SPC supports UNAMA Police Advisory Unit in the development of the Afghan model of community policing

On 25 August 2013, SPC Police Reform Adviser Pekka Kokkonen, completed his three-month deployment to Afghanistan where he operated as part of the UNAMA Police Advisory Unit (PAU) on activities related to the development of the Afghan model of community policing.

SPC’s deployment to UNAMA PAU focused on strengthening community policing (police-e-mardumi) for the Afghan National Police (ANP) and in coordinating with other relevant sections of UNAMA in assisting the authorities to ensure that programs and strategies of the ANP are designed to strengthen community policing and the capacity of women police.

UNAMA PAU, supported by SPC, ensured progress towards the holding of the MoI Community Policing Conference and subsequent workshops/ seminars planned for seven pre-determined provinces where the Community Police Teams were present or would be established. In addition, advice and support was provided to the UNAMA-led Afghan Democratic Policing Project (ADPP).

Throughout the deployment, SPC supported UNAMA PAU in advising and coordinating with Ministry of Interior (MoI) officials, the ANP, relevant Afghan NGOs, the UN Country Team, including the UNDP Law and Order Trust Fund in Afghanistan (LOTFA), and also several bi- or multi-lateral partners.

“During my mission, I worked with the Ministry of Interior Sub-Working Group on Community Policing in order to support a sustainable community policing in Afghanistan,” said Mr. Kokkonen. “Special focus was to ensure the inclusion of women police officers in the Community Police teams. I have also provided guidance to UNAMA Police Advisory Unit’s primary goal of strengthening women police in the ANP and increasing access to justice for women and children.”

UNAMA PAU was also supported in assisting the MoI and Working Group 4 (WG4) to create the Two Year Action Plan for Afghan model of the community policing based on 10-year Vision of the Ministry of Interior.

The Plan is a practical implementation tool which includes several priorities and actions needed to implement community policing in Afghanistan.

In coordination with the MoI and the international WG4, an Organizational Chart for the MoI Community Policing Directorate was developed. This proposed organizational structure had been agreed by other stakeholders and greatly assisted in the discussions on budgeting and manning of future Community Police Directorate posts.

The proposed organizational structure also included Gender and Human Rights elements. With the specific Gender and Human Rights Units of the Community Policing Directorate, the MoI ensured that the organizational structure was also designed to strengthen the capacity of women police.

During several discussions with the MoI it was acknowledged that it was essential to ensure a sufficient number of woman police officers at both the provincial level and in the Mol Community Police Directorate. The MoI had agreed to fill 10% of all police posts of the Community Police Directorate with female police officers.

“Having previous experience on police development in Afghanistan helped me to fulfil the ToR of my deployment” said Mr. Kokkonen. “I appreciated the solid working relationship that I had established with my national counterpart which greatly expedited all our development efforts.”
In Sierra Leone, SPC’s support to UNIPSIL focuses on Security Sector Reform

From 19 March to 19 May 2013, SPC Reform Adviser Jane Grausgruber, was deployed to Sierra Leone to support the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL) to collaborate with UNDP, UNODC, as well as national partners and bi-lateral actors, to develop a UN coherent strategy to support the Government of Sierra Leone in its review of the security sector.

Also included in the main objectives of the deployment was to propose a structure for the UN Police, to be responsive, in the appropriate context, in line with the UN Security Council Resolution and implementation of the same, after the closure of the mission.

The deployment also focused on the development of a roadmap to implement the residual tasks remaining under UNIPSIL’s mandate in the SSR domain.

“As the mission is in its end state; there were many perceptions as to what this really meant for Sierra Leone, and in particular for the security of the public and for the overall performance of the security sector. Reassuring that the UN was transitioning its support from a “mission” to the country team proved vital,” said Ms. Grausgruber.

Assistance was rendered in the preparation of a summary report of findings and recommendations, and a concept for UNPOL through to the end state of UNIPSIL and possible support beyond.

Furthermore, Ms. Grausgruber contributed to the draft UNDP SSR Programme and participated in various activities at the mission, including Security Sector Review Validation Workshop, meetings with national counterparts, meetings with bi-lateral partners, internal meetings with UNIPSIL mission components and UNPOL, meetings with UNODC, UNDP and other UN agencies.

“My two-month deployment to UNIPSIL was intensive but rewarding. I appreciated the overwhelming professionalism and collegial friendship of the Sierra Leone security actors, and the support and partnership from UNIPSIL, UNODC, UNDP and others within the UN family,” said Ms. Grausgruber.

SPC supports UNDP Chad on gender affairs and investigations

Police Division/SPC continued to provide support to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Chad through the deployment of SPC officers.

Since early January 2013, SPC has already deployed four specialists, including SPC Investigations Officer Mahmoud Abu-Salman and SPC Gender Affairs Officer Odile Kantyono who were the last two SPC specialists who recently completed their mission to UNDP Chad.

From 5 March to 6 May, the SPC Investigations Officer supported UNDP in assisting the Détachement Intégré de Sécurité (DIS) in developing the capacities of its officers in the area of criminal investigations and judicial police.

The activities organized for DIS included specialized training on crime scene management and a specialized two-week training course on judicial police and criminal investigations techniques which were both conducted for twenty-five (25) DIS officers in Abéché training center. Five in-service training sessions held in Abéché and in other DIS units in other regions and an interactive session on the relationship between police and justice, with the participation of the attorney general of Abéché, were also conducted.

“I think that SPC’s assistance mission to UNDP in Chad can be considered as a good example of an inter-agency cooperation within the UN system,” said Mr. Abu-Salman. “This kind of initiative, which should be further enhanced and observed, results to a collective effort that leaves a major impact on the work of the organization.”

Primarily aimed to increase the professional capability of DIS’s female gender officers, Ms. Kantyono supported UNDP with the capacity building of the DIS, including the refresher training programmes in line with existing development initiatives.

Through training on gender, child protection, human rights and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), DIS’s gender officers were left better equipped to address these issues in the camps.

Assistance was also rendered to DIS in drafting a gender policy to improve female police officers’ working conditions within the DIS and a sexual harassment policy to better protect female police officers against sexual harassment and other gender-based violence within DIS.

Inputs were also provided in producing two generic modules on gender and SGBV for use by DIStor and in translating gender, child protection and SGBV modules into French which were adapted to Chad’s setting.

“The fact that traditions continue to bring heavy impact on the lives of women and men in Chad, made my mission very challenging,” said Ms. Kantyono.

“I recall organizing a training dominated by male participants and it was quite a challenge to instil in them that some of the traditions were considered as SGBV and that girls and women have to be protected from these issues.”

“Since majority of SGBVs are still not considered by many people as illegal, the training on gender, child rights, human rights and SGBV should be delivered to the police and gendarmerie to help them better protect the population,” Ms. Kantyono added.