Capacity Building for Law Enforcement in Indonesia

IOM Indonesia signed the Technical Agreement on Cooperation for Capacity Building for Law Enforcement (TA), with the Indonesian National Police (INP), the third largest police force in the world. The signing ceremony was held 22 September 2014, at the INP Headquarters in Jakarta, with Denis Nihill, Chief of Mission of IOM Indonesia and General Sugeng Priyanto, Head of the INP International Relations division, as signatories.

The TA provides a clear blueprint of ongoing and future IOM-INP cooperation focusing on programme development, education, training, and technical assistance. In particular, IOM-INP capacity building efforts will focus on: (a) developing partnerships between law enforcement and local communities in combatting people smuggling and human trafficking; (b) enhancing the curricula of relevant education and training facilities on matters of mutual interest involving public safety; (c) forging the establishment of community policing management and implementation structures, with focus on regions that are affected by people smuggling and human trafficking; (d) development of audio-visual information support materials related to community policing and its critical role in combatting people smuggling and preventing human trafficking; and (e) design and development of appropriate and targeted law enforcement training programmes on the prevention and detection of transnational crimes.

The IOM-INP partnerships on various law enforcement-related programmes began in 2003, and with the TA, all current and future IOM-INP interventions in common areas of concern will directly respond to the INP’s 20-year Grand Reform Strategy 2005 – 2025.

General Sugeng Priyanto (left) and Mr. Dennis Nihill (right), IOM Indonesia Chief of Mission, at the signing ceremony.
Police Reform through Community Policing

With the funding support of the Dutch Government and the European Union, IOM Indonesia and the INP through its Education and Training Institutions (LemdikPol), Baharkam, Community Guidance Division (Binmas), and in cooperation with the National Human Rights Commission (Komnas Ham), the National Commission on the Eradication of Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan), and the National Police Regulatory Commission (Kompolnas) – are implementing a project that forges partnerships between law enforcement and communities. Under the bigger strategic umbrella of community policing, IOM and its partners are focusing on building ties between law enforcement and the communities that they have committed to serve – to mutually develop solutions to public safety issues in the communities. With the end in view of enhancing the overall law enforcement-civilian relationship and trust dynamics, the following cross-cutting themes and elements provide the overall framework of community policing: respect for human rights, the rule of law, democratic policing, gender mainstreaming and civil society participation.

Targeting up to 26,562 villages in the provinces of West Java, West Kalimantan, Aceh, Tanah Papua, and Maluku (33% of the total number of villages in the country) – IOM works closely with a wide array of community-level stakeholders and target groups: the provincial police schools (SPNs), community police officers (Bhabinkamtibmas), district and sub-district police precincts (Polres and Polsek), NGOs and civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, traditional village leaders, the Ombudsman, local army, academia, governors, and local parliament members.

From the initial roll-out of community policing interventions in 2003, IOM continues to implement activities through a three-pronged approach: (a) establishing community policing fora in villages; (b) enhancing the education and training law enforcement curricula; and (c) conducting skills and capacity building activities among community law enforcement personnel.
Combatting People Smuggling at the Frontlines

With the funding support of the Government of Canada, IOM Indonesia and the INP through its Security Maintenance Division (Baharkam) and the INP Criminal Investigation Division (Bareskrim), are implementing a project focused on the capacity building of frontline police officers nationwide, to enhance their skills as first responders to cases of people smuggling. The project – Frontline Officers’ Awareness Trainings on People Smuggling for Indonesia (FLOAT) aims to: (a) raise awareness on people smuggling operational issues and concerns; (b) empower individual police officers as they carry out their specific mandated responsibilities at the frontlines; and (c) strengthen the overall INP institutional capacity to combat people smuggling. FLOAT’s awareness and skills-building training themes focus on: coordination on people smuggling cases, handling of smuggled migrants, hard skills (investigation and patrolling), and soft skills (communication and case management).

FLOAT’s strategic partnerships at the national and local levels, a capacity building best practice model has emerged and is currently being implemented in all 33 provinces in the country. Using a top-to-bottom approach – FLOAT trains police trainers from the regions and provinces, as a first step. Regional and provincial police trainers are then further supported by IOM to carry out echo trainings to frontline police officers in the communities. To date, the INP has about 500 police trainers who currently carry out frontline police trainings nationwide, and alongside other law enforcement training interventions, has significantly contributed to training about 25% of about half a million police officers in Indonesia.

“...To date, the INP has about 500 police trainers who currently carry out frontline police trainings nationwide...”

Building the Capacity of Indonesian Policewomen

With the funding support of the Government of Canada and the active participation of its Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA), IOM and the INP, are carrying out a series of skills building trainings for Indonesian policewomen (Polwan) 14 provinces. This series is conceptually anchored on the tenets of proactive and preventive policing – covering themes that respond to the INP mandates of: (a) preserving public order and safety; (b) law enforcement; and (c) the protection of and service to the people. This series is composed of 14 community-level sessions, and anticipates to have about 1,200 Polwans trained, by the end of 2014.

The INP has a quota of about 17,000 new police recruits per year. In 2013, the female recruitment quota was pegged at 3%, and remarkably increased to 43% for 2014. With a lookout for Indonesia’s best interest to have a police force that mirrors the society it serves, IOMs Polwan trainings directly support INPs directions of expanding the role of women in the Indonesian national police force.

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For further information, please contact:
IOM in Indonesia
Steve Hamilton, Deputy Chief of Mission
Sampoerna Strategic Square, North Tower Floor 12A
Jl Jend Sudirman Kav 45-46, Jakarta 12930, Indonesia
Tel +62.21.5795.1275 Fax +62.215795.1274

The batik fabric design used in the IOM Indonesia newsletter banner is courtesy of Batik Kebon Indah – an IOM livelihood beneficiary under the Java Reconstruction Fund Programme in 2008-2011. Kebon was among 4,300 micro and small enterprises (MSE) in the earthquake-affected provinces of Yogyakarta and Central Java, assisted by IOM Indonesia. The Indonesian Batik is designated by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Beyond supporting the revitalization of local economic development in areas of high migration pressure at post-disaster, IOM Indonesia has also contributed to the preservation of Indonesia’s greatest cultural heritage.