

2004-2019
[CONTAINER
CONTROL
PROGRAMME]
celebrating 15 years

Annual Report 2019



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

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**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME - UNODC
WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION - WCO**

**THE UNODC-WCO CONTAINER CONTROL
PROGRAMME**

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



ABBREVIATIONS

ACCU	Air Cargo Control Unit
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
CCP	Container Control Programme (also referred to as the Programme)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
INECE	International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
IREN	CCP Inter-Regional Network of Customs Authorities and Port Control Units
LEAP	Law Enforcement Assistance Programme
PCU	Port Control Unit
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
STEC	Strategic Trade and Export Control
TEU	Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNTOC	United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
WCO	World Customs Organization
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction

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FOREWORD

Welcome to the 2019 Annual Report of the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme (CCP). This year marked the 15th Anniversary of the Programme.

The occasion was an opportunity to reflect on all that has been achieved, and learned, over the past 15 years. The Programme commenced back in 2004. What started as a small initiative in four seaports, focusing only on narcotics, has grown into one of the largest and most successful United Nations programmes. The core methodological concept behind the CCP is the establishment of a global network of multi-agency units of frontline law enforcement officers.

Today's globalized supply chains are incredibly complex, involving a vast plethora of different actors, commodities and processes. This factor alone necessitates effective information sharing mechanisms, trust and specialized technical expertise. CCP's holistic approach, involving a range of different agencies, as well as the private sector, is particularly well suited to dealing with the wide range of threats posed by transnational organized crime and terrorism to the international supply chain.

The need for accurate targeting is made clear when we consider the sheer scale of international trade. In 2017 there were over 750 million container movements, compared to only 470 million in 2009. Less than one in fifty containers are ever physically inspected. Accurate targeting, i.e. risk-profiling, in turn relies on two conditions. First, having the information available, and second, knowing how to use this information to assess whether a container is high risk. The CCP ensures both by enhancing cooperation and improving the technical capacities of Customs and other law enforcement officers at the frontline level.

This strategy has not only been highly effective, as demonstrated by the steady flow of outstanding results, but also highly popular with host countries. The CCP has now established 119 units in 59 countries, with many more units anticipated to come online in the next few months alone. More and more host governments are coming to appreciate the advantages CCP can offer: new tools and technologies, context-specific training courses, continuous mentoring and vastly improved interagency and international cooperation and communication.

The units continue to improve their capacity and their relationships with each other, and in some cases these bridges are virtually built from scratch. As each unit becomes more knowledgeable, better equipped and more connected with its counterparts, the value of the network as a whole has increased tenfold; this has been matched by a correspondingly large leap in seizures. The numbers speak for themselves: for the CCP, every year is a record-breaking one across virtually all categories of illicitly trafficked goods. For example, in 2016, CCP units seized around 38 tonnes of cocaine. In 2017, CCP units seized



around 48 tonnes of cocaine. The following year, it was nearly 52 tonnes, and in 2019, this total was surpassed in the third quarter. There was also historic progress in the fight against illegal plastic waste, the largest ivory seizure in world history and countless other seizures of every kind of contraband imaginable, from counterfeit clothing and revenue fraud to explosives, firearms and more sophisticated military hardware, even armoured vehicles and components for fighter jets. However, the success of the Programme cannot be measured in seizure statistics alone.

2019 was an exceptional year for many other reasons: the 15th anniversary of the Programme, the prestigious BIC award, reaching the milestone of 119 units, the development of important new partnerships with other international programmes and between national authorities and the expansion of the Programme into several key countries, including Iraq and Colombia, the latter of which we plan to establish 11 CCP units in the future. The CCP-Air programme, implemented in partnership with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), has also expanded rapidly. From humble beginnings in 2015, CCP-Air has now commenced activities in 20 countries. The CCP also shared vital information which enabled successful law enforcement operations in countries within and outside the CCP network, including controlled deliveries leading to important arrests.

The modern world economy is becoming increasingly interconnected, open and complex. This is being exploited by terrorists and transnational organized crime groups who have new opportunities to diversify their financial portfolios, expand into new markets, form new alliances, develop innovative new methodologies and make use of dual-use technologies. However, it is the responsibility of the international community, and UNODC in particular, to adapt to the same factors being exploited by terrorist groups and organized crime. We must also embrace globalization. This means seeing the big picture and answering with a response that is truly global. It means forming new partnerships, adapting our methods and remaining at the cutting edge of innovation. Legitimate international commerce is the lifeblood of conventional economies and is an essential precondition to sustainable development. The international supply chain must be protected. In the case of illicit trafficking, the CCP is uniquely positioned to ensure there is an effective, holistic and globally-coordinated response to these threats, while ensuring the efficient facilitation of legitimate trade.

I hope you enjoy reading the 2019 Annual Report of the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme.

John Brandolino
UNODC Director, Division for Treaty Affairs

FOREWORD

When the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) signed the first agreement on the Container Control Programme (CCP) back in 2004, none of us could have imagined where this joint initiative by two international Organizations would lead some 15 years later. In fact, back then we could scarcely have predicted such a long period of programmatic cooperation between our Organizations.

I am proud to say that the CCP, which started out as a relatively small-scale drug enforcement initiative involving four countries, has become a globally recognized hallmark for successful interventions to combat illicit trade in all its forms, encompassing trafficking in drugs, precursor chemicals, strategic goods, endangered species and counterfeit goods, large-scale smuggling of cigarettes and other commodities, and stolen vehicles. Since the start of the Programme, 59 countries have joined the CCP and 119 Port Control Units and Air Cargo Control Units have been established throughout all regions of the world. The impact of the CCP's implementation should not be underestimated. Indeed, it has not only generated impressive results in terms of seizures but has also initiated or intensified cooperation between Customs and other competent national agencies, while in some countries it has even led to new legislation on the provision of pre-arrival/pre-departure information.

There are four elements which, in my view, are decisive for the CCP's success:

- its staged and structured long-term training concept, geared towards the individual absorption capacities of the countries joining the Programme;
- its "hands-on" approach in addressing the operational status of Customs and other law enforcement agencies;



- the presence of national and/or regional coordinators maintaining permanent contact with the partnering CCP countries; and

- the continued and generous support of the donor community over the years, entrusting the WCO and the UNODC with delivering on taxpayers' investments.

The CCP promotes a number of recommended standards contained in the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade, such as Customs-to-Customs cooperation, inter-agency cooperation, cooperation with the private sector and access to pre-arrival and

pre-departure information to speed up risk analysis and profiling. All these elements are of critical importance in ensuring an acceptable level of compliance in the trade supply chain. They also contribute to trade facilitation, as Customs and its partner law enforcement agencies are able to make better informed decisions on shipments which may pose a potential risk to health and safety as well as to revenue collection.

To sum up, it is fair to say that the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme is a success story for both Organizations: it has global outreach, even in countries which do not participate in the Programme, it is implemented by skilled trainers from the WCO and Customs administrations, it is monitored by expert UNODC staff on the ground and it continues to generate impressive results.

I strongly recommend reading the CCP Annual Report 2019 to gain a more detailed picture as to why the Programme is still going strong after 15 years.

Pranab Kumar Das
WCO Director, Compliance and Facilitation Directorate

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW





MISSION

The mission of the Container Control Programme is to build capacity in countries seeking to improve risk management, supply chain security and trade facilitation in seaports, land-borders and airports to prevent the cross-border movement of illicit goods.



MANDATE - UNODC

UNODC is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism. In the Millennium Declaration, Member States resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, to redouble the efforts to implement the commitment to counter the world drug problem and to take concerted action against international terrorism.

UNODC's work, and by association therefore that of the Container Control Programme, is guided by a broad range of international legally binding instruments:

- United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)

This Convention (adopted at Palermo in 2000) is the first comprehensive and most widely ratified legal instrument to fight transnational organized crime. It includes measures on the criminalization of participation in an organized criminal group, combating money laundering, assistance and protection to victims and witnesses, special investigative techniques, mutual legal assistance, extradition and international cooperation.

- International Legal Framework on Drug Control

Three major international drug control treaties, which are mutually supportive and complementary, provide the legal foundation for action against drug-related offences. They codify internationally applicable control measures to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, and to prevent their diversion into illicit channels. They also include general provisions on illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse.

- International Legal Framework Against Terrorism

The universal legal regime against terrorism consists of the relevant Security Council resolutions on counter-terrorism, as well as the universal instruments related to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism. In addition, in 2006, the General Assembly, for the first time ever, adopted a comprehensive global counter-terrorism strategy that recognizes UNODC as the lead office for the delivery of legal assistance in preventing terrorism.

- Sustainable Development Goals - 

Through its work at global, regional and national levels, the UNODC - WCO Container Control Programme provides support to Member States to assist them in reaching their targets under the various SDGs. CCP specifically targets the following SDGs:



MANDATE - WCO

The World Customs Organization (WCO), established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC), is an independent intergovernmental body whose mission is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations. Today, the WCO represents 183 Customs administrations across the globe that collectively process approximately 98% of world trade.

WCO works in partnership with UNODC on its Container Control Programme and is itself guided by its Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade (SAFE):

- WCO SAFE Framework of Standards

CCP applies numerous standards of Pillar 1 of SAFE (Customs-to-Customs), such as risk assessment at departure, checks for seal integrity, exchange of information on high-risk consignments, use of advance cargo declarations and use of automated selectivity systems. Pillar 2 activities (Customs-to-business), for instance regular meetings with port operators and private sector information/awareness events, are also integral parts of CCP implementation. Pillar 3 (Customs to other government agencies), is also widely applied via CCP including through the installation of inter-agency PCUs (where feasible), cooperation with maritime and/or aviation authorities, the formulation of cooperative agreements and procedures, the alignment of security programmes and mutual cooperation which are core elements of the CCP approach in all participating countries.



PARTICIPATING REGIONS/COUNTRIES

South East Europe

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro



Black Sea and the Caucasus

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine

Pakistan

Latin America and the Caribbean

Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname

Afghanistan



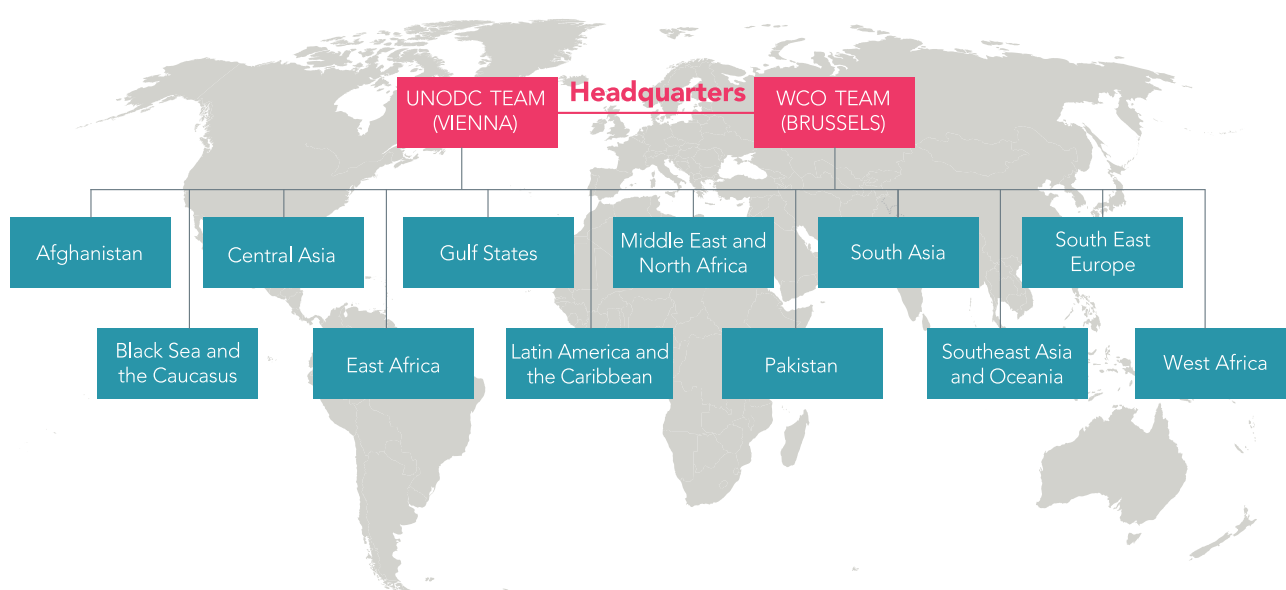
* All references to Kosovo in the present report should be understood in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).



CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- Assist Governments to establish and maintain effective container controls that will serve to prevent trafficking in drugs and other illicit goods, whilst facilitating legitimate trade and protect national revenues, ultimately enhancing border security.
- Establish and maintain Port Control Units (PCUs) at seaports, dry ports and land-border crossings and Air Cargo Control Units (ACCUs) at airports; equip, train and mentor Customs and other law enforcement officers with a view to improved identification and inspection of high-risk freight containers, with minimum disruption to legitimate trade and business.
- Ensure that all PCUs and ACCUs build partnerships and links with the trade and business community to support legitimate trade and to better secure maritime, land and air borders.
- Promote closer cooperation between national law enforcement agencies and encourage the development of effective information-sharing mechanisms between CCP participating countries on a regional and international level, and with the wider Customs and law enforcement community.
- Ensure that the UNODC and WCO, in cooperation with relevant partners, enhance mechanisms for the collection, analysis and dissemination of container intelligence and risk assessment.
- Maintain a global network of seaports, dry ports, land-border crossings and airports to strengthen the fight against cross-border illicit trade.

CCP OFFICES



2019 RESULTS AND SUCCESSES



98

PCUs

59

OPERATIONAL COUNTRIES

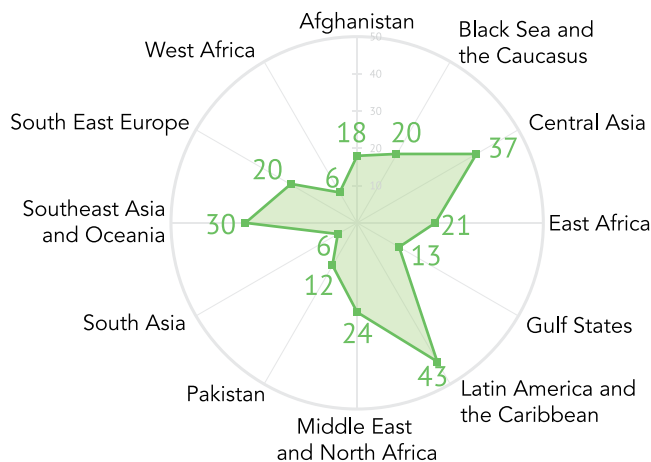


21

ACCUs

250 training activities delivered

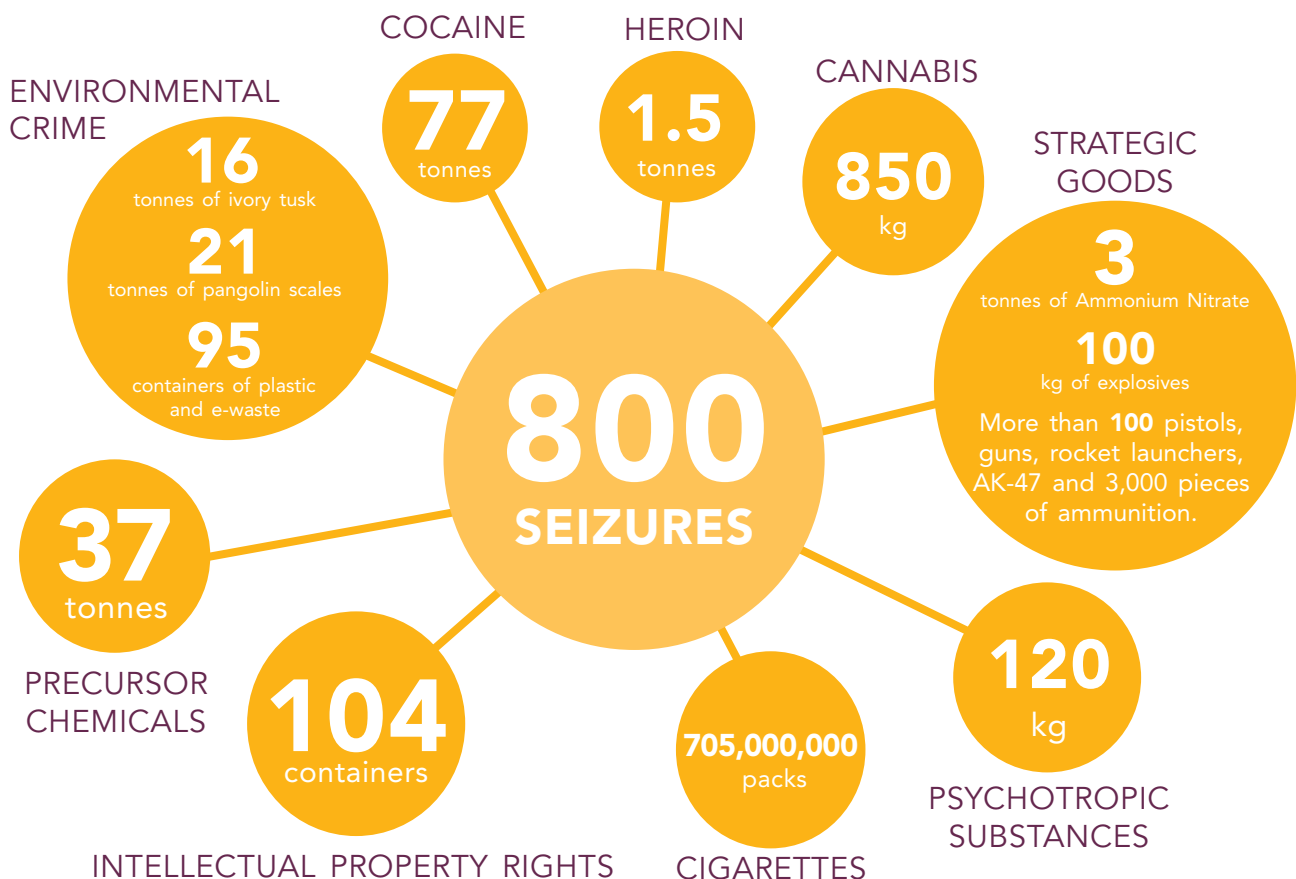
3,393 participants trained



81%
MALE



19%
FEMALE





In October 2019, the Container Control Programme celebrated its 15th anniversary with a meeting hosted by the WCO in Brussels, Belgium, as well as a celebration hosted by Belgian Customs and Excise at the Port of Antwerp. This occasion allowed the CCP to reflect and take stock of its growth and success over the last 15 years. What began as a modest project, established in four seaports and primarily focused on drug trafficking, has become a far-reaching programme on a global scale. As of today, the CCP has so far established 119 specialized units in over 59 countries and has expanded to include airports, dry ports, land border crossings and rail terminals.

Responding to constantly evolving crime threats, the Programme has expanded into new thematic areas, including environmental crime, trafficking in cultural property, strategic and dual-use goods (including chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials, weapons and their means of delivery, as well as conventional weapons and explosives), chemical precursors to drugs and explosives and the exploitation of the air cargo supply chain. In addition, the Programme supports state revenue collection through the detection of a number of non- or falsely declared commercial goods, such as cigarettes.

The Programme's success speaks for itself, with consistent and impressive seizures. In fact, within the first nine months of 2019 alone, cocaine seizures by CCP's units around the world surpassed the total cocaine seizures of previous years. Furthermore, in 2019, the CCP reached a significant milestone with over 300 metric tonnes of cocaine seized since the launch of the Programme in 2004. According to recent UNODC data, this is equivalent to a street value of over 24.6 billion USD. The CCP has also made impressive seizures of other drugs as well, including over 72 tonnes of cannabis and 7 tonnes of heroin since the Programme's inception; however, drugs are not the Programme's sole focus.

The CCP has made significant strides in the field of strategic and dual-use goods, with a dedicated advanced specialized training series on this topic becoming a shining cornerstone of the Programme. Significant seizures and detections over the years have included rocket launchers, detonators and explosives, firearms and ammunition, hafnium (a chemical element used in the creation of control rods for nuclear reactors) and hot cells (a type of equipment used to manipulate radioactive material).

Environmental crime has also become an important thematic focus of the CCP, which now includes specialized training focused on fisheries crime, hazardous waste, illicit timber and CITES-related wildlife crime. 2019 was a historic year for CCP's

environmental crime segments. In March 2019, the Da Nang PCU in Viet Nam discovered over nine tonnes of ivory cleverly concealed in hidden compartments of a shipment of wooden boards, representing the largest ivory seizure ever made in the world. Moreover, in July 2019, a seizure by the Sihanoukville PCU in Cambodia of 1500 tonnes of plastic waste in 83 containers sparked international debate and headlines.

In addition, the CCP has been continuously promoting gender equality in all its activities. In 2015, the CCP Women's Network initiative was launched to promote women's roles in the Programme and foster an inclusive dialogue. As a result, women's participation in CCP units has grown steadily, and today they represent 16 per cent of the total number of officers. The recently announced campaign, 'CCP Champions for Change', is one example of the continuous commitment of the Programme to advancing gender equality.

As the CCP continues to grow, efforts will emphasize not only strengthening the Programme's existing initiatives, but also further expanding areas of thematic and geographical focus. While looking to the future, CCP recognizes that the past 15 years of exponential growth and success would not have been possible without the generous support and contributions of the Programme's donors.

CCP RECEIVES BIC AWARD



The CCP receives the BIC Award in Brussels, Belgium (March 2019).

On the 11th of March 2019, the Bureau International des Containers (BIC) Award 2018 was presented to UNODC and WCO on the opening day of the annual Enforcement Committee meeting at WCO Headquarters in Brussels.

While the CCP has received considerable international recognition, including popular media coverage of seizures and even mentions in the UN General Assembly, the BIC

award is a significant accolade in the field of containerized supply chain management. The award is given annually to an individual or organization for noteworthy contributions to the advancement of safety, security, standardization or sustainability in relation to containerization and intermodal transportation. Every year, BIC's Board of Directors select a single candidate from a pool of industry nominees.

The Secretary General of BIC, Douglas Owen, and the BIC Chairman of the Board, Giordano Bruno Guerrini, presented the award. Mr. Guerrini said that "the Container Control Programme has been selected for its successes in improving security and mitigating smuggling in container transportation. The BIC believes that the capacity-building efforts of the CCP, and its important work in promoting advanced risk-assessment around the world, are to be applauded and encouraged."

UNODC Executive Director Yuri Fedotov emphasized the need to "[adapt] our approaches to become stronger, more effective, more sustainable and more cooperative, sharing the latest information and best practices." He also stated that "the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme continues to keep pace with these rapid developments and the support it provides to secure the global supply chain is needed more than ever. We are extremely proud to see the Programme receive the recognition it deserves with the BIC award."



PROGRAMME UPDATE







SEA



In 2004, CCP started in Ecuador and Senegal. Two years later, Pakistan and Ghana joined the programme. Since its inception, the CCP has bolstered the capabilities of Governments across the globe to build effective and sustainable border controls at seaports, thus reducing the risks of maritime containerized trade being exploited by drug trafficking and other forms of criminality. At the heart of the initial CCP concept was the creation of PCUs at selected seaports comprised of Customs, Police, Anti-narcotics forces, and other law enforcement agencies to identify and inspect high-risk shipments with minimum disruption to legitimate trade.

LAND



By 2014, the programme had become operational in 24 countries. As the programme developed, the need to expand the original focus on narcotics in seaports became more and more evident. In this context, CCP began expanding to deal with a variety of threats in dry ports and land-border crossings.



AIR



In 2015, CCP partnered with a new implementing partner, ICAO, to establish CCP-Air. This involves the establishment of inter-agency Air Cargo Control Units in selected airports, comprised of law enforcement officials from several agencies (i.e. Customs, Police, Air Transport Security, Civil Aviation Authorities, etc.) trained in specialized risk profiling. The fact that air cargo is often transported on passenger aircraft means there is an even greater need to be able to detect explosives in airports.

RAIL



The increased volume of railway freight traffic, along with sophisticated concealment methods adopted by illicit traffickers and terrorists, make successful interdiction by law enforcement agencies difficult. Customs and other control agencies must be mindful of trade facilitation measures and the economic losses that might result from unnecessary delay and/or damage to cargo as a result of inspection. This provided further evidence for the need to establish dedicated PCUs at priority rail border crossings and encourage a more collaborative approach between border agencies and railroad companies for better risk profiling and the suppression of high-risk consignments.



BASIC TRAINING

The Container Control Programme continues to deliver its core practical and theoretical training around the world, including mentorship and follow-up visits, as well as study visits to benchmark ports and airports. The training focuses on technical capacity building of frontline officers, enhancing skills such as risk-profiling. The training includes mandatory modules on human rights, gender and corruption.



