





### **Annual Report**



2015



#### **Annual Report**

Regional Office for Central Asia 2015

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#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ADAM	- Automated Donor Assistance Mechanism	POKAZ	- Programme Office in Kazakhstan
AKDN	- Aga Khan Development Network	POKYR	- Programme Office in Kyrgyzstan
AKT	- Afghan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Initiative	POTAJ	- Programme Office in Tajikistan
AML	- Anti Money Laundering	POTUK	- Programme Office in Turkmenistan
BLO	- Border Liaison Office	PPI	- Paris Pact Initiative
CARICC	- Central Asian Regional Information and	PSC	- Programme Steering Committee
	Coordination Centre	PSU	- Programme Support Unit
CCP	- Container Control Programme (of UNODC)	PWUD	- People who use drugs
COAFG	- Country Office for Afghanistan	RLO	- Regional Liaison Officer
DCA	- Drug Control Agency	ROCA	- Regional Office for Central Asia (of UNODC)
DLO	- Drug Liaison Officer	RP	- Regional Programme for Afghanistan and
FIU	- Financial Intelligence Units		NeighbouringCountries (of UNODC)
HRC	- Human Rights Council (of UN)	SoM	- Smuggling of Migrants
HT	- Human Trafficking	SDGs	- Sustainable Development Goals
IEU	<ul> <li>Independent Evaluation Unit (of UNODC in HQ)</li> </ul>	UNCAC	- United Nations Convention against Corruption
IPB	- Integrated Programme and Oversight Branch	UNCT	- United Nations Country Team
	(of UNODC in HQ)	UNDAF	- United Nations Development Assistance Framework
INL	- US Department of State's Bureau of International	UNDSS	- United Nations Department for Safety and Security
	Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs	UNODC	- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
LEA	- Law Enforcement Agency	UNRC	- United Nations Resident Coordinator
M&E	- Monitoring and Evaluation	UNSDG	- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
MLA	- Mutual Legal Assistance	UNTOC	- United Nations Convention on Transnational
MoU	- Memorandum of Understanding		Organized Crime
MDGs	- Millennium Development Goals	UPR	- Universal Periodic Review (of UN)
NATO	- North Atlantic Treaty Organization	US	- United States of America



#### **FOREWORD**

The year 2015 marked a significant year for the UNODC work in Central Asia and the wider region. The year also underscored the transcendent importance of expanding our efforts to address the complex issues of drugs; crime and terrorism prevention and the crucial role we can collectively play in making the region, countries, communities and families healthier, and safer through strengthened rule of law and governance.

The new UNODC Programme for Central Asia 2015-2019 embodies the perspectives and priorities of the host governments from the countries in the region, donors, international agencies and the civil society and collective vision for partnerships. More than ever before the issues of drugs, organized crime and terrorism prevention are of concern to the region. The new Programme is a commitment toward an integrated and comprehensive response to these emerging issues.

This year the Ninth meeting of the Memorandum of Understanding between the five Central Asian Countries, Russia, Azerbaijan and the Aga Khan Development Network, held in Ashgabat and was hosted by the Government of Turkmenistan. It brought together the foreign ministers, heads of drug control agencies, international organizations. The Ministerial Declaration, adopted at that meeting, highlights the central role of the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-regional Drug Control Cooperation in promoting cooperation and coordination to counter the problem of illicit drugs in Central Asia. The outcomes of discussions were also considered by the member States as their perspectives in preparation for the UNGASS on World Drug problems scheduled in April 2016.

The technical assistance to the countries was delivered through UNODC 6 national, 5 regional projects, 4 sub-programmes of the Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring Countries as well as 5 Global projects/programmes. The report highlights some of UNODC's efforts that covers a broad spectrum on drugs, health and trafficking; transnational organized crime; justice; corruption; policy support, research, trend analysis and forensics

in assisting member States to address the threat posed by drugs, crime and terrorism. The Annual Report showcases UNODC's work in this region based on agreed frameworks including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the international drug control conventions, the universal legal instruments against terrorism and the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice.

As part of the balanced approach, UNODC ROCA significantly deepened the implementation of the drugs and HIV prevention, treatment and rehabilitation agenda –building on the principal of advocating for improving access and coverage of most vulnerable populations with evidence based and informed strategies and services. The network of our Programme Offices in Central Asia implemented the programmes including "Families and schools together" (FAST), "Strengthening Families Programme". The HIV prevention initiatives and programmes reduced consequences of drug use especially among people who inject drugs and prison population.

UNODC Programme in Kyrgyzstan on prison reform, working with incarcerated populations is serving as global best practice. Equally important is the engagement with civil society and the work that has been done on community policing in partnership with multiple stakeholders.

2015 also saw the smooth transition of leadership of CARICC, Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre based in Almaty, from Kazakhstan to Kyrgyzstan. As one of the most important regional platform for bringing together greater cooperation between the five Central Asian countries, Azerbaijan, Russia, gains a prominent role in fostering greater drug law enforcement cooperation.

Border liaison offices were established and training was imparted to customs, border services and drug control agencies for effective border management. Through the Global Container Control Programme is now operational in Georgia,

Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Improved interdiction efforts and capacities are resulting in increased information sharing and increased seizures of narcotics and illicit goods. Equally important are the results of strengthening of the Financial Investigation Units in the region.

The issues of violent extremism, foreign terrorist fighters, radicalization and terrorism were also extremely important areas of engagement of UNODC ROCA with both national and international stakeholders to explore possible support and strategies to address these emerging challenges in the region.

Garnering evidence for action and strategies is an important component of the response in this region. Countries contribute to better understanding of scope, dimension and dynamics of drug and crime situation in the region through data collection and analysis including in the framework of Afghan Opium Trade Project and the Paris Pact Initiative.

