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Countering Transnational Crime, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Terrorism

Criminal Justice, Crime Prevention and Integrity

Drug Prevention, Treatment and Reintegration and HIV Prevention

Research and Trend Analysis
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ‘a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, also seeking to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom’, remained at the core of much of UNODC ROCA work throughout 2017.
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## ABBREVIATIONS

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<tr>
<td>BCP</td>
<td>Border Crossing Points</td>
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<td>BLO</td>
<td>Border Liaison Office</td>
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<td>CARICC</td>
<td>Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre</td>
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<td>CCP</td>
<td>Container Control Programme (of UNODC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Independent States</td>
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<td>DCA</td>
<td>Drug Control Agency</td>
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<td>DMP</td>
<td>Drug Monitoring Platform</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>FAST</td>
<td>Families and Schools Together Programme</td>
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<td>FTFs</td>
<td>Foreign Terrorist Fighters</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLO.ACT</td>
<td>Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPML</td>
<td>Global Programme Against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism</td>
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<tr>
<td>HRC</td>
<td>Human Rights Council (of UN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMT</td>
<td>Interagency Mobile Teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>INL</td>
<td>The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>LEA</td>
<td>Law Enforcement Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
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<td>NATO</td>
<td>North Atlantic Treaty Organization</td>
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<td>NPS</td>
<td>New Psychoactive Substances</td>
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<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe</td>
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<td>PCU</td>
<td>Port Control Unit</td>
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<td>POKAZ</td>
<td>Programme Office in Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>POKYR</td>
<td>Programme Office in Kyrgyzstan</td>
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<td>POTAJ</td>
<td>Programme Office in Tajikistan</td>
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<td>POTUK</td>
<td>Programme Office in Turkmenistan</td>
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<td>PSC</td>
<td>Programme Steering Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>PVE/CVE</td>
<td>Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism</td>
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<td>PWUD</td>
<td>People who use drugs</td>
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<td>ROCA</td>
<td>Regional Office for Central Asia (of UNODC)</td>
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<td>SBS</td>
<td>State Border Service</td>
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<td>SCO</td>
<td>Shanghai Cooperation Organization</td>
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<td>SDGs</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
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<td>SFP</td>
<td>Strengthening Families Programme</td>
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<td>S-O-S</td>
<td>Stop Overdose Safely</td>
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<td>ToT</td>
<td>Training of Trainers</td>
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<td>TPB</td>
<td>Terrorism Prevention Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
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<td>UNCAC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention against Corruption</td>
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<td>UNCT</td>
<td>United Nations Country Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDAF</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Framework</td>
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<td>UNGASS</td>
<td>Special Session of the General Assembly</td>
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<td>UNODC</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
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<td>UNRC</td>
<td>United Nations Resident Coordinator</td>
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<td>UNRCCA</td>
<td>United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia</td>
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<td>UNTOC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime</td>
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<td>UPR</td>
<td>Universal Periodic Review (of UN)</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<td>WCO</td>
<td>World Customs Organization</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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FOREWORD

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for Central Asia (UNODC ROCA) is proud to present the annual report on the technical cooperation delivered in 2017 in partnership with the Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Republic of Armenia, in addition to the multiple stakeholders from the UN sister agencies, bilateral and multilateral organizations and the civil society with support of the donors.

With greater reason, the stakeholders in Central Asia and the Southern Caucuses recognize and emphasize the importance of UNODC’s mandate to support the implementation of the efforts to address the complex challenges of drugs, crime and terrorism. Evidence informed strategies on countering narcotics, prevention of transnational organized crime and violent extremism are central to peace, stability, and effective governance in the region, and are based on the rule of law and human rights that ensure sustainable development. Moreover, it is important to stress that no country alone can address these complex problems. Therefore, collaboration, joint programming, sharing of information, expertise and experiences are critical.

Historically, Central Asia represents a confluence of cultures with a shared past and is bound to-
gether with its commitment towards a strong and bright future, with the wealth of any nation being its youth and children. As of today, the region’s total population is over 70 million, out of which 42% are young people and children under the age of 24. Therefore, the evidence informed strategies for the Central Asian states call for an inclusive process on ensuring that young people are enlightened and educated and develop a stake and commit to making their communities economically vibrant, healthy and safe, ensuring that they are free from risks related to drugs, transnational organized crime and terrorism.

The nexus of transnational organized crime and terrorism, including drug trafficking, is a concern for the Central Asian states. On the one hand, drug trafficking and illicit financial flows emanating out of Afghanistan, which has seen an exponential increase of opium poppy cultivation in 2017, resulting in 328,000 hectares of land being used for cultivation with over 9000 metric tons of opium production, poses increased challenges for the region. On the other hand, the emergence of new psychoactive substances remains a formidable challenge and presents a potential threat to the security and development of the Central Asian region and the Caucasus.

The defining moment in any process is the political commitment matched with the sense of shared responsibility. The year has witnessed the increased political commitment towards strengthening regional cooperation including on sustainable development and security. In November, an International Conference on Security and Sustainable Development in Central Asia “Central Asia: Shared Past and Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity” was organized by the Republic of Uzbekistan under the auspices of the United Nations, in partnership with the UNODC and UNRCCA. The presence of the leadership from more than 50 countries and organizations across the region and the world at this conference represents the political commitment to peace, stability, security and sustainable development.

On a similar note, an agreement of cooperation was signed as a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between General Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan and UNODC in April 2017. The MoU is aimed at providing a framework of cooperation and understanding between both parties to further their shared goals and objectives in regard to building capacities of criminal justice and law enforcement officers to detect, investigate, prosecute, and prevent terrorism and violent extremism, and to counter illicit trafficking of drugs, human trafficking and illicit financial flows.

The year also saw the signing of a significant agreement aimed at ensuring a mutual and inclusive strategy between the Government of Uzbekistan and UNODC. Based on Mr Yury Fedotov’s the UNODC Executive Director, visit to Uzbekistan, and his subsequent meeting with the President, H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a “Plan of practical measures (“Road Map”) on further development of cooperation of the Republic of Uzbekistan and UNODC 2017-2019” was signed in December 2017 in Vienna, Austria. The “Road Map” is aimed at coordinated practical measures between Republic of Uzbekistan and UNODC on countering drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism, in addition to criminal justice and drug use prevention.

Additionally, the 10th Review Meeting of the Memorandum of Understanding on sub-regional drug control cooperation was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, in the end of October 2017, furthering sub-regional drug control cooperation, emphasizing the need for not just preventing drug trafficking, but also addressing the illicit financial flows. At the meeting, the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC), as the main regional operational coordination and information sharing mechanism, was given a special emphasis. What is more, in 2017, CARICC celebrated its ten years of operations and welcomed its new Director. It is also vital to note that the CARICC has increasingly gained prominence as a hub for hosting drug law enforcement training programmes and operations.

Overall, UNODC’s integrated harmonized country-level, regional, and global programmes on strengthening drug law enforcement, anti-money laundering, strengthening criminal justice systems, penitentiary reforms,
transnational organized crime and anti-corruption, as well as health programmes related to drug demand reduction and HIV prevention within a rights-based framework are helping in strengthening networks within and between regions, enabling international cooperation, supporting operational coordination, and reaching efficiency and effectiveness through sharing of knowledge, information, experiences and expertise.

The UNODC Programme for Central Asia 2015-2019, represents the overarching strategic framework under which UNODC provides technical assistance within the region. The programme concentrates on such areas as illicit drugs trafficking, transnational organised crime, criminal justice and penitentiary reform, drug and HIV prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, as well as advocacy and research - areas which directly contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2017, UNODC ROCA delivered over 14 million USD in technical assistance programmes through the national, regional and global programmes, with the key principle being to have a coordinated, integrated and harmonized response that is consistent with international norms and principles of good governance, health and human rights, contributing to the establishment of a healthy and safe society founded on the rule of law.

Significant steps were taken by UNODC ROCA in both securing funds for its programme while more importantly, ensuring that it will provide the adequate technical support in its niche areas of expertise for the region. While donors continue to demonstrate their appreciation and trust in UNODC, multi-annual funding and further donor contributions are required to support the new programmes that are in the pipeline for Central Asia and the Southern Caucuses, as not all the objectives and outcomes of the UNODC ROCA Programme are yet to be funded. Predictable and stable resources will further a strategic investment for technical cooperation in building a secure and resilient region that can meet the emerging challenges.

Working in the spirit of "One UN", UNODC has increased its strategic focus on building multi-partner responses. During the year, countries in the region have embarked on the process of localization and nationalization of the global commitment to the 17 SDGs and advancing on the Agenda 2030. UNODC is actively engaged within UN country teams in the region, providing available data and participating in the identification of national SDG indicators, baselines and targets. Likewise, UNODC programmes are aligned with the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development and contribute to achieving them.

The UNODC ROCA team is committed to pursue the mandate contributing towards the achievement of security and justice for all by making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism, so no one is left behind.

