



CPAU Research and M&E 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 throughout 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.

CPAU strongly believes in the following founding principles that:

- Violence is not a solution to any problem
- Equal opportunities for women and men are imperative to enable active participation in all of the processes that affect people's lives
- Mutual respect, tolerance, and constructive criticism are essential for meaningful development and sustainability
- People have the right to freely elect their political leadership and to practice different political, cultural, and religious beliefs free of discrimination
- Everyone has the right to develop their own identity without fear of discrimination

Community Shuras

To date CPAU has established over 5,000 community-based shuras; who have a combined membership of near 30,500 individuals

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comprised of both male and female participants. The members of these peace councils have all received CPAU Conflict Resolution and Peace Building Training, and are respected village based elders who administer non-formal local justice to millions of Afghans who have limited ability, or trust in, accessing the formal justice sector.

Knowledge and Awareness of Peace

CPAU works for the promotion of knowledge and awareness of peace, social justice, and human rights as the foundation upon which the future development of Afghanistan will be built and flourish. Through direct encouragement and participation in active peacebuilding, CPAU hopes to contribute to the creation of a viable alternative to war and violence. As an active member in civil society this type of engagement is what CPAU foresees as being the first step towards building a lasting peace in throughout the country.

The first Afghan-led research organization

CPAU is also the first Afghan-led research organization in Afghanistan. CPAU has a clear aim of building up the capacity of Afghans to conduct quality research at a competitive level while simultaneously helping to empower Afghan civil society to take a leadership role in research, advocacy and policy formulation in peace and development processes and debates nationally; giving ownership back to Afghans. CPAU's research capability grew from our programmatic work. The reports generated have not only provided support for field initiatives but also given insight into topics which could be researched further to develop broader understanding of focus driven issues. CPAU's independent research department was incorporated in full in 2006, and has produced many valuable, original research pieces, including sensitive research projects in notoriously unstable and dangerous provinces which have been instrumental in providing a comprehensive view of evolving and at times volatile situations.¹

These projects have included:

- Strategic Messaging Survey
- Assessment of Dutch Integrated Police Training Mission in Kunduz, Afghanistan
- Road to National Peace Research Report
- Helmand Just Mapping
- Local Conflict Analysis

¹ These reports are online available on: www.cpaug.org.af/publications.html

- Drivers of Radicalisation
- Participatory Conflict Vulnerability Assessment
- A strategic Conflict Analysis of Afghanistan 2012
- Opportunities and Challenges for Justice Linkages
- Water Scarcity and Livelihood
- A series of water related case studies
- Initiative to Promote Afghan Civil Society, Case Studies on Legislation of Media Law and BPHS Policy
- CPAU Human Security Monitoring Project
- Helmand Justice Mapping
- A series of Local Conflict Analysis in Badakhshan, Wardak, Ghazni and Kunduz
- Drivers of Radicalisation with DFiD
- Afghan Hearts and Minds, A Prospect on Civ-Mil Relationship
- Religious Civil Society, study on roles and functions of Ulema in post 2001
- NSP – Mid-term evaluation
- Afghan NGO communications systems
- Conflict Analysis of Afghanistan 2005
- Strategies and Structures in Preventing Conflict
- Advocacy Practices: Afghanistan 2001 Onwards

Unique research access through community networks and good government relations

CPAU is continuously able to deliver excellent results and generate meaningful data to support our research, thanks to our extensive community involvement. CPAU researchers are able to work in some of Afghanistan's most conflict prone areas, because we emphasize the need to work with and develop local capabilities and thus establish lasting ties on the community level. For instance through our work with Peace Councils, CPAU has had access to conflict records which has allowed us to map change in conflict trends and correlate these trends with wider regional, national, or climactic movements. We have conducted research in all provinces relevant to this research (Uruzgan, Nangahar, Baghdis, Kunduz), but also in Helmand, Kandahar, Kunar, Bamyan, Daikundi, Herat, Baghlan, 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.

Monitoring Capabilities

Building on our 20 years of field experience, CPAU has used its community links and networks to undertake various monitoring and evaluation projects. Having already built up trust and credibility in more than 20 provinces, a solid platform exists that enables CPAU to undertake specific large-scale monitoring task on behalf of partner organizations.

A prime example of this has been CPAU's monitoring of the the Dutch Integrated Police Training Mission (IPM) for four consecutive years in Kunduz.² CPAU has assessed the progress of the IPM in regards to impact and provided feedback on the Dutch IPM interventions responsible for program adjustments and external communication. The goal of the integrated measurement of the baseline and the annual progress of the IPM has been to provide guidance and direction to the mission and to demonstrate the progress established. The monitoring services consisted of mixed qualitative and quantitative methods with a yearly community survey (n=1000). An initial baseline survey was followed up with annual follow-up surveys to identify conditions, changes in conditions, and trends relevant to the Dutch IPM mission in Kunduz. The survey was not only based on a set of questionnaires, it also used a variety of methods, including but not limited to structured and semi-structured interviews, indirect measures, observation, expert interviews, and mentor debriefing. Additionally, annual case studies aimed at providing a rich understanding of the mission's critical conditions and changes identified during the annual survey were implemented. The aim of the case studies was to provide more contextual information to the specific findings of the survey and thus provide a deeper understanding of key developments found in the survey which would better enable the Dutch MoFA to adjust relevant program components and inform the Dutch parliament and public. This previous project shows CPAU's capacity to employ both quantitative and qualitative methods in an integrated manner that is able to clearly present and delineate change and implementation.