In September 2015, the UN and the international community adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – a set of 17 global goals and 169 targets supersede the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity that also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. It promises to be a set of bold and transformative steps needed to shift the world on to a sustainable path where no one will be left behind. UNODC in Central Asia and Southern Caucuses has worked with the other UN agencies in elaboration of the new UN Development Assistance and partnership frameworks and it will continue to engage for nationalization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and support the processes required for monitoring the progress of the same.

Throughout the region UNODC is working to become ever more efficient with precious resources and all the more accountable to those who entrust us with them. We aspire to do more with judicious use of these resources. The committed and talented team of ROCA Staff members will continue to deliver the best.





UNODC's presence in Central Asia began in 1993 with the establishment of the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Today there are Programme Offices in Astana and Almaty (Kazakhstan), Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), Dushanbe (Tajikistan), Ashgabat (Turkmenistan), Baku (Azerbaijan) and Tbilisi (Georgia).

The recent emerging trends in UNODC have seen a shift towards activities within the crime mandates of the organization as well as towards an increasingly regional programming structure. Within the framework of a number of initiatives, UNODC is seeking to build synergy between its drugs and crime mandates. All this work is carried out in close cooperation with the national and international partners and donors.







#### **DECLARATION**

on strengthening of cooperation in countering the illicit trafficking of drugs and precursors, and abuse of drugs and psychotropic substances

Ninth meeting of the States parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation (1996)

Ashgabat, 5 May 2015

The delegations of the Azerbaijan Republic, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, the Aga Khan Development Network and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), gathered at the Ninth meeting of the States parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-Regional Drug Control Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as MoU) and agreed on the following:

**Emphasizing** that illicit trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances (hereinafter referred to as drugs) and their abuse not only undermines human health and well-being, but also threatens the socio-economic and political stability of individual States and the international community as a whole;

**Being concerned** that an increased level of production of drugs in Afghanistan represents an additional threat to the region and beyond that requires enhanced cooperation and comprehensive measures to counter the trafficking in drugs and the smuggling of precursors at the regional and international level, based on relevant international legal instruments;

**Recognizing** that countering drug production and trafficking contributes to greater peace and stability in the region and that the mutual cooperation of MoU parties in collectively addressing the problem will further contribute to sustainable development and fostering of rule of law;

**Recalling** the steps taken under the framework of the MoU to tackle the challenges posed by the illicit production of drugs, drug trafficking and drug abuse, especially the establishment of the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) as well as the UNODC's technical cooperation programmes in support of the MoU States parties;

**Confirming** the obligations in regard to compliance with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971) and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988);

**Recognizing** the close links between transnational organized crimes, including between drug trafficking and terrorism;

**Reaffirming** that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including terrorism benefitting from transnational organized crime, are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening territorial integrity, security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments;

**Stressing** the importance of the MoU in contributing to enhanced regional and international cooperation to better counter trafficking of drugs and related illicit financial flows, especially within the framework of shared responsibility for implementation of the Confidence Building Measures as outlined in the Heart of Asia process;

**Supporting** in this regard the technical cooperation programmes of UNODC in Central Asia and for the wider region and the role played by the Azerbaijan Republic and the Russian Federation in facilitation of enhanced regional cooperation;

**Welcoming** the launch of the new UNODC Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019) in partnership with the Central Asian countries;

**Renewing** our commitment to strengthening cooperation under the MoU, including:

- 1. **Recognize** that action against the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility requiring an integrated and balance approach in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and particularly with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in internal affairs of States, human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- 2. **Express confidence** that development of cooperation among the States of the region with the support of international organizations and donor countries, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, will promote effective measures against drug trafficking to create a solid shield against their spread;
- 3. **Emphasize** the importance of the Special Session of the General Assembly to be convened in 2016, with an aim to promote international cooperation towards an integrated and balanced strategy to counter the world drug problem, and re-iterate the commitment of MoU Parties to strengthen regional and international cooperation to meet the objectives as set out within the UNGASS preparatory process;
- 4. **Strengthen** international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, from anti-money laundering perspective;
- 5. **Promote** international cooperation in responding to new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine:
- 6. **Promote** the protection of children and young people, with particular reference to the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the internet;
- 7. **Emphasize** on the importance of "institutional capacity building" in countering narcotics as well as sharing of good practices and lessons learned with countries in the region and beyond to better respond to the emerging challenges;
- 8. **Express** readiness to support the activities of CARICC which has been established within the frame of the MOU with UNODC's support, and calls upon CARICC to further strengthen its cooperation with the competent agencies of the MoU members as well as relevant regional and inter-

- regional entities with the aim to facilitate sharing of information and organizing and conducting joint operational activities;
- 9. **Take note** of the importance of the new UNODC Programme for Central Asia as well as the UNODC Regional Programme for Afghanistan and Neighboring countries in promoting regional cooperation in countering narcotics;
- 10. **Encourage** all MoU States parties to reinforce control measures with the purpose to prevent smuggling of precursors chemicals that fuel the production of illicit drugs and in this regard **support** the relevant regional intelligence working groups;
- 11. **Re-iterate** the desire to strengthen multilateral cooperation in the framework of the MoU, in close coordination with UNODC, including with the purpose to strengthen law enforcement, crime prevention and legal/judicial cooperation;
- 12. **Note the importance** of paying more attention to the links between transnational organized crime, especially drug related crimes and corruption, and consider taking measures as appropriate in the framework of MoU contacts.
- 13. **Agree** to increase efforts to prevent drug abuse and HIV including by expanding access and availability of treatment services for drug users in the region;
- 14. **Welcome** the offer of the Republic of Tajikistan to host an international conference on counter narcotics at the end of May 2015 in Dushanbe to support the UNGASS preparatory process;
- 15. **Encourage** the donor countries and the signatories of the MoU to provide financial and in-kind contribution for the implementation of the new UNODC Programme for Central Asia (2015-2019) to further support the efforts to address the challenges posed by illicit drugs in the region.

