Together Making the Region Safer from Drugs, Crime and Terrorism
Annual Report 2018

Together Making the Region Safer from Drugs, Crime and Terrorism
This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder, provided acknowledgement of the source is made.

DISCLAIMER

The content of this publication does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime or contributory organizations, nor does it imply any endorsement. The designations employed and the presentation of material and maps in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime concerning the legal status of any country, territory or city or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. This publication has not been formally edited.
## CONTENT

<p>| ABBREVIATIONS                               | 4 |
| FOREWORD                                    | 6 |
| HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR                      | 8 |
| THE RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS            | 10 |
| Crime Prevention and Promotion of a Culture of Lawfulness among Youth | 11 |
| Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment      | 13 |
| Access to Justice and Due Process            | 15 |
| Rights of Persons in Detention               | 17 |
| PEACEFUL, JUST, AND HEALTHY SOCIETIES        | 19 |
| Making the Region Safer from Drugs, Crime &amp; Terrorism | 20 |
| Addressing Trafficking in Persons            | 34 |
| United Against Corruption                    | 36 |
| Good Health and Wellbeing                    | 38 |
| PROMOTING STRATEGIC COHERENCE WITH NATIONALIZED SDGS | 45 |
| Delivering Better Result – Coherence and Partnership | 46 |
| Evidence Generation for Policy Dialogue and Development | 48 |
| Advocacy and Outreach                        | 53 |
| Programme Delivery and Resource Mobilization | 57 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AML</td>
<td>Anti-Money Laundering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARQ</td>
<td>Annual Report Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCP</td>
<td>Border Crossing Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLO</td>
<td>Border Liaison Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARICC</td>
<td>Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>Container Control Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCPCJ</td>
<td>Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CND</td>
<td>Commission on Narcotic Drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVE</td>
<td>Countering Violent Extremism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DMP</td>
<td>Drugs Monitoring Platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUD</td>
<td>Drug Use Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E4J</td>
<td>Education for Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBV</td>
<td>Gender-based Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCC</td>
<td>Gulf Cooperation Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOTIP</td>
<td>Global Report on Trafficking in Persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAP I</td>
<td>International Certified Addiction Professional Level I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICCS</td>
<td>International Classification of Crimes for Statistical Purposes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDS</td>
<td>Individual Drug Seizure Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INCB</td>
<td>International Narcotics Control Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
<td>Lysergic acid diethylamide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAPS</td>
<td>Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDMA</td>
<td>Methylenedioxymethamphetamine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMT</td>
<td>Methadone Maintenance Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOH</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOI</td>
<td>Ministry of Internal Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOJ</td>
<td>Ministry of Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCDC</td>
<td>National Information-Analytical Centre on Drug Control under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSP</td>
<td>Needle and Syringe Programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODIHR</td>
<td>Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCU</td>
<td>Port Control Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>Public Service Announcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVE</td>
<td>Prevention of Violent Extremism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWID</td>
<td>People Who Inject Drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROCA</td>
<td>Regional Office for Central Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCO RATS</td>
<td>Shanghai Cooperation Organisation-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOM</td>
<td>Smuggling of Migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TADOC</td>
<td>Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIP</td>
<td>Trafficking in Persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCAC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention against Corruption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCCT</td>
<td>United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNCTED</td>
<td>United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDAF</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFT</td>
<td>United Nations family-based treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNODC</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNTOC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-CTS</td>
<td>UN Crime Trends Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-IAFQ</td>
<td>UN Illicit Arms Flow Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-GSH</td>
<td>Global Study on Homicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTC</td>
<td>Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VEP</td>
<td>Violent Extremist Prisoners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNR</td>
<td>Voluntary National Reviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCO</td>
<td>World Customs Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELEC</td>
<td>Southeast European Law Enforcement Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERPOL</td>
<td>The International Criminal Police Organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for Central Asia (UNODC ROCA) is proud to present its annual report on technical cooperation delivered in 2018 in partnership with the Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan as well as the Republics of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia.

Throughout the past year, we delivered over $14.5 million in technical assistance based on 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.

The UNODC Programme for Central Asia 2015-2019 represents the overarching strategic framework under which UNODC provides technical assistance to the five Central Asian countries. This annual report not only displays our achievements for 2018 under the UNODC Programme for Central Asia but also highlights the totality of the work across the eight countries through our partnerships with global and regional initiatives with a focus on our contribution to the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2018 we have made considerable strides in countering the threats of transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and terrorism prevention in the region, in addition to, fostering criminal justice reform and strengthening anti-corruption measures. We have promoted evidence-based drug demand reduction and HIV prevention strategies and strengthened research and trends analysis capabilities.

The global community as well as the countries in the region understand that addressing, illicit drug trafficking, terrorism and its financing, as well as the emerging threats of new psychoactive substances and the darknet is a shared responsibility. While acknowledging the risks and vulnerabilities emanating out of the emerging threats, there is merit in developing further dialogue, discussion and discourse in the region including with the international community, in addressing the indivisibility of these challenges.
It is encouraging to see the opening of new trade and transit transport corridors, but they should go hand in hand with efforts to tackle emerging security, drugs and crime challenges to prevent their misuse. Through the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) and UNODC’s integrated cross-border cooperation programmes we have created platforms for sharing of experiences and expertise to counter transnational organized crime. Our legal and policy advice is supporting efforts to prevent crime and promote effective, fair and humane criminal justice systems. UNODC’s drug prevention programs are increasingly being institutionalized and replicated by countries in the region.

In 2019, UNODC will evaluate the results of the current programme cycle in order to derive lessons learnt and best practices. I would like to express genuine optimism that we can build on the successes of the past four years and actively engage with our counterparts and donors in the design and planning stages for the next phase of programming.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Governments of Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus, civil society, UN sister agencies and other partners for their continued engagement. The achievements outlined in this report would not have been possible without the generous contribution of our donors, for which we are extremely grateful.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the UNODC ROCA team for its dedication and professionalism.

Sincerely,
Ashita Mittal,
UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia
HIGHLIGHTS 2018

THE 61ST CND SESSION
12-14.03.2018
The sixty-first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held in Vienna, Austria. UNODC supported the side-events organized by several Central Asian states during the CND session. During these events, the representatives of Central Asian states shared their best practices on countering narcotic drugs, recent developments on drug policy making, as well as the annual drug review for 2017.

MOU WITH GPO OF UZBEKISTAN
14.06.2018
A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the General Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan and UNODC, creating a cooperation framework to combat transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, cybercrime and corruption through the training prosecutors, as well as providing expert advice and technical support.

THE 3RD PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
26.04.2018
The third meeting of the Steering Committee for the Programme for Central Asia 2015-2019 took place in Bishkek. Hosted by the Government of Kyrgyz Republic, the Committee reviewed the results of UNODC’s work in Central Asia and South Caucasus in 2017 and agreed to the 2018 work plan.

The meeting participants agreed that balanced actions on drugs and crime can mitigate the development and security challenges for Central Asian states and South Caucasus.

THE 27TH CCPCJ SESSION
14-18.05.2018
The twenty-seventh session of the CCPCJ was held in Vienna, Austria. UNODC supported the participation of a delegation from Kyrgyzstan, which highlighted the adoption of new criminal legislation in Kyrgyzstan aimed at decriminalization and the increased application of alternative measures of punishment. The delegation also presented Kyrgyzstan’s experience with participatory crime prevention assessments, development of local crime prevention plans and implementation of initiatives aimed at preventing crime among youth through sports.

OPENING OF BORDER POSTS
02.05.2018
The Border Forces of the State Committee for National Security of Tajikistan jointly with UNODC officially opened two border posts at the Tajik-Afghan border in 2018. “Tagnob” (Shaartuz district) and “Ushurmul” (Qubodiyon district) border posts operate successfully along with seven other border outposts reconstructed as a part of the UNODC initiative on Strengthening Control along the Tajik-Afghan Border.

KYRGYZ VICE PRIME MINISTER VISITS VIENNA
20.09.2018
Mr. Zhenish Razakov, Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, and Mr. Yuri Fedotov, the Executive Director of UNODC, met in Vienna (Austria) to discuss ways on further strengthening cooperation and adopting coordinated measures to prevent crime, terrorism and illicit drug trafficking.
MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SDGS

12.11.2018

UNODC ROCA, jointly with the General Prosecutor’s Office of Uzbekistan, organized an international meeting on “Monitoring and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: Supporting the five Central Asian states, Azerbaijan and Georgia” with a special focus on Goal 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and on Goal 3 - Good Health and Wellbeing.

The meeting hosted more than 70 participants from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and provided an opportunity to exchange information on the imperatives of a unified approach for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Senior officials and experts from the participating countries worked on the identification of two sets of needs, namely those related to the effective monitoring and reporting on progress made in implementing the 2030 Agenda, as well as, the technical support required to design and implement policies and programmes to accelerate progress towards their priorities.

53RD SUBCOMMISSION SESSION

19-23.11.2018

The Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffick and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East held its 53rd session in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 15-23 November 2018. UNODC ROCA supported the participation of representatives of Central Asian states at the meeting, which was attended by fourteen Near and Middle East States plus observers from Italy, France, the Council of Arab Ministers of Internal affairs, the GCC Criminal Information Centre to Combat Drugs, INCB, the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors (CARICC). The meeting covered a wide range of issues, such as countering money-laundering, countering trafficking in precursors, connecting regional cooperation centres for the exchange of information.

7TH EXPERT FORUM ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

27-29.11.2018

Some 120 criminal justice experts from all Central Asian countries gathered in Bishkek from 27 to 29 November 2018 for the Seventh Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia. An initiative of the OSCE ODIHR, UNODC partnered with ODIHR, the Supreme Court of Kyrgyzstan and OHCHR on its organization. The event allowed for in-depth assessments of new developments in the criminal justice system.

PLAN OF PRACTICAL MEASURES WAS DISCUSSED

10.12.2018

H. E. Mr. Rashid Meredov, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, and Ms. Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia, discussed the draft Plan of Practical Measures (“Road map”) on further development of cooperation of Turkmenistan with UNODC for the period of 2019-2021.

LAUNCH OF NEW INITIATIVE

05.12.2018

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan launched a global initiative “Supporting the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons (2018-2021)”, which is implemented jointly by UNODC, UNCC and UNCTED with strategic and financial support of the European Union, UNCC and the Netherlands.
THE RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS
CRIME PREVENTION AND PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF LAWFULNESS AMONG YOUTH

In 2018, UNODC actively worked on crime prevention in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Consultations on crime prevention interventions were also launched in Uzbekistan.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC continued to promote participatory crime prevention planning and action based on social partnerships between local authorities, police, schools, social and other services, civil society and communities. Based on a UNODC methodological tool, 12 municipalities endorsed action plans on crime prevention and prevention of violent extremism. This initiative directly engaged 236 community members (103 women) and benefited a total population of 456,833.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC promoted dialogue on urban safety. Following the adoption of a crime prevention plan for the first of 4 districts in the capital city Bishkek, UNODC facilitated crime prevention planning in 3 other districts. This initiative specifically focused on new settlements in and around Bishkek where labour migrants from other parts of the country live, often in dire conditions with little or no access to social services. As part of this initiative, UNODC worked with the National Statistics Committee to conduct a victimisation survey in Bishkek.

