

First National Workshop for Measuring Illicit Financial Flows associated with drug trafficking in Nepal

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 Nepal.

In November 2021, with the support of the Central Bureau of Statistics, a National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)² through a National Committee has been set up among key national stakeholder and data providers to support the project implementation during 2021 and 2022 in Nepal. After meetings with the key national data providers, data availability assessment and data collection were carried out to map data sources and collect data on drug trafficking, trafficking in persons and related IFFs in the country. Key information is collected also through qualitative interviews with experts from relevant institutions. Status of data collection and early results will be shared to the participants of this workshop.

The first National Workshop for Measuring Illicit Financial Flows associated with drug trafficking in Nepal will be held on **Monday, 21 March** and will gather representatives from Nepal national institutions and key stakeholders with expertise on drug trafficking activities and related illicit financial flows. With the ultimate goal to build capacity of the national authorities and key stakeholders to collect data and measure such types of IFFs in the country, the workshop will cover the following activities:

- Officially launch the drug trafficking National Coordination Mechanism
- Present the conceptual framework for the statistical measurement of illicit financial flows (IFFs) and the methodological guidelines to measure drugs related

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.

IFFs

- Conduct practical exercises to understand the conceptual framework and the methodological guidelines
- Present the information collected on drug trafficking in the country
- Discuss about the next steps for the project implementation.

Agenda

Date	Monday 21 March 2022
Kathmandu time	10:00 – 17:00
Modality	In-person workshop
Venue	Radisson Hotel Kathmandu: Begnas hall Lazimpat, Ward no. 2, Kathmandu 44600
Language	The workshop will be conducted in English

Session 1: Inauguration and pilot update		
Time	Topic	Speaker / Facilitator
09:30 - 10:00	Registration	UNODC
10:00 - 10:10	Opening Remarks Aims and Objectives of the training	Central Bureau of Statistics
10:10 - 10:30	Project presentation, implementation strategy and Drug Trafficking National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC
10:30 - 10:40	Q&A on the implementation strategy and NCM	All participants
10:40 - 10:55	Conceptual Framework for the Statistical Measurement of IFFs	Diana Camerini, Project Coordinator, UNODC
10:55 - 11:05	Questions and answers	All participants
11:05 - 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:15 - 11:30	Guidelines for measuring IFFs related to drug trafficking	Diana Camerini, Project Coordinator, UNODC
11:30 - 11:40	Questions and answers	All participants
11:40 - 11:55	Nepal drug situation and data collected	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC

11:55 - 12:05	Discussion	All participants
12:05 - 12:20	Data collection tools	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC
12:20 - 13:35	<i>Lunch break</i>	
Session 2: Practical exercises		
13:35 - 15:00	Group exercise 1 - Case studies to understand main illicit financial flows concepts and the Conceptual framework	All participants, guided by UNODC
15:00 - 16:20	Group exercise 2 - Case studies to understand the methodology to measure illicit financial flows associated with drug trafficking activities	All participants, guided by UNODC (the participants are encouraged to bring a cell phone for the exercise)
16:20 - 16:40	Discussions	All participants
16:40 - 17:00	Conclusions	David Ravaux, Regional Consultant, UNODC