



NATO in Afghanistan

NATO support to Afghan National Army (ANA)

(June 2007)

The provision of direct support to the ANA is one of NATO-ISAF's key military tasks. NATO-ISAF has now fought alongside the ANA and is committed to providing continued direct support to it, through mentoring, training and equipment support.

- Building an effective ANA is critical to building a self-sustaining Afghanistan.
- The US is the G8 lead nation for the development of the Afghan National Army (ANA) and very significant progress has been made; further work is required to strengthen ANA mobility, combat support and combat service support.
- NATO's involvement with the ANA focuses on its employment rather than its manning, initial training and sustainment. NATO assists the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to bring the ANA up to operating capability through the provision of Operational Mentor and Liaison Teams (OMLTs). These teams support training and deploy on operations in an advisory role.
- OMLTs play a particularly important coordinating and de-conflicting role between ANA and ISAF operations.
- NATO has now deployed 20 OMLTs, and the Alliance is working to increase this number significantly.
- The Asia Foundation survey of 2006 reported that 87% of those Afghans interviewed trusted the Afghan National Army.
- The Afghan National Army is truly a "national" institution representing every major ethnic group.
- The ANA is growing in strength and capability every day. Three years ago, there was no ANA to speak of, but today the ANA stands at 35,000, many of whom are conducting operations side by side with ISAF forces. In many cases, the ANA is now engaged in or leading major operations.
- Recent equipment donations completed:

Hungary:	20,500 assault rifles and 150,000 rounds of ammo
Slovenia:	10,000 machine guns, 2 million rounds of ammo
Turkey:	24 155mm Howitzers

- Equipment donations underway:

Bulgaria:	50 mortars, 500 binoculars, 21.6 million rounds of ammo
Croatia:	1,000 machine guns, 300,000 rounds of ammo
Czech Republic:	12 helicopters and 20,640 machine guns
Estonia:	4,000 machine guns, 4 to 6 million rounds of ammo
Greece:	300 machine guns
Latvia:	337 rocket propelled grenades, 8 mortars, approx 13,000 various arms, approx 9 million rounds ammo
Lithuania:	3.7 million rounds of ammo
Montenegro:	1,600 machine guns, 250,000 rounds of ammo

Poland:	110 Armoured Personnel Carriers, 4 million rounds ammo
Switzerland:	3 fire trucks
Turkey:	2,200 rounds of 155mm ammo

- An ANA Trust Fund has been established to cover the transportation and installation costs of the ANA donations. Contributions of 400,000 Euro have been made by:

Denmark	250,000 Euro
Great Britain	100,000 Euro
Luxemburg	50,000 Euro

- For ANA Equipment Support, SHAPE is the focal point of entry and the coordinating authority.
- In addition, the United States has announced a contribution of US\$ 8.6 billion to the Afghan National Security forces, part of which will be used to train and equip the ANA to a level of 70,000 soldiers
- At their meeting on 26 January 2007, Foreign Ministers from the following nations indicated further contributions to either training or equipping the ANA: France, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Slovak Republic, Turkey and Croatia.