UNODC facilitated the introduction of an educational course on crime prevention into the curriculum of the Management Academy under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Police Academy. This will ensure that municipal workers and frontline police officers are equipped with relevant knowledge and skills to work on crime prevention in line with the UN Guidelines on Crime Prevention.

To further institutionalize crime prevention policies, UNODC partnered with national authorities and civil society to host a major national crime prevention forum in Kyrgyzstan. This is set up as a recurring, biennial event that brings together all relevant stakeholders to present the latest trends in crime prevention and discuss lessons learned and the way forward. With the participation of the Prime Minister, the event resulted in a roadmap for legislative improvements and other recommendations to ensure sustainability of crime prevention work in the country.

UNODC’s “Line Up Live Up” training programme aimed at strengthening the life skills of 13-18-year-olds and increasing their resilience to crime, violence and drug use is implemented in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In Kyrgyzstan, over 50 sports coaches and physical education teachers were certified to deliver the course, which reached up to 800 (250 girls) youth at 41 secondary and sport schools. 4 innovative public service announcements were developed and broadcasted on 11 TV channels with nationwide coverage, as well as in sport clubs and through social media outlets in Kyrgyzstan reaching at least 87,000 people with key messages on the benefits of sports and the development of a culture of lawfulness.
In Tajikistan, 43 sport coaches and trainers (9 women) gained knowledge and increased practical skills in sports training for development of life skills and crime prevention among youth. This group of certified trainers completed the Line Up Live Up course with 409 (111 girls) youth between the ages of 13 and 18 in secondary schools, sport centers and district sport grounds.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC supported pilot interventions as part of UNODC’s global Education for Justice initiative to build a culture of lawfulness among children and youth through the provision of age-appropriate education materials on topics related to criminal justice, crime prevention and rule of law. About 300 copies of the Online Zoo Book were distributed among primary school pupils during UNODC supported lessons on internet safety at 3 pilot schools of Tashkent city. Uzbek authorities endorsed a new ‘Concept for the development of the public education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030’, which specifically foresees introduction of the materials produced under the Education for Justice initiative in the Uzbek educational system.

UNODC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Westminster International University in Tashkent, the Youth Union and the State Tourism Committee of Uzbekistan. The MoU creates a platform for cooperation on crime prevention and promotion of a culture of lawfulness. Within the framework of the MoU, a major international Model UN conference is scheduled to take place in Tashkent in March 2019 for over 500 students from Uzbekistan, Central Asian and other countries.
Gender equality and the empowerment of women were integral parts of all UNODC ROCA initiatives implemented in 2018. To ensure that the gender equality perspective is mainstreamed into the legislation and policies of the governments in the region, and special measures to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women are adopted, UNODC ROCA provided advisory services and capacity development on a range of issues.

To implement the “Law on Prevention of and Protection from Family Violence” in Kyrgyzstan, UNODC ROCA supported the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other State bodies in the development of secondary legislation. This included a regulation on the issuance of restraining orders to protect victims of family violence. In 2018, the police registered 7,178 cases of domestic violence and issued 7,114 restraining orders.

On a similar issue in Uzbekistan, UNODC provided expert advice on drafting the law, “On Combatting Domestic Violence”, which is currently being prepared for presentation to the Parliament.

In order to promote evidence-based decision making among government officials, UNODC supported the development and operationalization of a new system for data collection on gender-based violence and human trafficking in Kyrgyzstan. As part of this process, statistical forms for data collection in key institutions, such as the National Statistics Committee, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Supreme Court and crisis centres were reviewed and updated. This will allow relevant Government officials to better keep track of the situation, analyse trends and develop targeted measures to prevent and respond to gender related crimes. Over 200 national and local government representatives, police officers, victim support staff and other relevant stakeholders (42 per cent women) upgraded their skills to roll out the new guidelines. These require State bodies to start collecting data on the type of abuse suffered, ranging from physical and psychological violence to abuse of an economic nature when the victim’s access to and use of financial resources, property, or other assets is restricted. The new system will also provide authorities with better insights into prevalent forms of exploitation suffered by victims of human trafficking.

UNODC also partnered with the Kyrgyz Association of Women Judges and the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic to conduct an analysis of judicial practice in human trafficking cases. Recommendations from case law analysis were discussed at a national conference, which gathered 90 judges (70 women), representatives of the government, parliament and civil society organizations. The study is expected to lead to new
sentencing guidelines and instructions on victim and witness protection for judges on human trafficking.

Another important direction of UNODC ROCA’s work in 2018 was related to enhancing the capacity of different government officials on the promotion of gender equality and women’s empowerment. In cooperation with the Association of Crisis Centres and other partners, UNODC supported training of 1,420 police officers, municipal, social protection, health and education workers and community activists on the implementation of legislation to prevent violence against women in Kyrgyzstan.

UNODC ROCA supported the Government of Kyrgyzstan in the implementation of a police mentoring programme designed to strengthen leadership skills of senior police officers and provide new recruits, in particular women, with a smooth induction into the police service. UNODC partnered with Kyrgyzstan’s Police Women Association on this initiative. 46 senior police officers acted as mentors for 50 junior officers, sharing their experience on engagement with the community, crime prevention and prevention of gender-based violence. The proportion of female police officers in senior positions rose from 4.5% to 5.2% in 2018.

To ensure that no one is left behind and that the rights of the most marginalized groups are considered, UNODC ROCA continued to advocate for the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders. As an outcome of this advocacy, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic adopted a new procedure to define and pay maternity benefits to unemployed female offenders in 2018.

Other aspects of gender mainstreaming promoted by UNODC in 2018 included advocacy for gender equality in access to health care and social services and systematic attention to the needs of women with drug dependency. UNODC actively worked with over 200 health providers, prison staff, civil society and other stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on gender-responsive HIV service delivery and the empowerment of women who inject drugs.
ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND DUE PROCESS

The work of UNODC in promoting the right to access to justice and due process is guided by the UN standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice. In 2018, UNODC ROCA continued to assist the countries in the region in the development of new instruments, strategies, policies and programmes for crime prevention and criminal justice reform.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC provided expert advice to support the ongoing criminal justice reform process. This involved preparatory work for the entry into force of new legislation, including new Criminal, Criminal Procedural and Criminal Executive Codes, as well as the Law on Probation. UNODC facilitated the establishment and functioning of an expert group tasked with guiding and monitoring the criminal justice reform process. Based on implementation plans for the new codes, UNODC supported the development of roadmaps and the adoption of six regulations: procedures for the revision of sentences under the new criminal laws, new internal prison rules and functioning of a new socially oriented probation service, procedures for classification and allocation of prisoners to specific prison regimes and places of detention, maternity benefits to unemployed female offenders and financial support to prisoners to facilitate their social reintegration upon release.

UNODC supported the creation of a pool of 50 national trainers (28 per cent female) on application of the new criminal legislation. In 2018, UNODC cooperated with other international partners to coordinate a major training effort, which reached over 10,000 criminal justice practitioners who increased their knowledge and skills to apply the new provisions and principles introduced in line with international standards. As part of this process, UNODC trained 839 (45 per cent women) prison staff on prison management-related provisions. Additionally, UNODC furnished justice sector training institutions with video lectures on the new criminal legislation and over 2,500 copies of the new laws.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC produced three policy papers and supported three conferences and various other dialogue platforms on criminal justice reform. This assisted the authorities in adopting strategic concepts on the development of new criminal, criminal procedural and criminal executive legislation, including the establishment of a new probation service. UNODC
provided expert advice to the interdepartmental working groups created to draft the new codes.

UNODC promoted access to legal defense and legal aid in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in 2018. In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC partnered with the Ministry of Justice, its Centre on Guaranteed State Legal Aid and various national and international partners to conduct monitoring of existing legal aid centres in the Chuy province around Bishkek. Based on the outcome of this monitoring, UNODC provided input into the development of a methodological tool on monitoring of legal aid provision. This will support regular review of the quality of legal aid provided by lawyers under Kyrgyzstan’s Law on Guaranteed State Legal Aid.

UNODC conducted a field study of legal aid needs and priority areas of concern for vulnerable populations in new settlements in and around Bishkek. This formed the basis for the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between local territorial administrations in Bishkek, the Bar Association and the Ministry of Justice’s Centre on Guaranteed State Legal Aid on provision of legal aid to vulnerable groups and women in the settlements.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC discussed cooperation with the Chamber of Advocates and provided advisory support related to access to legal defense and the provision of legal aid as part of the criminal justice reform process, including within the framework of the development of new criminal procedural legislation.

In 2018, over 4,000 (40 per cent women) criminal justice practitioners enhanced their capacity due to UNODC ROCA’s technical support. Capacity development activities included a wide range of issues in the area of criminal legislation, crime prevention, prevention of violent extremism, leadership in the police, trafficking in persons, forensic expertise, prevention of gender-based violence, data collection on gender-based violence and trafficking in persons. At least 13 training tools were developed and introduced for this purpose. In cooperation with the State Forensics Service of Kyrgyzstan, 11 standard operating procedures were also produced to ensure high-quality forensic expertise and its use to support fair trials.

All these activities were implemented in close collaboration with other UN agencies and international organizations, including but not limited to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. This cooperation accelerated the exchange of experiences and expertise between the participating states and discussed international standards related to fair and effective criminal justice systems and the rule of law in Central Asia.

In Kazakhstan, UNODC launched a new programme “Supporting the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons” in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Prison Committee of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This is part of a four year (2018-2021) joint global initiative with the United Nations Counter Terrorism Center (UNCCT) of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, co-funded by the European Union, UNCCT and the Government of the Netherlands.

Following an initial scoping mission, UNODC conducted a conference gathering more than 100 participants from different government agencies, civil society and international organizations, to share experience and practices in the management of violent extremist prisoners. 52 Kazakh prison staff (18 female) increased their knowledge and skills on the management of violent extremist prisoners.

UNODC conducted public monitoring of the conditions and treatment of those convicted for extremism and terrorism related crimes in Kyrgyzstan. The study was conducted in nine institutions with a focus on open-type prisons and probation offices. Recommendations were developed on the need to introduce a risk assessment and classification system, improve living conditions and implement rehabilitation programs.

UNODC supported creation of a pool of 10 qualified national trainers on prison management. With their support, 247 psychologists, social workers and prison guards (30 percent women) of Kyrgyzstan's State Prison Service enhanced knowledge on the management of violent extremist prisoners.
UNODC continued to support the development and implementation of prisoner rehabilitation programmes. UNODC facilitated improvement of living conditions for up to 100 prisoners, including those convicted for violent extremist-related crimes in 3 prisons. This included reconstruction of entrance facilities, rooms for family visits, telephone and skype call rooms, libraries and launderettes. Workshops were created to engage prisoners in the manufacturing of leather and felt products. 35 convicts completed a practical course to learn how to make such products. UNODC improved office space for psychologists and social workers and procured sports equipment to provide prisoners with the possibility to play table tennis during their daily time out of their cells.