In conclusion, let me reiterate that the region's beauty lies in its diversity, and its strength is in its commitment to foster cooperation to preserve stability, security, and sustainable development.
The Central Asian states play a significant role in addressing sustainable development and international security issues such as countering the threats of terrorism and extremism, tackling illicit drug trafficking, illegal arms trade, organized crime, human trafficking, and cybercrime. Moreover, the security of Central Asia is inseparable from global security. Aiming to prevent new challenges and threats, the Central Asian states are building closer and more coordinated cooperation, as well as better interaction with international and regional organizations and partner states.

UNODC supports sub-regional cooperation in Central Asia. Its activities are implemented within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation (MoU) that was first signed in 1996.
UNODC Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019) represents an overarching strategic framework under which UNODC provides technical assistance within the Central Asian states. The Programme aims at strengthening the capacities of the participating countries in such areas as countering illicit drug trafficking and preventing terrorism, criminal justice and drug demand reduction, treatment, prevention of HIV, as well as research and trend analysis.

In April 2017, high-level participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as senior officials of UNODC, partner organizations and the donor community met in Astana, Kazakhstan, for the Second Programme Steering Committee Meeting (PSC) of the Programme.

Chaired by Mr. Rashid Zhakupov, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the meeting allowed for an overview of the regional efforts in confronting the threats posed by illicit drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism.

The UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia team presented the main achievements of UNODC Programme for Central Asia reached in partnership with the Governments in 2016. Furthermore, the work plans for the four Sub-Programmes of the ROCA Programme were successfully adopted. In conclusion, highlights of UNODC ROCA portfolio delivery, as well as the UNODC Programme budget for 2017 were presented.
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON SUB-REGIONAL DRUG CONTROL
COOPERATION

The year 2017 marked the 10th anniversary of the Review Meeting of the MoU. The anniversary meeting was kindly hosted by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Astana on 31 October 2017. Ministers and senior officials from the five Central Asian states (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), as well as Azerbaijan, the Russian Federation, and Aga Khan Development Network attended the meeting that was chaired by Mr. Kairat Abdrakhmanov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Mr. Yury Fedotov, the UNODC Executive Director.

Participants of the MoU meeting discussed current challenges and threats to the region posed by drug trafficking, and exchanged views on areas of cooperation, including operational coordination mechanisms, integrated border management, addressing new psychoactive substances, and actualization of actions in the region as a follow up to the UNGASS 2016 outcome document. CARICC (Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre), as the main regional operational coordination and information-sharing mechanism, was given a special emphasis with specific issues being addressed, namely its sustainability, operational continuity, information-sharing frameworks, including legal aspects, as well as expansion of its mandate to include terrorism prevention.

The meeting adopted a Declaration recognizing the importance of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on sub-regional drug control cooperation in contributing towards enhanced regional and international efforts to counter trafficking of drugs and related illicit financial flows, including financing of terrorism.
The delegations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Aga Khan Development Network and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), gathered at the Tenth review meeting of the parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as MoU) in Astana, Kazakhstan and agreed on the following:

**Emphasizing** that illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances (hereinafter referred to as drugs) and their use, particularly among children and young people, not only undermine human health and well-being, but also threaten the socio-economic development, governance, security and political stability of countries of the region and the international community as a whole;

**Being concerned** that an increased level of illicit cultivation and production of drugs in Afghanistan represents an immediate threat to the region and beyond that requires enhanced cooperation and comprehensive measures to counter the trafficking in drugs and the smuggling of precursors at the regional and international level, based on relevant international instruments;

**Express** concern on the emergence of new psychoactive substances and sale of illicit drugs ...
SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan organized the International Conference on Security and Sustainable Development in Central Asia «Central Asia: Shared Past and Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity» under the auspices of the United Nations and in cooperation with the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia, in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on 10-11 November 2017.
The conference, inaugurated by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, created an interactive platform for high level representatives of the UN, EU, OSCE, SCO, CIS, the Central Asian states, Afghanistan, USA, Russia, China, Turkey, Iran, India, Pakistan, Japan, South Korea and others, as well as scientists, public figures and mass media. More than 500 participants discussed ways to create a reliable mechanism of regional cooperation to counter the threats of terrorism, extremism, transnational organized crime and drug trafficking. More than 70 presentations from high-level participants were heard during the conference.

UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia hosted the breakout session dedicated to regional stability and security issues in Central Asia and discussed threats of violent extremism, problems of radicalization, financing of terrorism, money laundering, as well as cyber security and protecting information space from extremist attacks and other threats.

At the conference, participants passed communiqué as an outcome document which summarizes key recommendations of the forum, and encourages the Heads of the Central Asian states to hold regular consultative meetings to maintain open dialogue and develop mutually acceptable approaches on contemporary regional issues.

Significantly, the participants emphasized the need for cooperation between the Central Asian states and UNODC and Interpol to counter drug trafficking in the region through mobilizing additional resources, new technologies and methods to combat illicit trafficking of drugs and precursors.

COMMUNIQUE

of the International Conference on Security and Sustainable Development in Central Asia under the auspices of the United Nations «Central Asia: Shared Past and Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity» (Samarkand, 10-11 November 2017)

On November 10-11, 2017, the city of Samarkand hosted the International Conference on Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in Central Asia under the auspices of the United Nations «Central Asia: Shared Past and Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity».

The forum has been organized by Uzbekistan in cooperation with the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia.

High level officials of the UN, EU, OSCE, SCO, CIS, delegations of Central Asian countries, Afghanistan, USA, European states, Russia, China, Turkey, Iran, India, Pakistan, Japan, South Korea and others, as well as scientists, public figures and officials took part in the conference.

Participants underscored that Central Asia, located at the crossroads of the ancient routes between East and West along “The Great Silk Road”, has contributed to promoting dialogue and interaction of world cultures, languages and religions for thousands of years. Possessing significant energy and natural resources, unique transport and communication potential, Central Asia possesses geopolitical significance. Developments in the region affect the stability of the entire Eurasian continent.

In this context, it was pointed out that in the prevailing conditions, Central Asian states play a significant role in addressing contemporary issues, related to enhancing international security. Among them are: countering the threats of terrorism and extremism, measures aimed at tackling illicit drug trafficking, illegal arms trade, organized crime, human trafficking, preventing threats in the information sphere.
In 2017, UNODC not only concentrated on strengthening regional cooperation, but also sought to develop joint initiatives at the national level.

One of the most valuable agreements achieved in 2017 was a Plan of Practical Measures ("Road Map") on Further Development of Cooperation of the Republic of Uzbekistan with UNODC in 2017-2019 on countering drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism.

The creation of the strategic document was first discussed on 1 November 2017 in Tashkent when Mr. Yury Fedotov, the UNODC Executive Director met with the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan H.E. Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev. During his first visit to Uzbekistan, Mr. Fedotov also met with Mr. Abdulaziz Komilov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Pulat Babajanov, the Minister of Interior of Uzbekistan, Mr. Sodiq Safoyev, the First Deputy Chairman of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, and Mr. Akhmed Mansurov, the Director of National Drug Control Centre under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This timely meeting was welcomed by the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, given that the state considers security and peace as key priorities of its national and international policy, and puts every effort towards countering organized crime, illicit drug trafficking and terrorism.
Only a month later, the parties officially signed the Road Map, at UNODC Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. The Road Map was developed by the Government of Uzbekistan in consultation with UNODC ROCA. The document identifies areas where UNODC could provide technical assistance, including strengthening ongoing law enforcement reforms, criminal justice, anti-corruption efforts and the healthcare system.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Yury Fedotov, UNODC Executive Director welcomed the strengthening of partnership with Uzbekistan and stressed that the Road Map is a live document that will evolve to address emerging threats and challenges.

Mr. Gayrat Fazilov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, emphasized that Mr. Fedotov’s visit to Uzbekistan opened a new page in bilateral relations with prospects for more dynamic and practical cooperation.

A review mechanism of implementation of the joint Road Map will be established and aligned with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the 2030 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Road Map will be implemented under the framework of UNODC Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019) as well as UNODC Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries and UNODC Global Programmes.
COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL CRIME, ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFICKING AND TERRORISM

The Programme for Central Asia promotes policies for rule of law, addressing counter-narcotics, transnational organized crime and terrorism prevention contributing to peace, security and sustainable development. The Programme is used as a platform to support establishment of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. These principles reflect the key targets set in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. While addressing illicit drug trafficking and related threats in Central Asia, UNODC sets its activities in line with the Agenda. It particularly aims to achieve Target 16.3 and 16.a of the Sustainable Development Goals among other key targets.

To provide the Central Asian States with technical assistance, interlink the national and regional level efforts, UNODC utilizes a mechanism of integrated response to drugs related challenges and border security issues. The organization’s initiatives strengthen both national interagency coordination, and regional cross-border cooperation via establishing Border Liaison Offices, Port Control Units, Border Outposts, and Interagency Mobile Teams in the Central Asian states. Additionally, the CARICC (Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre) serves as the information and coordination platform for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.
Map of the UNODC Border Security Initiatives in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus
“Countering the trafficking of Afghan opiates via the Northern route by enhancing the capacity of key border crossing points (BCPs) and through the establishment of Border Liaison Offices (BLOs)” component serves as an example of good practice in operations on countering narcotics through enhancing capacity of selected BCPs, as well as establishing BLOs.

