

Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)



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

- Afghan National Army (ANA):** approximately 185,300 personnel including nearly 11,000 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 commanded from Kabul, and deployed as needed throughout the country). 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. The ANA is approximately 96% complete with fielding forces with 11 specialty battalions remaining to be fielded. The NTM-A (NATO Training Mission - Afghanistan) mission focuses on training, assisting, and advising the ANA leadership in fielding and developing institutional capabilities such as logistics and education, in order to build an enduring security force (Afghan National Security Forces - ANSF).
- Afghan National Police (ANP):** approximately 152,600 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. The Afghan National Police includes also a General Directorate Police Special Unit (GDPSU). The GDPSU comprises three National Units with a mandate to operate across the entire country and 19 provincial units called Provincial Response Companies (PRCs) that operate in direct support of the Provincial Chief of Police. PRCs conduct the following mission sets: high risk arrests; cordon and searches; quick reaction force; armed reconnaissance; vehicle interdiction; reconnaissance patrol; cache recovery; and security patrolling.
- Afghan Air Force (AAF):** approximately 6,600 personnel, including aircrew and maintenance and support personnel. The AAF currently has a fleet of 100 fixed-wing and rotary aircraft, including 2 just delivered C-130s and 12 Mi-17 helicopters that began being delivered this past September. 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

Since the announcement of Milestone 2013 on 18 June, the Afghan security forces have been taking the lead for security across Afghanistan. They now plan and conduct larger and more complex operations. They are also taking increasing responsibility for missions of combat service support, including medical evacuation and route clearance operations. For instance, in July 2013, the largest Afghan-led joint and combined arms operation in more than 30 years, called Operation Seemorgh, was launched in eastern Afghanistan. In this operation, the Afghan Air Force worked closely with the Afghan National Army to support troop movements, resupply and conduct casualty evacuation across Afghanistan. 250 troops and more than 6,000 kilograms of combat supplies were flown into the battlefield. Within the framework of this operation, Afghan forces units also distributed medical supplies, tons of wheat and voter registration materials. During August and September, another large scale operation, called Operation

Oqab, was conducted in southern Afghanistan. It featured the involvement of special forces, elements of the Afghan National Police and personnel from the National Directorate of Security, as well as air assaults.

As of September 2013, the Afghan Air Force has conducted 993 casualty evacuation missions, in comparison with a total of 329 in 2012. During this fighting season, Afghan Commandos and Special Forces led approximately 1,200 operations, and Afghan police special units have conducted roughly 800 operations, including interdiction missions. Moreover, in the past four months, the Afghan Air Force flew over 1,560 hours in support of combat operations.

Training

Training of the Afghan security forces and institutions 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.

More than 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. The majority of Afghan National Security Forces have now completed or are in the process of completing basic literacy training and are able to pursue their curriculum at a more advanced level as necessary.

Women in the Armed Forces

There are currently over 2,000 women in the Afghan National Security Forces, of which 1,570 in the Afghan National Police, 465 in the Afghan National Army, and 52 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, 119



of 170 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 24,000 members, the ALP program is on track to achieve 30,000 members by the end of 2014.

Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF)

The Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF) is designed to progressively assume responsibility for convoy operations and protection of ISAF and ANSF sites. This is in line with the ongoing process of transition of full security responsibility to the Afghan National Security Forces by the end of 2014.

To date, the APPF has trained 16,483 guards. This represents over three quarters of the 19,000 required personnel.

The APPF has received support from the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A) since 2011. This support consists of mentorship on support to government and non-governmental organizations; convoy operations; international site transition; and business management.

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 continues to be embedded with the ANSF and in training schools to monitor the behaviour of Afghan service members. The ANSF has established an anonymous reporting system, as well as a Credibility Assessment Program to identify, dismiss and/or judicially process infiltrators within the force. Also, the Ministry of Interior has screened over 80,000 service members since the implementation of their insider threat mitigation initiatives and continues to re-screen personnel with the objective of completing the entire force. Additionally, the Afghan National Army has instituted cultural training with unit level Religious and Cultural Affairs advisors to further mutual understanding and support of the Afghan and ISAF forces.

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 25 nations contributing to the mission. NTM-A will be integrated into the ISAF Joint Command by the end of 2013.



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 Advisor Teams (SFA-AT).

As of October 2013, the following nations are contributing to MATs: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

As of October 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 October 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 has been gradually expanded over time and now supports the long-term sustainment of the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Security Forces literacy and professional military education.

The ANA Trust Fund is open for contributions by the broader International Community. As of April 2013, national

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



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. Under Phase 1, as of September 2013, three training courses have been successfully completed and 30 trainees have been reintegrated back into the Afghan National Army Air Corps.

At the NATO Russia Council Meeting in Foreign Ministers format, in Brussels on 23 April 2013, the second phase of this project was launched. Currently, helicopter repair and maintenance training is being provided for another 10 Afghan helicopter technicians. Support for developing the Afghan Air Force's medical evacuation capability is also being provided.

Public diplomacy division (PDD) - press and media section

Tel.: +32(0)2 707 1010/1002

Email: moc@hq.nato.int

www.isaf.nato.int

#NATO #DefMin