Investments in security included equipment of cell blocks holding violent extremist prisoners with a video surveillance and intercom system. This system allows prison staff to better monitor prisoners and simultaneously enables prisoners to easily contact and ask for support from prison staff directly from their cells. New software for electronic registration of visits, packages and parcels was introduced to move from an outdated paper-based to a more efficient electronic format for the registration of documents and other items with the support of a new computer, printer and passport scanner. This is expected to improve the level of control of what enters the prison and reduce waiting times for family and other visitors who come to see their loved ones or bring food and other essential items to the prisoners.

In 2 other pilot institutions, UNODC prepared the ground for new rehabilitation programs with support from the Global Doha Declaration Implementation Program. The initiative, which is due for completion in 2019, foresees vocational training of up to 100 prisoners who will be employed in bakery, sewing and footwear production.

In Tajikistan, similar support is underway to establish facilities for vocational training and employment in wood and metal production in 2 prisons. Upon completion in 2019, this is expected to benefit approximately 180 prisoners.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC facilitated discussions on development of new penal legislation. In cooperation with the General Prosecutor’s Office, UNODC conducted a round table dedicated to the Nelson Mandela International Day, aimed at the promotion of humane conditions of imprisonment, raising awareness about prisoners being a continuous part of society, and celebrating the work of prison staff as a social service of particular importance. UNODC produced an analysis of Uzbekistan’s current Criminal Executive Code and submitted a concept paper on legislative reform in this area. By the end of the year, the authorities had adopted a concept on the further improvement of penal legislation and established a new probation service.
PEACEFUL, JUST, AND HEALTHY SOCIETIES
MAKING THE REGION SAFER FROM DRUGS, CRIME AND TERRORISM

UNODC ROCA supports the governments in the region in the enhancement of their responses to the interconnected problems of drug use, transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking in drugs, human beings and firearms, cybercrime, piracy, and terrorism. Organized criminal groups and their activities pose a strategic threat to governments, societies and economies. The global trafficking networks are likewise having a major impact on the rule of law, security and development and on business and finance. UNODC supports the governments in promoting integrated strategies, joint responses and tools to address these transnational threats. Comprehensive legislation, effective international cooperation, public security, justice and a fair, accessible, accountable, and effective criminal justice system form the conceptual foundation for these joint responses.

To address the above issues, UNODC ROCA cooperated with the countries in the region to provide technical assistance in the field of law enforcement, which included the establishment of new structures, enhancing capacity and developing multi-lateral cooperation. Furthermore, ROCA also promoted regional networking of law enforcement agencies through the provision of platforms for a collective response to countering illicit drugs, diversion of precursor chemicals and transnational organized crime. Setting a collective response to such threats, guides the coordination of activities and strengthens linkages at country, sub-regional and global levels.

In 2018, the establishment and development of regional and national institutions to counter organized crime in all its forms in Central Asia and South Caucasus were supported through the implementation of three sub-programme components: “Strengthening the State Service on Drug Control of the Kyrgyz Republic”, “Tajikistan Drug Control Agency (DCA) - Phase II” and "Strengthening Customs service and other law enforcement agencies’ capacity in implementing border and trade control, in particular, export/import control regime". UNODC supported the mobilization and coordination of anti-drug activities, effective control over the illicit drug situation and the legal framework to counter illicit drug trafficking. As part of capacity building activities in the field of countering transnational organized crime, illicit drug trafficking and terrorism, UNODC conducted more than 70 trainings in the region with participation of 2073 participants from law enforcement agencies.

Figure 1. Map of the UNODC Border Security Initiatives in Central Asia
Analytical capacity building, coordination in regional operations and facilitation of information sharing in Central Asia are supported through, “Establishment of a Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC)” initiative. CARICC is a regional multi-lateral platform that is designed to lead the fight in the region against illicit narcotics trafficking and transnational organized crime. This unique platform is linked to other UNODC initiatives and law enforcement agencies world-wide. Through its staff of analysts and liaison officers seconded from law enforcement agencies from Central Asia, the Russian Federation and Azerbaijan, CARICC is geographically and geopolitically positioned to be an effective agent in countering narcotics, organized crime, money laundering and terrorism. CARICC seeks to further leverage its position by participating in UNODC’s Networking the Networks initiative. At the global level, through the networking approach, UNODC enhances intelligence sharing and cooperation between CARICC and neighbouring regions through the GCC - Criminal Information Centre to Combat Drugs, SELEC, INTERPOL, and World Customs Organization among others.

In 2018, CARICC facilitated the exchange of intelligence received between the Counter narcotics Police of Afghanistan, the CARICC Member States, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Iran and others which has facilitated new investigations into transnational organized crime. Moreover, the first regular session of the CARICC National Coordinators Council was convened in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 20 September 2018. During this meeting, positive feedback from the member states and other partners regarding the CARICC-facilitated operations and projects was noted. Especially, the participants highlighted the “Reflex” Regional Operation on countering new psychoactive substances, the “Substitute” Regional Operation on countering illicit trafficking of precursor chemicals, as well as the Regional Programme for the System-Wide Fight Against Organized Drug-Related Crime by Weakening its Financial Resources. During this meeting, Ms. Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia, reiterated that CARICC is the cornerstone of the UNODC Programme for Central Asia and UNODC stands firmly committed to provide continued comprehensive support to the centre.

UNODC ROCA also closely collaborated with CARICC to develop and publish a catalogue on methods of concealment of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, identified in illegal circulation in the territory of the CARICC member states and other countries during the period of 2014-2016. The catalogue includes various methods of trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances, as well as concealment methods used by criminal groups, including those that have been detected in conveyances, personal clothing, consumer goods, the human body, as well as in postal letters and shipments.
UNODC ROCA continued to work closely with drug control agencies of Central Asian states to enhance their capacities to counter drug trafficking. These capacity development efforts aimed at supporting national legislation on drug control, national operational capacities on drug law enforcement, as well as enhancing the capacities of other competent authorities in maintaining the legal turnover of controlled narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors under the ratified UN conventions.

In 2018, the Government of Japan allocated USD 2.7 million for drug control efforts in the Kyrgyz Republic within the framework of the UNODC Programme for Central Asia 2015-2019. The initiative supported development of a new draft law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.” Furthermore, more than 80 Law enforcement officers were trained on countering illicit drug trafficking issues and profiling techniques. The “Control over the trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors in the Kyrgyz Republic 2009-2017” statistical compendium was also developed in 2018.

In November 2018, UNODC supported the signing of a cooperation protocol on countering illicit drug trafficking between the Counter Narcotics Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan as a part of the initiative.

In 2018, UNODC ROCA also continued to support the Government of Tajikistan within the initiative on “Tajikistan Drug Control Agency” to enhance the national, as well as regional law enforcement capacity of the country though capacity development and provision of technical assistance to the Drug Control Agency under the President of Tajikistan (DCA). Throughout the year, the initiative assisted the agency through variety of trainings to develop operations against high-level drug trafficking organizations and interdicting illicit drug and precursor chemical shipments. In 2018, UNODC supported two new recruits and two in-service training courses to improve knowledge and skills of 143 DCA officers. Experienced DCA instructors, as well as retired DCA officers provided lectures and practical exercises on laws and regulations of Tajikistan covering issues of illicit drug trafficking, operative-search activities and criminal case investigations. UNODC experts provided brief sessions on relevant UN Conventions and updated on ongoing national/regional efforts in combatting drug trafficking, as well as operative search activities using international experience. Special attention was given on case investigations covering detailed investigative procedures/functions through case-studies’ simulation, human rights issues and gender equality.

Provided trainings enabled the DCA to seizure 716 kg of drugs in 2018, including: 328 kg of hashish/cannabis, 377 kg of opium and 11 kg of heroin; as well as to conduct 13 joint operations (8 at national and 5 at international level), including 2 with Afghanistan and 3 with Russian Federation’s law enforcement counterparts. These joint operations resulted in seizure of 407 kg of illicit drugs, including 6 kg of heroin, 189 kg of opium and 212 kg of cannabis. Moreover, the initiative supported establishment of a fully operational library for capacity building and research purposes of the DCA staff.
In 2018 UNODC ROCA continued its support to the Government of Uzbekistan in the operationalization of the initiative on Establishing Interagency Mobile Teams (IMTs). The IMTs consist of officers from the State Security Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Customs Committee. The IMTs were established by the Government of Uzbekistan with technical assistance from UNODC, and support from the Government of Japan as part of the country’s counter-narcotics strategy. Six IMTs were officially launched on 25 June 2018, with 42 experienced officers selected and appointed to collaborate in the IMT units. In 2018, UNODC provided technical support in setting up the legislative and institutional frameworks, procurement of vehicles and equipment, enhancing skills through the organization of hands-on training courses for the IMT officers. For example, in 2018, the IMT units received over 30 vehicles and a range of specialized equipment with a total value of about $500,000. Six practical training courses were organized for the IMTs, which covered such topics as establishing interagency information exchange networks, detecting drug caches, risk assessment and profiling, physical surveillance and identification of illicit drugs. As it was reported by the IMTs, the provided equipment and training courses were very useful in their operative work. Knowledge and skills attained during the workshops enabled the teams to be more effective and efficient during joint operations.

The IMTs have already demonstrated good initial results in countering drug trafficking. The IMTs prevented the attempts of smuggling of large quantities of drugs from Afghanistan: 172.2 kg of opium, 21 kg of marijuana, 15.9 kg of poppy straw, 15.2 kg of heroin, 5.4 kg of hashish and 7.36 g cocaine were seized in 2018. The seizures also included 80,000 tablets of tramadol, 10 pills of extasy and 30 blotter papers of LSD, as well as, 35.9 g of MDMA.
Establishment of the IMT units facilitated an increase in inter-agency cooperation and coordination in countering drug trafficking, and allowed for more effective joint operations between various agencies. This was due to the solid legislative and regulatory base which was established for the Interagency Mobile Teams. This regulatory framework includes a Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, interagency agreements, and Standard Operating Procedures. While the Government of Uzbekistan took the initiative and ownership, UNODC ROCA actively supported and provided technical advice to the national counterparts. Moreover, this framework created a new platform to cooperate and coordinate activities both at the operative level and strategic planning and analysis. Operative and investigate officers under the IMT structure can shortcut usual administrative procedures and can develop an operation or a case in general in close working cooperation with their colleagues in other agencies. IMT officers also act as focal points to mobilize all required resources of their respective agencies. Initial information received by any party is instantly shared with all involved officers and each side will apply their own strengths and comparative advantages for the success of the case. On the other hand, the IMT Operation Coordination Team brings together senior level officers responsible to oversee the work and coordinate activities of the IMT units at a strategic level. Due to close cooperation among IMT officers, differences and specifics of various law enforcement agencies become an advantage rather than a separating factor.