Mentorship in Zaranj, Afghanistan, August 2019.



Seal tampering training in Turkmenistan, August 2019.



Training in South East Europe, 2019.



Practical training in Walvis Bay, Namibia, November 2019.



Training in Cambodia, August 2019.



Training in Ghana, July 2019.



LEAP theoretical training in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2019.



LEAP practical training in Da Nang, Viet Nam, 2019.



ADVANCED TRAINING

SEAL TAMPERING

The CCP offers specialized training on seal tampering and seal falsifications. This training seeks to sensitize Customs and other law enforcement officials to identify manipulated seals and ensure the integrity of cargo.

EVIDENCE HANDLING

The CCP offers advanced specialized training on evidence handling, a key step in the law enforcement process that must be done safely and correctly, consistent with forensic procedures in order to preserve evidence for legal proceedings.

THE USE OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

Training on the use of technical equipment includes training on the use of chemical identification systems capable of identifying explosives, homemade precursors, WMDs and toxic industrial chemicals, and on the use of drug testing devices.

CULTURAL PROPERTY

Trafficking in cultural property has been identified as a major source of financing for transnational organized crime groups and terrorist organizations, including ISIS. The CCP's systematic approach to detection and seizures is integral to the international effort to combat this crime.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Intellectual Property Right (IPR) violations, such as the trade in counterfeit goods, are detrimental to legitimate business interests and national economies. In addition, this trade can often finance the activities of a wide range of malicious actors. IPR is a complex field encompassing a nexus of law, law enforcement and business. The CCP provides the coordination and expert training required to deal with these issues.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Only recently, international scrutiny on the phenomenon of waste trafficking revealed an enormous and lucrative criminal industry with considerable involvement of transnational organized crime groups. The specialized training covers e-waste, plastic waste, ozone depleting substances, scrap vehicles and more.



ILLICIT DRUGS AND PRECURSORS

The CCP offers advanced specialized training to enhance the capacity of Customs and other law enforcement authorities to detect and identify narcotic drugs and precursors which are used to manufacture narcotics or explosives. This training also covers new psychoactive substances (NPS).

STRATEGIC TRADE AND EXPORT CONTROL

STEC training is designed to improve the expertise of frontline officers relating to strategic trade, in order to help them detect, deter, prevent and combat the illicit trafficking or brokering of weapons of mass destruction, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and related goods, thus helping states fulfil their mandatory obligations under UNSCR 1540 Operative Paragraph 3(c). The training deals with delivery means such as missiles, and also covers industrial equipment and material, dual-use goods, conventional explosives, military hardware identification, and briefings on current sanctions and embargos.

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

The CCP advanced specialized training programme on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) aims to enhance law enforcement capacity and cooperation in relation to dealing with the trafficking of protected wildlife and plants. This is an increasingly lucrative criminal market: wildlife trafficking alone is believed to be worth up to 20 billion USD per year, yet often frontline officers lack the specialized knowledge to identify CITES goods or verify CITES documents that are often faked. The training covers CITES implementation at national and international levels, CITES documents and permits, CITES specimen identification, sources of information, risk indicators, case studies, concealment techniques, and interagency cooperation. This training also complements the work of Project LEAP (Law Enforcement Assistance Programme to fight deforestation), a partnership between UNODC, INTERPOL, and RHIPTO- Norwegian Center for Global Analyses that seeks to share expertise and build networks to fight illegal deforestation and related crimes.

ILLICIT TIMBER

The specialized training on illicit timber is delivered under the framework of Project LEAP (Law Enforcement Assistance Programme to fight illegal deforestation), a partnership between UNODC, INTERPOL and RHIPTO- Norwegian Center for Global Analyses that seeks to share expertise and build networks to fight illegal deforestation and related crimes. CCP LEAP aims to build technical capacity by raising awareness and providing specialized training on document fraud, timber identification (including non-CITES species) and modus operandi in illicit timber trafficking.

FISHERIES CRIME

This year CCP's specialized training programme on fisheries crime was launched in Southeast Asia, which is the fourth region to receive such training. This project component is now operational in East and West Africa and South and Southeast Asia. Fisheries crime covers a range of illegal activities that are often transnational and organized in nature and by bringing together PCUs, fisheries departments, coastguard, and other relevant actors, the Programme promotes a holistic approach to counter this form of crime.



MOVING FORWARD: INNOVATIONS IN CCP



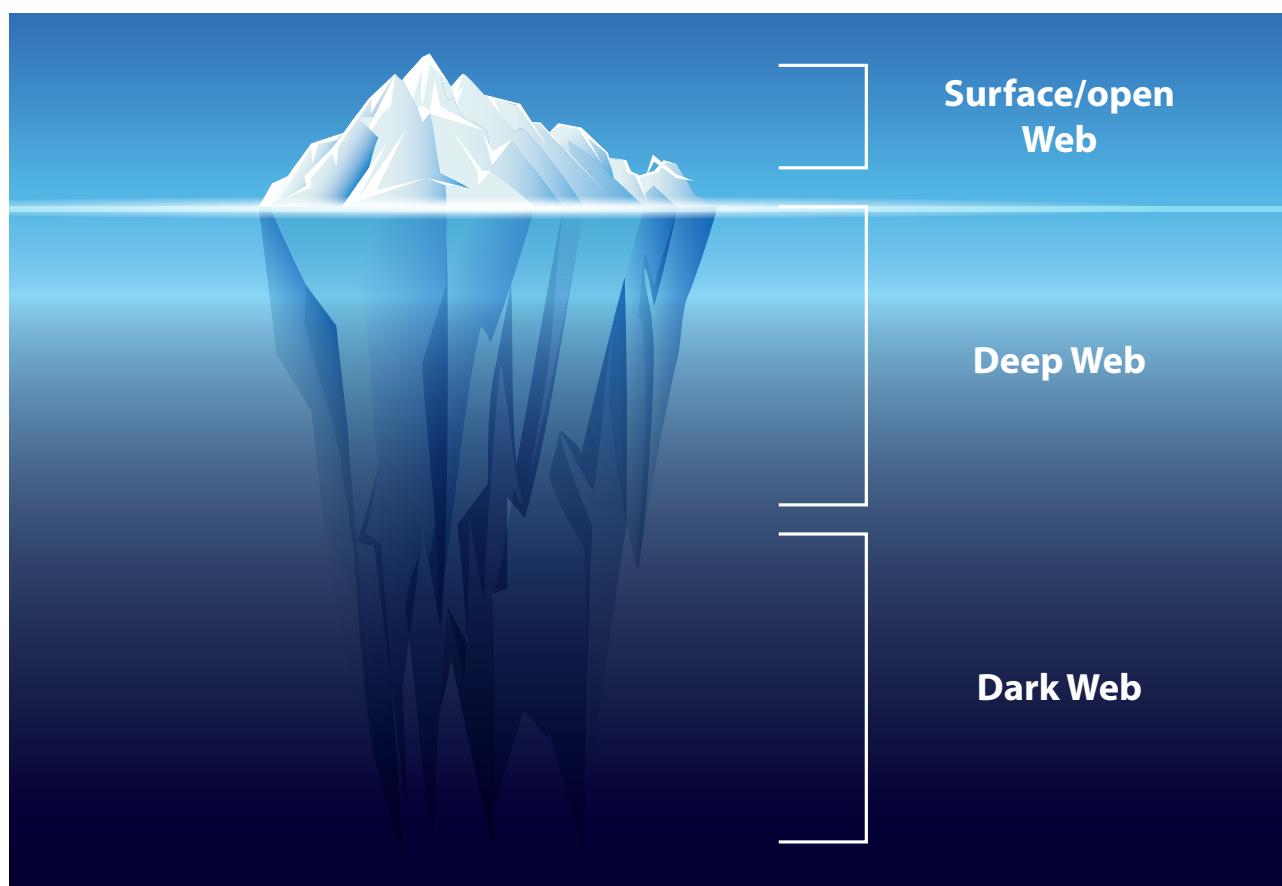
The CCP is continuously monitoring the developments in new technologies, methodologies and partnerships, to keep up with criminal and terrorist activities that are also constantly evolving.

As the CCP has expanded, and broader law enforcement efforts improve in key commercial hubs, a natural reaction has been the displacement of illicit trafficking into smaller commercial hubs and routes which are less frequently subjected to controls. As criminals expand into new markets, the CCP must also strive to provide expert training in an increasingly broad range of subjects, from fisheries crime, hazardous waste and chemicals used for illegal mining, to trade-based money laundering, new psychoactive substances and emerging dual-use technologies.

Another example of criminal innovation is the increasing use of postal and courier services to deliver contraband. In part, this has been driven by the rise of Darknet markets, which rely exclusively on such services, but

traditional criminal networks are also increasingly exploiting these services, especially in the case of highly potent synthetic opioids like fentanyl, which can be trafficked in commercial quantities in small parcels or even envelopes. Much like in the cases of containerized shipping trade and air cargo, the sheer volume of goods transiting the world via mail makes interdiction difficult. The CCP delivers specialized training on post as standard part of its air cargo training for ACCUs.





Some PCUs have also risen swiftly to the challenge, expanding their profiling and searching operations to include mail, and pioneering new methodologies to counter this emerging threat. One of the first units to do this was the PCU in Tbilisi, Georgia. In January 2019, this unit discovered 16 gun barrels, hidden in vehicle oil filters, which were concealed in postal packages.

While the initial applications of blockchain, such as the use of cryptocurrencies and Darknet markets, seem antithetical to law enforcement efforts, today blockchain is also viewed as a solution to many problems faced in the international supply chain. Commercial blockchain solutions are anticipated to save billions of dollars per year by better detecting fraud and increasing efficiency. Some of the largest shipping lines are already implementing or investing in blockchain solutions. UNODC and WCO are monitoring these developments. These efforts are the latest in the constant search for new methodologies, tools and partnerships with the private sector to ensure global law enforcement efforts remain at the cutting edge of trade facilitation and the fight against organized crime. The WCO has already established a Working Group on blockchain, conducting research and holding conferences on the uses of blockchain to improve Customs compliance, trade facilitation and fraud detection.

In addition, blockchain has the capacity to improve security in ports, which is another key area of interest and innovation that the CCP has been investigating. In particular, cyber-security has emerged as a global threat to port security over the past decade, with several high-profile cases of hacking and hacking-enabled trafficking, alongside the rising prevalence of 'rip-on rip-off' modality, where containers are compromised in transit.

The CCP is exploring the deployment of new detection technologies and devices, in partnership with UNODC partners such as the Laboratory and Scientific Section, to better detect new psychoactive substances and chemicals, and to ensure the safety of our frontline officers.

While new technologies are important, they cannot be applied effectively without proper procurement, training and information-sharing. Thus, the core functions of the CCP remain the same, albeit that the training content, methodologies and tools must be constantly updated to counter these new threats.



CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

One of the key components of the CCP is cross-border cooperation and the development of effective mechanisms to share information between Customs and other law enforcement agencies around the world. This is achieved through organizing regional trainings, exchange visits within and outside the region, as well as work-study tours abroad to benchmarking ports. Based on its regional/country presence, CCP regularly organizes regional meetings and conferences to build capacity and promote an internationally coordinated and cooperative response to crime in the containerized supply chain. The CCP shares information with authorities within and outside the CCP network, often facilitating successful law enforcement operations and prosecutions.



Afghanistan and Pakistan joint training,
May 2019, Baku, Azerbaijan.

CCP maintains a global network of seaports, airports, dry ports and land border crossings to effectively combat cross-border illicit trade. The PCUs and ACCUs are equipped to exchange information with counterparts in other countries using a secure communication application developed by WCO called ContainerCOMM. This user friendly, Internet-based and multifunctional communication tool facilitates the encrypted exchange of sensitive information between authorized users in participating countries, including alert notices of shipments of high-risk containers. It is continually being enhanced and is available in several languages including English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Portuguese, Arabic, Urdu, Dari and Vietnamese.



Customs officers from Mozambique shared information with
PCU Sihanoukville in Cambodia which led to the interception
of 2 containers loaded with Chanfuta wood.

WCO ContainerCOMM EXPANSION

OVER
1,400
USERS

MORE THAN
100
COUNTRIES

CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME ANNUAL REPORT 2019

One of the accomplishments in 2019 in promoting the global PCU network included the establishment of the Inter-Regional Network of Customs Authorities and Port Control Units (IREN) aimed to identify and suppress high-risk consignments. On 22 May 2019, the Heads of Customs Authorities of Afghanistan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan committed to further fostering Customs cooperation by signing the Memorandum of Understanding on the Inter-Regional Network of Customs Authorities and Port Control Units in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.



