UNODC Country Programme for Afghanistan (2016-2019)
UNODC’s vision:

Afghanistan is entering an important phase in its modern history with the completion of the Transition (Inteqal) Process at the end of 2014 and the initiation of the Transformation Decade (2015-2024). The Government has stated that it is focussed on rebuilding the country and strengthening the foundations of sustainable peace and development and constitutional democracy. In an important development, a reform programme entitled “Realizing Self-Reliance: Commitments to Reforms and Renewed Partnership,” was prepared which identifies strategic policy priorities for Afghanistan for the Transformation Decade, with the goal of improving security and political stability, stabilizing the economy, advancing good governance, and promoting the rule of law and respect for human rights, particularly in relation to women and girls. Strong emphasis is placed on fighting corruption and the illicit economy, including narcotics.

The complex reality in Afghanistan, with strong ties between the illicit drug economy, weak governance, corruption and a lack of health and human security requires a comprehensive response. The UNODC response to this reality is an integrated approach, which aims at identifying and addressing all aspects of the drug and crime situation in Afghanistan through advocacy in the policy arena and through implementation in the field, including efforts to counter the illicit drug economy, and to strengthen rule of law and alternative livelihoods targeting households which are dependent on illicit cultivation for survival, and assistance to people affected by drug use and dependence.

The UNODC Country Programme for Afghanistan is built on the six guiding principles, which maximize the value of Programme delivery and will be reflected in all work delivered:

- **Ownership and sustainability** – *Afghanization* of national drug and crime responses through genuine capacity building of the key national stakeholders
- **Subsidiarity** – Interplay between local, national and regional dimensions
- **Exploiting internal and external synergies** – Enabling partnerships and maximizing impact
- **Impact-oriented effective aid** – countering corruption
- Reaching out to vulnerable populations
- Promotion of human rights and gender sensitive actions

The UNODC strategic approach is also guided by the core principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action related to the evaluation of aid effectiveness.

Programme Design and Delivery:

The Country Programme is based on the integrated programme approach and aims at delivering outcomes and outputs through sub-programmes rather than through standalone projects and initiatives. The integrated approach mirrors the complexity of the drug and crime related challenges in Afghanistan and focuses on four sub-programmes:

**Sub-Programme 1 - Law Enforcement**
**Sub-Programme 2 - Criminal Justice**
**Sub-Programme 3 - Health and Alternative Development**
**Sub-Programme 4 - Advocacy, Policy and Research**

The Country Programme is also strongly linked to the *Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries 2016-19* and *Global Programmes* allowing UNODC to assist governments to tackle drugs and crime related challenges in the regional and international
contexts. The time period covered by this Country Programme is aligned with the commitments made by the Government of Afghanistan in December 2014 at the London Conference as the country entered into the Transformation Decade (2015 to 2024).
**Sub-Programme 1 - Law Enforcement:**

Afghanistan faces tremendous drugs and crime challenges that require effective responses. While around 80% of the world's opiates comes from Afghanistan, only around 2% is sized in country. Along the borders of Afghanistan unimpeded movement of insurgents and the massive illicit trade of drugs, precursor chemicals, money, people and weapons are proliferating. Increased support to the Counter Narcotics Police of Afghanistan (CNPA) and Afghan Border Police (ABP) by UNODC and international partners has boosted operational success on which UNODC law enforcement sub-programme will further capitalise and enhance on through further delivery of core objectives.

*Sub-programme 1* supports national partners in Afghanistan in specific niche areas such as border management, capacity development of the Counter Narcotics Police of Afghanistan, precursor control, investigative capacity development of the relevant government institutions to counter trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants (TiP/SOM) and corruption as well as to implement the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations for Anti-money Laundering (AML) and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (CFT). In working towards securing the borders, the sub-programme includes support in equipment and training for drug interdiction operations, developing programmes to identify those involved in TiP/SOM as well as ensuring Afghanistan’s active participation in regional border management activities.

**Sub-programme 2 - Criminal Justice:**

Afghanistan’s justice sector has suffered enormously and it still faces challenges resulting from the 30 years civil war. Although much has been accomplished and the justice system has been reanimated, specific areas such as anti-corruption, economic crime, prison/juvenile justice reform and the overall capacity of criminal justice sector need further improvement and sustainability. The rule of law in Afghanistan still requires significant investment and support by national and international stakeholders.

