then select local defenders to serve as their ALP.

ISAF supports the ALP program through the provision of funding, training, equipping and technical assistance to the Afghan Ministry of Interior.

There are currently 16,300 ALP forces.

Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF)

The transition of private security companies to the Afghan Public Protection Forces is part of the overall transition to Afghan-led security. In accordance with Presidential Decree 62 from 17 August 2010, most Afghan and international Private Security Companies (PSCs) operating in Afghanistan will be dissolved and their responsibilities transferred to the APPF. Only embassies and other accredited diplomatic entities will be allowed to continue using PSCs.



APPF units are under the responsibility of the Afghan Ministry of Interior. They are trained and armed in selected districts of Afghanistan to protect people, vital infrastructure and construction projects and convoys. APPF guards do not have a mandate to investigate crimes or arrest suspects.

There are currently more than 14,000 guards as part of APPE. Work is currently underway to transfer 11,000 Afghan guards currently working for PSCs to APPFs. Their responsibilities will be concentrated on development sites and on convoys.

ANSF Recruitment and Vetting

Recruitment follows an eight-step vetting process, which includes endorsement by local elders, biometric data checking and medical (including drug) screening. Following the increase of insider attacks during the summer, this process has been strengthened, as outlined in a new Afghan Presidential Decree.

Counter-Infiltration Plan

On 14 March 2012, following a request by NATO Defence Ministers, the North Atlantic Council endorsed a plan to reduce the risk of attacks on ISAF by Afghan national security forces personnel. The plan was developed by the commander of ISAF in close cooperation with his Afghan counterparts. It aims at strengthening ISAF security measures; revising and improving vetting and monitoring procedures for Afghan national security forces; and intensifying cultural awareness training for both ISAF and ANSF to bridge the cultural gap.

In cooperation with ISAF, the ANSF have also undertaken several initiatives to improve their recruitment, vetting and screening processes. In addition, Counter-Infiltration staff are embedded with the ANSF and in training schools to monitor the behaviour of Afghan service members. Training is ongoing to increase the number of those officers to 850. ANSF are also to focus on strengthening leadership; ensuring that soldiers and police get adequate leave and regular pay; that weapons are accounted for properly, and that all ANSF are medically screened and drug tested.

In reaction to the recent increase of insider attacks, these measures have been re-vitalised, and additional initiatives have been taken on both sides to ensure the best protection to ISAF troops and ANSF in the field.

NATO's Training, Mentoring and Advising Role in Afghanistan

NATO's Training Mission in Afghanistan (NTM-A) was established on 21 November 2009, bringing together NATO and national training efforts under one umbrella. It works in close partnership with the Afghan Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Interior, as well as in collaboration with the European Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL) and the European Gendarmerie Force. There are currently 38 nations contributing to NTM-A.

Training, Advising and Assisting of Afghan National Security Forces is carried out by the Military Advisory Teams (MATs) and Police Advisory Teams (PATs). The Operation Co-ordination Centres Advisory Teams (OCCATs) are key elements in the support of ANSF commanders in coordinating the employment of forces in their area, and are the means through which ISAF support may be requested.

As transition to Afghan-led security moves steadily forward, concept known as Security Force Assistance is being developed, and all these teams are now more generically named Security Forces Assistance Teams.

As of 29 November 2012, nations contributing full MATs are:

- Albania: 1
- Australia: 7
- Belgium: 2
- Bulgaria: 3
- Croatia: 4
- Czech Republic: 1
- France: 5
- Germany: 12
- FYRoM: 1
- Armenia: 1
- Hungary: 2
- Italy: 11
- Lithuania: 1
- Norway: 1
- Poland: 3
- Portugal: 1
- Finland: 1
- Romania: 3
- Slovakia: 2
- Slovenia: 2
- Spain: 5
- Sweden: 2Turkey: 10
- United Kingdom: 7
- United States: 77
- Multinational: 11

As of 29 November 2012, nations contributing full PATs are:

- Croatia: 2
- Germany: 2
- Denmark: 1
- France: 1
- Finland: 1
- Italy: 7
- Netherlands: 4
- Poland: 5
- Spain: 6
- Turkey: 3
- United Kingdom: 8
- United States (PMTs): 158