2017 PROGRESS REPORT*

Regional Programme for the Arab States to Prevent and Combat Crime, Terrorism and Health Threats, and to Strengthen Criminal Justice Systems, in line with International Human Rights Standards (2016-2021)

*Reporting Period: January – November 2017
The Regional Programme for the Arab States to Prevent and Combat Crime, Terrorism and Health Threats, and to Strengthen Criminal Justice Systems, in line with International Human Rights Standards (2016-2021) (Regional Programme) is the strategic partnership framework of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) work in the 18 Arab States in the Middle East and North Africa (“the region”). It also serves as an overarching framework for cooperation between the League of Arab States (“LAS”), the 18 participating States and UNODC. During annual Steering and Follow-Up Committee meetings, representatives from the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Health of all participating countries, and representatives from LAS Secretariat and UNODC, meet and discuss progress made, challenges faced, emerging threats, priorities and opportunities, and provide guidance for future activities.

The Regional Programme is a reiteration of UNODC’s first Regional Programme on Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Reform in the Arab States (2011-2015), which was assessed a success by Member States, donors, beneficiaries through an independent in-depth evaluation conducted in 2015. Building on this success and the lessons learnt, UNODC, together with LAS and the participating Member States, developed the new Regional Programme to continue to provide a coherent and integrated approach to the challenges and needs identified through ongoing consultations with stakeholders. It also serves as a framework for enhancing Arab-Arab cooperation in legal/legislative, judicial, law enforcement and public health fields.

The Regional Programme (2016-2021) is structured on five sub-programmes reflecting the priorities identified by Member States: 1) combating organized crime; 2) countering terrorism; 3) combating corruption and financial crimes; 4) strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice; and 5) prevention and treatment of drug use and care of drug use disorders, and HIV/AIDS prevention and care. In addition, UNODC integrates four essential cross-cutting themes into all its work, namely the strengthening of data collection and research; the promotion of regional and international cooperation; the fostering of partnerships with civil society; and the mainstreaming of human rights and gender perspectives.

From the wide range of challenges the region is confronted with, security and the spread of terrorism received most attention. To tackle these challenges, regional cooperation and coordination is essential. The Regional Programme provides a comprehensive and well-integrated framework, at both national and regional levels, to improve security, justice and human rights in the region.

Finally, the Regional Programme's strategic approach is consistent with and implements global policies as reflected in the resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), the declarations of the Crime Prevention Congress (2015), the Sustainable Development Goals (2015), the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (2016), and relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council.

1 The Regional Programme covers Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Syria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. Syria will only benefit from the RP when the suspension of its activities in LAS is lifted.
Similar to 2016, the year 2017 was marked by instability in key countries of the region. This instability had a spillover effect onto neighbouring countries and provided an environment conducive to the furthering or expansion of illicit trafficking, notably arms, cultural property and migrant smuggling. The national counter-terrorism efforts displayed by the countries in the region had a positive impact on the dwindling of the areas held by some terrorist groups and the number of attacks conducted in some countries. In fact, Iraq is almost free now from the Islamic State in Iraq and Levant (ISI or Da’esh). However, the year 2017 was a year where the nexus between organized crime and terrorism was not only acknowledged internationally but also where an increasing number of clear instances of collaboration with organized criminal groups were brought to light. In addition, foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) had a particularly devastating impact, further fuelling instability in Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Yemen but also playing key roles in attacks in other countries. As national and international forces press on terrorist groups in Iraq, Syria and Libya, FTF flows in some countries started to reverse, with an increasing number of departures back to the countries of origin of those fighters. The potential use of the FTF deadly know-how makes the terrorist threat more widespread than ever in the region.

In line with the new vision provided by the Regional Programme to deliver more operational, practical and hands-on support, UNODC has continued to use its specialized global, regional and national projects. In this regard, the specialized projects on cybercrime, forensics, criminal information analysis and border control were requested to deliver more. Now that UNODC is better able to cope with its new financial management system called “Umoja”, and despite remaining challenges associated with that system, the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa was able to considerably increase its technical assistance to US$ 15.4 million (as at end-November). This represents the highest delivery figure for the Regional Office since its creation in 1997. In 2016, operational results were already higher than in 2015 despite a lower delivery (around US$ 12 million). In 2017, operational results are higher than in 2016, with 6,600 officials trained (5,100 in 2016), US$ 4.2 million in specialized equipment procured (US$ 1.8 million in 2016), close to 9,500 people who received direct assistance/services from UNODC projects (885 in 2016), and close to 1,600 officials supported in sharing of international best practices and their participation in international forums (900 in 2016).

In 2017, the range of UNODC expertise available in the region increased dramatically. This expertise was sustained and expanded, with new staff specialized in criminal information analysis, migrant smuggling, and human trafficking. Although no new Programme Office was opened in the region, the total number of UNODC staff has increased to 95 (vs. 80 in 2016). UNODC offices in Cairo, Abu Dhabi, Tunisia and Palestine have received new staff. Looking at current discussions with international partners, the growth in UNODC presence in the region will continue in 2018.

In terms of interventions, the new projects that started in 2016 have reached their cruising speed in 2017. This was the case for forensics, cybercrime, criminal border control, criminal information analysis, and health in prison settings. They came to complement the assistance already delivered in all the other areas of the Regional Programme. The thematic area that saw the most important increase in activities was migrant smuggling and human trafficking, with continuous engagement in all North African countries and Sudan. Counter-terrorism activities also experienced an increase, and more focus too, with numerous activities with Iraq. During 2017, the Office continued the consolidation of its portfolio of projects in order to add more flexibility to its interventions and be quicker to start new cooperation. In this regard, a new regional project on anti-corruption was activated, and two other on forensics and violence against women are being developed for activation in 2018.

With the current Regional Programme adopting a more operational and practical approach to supporting Member States, UNODC moved away from basic training and general awareness on certain types of crimes in order to focus on specialized techniques at intermediate and advanced levels. This also translated into modern/new training methodologies being used/tested, e.g. mock trials on migrant smuggling and human trafficking, online legal support chats on counter-terrorism, mix between theoretical and practical training on site for border control (land, air, sea), etc.

As a consequence, tangible results were obtained, such as the roll-out of phase one for the Tunisian Risk and Threat Analysis Management Centre that is to link in real time all land, air and sea border crossing points. In Jordan, seizures continued to be made at the Port Control Unit in Aqaba, while the Investigation Unit of the Directorate General for General Security in the Lebanese Bekaa region has become fully operational. As support to national efforts to prevent violent extremism, the Training Centre of the Community Peace Centre in Jordan was inaugurated, while refurbishment works in Lebanon at the Roumieh prison were finalized as a means to further improve/facilitate rehabilitation services. In the area of anti-corruption, the GoAML and GoCase software are still in use in Egypt, and several Gulf countries were supported in submitting their self-assessment under the UNCAC Review Mechanism. Under the health-related mandates of UNODC, the Office is now in the position to support the delivery of tuberculosis and HIV infection control measures to the benefit of around 38,000 prisoners. The first voluntary testing sessions began in Egypt during the third quarter of the year.
Overall, the year 2017 was a good year in terms of results achieved. It is expected that this upward trend in operations and the increasing number of tangible results will continue in 2018. Operations are on track, at the moment, to achieve the objectives set in the Regional Programme.

