

## Governance

# German-Palestinian Police Partnership

### Background and Objective

Since 2010, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) on behalf of the German Federal Foreign Office has been implementing a police programme with the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP). The programme's vision is a professional Palestinian Civil Police operating based on the principles of rule of law and respecting international human rights. An institution that protects its citizens, prevents crimes, and engages in its work with a community-policing approach.

Project name	German-Palestinian Police Partnership Programme
Commissioned by	German Federal Foreign Office
Project region	West Bank
Partners	Ministry of Interior (MoI) Palestinian Civil Police (PCP)
Duration	01 April 2021 – 30 April 2024

Since the initiation of its partnership with PCP, GIZ has been supporting the PCP through the programme *Strengthening of Police Structures in the Palestinian Territories*. Throughout the four phases of the programme, Police capacities were developed, and community policing structures put in place.

**Phase I (2010 – 2013):** Joint development with the Palestinian Civil Police of a design for rural police stations in the Westbank.

**Phase II (2013 – 2016):** Development of an organizational model to further institutionalize the rural and district police stations and advance the concept of community policing.

**Phase III (2016 – 2018):** Expansion of community policing approach with the introduction of mobile police stations, to serve marginalized, remote communities, where police stations are restricted.

**Phase IV (2018 – 2021):** Upscaling of community outreach policing activities, developing an organizational model for city and district police stations, introduction of Covid-19 support.

One of the programme's biggest successes over the past four programme phases is the introduction of the community policing approach. The goal is to strengthen capacities of police officers to provide routine, citizen-oriented, and standardized police services. The approach has been introduced at all levels of the hierarchy within the Palestinian Civil Police, and gradually consolidated. In addition, a police leadership development programme was piloted at the Palestinian College for Police Sciences (PCPS) in Jericho, in cooperation with the Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei (German Police University, DHPol).

After the completion of the fourth phase, a new programme, the *German Palestinian Partnership Programme (GPPP)* was created to build on the successes of the previous programme phases.



Police officer during community policing outreach activity for Teachers' Day in Al Bireh school, West Bank Dec. 2022

## The German-Palestinian Police Partnership Programme

Under the new programme (April 2021 - April 2024), the activities continue to focus on strengthening the Palestinian Civil Police to carry out citizen-oriented-police services to professional standards. To achieve that, the new programme builds on the successes of the four-phased previous programmes. After 10 years of successful project work by the GIZ, the Federal Police and Federal Criminal Police Office, the programme now focuses on a closer coordination and integration of the GIZ programme activities with the two German Police institutions. The aim is to enable an independent development of the established cooperation as well as professional networks and relations of the German-Palestinian cooperation in the police area.

### The programme consists of four key components:

- I. Strengthening capacities to implement a citizen-centered policing approach
- II. Strengthening capacities of the police in leadership and human resource management
- III. Improving the investigative capacity of the police in the areas of crime scene work and forensics
- IV. Strengthening the German-Palestinian police partnership to ensure sustainability



Police officers attending a training on crime scene investigation Jericho, West Bank, 2022.

## Leadership development

As part of the new programme, GIZ has supported the Palestinian Civil Police in rolling-out a three-level leadership development programme for police officers. The aim is to train Palestinian police officers on best practices in police leadership and human resource management. The training content is jointly developed with the Palestinian Police and is designed in a gender-sensitive way and includes a human rights-based approach.

### Selected Achievements:

- Over 48 police officers from four cohorts of Palestinian police officers, ranking from Major to Brigadier, have graduated from the programme. A fifth round of the programme is currently being implemented and is targeting medium rank police officers in the ranks of Major to Lieutenant Colonel.
- More than 800 police officers have been trained on community policing, crime scene investigation, communication, negotiation skills and outreach techniques.
- More than 20.000 people were reached during international days (e.g. Youth Day, Teachers' Day) that PCP conducted as part of the supported community-policing activities
- The 11 fully equipped mobile police stations, that were handed over to the Palestinian Civil Police, are fully operational and proved to be a valuable tool to reach marginalised communities with police services in the West Bank.
- Furniture, equipment, and five vehicles were provided to build the capacity of the Criminal Evidence Department.
- The training facility for the leadership development programme at the Palestinian College for Police Science (PCPS) has been remodelled, equipped and furnished.

Published by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany  
  
Thomas Dämmrich | Head of Programme  
Programme House II for Development Cooperation  
Al Bireh/Palestine  
T +972 (0) 22402810  
[policeprogramme.palestine@giz.de](mailto:policeprogramme.palestine@giz.de)  
[www.giz.de/en/worldwide](http://www.giz.de/en/worldwide)

As of January, 2023

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Text Police Programme  
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