To date, UNODC assisted in establishing 13 BLOs in geographically remote and potentially vulnerable checkpoints on the Uzbek-Tajik (4), Kyrgyz-Tajik (4), Kyrgyz-Uzbek (2), Uzbek-Afghan (1) and Tajik-Afghan (2) borders. The offices are equipped with the necessary high-tech and specialized analytical software enabling the analysis of the database information. What is more, UNODC plans to support 6 additional BLOs that are to be located on the Uzbek-Kazakh (2), Kazakh-Kyrgyz (2) and Kyrgyz-Tajik (2) borders.

As a part of the component, in 2017, the “Korday” BCP in Kazakhstan and the juxtaposed “Akzhol” BCP in Kyrgyzstan were provided with a direct communication line, in addition to specialized law enforcement equipment for border control and passenger inspection. Furthermore, UNODC held two assessment missions at the “Yallama” BCP on the Uzbek border and “B.Konysbayev” BCP on the Kazakh border in 2017 which resulted in creation of plan on upgrading BCPs with digital video-endoscopes, walkthrough metal detectors, vehicle inspection tools, passport readers and officer equipment, and providing staff training.

The initiative activities are sponsored by the Government of Germany, the Government of Japan, and the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the U.S. Department of State (INL).
In the fall of 2017, the Kyrgyz Republic State Border Service (SBS) in close cooperation with UNODC officially opened a new coordination facility that provides a centralized location to collect, analyze and disseminate operational and strategic data among three BLOs established in the selected BCPs of Kyrgyzstan - “Bordobo,” “Dostuk,” “Karamyk.”

The Coordination Centre of the Border Liaison Offices provides a wide spectrum of analytical services for improving operational integration of border security efforts by enhancing detection capabilities and increasing situational awareness for SBS and other national law enforcement authorities.

The Centre manages and oversees the BLO database powered by IBM software “i2” and geographic information system “ArcGIS,” which allows analysts to quickly compare, analyze and visualize data from various sources.

“With the opening of this Coordination Centre, the State Border Service performed a true digital transformation moving the paper work of all territorial operational units to electronic format using modern technologies,” said Ularbek Sharsheev, SBS Chief. “This transformation offers a large potential to improve the efficiency, reliability and cost-effectiveness of operational activities at the border,” he added.

The Centre is also tasked to coordinate joint operations of competent authorities at the border, representing Customs and Counter Narcotics Service of the Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as to facilitate efficient intelligence exchange.

The Centre has already coordinated the detection of more than 1,200 offences at the borders and more than 13,900 illegal border crossing cases.
In May 2017, UNODC, in coordination with the State Border Service of the Kyrgyz Republic, conducted a joint simulation exercises at the “Dostuk” BCP located on the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border aimed at intercepting drug trafficking and precursor chemicals, as a part of the border cooperation initiative funded by the Government of Japan.

It was the first joint simulation exercise held at the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border since UNODC established and made operational BLOs along this borderline in October 2015. The representatives of the Ministry of Interior, Border and Customs Services of the Kyrgyz Republic participated at the exercise. Participants of the simulation exercise worked on two ‘real-life’ scenarios aimed at improving coordination between BLO officers of two parallel check points.

Mr. Aibek Kutmanov, Chief of Main Operational Department of the State Border Service of the Kyrgyz Republic, noted, “Today we witnessed a successful joint work of LEAs (law enforcement agencies) involved in border protection, which is one more positive step towards coordination of measures for solving the problem of drug trafficking, which does not have national borders.”

Throughout the reporting period, the component conducted 12 professional development events for the law enforcement officers serving at BLOs, Customs, Ministries of Interior, Drug Control and other agencies. More than 200 officers from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan participated in the trainings, workshops, study-visits and demo exercises in 2017. At the trainings, the law enforcement officers improved their knowledge and skills in application of IBM i2 software and Virtual Private Network (VPN), customs control, examination of travel document and profiling techniques. During the study-tours to the model BCPs in Georgia and Azerbaijan, 16 officers from the four countries got familiarized with best practices of integrated border management and cross-border cooperation models of fighting illicit drug trafficking.

In addition, UNODC continued cooperating with the Border Service Academy under National Security Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan in facilitation of exchange of best practices in training of law enforcement personnel. As a result, a pool of national trainers was trained in border and custom control, risk profiling, drug seizures, controlled delivery and web-based drug trafficking. These training courses have been included in the educational curricula for law enforcement officials across the region.
CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME

UNODC assists the Central Asian states in strengthening national and regional response to border security challenges through the Global UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme (CCP), a joint initiative of UNODC and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

The CCP Regional segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan is expanding its area of operations. Thus, in 2017, two new Port Control Units (PCUs) were established in the Kyrgyz Republic - at the base of the Headquarter of the State Customs Service under the Government the Kyrgyz Republic, and in its field branch in the Southern part of the country – in Customs “Osh”. These two PCUs were officially opened in May 2017. UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia handed over office, computer and detection equipment.

Today, there are 11 well-established Port Control Units operating under the Regional Segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan.

The CCP Regional Segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan is funded by the Government of Japan and the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), and the Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Programme.
In 2017, the CCP Regional segment for Central Asia and Azerbaijan supported by the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC), launched the Regional Operation called "Container Programme Chemical Check-I.”

The Operation focused on proper verification and identification of all chemicals/substances entering Afghanistan either directly or transiting other countries towards Afghanistan, as well as cargo, being potentially re-exported to Afghanistan, and interception of smuggled substances in concealed consignments.

The Protocol of the Operation was signed by the Heads of Customs Administrations of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan during the meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia on 18 July 2017. Moreover, the participating states approved the Operation Plan.

The Operation was performed in September 2017, and proved its effectiveness. Thus, over 3,500 containers, railroad wagons and trucks in import, export and transit were profiled and examined. PCUs performed visual and physical examination of commodities using the probes, weights, HazMatID 360 chemical identifiers, Mobile Inspection and Examination Equipment (MIEE), Rapiscan X-ray equipment, testing kits for chemical analysis, as well as canine service. At the end of each day, Port Control Units submitted reports in the pre-determined format to their national contact points which, in turn, forwarded them to the Operation Coordination Unit (OCU) in CARICC. OCU studied national reports that served as a basis for daily bulletins published in English and Russian languages. The daily bulletins were distributed to the participating countries via the ContainerComm secure communication channel.

Later, in November, at the Debriefing Meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, experts discussed results of the implementation of the Operation, and developed further recommendations.
CCP SEIZURE CASES IN CENTRAL ASIA IN 2017

Number of items seized by the PCU officers in 2017 (by country)

Types of goods seized by the PCU officers in Central Asia in 2017

- Automobile spare parts and tyres: 13,113 items
- Cigarettes: 210,000 packs
- Various types of consumers goods: 1,262 items (kitchen utensils, TV sets, USB-cables, etc)
- Drugs, and other substances: 20 kg - metallic mercury, 400 gr - hashish and marijuana, 7,500 vials - Diazepam, psycho-tropic substance, 1,440 kg - adhesive agent of plant "Ferule"
CCP facilitates legal trade and combats crime on the borders through its capacity-building activities designed for law enforcement officers of the participating states.

In 2017, more than 200 Customs and other law enforcement officers from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan participated in the 23 CCP theoretical, practical and advanced training activities, as well as mentorship programmes, study visits and regional meetings.

Mentorship programmes 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.

Trained through CCP educating programmes, the PCU staff is using new methods and approaches to profile high risk consignments and to inspect them daily with improved detection tools.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Thirty officers of Customs and other LEAs, as well as eleven representatives of transport companies of the Central Asian states and Azerbaijan took part in the Regional Refresher Training and Private Sector Workshop, conducted on 13 – 15 June 2017 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Two days of workshop were devoted to improving the skills of customs personnel in container profiling and usage of modern methods of customs control.

During the last day of the workshop, at the session on strengthening cooperation between customs administration and the private sector, the PCUs presented their approach on the prevention of customs crime and provided recommendations to improve relations with the private sector. In turn, representatives of the business community expressed their interest and presented their proposals on ways of strengthening cooperation.

As a result of the workshop, customs offices of the Central Asian states and Azerbaijan agreed with representatives of the private sector to follow up on issues raised at national level and make efforts at fostering cooperation.
CARICC CELEBRATES TEN YEARS OF OPERATION

The year 2017 marks the tenth anniversary since the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) commenced its operations. During the year, two CARICC Council meetings were held.

At the first meeting in March, CARICC Council gave satisfactory assessment to the performance of CARICC in 2016. The Council authorized the CARICC Director to implement the UNODC Administrative and Technical Assessments recommendations.

At the second CARICC Council Meeting in December, the Council adopted the CARICC Strategy for 2018-2022. Moreover, CARICC welcomed its new Director Colonel Grigory Pustovitov (Russian Federation) who was appointed to the position in October 2017 for a two-year term as a result of the directorship rotation process.