**SUB-PROGRAMME I: COMBATING ORGANIZED CRIME**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Project Title – Ongoing</th>
<th>Region/Country</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Global Programme against Trafficking</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2008-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Programme against Smuggling of Migrants</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2010-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (Egypt and Morocco selected amongst 13 countries worldwide for national activities implementation)</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2010-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Container Control Programme</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2014-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening the framework of the Arab region to prevent and combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2011-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Arab Initiative for building national capacities to combat human trafficking in the Arab countries</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2011-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIRCOP - Establishment of real-time operational communication between international airports in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2016-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Border Control against Illicit Trafficking</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2015-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening Criminal Intelligence Analysis Capacities in the MENA region</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establishment of the UNODC Subregional Office for the Gulf Cooperation Council Region (OGCCR)</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2009-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving border management capacities in Lebanon</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>2015-2017</td>
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<td>Establishment of UNODC Subregional office for the Maghreb countries</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>2010-2017</td>
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<td>Forensic Service, Human Resources, and Governance Development Assistance for the Palestinian Authority</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>2011-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening Respect for Human Rights and the Rule of Law in the Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Sectors in Tunisia, with a focus on the Police and the Judiciary</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>2013-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening Tunisian Crime Scene Investigation Services</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Tunisian Capacities to prevent and combat Cybercrime</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>2015-2019</td>
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**Outcome 1:**
**National Authorities Strengthen their Effective Control of Borders**

**Implementation Update**

In 2017, UNODC expanded its assistance in the region on border control and the strengthening of capacities to interdict illicit trafficking and to combat transnational organized crime, covering land, air and sea border controls.

**Land Border Control**

Under the regional land border control project, launched in 2015 to combat all forms of illicit trafficking and to address the nexus between transnational organized crime and terrorism, UNODC expanded its assistance significantly during 2017, providing support through training, assessments and equipment, and by fostering inter-agency as well as regional cooperation in Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

UNODC launched activities in Algeria in April 2017, based on the strong political will of Algeria and Tunisia to develop technical and operational cooperation at their shared border. UNODC organized a high-level meeting between the two countries, attended by the General Directors of Customs together with Directors of the relevant Customs Units of both countries. As a result, both countries agreed on the establishment of a regional committee and two technical sub-committees in charge of unifying customs legislation and harmonizing operational customs procedures in order to reach a so-called ‘One-Stop Border’ model (OSBP) at two selected pilot sites. The recommendations on the set-up of these committees is expected to receive official approval from Algeria and Tunisia in December 2017.

Following successful trainings on information analysis provided to Egypt in 2016, UNODC provided IT software to
Further facilitate the analytical process and to support Egyptian law enforcement agencies processing of large amounts of data into user-optimized intelligence.

In Morocco, UNODC trained 38 law enforcement officials from various agencies under the Ministry of Interior on document fraud, behavioural indicators and profiling techniques for suspicious travellers and foreign terrorist fighters, as well as on interviewing techniques. These trainings took place at the Royal Moroccan Police Institute and were implemented in cooperation with Interpol.

In Tunisia, UNODC trained 88 officers from various law enforcement agencies in four training sessions on basic and advanced information analysis. These trainings were implemented in cooperation with Interpol, and included real-case scenarios of acts of terrorism at borders as well as technical, tactical and operational techniques to be combined with the use of investigative software for data registration and modification. In November 2017, UNODC delivered a training on fraud documents for 20 Tunisian Customs officials. Furthermore, UNODC developed a training plan on border information and risk management, and provided IT equipment (hardware and software) for the establishment of a Risk and Threat Analysis Management Centre (RTAMC), which will be connected to six selected pilot border crossing points (land, air and sea) by the end of 2017, in line with the Tunisian National Security Strategy. UNODC also assisted in the development of PNR (passenger name record) legislation to connect the RTAMC those data and use them to profile passengers.

In Lebanon, UNODC supported the establishment of an Investigation Unit in the Bekaa region. The Unit is now fully operational. UNODC also developed software specifically tailored to the needs of the Investigation Unit to allow for effective investigations related to offences and crimes taking place at the borders. The Office also procured three vehicles for the transportation of prisoners and to meet the basic needs of vulnerable persons under investigation between the various Investigation Units and the courts. Furthermore, UNODC delivered advanced training on countering and preventing drug trafficking and its nexus with terrorism, and on combating and preventing trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling at borders, including the development and dissemination of guidance material such as standard operating procedures (SoPs) for border agencies.

**AIRCOP**

Under the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP), which was launched in the region in 2016 in cooperation with Interpol and the World Customs Organization (WCO), UNODC trained 69 officers in Jordan and Lebanon in 2017. AIRCOP promotes inter-agency cooperation and real-time operational communication among law enforcement authorities operating at international airports in order to detect and interdict the travel of suspicious passengers, especially FTF, as well as illicit trafficking attempts/cargo by air. The training included sessions on the detection and interception of suspicious passengers through profiling, targeting and behavioural detection techniques. Furthermore, nine officers from the region participated in the 5th AIRCOP Global Meeting, organized in April 2017, thus providing them with the opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices with the other 76 participants from 40 countries and experts from international organizations on the fight against illicit trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including terrorism via air routes.

During 2017, UNODC developed a training curriculum that provides frontline officers at international airports with the required skills and knowledge to identify and interdict suspicious passengers and FTF. The curriculum was developed in cooperation with Interpol, Canada and the UK Border Force. In September 2017, a regional meeting was organized in Amman to discuss the content of the curriculum. Participants from Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan and Turkey, in addition to representatives from UNODC, Canada, EU, UK and Interpol, were engaged in in-depth discussions on the content of the curriculum and provided insightful comments on national and regional training needs. AIRCOP is perceived as an effective and relevant initiative to support law enforcement efforts at international airports to counter the threats posed by suspicious passengers, including foreign terrorist fighters, and illicit cargo.

