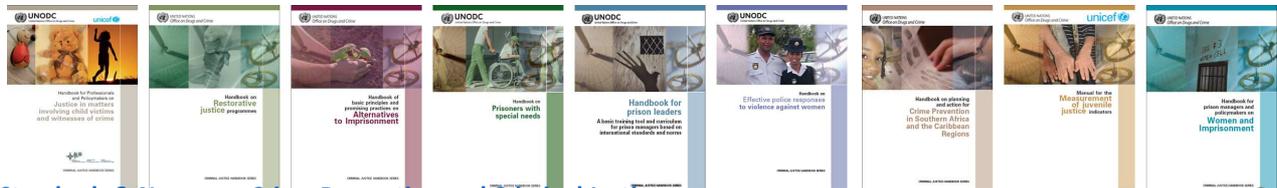




Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Tools Catalogue



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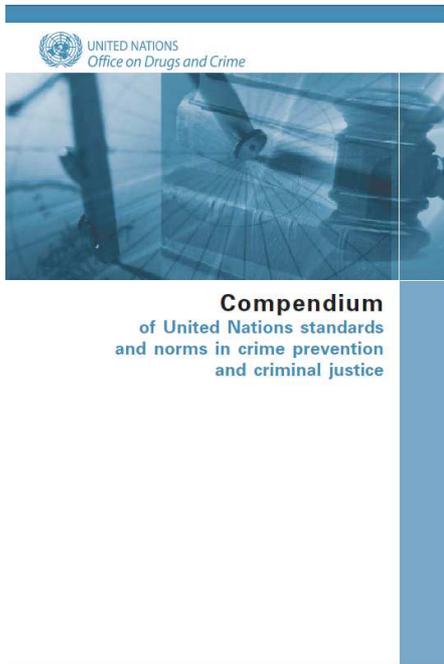
- Checklist to the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

Gender in the Criminal Justice System 19

- Handbook on Effective Police Responses to Violence Against Women
- Training Curriculum on Effective Police Responses to Violence Against Women
- Handbook on Women and Imprisonment (1st edition)
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- Handbook on Women and Imprisonment (2nd edition)
- Handbook on effective prosecution responses to violence against women and girls
- Strengthening Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses to Violence against Women



STANDARDS & NORMS ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

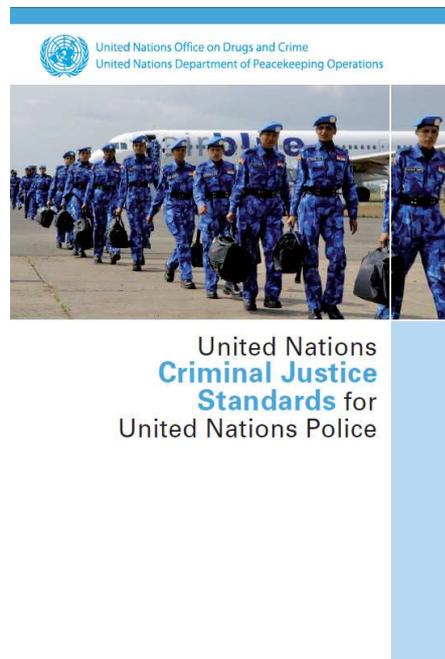


Over the years the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice have provided a collective vision of how criminal justice system should be structured. Despite their “soft-law” nature, the standards and norms have made a significant contribution to promoting more effective and fair criminal justice structures in three dimensions. Firstly, they can be utilized at the national level by fostering in-depth assessments leading to the adoption of necessary criminal justice reforms. Secondly, they can help countries to develop subregional and regional strategies. Thirdly, globally and internationally, the standards and norms represent “best practices” that can be adapted by States to meet national needs.

Available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish. Portuguese and Farsi (unofficial UN translation)

Building peace requires more than simply bringing an end to armed conflict; it also requires strengthening the rule of law. The international standards and norms summarized in the present handbook can assist in this critical process. The handbook summarizes the international human rights and criminal justice principles that United Nations police personnel must know, abide by and promote when deployed in peacekeeping operations and special political missions. As such, it is designed to serve a dual purpose. Firstly, it is a code of conduct for police operating under the United Nations flag. Secondly, it is a reference source to help national authorities to improve policing.

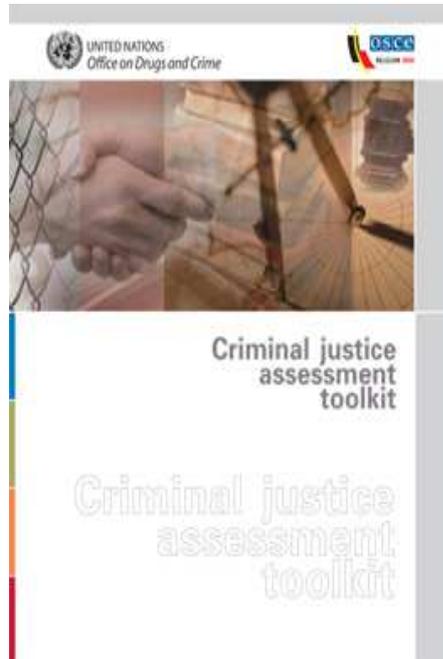
Available in English and French





CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit is a standardized and cross-referenced set of tools designed to enable United Nations agencies, government officials engaged in criminal justice reform, as well as other organizations and individuals to conduct comprehensive assessments of criminal justice systems; to identify areas of technical assistance; to assist agencies in the design of interventions that integrate United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice; and to assist in training on these issues. The Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit is a practical guide intended for use by those charged with the assessment of criminal justice systems and the implementation of criminal justice reform.



The Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit has been designed to be a dynamic set of documents that continue to meet assessment needs as they evolve basis. The Tools have been grouped within criminal justice system sectors, with the first four sectors as follows: Policing; Access to Justice; Custodial and Non-Custodial Measures; and Cross-Cutting Issues. The Tools are organized thematically, both to ensure ease of use and to assist the assessor in understanding the key issues confronting the system being assessed.

Available in English, French, Spanish and Russian



INTRODUCTION

Introducing the Toolkit

Decision points map in the criminal justice system

POLICING



1. Public Safety and Police Service Delivery English, Spanish, Russian
2. The Integrity and Accountability of the Police English, Spanish, Russian
3. Crime Investigation English, Spanish, Russian
4. Police Information and Intelligence Systems English, Spanish, Russian
5. Forensic services and infrastructure, English

ACCESS TO JUSTICE



1. The Courts English, Spanish, Russian
2. The Independence, Impartiality and Integrity of the Judiciary English, Spanish, Russian
3. The Prosecution Service English, Spanish, Russian
4. Legal Defence and Legal Aid English, Spanish, Russian

CUSTODIAL AND NON-CUSTODIAL MEASURES



1. The Prison System English, Spanish, Russian
2. Detention Prior to Adjudication English, Spanish, Russian
3. Alternatives to Incarceration, English, Russian
4. Social Reintegration, English, Russian

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



1. Criminal Justice Information English, Spanish, Russian
2. Juvenile Justice English, Spanish, Russian
3. Victims and Witnesses English, Spanish, Russian
4. International Cooperation English, Spanish, Russian
5. Crime Prevention Assessment Tool English, French, Spanish, Portuguese
6. Gender in the Criminal Justice System Assessment Tool, English

