

2018 Highlights at a glance

UNODC's Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section (HTMSS) is a source of global expertise in responding to trafficking in persons (TIP), smuggling of migrants (SOM) and related crimes.

HTMSS seeks to support countries to effectively reduce human trafficking and migrant smuggling; the harm to trafficking victims; and the number, strength, reach, profits and assets of migrant smuggling and human trafficking networks.

We also provide cutting-edge knowledge development and expertise through targeted research and analysis, drawing upon a wide "community of practice". These are trusted groups of practitioners; a repository of knowledge and good practices which members then apply and share through their own networks or workplaces.

HTMSS's *Global Programme against Trafficking in Persons (GLOT59)*, *Global Programme against the Smuggling of Migrants (GLOT92)*, and *Global Action to Prevent and Address TIP and SOM (GLO.ACT)* are the main vehicles to achieve these objectives.

HTMSS Global Programmes are implemented in close cooperation with UNODC field offices and provide seed funding and expertise for the development of large programmes against TIP and SOM delivered by the field.

2018 Highlights

261 Technical cooperation activities organized or contributed to at the national and regional level.

25 Countries provided with direct capacity building assistance; 80 countries represented in capacity building activities at national and regional levels.

OVER 4,500 Practitioners, government officials and civil society representatives trained.

5 Standard-setting, technical cooperation tools and publications developed or contributed to.

2,313 Cases analysed and included in UNODC case law databases on TIP (106 jurisdictions) and SOM (43 jurisdictions).

145 Web-stories published on UNODC/HTMSS and GLO.ACT web pages.

615,232 Page views of the UNODC/HTMSS and GLO.ACT web pages.

OVER 1,000 Tweets on the HTMSS and GLO.ACT Twitter accounts in one year.

What we do



HTMSS technical cooperation programmes seek to enable countries to implement the The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its supplementing TIP and SOM Protocols. HTMSS programmes include capacity development (trainings, ToT, e-Learning, mentoring, establishment of specialized centers, regional and trans-regional cooperation); knowledge base expansion (policy analysis, needs and gaps assessments, data collection and information sharing); strategy and policy development; prevention and awareness raising; ratification and legislative assistance.



HTMSS delivers expert advice, contributes to strategy development and inter-agency policy coordination. HTMSS provides substantive support to UN bodies and processes such as the Security Council, the General Assembly and the ECOSOC/Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), as well as the UNTOC Conference of the Parties and it's Working Groups on TIP and SOM.



HTMSS launches, develops and manages knowledge tools, consultations and initiatives including research and analysis on the implementation of the Protocols by UN Member States and seeks the establishment of partnerships with other UN agencies as well as academia and civil society.

HTMSS is UNODC's expert hub against trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants providing expert guidance and policy advice to other UNODC offices at HQ and the field. It works closely with research and advocacy to ensure consistency of analysis and public messages.

Technical cooperation: working with countries to effectively address TIP and SOM

Through its three Global Programmes, HTMSS supports the capacity development of UN Member States to improve national and regional responses against TIP and SOM. This includes legislative assistance to bring legal frameworks in line with the Convention and the Protocols, strategic planning and policy development, improvement of law enforcement and judicial responses, as well as protection of, and support to victims of trafficking. Some of the direct impact of HTMSS' technical cooperation programmes in 2018 include:

More than 20 people liberated from forced labour in Brazil. This was the result of a police operation carried out as part of a UNODC training with a special focus on investigation of trafficking in persons for forced labour, held in Sao Paulo. The operation, named "Project Eleutheria" involved labour inspectors, labour prosecutors and police officers and agents that were deployed in actual investigations of trafficking for forced labour cases in the city. The operation followed a 3-day workshop on the concept of trafficking in persons and Brazil's legal framework.



National curricula on SOM developed in North Macedonia and Serbia and used to deliver HTMSS [Training of Trainers \(ToT\) workshops](#). Ensuring sustainability and lasting impact, HTMSS mentored the trainers in delivering pilot training workshops. Subsequently these trainers

were able to deliver training independently to other criminal justice and law enforcement practitioners in their countries.



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Networks of prosecutors established in Egypt and Morocco. 21 prosecutors, representing every Court of Appeal in Morocco, have been trained on the investigation and prosecution of complex human trafficking cases, in implementation of Morocco's anti-trafficking legislation ([Law 27-14](#)). Similarly, a [series of workshops in Egypt](#), implemented in collaboration with The Office of Egypt's Prosecutor General, created a community of practice amongst Egypt's national prosecutors.



