

Swedish Support to Police Reform in North Macedonia

Building Sustainable Capacity for Modern Policing



For a Professional and Transparent Police From Strategy to Practice

In Q2 2026, the Project shifted from methodology development to nationwide implementation. Cascade trainings in [Community Policing](#) and [Forensic Interview Techniques](#) are now reaching frontline officers across all eight regional police sectors, while analytical capacities continue to grow through [Intelligence-Led Policing](#) and [Power BI training](#) for intelligence analysts.

In This Issue

- Community Policing cascade trainings launched in all **8 sectors**
- Forensic Interview Techniques cascade trainings rolled out
- Intelligence-Led Policing: **24** new certified trainers
- **12** police analysts completed advanced Power BI training
- New child-centred interview room opened in Strumica

From Knowledge to Practice. From Training to Sustainable Change.

Implemented by the Swedish Police Authority
in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of North Macedonia

Cascade Trainings

Reforms Reaching Police Officers Across the Country

The nationwide rollout of cascade training in Community Policing and Forensic Interview Techniques (FIT) marks a significant step towards strengthening police professionalism across North Macedonia. Building on the Project-developed curricula and certified trainers, police officers in all eight Sectors for Internal Affairs are now gaining practical skills that can be applied in their daily work. Delivered through the Ministry of Interior's Training Centre, the programme is expanding the Ministry's capacity to provide standardized training while ensuring that modern policing approaches become part of routine police practice. This strengthens the quality and consistency of police services, enhances the protection of citizens' rights, and creates a sustainable foundation for continued professional development beyond the Project.

Community Policing: Strengthening Police–Community Partnerships

Following the successful Community Policing Management Trainings delivered in 2025, the Project moved into the nationwide rollout phase of the Community Policing Concept. Certified police trainers who completed the Foundations of Community Policing Programme have started delivering cascade trainings for frontline officers across all eight Sectors for Internal Affairs, focusing on community engagement, problem-solving approaches and more proactive, citizen-oriented policing. This establishes an internal training network to support the continued integration of Community Policing principles into everyday police practice.



Forensic Interview Techniques: Advancing Child-Sensitive Policing

The launch of the Forensic Interview Techniques (FIT) cascade training programme marks an important step in strengthening child-sensitive policing practices. Following the Train-the-Trainers programme, certified inspectors have started delivering five-day trainings for police inspectors across the country, introducing internationally recognised interviewing approaches based on the NICHHD Protocol.

The trainings are conducted under the mentorship of the Ministry of Interior's Training Centre and will continue across all Sectors for Internal Affairs. Their objective is to strengthen the capacities of police inspectors to apply evidence-based and child-sensitive forensic interviewing techniques, ensuring higher-quality information gathering, enhanced protection of children's rights, and more effective handling of criminal investigations involving children.



Building Capacity for Intelligence-Led Policing

During this quarter, 24 police officers from all eight Sectors for Internal Affairs and the Ministry's Training Centre successfully completed the Train-the-Trainers programme on the fundamentals of Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP). The participants were selected from key policing areas, including uniformed police, criminal investigations, and criminal intelligence units, ensuring a broad professional foundation for the further implementation of the ILP approach.

Following the completion of the programme, the newly certified trainers are prepared to deliver basic ILP training to police officers across the country. This establishes internal training capacities and supports the Ministry's efforts to gradually integrate intelligence-led approaches into everyday policing practices.



Strengthening Police Analytical Capacity through Power BI Training

As part of the Project's continued support to strengthen analytical capacities within the Ministry of Interior, the second group of 12 police analysts successfully completed a five-day training course on the use of the Power BI platform for data analysis and visualisation. The training enhanced participants' skills in processing and analysing operational data, developing analytical dashboards, and transforming data into clear and actionable analytical products that support evidence-based decision-making.

With the completion of the training for the second group, a total of 24 police analysts from across the country have acquired practical knowledge and skills in applying modern data analysis tools. This represents an important contribution to the development of the Ministry's internal capacities for establishing data-driven policing practices. The initiative supports the creation of sustainable analytical practices within the police service and strengthens the ability to independently generate relevant insights for operational planning, resource management, and informed decision-making.



New Child-Centred Interview Room Opened in Strumica

A new child-centred interview room has been established at the Sector for Internal Affairs in Strumica, providing a safe, private and professionally equipped space for sensitive interviews with children and vulnerable persons.

The facility is the second of its kind established through the cooperation of the Swedish Police Authority, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the OSCE Mission to Skopje, following the opening of the first interview room in Bitola.

Designed in line with international standards and good practices, the room strengthens child-friendly justice approaches and supports human rights-based policing by enhancing institutional capacity to protect and support vulnerable persons within the criminal justice system.

"It is not just about a new room.

Fundamentally, and more importantly, it is about a new standard of working, and a firm commitment to protect the dignity, safety, and rights of vulnerable victims, especially youth and women."

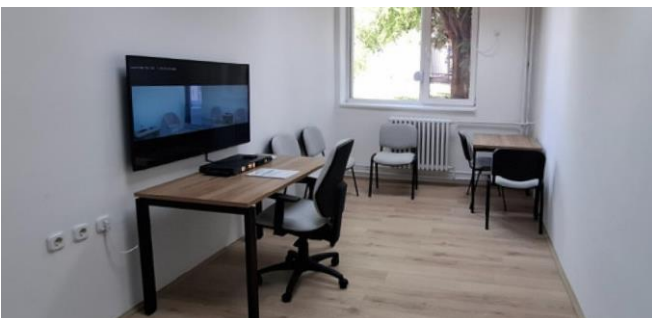
Ola Sohlström
Ambassador of Sweden to North Macedonia

"The quality of an institution is measured not only by its legal powers, but also by the way it protects the most vulnerable. It is our duty to ensure that every child is treated with respect and with full protection of their rights."

Panche Toshkovski, Minister of Interior

"This is about making sure that people who have already experienced harm are treated with care, dignity and respect."

Kilian Wahl,
Head of the OSCE Mission to Skopje



Key achievements | May – July 2026

12

Police analysts completed advanced Power BI training this quarter, bringing the total trained to 24.

24

Police professionals certified as Intelligence-Led Policing trainers.

8

Sectors for Internal Affairs engaged in nationwide reform implementation.

2

Cascade training programmes launched nationwide: Community Policing and Forensic Interview Techniques.

1

New child-centered interview room opened, in Strumica.

Looking Ahead

In the coming quarter, the Project will continue supporting the Ministry of Internal Affairs in deepening institutional capacity and consolidating reform achievements. Key priorities include:

- **Establishing additional child-centered interview rooms in Tetovo and Skopje;**
- **Developing Standard Operating Procedures for the handling of child-related cases;**
- **Delivering the Intermediate Intelligence-Led Policing Programme for mid-level and senior police management;**
- **Continuing cascade trainings in Community Policing and Forensic Interview Techniques across all sectors;**
- **Providing ongoing mentoring and quality assurance to support the consistency and sustainability of implemented reforms.**

From Knowledge to Practice. From Training to Sustainable Change.

Through sustained partnership, professional development and growing institutional ownership, the Swedish Support to Police Reform in North Macedonia Project continues to support the Ministry of Internal Affairs in building a modern and responsive police service — one that is better equipped to serve and protect all citizens.



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