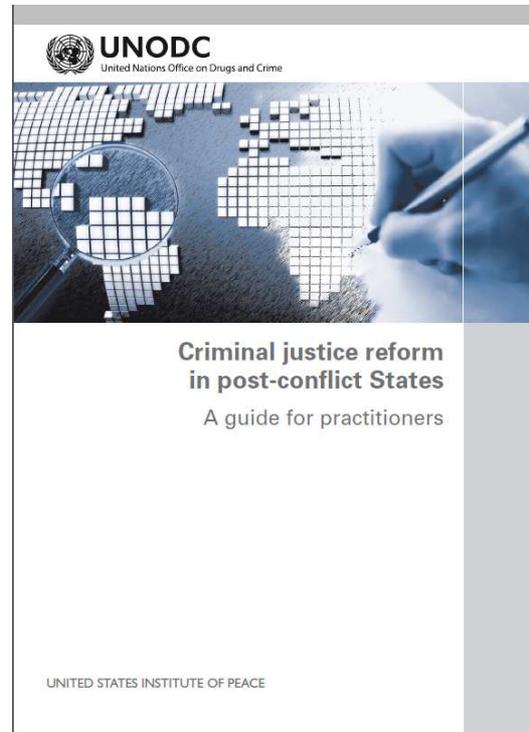


The Guide for Practitioners on Criminal Justice Reform in Post-conflict States is intended to introduce individuals whose experience in promoting the rule of law may be limited—whether in extent or scope—to different elements of criminal justice reform and, therefore, would help them see the entire landscape of criminal justice reform. Previous studies by other organizations have explored, often in great depth, specific areas of criminal justice reform, but this Guide seeks to examine the full breadth of activity, from policing to courts to prisons, from the formal justice system to customary courts to civil society.

The Guide’s chief ambition is not to offer detailed, specialized advice to specialists—to guide experts in, say, prisons through the complex terrain of prison reform. Instead, this guide aims to provide a general overview and to enable specialists in all areas to think outside the box, to see their own activity within the broad context of the criminal justice reform process.

Although the Guide has been designed for post-conflict countries, it provides a general feedback and guidance on criminal justice reform issues which goes beyond the post-conflict scenario.

Available in English



Combating violence against migrants

Criminal justice measures to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families and to protect victims

Violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families is a problem that affects many States around the world. Although most migration is peaceful, the movement of people from one location to another can lead to situations of mistrust, misunderstanding and misuse of power which can manifest through violence. Migrants, migrant workers and their families are vulnerable to abuse, violence and exploitation throughout the entire process of migration, from preparation to departure, transit and of course during their stay in countries of destination.

With a view to assist Member States in the implementation of General Assembly Resolution 67/185 on “Promoting efforts to eliminate violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families”, UNODC, in cooperation with IFRC, developed this technical tool to assist States in their efforts to combat such violence. It is offered to legislators, policy makers and criminal justice practitioners as well as others working to prevent violence against migrants, to investigate and prosecute its perpetrators and assist and to protect migrant victims. The tool offers a set of ten key measures and recommendations for action in accordance with

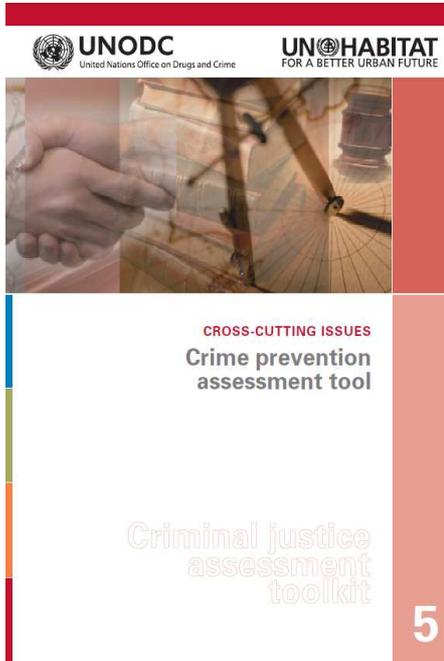
international norms and standards. Additionally, good practice examples of legislative, policy and institutional measures from around the world and useful resources are offered.

Available in English



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

CRIME PREVENTION

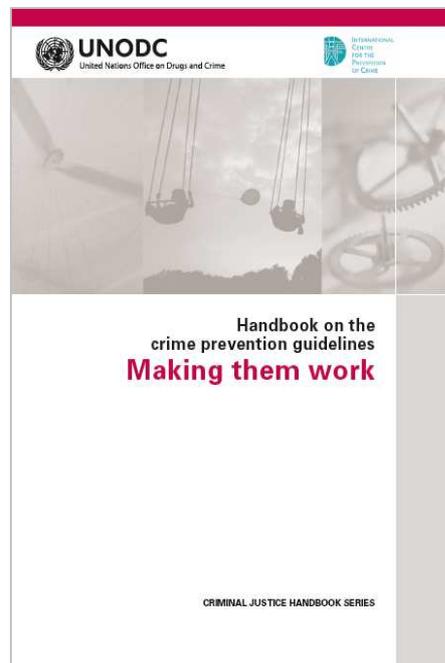


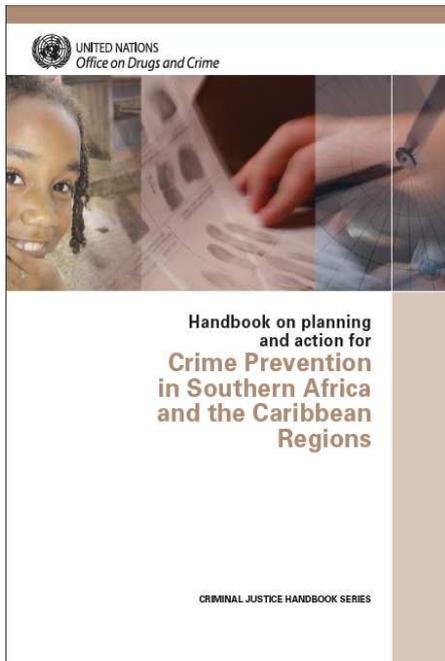
The Crime Prevention Assessment Tool, which has been developed as part of the Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit, addresses **crime prevention** for the first time from a national, provincial and local/municipal perspective, with a view to providing a tool for overall assessment and the basis for integrated needs assessment and programme design. The overall purpose of the Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit is to aid in the assessment of country needs in the areas of criminal justice and crime prevention so that appropriate and effective technical assistance can be provided.

Available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese

The Handbook covers the basic principles of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime and explores the range of approaches to crime prevention that now exist, and the main recommendations on organizing a crime prevention strategy or programme based on these principles. It includes information on the kinds of methods and tools that can be utilized and are becoming increasingly available.