Mr. Iqbol Azimov, Head of the Department of the Customs Committee in Ferghana region acknowledged that, "the IMT initiative proved itself to be effective. The trainings organized for IMT officers enhanced their capacity and practical skills in surveillance operations, profiling and other spheres." He also added that "the main achievement of the initiative is to strengthen the cooperation between the law enforcement agencies. Today, no significant operation is conducted without IMT's participation. The Fergana-based IMT has contributed greatly to the seizure operations since its establishment."

While the idea of inter-agency cooperation is not new in the region, this is the first successful implementation of the concept of mobile interagency counter-narcotics units on such a wide scale in Central Asia. Thus, the experience comes with valuable lessons for other countries in the region willing to implement a similar initiative. Learning from the experience would allow other countries adopting the IMT model to streamline their resources and efforts.

“Drug trafficking from Afghanistan through the so-called Northern Route demonstrates the tendencies which indicates that traffickers are exploring new routes. Considering this fact, the IMTs have become an extremely important initiative for Uzbekistan and the Central Asian states in applying international best practices on combatting drugs.” - Mr. Olim Narzullaev, Director of the National Information-Analytical Centre on Drug Control under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, at the IMT launch ceremony.
The Border cooperation component of the UNODC Programme for Central Asia is designed to counter the trafficking of Afghan opiates by establishing border liaison offices (BLO) at the key border crossing points (BCP) in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan. The BLOs are considered a key element for enhancing cross-border communication and intelligence-sharing to detect and intercept smuggling, including narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals.

In 2018, UNODC continued its support to the 13 operational BLOs in the region, which were established in geographically remote and vulnerable BCPs in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan since 2010. This support included capacity development, technical assistance, as well as expert advice in improving the work of BLOs.

All capacity development activities were targeted for the staff of the relevant law enforcement agencies.
to improve their technical capacities to be more efficient in illicit drug seizures. In 2018, UNODC ROCA conducted seven specialized country specific and three regional training courses on risk profiling, planning and implementation of joint operative activities at the border, modern methods of customs and border control, and drug trafficking interdiction at the BCPs. These capacity development activities included three national and one regional training courses on intelligence analysis software “i2 iBase” and “i2 Analyst Notebook”, as well as the “ArcGIS” geoinformation system, for 56 law enforcement officers responsible for the collection and analysis of information received from BLOs. To institutionalize this knowledge, manuals on using the IBM “i2 iBase” and “i2 Analyst’s Notebook” specialized analytical software “in law enforcement practices were published in the Russian language. In total, 169 law enforcement officers enhanced their capacity on drug interdiction at the BCPs, including 57 officers from Kazakhstan (including eight women), 41 officers from Kyrgyzstan (including one woman), 25 officers from Tajikistan (including three women) and 46 officers from Uzbekistan.

To enhance the work of the BCPs and BLOs, UNODC provided equipment in the amount of USD $441,740, which included passport readers, X-Ray scanners, LED monitors, specialized search equipment for customs and border control, drug identification kits and IT equipment.

In February 2018, UNODC supported an expert meeting of the analytical units of law enforcement agencies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, which aimed to facilitate discussion on issues related to information and analytical systems used by the law enforcement units and BLOs in the region. This meeting also served as a platform to introduce the participants to the best global and regional practices on improvement of methods of intelligence gathering, processing and exchange.

**Figure 2. Seizures Performed with the Support of the Border Liaison Offices (2018)**
Due to increasing integration processes as well as enhanced regional cooperation, cross-border traffic increased in 2018. For example, the number of people crossing the “Dostuk/Dustlik” border crossing points at the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border reached 10,000 in February 2018, causing increased waiting times. To better understand the situation, as well as to be able to provide an adequate response, UNODC ROCA conducted an assessment mission to this BCP. This facilitated a set of recommendations on further effective implementation of customs and border control and the establishment of favorable conditions for travelers. As a result, UNODC provided technical assistance to increase the capacity of passport control units of the “Dostuk” border crossing point by providing specialized IT equipment for passport control.

The initiative on Strengthening Control along the Tajik-Afghan Border is being successfully implemented in line with the “National Border Management Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan” adopted for 2010-2025. This initiative is an indication of the Government of Tajikistan’s aspiration towards Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development with a special focus on Goal
16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, providing technical support in countering transnational organized crime, terrorism, and drug trafficking in the country.

Following the withdrawal of the Russian border troops from the Tajik-Afghan border in early 1990s, the Border Forces of the State Committee for National Security of the Republic of Tajikistan with the support of the international community designed a new concept of strengthening the borders through rehabilitation of border outposts. The UNODC initiative directly contributed to implementation of this concept and supported the construction and rehabilitation of seven border outposts: “Bakhorak”, “Bog”, “Sari Gor”, “Shogun”, “Yol”, “Yakhchi Pun” and “Takhti Sangin”, which are located along the borders between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. In 2018, two additional border posts were officially opened with the support of UNODC - “Tagnob” (Shaartuz district) and “Ushturmullo” (Qubodiyan district). As a result, 65 soldiers and 6 officers with their families are serving and residing at the newly opened border posts in comfortable conditions.

The initiative on Strengthening Control along the Tajik-Afghan border organized a national Border Interdiction Training for 40 newly recruited chiefs of border posts and outposts located in Khatlon and Badakhshan districts in May and December 2018. This training was conducted to increase border control capacities to reduce drug trafficking through provision of relevant trainings, equipment and renovation of buildings. Furthermore, a five-day “Profiling” training was conducted for 26 border interaction officers from all law enforcement agencies (Border Forces, Ministry of Interior, Drug Control Agency, and Customs Service) of Tajikistan serving at the border crossing points in the country, in November 2018. A total of 66 law enforcement officers were trained in 2018, within the framework of the Initiative.

**Figure 3. Infrastructure Development Activities at the Shurabad and Shahrituz Stretches of the Tajik-Afghan Border (2006-2018)**
In 2018, along with regional cooperation and integration, the volume of the trade among the Central Asian states increased. As crime follows trade routes and hides within legitimate trade, UNODC responds to this through its partnership with the World Customs Organization.

Currently, there are ten operational Port Control Units (PCU) in Central Asia with five more PCUs to be established in 2019, including CCP expansion to Air Cargo. Within this programme, UNODC ROCA has closely collaborated with the governments in the region, and provided technical support in capacity development, provision of equipment, as well as revision of existing legislative norms and regulations.

In 2018, 32 training programmes and capacity development activities, exchange visits, mentorship and regional meetings were organized by UNODC. These events brought together 355 Customs and other law enforcement officers. As a result of capacity development measures and the delivered trainings to PCU staff in the region, 30 seizure cases of various types of drugs, cigarettes and other goods at the borders of Central Asian states, as well as numerous cases of real-time information exchange were reported via ContainerCOMM in 2018. In addition, with the aim to strengthen interregional cooperation, as well as to increase the effectiveness of measures towards border security, five countries of the Central Asian region, Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Georgia, Pakistan and Ukraine agreed to the UNODC initiative to explore an option of establishing a regular information exchange mechanism on identifying of high-risk consignments via the Inter-Regional Network of Customs Authorities and Port Control Units during the 5th CCP Inter-Regional Meeting on 23-24 May 2018 in Avaza, Turkmenistan.

To promote practical interaction between customs authorities and rail freight carriers in the identification of high-risk cargoes using modern methods of customs control, including sharing of pre-arrival information, CCP conducted a Regional Workshop on railway cargo control and the exchange of pre-arrival information on 17-18 October 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The meeting served as a platform to discuss railroad transport corridors and effective control systems in the region, as well as the benefits of pre-arrival information for better profiling high-risk consignments, which would help to increase the effectiveness of law enforcement and facilitate legitimate trade.
**NATO-UNODC PARTNERSHIP**

As part of the NATO-UNODC partnership, UNODC ROCA supported trainees from Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as all five Central Asian states in different capacity development courses held throughout the year. Training activities were carried out by facilitators from TADOC – Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime, USA, Italy, Latvia and Ukraine. The capacity development activities engaged 228 participants from 22 different law enforcement agencies from seven beneficiary countries and included 14 training courses on various topics related to the drug enforcement, including canine training.

![Number of trainees of the NATO-UNODC partnership activities](image)

**Figure 4.** Number of trainees of the NATO-UNODC partnership activities

Considering the lessons learned from the previous phases and experience gained during 2016-2017, the NATO-UNODC initiative concentrated on the provision of more focused and specialized trainings in 2018. In cooperation with TADOC, curriculum of the training delivered by the Turkish instructors was revised and enhanced. As a result, the practical part of all courses was expanded. In particular, the practical sessions at the border check points under the canine trainings in Ukraine were increased up to 25%; practical exercises within risk analyses and search techniques training were increased up to 50% and a separate practical training course on risk analyses and search techniques at the airports was introduced. The scores in the currently available post training evaluation forms show that the content and level of instruction met the highest expectations of the trainees.

All activities and events described in this section contributed towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goal 16 with specific focus on Target 16.3 - promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; Target 16.4 - by 2030 significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime; and Target 16.A - strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime. Therefore, UNODC ROCA will continue to support the governments in achievement of SDG 16 in terms of building effective, accountable institutions at all levels and promote just and inclusive societies. UNODC ROCA will continue to facilitate inter-agency and regional communication through the development of mechanisms of intelligence sharing and other initiatives which contribute to the attainment of SDG 17 with focus on revitalizing partnerships between the governments and civil society.

"NATO and Central Asian states have a shared interest in combating illicit drug trafficking, which is a significant security threat to our societies. NATO has been working with UNODC to train counter narcotics officers from Afghanistan, the five Central Asian Nations, and Pakistan. Our joint Project focuses on drug enforcement training and helps promote dialogue and regional contacts in order to facilitate much needed cross-border cooperation to fight drug trafficking networks. Our project continues to grow and, in 2017, we added new training elements and welcomed new partners to the project. We are looking forward to the continuation of the project and its essential work towards countering the shared challenges caused by drug trafficking." – Mr. James Appathurai, NATO Secretary General’s Special Representative for the Caucasus and Central Asia, on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, 26 June 2018.
In 2018, UNODC ROCA continued to support the countries in the region to strengthen the capacity to implement measures against money laundering and the financing of terrorism and to assist them in detecting, seizing and confiscating illicit proceeds, as required pursuant to United Nations instruments and other globally accepted standards, by providing relevant and appropriate technical assistance.

As part of this initiative, UNODC ROCA worked with the financial intelligence unit under the General Prosecutor’s Office of Uzbekistan to strengthen its capacity to conduct financial investigations and operational and strategic analysis. With the support of the Global Programme against Money Laundering (GPML), UNODC delivered an initial operational analysis workshop and conducted consultations on the need for software tools to analyse large volumes of financial data and other measures to produce quality information on suspicious transactions from banks and other reporting entities.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC ROCA supported a two-day workshop as a platform for the exchange of views on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing for 21 law enforcement officers from the southern regions of Kyrgyzstan, as well as a one-day seminar for 17 representatives of the private sector. Both events were held in Osh, Kyrgyzstan.

