



CPAU Justice Reform Initiatives Profile

Cooperation for Peace and Unity (CPAU)

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OUR VISION:

A sustainable culture of peace, and a world free of discrimination and violence of any nature, in which everyone has the right to basic needs, social justice, and dignity.

Cooperation for Peace and Unity (CPAU) is an Afghan not-for-profit, non-governmental organization that has been actively working in Afghanistan since 1996. CPAU's activities focus on Peace and Justice related issues thereby supporting local communities as well as the Afghan Government through the country.

CPAU's Vision is: A sustainable culture of peace, and a world free of discrimination and violence of any nature, in which everyone has the right to basic needs, social justice, and dignity.

CPAU's Mission is: To facilitate the process of peace-building and sustainable social development by mobilizing and building capacities through a participatory approach that builds cooperation, trust, and the transformation of conflict. This includes the sharing of research, experiences and learning, and the use of these to actively influence positive change on all levels.

OUR MISSION:

To facilitate the process of peace-building and sustainable social development by mobilizing and building capacities through a participatory approach that builds cooperation, trust, and the transformation of conflict.

CPAU is led by a Managing Director (MD) who is accountable to the CPAU Board of Directors. The MD is supported by a Program Manager, Research Manager, Finance Manager and Communications and Advocacy Manager. CPAU is an Afghan organization with around 100 local and international staff. Its HQ is in Kabul with 5 sub-offices around the country. We have organised Shuras and Jirga's in Badakshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Faryab, Jozjan, Sarepul, Balkh, Kabul, Kapisa, Wardak and Ghazni. We have further conducted research projects in Uruzgan, Helmand, Kandahar, Nangahar, Kunar, Bamyán, Daikundi, Herat, Farah, Ghor, Logar, Paktia, Paktika, Khost and Parwan. We retain networks of contacts with persons of influence and local governance structures in all of the above.

CPAU is the first Afghan organization that successfully piloted a formal-informal justice linkage program in Afghanistan¹. Through its intervention in Kapisa Province, CPAU was able to present and practice the first ever justice referral mechanism between the formal and informal justice sectors.² In the areas in which CPAU has implemented projects, a platform has been provided where formal and informal justice actors have had the opportunity of interacting with each other with the aim of finding a common ground for case referrals. CPAU has been working with communities, legislation department of the MoJ, justice sector officials, and rule of law practitioners to come up with a hybrid model of institutionally which links formal and informal justice sectors in Afghanistan.

To date, CPAU has established over 5,000 community based dispute resolution institutions, which have a combined membership of nearly 30,500 individuals, including both male and female members. The members of these institutions, which are known as Peace Councils (PC), have all received CPAU Conflict Resolution and Peace Building Training, and are well respected village-based elders who administer informal local justice to millions of Afghans who have limited ability, or trust in, accessing the formal justice sector. Through this CPAU has extensive experience in mobilizing and training local elders, religious leaders, and formal justice actors, as well as facilitating connections between these groups.

#	Organization Sponsoring Activity	Name of Project	Location of Activity	Type of Project/ Activities	Duration
1	French Embassy	SeLJuKaS	Sorobi District, Kabul Province and Tagab and Nijrab District Kapisa Province	Peacebuilding, Justice Linkage, Awareness	Jan 2014 – Dec 2015
2	French Embassy	SeLJuKaS Phase 1	Sorobi District, Kabul Province and Tagab and Nijrab District Kapisa Province	Peacebuilding, Justice Linkage, Peace Education, Research, Legal Awareness (through media)	Sept 2011 – Dec 2013
3	Dutch Embassy	Building Peace Locally – Kunduz	Ali-Abad, Khan-Abad, Imam Saib, Char Dara Districts in Kunduz Province	Peacebuilding, Research, Legal Awareness (media), Justice Linkage, Mediation and Grievance Resolution	Nov 2011 – Nov 2014

¹ Refer to CPAU's study on "Opportunities and Challenges for Linking Formal and Informal Justice Institutions in Afghanistan", Kabul, 2012

² An outline on "Case Referral System, CPAU 2012"

#	Organization Sponsoring Activity	Name of Project	Location of Activity	Type of Project/ Activities	Duration
4	US Embassy	Ulema Exchange program	34 provinces of the country	Awareness raising on important social issues through organizing of 2-day conferences throughout the country addressed by known high profile Muslim PhD holder scholars coming from Islamic world and the West.	June 2013- June 2016
5	Checchi Consulting/ USAID	Rule of Law Stabilization – Informal Component Phase 2	Pashtun Kot District, Faryab and Pul-e-Khumri and Dahani Ghori districts, Baghlan Provinces	Peacebuilding, Research, Justice Linkage, Legal Awareness (Media), Broad Base Education in Legal Awareness	Jan 2012- July 2012