**Container Control Programme**

The Global Container Control Programme (CCP) was launched in 2015 in the region to help countries facilitate international trade and prevent the exploitation of containers and cargo for the purposes of illicit trafficking, organized crime and terrorism. In 2017, direct assistance was provided to Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia. The Port Control Unit (PCU) in the Port of Aqaba and the Air Cargo Control Unit at the Queen Alia International Airport, in Jordan, which are made up of the Customs, the Special Branch and Anti-Narcotics Department, the Military Security Department and General Intelligence Department, have made important seizures in the areas of illicit drugs (amphetamine and cocaine), wildlife, intellectual property rights infringements, counterfeit medicine and products, cigarettes, weapons, and explosives. Jordan received further capacity-building in 2017 on risk analysis of high-risk containers and the facilitation of trade. In Tunisia, CCP was launched at the Port of Radès, where a PCU consisting of the Customs, Border Police, the Port Authority as well as the stevedoring and handling company STAM was established. That Unit received technical assistance in the areas of identification, selection and inspection of high-risk containers. In Morocco, the CCP assisted the Customs’ Risk Analysis Units in Rabat, Casablanca, Tanger-Med, Agadir and Marrakech to...
Furthermore, UNODC launched its new regional investigation techniques specific to illicit enrichment November 2017 covering investigation strategies, evidence collection, ban training on financial investigation to justice and law enforcement officers from the Fin information training course for 22 officers in April 2017 to prepare the Tunisian trainers for the Interpol exam of crim. UNODC support. During 2017, the process of improving As of 2016, a sustainable process of crime data collection and analysis is in use in Tunisia. This was established with UNODC support. During 2017, the process of improving the capacity of Tunisian law enforcement officers in the field of criminal information analysis and the use of special software (IBM i2) continued. UNODC conducted a three-week training course for 22 officers in April 2017 to prepare the Tunisian trainers for the Interpol examination on criminal information analysis. Sixteen of the 22 officers passed the examination. Furthermore, UNODC delivered a one-week training on financial investigation to justice and law enforcement officers from the Financial Judicial Unit in November 2017 covering investigation strategies, evidence collection, bank information and subpoena documents, investigation techniques specific to illicit enrichment, and money laundering cases.

Furthermore, UNODC launched its new regional project on strengthening criminal information analysis capacities in the region. The first two countries to participate in this new initiative are Algeria and Tunisia. This regional project

| Outcome 2: | National Authorities More Effectively Counter Trafficking in Drugs, Arms and Illicit Goods |
| Implementation Update |

**Illicit drug trafficking**
Following the agreement signed in 2016 with the United Arab Emirates on the provision of the UNODC GoCase software and related services, a GoCase training was delivered to 13 officers from the Ministry of Interior who were selected to manage the installation and operation of the software.

| Outcome 3: | National authorities more effectively counter migrant smuggling and human trafficking |
| Implementation Update |

In 2017, UNODC continued to provide technical assistance to the authorities of Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia on the identification and investigation of human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases, as well as on the prosecution of offenders, while simultaneously highlighting the importance of regional and international cooperation to combat both crimes. Particular importance was given to the protection of the rights of trafficked victims and of smuggled migrants. Capacity-building for criminal justice practitioners focused on the dismantling of criminal networks, investigation and interviewing techniques, cross-border, regional and international cooperation, the identification of trafficking victims and smuggled migrants, the use of referral mechanisms for protection services, and the legal and institutional frameworks together with associated implementation challenges. In Morocco, UNODC trained NGOs on the provision of assistance to and protection of victims of trafficking in persons.

Furthermore, UNODC promoted cooperation between law enforcement and Magistrates on cases of trafficking in persons in Tunisia by organizing workshops to raise awareness on the new Law No. 2016-61 on preventing and combatting trafficking in persons. Following the establishment of the permanent Tunisian National Commission to combat trafficking in persons, UNODC supported the drafting process of the National Strategy and the National Action Plan, which were finalized during an interministerial consultation in September 2017. Similarly, UNODC supported the National Committee to combat trafficking in persons in Sudan by assisting in the establishment of a referral mechanism. The referral mechanism will be launched by the national authorities later this year/earlier 2018.

Under the Arab Initiative to Build National Capacities to Combat Human Trafficking in the Arab Countries, UNODC supported the Gulf countries and their designated National Committees in identifying national needs to better deal with human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Based on these assessments, several tailor-made capacity-building initiatives were initiated for law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners, predominantly in Bahrain, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, including for journalists in Bahrain. In addition, UNODC is working together with the National Committee of Qatar on the development of a National Action Plan on combatting trafficking in persons.

| Outcome 4: | National authorities are better able to develop threat assessments and improve their technical and specialised policing capacity |
| Implementation Update |

**Threat assessment capacity and criminal information analysis**
As of 2016, a sustainable process of crime data collection and analysis is in use in Tunisia. This was established with UNODC support. During 2017, the process of improving the capacity of Tunisian law enforcement officers in the field of criminal information analysis and the use of special software (IBM I2) continued. UNODC conducted a three-week training course for 22 officers in April 2017 to prepare the Tunisian trainers for the Interpol examination on criminal information analysis. Sixteen of the 22 officers passed the examination. Furthermore, UNODC delivered a one-week training on financial investigation to justice and law enforcement officers from the Financial Judicial Unit in November 2017 covering investigation strategies, evidence collection, bank information and subpoena documents, investigation techniques specific to illicit enrichment, and money laundering cases.

Furthermore, UNODC launched its new regional project on strengthening criminal information analysis capacities in the region. The first two countries to participate in this new initiative are Algeria and Tunisia. This regional project
aims to establish/strengthen crime analysis capacities throughout the region and will provide tailored and practical capacity-building, as well as technical assistance adapted to existing capacities in each beneficiary country. This will be done by training groups of expert analysts, providing specific IT software, and supporting the establishment of dedicated analysis structures within law enforcement agencies. Depending on the law enforcement and criminal justice environment of each country, interventions may address criminal information analysis awareness of non-analyst criminal justice practitioners (judges, prosecutors, etc.), and the strategic application of criminal information analysis.

As a first step, UNODC developed a crime analysis curriculum on the basis of the ‘Criminal Intelligence Manual for Analysts’, which was produced by UNODC in 2011. The Arabic version of this handbook will be provided to the Tunisian authorities during the first training course that will be held. Following consultations with the Tunisian Training Institute under the Ministry of Interior in September 2017, it was agreed to select a pool of 14 potential analysts for an initial training on the Manual. Subsequently, the participants will undertake an examination and the seven best candidates will be selected to form the future pool of analysts and receive further training. The examination, which is expected to take place in December 2017, was developed by UNODC and has been approved by the authorities. The 14 potential analysts have already been nominated. Further training sessions on the i2 Analyst’s Notebook software and the training of trainer sessions have been scheduled for December 2017 and January 2018. In Algeria, the same process was initiated in October 2017, with a first group of 25 analysts, of which 21 passed the exam.