A seizure of 15 kg cocaine based on information exchange sharing between PCU in Port of Manzanillo, Panama and PCU in Guayaquil, Ecuador.



The PCU in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania through its profiling and collaboration with UK counterparts intercepted stolen vehicles.



The CCP Women's Network was launched in 2015 to more actively promote women's roles in the Programme and to work towards gender equality in the law enforcement profession at large, thus addressing many of the issues identified under UN Sustainable Development Goal no. 5 (Gender Equality). Furthermore, a mandatory gender awareness training module has been introduced to the standardized CCP training which all Port Control and Air Cargo Control Units undergo. Since the start of the CCP Women's Network in 2015, the percentage of women PCU officers has risen from 11% to 16% in 2019. CCP is aiming to further increase this percentage. Moreover, in 2019, there were 18 female heads of PCUs/ACCUs.



To coincide with celebrations marking the CCP's 15th anniversary, the Women's Network launched a new gender champions initiative – CCP Champions for Change (C4C). The C4C initiative recognizes that we are all agents of change and must be proactive in our efforts to strengthen and institutionalize gender equality. The women and men that become Champions will be PCU and ACCU officers, CCP staff and trainers who volunteer to actively promote and encourage gender equality in their everyday work. Upon volunteering, a Champion will make a pledge committing to gender equality.

During the launch of the CCP C4C, the initiative's first Champions were named as Edmund Landy Tei, CCP Expert Trainer, and Alen Gagula, UNODC National Project Officer for Bosnia and Herzegovina. While both women and men are encouraged to join the initiative, these initial Champions were men because men's involvement is crucial to



achieving gender parity in all CCP activities. Men influence other men. Gender equality is not only a women's issue: its realization benefits all.

As the CCP celebrates its 15th anniversary and looks to the future, the Women's Network will work toward promoting a culture of greater inclusivity and diversity.

The Women's Network aims to keep those interested informed via periodic newsletters. In 2019, three newsletters were produced:

March 2019



July 2019



October 2019

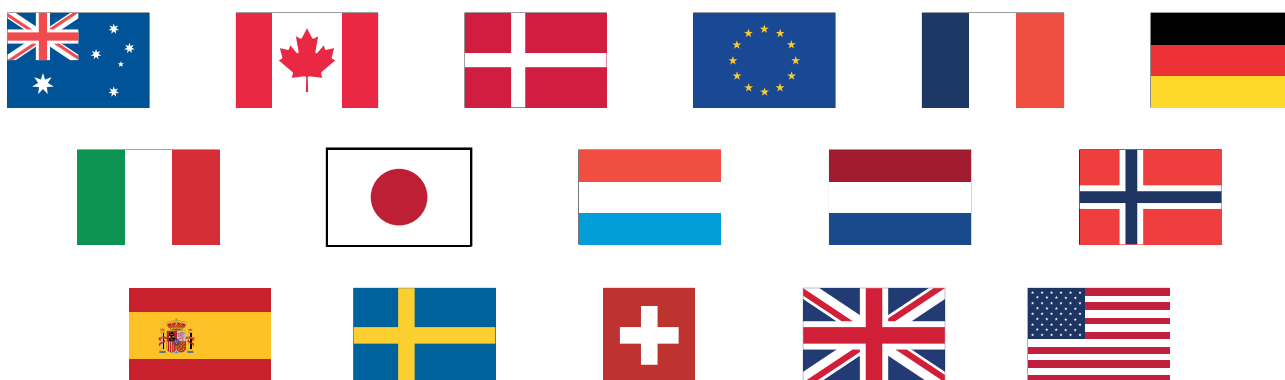




DONORS AND PARTNERS

DONORS

None of the Programme's achievements over the past 15 years would have been possible without the funding and support from the European Union and the Governments of Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.



IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Furthermore, CCP is also grateful for the in-kind contributions through the release of experts for training activities and non-monetary resources from Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Colombia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Peru, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Kingdom, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

PRIVATE SECTOR

The CCP also benefits greatly from a number of partnerships with the private sector. Regular meetings are held with the private sector including shipping companies, private port authorities and logistics companies.



Regional Workshop on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy, August 2019, Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan.

“ If there is a law enforcement network somewhere in the world, that is having a bigger impact on global drug trafficking than CCP, I would like to meet them! ”

Superintendent International Operations and Coordination, Australian Border Force

“ The Australian Department of Home Affairs and its operational arm, the Australian Border Force, has partnered with the UNODC-WCO Container Control Program and Lebanese Customs to improve risk management, supply chain security, and cross border trade facilitation in Lebanon. UNODC as an implementing partner is a force multiplier, their in-country capacity and expertise has enabled the Department of Home Affairs and the Australian Border Force to deliver positive outcomes. ”

Australian Department of Home Affairs

“ The Republic of Panama is one of the main logistics hubs worldwide, which circulates approximately 8,000,000 TEU annually. For this reason, the Customs Authority is committed to further strengthening CCP in ports and airports, ensuring facilitation of commerce based on intelligent cargo control and fighting illicit trade. ”

**Mrs. Tayra Barsallo,
Director of Customs Panama**



“ The Container Control Programme has indeed become an effective mechanism for developing inter-regional cooperation, providing a platform for discussing topical issues, as well as establishing contacts for practical collaboration. It is crucial for both Central Asia and the wider international community since the illicit movement of smuggled goods, including drugs and other hazardous goods, remains a real threat to regional and international security. ”

**Mr. Murotjon Azimov
Chairman of the State Customs Committee
of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

“ The European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments has partnered with the Container Control Programme at Jordan's and Iraq's land borders to improve access to economic development and enhance stability. ”

European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments

“ By fighting organized crime, and in particular container crime, the CCP will contribute to minimizing an important barrier to foreign investment and economic development, as well as facilitate growth in step with world commerce and the government expansion programmes for increased trade. ”

Royal Norwegian Embassy in Beirut



REGIONAL & COUNTRY REVIEWS



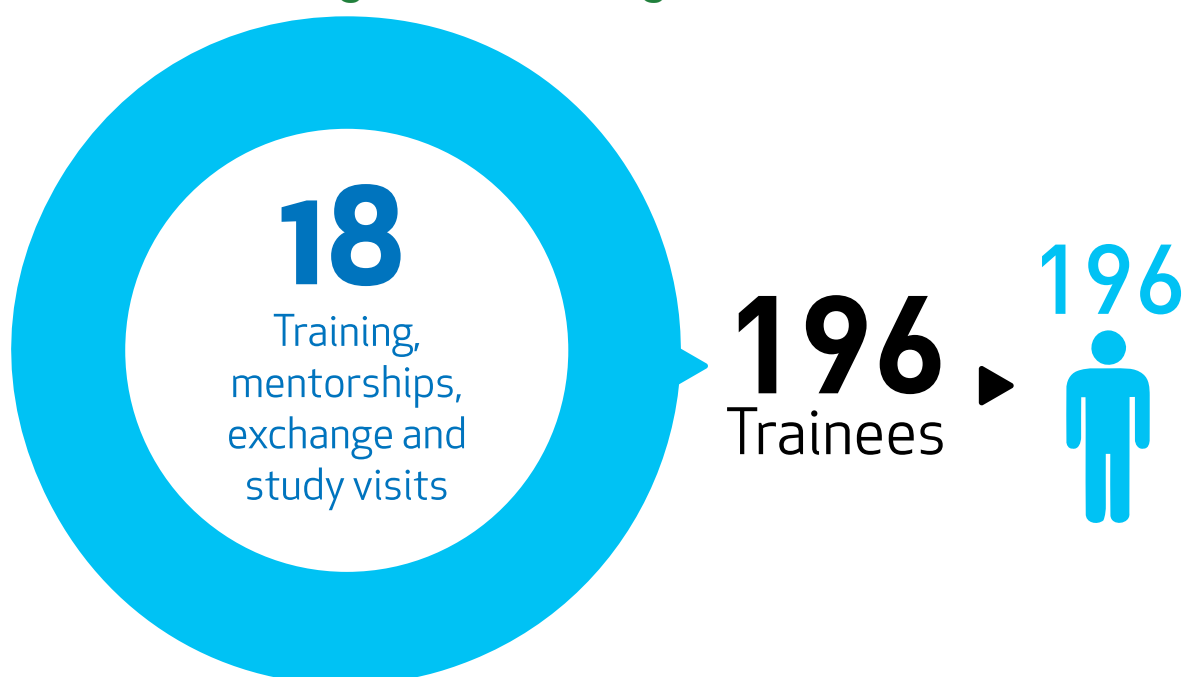


AFGHANISTAN



Note: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Training activities in Afghanistan in 2019



Seizure cases in Afghanistan in 2019

131

Significant seizures

Heroin	Precursors	Explosives and arms	Medicines	Cash seizure
				
6,000 grams	27 tonnes	178 pistols and guns, 4 rocket launchers, 1 AK-47, 100 kg of explosives	2,000 boxes of falsified medicines	650,000 USD, 90,000 Euro, 130,000 Saudi Riyals, 75,000 EUD, 140,000 Indian Rupees



1,246 grams of heroin concealed in sweets seized by ACCU.



3 tonnes of red phosphorus seized by PCU.

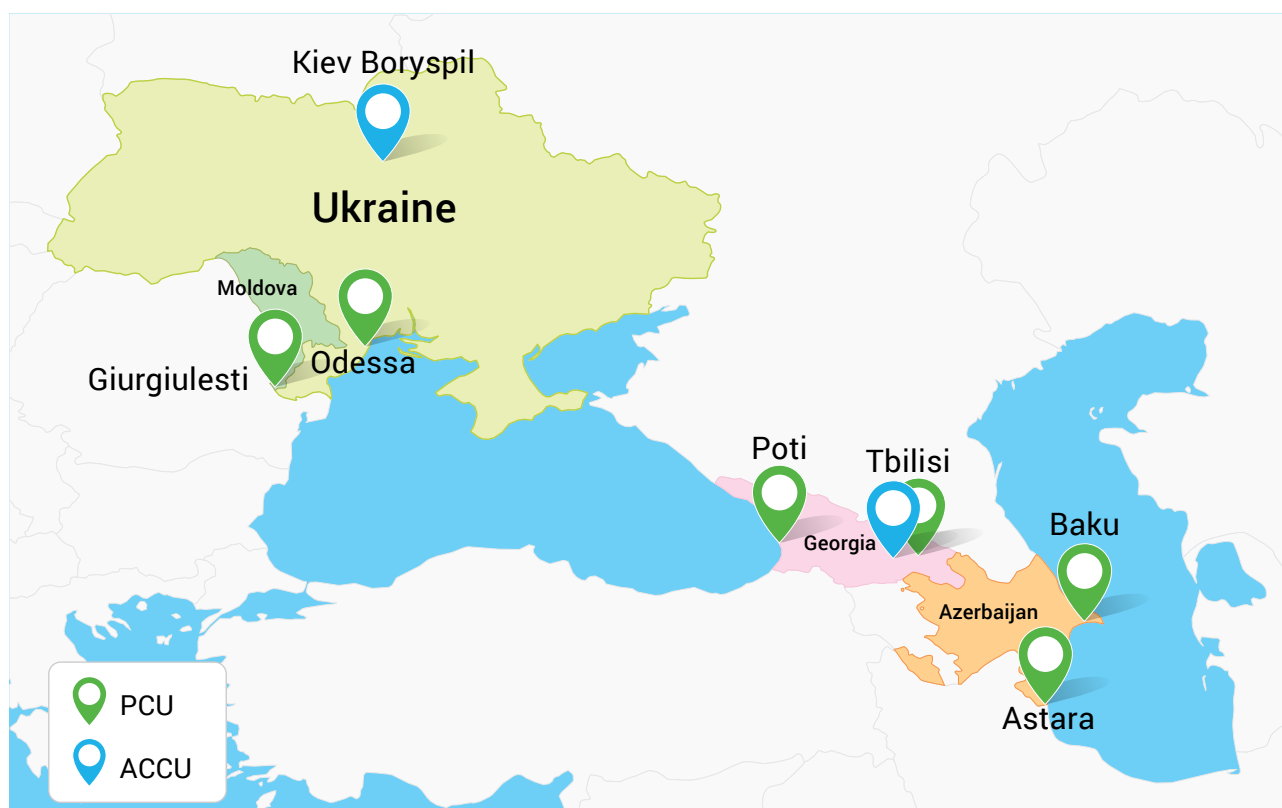


27 pistols (with magazines), 4 silencers and 500 bullets seized by PCU.



