



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



GIFP
Global Illicit Flows
Programme



AIRCOP

AIRPORT COMMUNICATION PROJECT

Real time operational communication
between international airports against
transnational organized crime and terrorism



INTERPOL



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES DOUANES



OUR PROJECT

AIRCOP is a multi-agency project implemented by **UNODC** in partnership with **INTERPOL** and the **World Customs Organization (WCO)**. It aims at **strengthening the capacities of international airports to target and intercept high-risk passengers**, cargo and mail, as a contribution to the fight against illicit drugs and other illicit commodities (such as wildlife products or falsified medical products), terrorism-related threats (such as arms or potential foreign terrorist fighters), trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. It also aims at facilitating communication and coordination between origin, transit and destination countries to disrupt cross-border illicit flows and criminal networks. AIRCOP is part of the EU's Global Illicit Flows Programme.

Based on the fundamental idea of **information sharing and trust building, adaptable** to the evolution of trafficking routes and the emergence of newly trafficked commodities, AIRCOP is **continuously expanding** across the globe as a key element of **border management and security**. Through its support to the efficient management of international airports and by virtue of the nexus existing between peace, security and development, AIRCOP also participates in the social and economic development of the countries and regions in which it operates.

A project funded by the European Union under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, within the Global Illicit Flows Programme.

AIRCOP also receives funding from Australia, Canada, France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.



AIRCOP contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

OUR PILLARS

Inter-agency cooperation

AIRCOP supports inter-agency cooperation through the establishment of Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces (JAITFs), which bring together law enforcement agencies operating at international airports.

JAITFs are nationally owned, integrated in the national security architecture and have a mandate over the entire airport platform covering passengers, mail and cargo. AIRCOP provides JAITFs with various types of office equipment, IT and photographic equipment, as well as inspection and testing tools.

Targeting high-risk passengers, mail and cargo

AIRCOP builds the capacities of the JAITFs towards an intelligence-led identification, detection and interception of known and unknown high-risk passengers travelling by air as well as suspicious mail and cargo.

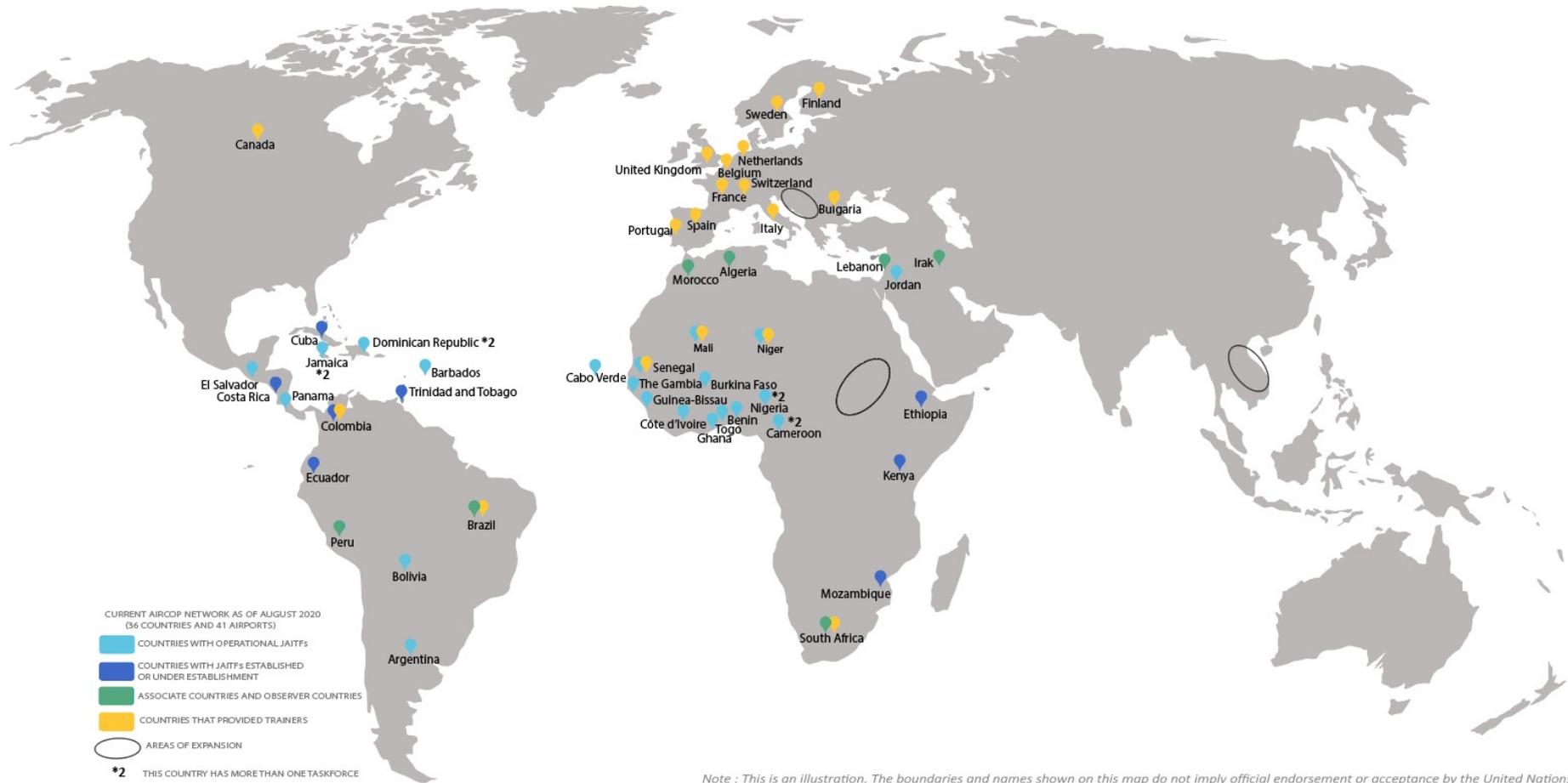
This includes intelligence collection, risk analysis and implementation of appropriate targeting measures, using data sources such as passenger manifests, Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR). JAITFs are also trained to undertake behavioral analysis, identify counterfeit documents, use efficient search techniques, and initiate post-seizure investigations.



