UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION UNIT

UNODC EVALUATION NEWS

June 2016

MOVING TOWARDS MEASURING IMPACT IN TERRORISM PREVENTION - BEST PRACTICES

Following last year's success, the UNODC Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) organized a new round of side events at the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ). The focus of this years' discussion was "Evaluation and Metrics: UNODC Terrorism Prevention: An example of best practice in moving towards measuring impact, with two specific cases from Colombia and Morocco" being presented where metrics had been used to measure impact and results in technical assistance in terrorism prevention.

Panel members

- Ms. Katharina Kayser, Chief IEU
- Mr. Adan Ruiz-Villalba, Deputy Chief of IEU;
- Mr. David Alamos, Terrorism Prevention Specialist, UNODC Colombia;
- Mr. Emmanuel Farhat, Programme Officer, HQ;
- Ms. Siham Al Figuigui, National Project Officer; UNODC Morocco.

Over the course of the event, presenters discussed the challenges of measuring impact in preventing terrorism and violent extremism. The cases presented depicted how interventions contributed to improvements in knowledge in targeted populations as well as its use when countering terrorism, resulting in increase of condemnatory sentences.

The panel concluded that investments in metrics along the chains of cause and effect can result in increased ownership, evidence-based decision making and thereby long-term impact, as illustrated by the presenters.

Results of the IEU feedback survey and impressions from the panel discussion

FURTHER STRENGTHENING NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITIES IN MOROCCO

In 2015, the International Year of Evaluation, Member States further positioned evaluation at the highest political levels by mainstreaming evaluation into the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), as well as adapting the UN General Assembly Resolution on National Evaluation Capacity Development (GA Resolution: 69/237) and following the "Bangkok Principles on National Evaluation Capacity for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)", adopted at the Fourth International Conference on National Evaluation Capacity Building in 2015.

Based on the results of the UNDP Baseline Study on "National Evaluation Capacities in 43 countries" IEU is currently implementing a pilot initiative through its Global Programme (GLO/H92) on strengthening national evaluation capacity (NEC) in Morocco. The general objective of this initiative consists of supporting the already strong culture of accountability in the country by enhancing its leadership in evaluating capacity building within its respective ministries. UNODC's pilot intervention will contribute to increased evaluation capacity in Morocco, enabling it to measure the results of its efforts in building capacity. **Please click on the picture (left) for further information on NEC or scan the QR-code above for the video (duration: 1:13 minutes).**

EVALUATIONS

RECENT IN-DEPTH EVALUATIONS PUBLISHED

Global SMART and Forensic Programmes
Evaluation Report, Evaluation Brief

Global Maritime Crime Programme
Evaluation Report, Evaluation Brief

Joint Action towards a Global Regime against Corruption
Evaluation Report, Evaluation Brief

Strengthening the Rule of Law, Security and Justice in Paraguay (2011-2014)
Evaluation Report (Spanish)

INDEPENDENT PROJECT EVALUATIONS PUBLISHED

Countering Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking

BRA/X63 (Evaluation Report)
TIL/X78 (Evaluation Report)
RER/E29 (Evaluation Report)
BGD/X79 (Evaluation Report)
KGZ/K50 (Evaluation Report)

Countering Corruption

MEX/Z44 (Evaluation Report)

Justice

BRA/X16 (Evaluation Report)
MEX/V27 (Evaluation Report)

Terrorism Prevention

XAP/X37 (Evaluation Report)
GLO/R35-Nigeria (Evaluation Report)

Prevention, treatment and reintegration and alternative development

ECU/Y14 (Evaluation Report)

Research and Trends Analysis

PSE/X02 (Evaluation Report)

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EVALUATION RESULTS: SMART AND FORENSIC GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

