

Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)



Current force levels of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)

- **Afghan National Army (ANA):** approximately 183,000 personnel including nearly 10,500 special forces. The ANA structure includes 6 corps located in different parts of the country, 1 division (consisting of 2 brigades) based in Kabul, and 24 additional brigades (including 2 Mobile Strike Force brigades also based in Kabul). Since its re-establishment in 2002, the ANA has grown from an infantry-centric force to an army which is progressively developing both fighting elements and enabling capabilities.
- **Afghan National Police (ANP):** approximately 151,000 personnel. The ANP is comprised of: the Afghan Uniform Police, including the community police, traffic police, and fire-fighters; the Afghan Border Police; the Afghan Anti-Crime Police, including a counter narcotics, a counter terrorism, and a criminal investigations department; and the Afghan Civil Order Police, which provides crisis and anti-terror response capabilities in urban environments.
- **Afghan Air Force (AAF):** approximately 6,700 personnel, including aircrew and maintenance and support personnel. The AAF currently has a fleet of 92 fixed-wing and rotary aircraft. The re-establishment of the AAF began later than that of the Army and Police and is expected to transition to autonomous operations by 2017.

ANSF size and cost post-2014

The sustainment of a sufficient and capable ANSF post-2014 is the responsibility of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan supported by the International Community. At the NATO Summit in Chicago in May 2012, NATO and ISAF nations agreed to play their part in the long-term sustainment of ANSF post-2014. Work on the development of appropriate, coherent and effective funding mechanisms and expenditure-arrangements is currently underway.



Conduct of operations

ANSF participate in all and lead 92% of all operations, from routine tasks to high-level operations, including special operations. Since the beginning of transition to full Afghan security responsibility two years ago, the ANSF are taking the lead for security for almost 90% of the Afghan population.

The Afghan Government and security ministries are now assuming responsibility for the planning and execution of the campaign. Since February 2013, Afghanistan's Ground Forces Command, the operational headquarters under the Ministry of Defence, oversees the campaign. ANSF are also taking increasing responsibility for missions of combat service support, including medical evacuation and route clearance operations.

Training

Training of the Afghan security forces focuses primarily on the development of those specialized skills and capabilities necessary to professionalize the force, as well as the strengthening of training institutions, structure and processes.

Roughly 90% of the training is carried out by Afghans themselves and is conducted in both Dari and Pashto, Afghanistan's two official languages.

Literacy training is compulsory for all security personnel. Training aims at ensuring that personnel have enough literacy training to positively impact their performance.



Women in the Armed Forces

There are currently 1,531 women in the Afghan National Police, 416 women in the Afghan National Army, and 33 women in the Afghan Air Force.

Afghan Local Police

Established in July 2010, the Afghan Local Police (ALP) is village-focused and has defence purposes only. It complements Afghan-led counterinsurgency efforts in rural areas with limited ANSF presence in order to enable conditions for improved security, governance and development. To date 106 of 136 districts have been validated throughout Afghanistan, meaning they have been recognized as being ready to take control of security in that district. Currently consisting of over 22,000 members, the ALP program is on track to achieve 30,000 members by the end of 2014.

Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF)

In accordance with Presidential Decree 62 from 17 August 2010, most Afghan and international Private Security Companies (PSCs) operating in Afghanistan are being dissolved and their responsibilities transferred to the APPF. Only embassies and other accredited diplomatic entities will be allowed to continue using PSCs.

To date, the Afghan Government has trained about three-quarters of the nearly 26,000 personnel required for the APPF. As a bridging strategy to cover the current personnel shortfall, ISAF has requested the government to exempt some ISAF locations, such as fixed site bases, from having to have APPF guards until the Afghan Government can train the remaining APPF personnel. Approximately 80% of the people currently working for private security companies are Afghan citizens.

ANSF Recruitment and Vetting

The ANSF vetting process is an Afghan-led process that screens all ANSF candidates through a multi-step process.

This eight-step vetting process includes an identification check, two guarantors personal information verification, a criminal check, a verification stamp, drug screening, medical screening and personal data (biometric) screening.

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 and is being implemented.

The plan 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 Afghan authorities have also undertaken a series of initiatives and measures aimed at improving their recruitment, vetting and screening processes. These include the introduction of re-vetting procedures for ANSF personnel either returning from leave, or returning to duty after a period of absence; the development of investigation mechanisms to identify and learn from previous insider attacks; the enhancement of counter-intelligence



efforts, as well as an increase in arrests of individuals suspected of supporting or working for the Taliban.

In addition, counter-infiltration staff will be 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 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.

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 institutional 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). There are currently 37 nations contributing to NTM-A.

Advising and mentoring of Afghan National Security Forces was carried out by NATO's Operational Mentoring and Liaison Teams (OMLTs) and Police OMLTs (POMLTs). These have gradually evolved into 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. All these teams are now more generically named Security Force Assistance Teams (SFATs).

There are currently 381 ISAF Security Force Assistance teams in theatre.

As of 03 June 2013, the following nations are contributing to MATs: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, FYROM¹, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

As of 03 June 2013, the following nations are contributing to PATs: Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

As of 03 June 2013, the following nations are contributing to OCCATs are: Australia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

NATO supporting initiatives

The NATO-ANA Trust Fund

Created in 2007, the NATO-ANA Trust Fund provides a mechanism for ISAF nations to support the transportation and installation costs for equipment donations by ISAF nations to the ANA; the purchase of ANA equipment and services for engineering projects; and in- and out-of-country training.

In March 2009, the scope of the ANA Trust Fund was expanded to support the long-term sustainment of the ANA.



¹ Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.



The ANA Trust Fund is also open for contributions by the broader International Community. As of April 2013, national contributions and pledges made to the current NATO-ANA Trust Fund total almost 600 million Euros.

At the NATO Summit in Chicago in May 2012, NATO Allies and ISAF nations agreed to play their part in developing appropriate, coherent and effective funding mechanisms and expenditures arrangements for all strands of the Afghan National Security Forces. They agreed that such mechanisms would have to be flexible, transparent, accountable and cost effective and would need to include measures against corruption. Currently, work is ongoing to adapt the existing NATO-run Trust Fund to continue beyond 2014 as one of the funding streams envisaged to channel pledged funding support by the International Community towards the Afghan National Security Forces.

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

Launched in March 2011, the NRC Trust Fund provides maintenance and repair capacity, including the provision of spare parts and technician training, to the Afghan Air Force helicopter fleet. As of April 2013, some 30 personnel have received training under the project.

At the NATO Russia Council Meeting in Foreign Ministers format, in Brussels, on 23 April 2013, the second phase of this project was launched. It will include activities on more types of helicopters and in support to the development of the Afghan Air Forces medical evacuation capabilities.

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