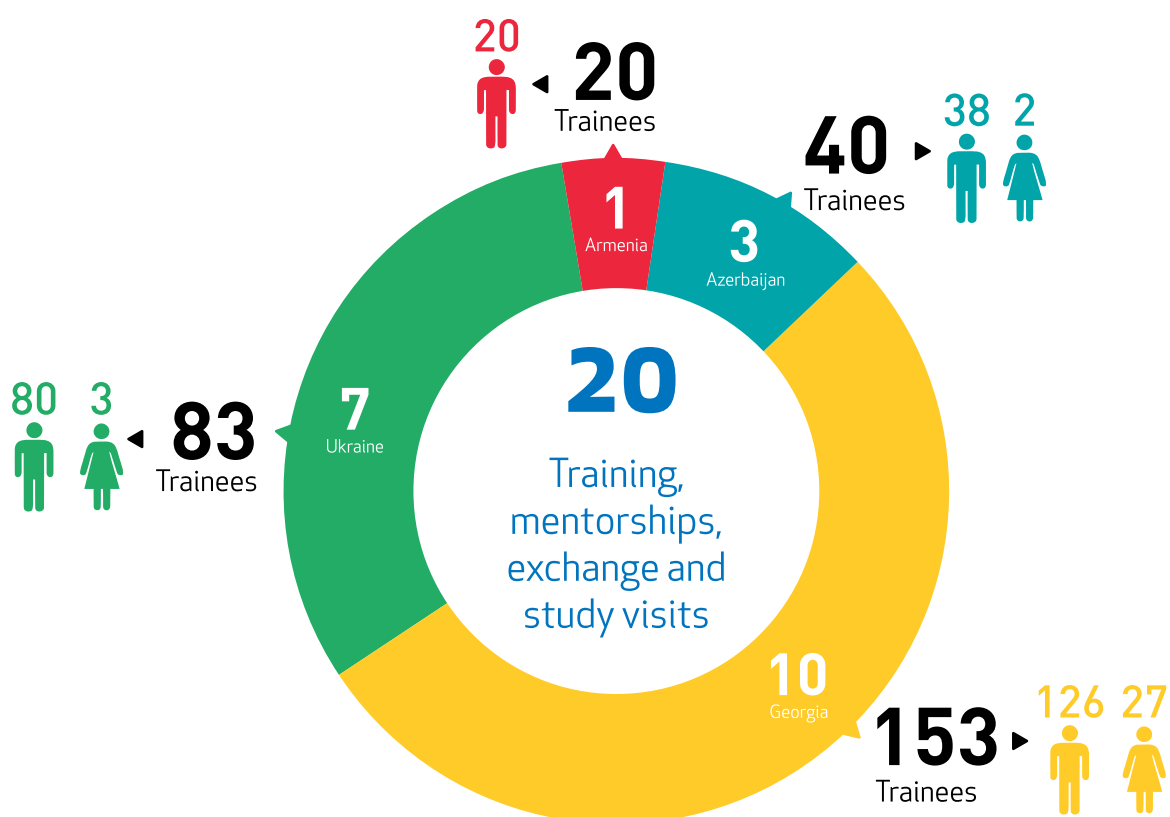


BLACK SEA AND THE CAUCASUS



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Training activities in Black Sea and the Caucasus in 2019



Seizure cases in Black Sea and the Caucasus in 2019

Azerbaijan

2

Georgia

22

Ukraine

44

Significant seizures

Heroin



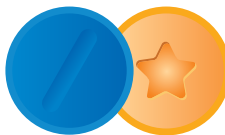
1.3 tonnes

Cocaine



269 kg

Synthetic drugs



56 kg of
Methamphetamine

Cigarettes



7,800,000 packs



Seizure of more than 30 pistols, a machine gun, rifles, grenade launchers and grenades were seized, and about 3,000 of ammunition.

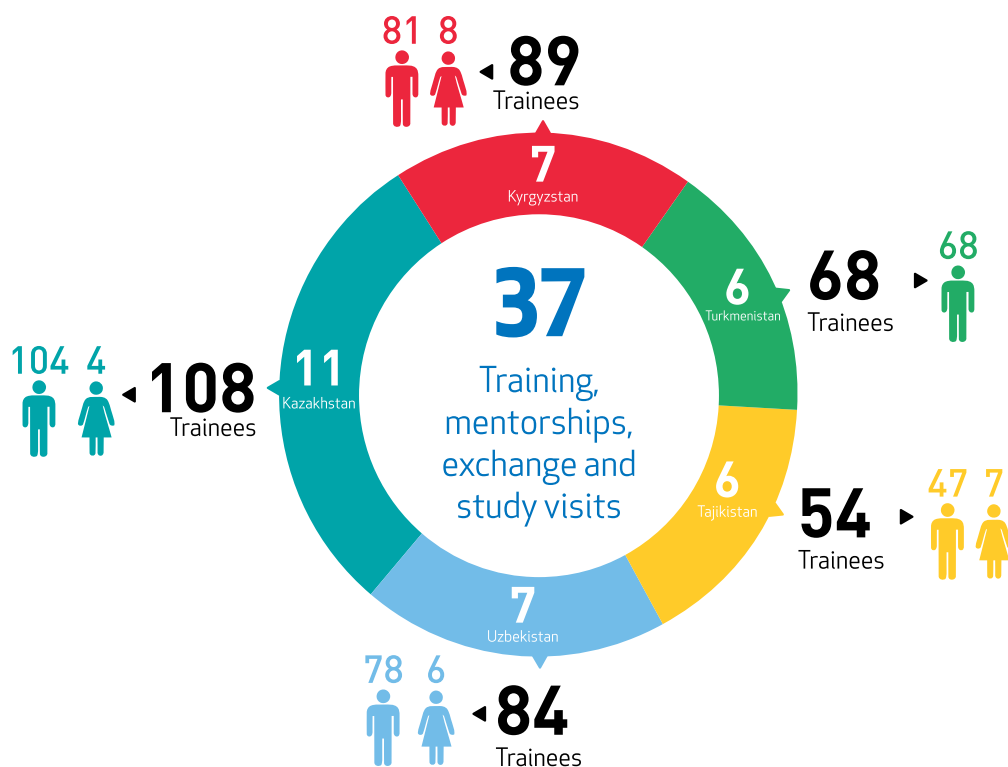


CENTRAL ASIA



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Training activities in Central Asia in 2019



Seizure cases in Central Asia in 2019



Significant seizures

Cigarettes and tobacco



37,275,000 packs,
50 tonnes hookah tobacco

Precursors



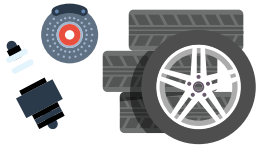
30 liters of
Hydrochloric acid

Consumer goods



5,000 pieces,
260 tonnes

Car spare parts and tires



27,000 pieces,
2 tonnes



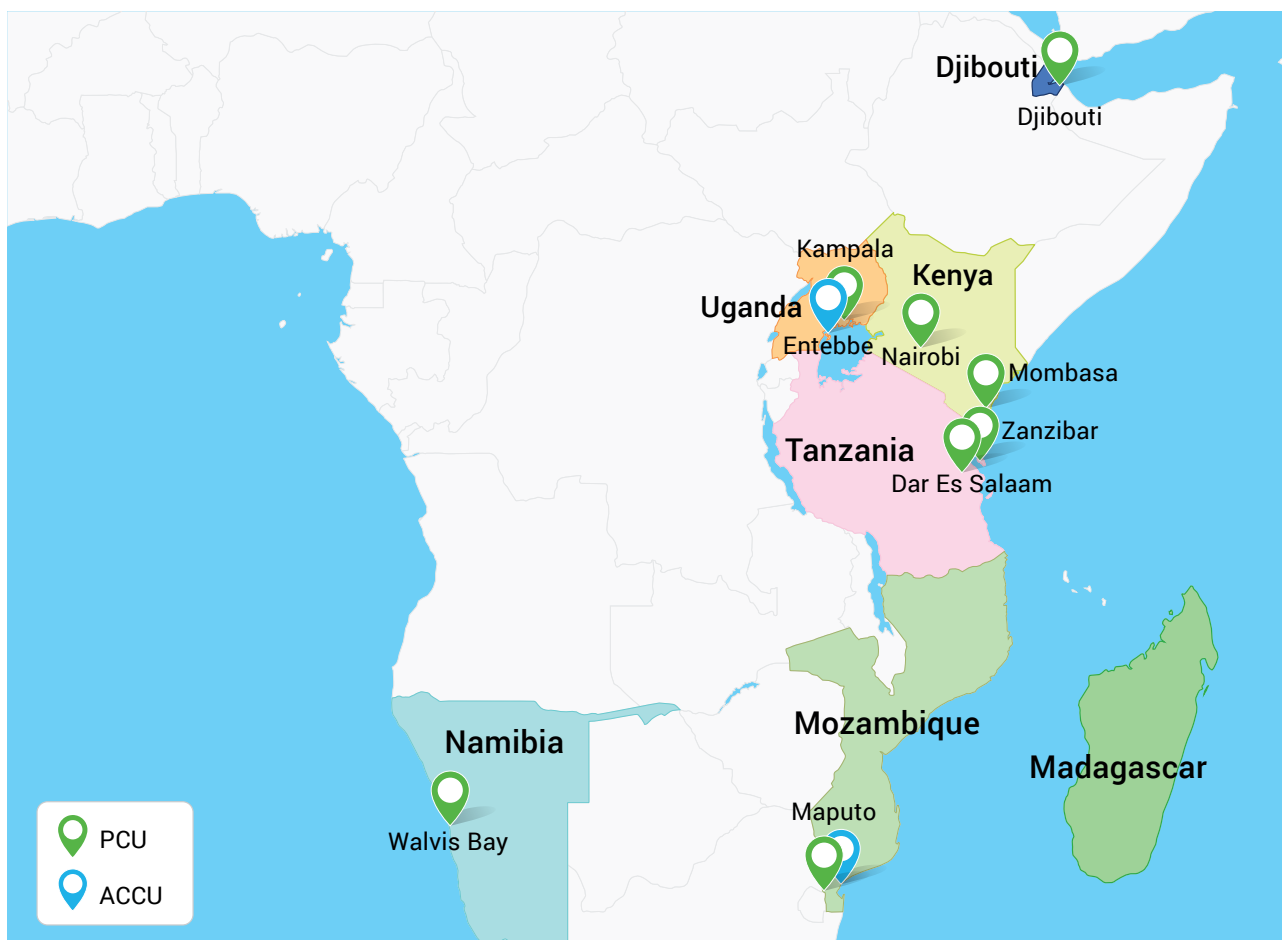
Seizure of 12 tonnes hookah tobacco concealed in the trailer, PCU Osh, Kyrgyzstan, December 2019.



Seizure of 17,000,000 packs of cigarettes in six 40-foot containers, Aktau, Kazakhstan, June 2019.

