What We Do

Promote rule of law and good governance as foundations of peace, security and sustainable development

Strengthen national policies and practices consistent with international norms, standards, convention obligations and evidence-based best practices

Strengthen institutional and individual capacities to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking, violent extremism and terrorism

Promote regional and international cooperation and partnerships against shared threats of crime and terrorism

Provide research, data analysis and expertise on global, regional and national trends on crime and terrorism

Quarterly Newsletter from the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
January – March 2017

Egypt: Combating Corruption

Management of Seized or Confiscated Assets

In partnership with INTERPOL, UNODC delivered in January a basic and advanced training on “Management of information and criminal intelligence analysis at borders” for 30 Tunisian law enforcement officers from the Customs and 10 officers from the Ministry of Interior. The objective was to enhance operational and technical cooperation between these two authorities and to support law enforcement capacity to analyze risk factors and profile movements of people and goods to more effectively identify cross border illicit trafficking and transnational organized crime related with terrorism. The training featured real terrorism cases, and best practices in inter-agency and international law enforcement cooperation. *Project is funded by UK, Canada & Japan*

Algeria: Juvenile Justice

Child Protection Capacity Enhanced

In February, UNODC trained police officers, members of the Gendarmerie, judges and prosecutors working with children on the international standards, and on regional and national good practices in assisting and protecting child victims of crime. The training concluded with several recommendations including: Guides and tools be developed to raise awareness on the 2015 Law No. 15-12; Procedural manuals be developed for all justice and child protection actors to guide them when handling child victims cases; Juvenile police be trained on interviewing techniques of child victims and relevant international experiences be shared; and Capacity building on after-care, assistance and social and financial compensation for child victims of crime be provided. *Activity is funded by Norway.*

Jordan: Juvenile Justice

Children learn their rights

As part of UNODC ongoing awareness-raising campaign on child rights that started in October 2016, UNODC, the Juvenile Police Department and the EU Delegation in Jordan organized more than 75 visits to elementary and secondary schools in Amman and other cities. More than 2,000 students attended lectures and received awareness-raising material to inform them of their rights. The UNODC campaign aims to increase children’s awareness on their legal rights and procedures within the restorative justice system for children in contact with the law, and to ensure a child-friendly environment at the Juvenile Police stations around the country, in line with international standards. *Project is funded by EU*

Palestine: Forensics

Supporting Scientific Research and International Partnerships

In order to support the development of forensic science capacity within the Palestinian judicial system, UNODC supported the attendance of five forensic scientists from the newly-established Palestinian Civil Police Forensic Science Laboratory at the American Academy of Forensics Sciences 69th Annual Scientific Meeting that took place in New Orleans in February. Three of the participants gave presentations at the international meeting on the topic of Arabic handwriting. *Project is funded by Canada*
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Egypt: HIV/AIDS
Prison staff Trained on VCT Services
Around 20 prison staff from the Borg ElArab, Fayoum and Wadi Al-Natroun prisons gathered at Tora Prison Training Centre in February to receive a UNODC training. Experts from the Ministry of Health and Population, the World Health Organizations and UNAIDS, along with UNODC, delivered the training. The objective was to build capacity of prison staff and prison service providers in the provision of comprehensive HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually-transmitted infections prevention, treatment and care services in prisons, as well as on voluntary, confidential counseling and testing services adaptable to the Egyptian context. Project is funded by Drosos Foundation

Jordan: Container Control
Study Visit to the Port Control Unit
From January to March, UNODC and WCO undertook several mentoring and training sessions under the Container Control Programme, with a focus on strategic trade and export control for the Port Control Unit (PCU) at Aqaba Port and the Air Cargo Control Unit at Queen Alia International Airport. In February, Aqaba PCU received a study visit by PCU in Poti, Georgia. A high-level delegation from Georgia met senior Jordanian officials from relevant departments to exchange experience in container and cargo control and strengthen bilateral cooperation. During this quarter, Jordan made several seizures in dual use items, cocaine and cigarettes. Project in Jordan is funded by USA

Tunisia: Border Control
A Study Tour to Canada
UNODC organized a study tour to Canada in March for a high-level Tunisian delegation to expose them to the Canadian experience in managing and analyzing border risks, including the analysis process, coordination and management, and information dissemination to field border units. The tour also included a visit to Montreal International Airport to see the coordination and impact of the results transmitted by the Targeting Centre to the operational units at the borders under actual operational conditions. Programmes on standardization of operational management procedures were also discussed. Project is funded by UK, Canada & Japan

Upcoming Events
- Launching ceremony of the UNODC-established Training Venue, Amman, April-May
- Launching ceremony of the Criminal Tracking System, Amman, April-May
- Training workshop for police officers on Violence against Women, Cairo, May
- Training workshop for Prosecutors on Violence against Women, Asyut, April

Egypt: Violence against Women
Prosecutors trained on VAW cases
A capacity-building training was held in Luxor in January to train 20 prosecutors on handling cases of violence against women. This workshop was one of a series of workshops for prosecutors held in different governorates of Egypt. The training tackled topics such as the psychological impact of violence on women, evidence gathering, interviewing victims and witnesses, how the decision to prosecute should be taken, etc. UNODC also addressed common misconceptions about different topics, such as female genital mutilation, child marriage, and women’s right to work. Project is funded by the EU

Regional: Terrorism Prevention
Parliamentarians fight Extremism and Terrorism
In February, UNODC in partnership with the Egyptian Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held a major regional conference for Parliamentarians of Middle East and Northern African countries on the Challenges posed by extremism Leading to terrorism and preventative criminal justice responses. The Conference concluded with practical suggestions related to the development of effective national, regional and international legal frameworks against terrorism, extremism, radicalization and incitement; strengthening the central role of sustainable development in countering extremism leading to terrorism; fighting extremism in prisons; and strengthening cooperation with civil society organizations. Project is funded by Japan.

Tunisia: Container Control
Training on Container Profiling, Selection and Inspection
UNODC and the World Customs Organization (WCO) delivered a two-week practical training in February and March at the Port of Radès in Tunis. Officers from Customs, the Border Police, the Port Terminal and the Port Authority of the Port of Radès received capacity building in line with the latest international standards in profiling, selection and inspection of high-risk containers used for cross-border movements of illicit goods. The training took place under the framework of the joint Container Control Programme (CCP), a joint initiative between UNODC and WCO, which assists countries in establishing and maintaining effective container controls of high-risk cargo whilst facilitating legitimate trade. Project in Tunisia is funded by Japan.