

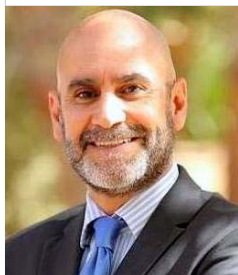
- Promote rule of law, good governance, adherence to international standards & obligations;
- Strengthen national policies, institutions and practices in response to drugs, crime and terrorism;
- Strengthen capacity to combat transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking of drugs, arms, persons, and goods;
- Promote regional and international cooperation and partnerships to respond more effectively to shared problems in crime, drugs and terrorism;
- Promote best practices and evidenced-based policies and practices in drug prevention and reduction, through education and treatment, particularly among the youth;
- Provide research, data analysis and expertise on global, regional and national trends on crime, drugs and terrorism.



Quarterly Newsletter from the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa

July - September 2015

Word of the Regional Representative



Masood Karimipour

Justice is critical for sustainable peace, stability and development. The SDG Agenda, adopted on 25 September 2015, now makes this a global goal. Crime and corruption continue to undermine security, development and human rights everywhere. The Middle East and North Africa region, while battling these threats, is also confronting terrorism and violent extremism. UNODC and national partners in MENA are working to strengthen national and regional responses to these shared threats. As highlighted in this issue of UNODC-ROMENA newsletter, our cooperation covers a wide thematic and geographic range, to build capacities to prevent terrorism in Jordan, fight corruption in Egypt and human trafficking in Morocco, to investigate major crime in Tunisia, strengthen forensic investigations in Palestine, and improve harm reduction services in Morocco. Regionally, we built capacities to disrupt illicit trafficking and illicit financial flows in MENA. These strategic partnerships for justice continue to be the solution to our shared threats and key to security

Jordan: Terrorism Prevention

Terrorism Prevention Activities Launched



Civil and Common Law Practitioners' Debate

A workshop on "Key Components of an Effective Criminal Justice Preventive Response to Terrorism" was held in Amman in August, as a part of a Plan of Action established between Jordan and UNODC. The Workshop was opened by the representative of the Director of the

Public Security Directorate and the Chief Public Prosecutor, as well as UNODC Regional Representative, who highlighted the importance of this joint cooperation. Participants included senior criminal justice officials from Jordan Ministries of Justice, Interior, Defence, Finance, Intelligence, Central Bank and the Financial Investigation Unit. Discussions and exchanges were enriched by the contributions of eight international experts.

A second specialized workshop on the use of Internet for terrorism purpose will be organized in December, in response to the request of the Jordanian Authorities. *Activities financed by the Government of Japan.*

Regional: Money Laundering 'Financial Flows' Links to Money Laundering



Recognizing the serious problems that illegal financial transactions, flows of money and other assets derived from criminal activities across borders represent today for societies, UNODC held two workshops on "Financial Investigations and Links to Money Laundering" for national authorities in the MENA

region. The first event was held in Ramallah, Palestine, in July and the second in Rabat, Morocco, in September 2015.

Both workshops were designed to respond to the national needs to provide skills, expertise and knowledge in conducting financial investigations, detecting financial frauds and tracing illegal financial transactions in complex corruption cases, in using banking instruments, recognizing new trends in money laundering, and understanding the Hawala system. Each workshop was further tailored to the countries' needs and offered representatives from the national law enforcement agencies and judiciary a forum to discuss international standards and principles, to learn the best practices in identifying suspicious transactions, and to identify gaps in their criminal justice system and consider further improvements.

Each workshop gathered 35 participants who were actively participating in exercises and case studies, thus learning how to apply new skills and methods effectively.

Morocco: HIV Prevention

HIV and Drug Use Risk Assessment in Prisons

UNODC has been working closely with Morocco, a high-priority country, for more than a decade to advance the harm reduction agenda in the community and prison settings. Currently, UNODC is assisting national partners in conducting a study in five Moroccan prisons on drug use and HIV among the inmate population. The objective is to compile evidence on HIV in prisons, lay the foundation for the initiation of harm reduction services, and develop a prison health strategy in Morocco.



HIV and people in close settings

To collect quantitative and qualitative data from inmates, prisons' health officials, security officials, and prisons' management, more than 20 researchers have been trained during August. Five prisons, namely: Oukacha prison in Casablanca, the prison of Tangier, Tetouan prison, the prison of Salé and the Prison of Nador, were selected by the piloting committee to conduct rapid assessment activities. During the reporting period, a total of 1,615 inmates were interviewed, representing both genders inside those prisons. The study is being conducted in partnership with relevant national stakeholders, civil society organizations, and UNAIDS. It is based on recognized ethical standards regarding respect of anonymity, human rights, and voluntary participation. The results of the study are expected to be published during the last quarter of 2015.