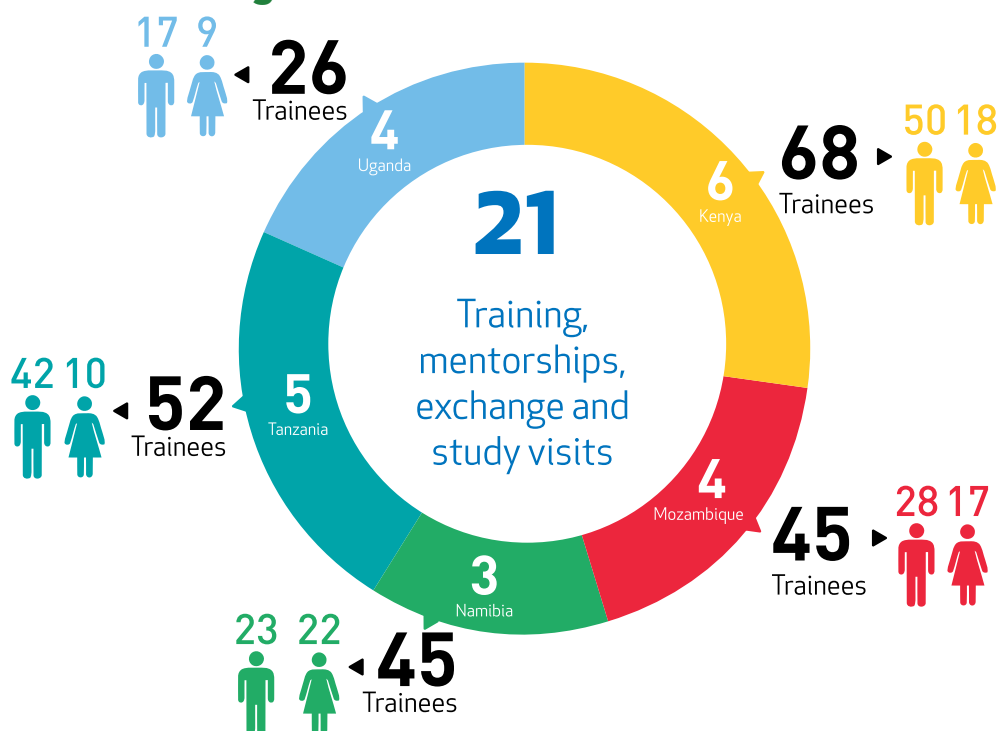


EAST AFRICA

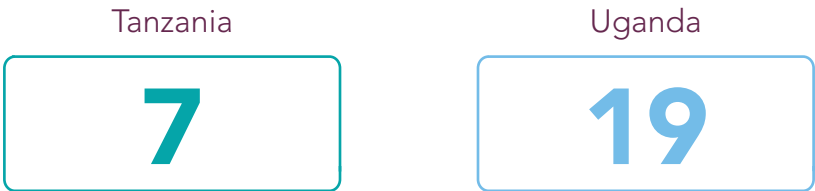


Note: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Training activities in East Africa in 2019



Seizure cases in East Africa in 2019



Significant seizures

CITES



4 tonnes

IPR and Counterfeit products



130,000 pieces

Stolen vehicles



5 vehicles



The seizure of stolen vehicles by the PCU in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 2019.



GULF STATES



Note: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Training activities in Oman in 2019



Seizure cases in Oman in 2019

4

Significant seizures

Ceramic tiles



2 containers (revenue cases)

Motorcycles



120 pieces (revenue case)



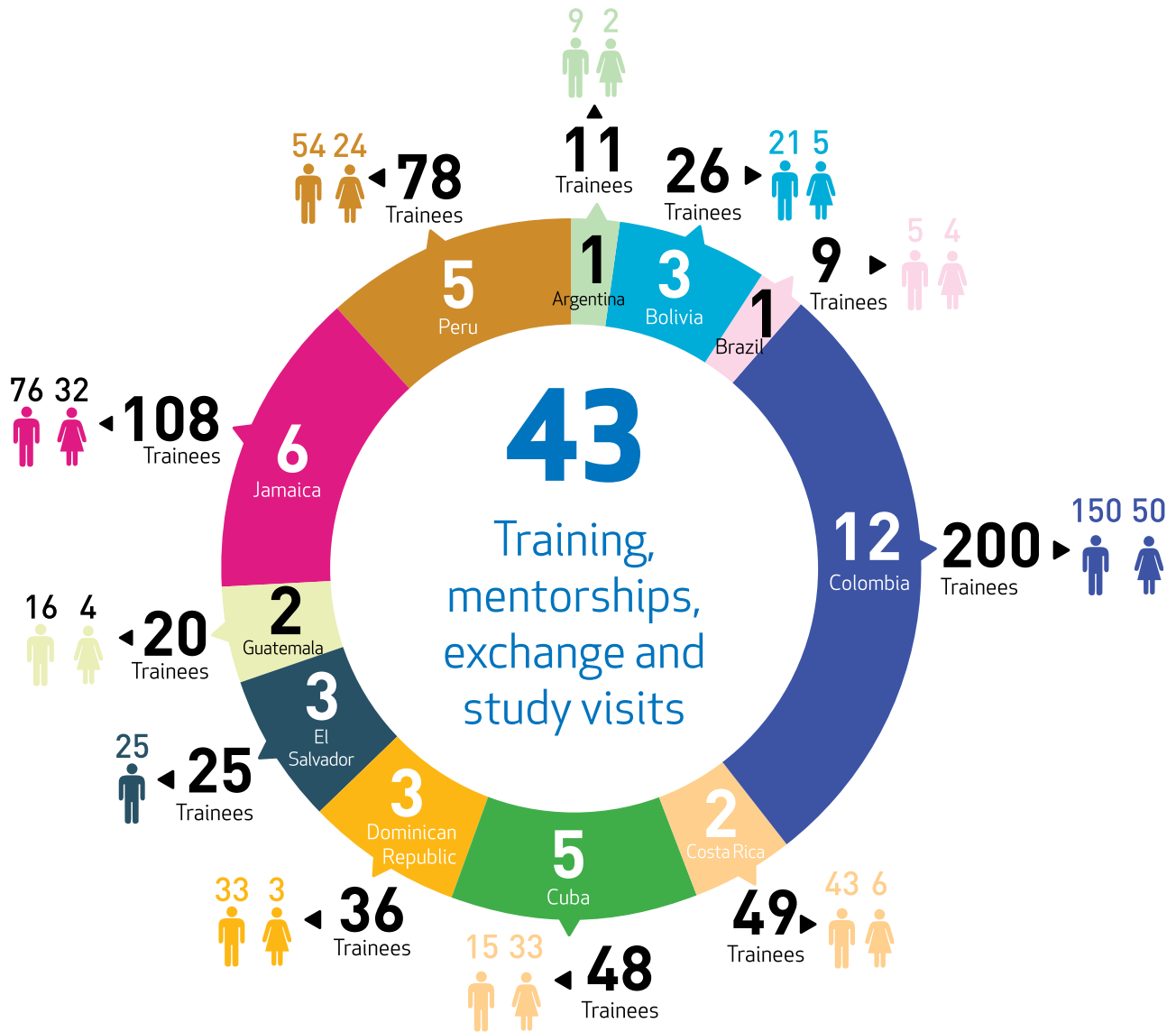
Two plastic waste seizure cases still under investigation.



