



PACT

Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism

NEWSLETTER

September 2020

SPECIAL EDITION



COVID-19
RESPONSE

Covid-19 Response Under PACT

The outbreak of COVID-19 brought the entire world to a standstill. The pandemic did not just take lives, but also devastated economies globally - generating added risk to international security and stability.

With the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic, Government of Pakistan (GoP) launched a response to the crisis, Pakistan's security and law enforcement agencies became obvious frontrunners in its implementation and administration. A significant, and much warranted, focus of the Pakistan's action plan on Covid-19 rested on the containment of the outbreak, followed by response.

Anticipating that the COVID-19 response was not only going to overstretch current mandates of Pakistan's law enforcement agencies (LEAs) but also influence crime trends and governance, the UNODC Pakistan developed a plan to support them in areas under its mandate.

This Special Edition Newsletter captures the various activities re-programmed and prioritized under Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism Projects with the financial support of the European Union (EU).

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Distribution of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Kits to Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

25,000 Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits were handed over to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), to be distributed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. Ten thousand kits were earmarked for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police, 7500 kits to Sindh Police, 2500 kits for the prosecution and judicial officials in Sindh and the remaining 5000 to NDMA.

The kits were provided in collaboration with the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and procured with generous financial support from the EU.

On 23 July 2020, in a ceremony attended by representatives from UNODC, EU and NACTA; Dr. Jeremy Milsom, UNODC Country Representative said that with the emergence of COVID-19 the law enforcement agencies in the country are facing unique health related challenges unlike ever before and we are pleased to have partnered with the EU and NACTA for delivering this meaningful support at this critical juncture. He also highlighted that UNODC has developed a comprehensive COVID-19 support policy document for Pakistan based on principles of partnership, inclusiveness, gender mainstreaming and promotion of human rights to ensure "no-one is left behind". Ms. Anne Marchal, European Union Chargé d'Affaires a.i., added that this action illustrates the EU support to Pakistan in



repurposing on-going projects to meet the needs of the hour. In total, the EU has mobilized some 150 million Euros (26 billion PKR) to address the short and medium term response to the Pandemic in Pakistan, by strengthening the preparedness of Pakistan's people for its social and economic impact, with a specific focus on the most vulnerable.

Each kit included a protective suite, KN-95 mask, latex gloves, face shield, and a hand sanitizer along with a guideline note for its use.

facebook.com/unodc.pakistan/posts/902052880292915
twitter.com/UNODCPakistan/status/1286207782983786510
linkedin.com/posts/unodc-pakistan_counterterrorism-protecttheprotectors-activity-6691980644471373824-oTFu



COVID-19 RESPONSE

COVID-19 Awareness Campaign for Law Enforcement Related Challenges

“Your cooperation, Everyone's safety”

A COVID-19 awareness campaign was launched to address the various challenges being faced by law enforcement officials in the line of duty.

UNODC Pakistan developed short educational videos, radio messages, and flyers for law enforcement and criminal justice institutions on;

- ◆ Personal safety and hygiene
- ◆ Workplace safety and hygiene
- ◆ Maintain safe distance
- ◆ Use of barriers and
- ◆ SoPs for enforcing lockdowns.

Tag lined “Your cooperation, Everyone's safety”, the campaign also included messages for the general public to advise on their interaction with law enforcement officials.

The campaign was multilingual and distributed widely across all provinces.



UNODC Pakistan Online Contributions During COVID 19



PACT Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism

COVID - 19 Response Infographics

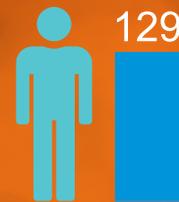
Events - Mar - Aug 2020

Total Events

20

Participants

142



Events included online webinars, trainings and meetings.

Distribution of PPE Items

600,000

- 25000 KN-95 Masks
- 500000 Surgical Gloves (Latex)
- 25000 Hand Sanitizer
- 25000 Face Shield
- 25000 White Body Protective Medical Suit



Threat Assessment: COVID-19 and the Impact on Terrorist Activity in Pakistan

A Threat Assessment report was developed in partnership with NACTA to identify potential risks and threats, related to terrorism including financing during the COVID-19. The purpose of the assessment was also to provide a set of recommendations to the Government stakeholders in Pakistan.

The assessment highlights that terrorist might exploit use of internet, social media, and encrypted messaging applications to advance their propaganda, recruitment and financing during the pandemic. Previously, they have used such outlets to incite, plan, recruit, radicalize and raise funds. Also, it amplifies the risk of misinformation campaigns by terrorist outfits as well as misuse of accessible information.

Therefore, the following aspects of the COVID-19 environment were assessed to provide set of recommendations to the law enforcement agencies:

1. Pandemic Narrative in the Online Space
2. Humanitarian Aspects – Personal Protective Equipment and Service Delivery



3. Terrorist Financing
4. Vulnerable Populations and Terrorist Recruitment
5. Linkages with Transnational Organized Crime
6. COVID-19 as a Threat Vector
7. Operational Impacts to Terrorist Groups
8. Prisons
9. Critical Infrastructure

Enhancing Connectivity in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Districts (Ongoing)

PACT is supporting improved remote functionality across the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by providing video conferencing (VC) across various districts.

End-to-end video conferencing solution are being installed to support multiparty conferencing from various districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on the request of Home and Tribal Affairs Department.

The solutions also include security features as well as capabilities to integrate with Microsoft SFB, Office 365, Team, ZOOM, Skype, or any desktop or web-based video conferencing system.

UNODC Pakistan is also providing free of cost installation, commissioning, and required training on each site of installation.

This activity is expected to be completed by October 2020.





COVID-19 RESPONSE



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