Throughout the year, CARICC facilitated seven operations, including four counternarcotic operations and two long-term multilateral regional operations: “Reflex”, a regional operation on countering NPS and “Substitute”, a regional operation on countering precursors. Additionally, a joint Multilateral Container Control Operation was successfully completed.

Furthermore, CARICC drafted a Regional Programme on system countering drug related organized crime through combatting financial flows and increasing the capacity of the competent authorities. This two-year programme will be launched in 2018.

In May 2017, CARICC conducted a Controlled Delivery Exercise. The vehicle with concealed dummy drugs commenced its journey from Dushanbe, Tajikistan and crossed the Tajik-Kyrgyz, Kyrgyz-Kazakh and Kazakh-Russian borders, and reached Chelyabinsk city of Russia, where the dummy drugs were seized by the Russian Police officers.

Throughout the reporting period, CARICC, jointly with INL, the U.S. Department of State, and OSCE, conducted five trainings on risk targeting and detection of potential drug smugglers at international border control points for the border control officers of Kazakhstan. Furthermore, eleven training sessions on the use IBM I2 Analyst’s Notebook and I2 Base software were conducted for the officers of analytical units of Kyrgyz and Kazakh law enforcement authorities. In total, 160 officers went through the CARICC trainings in 2017. Specifically, 70 officers were trained on risk targeting and 90 officers were trained on use of IBM I2 applications.
BORDER OUTPOSTS

Tajikistan and Afghanistan share roughly 1,300-kilometer border. With the shared borders, the countries face common threats of illicit drug trafficking.

Border Outposts strengthen border control capacities of the border units posted between Tajikistan and Afghanistan in identifying and intercepting drug trafficking.

Currently, seven border outposts serve Tajik border in the most sensitive areas between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Four additional outposts are at different stages of construction.

The "Tagnob" border post is a strategic location for 40 border guards at the Tajik-Afghan border. The construction of the post was completed in 2017. The border post consists of the officer quarter for families, barracks for 40 border guards, and water supply system.

In 2017, another strategic border post along the Tajik-Afghan border - "Ushturmullo," got its new soldier barracks for 25 border guards. The officer quarters are being constructed as well.

In total, UNODC ROCA plans to construct two border posts ("Tagnob" and "Ushturmullo"), fully equip and furnish, and two border outposts ("Payvand" and "Khoshma") along the borders between Tajikistan and Afghanistan, and hand them over to the Border Forces of Tajikistan by the end of 2018. All construction activities are being funded by two principle donors: the Government of Japan and International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, the U.S. Department of State.
Uzbekistan is located in the heart of Central Asia, and borders with all other Central Asian states. This fact makes the country one of the key actors in combatting illicit drug trafficking and preventing terrorism. UNODC supports establishment of Inter-agency Mobile Teams (IMTs) as an integral part of the regional border security cooperation.

In 2017, UNODC and the Government of Uzbekistan continued their partnership in “Countering trafficking of Afghan narcotics in Uzbekistan through establishment of Interagency Mobile Teams”. The parties defined the location of six IMTs - in Tashkent, Syrdarya, Fergana, Surkhandarya, Samarkand regions, and Karakalpakstan. The Operations Coordination Team (OCT) of the IMTs will be located at the National Information Analytical Centre on Drug Control in Tashkent city.

The IMTs will work in close cooperation with the National Security Service, Ministry of Interior and State Customs Committee, and assist in their efforts to counter drugs trafficked from Afghanistan.

During 2017 UNODC ROCA held three expert meetings to discuss draft Standard Operating Procedures for the units, location sites for the IMTs and OCTs.

The IMTs will be equipped with off-road, patrol and investigation vehicles, as well as specialized search, identification and protective equipment. Eight training courses are planned in 2018 for the IMT and OCT staff to prepare them for the roles in new units. All the IMT activities are funded by the Government of Japan.
Throughout 2017, UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia was actively supporting the Drug Control Agency (DCA) under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan with funding assistance provided by the Government of the USA. UNODC and the INL, the U.S. Department of State, assisted the Training Center of DCA in developing an action plan to implement Academic Training Unit initiative.

With a support from UNODC, DCA was building professional capacity of more than 150 agency specialists with skills and knowledge of over 50 newly recruited staff being enhanced.

Other two trainings for the DCA officers of the Regional departments of Khatlon and Mountain Badakhshan Autonomous provinces covered a wide range of issues such as methods of operative-search activities, provision of theoretical and practical assistance to on-going investigations, anti-corruption measures, extremism and terrorism as threat to the society, as well the implementation of relevant legislation.

Additionally, a training of trainers (ToT) was conducted at the DCA Training Centre for over 20 senior officers of the agency. Future instructors improved their skills in effective and interactive teaching methods aimed for an adult audience, identifying/planning training needs, group facilitation, brainstorming, training evaluation, reporting etc.
KYRGYZ-TAJIK JOINT RESPONSE TO ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING

The DCA and the Ministry of Interior (MoI) of the Kyrgyz Republic discussed strengthening interagency cooperation in countering transnational organized crime and illicit drug trafficking at a two-day working meeting. The meeting was a part of the UNODC “Strengthening the Counter Narcotics Service of the MoI of the Kyrgyz Republic” and “Tajikistan Drug Control Agency (DCA)” components funded by the INL, the U.S. Department of State.

During the event, the delegations discussed priority areas of cooperation between agencies, trends and developments on the drug situation in the region, the effectiveness of national efforts on drug control, as well as drug prevention issues.

The agenda also included consideration of a cooperation agreement between the Kyrgyz MoI and the DCA on combating illicit drug trafficking, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

“I am deeply convinced that the results of our meetings will give a new impetus to the development of bilateral cooperation and will have a positive impact on the activation of joint efforts in the field of countering illicit drug trafficking,” said Daniyar Abdykarov, Deputy Minister of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic.

According to Zafar Samad, Deputy Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan: “Our meeting in this format and the signing of the Protocol on Cooperation will allow us to develop a unified approach to cooperation in the field of combating organized criminal drug groups, the timely exchange of information on them, and take effective measures to strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation.”
In 2017, the “Drug law enforcement systems for criminal intelligence collection, analysis and exchange” component strengthened the capacity of law enforcement officers from the ministries of interior, drug control agencies, and other state agencies of beneficiary states in the fields of improving intelligence led policing and criminal intelligence analysis of the LEAs. Thus, over 50 officers from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan enhanced their knowledge and skills. Furthermore, more than 300 senior officers of regional departments of the Ministry of Interior (MoI) of Kyrgyz Republic participated in the Peer to Peer awareness sessions on intelligence analysis. In addition, steering committees, coordination and expert meetings were organized in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Likewise, IT equipment for the establishment of computer class was handed over to MoI Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in August 2017 as a part of the initiative.
Throughout the reporting period, 208 law enforcement specialists were trained within the framework of the NATO-UNODC Partnership for Countering Narcotics Training component. Specialists from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan underwent trainings covering such topics as operational police tactics, undercover and informants, organized crime investigation, canine support for units engaged in combatting drug trafficking, interviews and interrogations, as well as others.

### Countering Narcotics Trainings
(Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Number of countries</th>
<th>Number of trainings</th>
<th>Number of participants</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Train The Trainers</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Police Tactics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undercover and Informant Training</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Analysis and Search Techniques</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organized Crime Investigations</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-Corruption Training</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview and Interrogation Techniques</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime Intelligence Analysis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other topics</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>208</strong></td>
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COUNTERING SYNTHETIC DRUGS AND NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

According to the 2017 Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment Report, countries in Central and Southwest Asia, with the exception of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkmenistan, have recently reported the emergence of new psychoactive substances (NPS) to UNODC. Between 2013 and 2016, 59 NPS were reported by countries in the region. Such trends require further strengthening of the law enforcement efforts in the region.

Throughout 2017, UNODC supported the Central Asian states by providing technical assistance with delivery of training courses, the procurement of specialized equipment and by promoting regional cooperation through joint activities on countering synthetic drugs and NPS, including meetings, regional workshops and regional operations. All NPS activities were generously funded by the Government of Japan.

Over the reporting period, UNODC ROCA provided a total of five specialized training courses. Regional training workshops constituted an important element of the implemented activities. A series of training courses was delivered on different aspects of countering synthetic drugs and NPS ranging from introductory and theoretical topics to hands-on training courses and study visits. More than 80 law enforcement officers from the five Central Asian states participated in the trainings.

Furthermore, UNODC conducted eight national-level expert meetings on NPS, supported several other regional initiatives against synthetic drugs and NPS, and supplied equipment. Thus, the LEAs in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan were provided with field rapid drugs tests, contraband search and inspection kits, photo and video recording equipment, laptops and printers with total value of about 230,000 USD.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| **International Cooperation, Monitoring, and Reporting on NPS** | • Introduction to the synthetic drugs and NPS  
• global and regional NPS trends; challenges of the NPS for law enforcement, health service providers and international and national legislative controls | 19     |
| **Risk Assessment and International Cooperation in Countering NPS** | • Global situation on NPS  
• variety of approaches in national control, legal and regulatory tools including catch-all provisions and voluntary information sharing  
• NPS trade through the Internet | 16     |
| **Clinical aspects on NPS**                       | • Types of NPS currently available on the market  
• signs, symptoms associated with acute and long-term use/misuse  
• NPS intoxication or dependence | 26     |
| **Study visit to Italy**                          | • Experience of Italian law enforcement agencies in countering drugs, including NPS, as well as their field operative methods. | 8      |
| **Usage of field test kits and handheld identification devices in identification of drugs** | • Operation principles of the TruNarc portable drugs/precursor analyzer and field drug test kits. | 19     |
In response to the emerging threat of cybercrime, in 2017, the UNODC Programme for Central Asia offered capacity building trainings for the member states under the “Combatting Cybercrime in Central Asia” component which was funded by the Government of Sweden.