**Forensics and crime scene investigation**

Under the project “Forensic Service, Human Resources, and Governance Development Assistance for the Palestinian Authority”, UNODC has been supporting the Government of the State of Palestine in developing capacity in forensic medicine, forensic science and forensic governance since 2011. In 2017, six out of the eight Palestinian doctors who had been studying towards a Higher Specialty Degree in Forensic Medicine at the University of Jordan over the past four years, graduated, and the remaining two doctors have completed their third year (one in forensic medicine and one in pathology). Following their graduation, the six doctors joined the forensic clinics, which have been operational since January 2017 (in Bethlehem, Nablus and Ramallah) and July 2017 (in Hebron). These clinics, which are the first of their kind in the West Bank, have mainly been used for examining cases relating to sexual and gender-based violence.

Furthermore, 21 forensic science laboratory staff (17 males and 4 females) continued their specialized training in forensic science. Training and mentoring in quality management, firearms and tool mark evidence examination, document examination, and drug analysis are ongoing and are being taught by regional and international experts. For example, training on cannabis identification, powder drug analysis and tablet examination, GCMS (Gas Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry) operations, and amphetamines were delivered to the drug examination section during 2017. UNODC also conducted advanced training for document examination trainees, including handwriting recognition in September 2017. Also, quality and deputy quality managers were trained on quality management, and they received certifications of trainee auditors by an international quality management expert. The forensic science laboratory staff also participated in an English training, provided by the British Council, to improve the management and delivery of services under the project.

The forensic science laboratory staff gained national recognition in January 2017 in Palestine. Since then, the number of cases received by the laboratory increased and reached an average of 100 cases per month, mainly sent by the Office of the Public Prosecution. Out of the total cases received since January 2017, the majority of cases have been submitted for drug analysis (60%), followed by document evidence examination (26%) and firearm evidence examination (14%).

In Tunisia, UNODC submitted to the Ministry of Interior in January 2017 a comprehensive report compiling the results and short and long-term recommendations in relation with the assessments undertaken in 2016. Furthermore, six training awareness-raising sessions on crime scene preservation have reached 270 officials from the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Health during the period January-April 2017. UNODC also procured six sets of crime scene investigation equipment, and supported the establishment of two technical committees (one working group and one expert group) in charge of developing standard operating procedures based on acknowledged international standards and to assist in the implementation of the aforementioned recommendations. The working group is composed of key representatives of the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Health, and will focus on coordination and communication on crime scenes as well as on the chain of custody (SOPs and law review). The expert group is composed of forensic crime scene experts and law enforcement crime scene investigators under the Ministry of Interior, and will focus on the forensic crime scene investigation itself (SOPs and training programme).

UNODC conducted a gap analysis for forensic laboratories in the GCC region, in cooperation with the Abu Dhabi Police Forensic Evidence Department. As a result, UNODC delivered two generic training of trainers to 29 officers from the before-mentioned department in July and November 2017, and the Office facilitated the participation of five officers in the first Emirates International Forensics Conference, which was convened in April 2017 by the Dubai Police and served as a forum to share experiences and best practises.
**Cybercrime**

In Tunisia, UNODC supported the finalisation of the new cybercrime law that will soon be presented to the Parliament. The finalization was done during a consultation workshop that gathered critical comments and suggestions from Tunisian cybercrime professionals, including magistrates, prosecution services and defence lawyers. UNODC conducted an expert review of the draft bill and offered comments to ensure that the new law meets international standards and best practices. The comments have been added to a document that was shared with the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Information and Communication Technologies. At present, the law is pending examination by parliamentary committees, before its presentation for adoption.

In October 2017, UNODC delivered critical equipment, including specialized counter-cybercrime software, to the Technical Agency for Telecommunications and to the National Police Academy, where a complete cyber training room was inaugurated in November 2017, with 25 workstations equipped with state-of-the-art counter-cybercrime and digital forensic software. This delivery marks the start of a 24-week training programme that will be delivered to over 100 trainees from the Interior Security Forces, the Technical Agency for Telecommunications, and the judiciary.

**SUB-PROGRAMME II: COUNTERING TERRORISM**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Title – Ongoing</th>
<th>Region/Country</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening the legal regime against terrorism</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2008-2018</td>
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</table>

**Outcome 1:**
National authorities more effectively respond to terrorism using criminal justice measures

**Implementation Update**

In 2017, the UNODC counter-terrorism portfolio continued to grow, and UNODC delivered technical assistance on a variety of areas in the region, including but not limited to, countering the financing of terrorism, preventing the use of the internet for terrorist purposes, countering terrorist activities targeting critical infrastructure, countering the threat of the dual use of chemical material, countering violent extremism, and improving international cooperation in criminal matters. This was done following increased requests from Member States and donor interest.

**Legal Frameworks**

a) **Countering terrorist activities targeting critical infrastructure**

To respond to the growing terrorist threats towards critical infrastructure and to assist Member States in implementing relevant international instruments, such as the UN Security Council Resolution 2341 (2017), UNODC developed tailored-made technical assistance activities. In this context, UNODC organized a national workshop for Yemen on good practices to address terrorist threats to critical infrastructure that took place in Amman in February 2017. The workshop aimed at assisting Yemen to better address terrorist threats to civil aviation and to raise awareness about international instruments related to combating terrorist attacks towards aviation. Also, UNODC organized an event for Iraqi officials on good practices to address terrorist-related threats to critical oil infrastructure, based on the UN Security Council Resolutions 2161 (2014), 2199 (2015), and other relevant resolutions and international conventions. The workshop gathered 19 senior Iraqi policy-makers and criminal officers, as well as relevant private sector representatives. The training was followed by a study visit to Spain in October 2017 for the same group of officials to introduce them to the Spanish experience in the field of protecting critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks and to help Iraqi authorities in developing a national plan to face such threats.

b) **Countering the threat of the dual use of chemical material for terrorism purposes**

In 2017, UNODC assisted Iraq addressing the increased threat of dual use of chemical material for terrorism purposes. In August 2017, UNODC organized a workshop to discuss this topic with relevant Iraqi officials and experts from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the World Customs Organization (WCO) and Interpol. Based on the recommendations of this workshop, a study tour was organized in October 2017 for 19 Iraqi officials.

