

Afghanistan Programme

Situation Analysis

The political and military events that followed September 2001 and which led to the removal of the Taliban regime, have brought dramatic changes to the country, and it is hoped that these will lead to peace and prosperity. Whilst areas of insecurity and volatility still exist, the new situation in Afghanistan and the new government provide a unique opportunity for the international community to support Afghanistan with a coordinated relief, recovery and reconstruction effort.

Recognizing the long-term negative impact on the Afghan people of the illicit drug trade and associated criminal activity and terrorism, the Afghan Interim Administration made drug control a priority area for action. On 17 January 2002, the Chairman of the Interim Administration announced a Decree banning the cultivation, production, processing, illicit trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs. On 4 September 2002, the President of ATA issued a strict decree reiterating the ban on poppy cultivation and informing farmers to refrain from poppy cultivation.

In 1999, Afghanistan produced nearly 80% of the global supply of illicit opium, some 4,565 metric tonnes. In 2000, the level of cultivation came down slightly, to about 3,276 metric tonnes, or 70% of global production. In 2001, however, and following a ban on opium poppy cultivation introduced by the Taliban in 2000, Afghanistan produced only 12% of global supply, 185 metric tonnes. An UNODC pre-assessment survey carried out in February 2002 showed a massive resurgence of opium poppy cultivation in the country.

The new Transitional Authority, that came into being on 22 June 2002 and future governments, will face major challenges in tackling drug trafficking, terrorism, organized crime and other related serious criminal activities; putting in place updated drug and crime control policies and legislation; and helping farmers and communities dependent on illicit opium poppy production to find other sources of income. Afghan institutions dealing with drug and crime control issues will need to be substantially strengthened to achieve these objectives.

Objectives

Through its support of the Afghan Transitional Authority (ATA), and subsequent administrations, particularly through the strengthening of the capacities of government institutions and other bodies, and its work with other international organizations, UNODC aims to contribute to the following goals:

- Development of legal and judicial framework, strengthening drug control capacity of relevant institutions and supporting the ATA in formulation of National Drug control policy/strategies.
- Significantly reduce and eventually eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, and the illicit production and processing of narcotic drugs.
- Significantly reduce drug trafficking, organized crime and other related serious crimes including corruption.
- The development of alternative livelihoods for families and communities involved in opium poppy cultivation.

- The reduction of drug abuse and the spread of HIV illnesses.
- The collection of reliable and accurate information on the extent of illicit opium cultivation, the production of opium, trafficking and the misuse of illicit drugs.

Strategy

UNODC will work closely with the Afghan Transitional Authority (ATA) and subsequent governments. The ATA has assigned drug control responsibilities to the National Security Council (NSC). A drug control unit within NSC is planned to be established soon which will be a high level institution coordinating control issues on national level under the direct supervision of the National Security Advisor. UNODC, in close coordination with other stake holders will undertake efforts to upgrade and strengthen the capacity of NSC and its drug control unit, which will be a main counterpart to UNODC.

As a whole, UNODC initiatives will be phased, supporting and reinforcing other international efforts in Afghanistan. A “building-block” approach is to be taken to ensure that cost-effective delivery of assistance is made. Of crucial importance will be the advisory role of UNODC in “mainstreaming” drugs as a crosscutting issue into the strategies and practical delivery of projects by other international organizations.

A key aspect of the UNODC strategy will be to ensure an effective field presence, particularly in the poppy growing areas and where drug abuse is prevalent, in such a way as to ensure that information about all aspects of drug control can be collected, contact with agencies working in the field maintained, and institutional capacity building arrangements monitored. It is essential that UNODC can obtain and update information on crop production, socio-economic studies relating to opium growing, data on alternative livelihood programmes and nature of drug dependency. In order to ensure this capacity and to provide adequate support to government institutions in the various regions and satisfactory monitoring capability, UNODC will initially establish presence through co-locating its project staff in relevant provincial drug control units. The national staff will work in close cooperation with the local authorities focusing on capacity building, opium surveying, alternative livelihoods, demand reduction and law enforcement.