The project, Support to Local Justice in Kapisa and Sorobi, was implemented in three phases over a period of four years. It was carried out through the Pole de Stabilite Fund and in partnership with International Development Legal Office (IDLO) and Integrity Watch Afghanistan (IWA). Throughout the first phase of this project CPAU supported the establishment of 200 Peace Councils in Nijrab, Tagab and Sorobi where an estimated 4,660 men and women were trained in a) Concepts: conflict, violence, peace, development, identity, power, b) Skills: conflict analysis, communication, negotiations, mediations, perceptions and c) Strategies: conflict management and resolution styles. A legal awareness campaign reached 15,550 people through local engagements in Mosques and schools and a further 233,900 people through local media. Of those reached, 12,443 were children in Nijrab, Tagab and Sorobi and received Peace Education throughout the project. CPAU has been active in addressing a long-standing lack of sufficient justice capacity in Afghanistan, particularly in rural areas, where disputes over land, resources, and property, amongst others, have often lead to violent reprisal and a culture of escalating aggression. CPAU builds, trains, and supports Peace Councils, delivers education and workshops on human rights, women's rights, conflict resolution and legal awareness, and provides the necessary connections and support to workers through both formal and informal justice systems. CPAU has developed strong and deep community ties throughout Afghanistan, and as such has been well placed to conduct primary research into areas such as Justice Mapping, Conflict Analysis, and Drivers of Radicalization – working with a variety of national and global partners, organizations and governments.

Below is detailed a selection of the projects which CPAU had implemented in the last two years. They demonstrate our ability to organise and manage large scale, long term projects, and more specifically, our continued ability to engage with communities successfully:

Organization Sponsoring Activity

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan, Kunduz		Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	01/11/11 to 01/07/15

Objective and results of the project

Overall Objectives:

- Reduced violent initial and revenge conflict.
- Increased local-led peace building activities.
- Improved and greater depth of cooperation between local and government justice institutions.
- Greater alignment of local and national justice frameworks.
- Improved justice for women and minorities.

Overall Results:

1. One conflict analysis Study
2. One justice mapping study
3. Train and Establish 60 Peace Councils
4. Train 40 communities in grievance resolution
5. Provide justice linkages support and legal awareness to 105 communities.

Rule of Law Stabilization Initiative – Informal Component (Phase 1)

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan, Baghlan & Faryab		USAID/Checchi Company Consulting	01/01/12 – 15/07/13

Objective and results of the project

Overall Objectives:

- Increased local-led peace building activities.
- Enable greater cooperation between formal and informal justice institutions.
- Enhance legal awareness on human rights, women's rights, children's rights and the Afghan constitution.
- Enable greater collective Action among local communities.

Overall Results:

1. 3 District Assessments
2. Train and Establish 90 Peace Councils
3. Provide broad-based education to 350 community leaders
4. Provide justice linkages support
5. Implement a legal awareness campaigns in 3 districts
6. Organize 3 conferences bringing together community members with government officials, discussion justice related iss

Support to Local Justice in Kapisa and Sorobi

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan, Kapisa		French Ministry of Foreign Affairs	01/07/11 - 01/07/15

Objective and results of the project

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen and build supportive links between formal and informal justice institutions in Nijrab, Tagab, Alasay and Sorobi district.

Overall Results:

1. Strengthen formal and informal justice institutions.
2. Train and establish 120 Peace Councils
3. Improved access to justice for 269,500 people in Nijrab, Tagab, Alasay and Sorobi districts.
4. Increased understanding of and willingness to cooperate between formal and informal justice officials
5. One Strategic Conflict Analysis of Kapisa and Sorobi

Justice Assistance Mechanisms

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan, Takhar & Kunduz		EU Delegation to Afghanistan & Oxfam-Novib	01/09/10 - 01/09/14

Objective and results of the project

The Overall objective of the action is to improve the provision of justice in Afghanistan.

Overall Results:

1. Increased satisfaction within both informal and formal justice mechanisms and particularly through these improved relationship broader access to justice for disadvantaged groups such as women for 126,000 people in 3 districts in Kunduz & Takhar;
2. Evidence-based research has promoted best practice in supporting formal-informal justice linkages
3. Proactive engagement and lobbying based on best-practice and research has brought about changes in policy and practice of the Afghan government and international actors.

Addressing and Preventing Local Conflict in Northern Afghanistan

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan, Takhar&Kunduz		EU Delegation to Afghanistan & Action Aid	01/01/10 - 01/01/13

Objective and results of the project

Overall Objectives:

To contribute towards sustainable reduction of violent aggression/conflicts in Afghanistan and increase peace building capacity and good governance.

Overall Results:

- 180 Peace Councils are resolving local conflicts using peacebuilding methods with a human rights approach.
- Local authorities are working with Peace Councils to strengthen sub-national governance and resolve conflicts in the area by promoting peaceful and people centric conflict resolution.

Greater Kandahar Forum

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan: Kandahar, Uruzgan, Helmand and Zabul		US Embassy - Kabul	01/06/2013 to 30/12/2014

Objective and results of the project

Overall Objectives:

- to facilitate 12 inspiring speaker sessions (2 speakers a month, for 6 months) within the Loya Kandahar region;
- to promote civic engagement by raising local issues and debates through an interactive media and SMS platform;
- to document the issues, suggestions and proposals; and
- to match actors from various civil society organisations with various expertise towards capacity-building in different industries (so as to alleviate duplication of work).