In Tajikistan, UNODC partnered with OSCE to conduct two trainings to strengthen the knowledge of competent authorities in combating money laundering and terrorism financing, enhance their understanding of Financial Action Task Force recommendations and related reporting obligations. Both trainings were directed at experts of Financial Intelligence Units, the financial sector, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the internal security services and the anticorruption authorities.
To support Central Asian states in strengthening national and regional frameworks for preventing and countering violent extremism, UNODC ROCA continued to promote regional cooperation in the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) through setting up a Regional PVE Network for Central Asia. The Network contributes to the development of expertise and enhances networking and cooperation between relevant national authorities at the regional level. Its first focal points meeting was convened in January 2018 in Almaty to discuss and agree on the structure of the Network. The event was attended by representatives of government agencies (General Prosecutor’s Offices, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Security Services, Religious Affairs Committees), civil society and research institutes of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as colleagues from international organizations. Currently, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have nominated focal points for the Network, and further discussions with the governments of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are ongoing. In addition to the government focal points, representatives of civil society organizations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have confirmed their interest to participate in the Network.

To support knowledge and best practices exchange, the initiative in collaboration with the Academy of Law Enforcement Agencies under the General Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan developed and launched (May 2018) the PVE Network website – www.capve.org – enabling users to find the necessary resources to understand the current approaches and good practices for preventing crimes associated with radicalization, incitement and recruitment of individuals for terrorist purposes. The PVE Network applies a “whole of society” and “whole of government” approach, linking government representatives, civil society groups, academia, international experts, and UNODC to build the region’s resilience and cooperation.

Further, the Network aims to enhance awareness and willingness to embrace the important role of women, youth, and victims of terrorism in effective national PVE responses. Under the Network, UNODC has undertaken a series of activities including training, dialogue, and interaction to strengthen the region against terrorism and violent extremism, in a manner consistent with the rule of law and human rights.
This included a Regional Workshop on “Good practices for the prosecution and judiciary in cases involving terrorism offenses” on 20-22 November 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. 56 participants representing the General Prosecutor’s Offices, Supreme Courts, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Security Services, as well as legal practitioners from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as representatives of the embassies of Germany, Sweden, US and the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization attended the workshop.

The activity aimed to enhance the capacity of prosecutorial services and the judiciary in Central Asian States to develop more effective and coordinated prosecutorial and judicial responses in terrorism related cases, including returning foreign terrorist fighters and their accompanying families.

From 3-5 December 2018, UNODC partnered with OSCE to organize a Regional Expert Group Meeting for Central Asian Countries on Prevention and Responses to Child Recruitment and Exploitation by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups in Vienna, which brought together 47 experts. The meeting was successful in allowing practitioners from the four countries to engage in a peer exchange of challenges and practices related to this area. It also offered a forum to jointly discuss how cooperation within, and across the Central Asian region, as well as with other countries, in particular Iraq, could be strengthened. The meeting covered three core areas of work: prevention of children’s recruitment into these groups; treatment by the juvenile justice system and reintegration and rehabilitation, including in detention.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC competed a joint initiative with UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF entitled “Women and girls as drivers for peace and prevention of radicalization.” Implemented within the framework of the UN Peacebuilding Fund, this initiative engaged over 1600 women in 16 target communities who attended consultative meetings to learn about human rights and prevention of radicalization. As a result, the trained women developed 47 community initiatives aimed at PVE, of which 30 were supported through small grant funding. Legal counsellors represented the interests of marginalized women and girls in 15 civil cases, ensuring access to justice and supporting their rights.

90 local self-government and social sector employees were trained in reaching out to the most vulnerable women, facilitating their access to municipal and state services. 46 social workers learned about identification and managing cases of marginalized people, reaching out to women and girls at risk of radicalization. 64 women were identified among vulnerable groups for further supervision by trainees. Local safety analysis was conducted in all target communities resulting in the adoption of PVE plans with funds allocations. An e-course on PVE was developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Internal Affairs. PVE and gender-sensitivity trainings were conducted for 215 police officers (7% women).
ADDRESSING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

As guardian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), UNODC ROCA promotes UNTOC and its supplementing Protocols to address trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. In 2018, UNODC conducted a legislative analysis in Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to bring anti-human trafficking legislation in line with the UNTOC.

UNODC conducted a legal analysis on the compliance of Kyrgyz legislation with the smuggling of migrants (SOM) Protocol, based on which a set of recommendations was developed to strengthen the national legal framework on SOM.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC engaged youth organizations to run a nationwide awareness raising campaign “100 days against trafficking in persons”. The campaign was led by 80 youth leaders in seven regions and Osh city, engaged 5,000 youth activists, reaching over 60,000 people and resulted in a 14% increase in the number of calls to the country’s trafficking in persons hotline.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC supported the establishment of TIP Coordination Councils at the local level throughout the country and enhanced the capacity of 289 (47% women) local government officials, police and other stakeholders to implement the, “Government Programme on Combatting Trafficking in Persons and its Action Plan for 2017-2020”.

UNODC enhanced the capacity of 35 criminal justice practitioners including prosecutors of countries of origin, transit and destination (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Russian Federation, and Turkey) on international cooperation and mutual legal assistance of TIP and SOM related cases; 50 senior police officers from seven regions of Kyrgyzstan increased their knowledge to analyze investigation techniques used by police investigators and challenges faced.

UNODC assisted the national authorities of Turkmenistan in strengthening its criminal justice response to trafficking in persons via building the institutional capacity of key anti-trafficking stakeholders and facilitating coordination and cooperation among all relevant actors. UNODC chaired a Technical Working Group instrumental in improving the coordination of international organizations and main national actors working in the area of combating trafficking in persons in the country. 60 criminal justice practitioners in Turkmenistan expanded their knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting and handling human trafficking cases during two rounds of training workshops.

In Turkmenistan, UNODC engaged youth organizations to run a nationwide awareness raising campaign “100 days against trafficking in persons”. The campaign was led by 80 youth leaders in seven regions and Osh city, engaged 5,000 youth activists, reaching over 60,000 people and resulted in a 14% increase in the number of calls to the country’s trafficking in persons hotline.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC supported the establishment of TIP Coordination Councils at the local level throughout the country and enhanced the capacity of 289 (47% women) local government officials, police and other stakeholders to implement the, “Government Programme on Combatting Trafficking in Persons and its Action Plan for 2017-2020”.

UNODC enhanced the capacity of 35 criminal justice practitioners including prosecutors of countries of origin, transit and destination (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Russian Federation, and Turkey) on international cooperation and mutual legal assistance of TIP and SOM related cases; 50 senior police officers from seven regions of Kyrgyzstan increased their knowledge to analyze investigation techniques used by police investigators and challenges faced.

UNODC assisted the national authorities of Turkmenistan in strengthening its criminal justice response to trafficking in persons via building the institutional capacity of key anti-trafficking stakeholders and facilitating coordination and cooperation among all relevant actors. UNODC chaired a Technical Working Group instrumental in improving the coordination of international organizations and main national actors working in the area of combating trafficking in persons in the country. 60 criminal justice practitioners in Turkmenistan expanded their knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting and handling human trafficking cases during two rounds of training workshops.
In partnership with other UN agencies and national counterparts, UNODC facilitated public events to raise awareness about TIP, including marking the World Day against Trafficking in Persons. A sports event on the International Day of Families raised awareness of over 100 men, women, and children on human trafficking issues. On the same day, UNODC organized a quiz session and an interactive lecture for a group of 30 cadets of the Police Academy and students of the Law Faculty of the State University of Turkmenistan and the Institute for International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The students increased their knowledge of the UNTOC and its Protocols.

In Uzbekistan, expert support was provided to review the trafficking in persons legislation and comprehensive recommendations were developed to bring Uzbekistan legislation in line with the international standards and norms. “Victims not Villains-II”, the training film, on victim-centred approaches to prosecution and adjudication of trafficking in persons cases was produced and handed over to the national partners to serve as guidance material for future training and policy dialogue. The presentation of the training film was conducted at a roundtable dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the adoption of Uzbekistan’s Law on Combatting Human Trafficking raising strong interest among national counterparts involving more than 30 prosecutors, judges, police officers and civil society (46 per cent women). The film was produced in three languages (Uzbek, Russian, English) and disseminated among key stakeholders. It serves as a flexible tool with clear ‘how to’ and ‘how not to’ scenarios and will be used for training of criminal justice practitioners in Uzbekistan as well as the wider region.

In Kyrgyzstan, UNODC engaged youth organizations to run a nationwide awareness raising campaign “100 days against trafficking in persons”. The campaign was led by 80 youth leaders in seven regions and Osh city, engaged 5,000 youth activists, reaching over 60,000 people and resulted in a 14% increase in the number of calls to the country’s trafficking in persons hotline.
Corruption is a complex social, political and economic phenomenon that affects all countries. Corruption undermines democratic institutions, slows economic development and contributes to governmental instability. Corruption attacks the foundation of democratic institutions by distorting electoral processes, perverting the rule of law and creating bureaucratic quagmires whose only reason for existing is the soliciting of bribes.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. The Convention’s far-reaching approach and the mandatory character of many of its provisions make it a unique tool for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem. Therefore, UNODC assists the national partners-signatories in their implementation of this Convention and provides policy and expert advice in development and implementation of anti-corruption measures.

As part of this support, UNODC ROCA facilitated expert advice on combatting corruption and economic crimes in Uzbekistan during 2018. UNODC experts worked with more than 300 investigators and prosecutors and 70 governmental officials in order to educate them about existing anticorruption tools and mechanisms. UNODC ROCA organized and facilitated special trainings and conferences on anticorruption measures in the business sector, asset declaration, ethics, prevention of conflicts of interest and other relevant principles of behaviour and values in the public service.

UNODC contributed to drafting a national concept paper on anticorruption activities in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2019. This document outlines the key activities that the Government of Uzbekistan is planning to implement on combating corruption and economic crimes.

In close collaboration with the Interagency Commission on Combating Corruption and other international partner-organizations, UNODC organized a One Week Media Marathon (10-14 December 2018), which was dedicated to the International Day against Corruption and the 15th anniversary of the UNCAC. With the slogan, “Zero tolerance to corruption”, the campaign was able to mobilize a number of mass media channels. Information demonstrating the threat of corruption for society was widely disseminated. As part of the campaign, an exhibition entitled “Youth Against Corruption 2018” put more than 300 works of art on display to sensitize visitors on the consequences of corruption. The art works were selected among a total of approximately 8,000
contributions, which reflected young people’s perceptions of the problem.

