

PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme

Afghanistan Country Office, Shah Mahmood Ghazi Watt, Kabul



Picture the Police: “Enhancing Security and Rule of Law for Afghans” Photo Exhibition Opened

Kabul, 8 June 2010 — UNDP and Ministry of Interior (Mol) opened a Police Photo Exhibition: “Enhancing Security and Rule of Law for Afghans” to showcase the achievements of one of the UNDP’s key projects, Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan (LOTFA), in the implementation of the project prioritized activities relating to the Afghan National Police (ANP), with focus on key issues of monitoring and accountability, as well as the cross-cutting components of institutional development and gender mainstreaming.

There is corresponding results-oriented advocacy for the reinvigorated ANP, in the process of becoming a professional, effective, better trained and accountable police force, with strengthened capacity for service delivery, and the difference this is making for stabilization of Afghanistan in the security sector.

“This exhibition can bridge the police and public. It highlights the relationship of the police and society and can help building public trust on police by showcasing their services. Thanks to International Community and LOTFA project for their assistance in developing the capacity of Afghan National Police.” said General Munir Mangal, Acting Minister of Interior while opening the photo exhibition.



It is hoped that the Exhibition will prove useful to the broader public by way of information sharing and knowledge building of the LOTFA-Mol processes and achievements, even in the understanding that security-sector deliverables are not easily measurable and necessarily have a longer term horizon.

“This exhibition is to advocate further for the Afghan National Police. We are proud of having a more capable, effective and transparent police through LOTFA project. 99 per cent of the police force benefit from Electronic Payroll System, 77 per cent receive their salaries through banking system (Electronic Fund Transfer), some 300 police officers trained in gender concepts in domestic violence, 600 Mol officials trained in financial management, accountancy and human resources and 800 women recruited into the police force.” said Robert Watkins, the United Nations Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary General in Afghanistan.

The Photo Exhibition is complemented with a Painting Exhibition, “My Police: The Child’s Eye View,” capturing the very personal perceptions of the street children of the NGO, Aschiana

UNDP is the UN’s global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

(meaning “nest”), between the age group of 10 to 15 years, as they see the police around them, and how the police activities impact upon their daily lives. UNDP-LOTFA seeks to be guided from this larger police sector perspective in its project output deliveries.

LOTFA is financially the largest UNDP project globally. It is a multilateral trust fund set up in 2002 providing a mechanism for coordinating contributions from international partners, with the priority of covering police salaries and other police activities, as part of the international community support to rebuild the Afghan police force. LOTFA is nationally managed, with the Afghan Ministry of Interior being the nodal government implementing partner. The Ministry of Finance is the other implementing partner. The largest contributors to the Fund are the United States of America, European Union and Japan. Other contributors are Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

The Exhibition will run through 10 June, with display of around 90 photographs and write-ups on LOTFA.

Should you need further information on this press release or any other UNDP programme in Afghanistan, please contact Fezeh Hosseini, UNDP-Afghanistan Public Information Officer on (+93) 0700 475 714 or (+ 93) (0) 20 212 4098 or email to fezeh.hosseini@undp.org

UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.