The field-based network of the Paris Pact Research and Liaison Officers (RLOs) is made up of national staff based in UNODC offices in the Paris Pact’s “priority countries” in West and Central Asia as well as South Eastern Europe. Funding permitting, an expansion of the RLO network along key trajectories of the southern route is envisaged to increase the coverage of UNODC’s research capacity. All Paris Pact data collection and research related activities are closely integrated with the Afghan Opiate Trade Programme (AOTP), Statistics and Surveys Section (SASS), Research and Trend Analysis Branch.

1) Liaison with national counterparts
   - under the oversight of the Paris Pact Coordination Unit
   - primary point of contact in the field on behalf of the PPI on the four priority areas of the Vienna Declaration
   - supporting all aspects of the Consultative Mechanism

2) Data collection, research and analysis
   - under the technical guidance of AOTP / SASS, and complementing the network of AOTP research officers
   - gathering first-hand data on drug related issues and identifying gaps in data
   - aiming to improve available knowledge and evidence for action

3) Capacity building on data collection, analysis and geo-information systems for national counterparts
   - activities led by the Paris Pact RLOs of the Coordination and Analysis Unit (CAU) based in the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia (ROCA) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan
   - training designed to improve the generation and analysis of drug-related data at the national and regional level
   - tightly integrated with the Drugs Monitoring Platform

The RLOs’ work involves a three-pronged approach:

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