

Third National Workshop on Measuring Illicit Financial Flows Associated with Drug Trafficking in Bangladesh

**Jointly Organized by
Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU)
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

As custodian agencies of SDG Indicator 16.4.1 on illicit financial flows (IFFs), in 2020 the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), together with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), inaugurated a new Development Account **project called “Statistics and data for measuring illicit financial flows in the Asia-Pacific region”**¹. 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 using the defined standards and concepts developed by UNCTAD and UNODC. The project is implemented in six countries of Asia, including Bangladesh.

In August 2021, a National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)² has been set up among key national stakeholders and data providers to support the project implementation during 2021 and 2022 in Bangladesh for the measurement of drug-related IFFs. After two national workshops held in August and November 2021, data availability assessment and data collection have been launched to map data sources and collect data on drug trafficking in the country. Key information was collected also through qualitative interviews with the relevant institutions. Status of data collection and early results will be shared to the participants of the workshop.

The workshop to be held on **Monday, 7 March** will gather representatives from Bangladesh national institutions on the measurement of illicit financial flows associated with drug trafficking in the country. With the ultimate goal to build capacity of the national authorities to collect data and measure IFFs associated with drug trafficking activities in the country, the workshop will cover the following activities:

- Review the main concepts and ideas of the *UNODC-UNCTAD Conceptual Framework for the Statistical Measurement of Illicit Financial Flows*³ and of the Guidelines to measure drug-related IFFs, to introduce to practical exercises.

¹ https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/iff_Asia.html

² The National Coordination Mechanism is composed by the National Bureau of Statistics as national focal point, and representatives of the national focal point institutions appointed for this project which have substantive knowledge on illicit financial flows and in the activities related to drug trafficking in the country and of UNODC staff and consultants assigned to this project.

³ https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/IFF/IFF_Conceptual_Framework_FINAL.pdf

- Share the update on progress made so far on data collection and desk review on drug-trafficking related IFFs in Bangladesh;
- Train on main concepts and ideas of IFFs measurement for SDG Indicator 16.4.1 and the guidelines to measure drug-related IFFs, with practical interactive exercises;
- Generate inputs, suggestions and observations on the primary findings;
- Identify next steps to carry forward the project;

Agenda

Date	Monday, 7 March 2022
Dhaka time	09:45 – 16:00
Venue	Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon, 107 Kazi Nazrul Islam Ave, Dhaka 1215, Bangladesh
Language	The workshop will be conducted in English

Session 1: Inauguration and pilot update - 10:00 – 13:15		
Time	Topic	Speaker / Facilitator
09:45 - 10:00	Registration	UNODC
10:00 - 10:10	Opening Remarks / Aims and Objectives of the Consultation	UNODC
10:10 - 10:30	Review of the main concepts of the <i>Conceptual Framework for the Statistical Measurement of IFFs</i> and of the guidelines for measuring IFFs related to drugs	UNODC
10:30 - 10:40	Speech by the Special Guest	Director General, DNC
10:40 - 10:50	Speech by the Chief Guest	Senior Secretary, Public Security Division, Ministry of Home Affairs
10:50 - 11:00	Speech by the Chair	Head of BFIU
11:00 - 11:10	<i>Coffee break</i>	

11:10 - 11:25	Bangladesh drug situation, data collected and methodology	UNODC
11:25 - 11:45	Discussion	All participants
11:45 - 11:55	Arrangement for group exercises	
11:55 - 13:15	Group exercise 1	All participants, guided by UNODC
13:15 - 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
Session 2: Exercises part 2 – 14:30 - 16:00		
14:30 - 15:45	Group exercise 2	All participants, guided by UNODC
15:45 - 16:00	Conclusions	BFIU / UNODC