Available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish



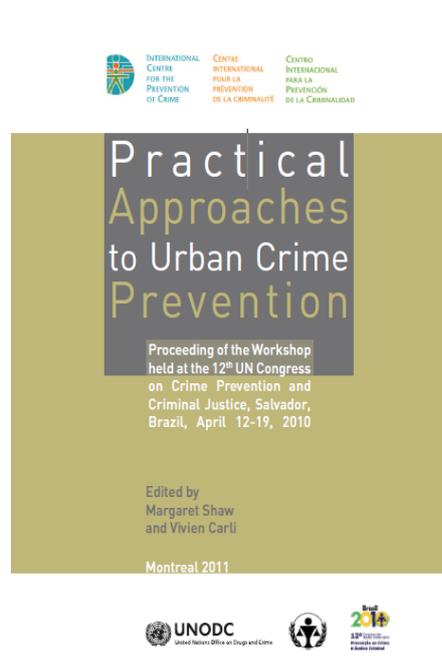


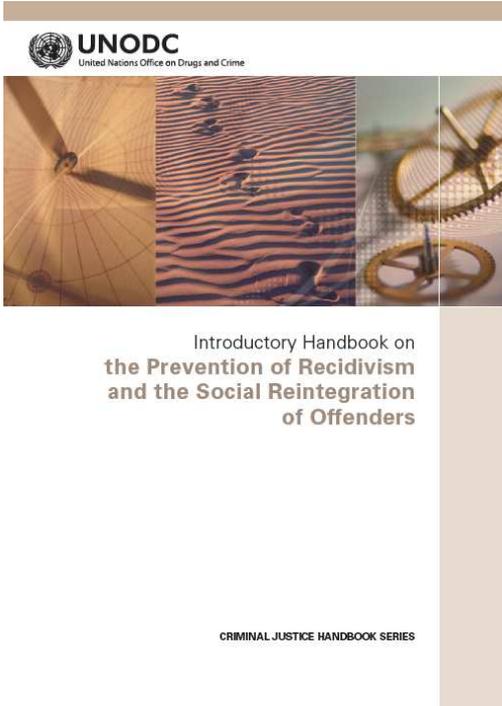
The handbook is one of the outcomes of the United Nations project on “South-South Regional Cooperation for Determining Best Practices for Crime Prevention in the Developing World”. The “South-South” crime prevention cooperation project identified a total of 40 crime prevention projects (20 in Southern Africa and 20 in the Caribbean) to be reviewed, with the aim of building and enhancing the crime prevention knowledge base. These projects were reviewed and the lessons learned are reflected in the handbook.

Available in English

The Workshop on practical approaches to urban crime prevention during the 12th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Salvador, Brazil, April 2010, was a very concrete example of the expanding international interest in crime prevention. It demonstrated the increasing range and depth of understanding of the need for strategic prevention, and the effectiveness of specific approaches. It presented successful crime prevention policies and strategies in mega-cities and high crime-rate cities including Sao Paulo, Brazil, Lagos, Nigeria and Cairo, Egypt. It also discussed responses to social exclusion and migration and tools to support crime prevention. Most importantly, it presented concrete examples of how collaboration between urban planners, civil society, government officials, and different types of police can help to prevent crime.

Available in English



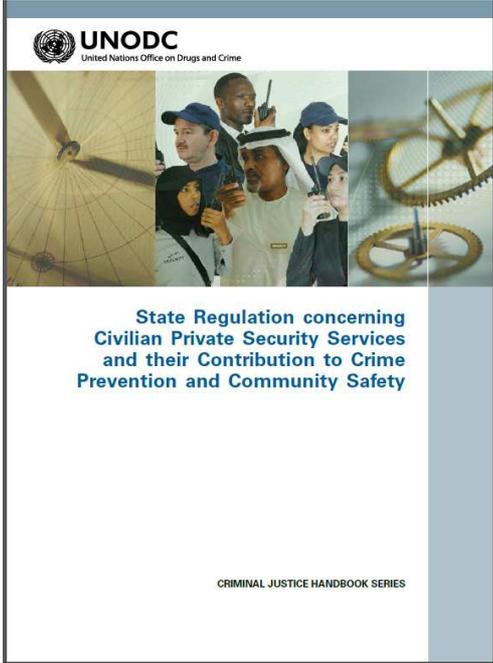


The Introductory Handbook on the Prevention of Recidivism and the Social Reintegration of Offenders is part of a series of practical tools developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to support countries in preventing crime, implementing criminal justice reforms and strengthening the rule of law. These tools are meant to assist them in implementing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The Introductory Handbook emphasizes the crucial importance of effective programmes and measures to supervise and assist offenders and support their social reintegration for the prevention of recidivism. Incarcerated offenders face some very real challenges at the time of their release, and communities become unsafe when offenders with high risk and needs are released without adequate preparation, supervision or support.

Available in English, French and Spanish

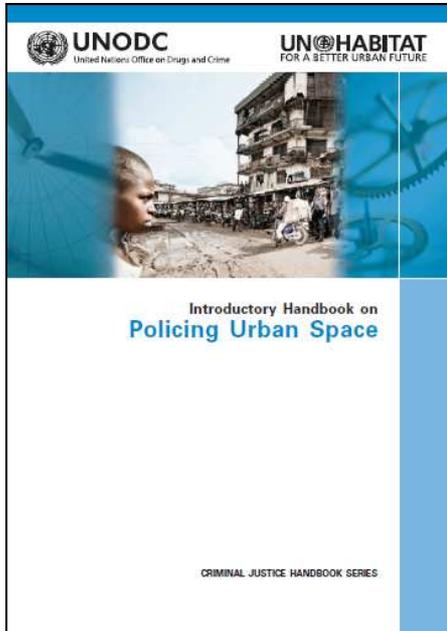
In a growing number of States around the world, providers of civilian private security services offer a variety of services in the area of community safety and crime prevention. This Introductory Handbook on State Regulation concerning Civilian Private Security Services and Their Contribution to Crime Prevention and Community Safety is designed to provide practical guidance for legislators and policymakers seeking to regulate the civilian private security industry. It focuses on the specific role of civilian private security services in crime prevention and community safety, and the measures that States can take to regulate these services effectively and set standards and norms in the best interests of all stakeholders. The Introductory Handbook provides examples of self-regulation and other international good practice and is anchored in existing internationally agreed standards concerning human rights, security, crime prevention and community safety, as well as the results of the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to date.

Available in English





POLICE REFORM

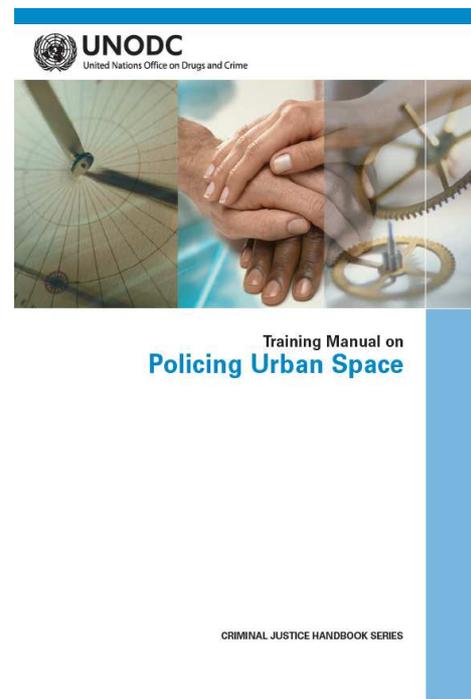


The Introductory Handbook on Policing Urban Space addresses the crime prevention and community safety problems in the growing cities of low- and middle-income countries and how collaboration between urban planners, civil society, government officials and different types of police can help to solve those problems. It also examines a variety of crime control strategies, including community-oriented policing, problem-oriented policing, intelligence-led policing, situational crime prevention, the “broken windows” theory and the strategy on crime prevention through environmental design. It includes examples of efforts to control crime in an array of countries, including Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Available in English, French and Portuguese

The Training Manual on Policing Urban Space has been designed to assist police working in urban areas within low- and middle-income countries to develop crime prevention knowledge and skills. The Manual focuses on the dynamics of urban spaces particular to low- and middle-income countries, and outlines the importance of prevention and multi-sector collaboration in advancing urban safety. Prevention as a topic as well as a strategy is integrated into the manual to ensure continuous reflection throughout the training. This also includes a prevention approach that is gender-sensitive and grounded in internationally recognized human rights principles and instruments. The Manual should be used alongside the Introductory Handbook on Policing Urban Space, prepared by UNODC and UN-HABITAT in 2011, which offers key information for trainers.

