The ‘International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes’ (ICCS) – update on State of implementation

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An overview

- A brief history of the ICCS up to 2015
- UNODC support to ICCS implementation
- From the consultation meeting to the first TAG meeting
- Selected implementation challenges
A brief history of the ICCS (I)

2009-2012:

- Joint UNODC/UNECE Task Force on crime classification set up by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES)
- CES approves the International Crime Classification Framework (ICCF)

2013:

- The UN Statistical Commission and UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice endorsed the plan to develop a full crime classification for statistical purposes (part of the ‘Roadmap to improve Crime Statistics’)

2013-2014:

- 3 Expert Group Meetings and 2 rounds of testing of the ICCS among volunteer countries (77 countries + 10 int. organisations contributed to the development of ICCS)
A brief history of the ICCS (II)

8/2014: Advanced draft sent for country consultation (comments from 44 countries and 6 int'l organizations)

3/2015: UNSC endorsed the ICCS as an international statistical standard for crime data collection; UNODC as the custodian of the ICCS; the implementation plan for the classification and the creation of a technical advisory group

5/2015: The UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) welcomes the decision of the UNSC; endorses the implementation plan; and confirms the creation of the TAG
UNODC support to ICCS implementation (I)

1. Information/ Dissemination

2. Methodological Support
UNODC support to ICCS implementation (II)

3. Technical Assistance
4. Organizational Framework
Annotated outline of ‘Mapping national administrative crime statistics into the ICCS
has been produced and shared with TAG members

Outline is a start and nucleus for the full manual (2017) which will rely on the inputs
from volunteer countries and consultants

Part A: how to build correspondence tables/mapping crimes?

Part B: how to use disaggregating variable to produce better crime data?

Part C: Guidelines for classifying specific offences (examples)

Annex 1: Case studies

Annex 2: Model work plan for mapping classifications
Case studies

- Germany (Section 01: Acts leading to death)
- United States (Section 03: Injurious acts of a sexual nature)
- Israel (Section 04: Acts against property involving violence)
- Australia (Section 05: Acts against property only)
- Chile (Section 06: Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs)
- Sweden (Section 07: Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption)

The case studies demonstrate how mapping national crime classifications is done concretely and how correspondence tables that provide details on complete mapping (full correspondence of national definition with ICCS) and partial mapping (partial correspondence/discrepancy) can be constructed.
Technical Advisory Group to the ICCS (TAG)

- Primary role of the TAG
  - Provide regular technical advice to UNODC as the custodian of the ICCS
  - Provide advise and inputs for the development of methodological tools and trainings
  - Keep the ICCS up-to-date by initiating and implementing future revisions of the ICCS
  - Members of the TAG should act as resource person and focal point for national counterparts

- Members should be technical experts with the relevant substantive expertise
- Strong synergies with role and tasks of UN-CTS Focal Point

- Note Verbale requesting nomination sent to all Gov’ts on 6 November 2015
- First TAG meeting 9-11 May 2016 attended by 65 experts from 42 countries and 4 continents
Selected challenges of ICCS implementation

• How to map national definitions of crime to ICCS
• How to collect disaggregated crime data (victim, perpetrator, crime event)
• How to harmonize data production across all stages/levels of criminal justice
• How to establish correspondence between administrative data and victimisation survey data
• How to effect changes and at the same time keep continuity (time series)
• How to communicate the ICCS to both data providers and data users
Thank you for your attention


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