The participants, while appreciating the efforts of Turkmenistan in hosting the Ninth meeting of the States parties to the Memorandum of Understanding on Sub-regional Drug Control Cooperation, congratulated the Government of Turkmenistan with the 20th Anniversary of Neutrality of Turkmenistan including announcing the 2015 as the «Year of neutrality and peace in Turkmenistan».



UNODC ROCA expresses its gratitude to the support provided by the donors including the Governments of Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Finland, France, the European Union, the Russian Federation, Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom, Republic of Kazakhstan, Norway, Sweden, Turkey as well as NATO, OPEC, JICA, UNDP, USAID, UNAIDS, and others in the implementation of its activities in the region.









































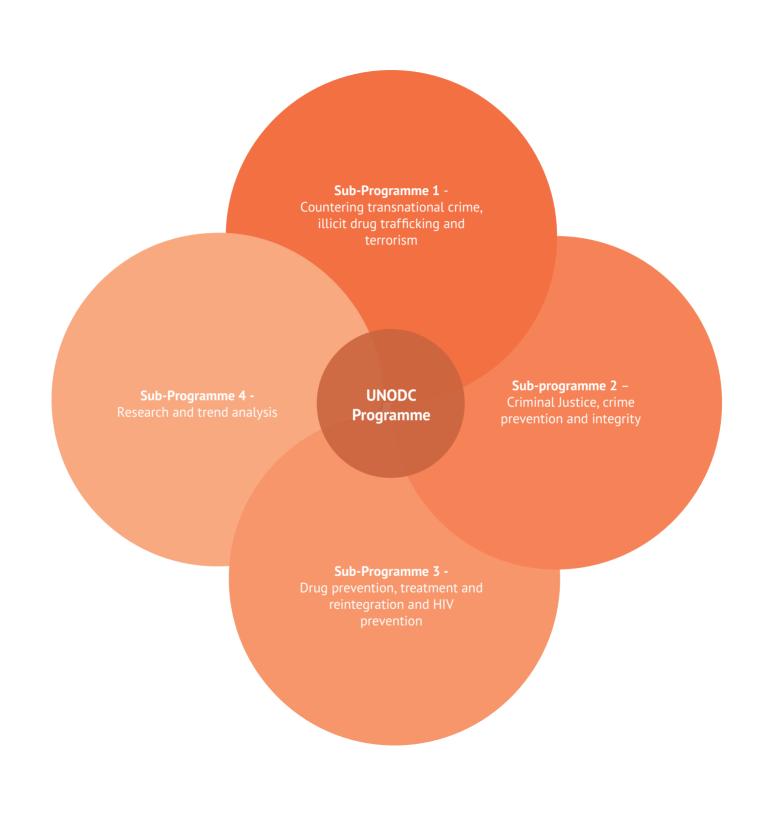




UNODC PROGRAMME
FOR CENTRAL ASIA
2015-2019



## THEMATIC SUB-PROGRAMMES OF THE UNODC PROGRAMME



#### SUB-PROGRAMME I

#### SUB-PROGRAMME 2

Countering transnational crime, illicit drug trafficking and terrorism

Criminal Justice, crime prevention and integrity

Seeks to network the member States' Law Enforcement Agencies, increasing their ability to cooperate and coordinate across borders, so as to provide a collective response to counter transnational and organized crime. The subprogramme is also focused on strengthening the inter-regional education facilities, sharing best practices and institutionalizing much of UNODC's current training portfolio within national and inter-regional structures. CARICC will be further strengthened to contribute to UNODC's Inter Regional Drug Control Approach. The sub-programme will contribute to the "network of networks" through its partnerships with law enforcement agencies in Central Asia and will also promote links with other law enforcement international bodies and organizations. Moreover, the sub-programme will focus on antimoney laundering (AML), asset recovery and the strengthening of Financial Intelligence Units. Linked closely to AML are the areas of counter terrorism and cybercrime where UNODC's assistance will target the funding of terrorism, online pharmacies and the sale of illegal drugs.

The sub-programme will seek to expand and enhance a number of current UNODC initiatives such as the Border Liaison Offices (BLOs), Drug Liaison Officers (DLOs) and the Container Control Programme. Likewise, law enforcement training will continue to build the capacity in areas where there are defined gaps.

Aims to support the member States in enhancing their capacity of preventing crime and strengthening criminal justice institutions as well as the training of the respective staff, help them implement relevant standards and norms by providing policy and legislative advice, capacity building activities, as well as support for the development and implementation of programmes through field-based technical assistance; it also seeks to strengthen the capacities of the relevant national institutions to cooperate across borders in criminal justice matters.

The sub-programme will also aim to strengthen the legislative and regulatory frameworks of the member States for international cooperation in legal/criminal justice related matters and assist them in the harmonization of their national legislation in line with UN legal instruments. It is built on the ongoing assistance to support the member States to further work at the regional level through Legal Assistance and extradition in addition to international cooperation mechanisms by supporting the sub-regional networks of prosecutors and Financial Intelligence Units, by sharing best practices, criminal justice training programmes and crime prevention strategies.

The sub-programme will assist the member States with reforming their penal institutions and regimes. Where applicable, it will assist in developing practical alternatives to incarceration. Through this sub-programme, UNODC will advocate for human rights, gender and special care for vulnerable groups within the justice system. Finally, the sub-programme will seek to build stronger ties between communities and law enforcement bodies and increase community resilience in affected areas as a means of preventing and responding to crime.