Another recent monitoring project conducted by CPAU was for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The evaluation conducted by CPAU measured the progress of the New Kabul City's executive body, Kabul Metropolitan Area Development (KMAD). In this study CPAU measured progress against set of strategies and methodologies set out in this mega project's documents. The

² For the baseline (2011) and the annual (quantitative) progress reports so far (2012 – 2013) please see: the Contextual Analysis of Police and Justice System in Kunduz: 2011 Baseline Assessment; the 2012 Progress Report on the Dutch Integrated Police Training Mission in Kunduz, Afghanistan; and the 2013 Progress Report on the Dutch Integrated Police Training Mission in Kunduz, Afghanistan. Online available on: www.cpau.org.af/publications.html

³ For references and specifics on the project please see the table in section 1.3

aim was to guide the execution of the project more effectively in achieving its objectives and targets during the rest of the cooperation period between JICA and KMAD. CPAU drew lessons learned for programming activities for the remainder of the life of the project.³

Experienced with APRP monitoring

On the specific theme of the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP), CPAU has conducted a 13-month integrated project which incorporated three crucial elements: (1) the reintegration of combatants (2) training of government mediators in APRP program (3) monitoring of APRP programme. The APRP monitoring element of 2010-2011 was called *Monitoring Reintegration and Grievance Resolution in Response to the Afghanistan Peace Reintegration Programme (APRP)*. For this project Nangahar, Baghdis, Herat, Helmand and Kunduz were among the provinces selected for monitoring.⁴ In this project, CPAU deployed teams of researchers/monitors to observe and assess the process of reintegration. They reported directly to the Force-Reintegration Cell of the ISAF and the JS of HPC on a weekly basis. In addition to other related factors, in their assignment CPAU specifically focused on measuring trends in Human Security as a result of the implementation of the APRP Program in 17 Districts located in 7 provinces.

Name project	Client	Period of activity	Types activities undertaken	Province(s)	Status
Assessment of the Dutch Integrated Police Training Mission (IPM)	Assessment of the Dutch Integrated Police Training Mission (IPM)	Sept. 2011 – Dec. 2014	1. Quantitative and qualitative monitoring of the mission's impact. 2. Provision of evidence-based feedback on the program and training interventions	Kunduz	Completed February 2016
Greater Kandahar Speakers Forum	US Embassy Kabul	June 2014, to June 2016	A US Embassy Funded project bringing in international religious scholars to Oruzgan for an exchange with the residents of the province	Uruzgan (amongst others)	Ongoing
Mid-term Review for "the Project on Promotion of Kabul Metropolitan Area Development (KMAD)	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	Nov. 2012 – Mar. 2013	Review of JICA's technical cooperation and capacity development work in relation to the KMAD with the goal of improving the project delivery and enhancing accountability.	Kabul	Completed March 2013

⁴ For references and specifics on the project please see the table in section 1.3

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Review of CordAid's Basic Health Care Provision -	CordAid	Jan. 2012 – Dec 2012	Examined the correlation between the provision of healthcare and conflict reduction/prevention	Uruzgan	Completed Dec 2012
Justice Mechanisms study	European Commission, Oxfam-Novib	Sept. 2010 – Sept. 2012	Evidence-based research on formal-informal justice linkages.	Kunduz and Takhar	Completed Sept 2012
APRP Monitoring	British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)	Oct. 2010 – Dec. 2010	1. Identifying reintegration opportunities through a process of Reintegration Opportunity Mapping 2. Providing an Early Warning Mechanism for the APRP through a rolling Reintegration Monitoring framework	Helmand, Kandahar, Nangarhar, Baghlan, Baghdis, Kunduz and Herat	Completed Dec. 2010
Human Security Monitoring	DFID	Feb. 2010 – Sept. 2010	Monitoring DFID's security indicators in the relevant provinces	Nangarhar, Kunduz, Baghdis, Kandahar Kabul and Helmand	Completed Sept 2010
Drivers of Radicalization research	DFID	Apr. 2009 – Jul. 2009	This study examined the frequently given hypotheses for radicalization. The focus was on why men join armed groups that present as religiously motivated, and how much support there is for this from their wider communities.	Wardak, Kandahar, Kabul	Completed July 2009
Mid-term evaluation of NSP program-2005	MRRD	Aug. 2005 – Dec. 2005	Evaluative study of the NSP programme	South-east/ North-east	Completed Dec. 2005