UNODC ROCA facilitated several expert meetings to introduce national counterparts in Uzbekistan to the Doha Declaration and the UNODC Education for Justice initiative. This allowed representatives of government agencies to look differently at preventive measures among youth and familiarize themselves with innovative approaches and tools aimed at supporting specialists in developing children’s personal accountability and sense of fairness, enhancing the culture of lawfulness, and empowering children to identify, prevent and resolve moral, ethical and legal dilemmas.

As a direct outcome, the anti-corruption board game, “Integrity”, was tested at a secondary school in Tashkent in October 2018. 62 students, aged 12-16, had an opportunity to try out the board game that requires players to make everyday decisions that challenge their integrity and ethical judgement, such as skipping a line and using one’s position to give someone an undue advantage over others. Originally developed by Integrity Action, a UK based NGO, “Integrity” offers a way for educators to teach ethics and integrity in an interactive way.

The successful pilot was followed by a Training of Trainers for 20 leading public education specialists from all 11 municipal districts of Tashkent city. The “Integrity” board game served as a useful tool during the month of “Jurisprudence and Law” among school students, which was announced by the Government of Uzbekistan in December 2018. About 400 secondary school students participated in this initiative raising their awareness on integrity and supporting them to identify corruption and be active citizens in their communities.
GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

DRUG PREVENTION

The core intervention promoted by UNODC in the field of drug use prevention in the region is family skills training programmes. Such programmes support caregivers in being better parents and strengthen positive age-specific and age-appropriate family functioning and interactions in general. They promote a warm child-rearing style where parents set rules for acceptable behaviours, closely monitor free time and friendship patterns and become good role models while helping their children to acquire skills to make informed decisions.

“ My dear mother, you are the light in my life! You can always rely on me. I promise to be your support and live up to your hopes.” – Adham Akbarjonov, participant of the SFP 10-14, pupil of school #132, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
In 2018, UNODC ROCA continued providing support in strengthening national capacities for effective prevention of drug use, crime and delinquency among children and youth in Uzbekistan through scaling up evidence-based cost-effective family skills training programme, “Strengthening Families Programme for children of age 10-14 (SFP 10-14).” Preparation of more than 400 facilitators (psychologists, teachers, youth leaders) in Uzbekistan, who now have the appropriate knowledge and skills to deliver programme sessions, was a significant step in supporting the development of institutional capacity of national partners to incorporate SFP 10-14 into the education system of the country. By the Order#262 of the Minister of Public Education dated 26 October 2018, SFP 10-14 was assigned as a basis programme to the “Happy Schools” Project of the Ministry of Public Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The project aims to assist in maintaining healthy and positive environments at schools through teaching family skills - strengthening supportive attitude in the families, increasing resistance to stress and peer pressure, as well as creating a trustful relationship between teenagers and their parents. The UNODC trained facilitators conducted a series of trainings for families in pilot schools of the respective regions of the country. Moreover, they started transferring their knowledge to other teachers from schools in the region on a weekly basis as a part of the Roadmap developed by the Ministry. In general, 290 families benefited from the implementation of the SFP 10-14 in 31 selected schools of Uzbekistan in 2018. The same initiative, supported by UNODC, was replicated in smaller scale in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan, and resulted in the training of 108 specialists (46 – Kazakhstan, 37 – Kyrgyzstan, 25 – Turkmenistan), and reaching out to 320 families (50 – Kazakhstan, 150 – Kyrgyzstan, 120 – Turkmenistan).

The assessment of the pre-post implementation of the programme in the region indicated a significantly positive improvement on key family functioning indications both at the parent level, as well as at the youth level. The programme proved effective in delaying the age at which adolescents begin to abuse substances, lowering levels of aggression, increasing the resistance of adolescents to peer pressure and enhancing the ability of parents and caregivers to set appropriate limits and show their children affection and support.

UNODC ROCA also initiated the piloting of another brief, light, evidence-based, suitable for low resource settings, open source and cost-effective family skills intervention – Strong Families Programme (SFP) in Uzbekistan. The programme is designed for families with children aged 8-15 with the aim of improving parenting skills, child well-being and family mental health. In difference from SFP 10-14, this programme is specifically developed for families living in remote rural areas and low resource settings. In 2018, a team of national experts adapted the materials of the programme to express cultural norms and national traditions.
Drug dependence is considered a multi-factorial health disorder that often follows the course of a relapsing and remitting chronic disease. Given the individual and socio-economic burden inflicted by drug dependence, the effective treatment and rehabilitation of patients is of significant public health importance. In order to address these issues in the region, UNODC ROCA collaborated with respective government agencies to enhance their capacities. Specifically, in 2018, more than 500 addiction professionals enhanced their knowledge and skills to provide evidence-based cost-effective drug dependence treatment services. Overall, it is estimated that approximately 3,000 individuals were reached by the trained addiction professionals at 38 treatment facilities in the region during this reporting period. Moreover 46 national trainers (20 - Kazakhstan, 10 - Kyrgyzstan, 4 - Tajikistan, 12 – Uzbekistan) who completed all courses of Basic Level Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders (UTC training package) successfully passed the International Certified Addiction Professional Level I (ICAP I) credentialing examination.

Figure 5. Number of Professionals Trained to Provide Drug-Dependence Services (2018)

Figure 6. Number of National Trainers Obtained ICAP1 Credentials

- Kazakhstan: 27 Specialists Participated, 12 Specialists Certified
- Kyrgyzstan: 20 Specialists Participated, 10 Specialists Certified
- Tajikistan: 5 Specialists Participated, 4 Specialists Certified
- Uzbekistan: 12 Specialists Participated, 12 Specialists Certified
- Total: 56 Specialists Participated, 46 Specialists Certified
Moreover, the Regional Training for Assessors on UNODC-WHO Quality Assurance Tools was held in October 2018 in Tashkent to ensure the successful implementation of the quality assurance mechanism in Central Asia, while promoting the scientific understanding of quality drug dependence treatment and care services. During the five-day workshop, 28 specialists from Central Asia discussed issues related to the developing plans for the piloting of the assessment tools, mentoring and consolidation of future activities, aimed at enhancing a quality assurance mechanism, as well as the implementation of the quality improvement plan to achieve higher quality of drug treatment services.

Another regional training on piloting of the training package “UNFT: United Nations family-based treatment for youth with drug use disorders (DUD)” was held on 26-30 November 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. This workshop informed regional and national treatment experts for juvenile offenders with DUD about the training package, as well as strengthened and culturally adjusted the content by integrating inputs from participants. The training, conducted by UNODC experts, hosted 28 specialists from the five Central Asia states and Armenia, who represent health, social and justice professionals from drug treatment centres, as well as treatment practitioners working with families with DUD.

To ensure that addiction professionals working with drug dependents have adequate infrastructure and equipment, UNODC ROCA provided technical assistance for the opening of the rehabilitation unit of the Republican Narcology Centre of the Kyrgyz Republic. The provided equipment is expected to improve the quality of comprehensive medical, psychological and social services aimed at preventing the progression of addiction pathology, recovering or acquiring effective life skills and integrating into society. Moreover, medical equipment and furniture was provided to the newly established women and adolescent unit of the Republican Clinical Narcology Centre of Tajikistan, which allowed to meet the specific needs of women and adolescents.

Figure 7. Assistance to Rehabilitation and Narcology Centres in Central Asia (2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type of Equipment</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyz Republic</td>
<td>Medical Equipment, Furniture and Accessories</td>
<td>Improving the quality of comprehensive medical, psychological and social services aimed at preventing the progression of addiction pathology, recovering or acquiring effective life skills and integrating into society</td>
<td>Rehabilitation Unit of the Republican Narcology Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>Medical Equipment and Furniture</td>
<td>Equipping the newly established facility</td>
<td>Newly Established Women and Adolescent Unit within the Republican Clinical Narcology Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>Physiotherapeutic Treatment Equipment &amp; Biochemical Analyzers</td>
<td>Improving the quality of treatment and rehabilitation services for drug dependents, improving the diagnosis of physical disorders and complication associated with chronical intoxication with psychoactive substances</td>
<td>Narcology Centers of Kokand, Namangan, Khorezm, Tashkent, Syrdarya Regions and Tashkent City narcological Dispensary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As part of ongoing support to the Government of Uzbekistan, narcological dispensaries of Kokand, Namangan and Khorezm regions were equipped with medical equipment for delivering physiotherapeutic treatment aimed at improving the quality of treatment and rehabilitation services for drug dependents. Moreover, biochemical analysers to improve the diagnosis of physical disorders and complications associated with chronic intoxication from psychoactive substances was provided to the Tashkent City Narcological Dispensary and Narcological Dispensaries of Tashkent, Khorezm and Syrdarya regions. All the above-mentioned activities supported by UNODC in the region have directly contributed towards the achievement of SDG Target 3.5.

A regional stakeholder meeting on “Increasing Access to Controlled Medicines for medical and scientific purposes” initiated by UNODC ROCA was an important contribution towards achieving SDG Target 3.8. The event held on 3-4 December 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, was a part of the UNODC, WHO and the Union for International Cancer Control Joint Global Programme's efforts to promote discussion on “Access to controlled drugs for medical purposes, while preventing diversion and abuse”. Over 20 national specialists, representing healthcare and drug control agencies of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan identified the most critical aspects of increasing access and availability to controlled drugs locally and expressed their commitment to work in this direction. The event created a platform where the participants were able to draft a unique strategic approach to meet the health needs of the populations in each country of the region, as it linked to the human right for the best healthcare, including access to pain medication when medically appropriate.
To end the AIDS epidemic by 2030, key populations including people who use drugs and people in prisons must not be left behind. UNODC ROCA has worked closely with the governments of Central Asian states on HIV prevention, treatment, care and supported people who use drugs to ensure access to comprehensive HIV services.

In 2018, UNODC ROCA continued to engage decision makers at the regional level in policy dialogue on human rights and evidence-based HIV and drugs policies. Representatives from the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Drug Control Agencies, Penitentiary Departments and Police Academies from nine countries from Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia regions shared experiences and exchanged information about the impact of Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT) on crime reduction during the “MMT through the eyes of law enforcement agencies” regional meeting organized by UNODC on 6 March in Astana. The meeting report was shared with high level policy makers, experts and civil society organizations (CSO) for use in future advocacy work.

Advocacy for the inclusion of harm reduction in policy documents and allocation of domestic funding was continued through the participation of UNODC staff in policy and technical groups on HIV and drugs. In Kazakhstan, UNODC facilitated policy dialogue with high-level decision makers from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Prosecutor General’s Office, National Security Committee, Ministry of Health and Ombudsman to increase awareness about the UN policies and norms regarding HIV prevention among people who inject drugs (PWID).

In Kyrgyz Republic, UNODC provided technical assistance to the development of HIV action plan for the Ministry of Internal Affairs in line with the national HIV programme. It specifies the role of law enforcement agencies in the national response to HIV, including prevention among key population groups. Moreover, UNODC ROCA supported public hearings on the draft of the Law on drugs and narcotics substances, where beside the state national partners, the representatives from the civil sector engaged with harm reduction activities were invited. During the hearings, the Technical Working Group received comprehensive comments, which will be integrated into a new law.