#### SUB-PROGRAMME 3

#### SUB-PROGRAMME 4

Drug prevention, treatment and reintegration and HIV prevention

Research and trend analysis

Aims to address the problems of drugs through evidence based prevention strategies which target schools, families, the workplace and the community, to increase the quality, availability and access to services for people affected by drug use disorders, prisoners. The major objective of the support in the area of health is to provide evidence based prevention of drug use, treatment of drug dependence, and the prevention of HIV and other health and social consequences associated with the use of illicit drugs. The sub-programme is designed to support the drug control agencies, Ministries of Health and Education, Ministries of the Interior and other relevant institutions to effectively coordinate and implement a comprehensive response to the problems associated with the illicit use of drugs and its health and social consequences, including HIV and AIDS, and to increase the harmonization of drug treatment, drug use prevention and harm reduction activities. HIV prevention among people who use drugs (as per the forthcoming International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use Disorders); WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide For Countries To Set Targets For Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment And Care For Injecting Drug Users; and UNODC/ILO/UNDP/WHO/UNAIDS policy brief on HIV prevention, treatment and care in prisons and other closed settings (a comprehensive package of interventions). Special focus will be given to prevention amongst the young. Additionally, the sub-programme will assist the member States in developing a system that provides alternatives to incarceration for drug users who have committed non-violent drug related crimes.

Aims to enhance the member States' research and analytical capacities and provide a centralized reporting and research platform in support of policy advice and advocacy. This sub-programme also supports many of the outcomes in the other sub-programmes, as UNODC already conducts a wealth of research within the Central Asian States. This sub-programme seeks to enhance the member States' data collection and analysis capabilities and knowledge products along the lines of the 3 other sub-programmes. It will assist the member States understand the thematic and cross-cutting issues so that they can formulate effective national policies and implement evidencebased operational responses of counter the effects of drugs, crime and security issues. It will also seek to link academic organizations and training academies, tracking the trainings, course content and trainers. Sub-programme 4 will assist the technical areas supporting anti money laundering, asset recovery and the exploitation of data activities. It will provide context and data relating to the impact of the illicit economy, so that the member States possess a holistic understanding of the complex inter-linkages between transnational crimes, corruption and malign economic factors.

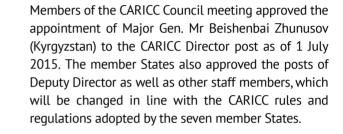
#### KEY ACHIEVE/MENTS 2015

COUNTERING
TRANSNATIONAL CRIME,
ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING
AND TERRORISM





# CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL INFORMATION COORDINATION CENTRE (CARICC)



An international "controlled delivery" operation by air, rail, and road was held in October - November 2015 en route from Dushanbe (Tajikistan) - Almaty - Astana - Petropavlovsk (Kazakhstan). The operation was conducted under the coordination of CARICC and at the initiative of the Tajik Drug Control Agency with participation of the Interior Ministry of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

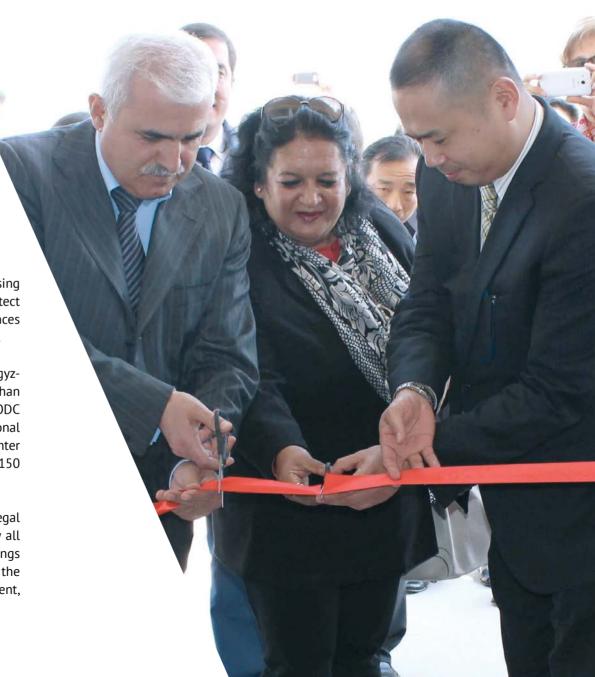
A situation review (survey) on synthetic drugs in the Central Asian region was developed and shared with the competent authorities of the CARICC member States. 10 monthly CARICC reviews on revealed drug concealment methods, as well as 44 weekly reports on resonance seizures of drugs and their precursors were compiled and distributed among the member States during the 10 months of 2015. A drug concealment methods catalogue was developed, published, and shared with the competent authorities of the CARICC member States and its partners.

### CROSS BORDER COOPERATION

UNODC is enhancing the capacities of the selected border crossing points and establishing Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) in order to detect and intercept contraband, including drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Twelve of the planned thirteen Border Liaison Offices on the Kyrgyz-Tajik, Kyrgyz-Uzbek, Tajik-Uzbek, Tajik-Afghan and Uzbek-Afghan borders were established and made fully operational by the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia. In 2015, a series of operational activities were conducted by the appointed BLO officers to counter illicit drug trafficking in Central Asia and, as a result, more than 150 kg of narcotic substances were seized.

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), which serves as a legal basis for setting up the Border Liaison Offices, was approved by all participating countries of the project. Thirty two specialized trainings were conducted and did serve to bring an understanding of the functions of a BLO and the use of advanced technical equipment, provided by ROCA.





### DRUG CONTROL AGENCY (DCA) IN TAJIKISTAN

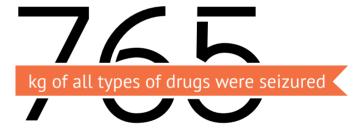
UNODC contributed to the capacity building of the DCA staff through consultancy and trainings in the different areas of competences, such as computer technology and public relations. Since the beginning of the year, over 10 trainings were provided and 126 officers were trained. UNODC also provided special equipment to the agency, in addition to the construction of a drug incinerator, kennels for the sniffing dogs, the refurbishment of the water supply system at the forensic laboratory, in addition to holding operational meetings aimed at strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of the DCA. These activities led to the seizure of 765 kg of drugs in the 9 months of 2015 (in comparison to 669 kg of the same period of 2014).

Trilateral Meetings of the representatives from the DCA, UNODC and INL USA facilitated the coordination of activities while also approving the awards for 100 DCA officers for their good performance.