Available in English and Spanish



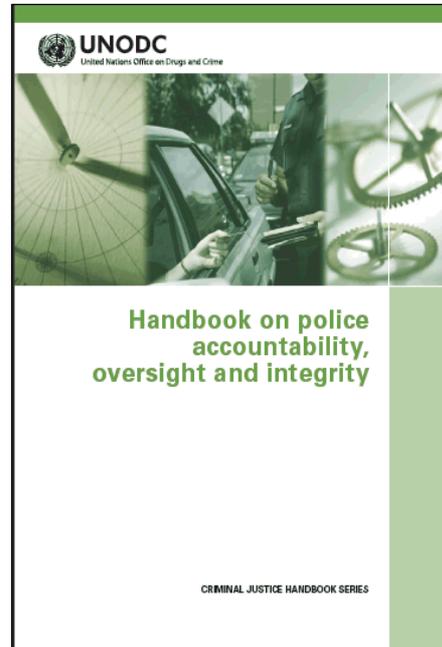


UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The handbook aims to assist countries in their efforts to develop effective police oversight and accountability systems within their law enforcement structures. Tasks that involve law enforcement require a high degree of integrity within police agencies. The handbook provides guidance on how to deal with complaints from the public regarding policing activities, e.g. complaints on how investigations are handled and follow-up by police officers.

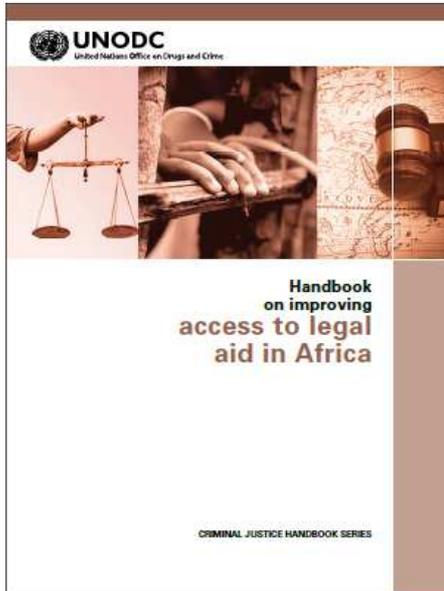
While the handbook emphasizes that the key players in enhancing police accountability are police officers themselves, it also describes an integrated approach that involves different actors in this system, including government representatives, the parliament, the judiciary, civil society and independent oversight bodies such as national human rights institutions.

Available in English



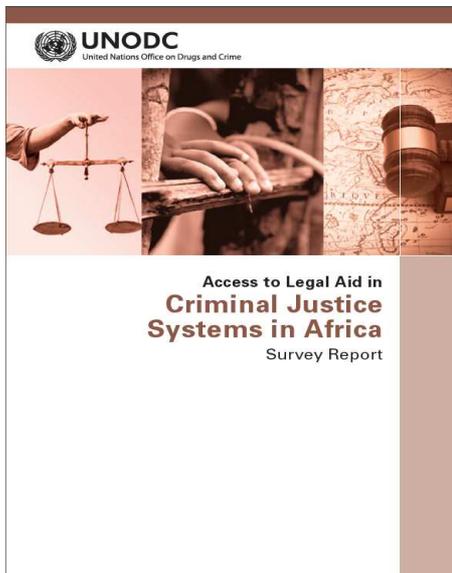


ACCESS TO LEGAL DEFENCE AND LEGAL AID



The Handbook on Improving Access to Legal Aid in Africa was developed to address the need recognized in ECOSOC resolution 2007/24 on international cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa. The Handbook provides an overview of the progress that has been made towards improving access to legal aid services in criminal justice systems in Africa in order to assist policymakers, practitioners and all stakeholders actively involved in criminal justice reform in three ways: by providing the general information needed for developing national legal aid service delivery strategies, by offering alternatives to conventional models of legal aid delivery and by outlining promising practices on the continent, some particularly suitable for post-conflict societies.

Available in English



The aim of this survey is to provide a snapshot of access to legal aid in Africa. The purpose is to provide practitioners and policy makers with accurate and contemporary data to inform the development of legal aid strategies. The survey was conducted in 2009-2010 as part of the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/24, entitled “International cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa”.

Available in English



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

This paper explores the legal, policy, and practical issues involved in creating and maintaining “child friendly” legal aid programs in Africa. International and regional conventions, declarations, and rules contain references to states’ obligations to provide legal assistance to children. These normative instruments, however, do not discuss the unique attributes and needs of child clients, nor the skills that legal assistance providers must have in order to effectively deliver child friendly legal aid. This paper focuses on the link between emerging research on child and adolescent development and the importance of structuring legal assistance schemes in ways that take into account children’s developmental immaturity and their evolving capacities over the span of childhood after discussing the key components of child-friendly legal aid, the paper turns to an examination of the core competencies of individual service providers. These core competencies, grounded in the psychological, social and cultural dynamics affecting children, include effective interviewing, investigation, counseling, negotiation and advocacy.

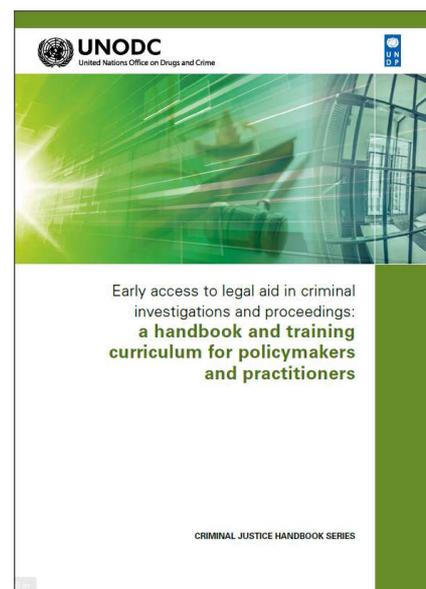
Available in English and French

Child-Friendly Legal Aid in Africa



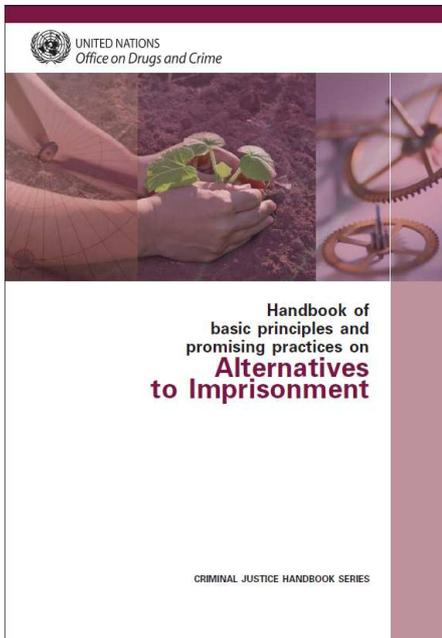
This handbook is intended as a practical guide to developing and implementing policies and programmes to ensure early access to legal aid, including by implementing the international standards set by the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems. It is designed to address some of the challenges that practitioners face in ensuring such access to legal aid, including by systematically exploring the challenges and obstacles to effective provision of early access to legal aid; providing policymakers, civil servants and practitioners (lawyers, judges, prosecutors, police officers, detention officers, civil society actors and others) with tools for capacity development to assist them in overcoming such challenges and obstacles; suggesting some practical and innovative solutions, using examples from different jurisdictions and providing training resources for legal aid providers and the police (or other investigative agencies).