The first conviction for Trafficking in Persons for domestic servitude was handed down in Colombia in September 2018. The case was led by a Prosecutor who was part of UNODC's community of practice. The court based the conviction on evidence of recruitment, transfer, exploitation and the concept of abuse of a

position of vulnerability referencing UNODC's relevant [Issue Paper](#) ("Abuse of a position of vulnerability and other "means" within the definition of trafficking in persons") in the judicial decision.



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non-criminalization of smuggled migrants and victims of human trafficking, as well the inclusion of assistance provisions for victims of human trafficking. The laws also make specific reference to women and children, increasing sentences for perpetrators of the crime when women and children are the victims of human trafficking. HTMSS continues to raise awareness about the new laws among key stakeholders across the country.



Support to countries to become States Parties to the SOM Protocol. Sudan became the latest State Party in 2018 following UNODC [Regional Pre-ratification and Accession Workshop to the UNTOC and Protocols thereto](#). The workshop was part of a series of activities organized by UNODC at the request of countries that consider becoming parties to UNTOC and its Protocols. The Workshop took place at UNODC HQ in Vienna with representatives from nine Eastern African States (Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda).



New [National Plans of Action](#) launched. In Cabo Verde, the Government endorsed a National Action Plan against TIP following a consultative meeting facilitated and supported by HTMSS. Within the framework of the National Plan, the Ministry of Justice and Work created an Observatory on trafficking in persons. Similarly, [Brazil's National Secretariat of Justice launched the 3rd National Action Plan against TIP supported by GLO.ACT](#). This four-year plan includes 58 targets across six thematic areas: policy management, information management, capacity building, accountability, victim assistance, public awareness and prevention.

[New laws on the prevention of TIP and on the prevention of SOM were approved by Pakistan's National Assembly in 2018](#). The two laws were drafted by the Federal Investigation Agency in cooperation with UNODC and on the basis of UNODC's model laws on Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants. In addition to incorporating the Protocol's provisions, the laws acknowledge the





The first [Africa-Europe Conference on International Judicial Cooperation in Investigation and Prosecution of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling](#) took place in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt with GLO.ACT support. The Conference resulted in the adoption of a series of **recommendations**, through which participating countries pledged to enhance efforts for international cooperation in transnational organized crimes, in particular TIP and SOM, but also related crimes such as money-laundering.



In [Malawi](#), a [district \(Mchinji\) Anti-Trafficking Committee established and trained by UNODC rescued more than 60 trafficking victims](#). As a result of the Committee's actions, Mchinji District is now witnessing an increased flow of information on human trafficking, as evidenced by the number of cases registered, victims rescued, and perpetrators arrested in 2018.

Awareness raising

In Kyrgyz Republic, GLO.ACT piloted a **nationwide awareness raising campaign called "100 days against Trafficking in Persons"**. The campaign was led by 80 youth leaders in all seven regions of the country and Osh city with the support of the State Agency for Youth, Physical Training and Sport and the State Migration Service. It involved over 60,000 people and about 5,000 young leaders who delivered the nationwide awareness raising campaign activities. During the campaign authorities reported a 14% increase of calls to the national hotline. Access the campaign brochure [here](#) and watch the campaign video [here](#).



Based on the successful experience in the Kyrgyz Republic, [GLO.ACT supported a nationwide public awareness campaign against TIP and SOM in Pakistan](#). The campaign increased awareness on the risks, issues and challenges associated with TIP and SOM, developed community-led prevention efforts and launched a national discourse on the topic to increase the engagement of policy makers. Access the campaign brochure [here](#) and watch the campaign video [here](#).



Technical cooperation priorities for 2019

- Launch of the second phase of EU-UNODC's Global Action against TIP and SOM to support national and regional efforts in Asia and the Middle East.
- Strengthen technical cooperation programmes against trafficking in persons with a specific focus on TIP for sexual exploitation and child trafficking by terrorist and armed groups.
- Develop new technical cooperation pillars against the misuse of new information and communication technologies and against illicit financing deriving from trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.
- Strengthen UNODC capacity to act locally through the placement of regional anti-trafficking and anti-smuggling of migrants mentors in selected locations.
- Launch a new integrated global programme against TIP and SOM merging existing separate global programmes, to improve services delivered to Member States.
- Implement the findings of the final in-depth independent evaluation of the first phase of GLO.ACT.