During 2017, UNODC conducted three regional training workshops: on drug trafficking via the internet, cryptocurrencies and money transfer systems, as well as on prevention of online child exploitation.

Over 80 law enforcement officers from the General Prosecutor’s Offices, Ministries of Interior, and other relevant agencies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan participated in the training workshops.

The training on drug trafficking on the internet - *Drugs@Online* - was organized in cooperation with the Embassy of Italy in the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Italian Central Counter-Narcotics Directorate. The workshop covered the phenomenon of trading controlled substances on the internet and techniques used by LEAs to effectively counter such crimes.

The second workshop on *Investigation of Money Laundering with Cryptocurrencies, Money Transfer Systems and Electronic Money*, organized in cooperation with the Global Programme Against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism (GPML), covered new instruments which are becoming available in money laundering operations such as money transfer systems, electronic money and cryptocurrencies. The training, with its interactive approach, allowed the participants to explore the topic online. The capacity building event was co-funded by the European Union.

Moreover, GPML and the Global Programme on eLearning launched the Cryptocurrency Investigation eLearning course, which is available in Russian. The eLearning course is the initial component of UNODC’s Cryptocurrency Investigation Training Programme. The objective of the eLearning course is to develop the knowledge of analysts, law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges regarding the topic.

Additionally, a series of cybercrime workshops were wrapped up with the training on "Computer faciliated crimes against children." The purpose of the session was to provide the participants with a basic understanding of online child sexual exploitation and the challenges for law enforcement worldwide.

**CYBERSECURITY**

**REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOPS ON CYBERSECURITY:**

- *Drugs@Online*
- "Investigation of Money Laundering with Cryptocurrencies, Money Transfer Systems and Electronic Money"
- "Computer facilitated crimes against children."
UNODC supports terrorism prevention initiatives in Central Asia through two components that are implemented through the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019). In 2017, several capacity building events on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism were conducted for the LEAs of the Central Asian states.

The UNODC Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019) and Terrorism Prevention Branch (TPB) implement the "Supporting Central Asian States to Strengthen National and Regional Frameworks for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PVE/CVE)" component. The component is sponsored by the Government of Japan.

As a part of the initiative, UNODC promoted the creation of a Regional PVE Network of the national Focal Points in Central Asia with an aim to strengthen regional cooperation and capacities in PVE/CVE. The Focal Points are expected to act as a first point of contact for PVE/CVE work in their country, encourage and facilitate communication, ensure networking and share information and best practices on a regional level in an effective and sustainable way.

During the reporting period, the initiative conducted two regional events bringing together over 110 representatives of national authorities (Offices of Prosecutor General, Ministries of Interior, Security Services, Ministries of Justice, Religious Affairs Committees), civil society and academia from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as international experts, representatives of international organizations and diplomatic missions with an aim to further support regional cooperation in PVE/CVE and encourage the 'whole of society' approach in preventing violent extremism.

As such, in October, Regional Stakeholders Meeting provided a platform to discuss current terrorist threats and risks at the global and regional levels, look at the best practices of the governments and civil society organizations
working in partnership and engaging communities to prevent violent extremism, and promoting the "whole of society" approach.

The Regional Workshop on "Interaction and Partnerships in PVE/CVE: the role of government, civil society and private sector" held in November 2017, aimed to raise participants' awareness on international and regional practices in rehabilitation and re-integration, on how police can work effectively with civil society in addressing terrorism and radicalization. Participants also considered issues of balancing and upholding human rights in the context of CVE and security. In addition, the workshop focused on discussing the role of religious institutions in PVE, and how promoting community and statutory partnership helps to counter radicalization societally and resist extremism.

Additionally, UNODC organized two national workshops within the framework of the "Supporting Criminal Justice Capacity Building against Emerging Terrorist Threats, Including Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) in Central Asia" component, with funding support from the Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism, the U.S. Department of State. In February 2017, 36 specialists of Oliy Majlis (Parliament), Office of the Prosecutor General, Supreme Court, Ministry of Internal Affairs, National Security Service of Uzbekistan, Abu Raykhan Beruni Centre for Eastern Manuscripts under Tashkent State Institute for Oriental Studies, international organizations and experts from Uzbekistan discussed the evolving terrorism threats, notably FTFs and the importance of strengthening criminal justice responses to terrorism within a rule of law framework.

Likewise, the "Central Asia and the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon: New Legal Challenges" workshop organized at the regional level, took place in Astana, Kazakhstan, and brought together 36 representatives from the national parliaments, ministries of justice, Supreme Courts, and other agencies and organizations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The events were organized by the UNODC/TPB, the OSCE Transnational Threats Department / Action against Terrorism Unit in cooperation with national partners.
Along with promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice, UNODC ROCA works to ensure gender equality and empowerment of women and girls as these are also key targets of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Moreover, it assists the Central Asian states in making cities and villages inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable through such initiatives as implementation of crime prevention plans, promotion of sports among youth and others.
Effective courts play a key role in promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice. Throughout the reporting period, UNODC continued providing assistance to the Central Asian states in developing legislation stimulating the judiciary to function independently, impartially, and with integrity.

Together with a range of national and international partners, UNODC provided legal and expert advice to support the judicial reform process in Kyrgyzstan. In 2017, the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic adopted new criminal legislation, which decriminalizes and depanelizes minor offences; strengthens judicial oversight over investigations through the establishment of a new institution, the pre-trial judge; moves the criminal justice system from an inquisitorial to a more adversarial model with better guarantees for equality of arms; and promotes the social reintegration of offenders through the establishment of a new, socially oriented probation service to manage and oversee the application of alternatives to incarceration. UNODC, in turn, supported the adoption of implementation plans for the new legislation, which is due to enter into force in 2019. Based on the implementation plans, UNODC facilitated discussions on the development of relevant secondary legislation and conducted training of trainers for over 50 criminal justice practitioners who are now able to facilitate further cascaded trainings on new legislation for staff of law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial bodies.

In Uzbekistan, discussions on judicial reform were also advanced with the creation of a Supreme Judicial Council that manages the recruitment and selection of judges and monitors adherence of judges to ethical standards. UNODC facilitated expert discussion on international standards and examples of good practice in relation to procedures on appointment and selection of judges, as well as assessment of judicial performance.

Further advisory support is envisaged to facilitate policy dialogue on criminal justice reform in Central Asia during the year to come.
CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY POLICING

Advocating for community policing principles remained a priority for UNODC in Central Asia in 2017. In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC provided technical assistance to open/refurbish six police stations in municipalities and towns around the country. The renovation works were implemented with financial support provided by the INL, the U.S. Department of State.

Ownership of these interventions was high with over 60,000 USD allocated from local resources for construction and refurbishment of police stations and local crime prevention centres, as well as more than 20,000 USD for the implementation of various crime prevention initiatives.

Twelve small UNODC grants were allocated to local activists and civil society organizations to work with the police and engage their communities on a wide range of crime and safety issues, such as prevention of violent extremism, promotion of road safety and zero tolerance to gender-based violence, including early marriages. During 2017, UNODC, the Kyrgyz Government and local communities continued testing various models for community policing. These initiatives reached over 30,000 people.

In Kulundu of Batkent province, after facilitating the construction of a new police station and development of a local crime prevention plan, UNODC co-funded creation of a new football field. The Youth Centre of Kulundu attracted funds for the pitch through various outreach initiatives, including a marathon, and led the construction in partnership with local authorities. UNODC also provided the Centre with balls, shirts and other sports items, which were then used for the organization of football matches involving police officers and youth from various local villages, including from neighbouring Tajikistan.

Thanks to UNODC’s support, the Youth Centre played a key role in bringing together the Kyrgyz and Tajik communities from both sides of the border in a dialogue platform on cross-border issues. This initiative resulted in increased trust and creation of a contact group for regular mutual consultations.

The town of Kara Suu, an important trade hub on the border with Uzbekistan in Osh province, is another illustrative case. In Kara Suu, UNODC supported the construction of a police substation in one of the residential areas and capacity development of mobile groups, composed of police officers and other relevant stakeholders who work with individuals and families at risk of radicalization to violence. This was combined with active engagement of youth in awareness raising through a forum theater and debating competitions on prevention of violent extremism, addressing gender-based violence, early marriages and other crime and safety issues.