Overall Results:

- organising groups of participants from various ministries and CSOs
- working groups to assess published material with that of Kandahar needs
- listening to speaker's address and recommendations based on needs
- discussing on plenary level to make collective action
- engaging in civic dialogues through radio broadcasts and media platforms.

Stand Up Sisters!

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan: National Broadcast		US Embassy - Kabul	01/07/2013 – 30/06/2014

Objective and results of the project

Overall Objectives:

1. To increase awareness of the 2014 elections, especially amongst women, (by airing a specialised programme hitting a targeted 10% of the national radio audience.)
2. To increase understanding of the link between elections and issues important to women, families, and communities (by connecting political stances via interviews with local issues via field recordings.)
To facilitate and produce a vibrant public discussion (via social media, live telephone interaction, interviews and women's discussion groups) about the importance of a fair and transparent election.
3. To dissemination specific information about elections procedures.

Overall Results:

1. to produce at least 48 episodes of weekly programmes (once a week for a total of 12 months) in both Dari and Pashto (i.e. 96 episodes in total);
 2. to promote civic engagement by raising local issues and debates through an interactive media (including social media);
 3. to promote civic engagement by facilitating women's discussion groups through local peace councils;
 4. to document the issues, debates, feedback, suggestions and proposals into a published reports.
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In Search of Light

Location of the project	Cost of the project	Donors to the project	Dates
Afghanistan: National Broadcast		US Embassy - Kabul	01/10/2012 to 30/09/2013

Objective and results of the project

Overall Objectives:

1. To promote the role of Women in economic development in rural areas of Afghanistan
2. To help facilitate and encourage women to get engaged in economic and commercial activities.

Overall Results:

1. A weekly radio programme broadcast nationally that uses drama to address a variety of women's social issues
2. Attain a high % of the available audience during the timeslot
3. Provide a media based open forum for women to call in and discuss the challenges they face
4. Provide an interactive model in which women can apply real-life stories to the developing storyline
5. Gain a better understanding of the female radio audience (tastes, demographics, preferred format, etc.)
6. Provide women with the concepts and knowledge needed to assert their rights successfully.

Training Manual	Focus
Peacebuilding Manual	The peacebuilding manual allows for a broader understanding of conflict and violence. It looks into how issues such as identity, perceptions, and religion can be a cause of conflict and violence. It also takes a broad approach to conflict resolution in-terms of communication, mediation, listening and negotiation
Mediation Manual	The mediation manual allows for a better understanding of conflict, violence, conflict resolution, communication, negotiation, and mediation. This manual is based on the peacebuilding manual. However it is characterized through its in-depth focus on negotiation and mediation with a special focus on reintegration
Grievance Resolution Manual	The grievance resolution manual focuses primarily on grievance resolution and conflict resolution topics which deal directly and indirectly with conflicts relevant to reintegration. The training will primarily focus on issues of resettlement, past crimes and incidents that have occurred in the most recent phase of fighting.
Peace Education Manual	CPAU has developed a peace education curriculum for grades 1-12. The peace education manual focuses on educating children on conflict and peace related issues ³ .
Women's Rights Manual	Based on findings from CPAU's justice mapping research in Helmand and consultation with women in Kunduz, Takhar and Kalakan. CPAU has recently developed a women's rights manual. It focuses on educating men in particular on women's rights under Islam and Afghan law.
Leadership, Good Governance and Basic Advocacy Manual	This manual is used for educating government officials and communities leaders in leadership, good governance, transparency, integrity and basic advocacy.
Afghan Legal Framework Manual	A training manual on Afghan constitution, civil, penal and procedural coded and the functions of justice in Afghanistan
Justice Linkages Manual	The justice linkages manual focuses on educating formal and informal justice actors on how the two different systems are set-up and how they work.

³ CPAU workings together with IDLO are in the process of revising this curriculum and include more topics on Afghan law and women's rights.

CPAU has a strong independent research arm, and has produced many valuable, original research pieces, including sensitive research projects in notoriously unstable and dangerous provinces which have included Helmand, Kandahar, and Uruzgan. The projects have included:⁴

- A strategic Conflict Analysis 2012
- Opportunities and Challenges for Justice Linkages
- Contextual Analysis of Police and Justice Systems in Kunduz
- Water Scarcity and Livelihood
- A series of water related case studies
- Initiative to Promote Afghan Civil Society
- CPAU Human Security Project
- Helmand Justice Mapping
- A series of Local Conflict Analysis in Bahrak, Farza, Ghazni and Kunduz
- Drivers of Radicalisation with DFID
- Afghan Hearts and Minds
- Religious Civil Society
- NSP – Mid-term evaluation
- Afghan NGO communications systems
- Conflict Analysis 2005
- Strategies and Structures in Preventing Conflict
- Advocacy Practices: Afghanistan 2001 Onwards



⁴ All available online: www.cpau.org.af/publications.html