Highlights of our intergovernmental and inter-agency work and policy contributions

The Global Compact for Migration

Since 2016, HTMSS spearheaded UNODC's contribution to the **Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

Throughout 2018, HTMSS continued to engage in discussions on the finalization of the Global Compact (Resolution A/RES/71/1) and the establishment of a **UN Network on Migration** to coordinate UN support to Member States for the implementation of the Compact focusing on technical assistance in the field. In recognition of the importance of its mandates, UNODC was appointed to the Network's Executive Committee.



The Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons

Representing UNODC, HTMSS continues to act as the Coordinator of [ICAT](#), the UN's coordination body against trafficking in persons.

On 2 May 2018, HTMSS organized [the first-ever meeting of Principals of ICAT](#) convened by UNODC. The meeting brought together 21 out of 23 ICAT agencies for the first-time, including 10 at principal level. The meeting resulted in a strong commitment for improved coordination, a significant increase in ICAT membership, and an achievements paper published, along with an overview of each ICAT agency's work on TIP.

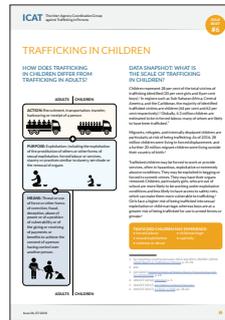
- In 2018, HTMSS also organized and substantively contributed to 5 ICAT briefings and side events in New York and Vienna, including [a high-level side-event](#) on the margins of the 9th session of the UNTOC COP.



Joint ICAT Issue Briefs



[The Role of the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\) in Combating Trafficking in Persons.](#)



[Trafficking in Children published to coincide with World Day against Trafficking in Persons on 30 July 2018.](#)

In 2018 HTMSS continued to provide substantive support to the work of intergovernmental bodies and processes, including servicing the:

- 27th session of the **Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)**
- 9th session of the **Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC COP)**
- 8th Session of the **Working Group on TIP**
- 5th session of the **Working Group on SOM**

HTMSS respectively coordinated the drafting and prepared the following reports:

- [UNTOC COP Report of the 8th meeting of the Working Group on TIP;](#)
- [UNTOC COP Report of the 5th meeting of the Working Group on SOM;](#)
- [UNTOC COP Report of the Secretariat on Activities of the UNODC to promote and support the implementation of the TIP Protocol;](#)
- [UNTOC COP Report of the Secretariat on Activities of the UNODC to promote and support the implementation of the SOM Protocol;](#) and provided inputs to:
- [The Report of the COP to the UNTOC on its 9th session.](#)



A historic achievement of the 9th session of the UNTOC COP held on 15-19 October 2018 was the passing of the resolution for the [Establishment of the mechanism for the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto](#)

Contributing to the global discourse against TIP and SOM through reporting

In 2018 HTMSS provided inputs to more than 20 Secretary-General and General Assembly reports ensuring that TIP and SOM are properly addressed. These included:

- 8th report of the Secretary-General on “the threat posed by ISIL (Da’esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat” pursuant to Security Council resolution 2368 (2017);
- Report of the Secretary General on “trafficking in persons in armed conflict” pursuant to Security Council resolution 2388 (2017);
- Secretary-General’s ongoing internal UN consultations regarding how best to configure the UN system regarding migration, in follow up to his report “Making Migration Work for All” (A/72/643);
- Secretary-General’s report on “Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation activity”;
- Annual Report of the Secretary-General on “Sexual Violence in Conflict”;
- Secretary-General’s report on “Trafficking in Women and Girls”.

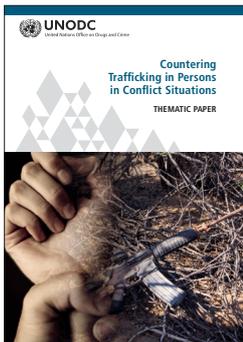
Intergovernmental, inter-agency work and policy priorities for 2019

- Further enhance ICAT as the UN’s main coordination body against TIP (in close cooperation with ICAT’s 2019 Co-Chairs: OSCE and UN Women).
- Strengthen engagement with the UN Migration Network’s Executive Committee to promote implementation of the GCM chapters on TIP and SOM as well as with SDG-related international initiatives such as Alliance 8.7.
- Successfully support the TIP and SOM Working Group sessions of the 9th UNTOC CoP.
- Support public advocacy for the 2019 World Day against TIP with a specific focus on trafficking in persons in conflict and war zones.
- Continue leading and contributing as required, to various UN reports to the General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC CCPCJ.
- Provide policy guidance and contributions to UN and other international processes to ensure that TIP and SOM are sufficiently addressed including: CEDAW in its General Recommendation on “Trafficking in Women and Girls in the Context of Global Migration”; and the Anti-Trafficking in Humanitarian Action Task Team (TT) of the UN Global Protection Cluster (GPC).