Available in English, Chinese and Vietnamese





PRISON REFORM AND ALTERNATIVE TO IMPRISONMENT



This handbook is one of a series of practical tools developed by UNODC to support countries in the implementation of the rule of law and the development of criminal justice reform. It can be used in a variety of contexts, including as part of UNODC technical assistance and capacity building projects. The handbook introduces the reader to the basic principles central to understanding alternatives to imprisonment as well as descriptions of promising practices implemented throughout the world. A companion Handbook on Restorative Justice Programmes is also available from UNODC.

Available in English, French and Spanish and Turkish

This Handbook focuses on an overview of key issues which should be of concern to prison managers and the reforms they must often engage in and promote as prison leaders. It is meant to support a basic five-day training workshop for prison officials responsible for leading and managing prisons in developing or post-conflict countries.

Available in English and French and Arabic





The purpose of this Handbook is three-fold:

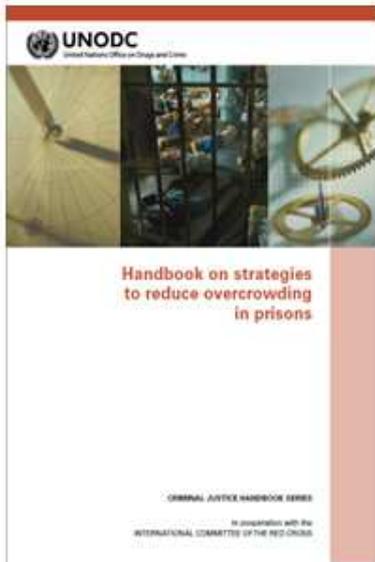
- To demonstrate the importance of effective prisoner file management, illustrating the consequences of poor or non-existent management;
- To outline the key international human rights standards that apply to prisoner and detainee file management;
- To summarize the key requirements of prison systems in relation to prisoner and detainee file management in order to meet international human rights standards, illustrating how these might be met.

Available in Arabic, English and French

This handbook covers the special needs of eight groups of prisoners, which have a particularly vulnerable status in prisons. They are: Prisoners with mental health care needs; Prisoners with disabilities; Ethnic and racial minorities and indigenous peoples; Foreign national prisoners; Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) prisoners; Older prisoners; Prisoners with terminal illness and Prisoners under sentence of death.

Available in English, Arabic, Spanish and Turkish





Reflecting the growing recognition that one of the key obstacles in implementing international standards and norms related to the treatment of prisoners is overcrowded facilities, this new technical tool represents the first UN publication fully dedicated to a challenge that is amply described as a global human rights, health and security issue for prison administrations, affecting offenders, their families and their communities. The Handbook, developed in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), is designed to be used by all actors involved in the criminal justice system, and aims to provide guidance for strategy and policy development and to illustrate good practice examples of reducing prison overcrowding.

Besides providing an overview of overcrowding in penitentiary systems worldwide, including its impact and the range of causes, the Handbook comprises in its core a set of promising strategies to counter prison overcrowding, such as reducing the scope of imprisonment and developing fair sentencing policies; improving the efficiency of the criminal justice system; enhancing access to legal assistance and legal aid; reducing pre-trial detention; strengthening recourse to alternatives to imprisonment; and more effectively managing prison capacity.

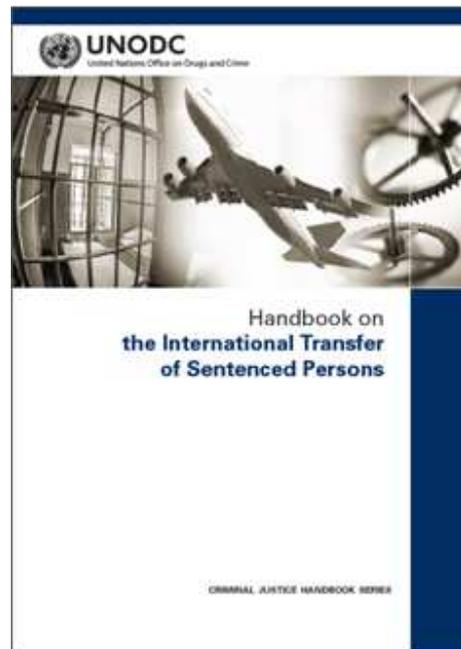
Available in English, Arabic, Spanish and Indonesian

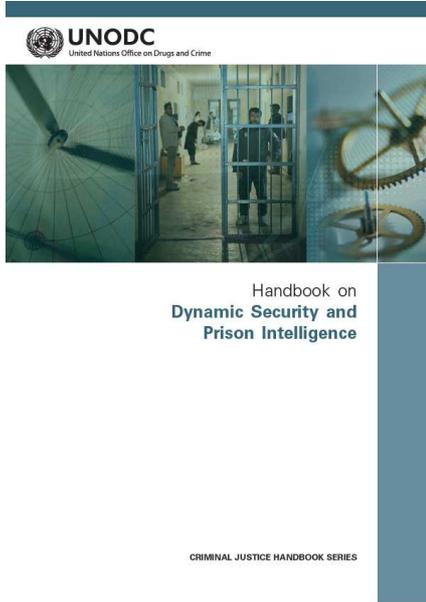
With the increase in international travel and migration, it has become progressively more common for countries around the world to convict and sentence foreign citizens

to terms of imprisonment or other forms of deprivation of liberty. This has raised the issue of how best to deal with such sentenced persons. The Handbook on the International Transfer of Sentenced Persons explains how transferring such persons to another State

to serve their sentences can contribute to dealing with them fairly and effectively. The Handbook is designed to be used by all actors involved in the criminal justice system, including policymakers, legislators, prison managers, prison staff, prosecutors, police, members of nongovernmental organizations and other individuals interested or active in the field of criminal justice and prison reform. It can be used in a variety of contexts, both as a reference document and a training tool.

Available in English





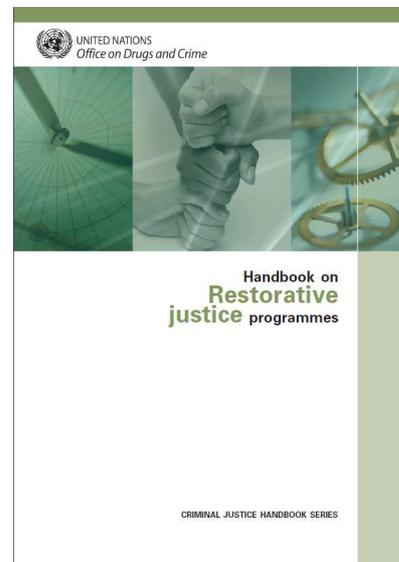
Maintaining a proper balance between security measures and international standards and norms relevant to the treatment of prisoners can be a challenge for prison administrators. The theme of this Handbook is prison security, i.e. the means by which escapes and other crimes are prevented. It focusses on the contribution of dynamic security, which rests on an alert staff who interact with, and know the prisoners under their control, and highlights prison intelligence as one particular element of dynamic security. Prison intelligence provides important information for use within the prison to prevent escapes and maintain order and control, and can also be used more widely to prevent prisoners from directing criminal activity taking place outside the prison.