The DCA Annual Review for 2014, supported by UNODC, was presented at the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) in Vienna and at the briefing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan for the heads of diplomatic missions in Dushanbe.

Furthermore, the UNODC supported multi-agency coordination and policy development through joint operations. For the first nine months of 2015, the DCA conducted 25 joint operations (7 at the national and 18 at the international levels), including 17 joint operations with the involvement of Afghan law enforcement agencies as well as with counterparts from Kyrgyzstan.







#### STATE SERVICE ON DRUG CONTROL (SSDC) IN KYRGYZSTAN

Around 80 officers of the State Service on Drug Control, the Ministry of Interior, the Customs Service and the State Service on Execution of Punishment (SSEP) were trained by UNODC on the basic investigation techniques, the use of confidential sources, undercover operations and controlled delivery methods which resulted in the seizure of 3 tons 246 kg of drugs in the first six months 2015 by the SSDC (in comparison to 747 kg for the same period 2014). In the first ten months of 2015, the SSDC revealed 278 drug related crimes. Likewise, 36 channels of drug trafficking of Afghan opiates through Kyrgyzstan via the "northern route" were dismantled, in addition to 26 criminal groups identified, with more than 200 members charged for drug related crimes.

The heads of the SSDC of Kyrgyzstan and the DCA of Tajikistan agreed on a joint plan of action to counter drug trafficking. 8 joint operations were conducted with participation of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation, DCA of Tajikistan and other LE agencies of Kyrgyzstan.







### DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS FOR CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND EXCHANGE

Modern intelligence systems and "i2" analysis software were installed in 17 counter-narcotic agencies throughout Central Asia, Afghanistan and Azerbaijan.

In 2015, 6 trainings for the intelligence analysts were conducted, 5 Steering coordination meetings and a regional experts meeting to enhance the intelligence led policing capacity of the Central Asian law enforcement agencies organized. Over 55 analysts across the region have been trained in crime analysis techniques at various levels to identify criminal cases by using criminal intelligence analysis methodologies and modern software in parallel with the accurately processed statistics and open source information. The gained knowledge enhances their capacity and improves their ability to effectively respond by utilizing special investigative techniques in the detection, investigation and prosecution of crime, organized crime and illicit drug trafficking. The Information storage capacity at a number of analytical units was upgraded and integrated into the modern intelligence analysis databases.

The UNODC technical assistance was focused on the provision of special IT equipment (servers, computers, a multifunctional printer, notebooks, projectors, UPS and etc.) for the analytical units of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, in order to enhance the analytical capacity and improve the quality of intelligence analysis in support to ongoing law enforcement investigations. This support has improved intelligence led policing and criminal intelligence analysis of law enforcement agencies to disclose, disrupt and dismantle criminal constellations.







# UNODC-WCO GLOBAL CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME – REGIONAL SEGMENT FOR CENTRAL ASIA, AZERBAIJAN AND GEORGIA

In 2015, more than 170 officers from the countries of the region (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) participated in the CCP theoretical, practical and advanced training programmes as well as mentorship programmes, study visits and regional meetings. The Port Control Unit (PCU) in Turkmenistan became operational at the International Customs Terminal in Ashgabat. In Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan the governments allocated relevant premises in the Aktau seaport (Kazakhstan), Dushanbe and Nijniy Pyanj (Tajikistan), Angren and Chukursay (Uzbekistan) dry ports.

In September officers from the State Revenues Committee of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan seized 118.7 kg of heroin in Morport Customs post in Aktau, one of the project sites. The drugs were transported in a truck on its way from the Republic of Turkey to the Republic of Kazakhstan and were concealed in special asbestos pipes among goods. Staff of PCU was trained on systematically target high-risk containers.



### ASSISTANCE TO STATE CUSTOMS SERVICE OF TURKMENISTAN

UNODC assists the State Customs Service and other law enforcement bodies of Turkmenistan in control of transit shipment, strategic and dual use goods and export/ import. Technical assistance was also provided in raising awareness on international instruments on countering organized crime, strengthening the capacities of law enforcement, in particular customs training academies while placing more emphasis on train-the-trainer programs and training materials, setting up a resource center to be utilized by customs and other law enforcement agencies and officials, reviewing the national legislation and export/import control related regulations to produce recommendations based on international standards and best practices; and acting as an additional platform to foster bilateral, regional and international cooperation in countering organized crime and terrorism.







UNODC provided expert advice to support the development of conceptually new criminal legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic. The new laws, which are currently before Parliament: decriminalize and depenalize minor offences; strengthen judicial oversight over investigations through the establishment of a new institution, the pre-trial judge; move the criminal justice system from an inquisitorial to a more adversarial model, including better quarantees to ensure equality of arms; promote the social reintegration of offenders through the establishment of a new, socially oriented probation service to manage and oversee the application of alternatives to incarceration.

UNODC's crime prevention work in the Kyrgyz Republic focused on policy development and local level planning, based on inclusive consultation processes involving local self-government, local crime prevention centers, the police and civil society. A national forum on crime prevention gathered over 1000 participants. Provincial level dialogue platforms resulted in the adoption of crime prevention plans in 3 provinces. Working groups (involving 172 stakeholders; 30% women and 28% minorities) conducted crime prevention assessments in 12 districts for the elaboration of crime prevention action plans (benefitting 250,000 inhabitants). In the city of Jalalabad (with a population of approximately 100,000 people), a crime coordination council was established under the auspices of the Mayor and a crime prevention plan adopted. Small-scale projects, implemented based on cost sharing with local authorities in the Ak Say municipality in Batken province, contributed to improved street lighting, establishment of a medical post and fencing for a kindergarten. A crime prevention campaign involved over 100 school children in the same municipality on the border with Tajikistan in sports and cultural activities and competitions to promote knowledge of traffic rules and tackle themes such as school racketeering.