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In Nookat, a town with a multi-ethnic population in Osh province, a new police station was established at the Mayor’s Office. This facilitated accessibility of the police in a strategic location in the centre of the town rather than in the outskirts as before. Likewise, UNODC invested in better facilities for a local crime prevention centre, which is also housed in the Mayor’s office. This "one-stop shop" approach is expected to contribute to better service provision to the population.

In Jeti-Oguz of the Issyk Kul province, UNODC’s technical assistance resulted in refurbished premises, which accommodate both the local police station and the crime prevention centre. A series of workshops were held for members of a local crime prevention centre and a public awareness raising campaign was launched to inform the population about the services the centre provides.

During 2017, UNODC facilitated organization of workshops on crime prevention concepts and strategies for 180 police officers, local government officials and representatives of local crime prevention centres in 16 municipalities and towns around Kyrgyzstan. Moreover, UNODC partnered with the Foundation for Tolerance International and the Public Administration Academy under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic to develop a training manual on crime prevention for inclusion into the educational curriculum of the Academy.
UNODC supports the implementation of the Doha Declaration in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan stressing on youth participation in crime prevention efforts.

In 2017, UNODC made headway with the roll out of the so-called “Line Up Live Up” training curriculum for sports trainers and physical education teachers. The curriculum is geared towards strengthening the life skills of youth and increasing their resilience to crime, violence and drug use.

By the end of the year, two trainings of trainers resulted in the certification of approximately 40 trainers as part of a first pilot in Kyrgyzstan’s capital Bishkek. Certified trainers are now rolling out the life skills curriculum in the first batch of 11 schools and sports centres using sports as a vehicle to help 13 to 18-year olds cope with challenges in everyday life based on the UNODC manual.
Throughout the reporting period, UNODC promoted participation and engagement of women and girls in efforts to prevent violent extremism. Thus, in Kyrgyzstan UNODC partnered with the Ministry of Interior’s Counterterrorism Department to organize training courses for 250 neighbourhood and youth inspectors from all regions. Implemented with the support from the UN Peacebuilding Fund as part of a joint initiative with UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, the courses helped police officers to better understand what makes people vulnerable to radicalization, detect signs of radicalization and implement activities aimed at prevention of radicalization in their communities, including challenging violent extremist ideologies and supporting access to services for vulnerable people, in particular women and girls.

The trained police officers engaged in a series of dialogue platforms involving over 160 local stakeholders to enhance coordination amongst police and communities in preventing violent extremism. Various police departments facilitated additional meetings on PVE with the population and students of universities in Osh and Bishkek cities.

UNODC’s training raised the capacity of the Ministry of Interior’s Counterterrorism Department to engage on PVE both with police officers in the field and with other stakeholders. With the use of the project’s training module, staff of the Counterterrorism Department facilitated capacity development of 2100 police officers and over 1600 other government and civil society stakeholders. As a follow up initiative, the development of a computer-based training course on prevention of violent extremism is foreseen, which the Ministry of Interior will be able to use in its ongoing staff training programmes.
UNODC promotes legal analysis on compliance of national legislation on preventing and responding to trafficking in persons with international standards in Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC provided the Government with policy advice in adoption of a new State Programme to counter trafficking in persons for the period from 2017 to 2020.

Furthermore, UNODC conducted needs assessment to review the skill sets needed for effective criminal investigations into human trafficking cases in Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan. Based on the analysis results, a standardized concept for capacity building of criminal justice practitioners on trafficking in persons was elaborated. Using UNODC's Anti-human trafficking training manual for criminal justice practitioners, targeted training modules on key investigation techniques and other aspects of criminal justice response to trafficking in persons will be developed in 2018. The modules will be integrated in the training curriculum of relevant educational establishments of law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial institutions.

Additionally, in Uzbekistan, the UNODC Programme for Central Asia jointly with the Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries conducted a workshop on international cooperation on investigation and prosecution of trafficking in persons that provided an opportunity for discussion of evidential issues in handling human trafficking cases.
In 2017, the European Union and UNODC came together to launch The Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (GLO.ACT) in Kyrgyzstan. A launching ceremony took place in Bishkek on May 31, 2017. The Deputy Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Chairperson of the State Migration Service, representatives from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labor and Social Development, the Office of the General Prosecutor, civil society organizations and media attended the ceremony.

The GLO.ACT is a four-year (2015-2019), €11 million joint initiative by the European Union and UNODC implemented in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and reaches thirteen countries across Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America, including the Kyrgyz Republic. The GLO.ACT works to plan and implement strategic national counter-trafficking and counter smuggling efforts through prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership approach.

Trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants is one of the priority issues for the government of the Kyrgyz Republic. “We believe that GLO.ACT will contribute to the effective implementation of the new 2017-2020 National Action Plan against Trafficking in Persons and the Migration Policy Framework 2030,” noted Mr. Almaz Asanbaev, Deputy Chairperson of the State Migration Service of the Kyrgyz Republic in his address at the launching ceremony.
FOCUS AREA: MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

In 2017, UNODC provided assistance to the Police Women Association and the Association of Women Judges of Kyrgyzstan. This resulted in the development of a training programme on leadership in law enforcement, which is expected to be integrated into the curriculum of the Police Academy. The Police Women Association implemented a mentorship programme, which entailed pairing mid and/or senior rank officers with newly hired police officers or Police Academy graduates to offer the latter a smooth transition into the police service, and to enhance their work skills and ability to identify future career goals. This is expected to promote professionalism and integrity, benefit staff retention, and facilitate career advancement of women in the police force.

Additionally, UNODC supported the annual conference of the Association of Women Judges, which focused on women’s access to justice. New knowledge products were presented on this occasion, including a study on data collection in relation to gender-based violence and trafficking in persons conducted with UNODC assistance. The conference was very timely as 2017 featured the adoption of a new law on the Prevention and Protection against Family Violence in Kyrgyzstan.

PRISON REFORM

In 2017, UNODC continued providing space for open discussion on implementation of the UN Minimum Standard Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in the Central Asian region. UNODC supported prison administration in the Central Asian states through development of prison-based rehabilitation programmes and management of violent extremist prisoners.

In Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, UNODC partnered with government authorities and civil society to support the organization of national and regional conferences on the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons. During these events, prison officials, representatives of law enforcement bodies and security services, and civil society stakeholders from the Central Asian countries reviewed the existing systems for risk assessment and classification of violent extremist offenders and exchanged experiences on the implementation of prison-based rehabilitation programmes. The activities towards preventing radicalization to violence in prisons are implemented in close collaboration with and funding from the Government of Japan.

UNODC also worked with the Oversight Council under the Prison Service to conduct public monitoring of conditions and treatment of violent extremist prisoners in male and female prisons in Kyrgyzstan. A team of experts visited 9 prisons
Throughout the year, UNODC worked with its newly published Handbook on the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization to Violence in Prisons. Based on this tool, which is available in Russian, UNODC completed the needs assessment and launched a comprehensive training programme for Kyrgyz prison staff, including psychologists and social workers using a train-the-trainers approach.

In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, UNODC moved forward with the development of business plans for the creation of new income-generating production facilities aiming at building the prisoners’ practical skills and employing them upon release. These initiatives are part of UNODC’s Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration. Adopted at the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Doha Declaration highlights the importance of supporting the rehabilitation and social reintegration of prisoners into the community. Investments into corresponding programmes for prisoners are one of the recognized and cost-effective ways of preventing their re-offending, with significant benefits not only for the individuals concerned, but also for public safety more broadly.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC cooperated with the General Prosecutor’s Office to conduct a roundtable promoting humane conditions of imprisonment and the valuable work of prison staffs. The event gathered 70 participants from Tashkent and more than 100 participants from five regions of Uzbekistan through video conference. Discussions focused on reducing the scope of imprisonment, improving prison conditions and implementing prison-based rehabilitation programmes and post-release services aimed at ensuring, as much as possible, that prisoners are willing and able to lead law-abiding lives upon release.

### Capacity Building in Criminal Justice, Crime Prevention and Integrity

Throughout the year, 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.
UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia supports the Governments of the Central Asian states in preventing drug use among youth and children through the family skills training programmes, improving treatment and reintegration conditions for people who use drugs, especially those in prisons, as well as preventing HIV. These actions reflect the Targets 3.3 and 3.5 set in the Sustainable Development Goal #3 “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

UNODC utilizes family skills training programmes as a tool of preventing drug use among children and young people. The Strengthening Families Programme for families with children of 10-14 ages (SFP 10-14) which aims at decreasing the use and intention to use tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs, children's behavior problems, and increasing children's social and life skills and family cohesion is one of such programmes. In 2017, the SFP 10-14 was implemented in Uzbekistan through the global initiative and in Kazakhstan by the Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries.

In 2017, the SFP 10-14 reached out to two schools in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. In July, a team of international consultants from the United Kingdom, developers of the Programme, conducted a ToT session for 12 experienced facilitators representing the Ministry of Public Education, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan. After the completion of the ToT, the facilitators obtained a status of National SFP 10-14 Trainers. As a result, the facilitators held the third cycle of the SFP 10-14 in the two schools for 40 families. The activities were funded by the Government of Sweden.

