

PP1. INITIATING AND DEVELOPING COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION ACTIONS BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER LOCAL ACTORS

[Tags: community policing, participation, ICT]

Good cooperation and coordination relations between LEAs and local actors, from both the public and private sectors has been shown to increase the effectiveness and stability of community policing initiatives, by strengthening public engagement. Depending on the topic and partners, the cooperation and coordination activities can take multiple forms, ranging from full-scale networks for the exchange of information and best practices to operational coordination or project-related partnerships.

It is important for the cooperation to have a solid foundation, taking into considering both material and cultural factors (e.g. level of trust in police) and to address areas of direct interest for all parties involved. The Internet, social networks and apps can help foster and strengthen such networking activities, by promoting greater ease of interaction and a less bureaucratic mode of communication.

Examples:

- In Utrecht, Netherlands, the Mobile Safety Watch project is the result of collaboration involving the University of Applied Sciences, Utrecht Police department, Dutch Centre for Innovation and Safety, Dutch television program "Opsporing verzocht", and various neighbourhood watches (Verhoeven et al., 2011).
- In Albania, the "Digital Commissioner" initiative (see above) arose from collaboration involving the Ministry of Interior, Vodafone Foundation and the Protik ICT Resource Center.

Mode of implementation

- Creating dedicated services inside LEAs for local actor networking/partnerships;
- Improving public relations services;
- Promoting structured partnerships with stakeholders;
- Adopting technological solutions which facilitate networking and collaborative work;
- Guaranteeing privacy and data protection to all activities.

Resources:

- Davis (III), E.F., Alves, A.A. and Sklansky, D.A. (2014), "Social Media and Police Leadership: Lessons From Boston", in *New Perspectives in Policing* (Harvard: Harvard Kennedy School), at: www.projectgriffin.org.uk/index.php/procedures.
- OSCE Secretary General, Senior Police Adviser (2008), *Guidebook on democratic policing* (Vienna: OSCE); OSCE (2009), *Integrating a gender approach into police-public partnerships*, at: <http://www.osce.org/gender/36363>.
- Wisler, D. (2011), *Police governance: European Union Best Practices*, Coginta; Myhill, A. (2006), *Community Engagement in Policing: Lessons from the Literature* (London, Home Office); College of Policing (2013):

Engagement [Internet], at: <https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/engagement-and-communication/engaging-with-communities>;

Kappeler, V.E. and Gaines, L.K. (2015), *Community Policing: A Contemporary Perspective* (Milton Park, Abingdon: Routledge).