Knowledge development and management

Over the years HTMSS developed a wealth of practical tools and publications raising awareness and providing guidance to practitioners and civil society on TIP and SOM. In 2018, HTMSS developed:



A [Thematic Paper on “Countering Trafficking in Persons in Conflict Situations”](#) prepared in response to [Security Council Resolution 2331 \(2016\)](#) and [Resolution 2388 \(2017\)](#). In October 2018, the UNSG Chef de Cabinet advised all UN agencies to use this publication in related work. This tool was downloaded more than 12,900 times in less than a year.



A new [Issue Paper on The International Legal Definition of Trafficking in Persons](#) to guide criminal justice practitioners based on three earlier technical issue papers and one guidance note regarding specific elements of the legal definition of trafficking in persons and UNODC underlying practical experience in over 30 jurisdictions.

Knowledge development and management priorities for 2019

- Update UNODC’s [Model Law against Trafficking in Persons](#) and the [Legislative Guide to the United Nations Trafficking in Persons Protocol](#) to ensure that they are aligned with recent policy developments and best practices.
- Publish a Handbook on International Legal Cooperation in Trafficking in Persons Cases to support closer cross-border cooperation especially regarding witness protection.
- Publish an Issue Paper providing analysis and guidance on the links between trafficking in persons and exploitative marriage.
- Continue to produce and disseminate qualitative information on the prosecution of human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases (www.unodc.org/cld) and issues of particular importance such as on the involvement of women in the smuggling of migrants.
- Develop partnerships with academia and promote education on the rule of law, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, through the use of targeted tertiary education teaching modules, videos, regional modules and other supporting material.

Education for Justice Initiative (E4J)



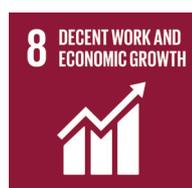
HTMSS continues to collaborate with UNODC's Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration and contribute to the achievement of SDG Target 4.7 through the [Education for Justice Initiative \(E4J\)](#). The E4J initiative seeks to enhance teaching on UNODC mandate areas at primary, secondary and tertiary educational levels including [online teaching modules](#). HTMSS led the initiatives and developed 14 teaching modules for tertiary level institutions [on TIP and SOM](#).

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the General Assembly in 2015, contain multiple targets aiming to foster regular and safe migration, eradicate human trafficking and combat organized crime. HTMSS' work supports the achievement of SDGs and contributes particularly to the achievement of the following targets:



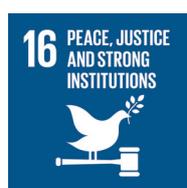
5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual, and other types of exploitation.



8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.



10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.



16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children.

16.4: By 2030 significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen recovery and return of stolen assets, and combat all forms of organized crime.



17.9: Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.



HTMSS cooperates with SDG-related initiatives like Alliance 8.7, a global partnership for achieving Target 8.7 by increasing collaborative action, driving innovation and scaling up solutions that work; and providing a platform to engage in dialogue and to share knowledge and information. HTMSS engaged in two Global Coordination Group Meetings, including the 3rd Global Coordinating Group (GCG) Meeting in 2018.

HTMSS actions have often multiple effects advancing more than a single SDG target. The [Ibero-American network of specialized prosecutors against TIP and SOM, recently named REDTRAM](#) is a concrete example of HTMSS contribution to the 2030 agenda. The Network is a platform of cooperation that allows for active exchanges on regional TIP and SOM trends and provides channels of direct and informal cooperation on actual cases. This operational arrangement directly contributes to SDG 17 and in particular to target 17.16. Furthermore, the Joint Investigation Teams of REDTRAM enabled countries to investigate specific cases of TIP and SOM in the region, thus making significant, mutually reinforcing progress on SDG Target 8.7 and SDG Target 16.2. Overall, increased regional cooperation has also helped facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration, and better implementation of migration policies, thus contributing to SDG Target 10.7, as well as creating the underlying conditions for progress on SDG Target 5.2. In 2018, the network received 5 requests for cooperation, an increase from the past two years.



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