*Sub-programme 2* aims at strengthening the rule of law, building integrity, addressing impunity, and developing a professional judicial culture, which are all essential pre-requisites for peace and stability in Afghanistan and an essential basis to address narcotics trafficking and transnational organised crime. Under the Criminal Justice Sub-programme, addressing corruption, economic crime and prison/juvenile justice reform are the main priorities.
Sub-programme 3 - Health and Alternative Development:

Afghanistan is affected by illicit drug production as well as drug use and dependence (and a concentrated HIV epidemic among injecting drug users). With around 2 million drug users and 5% of the population involved in drug cultivation, Afghanistan pays a very high cost for the illicit drug problem in the country.

Sub-programme 3 aims at addressing the needs of drug affected communities, offering alternative livelihood/development streams to poppy/cannabis growing households and persons affected by drug use and dependence, with a special focus on vulnerable groups such as children, adolescents, female injecting drug users and populations in closed settings.

The major objective of support in the area of health is to provide assistance to drug demand reduction and HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care in Afghanistan. The sub-programme focuses, generally, on building the capacity of the Afghan counterparts and provide the required technical support to the government and civil society working in the fields of the drug demand reduction and HIV/AIDS in Afghanistan.

Support in the area of livelihoods covers three main areas. Firstly, the programme will strengthen the capacity of GIRoA on Alternative Development (AD) policy development, programme planning and impact monitoring. Secondly, the programme will improve coordination of AD-related work between the government and non-government stakeholders. And thirdly, the programme supports implementation of multifaceted community-based innovative AD projects with an active community-led Counter-Narcotics (CN) element.

Sub-programme 4 - Advocacy, Policy and Research:

Accurate and credible data are essential for evidence based policy and advocacy. UNODC built a strong research reputation through its opium survey, its provincial profiles and socio-economic assessment as well as corruption survey.

Sub-programme 4 supports capacity development of the Ministry of Counter Narcotics (MCN) in the areas of crop monitoring, research, inter-agency cooperation and provincial outreach. In addition, UNODC aims at supporting MCN's ability to promote public awareness on Counter Narcotics (CN) and Criminal Justice (CJ), and develop a strong statistical and analytical team within the MCN itself.
Overall Budget of the Country Programme for Afghanistan (including PSC)

It is estimated that UNODC will require USD 68 million to implement the Country Programme for Afghanistan (2016-2019)

**Sub-programme 1:** USD 20,000,000  
**Sub-programme 2:** USD 17,000,000  
**Sub-programme 3:** USD 12,000,000  
**Sub-programme 4:** USD 19,000,000

Programme Governance Mechanisms and Structures:

The Country Programme for Afghanistan will be executed by UNODC through the Country Office in Afghanistan. UNODC Headquarters will provide support and technical assistance. In terms of programme governance, the Country Programme foresees establishment of two types of entities with specific and defined tasks; this will be the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) and Sub-programme Technical Committees (SPTC). Government partners will play an important part in the Programme Steering Committee and the Sub-programme Technical Committees.

Strategic oversight and direction for the Country Programme will be provided by the Programme Steering Committee. Membership of the PSC comprises of line ministries (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of CN, Ministry of Public Health, and Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development) and other GoIRA counterparts such as Attorney General's Office, Chief Justice Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Central Statistics Office as well as donors. The PSC will be co-chaired by UNODC’s Representative and the Ministry of Counter Narcotics. The PSC will meet annually, and when requested on an ad hoc basis to: i) Annually review CP implementation and the results being achieved; ii) Provide policy guidance and strategic advice with respect to the focus of UNODC support and review forward plans for sub-programmes and their component plans; and iii) Review annual priorities and work plans, drawn up by the Sub-Programmes Technical Committees.

The Sub-Programme Technical Committees will be comprised of representatives from relevant ministries and other government institutions, as well as donors and will be co-chaired by the UNODC’s Programme Manager and an assigned Government representative. The SPTC will meet at least twice a year, including one preparatory meeting immediately prior to the annual Programme Steering committee meeting. The technical committee will create economy of scale and be combined with current regular consultations COAFG has with GoIRA counterparts and donors. External partners may be invited to attend SPTC meetings as observers. GoIRA representatives will be responsible for providing feedback on priorities and related work plans drawn up by UNODC to implement the sub-programme.

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