MARCH 8 – INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

Gender equality and the empowerment of women are integral parts of all aspects of the work of UNODC in making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism and in ensuring the peaceful uses of outer space.

In order to achieve progress towards systematically and effectively mainstreaming gender and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in the programmatic activities and organizational policies and practices, the UNOV/UNODC has developed Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2018 – 2021).

The UNOV/UNODC Gender Equality Strategy aims to guide the efforts to improve the representation of women at all levels in order to reach gender parity, and to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in work across UNODC mandates.

Promoting gender equality in Central Asia

UNODC supports Central Asian countries in their efforts to reach the Targets under SDG 5 “Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls” by promoting access to justice for women and girls and creating the conditions for women and girls to claim their rights and be active agents of change.

In Central Asia, UNODC actively promotes gender mainstreaming in the criminal justice system. In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC has supported career development of women in the police through the implementation of police mentoring and leadership training programmes. As part of peacebuilding efforts in Kyrgyzstan, UNODC works together with other UN agencies to promote participation and engagement of women and girls in efforts to prevent violent extremism, supporting access to police services for women and girls in cases of radicalization to violence. UNODC helps Central Asian states to draft laws and create comprehensive national anti-trafficking strategies and to develop local capacity and expertise to implement these, including by providing practical tools to encourage cross-border cooperation in investigations and prosecutions. In Turkmenistan, UNODC is currently developing a training manual on the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking. In Uzbekistan, UNODC completed the production of a training film aimed at promoting victim-centered approaches to prosecution and adjudication of trafficking in persons’ cases. In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC provided the Government with policy advice resulting in the adoption of a new State Programme to counter trafficking in persons for the period from 2017 to 2020.
Promoting Women’s Football

On International Women’s Day, UNODC and the Football Federation of the Kyrgyz Republic (FFKR) hosted a Women’s Football Tournament in Bishkek. One hundred and fifty girls from Bishkek and various villages surrounding the Kyrgyz capital participated in the tournament, which was aimed at promoting civic values and disseminating the benefits of sports in keeping youth away from drugs, crime and violence.

During the event, the participants engaged in life skills training sessions delivered as part of UNODC’s evidence-informed and sports-based curriculum Line Up Live Up. They also attended a performance about the negative consequences of crime and violence in one of the Bishkek theatres, which was followed by discussion among the attending youth on how to tackle these issues in everyday life.

UNODC works to reduce the level of antisocial behaviour by building important life skills that increase adaptive and positive behaviour among young people. Since April 2017, over 40 sports coaches and physical education teachers have successfully passed training of trainers’ courses and conducted “Line Up, Live Up” sessions to some 250 children aged 13-16 in secondary schools and sports centres in Bishkek and the surrounding Chui province. These activities are conducted within the framework of UNODC’s Global Doha Declaration Implementation Programme.

STATISTICS:
Capacity Building in Criminal Justice, Crime Prevention and Integrity

Throughout 2017, UNODC increased the knowledge and skills of 1394 criminal justice practitioners, including 573 women, on a wide range of issues through conducting conferences, trainings, workshops, awareness raising campaigns, and other capacity-building events.
STRENGTHENING BORDER SECURITY IN CENTRAL ASIA

Mentorship training for Turkmen Customs officers

A five-day training in Ashgabat as a part of Mentorship component of the UNODC-World Customs Organization (WCO) Global Container Control Programme (CCP) from 15-19 January 2018.

Nine officers from the State Customs Service of Turkmenistan, including members of the Port Control Units (PCU) in Ashgabat and Turkmenbashy cities, took part in the workshop. At the training, an experienced trainer from the WCO shared his knowledge on profiling and selecting high-risk consignments, and conducted practical exercises on searching the containers. The mentorship component aims to warrant sustainability of the programme, and to ensure that newly hired officials of inter-agency units are being adequately trained and have the same level of skills as their colleagues.

The CCP Regional Segment for Central Asia is funded by the Government of Japan and the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), and the Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Programme.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMMES IN 2017

Mentorship programmes of the CCP Regional Segment for Central Asia created opportunities for newly recruited officers to obtain practical skills in identifying and profiling of high risk consignments via customs documents, to review cases of physical inspection of containers/trucks, and to learn methods of detecting concealment places and types of seal manipulation for more than 50 customs officers in 2017.

April

Kazakhstan

- Representatives of Customs control and the State Revenue Committee under the Ministry of Finance of Kazakhstan
- "Morport Aktau" sea port (Kazakhstan)

May-June

Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

- training of newly recruited CCP staff

September-November

Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan

- Customs services and other law enforcement officers
- "Morport Aktau" sea port (Kazakhstan)
  The Customs Headquarters in Bishkek and its Regional Department in Osh (Kyrgyzstan)
  "Dushanbe-2" and "Nizhniy Pyanj" dry ports (Tajikistan)
Contributing to the new crime data collection system

In February, to support the launch of a unified electronic crime database, UNODC provided the General Prosecutor’s Office with 50 computers and other related equipment worth over 2 million Kyrgyz soms.

“By establishing a single, automated system for crime and criminal justice data collection, it will become possible to track criminal cases throughout the criminal justice chain, from the moment a crime is registered to the execution of a court ruling”, said Azizbek Usubaliev, Head of the Legal Statistics Unit at the General Prosecutor’s Office. “The new equipment will allow us to collect objective and reliable crime data. This will be of great benefit to the promotion of the rule of law in the country”, he added.

UNODC supports the establishment of the new crime registry within the framework of the UNODC Programme for Central Asia with funding provided by the Government of Japan.

Improving specialized reanimation services

The UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia in Tashkent handed over reanimation equipment to the Narcological Dispensaries of Jizzakh, Fergana, Navoi and Khorazm regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This event is part of the “Treating drug dependence and its health consequences: Treatnet II” global initiative.

The provided assistance contributes to the activities of the “National program of complex measures on countering drug abuse and illegal trafficking for 2016-2020” aimed at improving drug dependence treatment services and organizational forms of emergency aid.

“Previously, there were cases when our center had to request intensive care support from external emergency rooms. Now, with the equipment received from UNODC, our work will become more effective, without delays and complications related to equipment” - added Mr. Oybek Dadaboyev, the Chief Physician of the Narcological Dispensary of Fergana region.

The “Treating drug dependence and its health consequences: Treatnet II” global initiative is generously funded by the U.S. State Department Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and the Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Program.