

*For a Professional and Transparent
Police*

Project Update

November - December 2025

Year-End Wrap-Up: Advancing Community Policing and Juvenile Justice

As the year draws to a close, the Project marks another successful chapter defined by strong institutional cooperation, concrete results, and meaningful progress across both components: Community Policing and Juvenile Justice. Through policy development, capacity building, and the introduction of child-sensitive infrastructure, the Project continued to strengthen professional policing practices aligned with international standards and national priorities.

Community Policing

From Framework to Systemic Implementation

A major milestone this year was the adoption of the Community Policing Framework by the Ministry of Interior and the launch of its nationwide rollout. To ensure sustainability and leadership-driven implementation, a Workshop for Senior Managers brought together managers from all eight Sectors for Internal Affairs, regional Border Centers, and senior representatives of the Department for Uniformed Police.

Focused on the strategic role of leadership in embedding Community Policing as a core operational approach, the workshop was delivered by nationally trained trainers Makedonka Gjorgjievska, Sashko Stojanovski, and Fimka Sokolcevska-Dzalevska, with mentoring support from Swedish experts Boel Andersson and Katarina Ragnewall, under the coordination of Project Manager Nicholas H. Kajanne.

Addressing the event, Aleksandar Janev, Director of the Bureau for Public Security, underlined the role of Community Policing in building public trust and called for full managerial commitment to its consistent nationwide implementation. The Workshop also served as a platform for professional exchange among senior police managers.



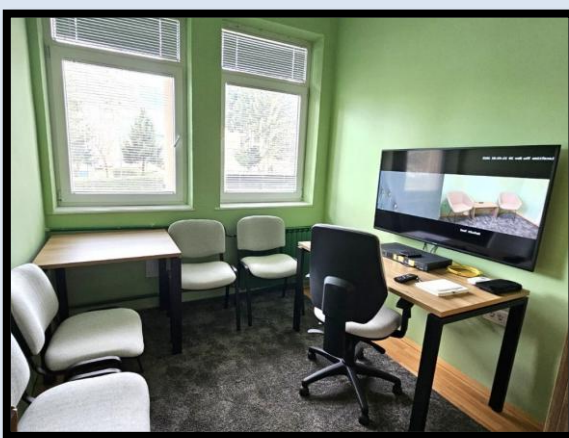
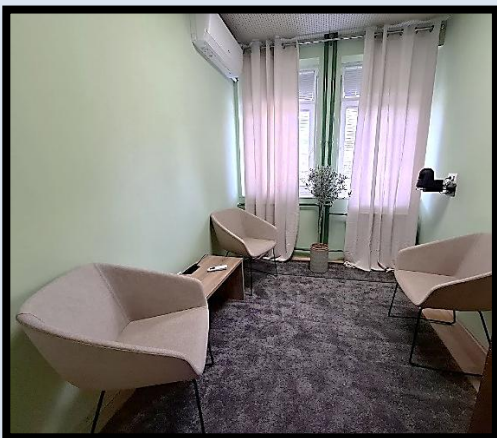
Juvenile Justice

First Child-Friendly Interview Room Launched

A landmark achievement under the Juvenile Justice Component was the inauguration of the first child-friendly interview room at the Sector for Internal Affairs in Bitola. The room is fully equipped to provide a safe, private, and trauma-informed environment for interviewing children and vulnerable victims, in line with international standards and best practices.

The opening ceremony, led by Project Manager Nicholas Heningsson Kajanne, gathered high-level officials and partners, including the Ambassador of Sweden to North Macedonia, Ola Sohlström, the Head of the OSCE Mission to Skopje, Ambassador Kilian Wahl, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Astrit Iseni, and representatives of institutions actively engaged in juvenile justice reform.

In his address, Ambassador Sohlström emphasized Sweden’s continued support, noting that the new facility offers a child-sensitive space equipped with modern digital recording technology, ensuring transparent, rights-based, and professional interview procedures.



Juvenile Justice

Developing a Standard Operational Procedure for Child Cases

Further strengthening this component, the development of a comprehensive Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) for child cases was initiated. The SOP is being prepared in close cooperation with Swedish experts Ulrika Kvanström and Cecilia Markfjärd, alongside national experts from the MoI, including legal, juvenile, criminal justice professionals, and representatives of the Public Prosecution.

The SOP will cover the entire police process—from the first contact with a case involving a child through submission to the prosecution—and will incorporate an interviewing protocol based on the NICHD model, ensuring consistency, quality, and child-sensitive approaches throughout police practice.



Project Management



Third Project Cooperation Board Meeting

The year concluded with the Third Project Cooperation Board (PCB) Meeting, serving as a key platform for strategic oversight and coordination. The meeting brought together PCB members from the Swedish Police Authority and the Ministry of Interior (MoI), including Christofer Müller, Head of the Peace Support Operations and International Development Cooperation Section and Co-Chair, and Biljana Superliska, Assistant Director for Criminal Intelligence Analysis and Acting Chair. The PCB members also included the Project Management Team and Project Focal Points for Community Policing, ILP, Juvenile Justice, and Training. In addition, the meeting was attended by observers Mikael Atterhög, Head of Development Cooperation, Biljana Petrova Džartovska, Senior Programme Manager, and Catherine Kruger, Head of the International Development Cooperation Unit and Marie Svanberg, Project Coordinator.

During the meeting, participants reviewed implemented activities, assessed achieved results, discussed challenges, and outlined priorities for the period ahead. The Annual Work Plan for 2026 was presented and formally approved, setting a clear direction for continued reform, capacity building, and institutional strengthening in the coming year.