In Kazakhstan, international consultants trained 16 facilitators and 6 national trainers. The Programme will be implemented in four selected schools in February – March 2018, reaching out to 50 families.
For the time being, in Pavlodar city, 6 trainers and 36 facilitators were trained, and 40 families in two selected schools were reached. The principals of the selected schools expressed their full support to the Programme.

UNODC undertakes the activities in close collaboration with the national counterparts concerned, such as the Ministry of Education and Science, Regional Education Authorities, the Republican Scientific and Practical Centre of Mental Health and Drug Control Department in Kazakhstan, and the Ministry of Public Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
EXPANSION OF “FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS TOGETHER” PROGRAMME

The culturally adapted Families and Schools Together (FAST) Programme is another family skills training programme implemented by UNODC in Central Asia.

In 2017, the Government of Uzbekistan started the incorporation process of the FAST programme into its education system. According to the Ministry of Public Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan, over 4900 families at 390 schools benefited from the Programme. It helped to improve children’s academic performance, reduce stress in family relationship, as well as prevent substance abuse by children and family members.

Totally, piloting and expansion stages of the FAST Programme in Central Asia resulted in reaching out to 56 schools of the region with 499 facilitators trained and 1241 families impacted.
PARENTS VOICES

Before program my son was obstinate and undisciplined. By the last session I noticed positive changes in his behavior. He began to make home chores. I have changed too. Before program I could quickly loose my temper. Now I learned to control my feelings. Participation in this program was a great pleasure for me.

After each SFP session I come home in a good mood and very inspired. I learned proper ways of communicating with my daughter.

CHILDREN VOICES

I understood the importance of encouraging good behavior of family members, being open to parents and discussing with them my problems.

Program helped me to find future profession.

I understood bad influence of cigarettes and alcohol on ones health and will try to avoid using of it.
REINTEGRATION AND HIV PREVENTION

In 2017, UNODC continued supporting the Central Asian states in improving policies on drug dependence treatment, social reintegration of people who use drugs, and HIV prevention. During the year, hundreds of law enforcement officers, health specialists, and social workers from five countries of the region participated in discussions and meetings on such topics as alternatives to incarceration, opioid substitution treatment, and overdose prevention, as well as the role of law enforcement in treatment and HIV prevention.

ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION

Policies and programmes enabling effective and evidence-based treatment and care as an alternative to incarceration of people who use drugs for non-violent crimes were discussed in November 2017, at the International Conference on “Alternatives to incarceration: Policies and practices to offer treatment and care for people with drug use disorders in contact with criminal justice system.” More than 80 participants including policy-makers, academia, criminal justice and public health experts, representatives of civil society from all five Central Asian states, leading experts and practitioners in the fields of criminal justice and drug treatment participated in the conference. The event was sponsored by the Government of Sweden.

The participants received information about international standards and norms supporting the use of non-custodial measures; increased awareness about evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care services (including outreach, psychical and pharmacological treatment, HIV prevention and social integration); discussed existing policies, strategies and programmes in different countries, and shared experiences of treatment and care being used as alternatives to conviction or punishment for people with drug use disorders.
IMPROVING SKILLS OF ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS AND PRACTITIONERS

Throughout the reporting period, more than 800 specialists were trained under the “Treating drug dependence and its health consequences: Treatnet II” global initiative. The regional trainings covered all five countries of Central Asia, and were led by global master trainers and other international trainers from the USA, Spain, the UK and other countries, as well as the UNODC Headquarters. The initiative is generously funded by the INL, the U.S. Department of State.

Thus, 750 addiction professional and practitioners from Central Asia were trained as a part the national ToTs on the selected courses of Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC Training package) and their echo trainings. The trainings included the following courses: crisis interventions, ethics for addiction professionals, physiology and pharmacology for addiction professionals, and others.

Moreover, 25 health managers of the drug treatment centres were trained at the regional training on Volume D of Treatnet Training package - “Management of drug dependence treatment.” Likewise, 26 clinicians working in drug Treatment Centres and Emergency Rooms participated at the regional training on New Psychoactive Substances. In addition, 6 senior managers of the selected drug dependence treatment centres of Kazakhstan visited the USA as a part of a study tour to learn best practices in overdose prevention, cooperation with the criminal justice sector and social services, as well as development and implementation of the MMT (methadone maintenance therapy).

SPECIALIZED REANIMATION ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS

In 2017, the “Treating drug dependence and its health consequences: Treatnet II” component also organized procurement of 290 items of medical equipment, furniture and accessories. The equipment is meant to improve the quality of emergency, narcological aid and rendering specialized reanimation assistance for people who use drugs in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of equipment</th>
<th>Uzbekistan</th>
<th>Tajikistan</th>
<th>Kyrgyzstan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Functional medical bed (intensive care set)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobrov’s apparatus (humidification set)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set for central venous puncture</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gvedel airways (reflexive, S-shaped)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tongue depressor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intratracheal tubes (№7, 8)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other items</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>145</strong></td>
<td><strong>107</strong></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ROLE OF POLICE IN HIV PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

UNODC continues its work on raising awareness of law enforcement officials concerning their role in public health, including HIV prevention, treatment and care, and creating partnerships with civil society organizations (CSO) working with people living with HIV and people who inject drugs.

During the reporting period, UNODC, with generous contributions from USAID, conducted a series of trainings on occupational health and HIV prevention and care for the law enforcement officials of Kazakhstan. The training courses imply the adaptation of the UNODC Training Manual for law enforcement officials on HIV services for people who inject drugs to the national context and its integration into the curricula of law enforcement educational institutions. The trainings took place in the Training Centres of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the cities of Aktau, Almaty, Astana, Kostanai, Pavlodar, Semei, Shymkent and Temirtau during June-August 2017.

In total, 244 trainees representing various police divisions participated in the trainings with 44 of them being instructors of the Training Centres. All training centres are planning to introduce this training into their curriculum in the nearest future.

Training participants changed their perception of the role of police in HIV prevention and provision of access to quality services, the importance of partnership and cooperation between police and CSOs providing services to vulnerable groups, and the influence of injectable drug use on the spread of HIV and other blood-borne diseases.
OVERDOSE PREVENTION

In 2017, UNODC and the World Health Organization (WHO) hosted a regional meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan, to review and discuss the draft of the S-O-S (Stop Overdose Safely) Multi-site Study and Implementation Protocol on community management of opioid overdose. The event was sponsored by the INL, the U.S. Department of State.

While the initiative’s implementation is expected in 2018 in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Ukraine, the initial steps on legal and ethical considerations were carried out in 2017.

The meeting served as a platform for the provision of theoretical information and discussion of practical issues and challenges that may occur while implementing the initiative.

The participants from the member states represented different sectors, such as state parties, non-governmental organizations and academic/research institutions. The meetings allowed the participants to review and discuss the initiative from the different angles.

The S-O-S initiative’s main phase is to be launched in early 2018. The member states are eager to implement the project and aim to raise awareness of key population to prevent and reduce the overdose incidents.

OPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY PROGRAMME

In Tajikistan, UNODC improved the skills of social workers of the national Opioid substitution therapy (OST) sites.

In December 2017, more than 20 social workers participated in the two-day training, organized by the request of Republican Narcological Center of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Tajikistan, and sponsored by the USAID.

The participants discussed such topics as goals and objectives of Opioid Substitution treatment, motivation to change behavior, role and responsibilities of social worker, and others.
Research and trends analysis is a key part of UNODC’s programmes of assistance to Central Asia. It makes the comprehensive programmatic approach complete by identifying and studying trends in law enforcement, legal, legislative, societal and health issues and their interrelation. The research and analysis activities benefit all Sustainable Development Goals that the Programme for Central Asia aims to contribute to. In addition, jointly with national partners, UNODC contributes to the Target 17.19 through supporting statistical capacity-building, developing specific indicators and helping the countries to achieve international standards.
In 2017, UNODC ROCA, with a funding support from the US Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, launched programmatic activities to support two forensic laboratories of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan to get them prepared for international accreditation in accordance with the ISO 17025. Technical assistance including provision of relevant laboratory equipment, training support, international tools and publications on forensic services, updating the library of mass spectrums, and strengthening of inter-agency coordination in order to enhance both the quality and impact of the forensic service capacity are being provided to both laboratories.

Through intensive consultations with national counterparts, an assessment of needs and gaps of the laboratories was undertaken. Based on the results and initial training needs of the forensic laboratory personnel, the training workshops were developed and delivered.

UNODC, in cooperation with the “CERT Academy” international training company, conducted two 3-day training workshops for the management and key personnel of the forensic laboratories. The first workshop brought together 14 national experts to study the requirements of the ISO 17025 international standard, and learn how to develop documentation on practical lessons. During the second workshop, the experts were trained on the methodology for auditing compliance with the ISO 17025 international standards to be capable to conduct correct and competent analysis of the laboratory performance.

The laboratories were provided with several technical books and manuals that were requested by the counterparts. Thus, for instance, 32 hard copies of the “Collection of international standards on accreditation of the forensics services” were handed over to the participating laboratories.