The study tour consisted of back-to-back workshops in Brussels, the Hague, Lyon and Madrid visiting WCO, INTERPOL, OPCW and the Guardia Civil during which following topics were discussed: (i) improvised explosive devices, as part of the international sanctions regime against ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaeda and associated entities; (ii) the use of chemical weapons by terrorists; (iii) control of technologies required to develop chemical weapons; (iv) surveillance of storage for materials that could be used as detonators for bombing; (v) implementation of the WCO recommendations on the tracking of the 14 precursor chemicals monitored in the WCO Programme Global Shield; (vi)
investigation techniques of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and (vii) obligations imposed by relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly those relating to proliferation networks and the governmental oversight of technologies used in developing chemical weapons.

c) Countering violent extremism
In 2017, UNODC developed a regional project with the objective to promote and support the criminalization, within a rule of law approach, of conducts that spread ideas supportive of violent extremism. This was done to strengthen criminal justice responses for victims and empower them to engage in positive outreach, and to promote social integration of violent extremism offenders by enhancing cooperation with and the involvement of the community and civil society organizations. Under this new initiative, UNODC implemented a series of events, including (i) a regional conference for Parliamentarians in the MENA countries on the challenges posed by extremism leading to terrorism and preventative criminal justice responses; (ii) a regional workshop on engaging private sector and civil society actors to ensure the integration of investigations and prosecutions and disrupt terrorist attacks, which took place in Tokyo in February 2017; and (iii) a workshop in March 2017 for criminal justice and law enforcement officers in Egypt and Lebanon on countering violent extremism in prisons.

Investigations and Adjudication
UNODC continued to effectively support Member States to strengthen their cooperation in criminal matters by establishing mechanisms to help facilitate requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition, which play an essential role in the prosecution of terrorist cases that transcend national borders. In this context, UNODC organized several technical assistance events in the region, including (i) a series of regional workshops on international cooperation on terrorism-related cases and on strengthening cross-border cooperation against terrorism, its financing and other serious crimes, including illicit trafficking and smuggling in March 2017; and (ii) a technical conference for MENA countries in Tangier Morocco in March 2017 (as a continuation of the conference held in Beirut in November 2016) on strengthening regional cooperation on FTF criminal cases, combining a regional and a subregional approaches to better respond to the specificities and expectations of the different countries.

Through its online counter-terrorism learning platform (http://ctlp.unodc.org), UNODC regularly conducted live events and webinars (real-time online discussions) on various substantive issues related to international cooperation. In addition, UNODC delivered a six-week online training course on “International Criminal Cooperation: A Key Tool in the Fight against Terrorism”. The course was designed and developed in 2009 with Interpol. In 2017, close to 20 officials from Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia participated in the training.

In addition, UNODC launched a regional initiative on ‘Strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters against Foreign Terrorist Fighters in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region’, which is a complementary component of the UNODC Global Initiative on Criminal Justice Responses to Foreign Terrorist Fighters. This initiative includes cooperation as a cornerstone among its five pillars. In this context, a regional coordination workshop of the Multi-Agency Task Force (MATF) for the MENA region took place beginning of November 2017 in Casablanca, Morocco.

Preventing the use of the internet for terrorist purposes
During 2017, UNODC intensified its work to build and strengthen capacities of law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners worldwide to prevent the use of the internet for terrorist purposes. UNODC delivered a series of specialized trainings, including study tours to the Superior Institute for Investigative Techniques of the Carabinieri (ISTI) Forensic Laboratory in Velletri, Italy, and to the Cyber-Terrorism Unit at the Guardia Civil in Spain. The specialized training covered topics such as (i) the use of special investigation techniques of the digital communication channels; (ii) the use efficient special investigation techniques to counter terrorist activities on the Internet; (iii) crime scene management in cases of terrorism-related offences; (iv) open-source investigation and big data analysis and criminal intelligence analysis using advanced techniques; and on (v) the use of digital evidence in terrorist cases in prosecution and in court. More than 80 officers in Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen benefitted from these trainings. Furthermore, UNODC provided advanced mobile forensic equipment to relevant authorities in Yemen, and advanced software for criminal intelligence analysis to relevant authorities in Jordan. UNODC also developed a five-week online training course based on the UNODC Publication on The Use of Internet for Terrorist Purposes, for Criminal Justice Officers of the Maghreb region.

Countering financing of terrorism
UNODC works on the legal aspects of countering the financing of terrorism (CFT), including the promotion of the ratification and implementation of relevant international legal instruments, in particular the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

In this context, UNODC delivered technical assistance on various CFT issues across the region, including on (i) cross-border cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism financing, freeze assets and implement the UN Security Council Resolution 1267/1989; (ii) mutual legal assistance in CFT related cases; (iii) investigation, prosecution and
adjudication CFT cases; (iv) possible links between financing of terrorism and transnational organized crime, and implementation of international legal framework related to CFT; (v) enhancing the capacity of Financial Investigations Units to suppress the financing of terrorism; (vi) the prevention and suppression of the financing of terrorism through illicit trafficking in cultural property; (vii) countering terrorism financing using crypto currencies (Bitcoins, etc.).

In Iraq, UNODC conducted four regional and national training workshops covering the following topics: (i) kidnapping for ransom; (ii) illicit trafficking of cultural properties; (iii) the structural reform of the Iraqi Financial Investigation Unit to strengthen its cooperation with national and international stakeholders on countering terrorism matters; and (iv) good practices to address terrorist-related threats to critical oil infrastructure.

In Jordan, UNODC delivered a regional workshop on strengthening cross-border cooperation against terrorism, its financing and other serious crimes, including illicit trafficking and smuggling in March 2017.

UNODC also started providing Member States with specific financial disruption strategies and tools that have been collated from good practices worldwide and that are now being used by experts to protect against strategic threats to national security by maximising the impact of their financial disruption operations, while minimising the cost and risks associated with them. The most recent activity for MENA countries took place in May 2017 in Doha, in collaboration with the MENAFATF. It concluded with a live exercise during which counter-terrorism experts from the region were trained to use a range of new techniques to understand the ‘business model’ of terrorist networks, identify critical vulnerabilities and then synchronise a range of disruption options to gradually break down the terrorist network’s ability to operate.

**Countering Foreign Terrorist Fighters**

Under the initiative on ‘Strengthening the legal regime against foreign terrorist fighters in the MENA region’, UNODC enhanced capacities of criminal justice and law enforcement officers to better respond to the emerging FTF threat. Through a series national workshops, Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese and Yemeni officials were trained to use efficient special investigation techniques to counter terrorist activities on the Internet and to properly use and protect intelligence information in rule of law-based, criminal justice sector-led investigations and prosecutions for countering terrorism related to the FTF phenomenon.

### SUB-PROGRAMME III: COMBATING CORRUPTION AND FINANCIAL CRIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title – Ongoing</th>
<th>Region/Country</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism (GPML)</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2008-2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action against Corruption in the MENA region (2017-2021)</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2017-2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Measures to combat Corruption and Money Laundering, and to foster Asset Recovery, in Egypt</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>2011-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance for promoting Transparency and Integrity and strengthening Anti-Corruption Measures in Libya</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>2009-2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Outcome 1:

**National authorities more effectively combat corruption and promote integrity**

**Implementation Update**

In 2017, UNODC launched its comprehensive regional anti-corruption project, which was developed in 2016 and covers a wide range of interventions, notably on corruption prevention, criminalization, asset confiscation and management, investigation, and internal oversight mechanisms amongst others. To date, the programme has received funds for activities to strengthen anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing capacities in Egypt (for more information see Outcome 3).

