

## UNODC-ESCAP-UNCTAD

# Kick-off meeting of pilot activities for measuring illicit financial flows in Asia-Pacific countries

As custodian agencies of SDG Indicator 16.4.1 on illicit financial flows<sup>1</sup>, in 2020 UNODC and UNCTAD, together with ESCAP, inaugurated a new Development Account project called “*Statistics and data for measuring illicit financial flows in the Asia-Pacific region*”<sup>2</sup>. The project is aimed at consolidating existing and testing new methodological guidelines for the measurement of this Indicator, as well as to build statistical capacity by providing technical assistance and guidance to pilot countries for the measurement of such indicator using the defined standards and concepts developed by UNCTAD and UNODC.

After launching a call for expression of interest in Asia-Pacific region, the Partner Agencies selected as six countries of Asia as pilot testing countries. These are Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. The first four countries will start the activities by focusing on crime-related illicit financial flows, whereas Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan will be focusing on IFFs from illicit tax-related and commercial practices.

In order to present and discuss implementation of the project activities in this region, a kick-off meeting with all pilot countries is organised. In particular, the meeting will gather experts and stakeholders from institutions and agencies of the pilot countries to:

- Introduce the participating countries to the concepts and definition of illicit financial flows as included in the UNCTAD-UNODC *Conceptual framework for the statistical measurement of illicit financial flows*<sup>3</sup>
- Introduce the methodologies and guidelines developed so far by UNODC and UNCTAD, and present practical examples and good practices from previous pilot activities
- Present the project implementation strategy, discuss the workplan of implementation activities and proposing possible coordination solutions.

The meeting will be structured around two sessions:

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<sup>1</sup> Indicator 16.4.1: *Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows, in current United States dollars*

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/iff\\_Asia.html](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/iff_Asia.html)

<sup>3</sup> English version: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/IFF/IFF\\_Conceptual\\_Framework\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/IFF/IFF_Conceptual_Framework_FINAL.pdf)  
Russian version: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/IFF/Conceptual\\_framework\\_for\\_the\\_statistical\\_measurement\\_of\\_IFFs\\_Russian.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/IFF/Conceptual_framework_for_the_statistical_measurement_of_IFFs_Russian.pdf)

- (1) A first general session will introduce the general features and concepts of the *UNCTAD-UNODC Conceptual framework* and the general workplan of activities. All meeting participants will be invited to attend this session.
- (2) The second session will be organized in two breakout rooms – one room will focus on methodological guidelines and practical examples on measuring IFFs from crime and illegal market activities, with examples taken from the pilot conducted in Latin America. The other breakout room will focus on illicit financial flows from illicit-tax related commercial practices.

Country focal points from Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Maldives and Nepal are encouraged to participate in the breakout session for crime and illegal market activities, whereas country focal points from Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are encouraged to participate in the breakout session for illicit tax-related commercial practices. However, country representatives can indicate if they wish to participate in the breakout session for the other focus area.

The general session will be conducted in English. Interpretation to Russian in general session as well as in the breakout session dedicated to illicit tax-related and commercial practices IFFs is provided.

## Agenda of the meeting

Date	Wednesday, 26 May 2021
Venue	Online → see links to every session below
Bangkok/Hanoi time	1.00pm - 3.15pm
Dhaka/Bishkek time	12.00pm – 2.15pm
Kathmandu time	11.45am – 2.00pm
Tashkent/Malé time	11.00am-1.15pm
Central European Time	8.00am – 10.15am
Language	The meeting will be conducted in English. Interpretation available: General session and breakout room #A: English < - > Vietnamese General session and breakout room #B: English < - > Russian

## Session 1 – General session

**Duration: 50 mins**

**Link to access this session:** <https://live.kudoway.eu/ad/220214693515>

Meeting ID: 220214693515

No.	Topic/Presentation	Allocated time	Institution/Speaker
1	Welcome remarks	10 min	Ms. Angela ME, Chief, Research and Trend Analysis Branch, UNODC
2	<i>UNCTAD-UNODC Conceptual framework for the statistical measurement of illicit financial flows</i>	15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Enrico BISOGNO, Chief, Data Development and Dissemination Section, UNODC</li> <li>Mr. Steve MAC FEELY Chief, Development Statistics and Information Branch, UNCTAD</li> </ul>
3	Overall project overview	5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Diana CAMERINI IFF project coordinator, UNODC DDDS</li> </ul>
4	<i>Experiences from pilot activities in Latin America</i>	10 mins	Mr. David RAVAUX, IFF consultant, UNODC ROSEAP
5	Q&A	10 mins	<i>All participants</i>

Moderator: Ms. Diana CAMERINI

## Session 2 – Breakout sessions

**Duration: 1 hour 25 mins**

Breakout room A

### Topic: IFFs from illegal market and other criminal activities

Link to access breakout room A: <https://live.kudoway.eu/ad/220219433959>

Meeting ID: 220219433959

No.	Topic	Allocated time	Institution/Speaker
2A.1	Introduction to breakout session A	5 mins	Mr. Enrico BISOGNO
2A.2	Tour the table – presentation of pilot countries	5 mins	<i>National focal points</i>
2A.3	<i>Transnational Organised Crime Threat Assessment (TOCTA) for Southeast Asia: major findings and challenges</i>	15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Inshik SIM Programme officer, Illicit drug research, UNODC ROSEAP</li> </ul>
2A.4	<i>Measuring IFFs associated with illegal market activities. Illicit drugs and wildlife trafficking</i>	20 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Diana CAMERINI</li> <li>• Ms. Irmgard ZEILER Statistician, UNODC</li> </ul>
-	Coffee break	5 mins	-
2A.5	<i>Pilot results from Latin America</i>	10 mins	Mr. David RAVAUX
2A.6	Workplan and implementation strategy	15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Fitz-Roy DRAYTON Law Enforcement Expert, Drug Control and Crime Prevention, UNODC</li> <li>• Mr. David RAVAUX</li> </ul>
2A.7	Discussion and Q&A	10 mins	<i>All participants</i>

Moderator: Mr. Enrico BISOGNO

Breakout room B

### Topic: IFFs from illicit tax-related and commercial practices

Link to access breakout room B: <https://live.kudoway.eu/ad/220218372236>

Meeting ID: 220218372236

No.	Topic	Allocated time	Institution/Speaker
2B.1	Introduction to breakout session – session outline	5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Ayodele MARSHALL Associate statistician, ESCAP</li> </ul>
2B.2	Tour the table – presentation of pilot	5 mins	<i>Everyone</i>

	countries' participants		
2B.3	<i>Guidelines for measuring IFFs from tax and commercial activities</i>	15 mins	Mr. Bojan NASTAV IFF consultant, UNCTAD
2B.4	<i>Estimating IFFs from illicit tax-related and commercial practices. Experiences from a project to measure IFFs in Laos</i>	10 mins	Mr. Rahul MEHROTRA
2B.5	<i>South Africa's experience in measuring tax and commercial IFFs and establishing inter-agency collaboration</i>	10 mins	Ms. Kathy NICOLAU Public Finance and IFF Technical Advisor
2B.6	Workplan and implementation strategy	20 mins	• Mr. Alick Mjuma NYASULU Statistician, ESCAP
2B.7	Discussion and Q&A	10 mins	<i>All participants</i>

Moderator: Mr. Alick Mjuma NYASULU

## Contact persons

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