In Uzbekistan, UNODC ROCA provided technical support for the development of the 2018 National HIV Programme and the 2019-2021 National HIV Programme, successfully advocating for a government-supported needle and syringe programmes (NSPs) through 2022. This policy is estimated to benefit 45,000 PWIDs in Uzbekistan. With the aim to ultimately increase strategic information on the subject and to improve the availability
of the comprehensive package of HIV services for PWID, UNODC supported quality assurance monitoring with the Country Coordination Mechanism and several NGOs providing comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care services including NSPs for PWID. Moreover, UNODC supported experts at the National Human Rights Centre to review potentially stigmatizing or discriminatory policies or practices against PWID and People Living with HIV, monitoring cases of violence of human rights violations to prepare an analysis for national stakeholders.

In Tajikistan, analysis of the legal framework was conducted with the aim to identify the obstacles and opportunities for the police to refer PWID to health and social services. It concluded that the existing laws and normative documents allow for police referral, but there is insufficient awareness among law enforcement agencies, as well as the absence of relevant indicators for assessment of police performance. Findings of the report and a draft algorithm on drug referral schemes was presented during a round table with the participation of representatives from the Drug Control Agency, Penitentiary Service, civil society and international organizations.

Within the framework of activities on the integration of drug dependence treatment and HIV prevention services for PWID into the national public health systems in Kyrgyz Republic, UNODC supported the drafting of legal amendments and development of mechanisms for the allocation of municipality funds for harm reduction services, development of the mechanisms for state financing of MMT, as well as staff standards and procedures for the payment of labour for personnel of MMT operating on a basis of primary and secondary (as an outpatient services) health care organizations.

In Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, UNODC provided technical support to the national research partners with initiating of the regional study on opioid overdose prevention. The study is expected to look at the feasibility and impact of expanding the availability and accessibility of community management of opioid overdose (including training and take-home naloxone) in participating countries/sites.

Within the framework of activities on increasing access to evidence-based drug dependence treatment, and comprehensive HIV prevention and care services in prisons, representatives of State Penitentiary Service and civil society organizations in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan were sensitized by UNODC on the importance of continuity of care after release from prison, as well as during the short-term detention.
PROMOTING STRATEGIC COHERENCE WITH NATIONALIZED SDGS
DELIVERING BETTER RESULTS – COHERENCE AND PARTNERSHIP

In September 2015, the UN Member States formally adopted “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In particular, the 2030 Agenda affirms explicitly that “there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development”. Therefore, UNODC remains ready to work towards the achievement of the SDGs to tackle problems such as wildlife crime, human trafficking, drug abuse, HIV and violence against women, as well as to promote health, justice and human rights. UNODC ROCA in partnership with the UN sister agencies as part of the UNCTs in the region is committed and eager to contribute to Member States’ efforts, at the normative, analytical, tactical and operational levels, to successfully implement the new agenda, monitor the process, and report on achieved progress, while working closely with the United Nations partners, regional entities, partner countries, multilateral and bilateral bodies.

One of the main joint efforts in “Delivering as One” was the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) exercise, which was implemented throughout the region in close cooperation with the UN agencies and government counterparts. These exercises were designed to initiate a process towards addressing the challenges and complexities of sustainable development collaboratively over the longer term. In 2018, UNODC ROCA, at the country level, worked with UN sister-agencies to assist in the implementation of this exercise, and collaborated with individual countries who are planning to undergo voluntary national reviews (VNRs). Two Central Asian states – Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, as well as one state from South Caucasus, Azerbaijan, committed to participating in the VNR in 2019, which creates momentum for developing capacities and interest for reporting on SDGs.

In order to ensure that the programmes of the UN agencies at the country level will be complementary and would be based on comparative advantages of each agency, as well as to have a common vision and response of the UN system to national development priorities, UNODC ROCA is closely involved in the development, implementation, and monitoring of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF) in each Central Asian state. UNODC ROCA actively participates, at the country level, in different UNDAF Result Groups, to ensure close collaboration with other members of the United Nations family, and to build on each other’s strengths to jointly contribute to the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

In order to have a more coordinated approach in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized, and to ensure that no one is left behind, UNODC ROCA supported the initiative of the Government of Uzbekistan to establish the Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund (MPHSTF) for the Aral Sea region. This initiative serves as a unique platform for international development cooperation and the mobilization of donor resources to implement integrated measures. It will allow UNODC to work collaboratively with the UN partners to achieve greater results and efficiency in delivering change for the most marginalized population in the Aral Sea region.

UNODC is the global custodian for several targets under SDGs 3, 5, 10, 11, 15, and 16. To act locally on these global targets, UNODC ROCA closely cooperates with government agencies and other international
organizations to provide support in the nationalization process of the SDGs, to adapt global targets to a country context, and to assist in developing relevant monitoring tools and mechanisms to measure progress achieved. The meeting on “Monitoring and Implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG16) and Healthy Lives (SDG 3 – targets 3.3, 3.5 & 3.8): supporting the Central Asian states, Azerbaijan and Georgia,” conducted in November 2018, is a good example of how UNODC is collaborating with governments and other UN agencies in moving forward the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. The meeting, which brought together more than 70 participants, provided an opportunity to exchange information on the imperatives of a unified approach to the implementation of the Agenda 2030.

“"It is a particular pleasure that so many neighboring countries have joined together today from the sub region of Central Asia and also from Azerbaijan and Georgia to work together, to share ideas, challenges and opportunities for achieving this ambitious, global and universal agenda 2030. We are focusing in particular on Goal 16 and Goal 3. These two goals are of tremendous importance to all countries of the region. And to achieve peace, justice and strong institutions, as well as health for all, requires the mobilization of all national partners, ministries, as well as international community." – Ms. Helena Fraser, the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan, at the meeting on “Monitoring and Implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG16) and Healthy Lives (SDG 3 – targets 3.3, 3.5 & 3.8): supporting the Central Asian states, Azerbaijan and Georgia.”

To expand and accelerate its cooperation with different state agencies and international organizations in the region, UNODC ROCA seeks to establish even closer relationship through signing memorandums of understanding (MOU). Thus, the MOU was signed between UNODC and the General Prosecutors Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at enhancing a collaboration in combatting transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, cybercrime and corruption. In 2018, UNODC ROCA closely collaborated with different international organizations, NGOs, and other bilateral partner organizations, such as OSCE, Regional Dialogue, SCO, CSTO among others.
EVIDENCE GENERATION FOR POLICY
DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT

As an organization with specialized areas of technical expertise, UNODC is committed to evidence-based operational and policy responses to address drugs, crime and terrorism related challenges. UNODC places emphasis on obtaining and using quality data and analysis and uses its research findings to feed into policy dialogue and development. The collection, analysis and dissemination of statistics undertaken or supported by UNODC, feed also into the monitoring and evaluation function of the Office by providing the baseline data necessary to measure indicators against which the impact and implementation of programmes and projects are assessed.

In 2018, UNODC ROCA continued its close collaboration with various government agencies responsible for the collection, analysis and reporting of drugs and crime related data and helped them to meet their international reporting obligations. Central Asian states were supported in the process of completing the Annual Report Questionnaire (ARQ 2017), the UN Crime Trends Survey (UN-CTS 2017), the biannual Questionnaire for the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (GLOTiP 2017) and the UN Illicit Arms Flow Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ 2016-2017). Moreover, UNODC ROCA facilitated consultations with the countries to review country data for the UNODC Global Study on Homicide (UN-GSH 2017).

Figure 8. List of National Reports in the Region (2018) submission of which was facilitated by UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UN data collection instruments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Report Questionnaire 2017 (World Drug Report)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Drug Seizures 2017 (World Drug Report)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems 2017 (Surveys of Crime Trends)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2017 (Global Trafficking in Persons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Global Study on Homicide 2017 (Global Study on Homicide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illicit Arm Flows Questionnaire 2016/2017 (Study in Firearms)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*the 2017 data was submitted in 2018
Along with support in reporting, UNODC ROCA conducted two regional workshops on producing, collecting and reporting on drugs (7-9 November 2018) and crime (4-6 December 2018) related data in Central Asia, which were aimed at increasing the knowledge and skills of government officials on existing international crime and drug statistics standards, as well as enhancing their reporting capacity. Participants of the first workshop reviewed data availability, quality and use, and discussed challenges and difficulties faced by the national focal points in the process of managing ARQ completion. The workshop contributed to increased understanding, knowledge and skills among the national focal points to improve the quality of ARQ reports. The second workshop aimed at raising awareness about the importance of establishing and applying common statistical concepts on crime and criminal justice data and providing guidance on the implementation of the International classification of crimes for statistical purposes (ICCS) across institutions and jurisdictions. A key aspect of the course included international reporting through the annual UN-CTS with a view to familiarize the participants with this global data collection instrument and raise the response rate from countries in the region. During the workshop, the participants also reviewed the practical application of the ICCS and the UN-CTS in reporting on selected indicators on violence, access to justice and corruption for monitoring targets under SDG 16: “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.”

On 26-29 March 2018, UNODC ROCA supported the Drug Research Section and the Afghan Opiate Trade Project in conducting the Research Capacity Building Training at CARICC premises in Almaty. Staff of the Afghan Customs Office, CARICC Analysts, and Central Asian states' experts participated in the training and enhanced their knowledge on core concepts of research methods, with a specific focus on drug-related research issues, including design, data collection, analysis, report writing, using the "ArcGIS" geoinformation system for creating maps and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) for data analysis.

UNODC ROCA also delivered training on “Challenges and Threats of DARKNET: Use of Analytical Software in Law Enforcement Practice (Drugs Monitoring Platform, ArcGIS and i2)” on 18-22 June 2018. The post-training assessment demonstrated that the participants improved their understanding of the Darknet and enhanced their knowledge and skills on using analytical tools (ArcGIS and i2) for analysis of the drug crime situation.

UNODC ROCA in cooperation with the Paris Pact Initiative continued to regularly update the Country Fact Sheets on all Central Asian states, in 2018. These Fact Sheets were disseminated among the participants of the Programme Steering Committee meeting held in April 2018 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Fact Sheets were also used to sensitize different partner agencies and donor organizations, in order to attract more attention to specific issues in the region.
Over the years, UNODC ROCA jointly with the Paris Pact Initiative and the Afghan Opiate Trade Project continues to manage and update the “Drugs Monitoring Platform” (DMP). The DMP is a unique global online tool for collecting, monitoring and sharing a wide range of drug-related data and features. This information includes up-to-date drug and precursor chemicals seizure news, details of drug and precursor prices and data related to poppy cultivation in Afghanistan. UNODC ROCA monitors the seizures of illicit drugs daily and enters the drug seizure details into the DMP, which provides real-time information on the illicit trafficking of opiates. By 31 December 2018, the total number of drug seizure cases at the DMP reached 204,013 entries. During the reporting period, 8,735 IDS cases were entered on the DMP; the number of unique pageviews counted 18,097; and 46 new users of the DMP registered.