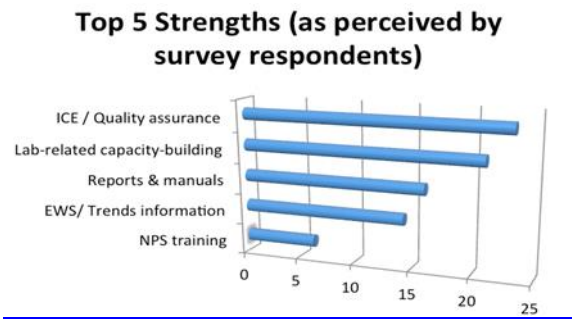
This in-depth evaluation found that both programmes – the Global Synthetics Monitoring, Analysis, Reporting and Trends Programme (SMART; GLOJ88) and the Global Scientific and Forensic Services Programme (FORENSIC; GLOU54) – have delivered results that are highly relevant to UNODC's mandates as well as of satisfaction to all stakeholders in targeted countries. Both programmes have further made a significant contribution to capacity building and are on a credible trajectory to achieve their larger objectives.

SMART has promoted greater awareness on emerging trends of new psychoactive substances (NPS), and 57 Member States had already enacted legislation with inputs from SMART by the end of 2015. FORENSIC has significantly impacted on quality assurance in forensic laboratories, and its International Collaborative Exercises (ICE) are widely appreciated. However, further expansion of the programme would require expanding its resource base and/or considering further economizing opportunities.

Both programmes have benefitted from close interaction with each other, and possibilities for their merger should be explored. Moreover, opportunities for further synergies, including regarding integration of outputs such as training events, exist and need to be explored with a greater focus.

The Laboratory and Scientific Section should therefore continue with both these successful programmes and expand its focus on underserved regions (e.g. Africa), providing tailored support to each country's needs.

Further details (please click or scan QR code):
Evaluation Report, Evaluation Brief



UNEG NORMS AND STANDARDS ADAPTED TO 2030 GOALS

More than 100 people from 46 UN agencies and partners participated in the Annual United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Evaluation Week in Geneva in April 2016.

The Annual General Meeting endorsed the revised updated UNEG Norm & Standards which take into full consideration the evolving external and internal environment, including the 2030 Sustainable development Agenda/SDGs.

Next years' Evaluation Week will be hosted by the Vienna-based International Organizations – UNODC, IAEA, UNIDO and CTBTO.

CAPACITY BUILDING: EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE

Evaluation results are often key to identifying and disseminating best practices and lessons learned, thereby leading to learning and improved knowledge management at an organizational level. This is also evident from the In-Depth Evaluation of the Global Programme on Strengthening the legal regime against terrorism (GLO/R35). The evaluation revealed a best practice in measuring medium-term outcomes as well as impact in the efforts to counter and prevent terrorism in the UNODC Country Office in Colombia (which was also presented at the CCPCJ side event).

Based on this best practice, IEU will engage in 2016 in extracting from evaluation reports, best practices as well as lessons learned in capacity building in UNODC. This will not only foster a culture of sharing knowledge, but also ensure that best practices are seen, analyzed and transferred.

Mock up Investigation on Financing Terrorism. Preliminary Hearings, Colombia

Further details (please click):
UNODC Evaluation Meta Analysis 2015
Observatory of Jurisprudence in Colombia

UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION UNIT

Status of the OECD/DAC-UNEG Peer Review

UNODC volunteered to undergo an OECD/DAC-UNEG Professional Peer Review in 2015/2016, where UNODC's maturity in terms of evaluation was assessed by a panel of four reviewers from other UN evaluation functions as well as the OECD/DAC network. Currently, the Peer Review Panel is finalizing the draft report and the results will be presented within the next couple of months.

Evaluation ToR and new evaluation budgeting tool

IEU has reviewed and fully **revised the templates and guidelines for Evaluation Terms of Reference**, thereby ensuring that human rights, gender as well as the Sustainable Development Goals are further mainstreamed into the evaluation process. Moreover, IEU has further invested in developing tools to support Project Managers in planning for evaluations, including the "**Evaluation budget planning tool**". It facilitates calculations and provides for estimates on evaluation costs based on various indicators (number of countries; topics; duration; budget; etc.). All documents are available on the IEU website.

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