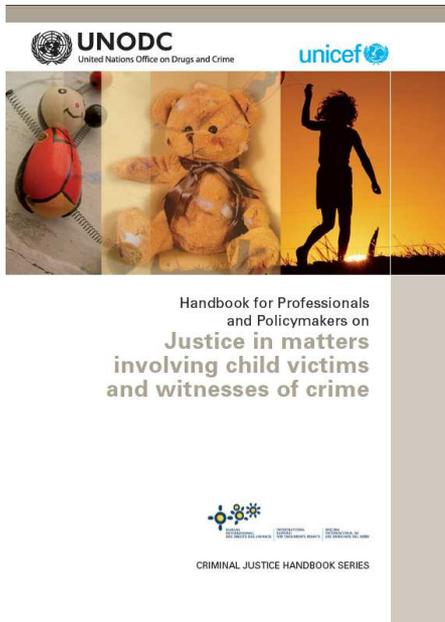
Available in English and French

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

This handbook is one of a series of practical tools developed by UNODC to support countries in the implementation of the rule of law and the development of criminal justice reform. It can be used in a variety of contexts, including as part of UNODC technical assistance and capacity building projects. It introduces the reader to restorative justice programmes and processes. A companion *Handbook of Basic Principles and Promising Practices on Alternatives to Imprisonment* is also available from UNODC.

Available in English, Farsi, French and Turkish



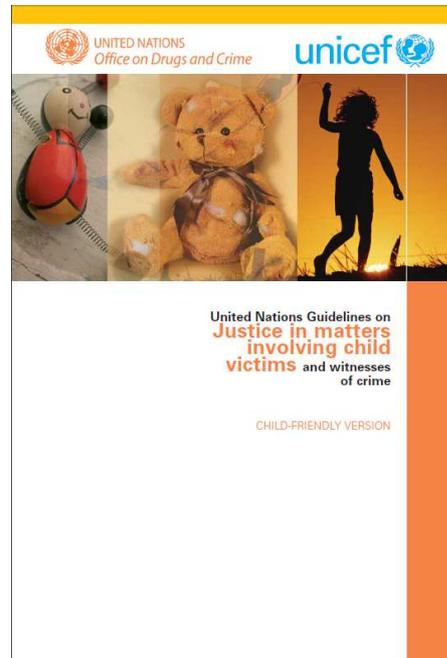


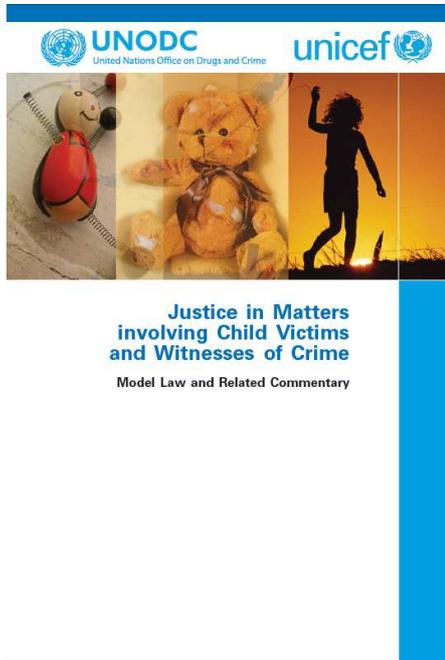
In order to assist countries in implementing, at the national level, the provisions contained in the UN Guidelines in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime and in other relevant international instruments, UNODC, in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Bureau for Children's Rights, has developed the *Handbook for Professionals and Policymakers on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime*.

Available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish

These guidelines were created to translate the UN Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime into child-friendly language for children to know their rights.

Available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish



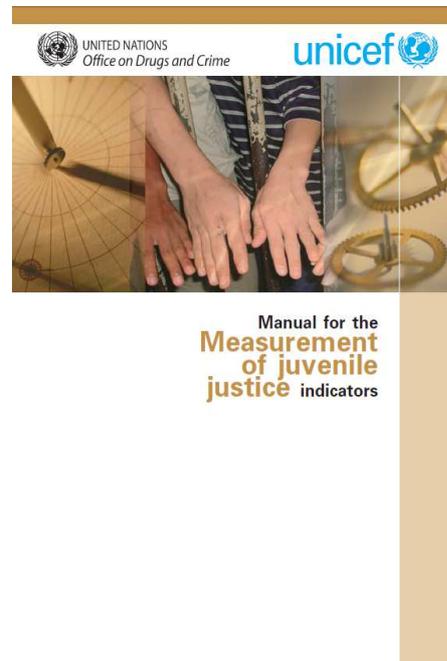


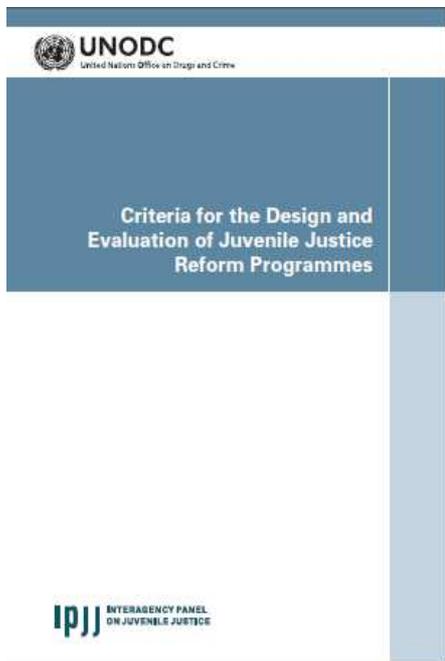
To assist States in adapting their national legislation to the provisions contained in the UN Guidelines and in other relevant international instruments, the present Model Law on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime is intended as a tool for drafting legal provisions concerning assistance to and the protection of child victims and witnesses of crime, particularly within the justice process. To further assist States in interpreting and implementing its provisions, the Model Law is accompanied by a commentary that is intended to serve as guidelines for interpretation and implementation.

Available in English, French and Spanish

The purpose of this manual is to introduce the fifteen juvenile justice indicators and to make clear their utility. It explains how measuring the indicators can contribute to the protection of the child in conflict with the law through actions at both the local and the central level. It offers practical guidance, strategies and tools for information collection, information collation and calculation of the indicators.

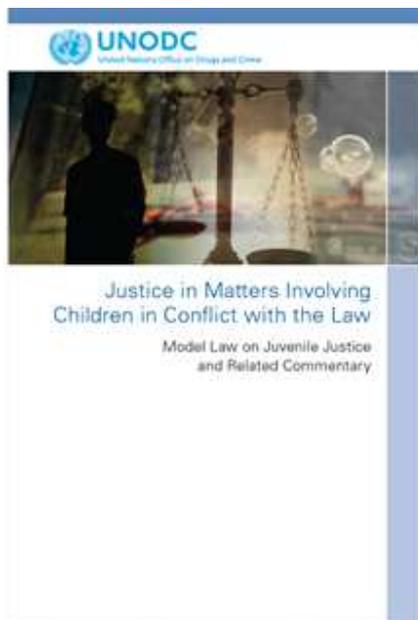
Available in English, French, Russian and Spanish





The publication “Criteria for the Design and Evaluation of Juvenile Justice Reform Programmes” was developed by UNODC in partnership with the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice. It is based on resolution 1997/30 of the Ecosoc, which requested the Panel to facilitate the identification of common problems, the compilation of examples of good practices and the analysis of shared experiences and needs in the area of juvenile justice reform. The criteria are based on the rights of the child as defined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international norms and standards and are presented in the hope that they will provide some useful guidance in programme development and evaluation.

