

First National Training on Measuring Illicit Financial Flows associated with trafficking in persons in the Maldives

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 for the measurement of such indicator using the defined standards and concepts developed by UNCTAD and UNODC. The project is implemented in six countries of Asia, including the Maldives.

In August 2021, a National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)² has been set up among key national stakeholder and data providers to support the project implementation during 2021 and 2022 in the Maldives. After two national workshops held in August and October 2021, data availability assessment and data collection have been launched to map data sources and collect data on drug trafficking and trafficking in persons 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 this training.

The training to be held on **Thursday 24 February** will gather representatives from Maldives national institutions on the measurement of illicit financial flows associated with trafficking in persons in the country. With the ultimate goal to build capacity of the national authorities to collect data and measure IFFs associated with trafficking in persons activities in the country, the training will cover the following activities:

- Review of the methodological guidelines to measure illicit financial flows associated with trafficking in persons;
- Conduct practical exercises to understand the methodological framework and measure illicit financial flows associated with trafficking in persons;
- Present the information collected from trafficking in persons activities in the country;
- Discuss about the next steps for the project implementation.

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.



Agenda

Date	Thursday, 24 February 2022
Male' time	11:00 – 13:55
Modality	Virtual workshop
Link	The link will be shared to the participants by email.
Language	The workshop will be conducted in English

Time	Topic	Presenter
11:00 - 11:10	Welcoming remarks	Maldives National Bureau of Statistics <i>(name to be confirmed)</i>
11:10 - 11:15	Objectives	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC
11:15 - 11:30	Review of guideline for measuring illicit financial flows associated with trafficking in persons	Diana Camerini, Project Coordinator, UNODC
11:30 - 11:40	Questions and answers	All participants
11:40 - 12:15	Exercise 1: Cases studies to understand the illicit financial flows associated with trafficking in persons	All participants, guided by UNODC
12:15 - 12:20	Coffee break	
12:20 - 13:20	Exercise 2: Cases studies to understand the conceptual framework to measure illicit financial flows associated with trafficking in persons	All participants, guided by UNODC
13:20 - 13:35	Maldives situation on trafficking in persons and data collected	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC
13:35 - 13:45	Comments on data collected and current situation on trafficking in persons	All participants
13-45 - 13:55	Conclusion: missing data and steps forward	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC

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