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

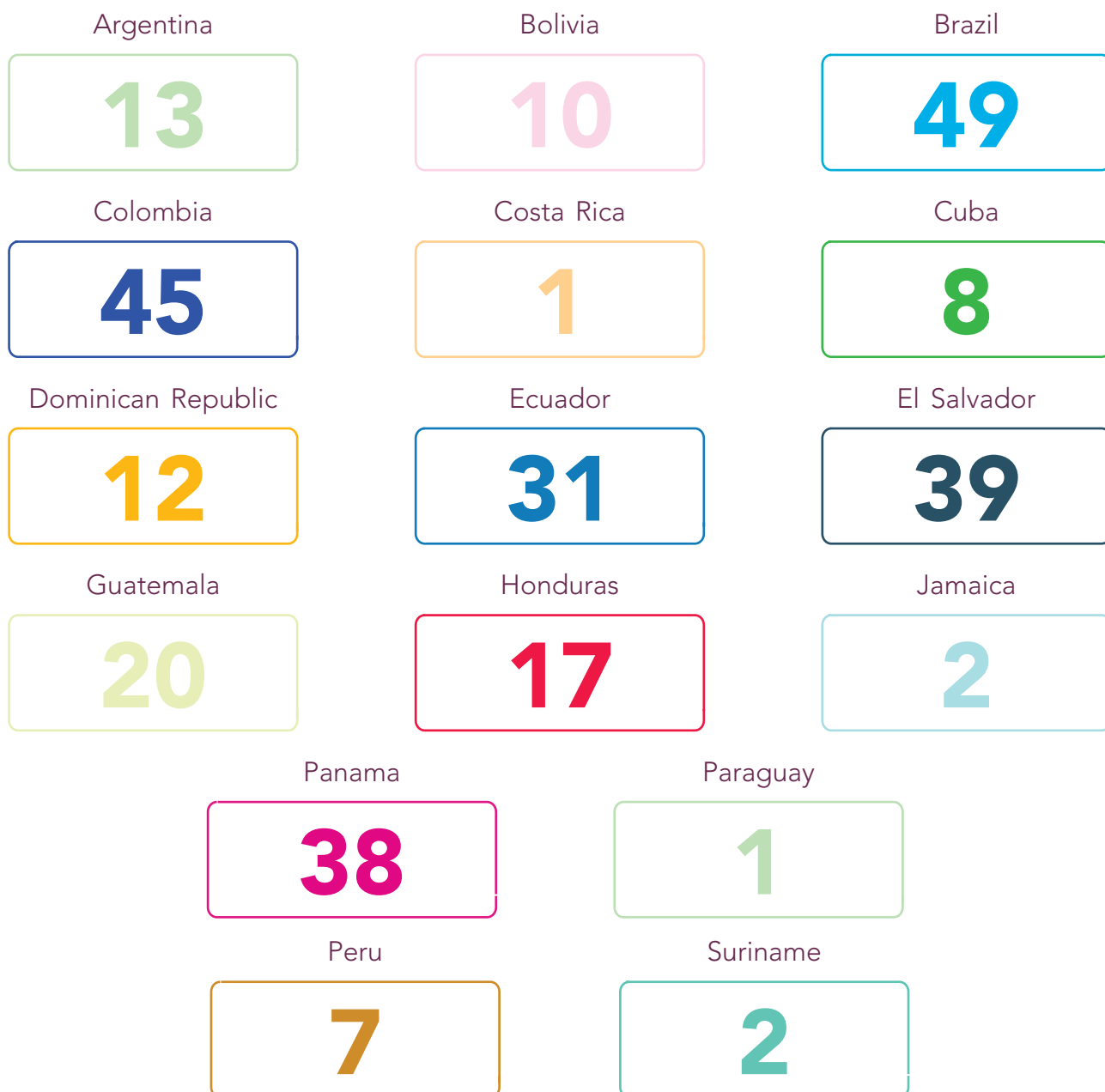


Training activities in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019

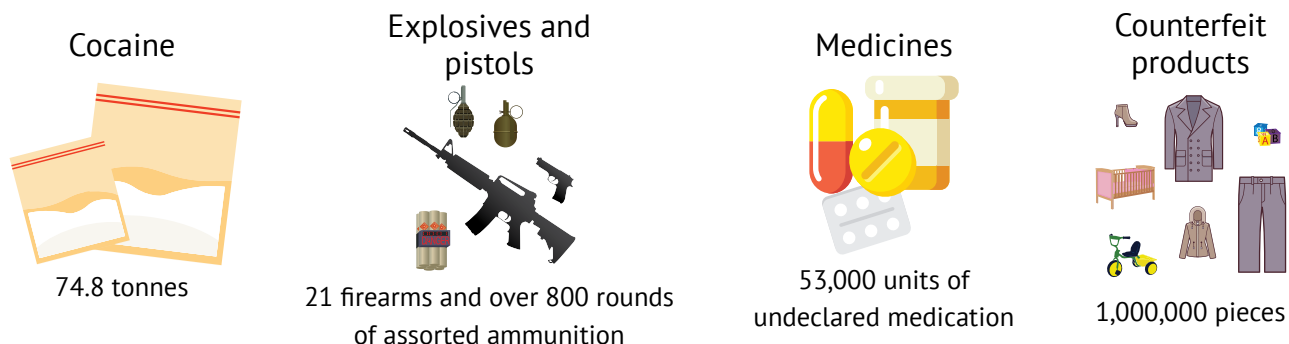




Seizure cases in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019



Significant seizures





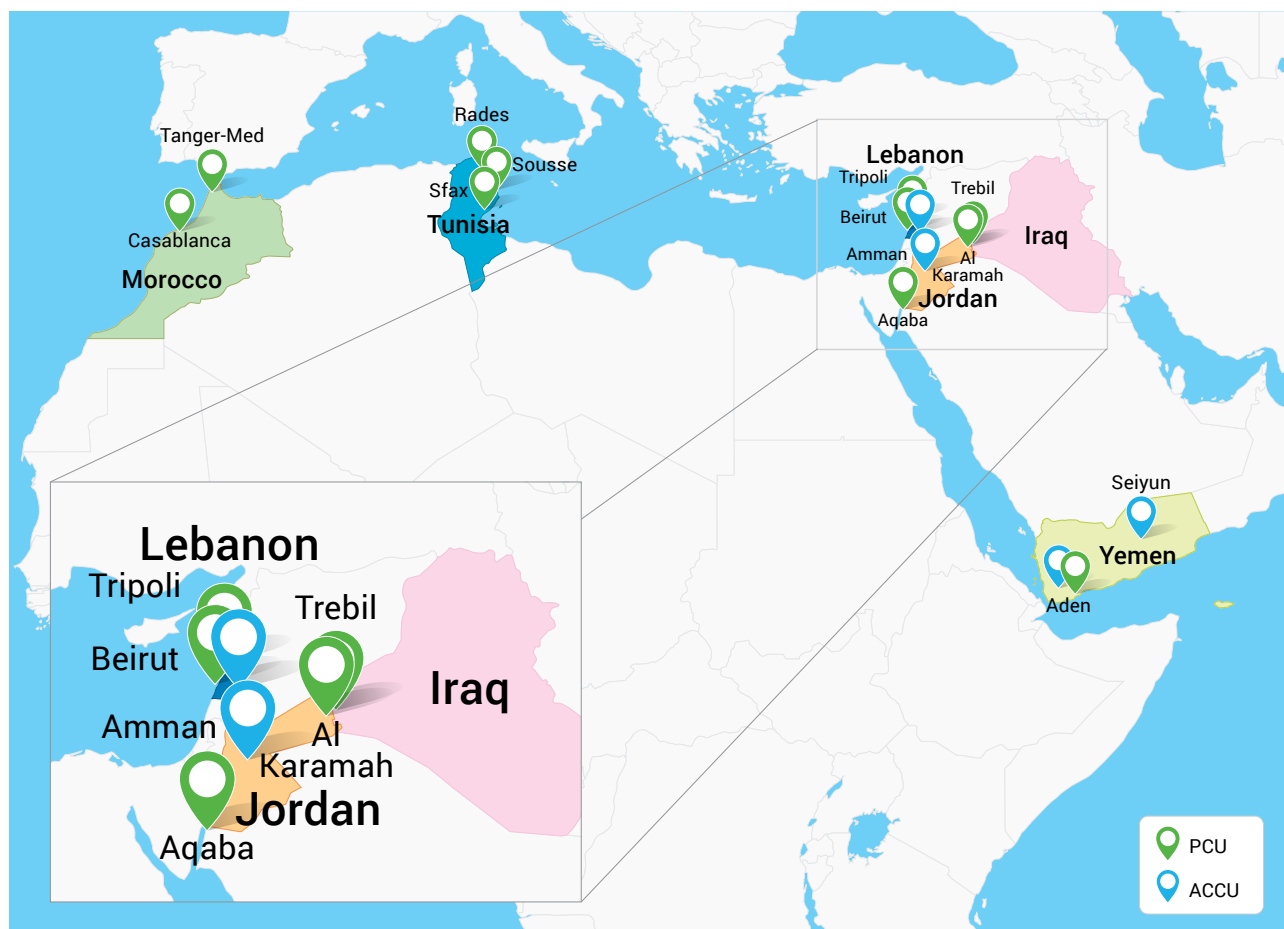
Seizure of 908 kg cocaine by the PCU Cristóbal, Panama.



Seizure of 10,000 tobacco packages, and 5,800,000 cigarettes by the PCU in Port of Haina, Dominican Republic.

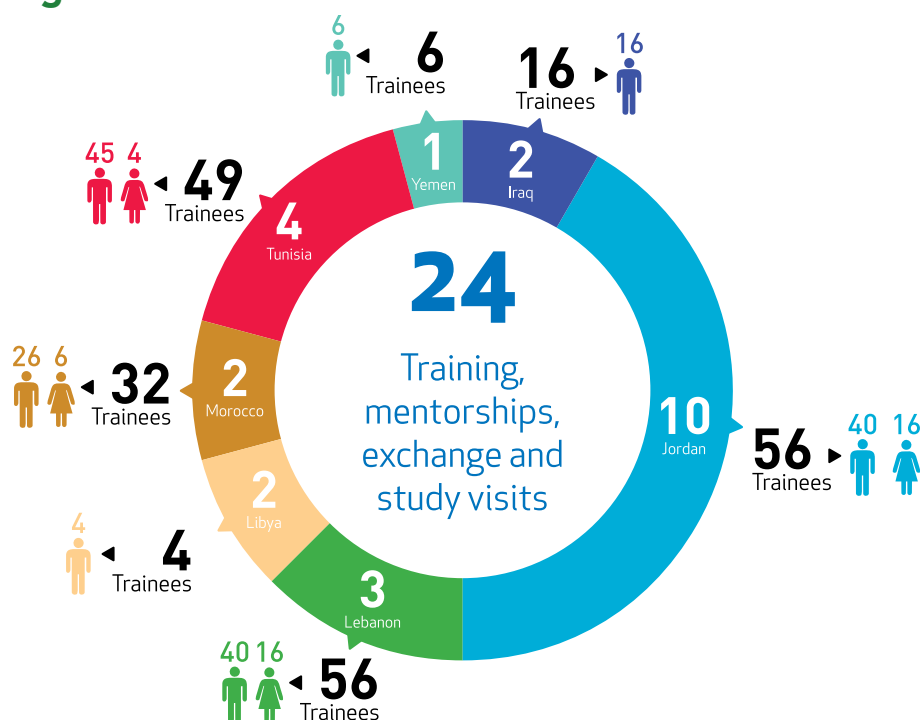


MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA



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Training activities in Middle East and North Africa in 2019



Seizure cases in Middle East and North Africa in 2019

Jordan

16

Lebanon

1

Tunisia

10

Significant seizures

Precursors



12 tonnes

Strategic goods



105 kg of aluminium powder and
1,503 pieces of weapon spare parts

Counterfeit products



500,000 pieces



Seizure of strategic goods in Jordan, 2019.



Seizure of weapon spare parts in Jordan, 2019.



PAKISTAN



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Training activities in Pakistan in 2019

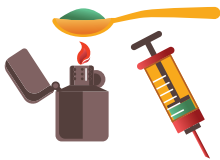


Seizure cases in Pakistan in 2019

40

Significant seizures

Heroin



196 kg

Opium



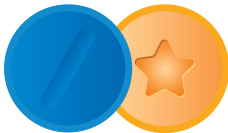
329 kg

Cocaine



25 kg

Psychotropic substances and NPS



120 kg of Psychotropic substances and 30 kg of NPS



Seizure of 329 kg of Opium, August 2019, Karachi PCU.



Seizure of 275 kg of Ketamine, May 2019, Lahore ACCU.

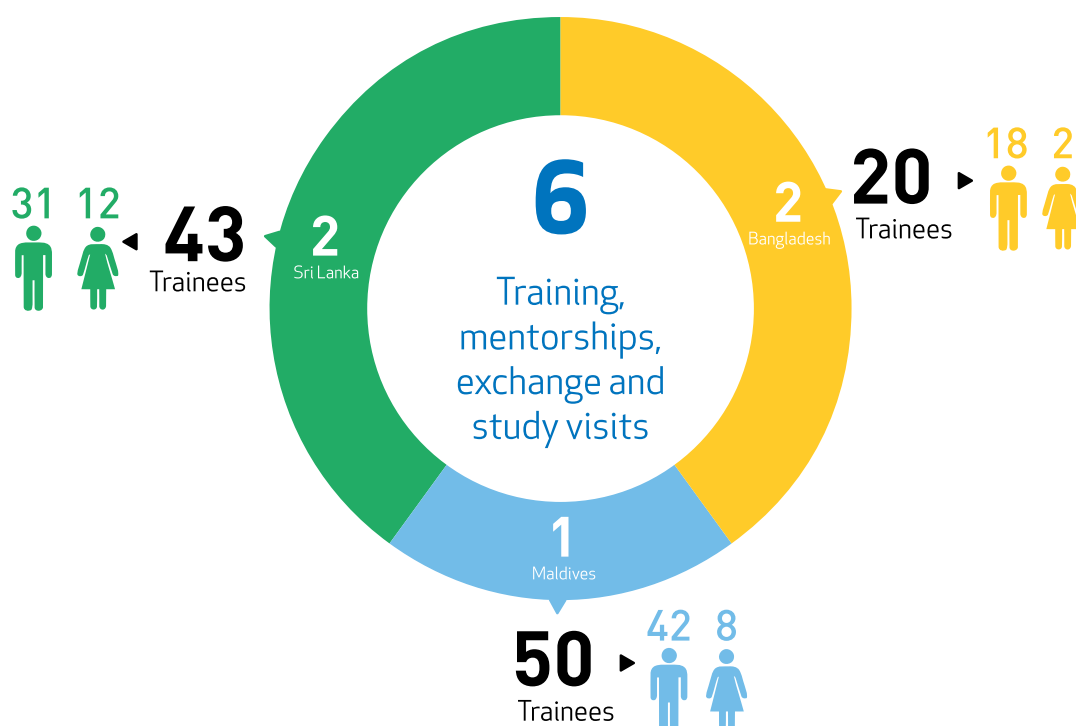


SOUTH ASIA

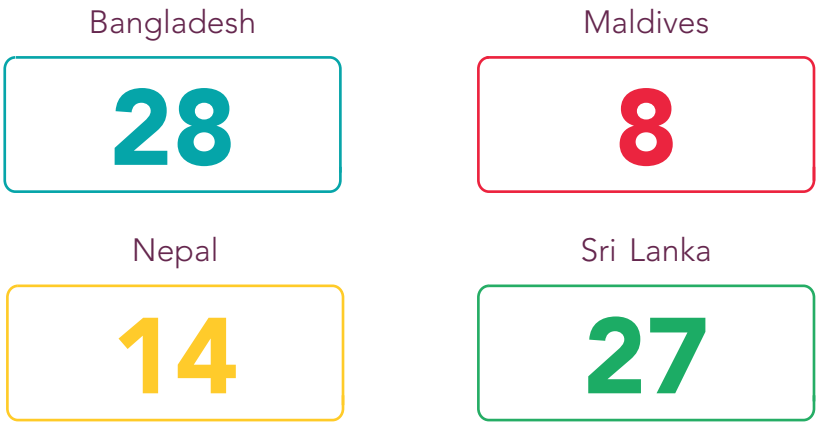


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Training activities in South Asia in 2019



Seizure cases in South Asia in 2019

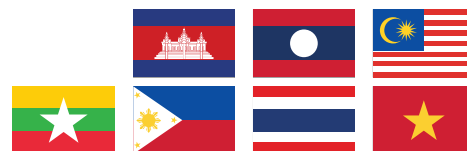


Significant seizures



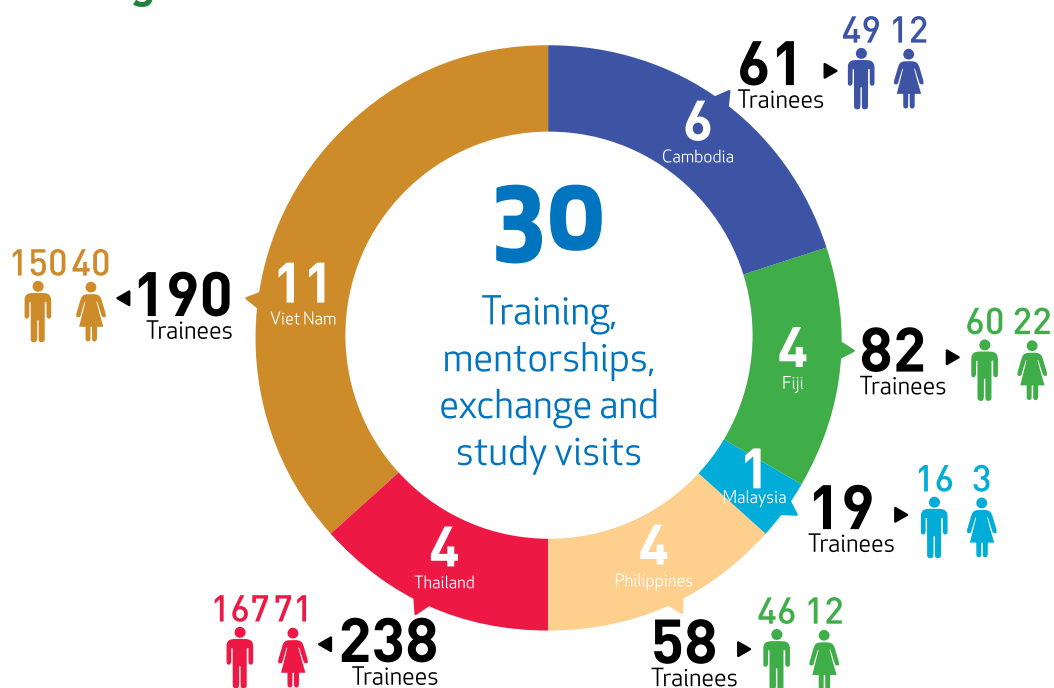


SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OCEANIA

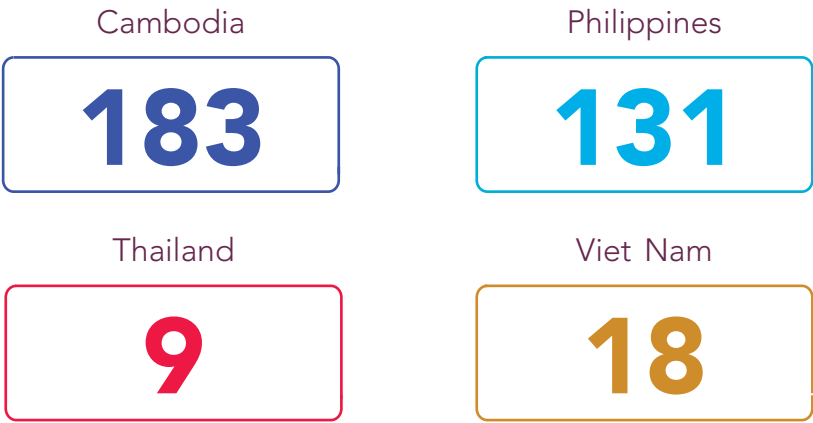


Note: The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Training activities in Southeast Asia and Oceania in 2019



Seizure cases in Southeast Asia and Oceania in 2019



Significant seizures

Cigarettes



10,000,000 packs

Waste plastic



86 containers of plastic waste and 9 containers of e-waste

CITES



45 tonnes ivory and 42 cubes of timber



World record breaking seizure of 9 tonnes of ivory in Viet Nam, 2019.