AIRCOP facilitates secure real time transmission and sharing of information between law enforcement services at national, regional and international levels. Specific tools provided by AIRCOP include access to INTERPOL's secure global police communications network (I-24/7) and databases, WCO's CENcomm system and relevant national databases.

Exchange of information and cooperation are also facilitated through exchange programmes, study tours as well as regional and global meetings, with a focus on South-South cooperation.

OUR NETWORK



KEY SEIZURES

CURRENT AIRCOP SEIZURES AS OF AUGUST 2021



OUR VALUES

Gender

AIRCOP encourages the equal representation of men and women in all its activities, including the recruitment of female officers within the JAITFs, the presence of female officers during both day and night shifts and the nomination of female officers to participate in AIRCOP activities.

Dedicated modules are also delivered to JAITFs officers on gender-related issues, including appropriate responses to situations involving women as victims or perpetrators as well as recommendations on how to address gender considerations in the daily management of the task forces.



Integrity and human rights

AIRCOP supports governments in including integrity considerations in the JAITF's standard operating procedures as well as developing staff selection procedures and vetting methods, and provides dedicated training modules on ethics and integrity.

Dedicated training modules also support the promotion of a human rights-based approach at every stage of the activities undertaken by AIRCOP taskforce officers.

Adaptability

JAITFs are in a position to adjust to new menaces and evolving routes. Over the years, AIRCOP has provided them with dedicated equipment and capacity-building on risk analysis, profiling, identification and post-seizure investigation focused on an ever broader array of threats, ranging from all types of drugs to other trafficked goods such as cash, products of wildlife criminality as well as foreign terrorist fighters for example.

CAPACITY BUILDING

AIRCOP provides a range of standard and specialized training and mentoring activities, tailored to national and regional needs.

Topics covered include intelligence collection and sharing, targeting, search techniques, counterfeit documents, behavioral analysis, use of law enforcement databases, secure communication procedures and post-seizure investigations, as well as specific thematic issues.

AIRCOP trainers and mentors come from law enforcement agencies from countries across the globe further highlighting the importance of the AIRCOP network which incorporates international best practices and promotes South-South/trans-regional cooperation.

Communication and cooperation are fostered between JAITFs and these experienced law enforcement officers active in key international airports who deliver AIRCOP training/mentoring activities, well beyond the duration of the actual activities.

COORDINATION

AIRCOP collaborates with international organizations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the United Nations Office on Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT); UN Counter-Terrorism Center (UNCCT); Universal Postal Union (UPU); regional entities such as CARICOM and the G5 Sahel; and law enforcement initiatives, such as INTERCOPS.

AIRCOP is part of the global Countering Terrorist Travel Programme to assist Member States in enhancing their detection capabilities against foreign terrorist fighters and serious criminals using travel information such as API/PNR, in compliance with Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017) and 2482 (2019). This programme is coordinated by UNOCT, in close partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), ICAO, UNODC and INTERPOL.



AIRCOP



For more information, visit:

 unodc.org/AIRCOP

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