Available in English



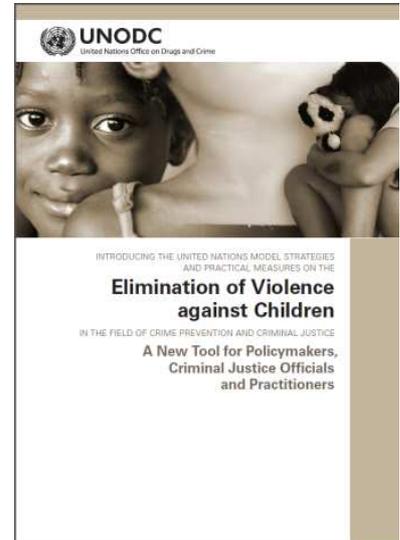
The UNODC Model Law on Juvenile Justice and related Commentary is a new technical assistance tool in the area of justice for children designed to provide legal assistance to States in the process of reviewing or developing legislation in the area of juvenile justice. The target audience is broad and includes legislators, policy-makers, criminal justice practitioners and technical assistance providers.

The Model Law covers all phases of the justice process in matters involving children alleged as, accused of, or recognized as having infringed the penal law, bearing in mind the need to comply with the requirements set out by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other standards and norms in the area of juvenile justice. It contains provisions on juvenile justice principles, alternative measures to judicial proceedings including restorative justice, pre-trial and trial proceedings,

custodial and non-custodial sentences, conditions of detention and institutional treatment, as well as provisions relating to aftercare and reintegration.

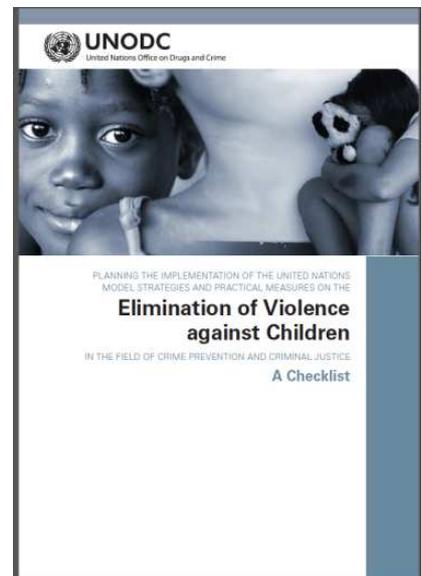
Available in English

The Introductory Booklet introduces the *"United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice"* by describing 17 broad strategies in connection to the difficult challenges faced by every society and community trying to implement them effectively. In order to do so, the Booklet targets specifically policy-makers and practitioners, aiming to help them to become familiar with the Model Strategies and to give guidance on how to make use of them daily to bring significant and lasting improvements to the national justice system. In particular, this tool is meant to help the people working with and for children, to address the huge and persistent problem of violence in a more strategic and effective manner and identify their own reform and capacity-building agenda.



Available in English

The Checklist has been designed to facilitate the initial phase of the implementation of the *"United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice"*, which consists of carrying out an in depth needs assessment and identifying crucial priorities for action. The objective of this tool is to assist agencies and actors that can contribute to the implementation of the Model Strategies, to systematically review the current situation, assess the present capacity of the justice system to respond to incidents of violence against children, develop a comprehensive strategy, and drafting a clear plan of action for the implementation.

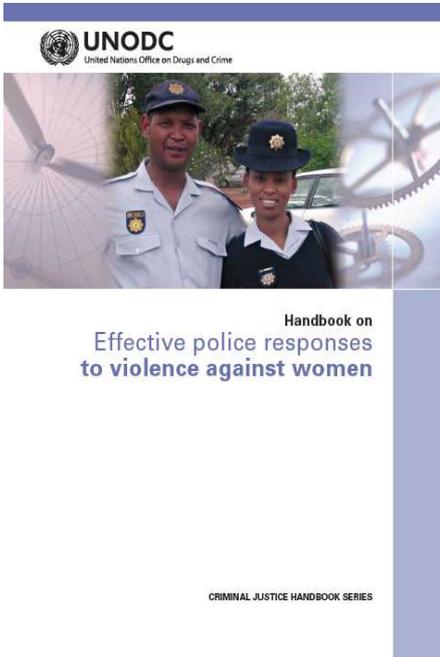


Available in English



UNODC
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GENDER IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

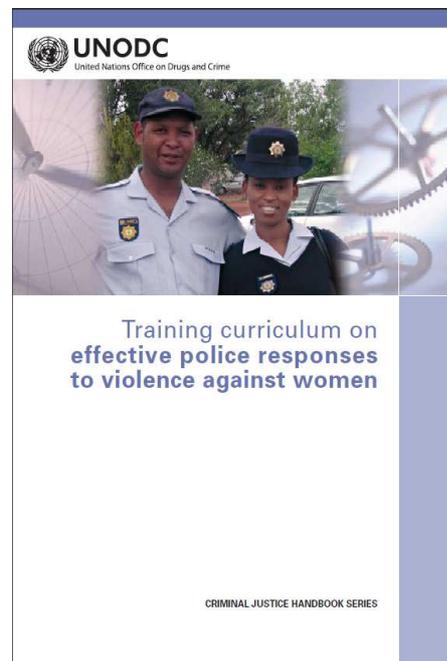


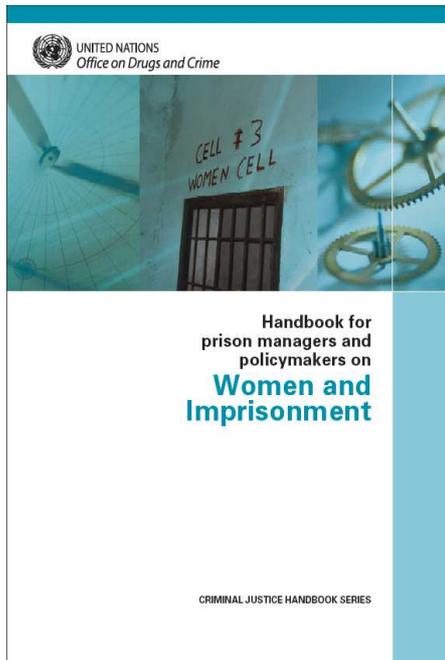
This *Handbook* is designed to assist police officers by familiarizing them with relevant international laws, norms and standards relating to violence against women and informing them about some promising practical approaches to effective police response to acts of violence against women. It is hoped that police first-responders, investigators, supervisors and managers will benefit from the descriptions they will find in this *Handbook* of good strategies, procedures and practices that have helped police forces to enhance the safety and security of women in their communities.

Available in English, French, Russian and Spanish

The present training curriculum is designed to help develop within local and national police the knowledge and skills required to respond in an effective and appropriate manner to violence against women—specifically violence within intimate relationships. This includes measures to prevent violence against women, ways to respond to and investigate acts of violence, and resources to meet the needs of victims during and after an incident.