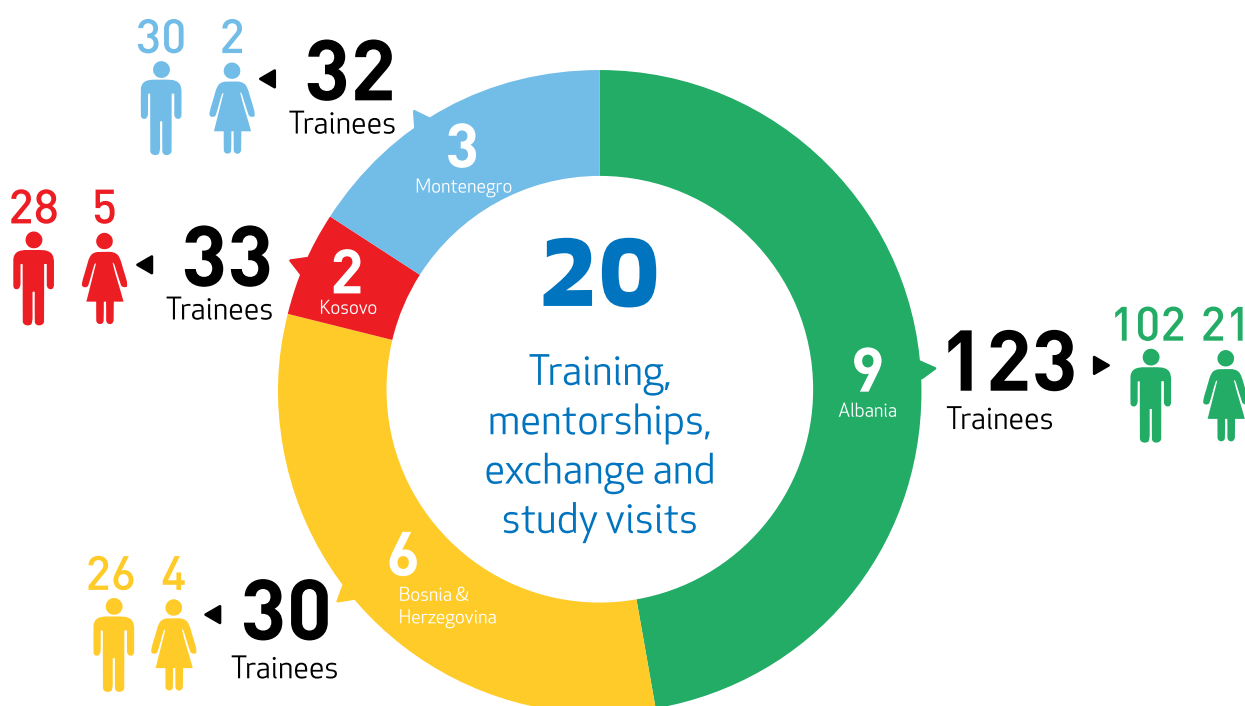


SOUTH EAST EUROPE



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Training activities in South East Europe in 2019



Seizure cases in South East Europe in 2019

Albania

7

Bosnia & Herzegovina

8

Montenegro

1

Significant seizures

Heroin



5.5 kg

Cocaine



137 kg

Herbal cannabis



100 kg of Herbal cannabis
and 15 kg of Cannabis

Cigarettes and
tobacco products



330,000 packs



Seizure of 100 kg of cannabis
in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Seizure of 137
kg of cocaine
at Durres Port,
Albania.



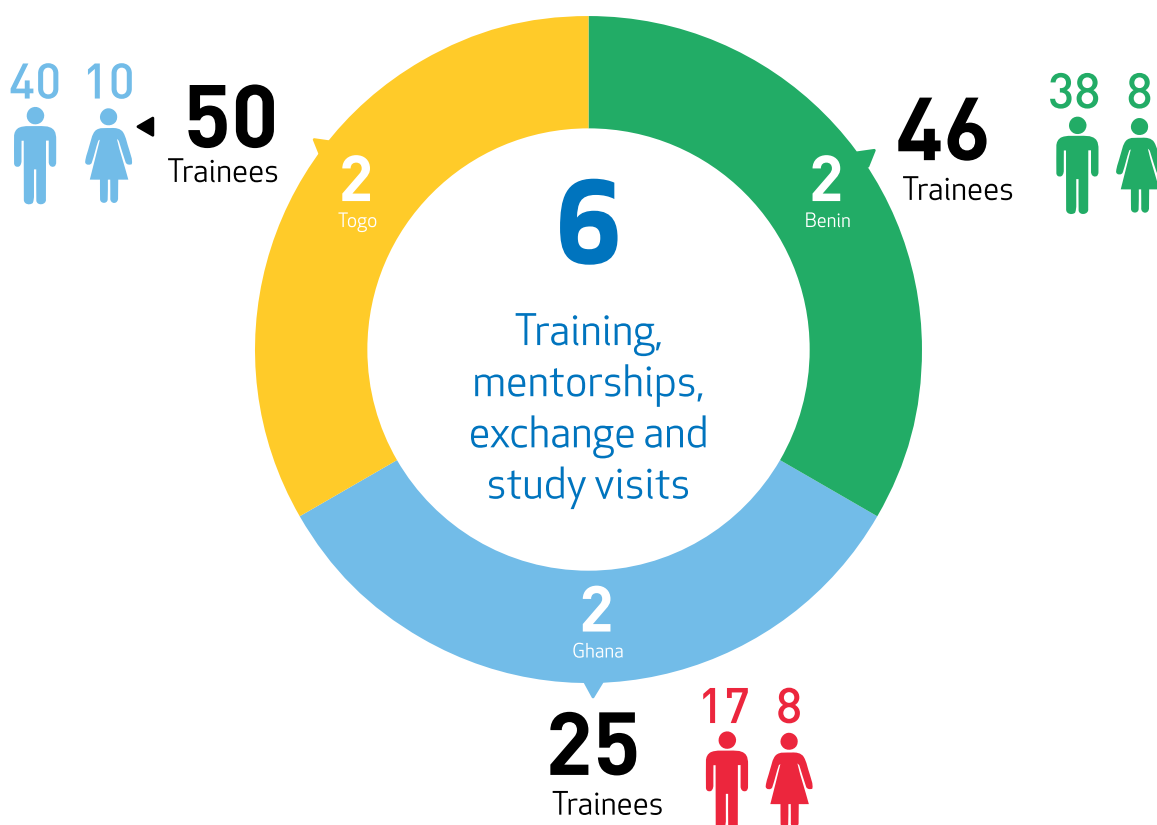


WEST AFRICA

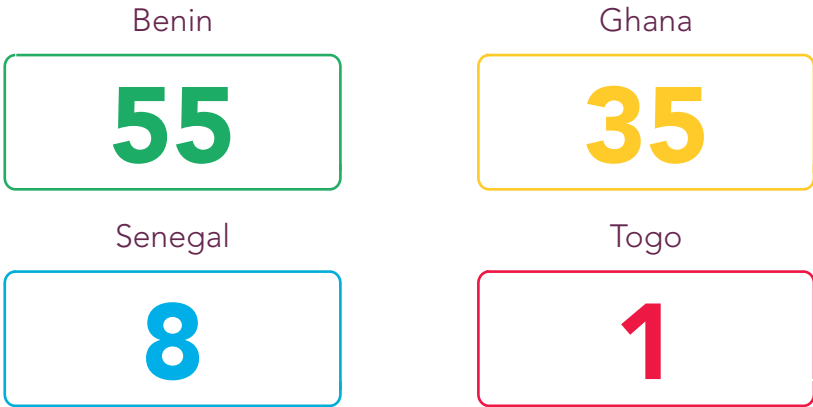


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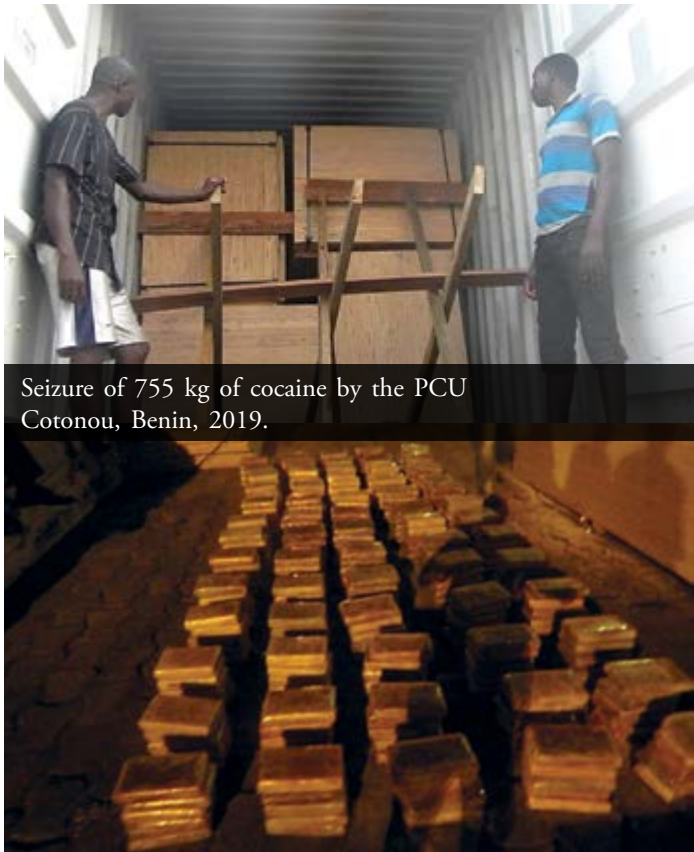
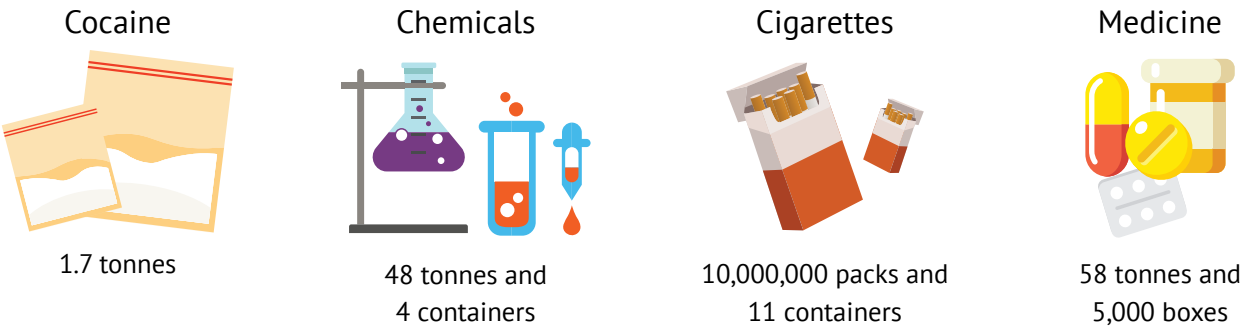
Training activities in West Africa in 2019



Seizure cases in West Africa in 2019



Significant seizures



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