

gender-focused activities. These include supporting the implementation of the national gender equality action plan and offering training to police to help them better investigate and document sexual and gender-based violence cases. It also includes increasing access to justice with a focus on women and vulnerable, marginalized communities.

PSOPs also continued its efforts improve stability and support security sector reform in Ukraine through a police training assistance project. The project has been instrumental in the establishment of the Patrol Police as a specialized and highly professional unit within the National Police of Ukraine (NPU), the opening of the NPU's first national-level police academy and the establishment of the Ukrainian Association of Women in Law Enforcement. These results, as well as on-going engagement with the NPU's strategic reform unit, are embedding a strong reform culture and transforming the country's police services into an effective, accountable and community-focused institution.

Canadian police officers were deployed to several countries in 2017-2018 to support capacity building. For example, in Iraq, through the Ministerial Liaison Team operated by the Global Coalition against Daesh in Iraq and Syria, high-level Canadian police engagement supported policing model development. They also encouraged developing security sector reform strategies and strengthening key leadership. Ministerial Liaison Team members mentored senior policing leaders within/at the Iraqi Ministry of Interior. They also actively promoted the use of community policing concepts, contributing to the Government of Canada's goal of promoting stabilization, recovery and development in Iraq. Deployments to promote stability and police development in the West Bank also continued throughout the reporting period.

Non-ODA INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMING

In 2017-2018, Canada continued its efforts to reduce security threats and improve security systems as part of its non-ODA international assistance programming. It did this by taking a gender-responsive approach to addressing such issues as:

- organized crime;
- human trafficking and smuggling;
- weapons proliferation;
- explosive remnants of war and unexploded ordnance;
- terrorism;
- corruption;
- illegal exploitation of natural resources;
- illicit financial flows; and
- cyber-violence.

Canada's efforts included increased support for initiatives focused on the gender dimensions of security systems, and support for women's organizations to contribute to improved security.

For example, through the Counter-terrorism Capacity Building Program, Canada provided funding to a project in Tunisia entitled 1001 Nights: Building Children's Resilience to Violence. Partner organizations

Search for Common Ground and Big Bad Boo Productions ran this program. It has strengthened Tunisian youth's resilience to violent narratives by integrating more tolerant and inclusive behaviour through greater educational engagement. Since it began, the project has benefited over 871 children and 40 teachers in 20 schools. To date, most parents (88%) reported noticeable improvements in their children's attitude with almost half of students (44%) displaying more acceptance of gender equality between men and women. Teachers also noticed more acts of kindness, such as sharing among children, with fewer unacceptable acts, such as insults and physical confrontation. Intolerance of different religions, races and social status has dropped from 34% to 22% among student participants.

The Weapons of Mass Destruction Threat Reduction Program continued its work to mitigate biological threats in Southeast Asia by building capacity and providing equipment. In 2017-2018, it gave the Manila-based Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) funding to strengthen the organization's response capability for biological threats, whether naturally occurring or deliberate. While programming in this area does not fall under the Official Development Assistance Accountability Act, it relates to international development in the form of improved global resilience to health threats. To date, the project has led to the creation of a RITM Task Force ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) 2017 to prepare responses to a possible biological terrorist event. The project has also supported the Biological Emergency Response Group. It was deployed to the 31st ASEAN Summit held in 2017 in the Philippines to mitigate potential biological threats.