Available in English, French and Spanish



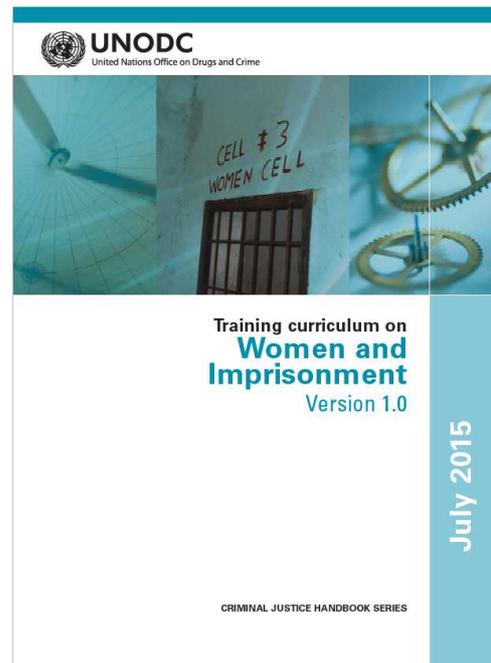


This handbook aims to assist legislators, policymakers, prison managers, staff and non-governmental organizations to implement the resolutions and recommendations of the United Nations to address the gender-specific needs of women prisoners, as well as to increase awareness about the profile of female offenders and suggest ways in which to reduce their unnecessary imprisonment, by rationalizing legislation and criminal justice policies, and providing a wide range of alternatives to prison at all stages of the criminal justice process.

Available in English, Russian and Turkish

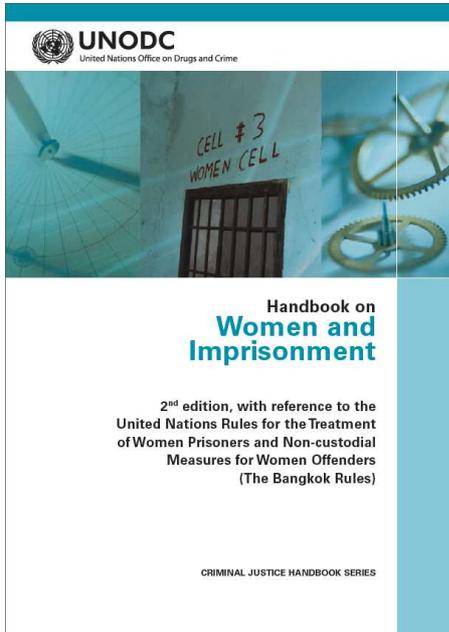
This training curriculum has been designed to develop knowledge and skills amongst criminal justice officials and policymakers to implement the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules). The curriculum is to be used in conjunction with the UNODC Handbook on Women and Imprisonment, which provides further information, examples and good practices. The training curriculum contains 12 modules that focus on the different subject areas of the Bangkok Rules as well as a number of supplementary materials (such as handouts and test questions/answers).

Available in English, Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, Macedonian, Montenegrin and Serbian





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This handbook aims to assist legislators, policymakers, prison managers, staff and non-governmental organizations in addressing the gender-specific needs of women prisoners. It is intended to increase awareness about the profile of female offenders and suggests ways in which to reduce their unnecessary imprisonment, including by rationalizing legislation and criminal justice policies and by providing a wide range of alternatives to imprisonment at all stages of the criminal justice process. In its 2nd edition, the Handbook now includes comprehensive reference to the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules).

Available in English and Arabic



Violence against women and girls is a widespread and serious violation of human rights that has severe physical, psychological, emotional and social consequences. The process of bringing a complaint into the criminal justice system can be a difficult and traumatizing experience for many victims for different reasons.

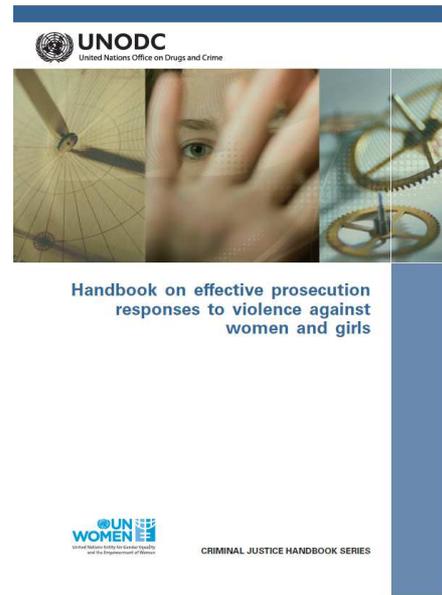
Prosecutors play a critical role in the criminal justice response to violence against women and girls. While prosecutors face different duties and tasks depending on their State's legal system, they generally represent the authority of the State in bringing a criminal case against the accused perpetrator, ensuring the application of the law during the criminal proceedings. Prosecuting gender based violent crime can be challenging. Often there are a number of evidentiary challenges, due to the private nature of the violence. The police investigation may be substandard. Victims may be uncooperative, withdraw or recant their complaints. Judges or juries may employ gender bias or common myths surrounding violence against women and girls when examining the credibility of the victim and the facts of the case.

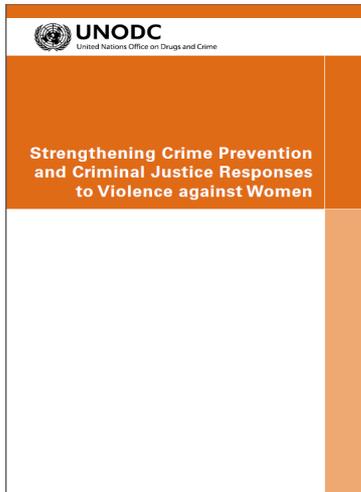
In December 2010, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (General Assembly resolution 65/228, annex) which provide a comprehensive policy framework to assist States in developing responses and carrying out actions to eliminate violence against women and to promote equality between men and women within the criminal justice system.

Drawing upon the recommendations and guidance contained in the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and UN Women, in cooperation with Thailand Institute of Justice, have drafted the Handbook on Effective Prosecution Responses to Violence against Women and Girls with a view to assist prosecutors in their duty to uphold the rule of law, firmly protect human rights and serve their community with impartiality and fairness in cases involving violence against women and girls.

Recognizing that prosecutors work in different legal systems, this Handbook is meant to be a resource to build on for individual prosecutors and prosecution services.

Available in English





The pervasiveness of violence against women and girls (VAWG) in all its forms and manifestations worldwide is internationally recognized. It is a highly complex phenomenon, rooted in gender-based discrimination and historically-based unequal relations between men and women, requiring a comprehensive and coordinated multi-sectoral response. VAWG is not a problem that can be solved by the criminal justice system alone. However, a coordinated and integrated criminal justice response is an essential component in preventing, and addressing the persistent impunity for this type of violence.

The UNODC publication *Strengthening Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses to Violence against Women*, which contains the text of the Updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted by the General Assembly in December 2010, and the “Blueprint for Action: an Implementation Plan for Criminal Justice Systems to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Women and Girls”, provides a framework for developing national implementation plans for the criminal justice system to respond to violence against women and girls.

The framework is purposefully broad to recognize that VAWG manifests itself in different forms, such as domestic violence, sexual violence, sexual harassment, stalking, human trafficking, forced prostitution, forced and early marriage, female genital mutilation, crimes against women committed in the name of honour and other harmful practices, and femicide, as well as to acknowledge the fact that VAWG happens in different settings, including conflict and post conflict settings. While different forms of VAWG and settings will likely require a more tailored response, this framework can serve as a reference document being based on the underlying commonalities of these cases: the gendered nature of the violence and the need to address the victims’ whole experience. Recognizing that VAWG differs from other crimes due to its gendered nature, and requires to be handled in a unique and coordinated manner, the framework emphasizes a coordinated and integrated criminal justice response for the prevention of VAWG, protection and empowerment of victims and prosecution of the perpetrators of violence.

Available in English