Cross-cutting issues:
Drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities

Justice Section
UNODC Division for Operations
“4. We reiterate our commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies (...)”

Chapter IV
UNGASS Outcome Document
Women

Address protective and risk factors that make women and girls vulnerable to exploitation and participation in drug trafficking

Mainstream a gender perspective in drug policies and programmes
Youth

UNGASS Outcome Document

• Effective primary prevention measures that protect youth from drug use by providing them with accurate information about the risks of drug abuse, by promoting skills and opportunities
• Access for youth to regular sports and cultural activities to promote healthy lives and lifestyles and to exchange experiences and good practices to further enhance effective preventive interventions
• Provide youth with opportunities for healthy and self-sustained lives
Alternatives to Imprisonment

Encourage alternative or additional measures to conviction or punishment and promote proportionate national sentencing policies.

Implement measures to eliminate prison overcrowding and violence.
Prison Reform

Encourage **self-assessments of confinement facilities**, taking into account the **Nelson Mandela Rules**

Implement measures aimed at addressing **prison overcrowding** and violence

Provide **capacity-building** to relevant national authorities
Ensure legal guarantees and due process in criminal proceedings, including timely **access to legal aid**
Women

Address protective and risk factors that make women and girls vulnerable to exploitation and participation in drug trafficking

Mainstream a gender perspective in drug policies and programmes
Findings from 2018 World Drug Report

A higher proportion of women than men are in prison for drug-related offences

714,000 female prisoners

35% drug offences

9.6 million male prisoners

19% drug offences

Findings from 2018 World Drug Report

- Higher proportion of women sentenced for drug-related offences than men (35% v. 19%)
- Imprisonment has worse consequences for women than men
- Upon release, women face higher stigmatization from being an ex-offender

Discrimination  Lack of Healthcare and Social Services  Social Isolation  Economic Disadvantages  Inequality
Gender-sensitive Solutions

*Recent TA Efforts by UNODC*

Sept 2017  Subregional Workshop on the implementation of the Bangkok Rules in Panama

Mar 2018  Launch of the “A Practitioner’s Toolkit on Women’s Access to Justice Programming” at Commission on the Status of Women

Sept 2018  Contribution to the International conference on women in prison
Gender-sensitive Solutions
UNODC Global Prison Challenges Programme (GLOZ85)

Upcoming

• Promotion of gender-sensitive non-custodial measures and social reintegration programmes in line with the Bangkok Rules (funded by Thailand)

• Additional financial resources would enable UNODC to support different regions
Youth

UNGASS Outcome Document

• Effective primary prevention measures that protect youth from drug use by providing them with accurate information about the risks of drug abuse, by promoting skills and opportunities
• Access for youth to regular sports and cultural activities to promote healthy lives and lifestyles and to exchange experiences and good practices to further enhance effective preventive interventions
• Provide youth with opportunities for healthy and self-sustained lives
Understanding pathways to substance use & harmful use of substances

**Protective factors**
- Caregiver involvement and monitoring
- Health and neurological development:
  - coping skills
  - emotional regulation
- Physical safety and social inclusion
- Safe neighbourhoods
- Quality school environment

**Risk factors**
- Trauma and childhood adversity
  - child abuse and neglect
- Mental health problems
- Poverty
- Peer substance use and drug availability
- Negative school climate
- Sensation seeking

Positive physical, social and mental health  
Substance use initiation  
Harmful use of substances  
Substance use disorders
Prevention through sport

Doha Declaration Implementation Program (GLOZ82)

Evidence-informed life skills program for sport settings to prevent crime and drug-use

Support policy & program development

Raise awareness on sport for crime/drugs prevention in cooperation with partners
1) Life skills.....
to strengthen youth resilience and reduce engagement in risky behaviour

- Coping with stress and emotions
- Critical thinking
- Decision making and problem solving
- Effective communication and relationship skills
- Refusal skills
- Self-awareness and empathy

2) Knowledge on crime and drug use, including perception of risk

3) Attitudes and how they are affected by their normative beliefs
roll-out in 9 countries, targeting at-risk youth

- In-depth impact assessment
  - Social activities
  - Substance use and risks
  - Attitudes etc.

Support to innovative community-led initiatives in marginalized communities

Small Grants
Approx. 10 NGOs across 3 pilot countries

Photos: UNODC / GLO 2017/18
Alternatives to Imprisonment

Encourage alternative or additional measures to conviction or punishment and promote proportionate national sentencing policies

Implement measures to eliminate prison overcrowding and violence
Treatment and Care of People with Drug Use Disorders in Contact with the Criminal Justice System: Alternatives to Conviction or Punishment

- Joint initiative with WHO to support Member States provide treatment and care as an alternative

- Technical publication launched in March 2018, which contains available options at different stages of the criminal justice process

- Provides practical information for policymakers as well as health and justice practitioners
Recent and Upcoming Technical Assistance Activities

November 2017
Legislative workshop in Cote d’Ivoire
Good practices on treatment as an alternative at various stages of the criminal justice process shared

December 2018
Training workshop in Mombasa, Kenya
Aim to enhance the knowledge and understanding among relevant health and justice professionals of ways to use treatment as an alternative to conviction or punishment of people with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system
Encourage **self-assessments of confinement facilities**, taking into account the **Nelson Mandela Rules**

Implement measures aimed at addressing **prison overcrowding** and violence

Provide **capacity-building** to relevant national authorities
Raising awareness of the Nelson Mandela Rules

Instructional placards

1. Basic principles
2. Health care
3. Legal Aid
4. Restrictions and sanctions
5. Searches

* also available in Arabic, French, Russian and Spanish
Assessing compliance with the Nelson Mandela Rules

Thematic areas

1. Basic principles
2. Safeguards
3. Material conditions
4. Safety, order and discipline
5. Prison regime
6. Health care
7. Prison staff

Methodology

36 expected outcomes
240 indicators

* also available in Arabic, French, German, Russian and Spanish
Applying the Nelson Mandela Rules

The development of an innovative e-learning course

- Tailoring of content to the target audience
- Identification of practical situations of prison life
- Filming of scenarios in prisons in different countries
- Allowing user to influence the course of action

* will also available in Arabic, French, Russian and Spanish
Access to Legal Aid

Ensure legal guarantees and due process in criminal proceedings, including timely access to legal aid
Access to legal aid as a major guarantee of due process and protection of vulnerable groups in the criminal justice system:

- Updating or developing legislation on legal aid
- Promoting national strategies on legal aid, including with a focus on groups with specific needs, such as drug users, women and children
- Capacity-building of criminal justice practitioners, legal aid providers, public defenders on access to legal aid, mechanisms for early access, reducing excessive use of pre-trial detention, including for drug users and minor drug offenders
- Currently developing a handbook on quality of legal aid services in criminal justice processes