With the opening of a newly constructed police station in Jalal-Abad (worth 4.7 million soms) in January 2015, the Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic, UNODC and the United States Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs marked the results of a two-year project aimed at strengthening the cooperation between the police and local communities on crime prevention and public safety. The Sputnik police station employs 12 police officers servicing around 30,000 people. The new police station has a better reception area and allows police officers to receive people in well-equipped rooms. The new police stations received positive feedback from the local community and are used by the Ministry of Interior at the national level as an example for its own efforts to strengthen police-public partnerships: since 2014, the Ministry of Interior has established 202 new police points and substations (in neighborhoods) throughout the country; as a result of internal restructuring, 122 additional neighborhood inspectors and 133 youth inspectors have been appointed.





In order to bring criminals to justice, police and prosecutors need evidence. Guilt or innocence can be proven through physical traces discovered and examined by forensic experts - like fingerprints, hair sample or DNA. In order to ensure access to justice and adherence to fair trial standards, high quality forensic services are crucial. In the Kyrgyz Republic, UNODC provides support to the State Forensics Centre under the Ministry of Justice through legal advice, training of forensic experts and technical assistance. On 20 October 2015, the State Forensics Centre adopted an action plan to guide its efforts to work towards international accreditation for the period from 2015 to 2020. Implementation of this plan should strengthen the management capacity of the national forensics service and improve the availability and quality of forensic services in line with internationally accepted standards.

The Prison Service of the Kyrgyz Republic is ill-equipped to tackle multiple challenges related to ensuring adequate prison security. Poor pay and dangerous working conditions make it hard to attract qualified staff. The Prison Service does not have sufficient technical capacity (relevant search equipment, search dogs, data collection software) to conduct effective drug control and other intelligence related activities. The challenges faced by the prison system have an adverse impact on nationwide drug control efforts and overall security and stability in the country. Given the importance of prisons in the fight against illicit drugs in the Kyrgyz Republic, UNODC facilitated the establishment of an office for operational analysis at the Prison Service and development of an inter-agency Instruction on intelligence sharing between the prison and drug control services of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Chairperson of the Prison Service of Kyrgyzstan Mr. Mamyrkulov: "Building law enforcement capacities and strengthening inter-agency coordination is critical to an effective and coordinated response to the drug problem in the country".

## officers were trained



### A GENDER PROACTIVE YEAR OF 2015 FOR UNODC IN CENTRAL ASIA

Within a one-year period since mid-2014 to mid-2015, UNODC trained over 250 police officers (with the participation of 32 women on the fundamentals of gender sensitivity in addition to involving 30 women police officers and 60 school girls in a mentorship programme) in Kyrgyzstan. During the course of the training, the participants gained basic knowledge and skills needed for developing plans on increasing the representation of women in the police as part of the implementation of the National Plan of Action on Resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council on women, peace and security. Since 2010, the number of women in the police force of the Osh province grew from 12 to 36 female police employees.

Even though one out of three drug users is a woman only one out of five drug users in treatment is a woman. In order to increase awareness about this problem a regional conference on HIV prevention among women who use drugs was organized in Tajikistan. The participants reviewed the current situation and shared good practice on effective approaches to addressing HIV risk and vulnerability among women who use drugs.

Capacity of drug dependence treatment experts to address the specific needs of women dependent on opioids was improved during a regional training in Kazakhstan. More than 30 physicians acquired new knowledge about using methadone maintenance therapy during pregnancy and for women with comorbidities.

NETWORKING INITIATIVES

Launched in 2014, the UNODC initiative on "Establishing/ Reinforcing the Network of Prosecutors and Central Authorities from Source, Transit and Destination Countries in response to Transnational Organized Crime in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus" (the CASC networking initiative) has tangibly contributed towards, inter alia, improving cooperation among competent national authorities designated to handle requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition at the interregional level. In particular, the participation in the plenary meetings of the CASC network has so far led to the establishment of fruitful communication channels between the competent national authorities of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, the USA, Switzerland, as well as Sweden. A representative of the MLA Central Authority of Georgia acknowledged that the CASC meetings are regarded as an effective tool for streamlining cases that Georgia had pending with the participating countries.

To date, it further facilitated the relationships of the law enforcement authorities of Central Asia and Southern Caucasus with their counterparts from 14 source, transit and destination countries.





### **CYBERCRIME**

New information technologies designed for good purposes, in the wrong hands, can facilitate criminal activity. In particular, electronic money and virtual currencies present opportunities to launder proceeds of crime in a way to make it extremely hard for law enforcement authorities to detect and trace them. An inter-regional training workshop organized by UNODC jointly with the US Drug Enforcement Agency in Ashgabat equipped its participants with the tools and skills required to detect and investigate the laundering of crime proceeds committed through the use of electronic money and virtual currencies. The training was delivered to senior officials from FIUs, investigators from organized/cybercrime departments of the ministries of interior and/or national security and/or financial police, prosecutors responsible for leading investigations of organized crime and/or economic crime as well as prosecutors responsible for MLA, and trainers from national training centers for prosecutors from the five countries of Central Asia, i.e. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan

and Uzbekistan as well as from three countries of Southern Caucasus, i.e. Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia (forty six trainees in total.)

Technological advances can help investigators too. For example, there is a wealth of information publicly available from social networking sites and chat forums as well as stored on electronic devices such as smartphones, which can be seized during law enforcement operations. This information is often a crucial starting point for criminal investigations. Bearing this in mind and following up the CASC Second Plenary Meeting on sharing practices in requesting and providing digital evidence in organized crime investigations and prosecutions, held in 2014, UNODC developed a practical tool "Basic tips for investigators and prosecutors for requesting electronic/digital data/evidence from foreign jurisdictions", which was posted on the UNODC webpage in both English and Russian version.



DRUG PREVENTION,
TREATMENT AND
REINTEGRATION AND
HIV PREVENTION

### DRUG USE PREVENTION

UNODC continued promotion of International Standards on Drug Use Prevention among the policy makers and experts of all Central Asia countries. In Ashgabat, a regional training on evaluation of effectiveness of drug use prevention was organized for representatives from the education, health and drug control sectors. A training on the international standards was conducted in Tajikistan and development of a road map for improvement of national drug prevention programme was started.