Furthermore, UNODC continued to support Egypt on the Second Cycle of the United Nation Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) Review Mechanism by delivering training to familiarize relevant officials with the methodology of country reviews, the comprehensive self-assessment checklists, and related guidance notes. As a result, Egypt successfully completed and submitted its review report in June 2017. Similarly, Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia received UNODC assistance in this context.

UNODC also continued to work together with the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority to raise awareness on corruption issues. A second awareness-raising campaign (following the first one done in 2016) on fighting corruption and money laundering in Egypt was produced. The campaign included a series of TV spots portraying common...
corruption practices, as well as their consequence, with a clear call for action from society. The campaign was aired intensively on both public and private channels during several months, and reached millions of viewers in the country.

In Libya, UNODC continued consultations and expert meetings in order to revive a national initiative aimed to assist in the promotion of transparency and integrity and to strengthen anti-corruption measures. The project had been suspended due to the 2011 revolution. In August 2017, an agreement was reached to restart implementation, and discussions are ongoing to identify priorities reflecting the current situation and challenges in the country.

UNODC also conducted an introductory workshop on combating corruption in Bahrain for 17 law enforcement officers and public prosecutors in May 2017, in partnership with the Judicial and Legal Studies Institute.

### Outcome 2:
**National criminal asset recovery and management systems more effectively support judicial proceedings**

**Implementation Update**

During 2017, UNODC organized a series of trainings on the management of seized assets in Egypt for 25 officers from various authorities. This was to enhance skills and knowledge on the various existing management systems under the national legislation. The events also provided a platform for detailed discussions and exchange of experience and challenges, and has led to improved inter-agency communication and cooperation among law enforcement agencies. As a result, a new Department in charge of managing seized and confiscated assets was established under the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority.

### Outcome 3:
**National authorities more effectively counter money laundering and conduct effective financial investigations**

**Implementation Update**

Upon request of the Egyptian Government to develop and strengthen national financial intelligence capacities, UNODC conducted three training sessions in 2017 for approximately 100 officers of the Egyptian Money Laundering Combating Unit (EMLCU). The sessions focused on bitcoin and cryptocurrency technologies, as well as national money laundering and terrorist financing risk assessments. Based on technical expertise provided by UNODC, the national authorities are currently developing a national risk assessment. The assessment will identify the country’s criminal activities generating substantial proceeds, evaluate vulnerabilities of the financial and private sectors to money laundering, detect weaknesses of the criminal justice system, and assess the effectiveness of anti-money laundering and CFT preventative measures. The assessment will also allocate budget and resources based on risk levels. Also, UNODC organized an introductory training on cryptocurrencies in Bahrain for 18 law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners in March 2017, in partnership with the Judicial and Legal Studies Institute and Interpol.

Furthermore, UNODC supported Egypt in the partnership-building process with other countries regarding the deployment of GoAML by organizing two missions for five officials from the EMLCU to the international GoAML User Group meetings. These meetings provided a platform share experiences, discuss potential enhancements and expansion of the system, and also to build networks with Financial Intelligence Units from various countries. The EMLCU officials were also informed on the new features of the updated GoAML system, which was recently released.

In the United Arab Emirates, UNODC conducted a GoAML pre-production mission and delivered a training to 10 officials in February 2017.

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**SUBPROGRAMME IV: CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CRIME PREVENTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title – Ongoing</th>
<th>Region/ Country</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening Prison Management and fostering the Social Reintegration of Offenders in line with Relevant International Standards and Norms</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2016-2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving the Criminal Justice Response to Violence against Women in Egypt</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>2014-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve Rehabilitation and Reintegration Programmes at Five Institutions for Children in Conflict with the Law</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>2014-2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening the Working Methodologies of the Public Security Directorate (PSD) in Jordan</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>2014-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening Criminal Investigation and International Cooperation for Organized Crime cases in Jordan</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving Detention Conditions in Lebanon</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>2015-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to the Process of Criminal Justice Reform in Libya</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>2008-2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Outcome 1:**
Member States develop and implement crime prevention strategies

**Implementation Update**

In Jordan, UNODC continued its support to the national authorities in response to the needs mentioned in the Jordan 2025 Agenda and the 2018-2020 Jordan Response Plan (JRP) to the Refugee Crisis. This was done by expanding activities and technical support in the fields of security and criminal justice, with a focus on countering organized crime, including illicit trafficking and terrorism, as well as improving inter-agency coordination and strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters, in light of the recent security and political developments.

For example, UNODC supported Jordan having new premises for the Peace Community Centre (PCP), which was created in 2015 under the Special Branch of the Public Security Directorate to prevent the spread of radical thoughts within the community, especially among youth, and to reintegrate released prisoners that were sentenced for terrorism-related crimes. The PCP also conducted outreach campaigns, including the organization of dialogues and lectures for students in universities and schools, as well as for community leaders, NGOs, and social media influencers.

During 2017, the premises were refurbished, and furniture and the necessary IT equipment provided. The official inauguration of the new building took place in August 2017. The premises are currently being used for the training of new PCP staff and to conduct outreach activities. A training-of-trainer programme for 16 PCP officers was organized on communication skills, the psychology of extremism and methods of recruitment (traditional and via internet), and on how best engage with audience and conduct awareness-raising sessions. In addition, new standard operating procedures for PCP were developed in collaboration with the judiciary council, focusing on CPC role with regards to crime prevention and the prevention of violent extremism.

UNODC also built capacities of national law enforcement institutions in Jordan and their staff, and it supported inter-agency and international cooperation with regard to a variety of topics, notably juvenile justice, criminal investigations, counter-terrorism and illicit trafficking.

UNODC assisted the Libya Ministry of Justice to conduct a comprehensive review of its penal legislation: Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Police law. The review of the Penal Code was undertaken to identify gaps and weaknesses and to assess to what extent the Code was in compliance with international requirements – given that Libya is party to most international legal instruments relating to combating organized crime and terrorism. In this context, legal experts reviewed over 200 articles out of the 507 articles of the Penal Code, including 129 articles that had been modified by a national committee. The legal experts provided several suggestions for amendment to the articles drafted by the aforementioned committee. In addition, UNODC reviewed over 200 articles of the Criminal Procedure Code. Comments and amendments suggested by the legal experts related to offences, including but not limited to, state security offences and public fund offences. Furthermore, comments were provided on articles related to the definition of “public servant” and “civil service”. The legal experts also identified gaps and weaknesses in the Penal Code in relation with the fight against terrorism, corruption and organized crime. They indicated that a number of articles related to hudood and qisas – penalties under the Islamic Sharia’a – might be in contradiction with human rights standards.