The UNODC strategy will be implemented under the integrated UN Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the leadership role of the SRSG. The UNODC Representative has been nominated as the Special Advisor to the SRSG on Drug Issues.

The following are the main components of the strategy and UNODC will provide advice and assistance to Afghan authorities in the following areas:

- Provision of legal advice, guidance and assistance to reinforce the national capacity and legislation in respect of drugs, organized crime and other related serious crimes, as well as international judicial cooperation. This will in particular include the strengthening of drug control capacity of the Justice Ministry and National Security Council.
- Provision of advice, training and equipment to reinforce and improve the drug law enforcement units of police forces to effectively combat with drug trafficking as

well as the promotion, development and implementation of effective cross-border cooperation.

- Advocating at all levels and coordination with UN and other aid organizations to mainstreams alternative livelihood assistance to opium growing areas and ensure that the development approaches aim at reduction/elimination of poppy cultivation.
- Prevention and rehabilitation of drug abuse/misuse through conducting of in-depth assessments, provision of rehabilitation services and implementation of awareness creation programmes
- Continuing, monitoring of the poppy cultivation trends in the country through implementation of a comprehensive annual opium poppy survey.

Results

Outcome: Legal and judicial frameworks and criminal justice capacity strengthened and national drug control and crime prevention capacity created and reinforced. Objectively verifiable indicators: Narcotic Drug Law for Afghanistan drafted and adopted. Numbers of judicial cases of drug trafficking accusation processed. Counter-narcotics directorate within National Security Council established and equipped.

Outcome: Mechanism for mainstreaming drug control and cooperation for development assistance to Afghanistan. Objectively verifiable indicators: alternative development expert recruited; studies on social and economic dependency of farmers on poppy cultivation conducted and published. Number of projects aimed at promotion of alternative livelihood and reduction/elimination of poppy cultivation launched by other agencies.

Outcome: Counter narcotics law enforcement capacities strengthened and regional cooperation enhanced. Objectively verifiable indicators: The police drug control units within the crime branch of the ministry of interior in Kabul and in key provinces trained and equipped. Number of police trained in trafficking control techniques. Illicit drug seizures increased. Number of meetings held with neighbouring countries for border control cooperation and reports produced.

Outcome: Drug demand reduction awareness among the government counterparts, UN agencies, NGOs and public created and the government capacity to take effective measures for prevention/reduction of drug abuse and rehabilitation of drug addicts enhanced. Objectively verifiable indicators: Drug abuse/misuse assessment written up and report disseminated. Number of healthcare professional, social workers, teachers and community development workers trained. Home-based detoxification and treatment service operative. Number of drug addicts treated

Outcome: Provision of data on the extent of poppy cultivation and production on annual basis. Objectively verifiable indicators: annual opium poppy survey reports prepared/published and disseminated. Number of surveyors and survey coordinators to implement the survey recruited and trained. Survey cited by Governments and press accounts.

Budget and funding

An analysis of the likelihood of funding priority activities under the programme results in a biennial budget for 2002-2003 of \$7.7 million. The table below provides a breakdown of that budget by thematic area, ongoing and pipeline activities and general- and special-purpose resources.

Afghanistan programme budget for 2002-2003
(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Thematic area</i>	<i>Activities</i>		<i>Resources</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>	<i>General purpose</i>	<i>Special-purpose</i>	
Policy support, legislation and advocacy	274.5	--	--	274.5	274.5
Prevention and reduction of drug abuse	565.2	1264.1	--	1829.3	1829.3
Elimination of illicit crops	1158.2	1372.8	--	2531.0	2531.0
Suppression of illicit drug trafficking	3032.3	--	--	3032.3	3032.3
Total	5030.2	2636.9	--	7667.1	7667.1