The core primary prevention intervention supported by UNODC in Central Asia is the family skills training program "Families and Schools Together (FAST)". In 2015, FAST reached 240 families in Uzbekistan, 59 families in Kazakhstan, 60 families in Kyrgyzstan, 60 families in Tajikistan and 60 families in Turkmenistan. All activities were undertaken in collaboration with the Governmental counterparts concerned, such as Counter narcotics agencies, Ministries of Education, Ministries of Health and drug treatment centres.

The evaluation of the program statistically demonstrated the significant positive changes for children and families. Parents reported significantly stronger bonds with their child, the ability of coping better with stresses related to the relationship with their children. Additionally, the overall well-being of the child as well as their academic skills have improved. The Family Skills Training Programs Resource Center was established in Tashkent, playing a coordination role in the scaling up of the prevention activities as well as monitoring of these activities.

The efficiency of the FAST program in the region as well as the interest from the national partners allows UNODC to initiate the pilot testing of another evidence based family skills training program "Strengthening Families Program for children of age 10-14 (SFP 10-14)" in Tajikistan. The SFP10-14 is a seven-session program focused on reducing family related risk factors for adolescent problem behaviours and building protective factors of adolescent children and their parents/caregivers with the involvement of community members. Overall, 40 families benefited from the implementation of the first cycle of the SFP 10-14 program.



### FAST PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL ASIA







### DRUG DEPENDENCE TREATMENT

UNODC supported Central Asia countries in building a health and human rights oriented response to reduce the burden caused by problematic drug use and its associated health and social consequences. Unfortunately, in some societies drug dependence is still not recognized as a health problem and many people suffering from it are stigmatized and have no access to treatment and rehabilitation. In 2015, for the first time UNODC organized a training on drug use prevention, treatment of drug use disorders and harm reduction for policy makers representing non-health sectors: drug control agencies, penitentiary departments, criminal justice and health sectors as well as civil society representatives from all Central Asia countries. The workshop raised awareness for the need to address drug related issues using a comprehensive, scientific and human rights based approach. A Regional Network of Drug Demand Reduction Coordination Centres for Central and West Asian countries was established with the aim to share experience, monitor trends of drug use and participate in joint research projects.

More than a hundred physicians, nurses and social workers increased their knowledge and skills in providing methadone maintenance therapy (MMT). This included also the staff from the penitentiary sector in Tajikistan, as the country is preparing for piloting MMT in two prisons. Information materials about MMT have been developed for various target audiences including policy makers, service providers and patients.

An effective drug treatment model was successfully piloted in 12 regional narcological clinics of Uzbekistan. This comprehensive treatment-rehabilitation model helped expand evidence based services for drug dependents and to increase the quality and effectiveness of the therapeutic interventions.

### HIV PREVENTION

In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Social Development and civil society organizations, public hearings on methadone maintenance therapy (MMT) were organized in 10 regions of Kazakhstan. This innovative form of public dialogue reached more than 1000 decision makers from the municipalities, representatives from the drug control department, penitentiary system, health care service providers, NGOs, clients of methadone maintenance programmes and their family members. In parallel, a competition for journalists was launched for the best publication about the individual and public benefits of methadone therapy. The project resulted in a 26% increase in the overall number of people receiving methadone therapy in Kazakhstan and the allocation of additional funds from the regional budget. Results of the public hearings and numerous requests to improve access to MMT were presented to the members of parliament and government representatives during a high level meeting in Astana.

A high-level meeting in Kyrgyzstan on transition from international to domestic funding for MMT and the needle and syringe exchange programmes was conducted in October 2015. It was attended by the Vice Prime Minister, the Minister of Health, the Director of the Health Insurance Fund, senior officials from the State Service on Drug Control, the Prison Department of the Ministry of Interior, the AIDS Centre, the National Centre for Addiction Disorders, as well as civil society as well and international organizations. Various funding mechanisms were discussed and the Vice Prime Minister committed to oversee the future work with allocation of domestic funding for harm reduction programmes in Kyrgyzstan.

Significant progress was made with engagement of law enforcement agencies in the national response to HIV. In Kyrgyzstan, the government approved an instruction on police work with the key population groups including people who use drugs. Subsequently, a series of training workshops were organized for the staff of police, drug control agency and prosecutors. UNODC Training Manual for law enforcement officials on provision of HIV services for people who inject drugs was adapted, translated into national languages and integrated into curricula of selected Police Academies in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. These achievements of Central Asia were presented in a global meeting of law enforcement training institutions.



In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Tajikistan, a regional conference was organized to review the current situation and share examples of good practice in HIV prevention among prisoners. UNODC also organized national and regional dialogues on HIV and drugs in preparation for the UN General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS).

In Uzbekistan, 300 copies of a national manual on monitoring human rights with a focus on HIV were developed and published in Uzbek and Russian languages, in cooperation with the National Human Rights Centre, the National AIDS Centre and "Intilish NGO", which works with people who use drugs (PWUD). The manual allows for the monitoring of the rights of people who use drugs and people living with HIV/AIDS while integrating the human rights approach into the respective government agency's work plans.

# RESEARCH AND TREND ANALYSIS

### DRUGS MONITORING PLATFORM

The UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia, jointly with the Paris Pact Initiative and the Afghan Opiate Trade project, continues to manage and update the "Drugs Monitoring Platform" (DMP). The DMP is a unique global online tool for collecting, monitoring and sharing a wide range of drug-related data and features. The respective ROCA staff members monitor the seizures of illicit drugs on a daily basis and enter the drug seizure details into the DMP, which allows to provide real-time information on the illicit trafficking opiates. By 19 November 2015, the total number of drug seizure cases in the DMP reached 179,140 entries.