Tunisia : Crime Analysis Tools and Training Strengthening Criminal Network Detection



Crime analysis tools presentation

UNODC supports the Tunisian authorities in their efforts to prevent and combat organized crime and terrorism with a pilot programme on criminal analysis. Software, equipment and expert training were delivered to experienced professionals from the different structures of the

Tunisian Ministry of Interior. The first phase of this programme ended in August with an official ceremony at the Ministry, during which a presentation by investigators from the Internal Security Forces demonstrated the skills acquired during the training. Such skills included conducting fast and efficient investigations on crimes and criminal networks using the software provided by UNODC. At this occasion, UNODC Regional Representative met with the Minister of Interior H. E. Mr Mohamed Gharsalli to discuss future collaboration between the Office and Tunisia in the field of law enforcement and criminal justice. *This project is funded by the United States.*

Egypt: Combating Corruption

Best Practices in Fighting Corruption



Anti-Corruption Strategies Presentation

The Administrative Control Authority received UNODC assistance throughout this quarter. A Workshop took place in July to discuss the obstacles faced by Egypt in implementing its National Anti-Corruption Strategy, identifying challenges and providing Egyptian authorities with best practices and recommendations. Further, the “Preliminary and Advanced Cyber-crime Investigation” training programme was delivered in August through 38 sessions over two weeks to participants having significantly varied backgrounds. Another event in September was entitled “Best Practices to Apply the One-Stop Shop in Egypt” where 47 government officials were presented and discussed the necessary skills and tools to implement this model in Egypt, to address potential gaps, and to identify needs for further improvements. *The project is funded by the European Union.*

Upcoming Events

- *Regional Dialogue on Drug Policy and HIV - Morocco, 4-5 October
- *Practical CCP Training and Private Sector Cooperation in Aqaba - Jordan, 4-15 October
- *Workshop on a Comprehensive Structure to Enhance Integrity and Accountability within the Police - Tunis, 6-7 October
- *Training Workshop on Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants for Border Guards - Tunis, 19-21 October
- *Regional Workshop on Information and Criminal Intelligence Analysis on Illicit Trafficking - Tunis, 26-30 October
- *Law Enforcement Training on HIV - Morocco, 7-10 November
- *Workshop on Countering Foreign Terrorist Fighters- Egypt, 10-12 November
- *National Workshop on the Application of the New Anti-terrorism Legislation in Tunisia - Tunis, 24-26 November
- *Regional CCP Meeting in Amman - Jordan, 1-2 December
- *Law Enforcement Training on HIV - Egypt, 7-10 December
- *Workshop and Training to Enhance Judicial Oversight during Investigations - Tunis, December
- *Second Specialized Workshop on the Use of Internet for Terrorism Purposes- Jordan, December

Morocco: Anti-Human Trafficking Training of Trainers to Combat Trafficking



As part of its efforts to strengthen the capacity of the Kingdom of Morocco to combat human trafficking, UNODC successfully delivered a Training of Trainers (ToT) session in Rabat in September. The objective of the event was to create a group of criminal justice practitioners with advanced knowledge on the identification, investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases, who can subsequently act as trainers to other practitioners. Most ToT participants were judges and prosecutors, members of Inter-ministerial Commission on Human Rights, in addition to representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Labour, and Moroccans Resident Abroad and Migration.

The activity is the third in a series of workshops delivered to a selected group of Moroccan officials, in close coordination with the Moroccan Ministry of Justice. The first workshop focused on substantive areas in the fight against human trafficking, while the second workshop sought to train participants on adult training methodologies and training delivery. The third ToT workshop aimed to further advance the level of knowledge of the participants, and explore in depth certain thematic areas that included regional and international cooperation, inter-agency coordination for the protection and assistance of trafficking victims, interviewing techniques, and financial investigations in human trafficking cases.

Jordan: Border Control

Aqaba Port Operational



Container Search in Aqaba seaport

The Joint Port Control Unit at the seaport in Aqaba, Jordan, became operational on 1 September 2015. The Unit is made up of Customs, Police and Intelligence officers who work together on risk analysis and inspection of containers. UNODC had previously provided the Unit with the necessary equipment and training on communications software, risk analysis and container inspection. This will improve Jordan's capacity to facilitate legitimate trade and strengthen border control by correctly identifying and examining high risk containers for illicit trafficking. Jordan is the first country in the region to join the [Container Control Programme](#), which covers cooperation among all the relevant authorities and agencies involved in border security.

Palestine: Forensic Services

Forensic Training Programme Concluded



Summarizing achievements

UNODC forensic nursing training programme on gender-based violence has come to end with a last training held in August in Ramallah. The programme involved 20 nurses and aimed at developing their skills and knowledge to assist in the management and examination of victims of sexual and gender-based violence. It was concluded by a final training with involved discussions, including case discussion, of the assignments done by each group of the 5 hospitals participating in the training on patient record, feedback, facility maintenance and continuing professional development. During the closing ceremony, achievements were summarized, and progress on the establishment of forensic clinics in four hospitals as well as future activities was provided. The project is implemented in collaboration with the Palestinian Ministries of Justice and Health. *This project is funded by Canada.*