



INFO

NATO-Russia Council Project on Counter-Narcotics Training of Afghan, Central Asian and Pakistani Personnel



In December 2005, the Foreign Ministers of the NATO-Russia Council (NRC) launched a project to help address the threats posed by the Afghan narcotics industry and trade. A unique NRC initiative, the Counter-Narcotics Training of Afghan, Central Asian and Pakistani Personnel project is being carried out with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which has acted as the implementing agency from the initial stage.



The initiative seeks to build local capacity and promote regional networking and cooperation by sharing the combined expertise of NRC nations with mid-level officers from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan (who joined in 2010), Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.



The project provides two types of training:

- 1) mobile training by teams of instructors from NRC countries and Finland who travel to the region, and
- 2) training at fixed facilities in NRC states. Current facilities include the Domodedovo Centre near Moscow, the TADOC Academy in Ankara, and the North-West Training Centre in St Petersburg.

Over 1500 officers from the region have been trained under this NRC project, which is supported financially and through in-kind contributions by 21 NRC nations and Finland. At the NRC Lisbon Summit in 2010, Heads of State and Government agreed to expand the project and provide further direct assistance to institutional capacity-building and sustainability in the region.



KEY FACTS:

- ▶ Started as NRC Pilot Project in 2006
- ▶ Turned into an ongoing initiative in 2008, and expanded at the 2010 NRC Lisbon Summit
- ▶ Project trainees have been involved in some of the largest drug seizures in the region
- ▶ By June 2011 over 1500 Afghan, Central Asian and Pakistani personnel have been trained
- ▶ Project is composed of 21 NRC nations and Finland, and 7 regional partners

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For more information go to:
www.nato.int
www.nato-russia-council.info