



FACT SHEET

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MANILA
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Criminal Division International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) Philippines



Program Summary

ICITAP began working in the Philippines in 2006 with a mandate to assist the Philippine National Police (PNP) transition from a military to a civilian law enforcement agency. ICITAP accomplishes its goals through training, mentoring, advising, and modest equipment donations. By working closely with the Philippine National Police Training Services (PNPTS), over 20,000 police officers have received ICITAP training. ICITAP has technical advisors co-located in key police stations, allowing ICITAP to work closely with police leaders. In all of ICITAP's developmental work, there is a core concept of community oriented policing, ethical policing, and respect for human rights. Funding for ICITAP's work in the Philippines comes from the Department of State's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, the Department of Defense, and the Department of State's Bureau of Counterterrorism.

Projects

The ICITAP program delivers assistance in three core functional areas: professional development and reform; maritime law enforcement; and police capacity building in Mindanao.

I. Professional Development and Reform

Co-Located with the PNPTS, ICITAP has worked with the PNP to develop modern police training curriculum, develop 26 model police stations throughout the Philippines, and develop an additional cadre of approximately 90 adjunct police instructors, capable of teaching a wide range of police courses. ICITAP, in partnership with PNPTS and the Philippine Public Safety College, teaches a wide range of courses at the Philippine National Police Academy. These courses include topics such as police ethics, management, community oriented policing, and investigations.

II. Maritime Law Enforcement

Partnered with the PNP Maritime Group (PNPMG), ICITAP and PNPMG have established a PNPMG Special Boat Unit (SBU). The SBU is headquartered in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, with outstations in Balabac, Palawan and outstations under construction in Bongao and Taganok, Tawi-Tawi. Complimented with six ICITAP donated high speed law enforcement vessels and numerous hours of training, the SBU gives the PNP the capacity to project law enforcement operations in the waters surrounding Palawan and along the Malaysian border. In addition to many successful smuggling interdictions, the SBU is involved in search and rescue operations, high risk warrant service, and enforcement of environmental and maritime crimes.

III. Police Capacity Building in Mindanao

ICITAP training in the southern Philippines expands from Zamboanga to Tawi-Tawi and from Marawi to Cotabato City. With key focus areas of Basilan, Sulu, and Cotabato City, ICITAP technical advisors work with PNP leaders to identify needs and then focus resources to help meet them. Development work includes supporting community policing programs, increased investigative capacity, and the establishment of four full time PNP School Resource Officers.

Forensics: ICITAP has worked closely with the PNP in Region 9 to increase the level of forensic capabilities in Region 9 and throughout the Sulu Archipelago. Headquartered in Zamboanga City, and supported by many U.S. government agencies, ICITAP and the PNP have developed the most advanced regional crime laboratory in the Philippines. ICITAP has supported this endeavor with the donation of forensic instrumentation, crime scene processing equipment, and training.