In addition to the Libyan Ministry of Justice, international and national legal experts, UNODC, the High Judicial Institute, the Judiciary, the Prosecution Office, civil society and the academia were involved in the review processes.

In February and March 2017, UNODC organized a regional workshop for 45 officials from Arab countries, in partnership with the UAE Ministry of Interior, on the conduct of law enforcement officers in maintaining order and responding to crime.

**Outcome 2:**
Strengthened capacities of criminal justice systems enable them to provide better access to justice for children and to prevent and respond to violence against children

**Implementation Update**

In 2017, UNODC continued to provide assistance to juvenile justice reform in Egypt by further improving rehabilitation and integration services for children in conflict with the law in five closed, semi-closed and open institutions and hosting around 550 children. As a direct result of UNODC assistance to these five institutions in 2017, 200 children benefited from reintegration services, including legal, educational, medical and economic support. Of these 200 children, 34 were reunited with their families.

UNODC officially handed over vocational workshops (e.g. carpentry, sewing, greenhouse, welding) which had been upgraded in the past year in the five Egyptian institutions. UNODC also assisted the Management of these institutions in developing training, production and marketing plans for the workshops. Furthermore, UNODC introduced an educument approach in these institutions so as to provide children with activities that are both stimulating and educational, with the objective to encourage positive social and moral values. A series of four refresher training sessions on the rehabilitation and reintegration approach for 51 social workers and trainers at the vocational workshops.
were organized to ensure sustainability of the work accomplished under the project. In addition, UNODC developed a reintegration database for the institutions to document all interventions taken and to follow up on the progress of children. UNODC also drafted health sensitization material as well as a classification and temporary release policy that are to be adopted by semi-closed and open institutions.

To further ensure sustainability, UNODC trained 33 staff of Probation Offices in Egypt on the UNODC reintegration approach. The Office is also in the process of refurbishing three Probation Offices and procuring the necessary equipment.

Mid-2017, UNODC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Egyptian Ministry of Social Solidarity to include an additional five institutions, thus increasing the number of institutions to receive assistance to ten and hosting more than 640 children. Needs assessment at the additional five institutions are ongoing.

### Outcome 3:
*Gender-sensitive criminal justice systems are in place and a strengthened criminal justice response is provided to combat violence against women*

#### Implementation Update

In 2017, UNODC continued to support Egypt in developing fair and effective procedures to deal with cases of violence against women and girls, thus ensuring a victim-centred approach as well as a fair and just prosecution of perpetrators. More than 230 criminal justice practitioners, including police, prosecutors, judges and forensic doctors, were trained based on the UNODC training handbooks that were developed under the project in 2016 to improve the handling of violence against women and girls cases.

Furthermore, UNODC provided equipment, including colposcopes, coolers, UV torches, GCMSs (Gas Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry), a fume hood and gynaecological chairs to three forensic clinics in Alexandria, Cairo and Mansoura so as to provide a protective environment for women and children who have been subject to violence.

UNODC also continued to support the Egyptian Prosecutor General Office putting in place a data management system to monitor the handling of criminal cases, including cases of violence against women, at all levels of the judicial procedure. In this context, UNODC trained ten staff from the Prosecutor General Office on analytical reporting to ensure that data is extracted and analysed in order to properly advise on how violence against women cases are being handled and inform partners accordingly.

UNODC continued its assistance to the Egyptian National Council for Women’s Complaint Offices by supporting an awareness-raising campaign on the existence of a 24/7 hotline for women and children subject to violence as well as on its services and actors. The campaign is taking place in November and December 2017. UNODC is also providing logistical assistance to ensure the proper functioning of the 24/7 hotline. In addition, UNODC developed a victim’s advocate manual to enhance the capacity of the Complaint Offices’ staff to offer support to women victims of violence.

### Outcome 4:
*National authorities enhance access to legal aid*

#### Implementation Update

No activities under outcome 4 in 2017.

### Outcome 5:
*Justice and law enforcement authorities cooperate more effectively*

#### Implementation Update

No activities under outcome 5 in 2017.

### Outcome 6:
*Prison systems operate in line with relevant United Nations standards and norms, and effectively contribute to reducing recidivism and addressing violent extremism in prisons*

#### Implementation Update

In 2017, UNODC conducted a needs assessment for the Correction and Rehabilitation Centres in Jordan, in cooperation with Penal Reform International (PRI), to implement the National Rehabilitation and Reintegration Plan (also being developed with UNODC assistance during 2017). Furthermore, UNODC organized a study tour to Spain in May 2017, where mechanisms and rehabilitation programmes for violent extremist offenders were presented to the Jordanian delegation, including officers from the PCP, the Correction and Rehabilitation Centres Department and the National Centre for Human Rights. Experiences and strategies used by the Spanish Government to combat organized crime were also discussed.
Within the framework of a project on improving detention conditions in Lebanon, UNODC continued its work at the Roumieh prison in Beirut. The prison kitchen, which was refurbished and equipped, is now fully operational and staff are trained on food hygiene and safety. The kitchen will provide food to approximately 3,500 prisoners by the end of 2017. Also, the refurbishment of the ‘Blue House’ was finalised and it is now equipped to cater for the needs of 140 mentally-ill prisoners in line on international standards.

Furthermore, a total of 2,600 health kits were distributed to children and young adults at the Roumieh prison. Health kits were delivered to all children upon their arrival at the Juvenile Wing (430 children). Particular attention was paid to the needs of Syrian refugee children, who represent 43 percent of the children in detention (i.e. 184 Syrian children) in Lebanon. In addition, two washers and one dryer were installed at the juvenile wing in order to improve health conditions. UNODC also supported efforts to provide targeted services, such as psychosocial support, vocational training, sports and leisure activities, and allow for family visits – notably for Syrian refugee children deprived of their liberty.

UNODC also supported the authorities responding to needs of children charged with terrorism-related offences. In this context, the Office supported a study on preventing violent extremism in prisons among children and young adults in detention for committing/participating in terrorist-related acts. The prevention of radicalisation and violent extremism in prison is currently one of the biggest challenges faced, not only in Lebanon and the region, but worldwide. In this study, the impact of the dispersion approach versus the isolation approach were observed and analysed in order to determine which of the two approaches was the more likely to prevent violent extremism among children and young adults in prison. The result of this study validated the dispersion approach and showed that efforts focusing on education, using a variety of physical and pedagogical activities that empower social and personal skills, are the most likely to induce disengagement from violent and extremist behaviour.