Figure 9. Real Time Information at the Drugs Monitoring Platform (2018)
FORENSIC SERVICE

In the area of developing improved forensic and scientific capacity, UNODC ROCA continued to provide technical assistance to the forensic laboratories of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan to improve their quality management systems. Two drug testing laboratories of these Ministries’ forensic centres were supported to enroll and participate in the International Collaborative Exercises in 2018 (ICE 2018) within the UNODC International Quality Assurance Programme. In 2018, UNODC completed assessment of needs and gaps of the beneficiary forensic labs and provided the counterpart with the detailed recommendations to improve their compliance with the ISO/IEC 17025 standard requirements. Beneficiary labs were supported to develop and implement comprehensive action plans (road map) towards obtaining international ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation. As part of capacity building plan, UNODC delivered six interactive instructor-led training workshops, one online training session, and one-week on-the-job training for the total number of 115 staff of the forensic labs during the reporting period. Moreover, a one-week study visit to the Police Forensic Science Centre, forensic labs in Lithuania was successfully held for the Uzbek forensic labs management staff, quality managers and key personnel in March 2018.

In Kyrgyz Republic, 37 experts (35 percent women) of the State Forensic Service enhanced their knowledge on the quality management system and the application of the newly developed Quality Control Manual. Moreover, premises of the Forensic Service in Kyrgyz Republic were refurbished and equipped to ensure adequate quality of forensic expertise and improve the working conditions for over 100 forensic staff. UNODC ROCA is also planning to implement similar initiative in Turkmenistan in 2019 to strengthen the capacity of forensic service in the country.
Another important initiative that UNODC ROCA implemented in 2018 was related to the evaluation of Sub-programme 1 - Countering transnational organized crime, illicit drug trafficking and preventing terrorism of the Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019). The purpose of the cluster in-depth evaluation was to assess relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the sub-programme components. The evaluation also served as the final evaluation for UNODC projects TAJ/H03 - Tajikistan Drug Control Agency, TAJ/E24 - Strengthening control along the Tajik-Afghan border, RER/H22 – Establishment of a Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre and XAC/K22 - "Countering the traffic of opiates from Afghanistan through the Northern route via strengthening the capacity of border crossing points (BCPs) and establishment of border liaison offices (BLOs)". These projects have now been subsumed by Sub-programme 1, as part of UNODC's global shift from a project to a programmatic approach. In addition, all activities were assessed through a human rights and gender lens. The evaluation specifically assessed how gender aspects have been mainstreamed into the programme components. Moreover, the evaluation identified lessons learned and best practices and formulated the recommendations based on the findings. It is expected that findings and recommendations of this evaluation would be one of the first steps taken towards the development of next programme cycle for Central Asia.

Figure 10. Recommendations of in-depth thematic cluster evaluation:

- Give significant focus to consolidating and building on the change that has happened. Significant inroads have been made in a number of important areas, each of which has the potential for even greater impact within the framework of the regional Sub-programme.
- Attention on international cooperation remain a focus and is strengthened, particularly through further developing and implementing MoUs or similar agreements.
- Look strategically at its results framework and give particular attention to including a focus on Outcomes 3, 4 and 5 (human trafficking, terrorism and anti-money laundering).
- Specific focus be given to partnerships with other UNODC initiatives and external partners, in particular with UNODC’s Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighbouring Countries and with sister agencies within the UNDAFs.
- Sub-programme management/ leadership be resolved immediately. Sub-programme strategy, including detailed planning of initiatives and the interactions of these initiatives with other programmes, will benefit from filling the Sub-programme Coordinator position to ensure the Sub-programme has its 'driver'.
- More strategic focus on funding be developed within the Sub-programme.
- Formal exit strategy for UNODC's role in CARICC be given immediate and detailed consideration.
- Undertake a human rights and gender analysis of its focus and priorities with a view to ensuring a specific focus on human rights and gender mainstreaming in strategic planning, implementation, and reporting.
ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

In 2018, UNODC ROCA put high emphasis on advocacy and outreach strategies aimed at contributing to preventing drugs, crime, and terrorism, and promoting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region. Various information campaigns widely-observed international days, and events aimed to raise awareness of the public and encourage governments, civil society and youth to contribute to sustainable development, ensuring human rights and peaceful, just and healthy societies were implemented. Diverse tools and channels of communication were utilized in the process.

UNODC actively engaged youth, representatives of the international community, government agencies, civil society and the mass media in the region in all communication and outreach activities, which aimed to raise awareness around different topics. International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June), Nelson Mandela International Day (18 July), World Day against Trafficking in Persons (30 July), International Youth Day (12 August), International Anti-Corruption Day (9 December) were key days of joint observance.

UNODC Programme Office in Kazakhstan in cooperation with the USAID marked the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking by opening a ten-day outdoor photo exhibition entitled “Each person counts: Kazakhstanis’ stories of the world drug problem in photographs” by renown photographer, Mr. Nick Danziger. In Turkmenistan, UNODC cooperated with the Ministry of Internal Affairs to organize a festival for more than 500 people in Ashgabat, and outdoor activities for more than 400 children in the summer camps located in Ashgabat suburbs. To mark this day, UNODC in Kyrgyz Republic in partnership with the State Agency for Youth, Physical Culture and Sports of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic kicked off an awareness raising campaign on the power of sports as a tool for crime prevention: launch of four Public social advertisements (PSAs) - motivational videos
telling about preventive and protective power of sports - in three languages. PSAs aimed to fostering youth engagement in sports, and were broadcasted 5 times per day during 6 months on prime-time on 14 TV channels across Kyrgyz Republic, totaling 12,600 broadcasts.

The Central Asian states actively supported advocacy and outreach activities implemented by UNODC in the region. For the first time, the Border Guard Forces (Troops) of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan came together to facilitate a cross-border information campaign dedicated to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The awareness raising campaign on the Border-Crossing Points of four countries promoted building strong bonds in the families as an effective tool to prevent drug abuse among children and youth. The campaign reached nearly 12 000 people through dissemination
Interactions with Mass Media is a key to the advocacy strategy of UNODC in Central Asia. In 2018, UNODC ROCA closely collaborated with around 45 local television companies, 16 radio channels, 26 newspapers, and 18 foreign media to cover UNODC-supported events and activities, but also enriching the knowledge and raising awareness of the wider public on such topics as drugs, crime, human trafficking, terrorism, and HIV prevention. Overall, nearly half of the interactions with the external mass media were carried out through the internet, 27.5% - on TV, and more than 20% - on radio and printed newspapers. Moreover, in Kyrgyzstan 100 Days Against Trafficking in Persons national awareness raising campaign united youth organizations, international and state institutions. Thus over 200 events were conducted and 2 million citizens were reached through different communication channels.
Digital outreach strategies in Central Asia brought the organization significant results in 2018 and included three major internet platforms – the official website, Facebook and Twitter. Creation of a new social media account, promotion of the website through the social media, as well as proactive coverage of activities on the official website attracted a wider audience to the UNODC ROCA efforts and achievements in 2018. UNODC official website – www.unodc.org/centralasia became an active platform, which contributed to drugs, crime and terrorism prevention through the dissemination of information and advocacy materials.

The website published the articles in English and Russian, and hosted over three thousand visitors a month. The articles covered all the areas of UNODC mandate. In 2018, the website presented nearly 190 articles covering UNODC activities in the region and globally.

2018 marked the launch of a Twitter account for Central Asia and South Caucasus - @UNODC_ROCA. Established in March, the account got followed by 267 accounts during the year. The @UNODC_ROCA account is followed by more than 70 public accounts, including official pages of the national counterparts, the UN agencies and other international organizations, as well as mass media outlets. In 2018, the account reached more than 31 000 Twitter users monthly. On average, the @UNODC_ROCA account was visited 185 times every month.

In 2018, UNODC ROCA Facebook page, "UNODC in Central Asia", was introduced. The Facebook page was able to attract a number of followers and subscribers, reaching 1121 subscribers. The number of ‘likes’ also increased and reached 1037 by 31 December 2018. Furthermore, nearly 23 thousand people expressed their reaction on the page in 2018. The page users are from Central Asia, Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe, Asia and the USA.
UNODC ROCA expresses its gratitude for the donor contributions provided in 2018 by the Governments of Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Sweden, the United States of America, as well as NATO, UNAIDS, the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, and USAID for the implementation activities in the region. Furthermore, UNODC ROCA is also grateful to the Governments of Italy, Latvia, Poland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom for their in-kind contribution to the different ongoing initiatives. UNODC ROCA also expresses its appreciation for the in-kind contribution of the Governments in the region for establishment of infrastructure for ongoing programme without which it would not have been possible to fully operate.

Figure 12. Key UNODC Donors in 2018

UNODC delivered around $14.5 million worth programme in the region in 2018. Moreover, UNODC ROCA received more than 25 pledges totaling over $11.5 million for its components aimed at countering transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, crime prevention and criminal justice reform, prevention of radicalization of violence in prisons, drug use and HIV prevention, as well as at initiatives aimed at strengthening cybersecurity, the forensic services, anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism capabilities of the relevant law enforcement agencies.
In 2018, more than 62 percent of donor contributions were aimed at countering transnational organized crime, illicit drug trafficking and terrorism, while 32 percent was committed to criminal justice, crime prevention and integrity. The remaining 6 percent was pledged to drug use prevention and reintegration activities, as well as HIV prevention in addition to research and trend analysis.

**Figure 13. Pledges Received by UNODC ROCA in 2018**
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The UNODC ROCA 2018 Annual Report was prepared under the supervision of Ms. Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia. The design of the 2018 Annual Report was developed by Mr. Bekbolat Kubeev. The production of the 2018 Annual Report was coordinated by Mr. Sherzod Hoshimov with the assistance of Ms. Dariya Kudabaeva and contributions from Mr. Alexandre Schmidt, Mr. Fakhrulla Azamov, Mr. Reginald Pitts, Mr. Andrey Sleznev, Ms. Amelia Hannaford, Mr. Yusuf Kurbonov, Mr. Koen Marquering, Ms. Madina Sarieva, Mr. Batyr Geldiyev, Mr. Borikhan Shaumarov, Mr. Mirzahid Sultanov, Mr. Shakhrukh Ishankhodjaev, Ms. Olga Tkachenko, Mr. Chary Atayev, Ms. Yevgeniya Arkhipova, Mr. Muzaffar Tilavov, Mr. Shokhrulk Ibragimov, Mr. Farkhad Sabirov, Mr. Rasoul Rakhimov, Ms. Fariza Mukanova, Ms. Zhypara Rakisheva, Ms. Nazokat Kasimova, Ms. Guljakhon Amanova, Ms. Gulnar Kudyaynbergenova, Ms. Rakhima Mansurova and editing assistance by Mr. Reginald Pitts, Mr. Shakhrukh Ishankhodjaev, and Mr. Maksudjon Duliiev.