At the meetings with the senior management of the forensic laboratories, UNODC promoted the International Collaborative Exercises (ICE) Programme that helps drug-testing laboratories worldwide assess their own performance and take corrective actions. Participation in the UNODC ICE Programme is available to national drug-testing laboratories in the analysis of drugs in Seized Materials (SM) and in Biological Specimens (BS, specifically urine). The participation in the collaborative exercises, inter-laboratory comparisons and proficiency tests of the Programme are considered the essential elements for the implementation of a laboratory quality management system, and ultimately accreditation. As a result of the negotiations, forensic laboratories of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan are going to take part in the upcoming round of the ICE.
In 2017, UNODC promoted independent operations of forensic services in the Kyrgyz Republic. While the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic was moving to unify various laboratories under one umbrella with the creation of a new single forensics agency, UNODC provided legal and policy advice. The new institute is not linked to any ministry or agency, but instead reports directly to the Government. Over time, this can serve to enhance the credibility of and trust in forensic science as an instrument to ensure adherence to fair trial standards. Moreover, significant efficiency gains may be expected with the presence of a single forensics body, which eliminates such duplication of efforts and works in line with international testing standards.

Thanks to funding provided by the INL, the U.S. Department of State, UNODC completed the construction of new premises (1,300 square meters) to house the single forensics agency in the Kyrgyz Republic. Also, UNODC worked with the agency to build the capacity of forensic experts and develop standard operating procedures for handling and storing evidence, and conducting specific forms of expertise, such as ballistics and trace evidence, handwriting and document examination, and criminalistics, including drug testing and chemical analysis.

Through study visits, UNODC also helped enhance international cooperation with forensics agencies from other countries, such as Serbia, Georgia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation to facilitate learning and the exchange of good practice. The long-term objective of these interventions is to obtain international accreditation for forensic expertise. Backed up by good policing, such forensic processes help create a climate of deterrence for potential criminals and increase public confidence in the criminal justice system.
UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia continues to update the Drug Monitoring Platform (DMP) information which includes up-to-date drugs and precursors seizures, details of drugs and precursors prices and data related to poppy cultivation. Currently, the DMP contains almost 194,000 individual drug seizure cases (IDS), and has registered users from over 50 countries.

In cooperation with the Afghan Opiate Trade Project and Paris Pact Initiative, UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia assists the LEAs of Central Asia in submitting seizure cases of new psychoactive substances for the Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment Report and helps national partners to fill in the UNODC Annual Report Questionnaire.

In cooperation with the Paris Pact, ROCA maintains the Country Fact Sheets of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, which are all regularly updated.
ADDITIONAL SKILLS IN STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND DATA PROCESSING

In 2017, UNODC supported Central Asia through building capacity of the LEAs in the field of statistical analysis and data processing.

CARICC requested for a training and exchange of experience with UNODC in the fields of data sources used for analysis, methods of analysis and estimates of the global drug market, and approaches in strategic analysis of drug situation.

Considering a demand in capacity building activities for CARICC analysts, Drug Research Section of the UNODC Headquarters, jointly with ROCA delivered a training-workshop on "Introduction to statistical methods in strategic analysis and use of drug data for analytical purposes" in Almaty in July 2017.

The participants learned the main concepts of strategic analysis and UNODC approaches to data analysis. CARICC analysts improved skills in basic statistical analysis using the MS Excel Data Analysis ToolPak and obtained knowledge on time-saving techniques of data processing, as well as enriched their knowledge on how to improve the quality of analytical reports.
In 2017, ROCA expanded and diversified its events, campaigns and advocacy activities reaching out to thousands of individuals and households in Central Asia.

Regional High-Level Press-Conferences. Press-conferences and press-briefings are one of the common communication tools that ROCA utilizes to raise public awareness. One of the most important press-briefings of 2017 took part in Astana, Kazakhstan on 31 October. The Kazakh media got briefed on the key outcomes of the Tenth Anniversary Review Meeting of the Parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation. This and other press-conferences were widely covered by the local and regional TV channels and internet-based news platforms, spreading the information globally.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC promoted closer cooperation on countering transnational organized crime, illicit drug trafficking and terrorism at the International Press Club which marked the UN Day. The International Press Club is a platform where politicians, economists and other various specialists of Uzbekistan and international community come to discuss urgent issues. The Club broadcasts its show live on one of the most popular satellite TV-channels of Uzbekistan, and on the internet.

Campaigns. In 2017, one of the largest campaigns facilitated by UNODC in Central Asia was a “One Hundred Days against Trafficking in Persons” campaign held in Kyrgyzstan. To assist local government and civil society and kickstart the initiative, UNODC partnered with the “El Agartuu” NGO to organize a civil society forum for representatives of over 40 NGOs working on prevention of trafficking in persons in Kyrgyzstan. This initiative was part of the GLO.ACT project. Combined with a workshop for local government administrations and press services, the forum resulted in organization of a nationwide public awareness raising campaign that consisted of nearly 80 flash mobs, press conferences, school competitions and other public events. The campaign reached over 10,000 people and is expected to provide a blueprint for similar campaigns in the future.

On International Anti-Corruption Day (9 December), UNODC and the Police Women Association of Kyrgyzstan came together to organize a student compe-
Under the slogan “No to corruption!” a group of police women involved in UNODC’s police mentoring programme worked with students from one of Bishkek’s universities to prepare theatre performances on anti-corruption. Students also competed to develop posters with anti-corruption messages.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC contributed to the Open Doors event organized by the General Prosecutor’s Office in cooperation with OSCE. The event started with the conference that invited the representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as representatives of the UNDP, UNODC, GIZ, the World Bank Group and the civil society to discuss ongoing anti-corruption measures. Then, the national TV aired live a talk show on anti-corruption. Finally, the day was wrapped up by the awarding ceremony of the “Youth of Uzbekistan are against corruption” contest conducted among the school and college/lyceum students for best creative works to combat corruption in the “Best Poster” and “Best Essay” categories.

**Partnership with civil society.** UNODC actively engages with civil society in Central Asian countries to facilitate their organizational growth and capacity to promote the rule of law, and engage in criminal justice reform processes.

UNODC’s cooperation with a civil society collective called “Civic Union for Reform and Results” in Kyrgyzstan serves as another example of civil society engagement in Central Asia. The organization and UNODC came together to promote public participation in crime prevention. Thanks to the collective, local government, police and private sector were engaged in crime prevention initiatives throughout the year, pupils actively participated in the youth-led activities on prevention of radicalization to violence and other topics, NGOs developed a range of trainings and other guidance materials on youth crime prevention, prevention of early marriages and road safety. For the first time, a crime prevention action plan was adopted by local authorities for one of the districts of the capital city, Bishkek.

**Knowledge Products.** In 2017, UNODC produced a diverse range of analytical publications. For example, in close cooperation with the local Government agencies of Kyrgyzstan, UNODC developed the analytical work “Public Security in Sverdlovskiy region of Bishkek city”. The document contributed to the successful crime prevention activities implemented in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

In Tajikistan, during reporting period, as a part of awareness-raising campaign on preventing drug trafficking, UNODC created and disseminated among BCPs information posters and video clips that were demonstrated to individuals crossing the border points.
Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1987, the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, serves as a reminder of the goals agreed to by the member states of creating an international society free of drug abuse.

**In Kazakhstan,** a three-day training workshop took place in Almaty to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Thirty-two experts from 16 regions of Kazakhstan participated in the workshop representing education, health, and law enforcement, as well as civil society sectors. The workshop was organized within the UNODC Programme for Central Asia and was designed to introduce the participants to UNODC International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and to develop knowledge and skills to design, implement and evaluate evidence-based drug prevention programmes for children and youth.

**In Kyrgyzstan,** UNODC conducted the “Listen First” anti-drug information campaign. The campaign is aimed at increasing support for the prevention of drug use that is based on science and is an effective investment in the well-being of children and youth, their families and their communities.

**In Tajikistan,** several round tables were conducted in the cities of Dushanbe, Gisar and in Khorog targeting youth. The UNODC Programme Office jointly with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the population, Committee on youth and sport affairs, Committee on women and family affairs, and the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan organized sports and drawing competitions, awareness-raising campaigns at the border areas of Khatlon and other provinces of Tajikistan.

**In Turkmenistan,** 400 young people gathered in the “Ashgabat” Central park to take part in a chess competition, drawing contest, and other activities organized by UNODC jointly with the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry, trade unions, the Democratic Party, Youth Union, and the Red Crescent Society. Relevant information with the UNODC drug use prevention messages were disseminated at the event.

**In Uzbekistan,** the Uzbek Government in cooperation with UNODC and other international organizations held several events to mark World Drug Day. The drawing competition was conducted among 7-9 grade school students in 15 regions of Uzbekistan, as well as a video contest on anti-drug issues among journalists.

UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia held a press conference marking the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and the Launch of World Drug Report on 26 June 2017.
DONORS

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In 2017, more than 86 per cent of the funds received from the donors for the implementation of the UNODC Programme for Central Asia targeted activities in countering transnational organized crime, illicit drug trafficking and terrorism, as well as criminal justice, crime prevention and integrity. The rest 14 per cent were attracted for Research and trend analysis, Drug prevention, treatment and integration and HIV prevention.
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