Building on the positive results of this study, UNODC piloted education via multiple physical and pedagogical activities that empowered social and personal skills and adapted rehabilitation activities leading to disengagement. The impact of these activities will be assessed in early 2018. Further to that, an assessment tool (to be included in admission documents) and an evaluation sheet (to observe progress during detention) were developed. UNODC also delivered additional support to preventative measures against violent extremism, targeting around 40 young adults between 18 and 25 years old at the Roumieh prison.

To allow for the generation of reliable data and information on high-risk children in detention at the Roumieh prison and to classify them according by gender, age, prison building location, type of crime, judicial status, duration of stay, etc., an amendment to the current data management system was introduced. Further efforts to enable the tracking of children after their release into reintegration services are ongoing.

In Algeria, a tripartite understanding was reached between the Algerian General Directorate for Prisons and Reintegration, the Libyan Ministry of Justice and UNODC to provide specialized training to Libyan prison officials. The training will start in December 2017 until February 2018.

In Bahrain, UNODC conducted in May 2017 an introductory workshop for 17 judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers on basic principles and promising practices related to alternatives to imprisonment, in partnership with the Judicial and Legal Studies Institute. A follow-up training to develop criminal justice capacities to implement the new law on alternatives to imprisonment, in accordance with the Tokyo Rules and relevant human rights instruments, will be delivered in December 2017.

### SUBPROGRAMME V: PREVENTION OF DRUG USE, TREATMENT AND CARE OF DRUG USE DISORDERS AND HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title - Ongoing</th>
<th>Region/ Country</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevention of Drug Use, HIV/AIDS and Crime amongst Young People through Family Skills Training Programmes in Low- and Middle-Income Countries</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2010-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNODC-WHO Joint Programme on Drug Dependence Treatment and Care</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>2010-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support for People who use Drugs and People in Prison Settings</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>2008-2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support in Prison Settings in the Middle East and North Africa

Prevention of Drug Abuse and HIV/AIDS among Drug Users, Injecting Drug Users and Vulnerable Populations in Libya

Supporting the Establishment of an evidence-Based Drug Dependence Treatment and Rehabilitation System for the Palestine National Rehabilitation Centre

**Outcome 1:**
Adapted evidence-based prevention is conducted in line with International Standards on Drug Use Prevention

**Implementation Update**

During 2017, UNODC continued to advocate for an ethical and evidence-based approach and health response to drug demand reduction, as well as to the social consequences of drug use in the region.

UNODC, together with the Tunisian NGO ‘ATL MST/SIDA Tunis’, organized an advocacy event to commemorate the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Around 100 representatives from government institutions, national and international civil society organizations, as well as members of the media, participated in the event, which took place on 12 June 2017. One of the sessions focused on the media and the important role it can play with regards to drug demand reduction and the prevention of drug abuse, in particular amongst youth and children and with regards to fighting the stigma and discrimination against drug users.

**Outcome 2:**
Capacity is strengthened to provide evidence-based drug dependence prevention, treatment and care/rehabilitation and HIV prevention, treatment and care services, among people who use drugs, in community centres and in closed settings while supporting efforts on alternatives to incarceration

**Implementation Update**

Based on an opioid substitution therapy (OST) feasibility study, undertaken by UNODC between 2013 and 2015 and approved by the Egyptian Government in 2016, an OST pilot programme for Egypt was developed and is currently being reviewed by a technical committee.

UNODC trained more than 50 key Egyptian policy-makers on comprehensive evidence-based drug demand responses in Cairo. An additional 50 key Sudanese policy-makers on international standards on drug use prevention were trained in Khartoum during 2017. UNODC also organized a three-day training for 25 professional drug treatment service providers in Egypt on quality assurance of drug treatment services, in line with UNODC international standards for treatment of drug abuse. The training was inaugurated by the Minister of Social Solidarity, who also functions as the Chairman for the board of the National Fund against Drug Abuse and Addiction.

Furthermore, UNODC organized an assessment to estimate the trend, size, and prevalence of illicit drug use and non-medical use of prescription drugs in Palestine. The primary results were shared with UNODC in May 2017. The final results of the assessment were publicly released in November 2017 and provide an update to the eleven-year old drug use data in Palestine. The assessment will open new windows of opportunities for drug prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, aftercare and harm reduction services in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. UNODC also supported the Ministry of Health in finalizing a list of equipment and health consumables that will be provided to the Palestinian National Rehabilitation Centre by the end of 2017. This Centre will be one of the biggest, if not the biggest, in the region. After the opening of the National Rehabilitation Centre, which is planned for January 2018, UNODC will train and build capacities of the team who will operate the Centre.

In Libya, UNODC contributed to the development of information, education and communication leaflets on HIV and Hepatitis, and the Office participated in the commemoration of the World Hepatitis Day, organized by the National AIDS Programme in July 2017 in Tripoli.

**Outcome 3:**
National authorities broaden and improve access to health services in prisons and closed settings

**Implementation Update**

In 2017, UNODC launched a regional project on Prison HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support in Prison Settings. Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia are the first three countries to participate in this project. This is the first project of this kind in the region, and through this initiative approximately 10,000 prisoners will have access to tuberculosis and HIV infection control measures in three major prisons in Egypt (Fayoum and Wadi Al Natroun), approximately 18,000 female and male prisoners will have access to infection control measures in five major prisons in Morocco (Oukacha, Nadir, Salé, Tangier and Tetouan), and approximately 10,000 female and male prisoners in four Tunisian prisons (Borj El Amri, Le Kef, La Manouba and Mornaguia) and two juvenile rehabilitation centres (El Mghira and El Mourouj) will benefit from access to infection control measures as well.
In March and April 2017, UNODC conducted a rapid situation assessment at the above-mentioned prisons in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in order to assess the infrastructure, equipment and available consumables at the beginning of the project. Furthermore, UNODC conducted four trainings in Egypt for over 100 technical and administrative staff, including police officers, physicians, nurses, laboratory technicians, clerks and social workers from the Ministry of Interior (Prison Directorate) and the Ministry of Health on the provision of counselling and prevention, treatment and care services in relation to HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually-transmissible diseases and tuberculosis.

UNODC also delivered three rounds of two-day training sessions in Morocco on the UNODC comprehensive package of prevention, treatment and care services in prison settings in relation to HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis. This was done to 75 key officials, including prison managers, prison welfare officers, nurses, social workers, psychologists, civil society partners and public health programme managers.

To reach the global HIV commitment of 90-90-90, and to address the needs of people living in closed settings in the region, UNODC organized a regional workshop on the Provision of Comprehensive Harm Reduction Services for those living in Closed Settings for more than 20 high-level national representatives from Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia. The regional workshop took place in Cairo in September 2017.

**Outcome 4:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National authorities address the disparity of access to controlled medicines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Implementation Update</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During 2017, UNODC continued to advocate and provide technical support to the Member States on access to controlled medicines and OST services.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>