### TRAINING

ROCA staff provided several trainings for the specialists of the law enforcement analytical departments in data collection, analysis and statistics, MS office proficiency (MS World for reporting, MS Excel for analysis), as well as basic, intermediate and specialized training on the Geographic Information System (ArcGIS). Each course was equipped with the relevant training manual, which was developed and locally tailored by ROCA.

### DATA COLLECTION

The ROCA Coordination and Analysis Unit (CAU) is responsible for drug data collection since 2005. Consequently, ROCA managed to gather drug related information including drug prices and purity, individual drug seizures, drug seizures and crime statistics for almost ten years. The Research Liaison Officers (RLO) network of the Paris Pact Initiative, jointly with ROCA, is responsible for the updating the Country Fact Sheets for Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus.







### UN DAY

Apress conference on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Organization was held on 23th October, 2015 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Mass media representatives, as well as the UN heads of agencies took part in the event. The UN Day was a chance to recognize how much the UN daily contributes to peace, development, humanitarian issues and human rights. In Uzbekistan, the main line of work is on the development connected to MDG agenda that is coming to an end this year. Over the last 22 years, the UN delivered technical assistance to Uzbekistan for over USD 434 million which was aimed to support economic, governmental, healthcare and

educational reforms. The UN also supports efforts to counter drug trafficking, to protect the cultural heritage and environment and to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The United Nations agencies in Turkmenistan held a UN Day celebration with a number of Turkmen NGOs which support people with disabilities. The event was organized to highlight the important role that NGOs have in Turkmenistan and the need for a greater focus on supporting people with disabilities and their families.

# TO HELP COMMUNITIES TO MAKE INFORMED CHOICES WITHOUT DRUGS

### **UZBEKISTAN**

On the occasion of observance of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June 2015), 1 ton 400 kilograms of drugs seized over the prior year and used as evidence in criminal prosecutions were destroyed by the Uzbek law enforcement agencies. The drug burning ceremony was observed by journalists, embassy representatives as well as international organizations. The press conference was held at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for Central Asia, organized jointly with the National Centre on Drug Control under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. During the same day, a round table aimed at discussing the results of a national mapping exercise and impacts of the UNODC project "Treating drug dependence and its health consequences: Treatnet II" was conducted in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The meeting gathered experts actively working in the field of drug dependency treatment. Representatives of the INL (USA), the main project donor, also attended the event.





### TAJIKISTAN

A bike ride through Dushanbe city was organized by the Drug Control Agency (DCA) under the President of Tajikistan, with the participants distributing brochures which promote a healthy lifestyle among the youth. A drawing competition was conducted in the education center for children, with the best drawings awarded with small prizes. On 26 June, 2015, a press conference was conducted at the DCA premises in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

### **KYRGYZSTAN**

During the press conference organized jointly with the State Service on Drug Control of the Kyrgyz Republic (SSDC) UNODC presented the main findings of the UNODC World Drug Report for 2015 to the media, donor community and civil society. According to the SSDC, during the first six months, drugs seizures have increased and reached 3 tons 205 kilograms of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors, compared to 660 kilograms of drugs seized for the same period in 2014. Furthermore, UNODC supported the Open Door Day at the SSDC dedicated to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. The participants visited the forensic unit, temporary detention center and other facilities of the SSDC.



### **TURKMENISTAN**

A drug burning ceremony was organized in Ashgabat on the occasion of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June 2015). Several workshops were conducted by the Ministry of Health to demonstrate the efforts in supporting drug prevention programmes including the promotion of a healthy lifestyle and the creation of a conducive environment for young people. The workshops were facilitated by national master trainers trained in the framework of Treatnet project.





### Mr. Aydin Aliev,

Chairman of the State Custom Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan: "The Customs Committee is interested in broadening the cooperation with the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia. As an important part of our cooperation, I would like to highlight the Container Control Program, which is jointly implemented by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization. Within the framework of this Program, a very important activity is carried out in Azerbaijan starting from the training and provision of specialized equipment, study tours to the allocation of office premises in customs points. We appreciate support from the UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia".

### Mr. Rustam Nazarzoda.

Director of the Drug Control Agency of the Republic of Tajikistan: "The continuous and fruitful collaboration between the Government of Tajikistan and UNODC has shown that UNODC is a reliable partner and efficient coordinator of counter-narcotic efforts at the international level. Our cooperation with UNODC allowed us to reach definite success in the area of counter-narcotics, in addition to establishing a legal – normative foundation in Tajikistan, the creation of a mechanism of international cooperation and efficient counter narcotic structures that prevent the transit of drugs from the producer to the consumer countries".

### Mr. Rafik Mambetaliev,

Chairperson of State Service on Drugs Control of Kyrgyzstan under the Government of Kyrgyzstan: "Cooperation in the area of drug control between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan is an important element in counteracting to drug trafficking at regional level and support provided by UNODC in both countries makes this cooperation more active and fruitful".

### Dr. Gulnur Kulkayeva,

Vice-Chairperson of the Committee for Control of Medical and Pharmaceutical Activities of the Ministry of Health and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

"Many decision makers do not have sufficient information about evidenced informed treatment of drug use disorders. Therefore, it is important to raise awareness about the effective and balanced drug demand reduction policies that will ensure that drug dependent people receive the necessary health and social services."

### Mr. Asylbek Khudoyarov,

First Deputy Minister of Health, Member of the State Commission on Drug Control of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

"Fruitful and constructive collaboration with UNODC and other International partners on drug use prevention and drug dependency treatment significantly contributed to the mutual efforts in this field. Efforts in this field should be systematic and comprehensive while increasing the awareness of the population in regards to drugs."

### Mr. Shakir Shayahmetov,

Deputy Director of the Institute of the General Prosecutor Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan: "For the last few years, this is the first time that we had such a pool of knowledgeable trainers with hands-on experiences and who directly deal with the issues discussed". CASC networking initiative workshop.















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