



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE: UNODC SUPPORT FOR UNGASS 2016 ON THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

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“... With the United Nations General Assembly special session consensus as our blueprint, we can promote efforts to stop organized crime while protecting human rights, enabling development and ensuring rights-based treatment and support.

...

Together we have an opportunity to chart a better and balanced path for decades to come.”

Secretary-General António Guterres

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THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

At the landmark special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the world drug problem held in April 2016, Member States committed to implementing more than 100 recommendations on prevention and treatment; availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes; countering drug-related crime; addressing issues of human rights, gender and youth; emerging challenges; international cooperation and alternative development.

As a global leader in supporting countries to prevent and respond to the challenges posed by drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) provides comprehensive assistance to implement the 2016 special session outcome document and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The special session took place at an important historical juncture, just after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which embraced a multidimensional approach to development and committed the international community to work together in a spirit of shared responsibility, including to address the world drug problem.

The process leading to the special session, headed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), contributed to promoting a more comprehensive understanding of the world drug problem and provided a strong framework for consensus.

In the outcome document of the special session, “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and

countering the world drug problem” (GA resolution S-30/1), Member States emphasized that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to effectively address the world drug problem were complementary and mutually reinforcing.

The outcome document underscored that the three international drug conventions, namely the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, as well as other relevant international instruments, constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system.

It also reaffirmed the commitment to implement the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted at the CND high-level review in 2014.

Moreover, Member States reaffirmed the principal role of the CND as the policymaking body with prime responsibility for drug-related matters, and agreed to provide the CND with timely information on progress made in the implementation of the recommendations.

Immediately after the special session, UNODC supported the CND in undertaking a follow-up process, including through thematic discussions on the implementation of the operational recommendations of the outcome document, and side events on the special session.

As a key follow-up activity, the [CND Secretariat](#) organizes [national implementation workshops](#) upon request by Member States. These workshops provide an opportunity for government representatives from different ministries to hold joint thematic discussions on the seven thematic chapters of the outcome document, assess their country's situation and discuss options for implementation, including through enhanced technical assistance that can be provided by UNODC in close cooperation with a range of stakeholders.

In an effort to strengthen international cooperation among Member States on the practical implementation of the special session recommendations, the Secretariat to the CND also developed a [Good Practices Portal](#) to collect and disseminate good practices undertaken by Member States. By enabling the exchange of policy and operational experiences, this repository assists Member States in assessing and tailoring options for addressing the world drug problem.

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

In the special session outcome document, Member States reaffirmed the role of UNODC as the leading United Nations entity for addressing and countering the world drug problem.

UNODC supports Member States through its work at the global, regional and national levels, including:

- **Research and analytical work** to increase knowledge and understanding of drugs and crime issues, and expand the evidence base for policy and operational decisions
- **Normative work** to assist Member States in the ratification and implementation of the relevant international treaties, the development of domestic legislation, and the provision of secretariat and substantive services to the treaty-based and governing bodies
- **Operational work** to enhance the capacity of Member States to address the challenges posed by drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism, and promote effective crime prevention and criminal justice responses. Assistance to Member States is provided upon request and subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources

UNODC delivers results through its headquarters in Vienna and a global network of field offices, which operates in more than 150 countries.

In order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem in all its complexity, UNODC works with a wide range of United Nations partners, other international organizations, academia and civil society actors.

Secretary-General António Guterres has further tasked UNODC with developing a comprehensive United Nations system-wide strategy, along with other United Nations entities, to advance special session implementation across the three pillars of the United Nations—peace and security, human rights and development.

This publication offers an overview of just some of the work UNODC is doing around the world to support the implementation of the special session operational recommendations, and shows how these projects and programmes relate to targets under the SDGs.



CHAPTER 1. DEMAND REDUCTION AND RELATED MEASURES, INCLUDING PREVENTION AND TREATMENT, AS WELL AS OTHER HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES

“We reiterate our commitment to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, and facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

UNODC works to develop and implement global drug policies that put people first. Important scientific advances in recent decades have improved the understanding of drug dependence, now recognized as a complex, multifactorial and chronic health condition that can be prevented and treated. A key goal of UNODC is reducing the vulnerability to drug use and HIV/AIDS of people in the community and people in the criminal justice system.

UNODC works towards this end by supporting the implementation of interventions on drug prevention, drug dependence treatment (including health care and social protection), rehabilitation and social reintegration, as well as strategies and programmes on HIV/AIDS as related to drug users, particularly people who inject drugs. In these contexts, UNODC works closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNAIDS. A 2017 memorandum of understanding with WHO—focusing on prevention and treatment of drug use, access to controlled drugs, the analysis of new psychoactive substances, and treatment, care and support for HIV, viral hepatitis and tuberculosis—has further strengthened this cooperation. As a co-sponsor of UNAIDS, UNODC promotes human rights, public health, justice and equality of access to HIV services for people who use drugs and people in prisons in accordance with UNAIDS Division of Labour for fast tracking HIV/AIDS responses and ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030.

UNODC also develops high-quality publications, standards and tools, and delivers training and technical assistance that allow for the effective dissemination of technical knowledge on drug prevention, dependence, treatment and care (such as the [International Standards on Drug Use Prevention](#) and the [UNODC-WHO International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders](#)), as well as guidance documents such as the [UNODC-UNESCO-WHO booklet on education sector responses to substance use](#)), and on evidence-based responses to HIV/AIDS in accordance with the [UNODC-WHO-UNAIDS Technical Guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users](#).

EXAMPLES

FAMILY SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION

Families can be one of the most powerful protective factors during child development. Programmes that support the attachment between children and parents and that strengthen parenting skills have proved to be effective in preventing drug use, youth violence and child maltreatment, and are also more consistently effective than other programmes in preventing drug use among both girls and boys, thereby achieving gender-equal results. UNODC has been successfully piloting evidence-based family programmes in more than 20 countries and documenting their positive effect on protective factors. Through this [programme](#), UNODC trains parents to strengthen their parenting skills, trains children in personal and social skills, and conducts family practice sessions. In collaboration with the University of Manchester, UNODC adapted this programme to also meet the needs of displaced parents and children.

UNODC-WHO PROGRAMME ON DRUG DEPENDENCE TREATMENT AND CARE

The [Joint UNODC-WHO Programme](#) on drug dependence treatment and care aims to promote evidence-based policies, strategies and interventions based on a public health and human rights approach in order to reduce drug use and the health and social burden it causes. A key element of the programme is ending stigma and discrimination against people with drug use disorders, with the motto “nothing less than what would be expected for any other disease”. UNODC is active in more than 20 countries under this programme, training health-care providers on evidence-based drug treatment, supporting treatment centres to improve their services, and developing standards and tools for use by policymakers and health practitioners, for instance on services for pregnant women with drug use disorders.

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

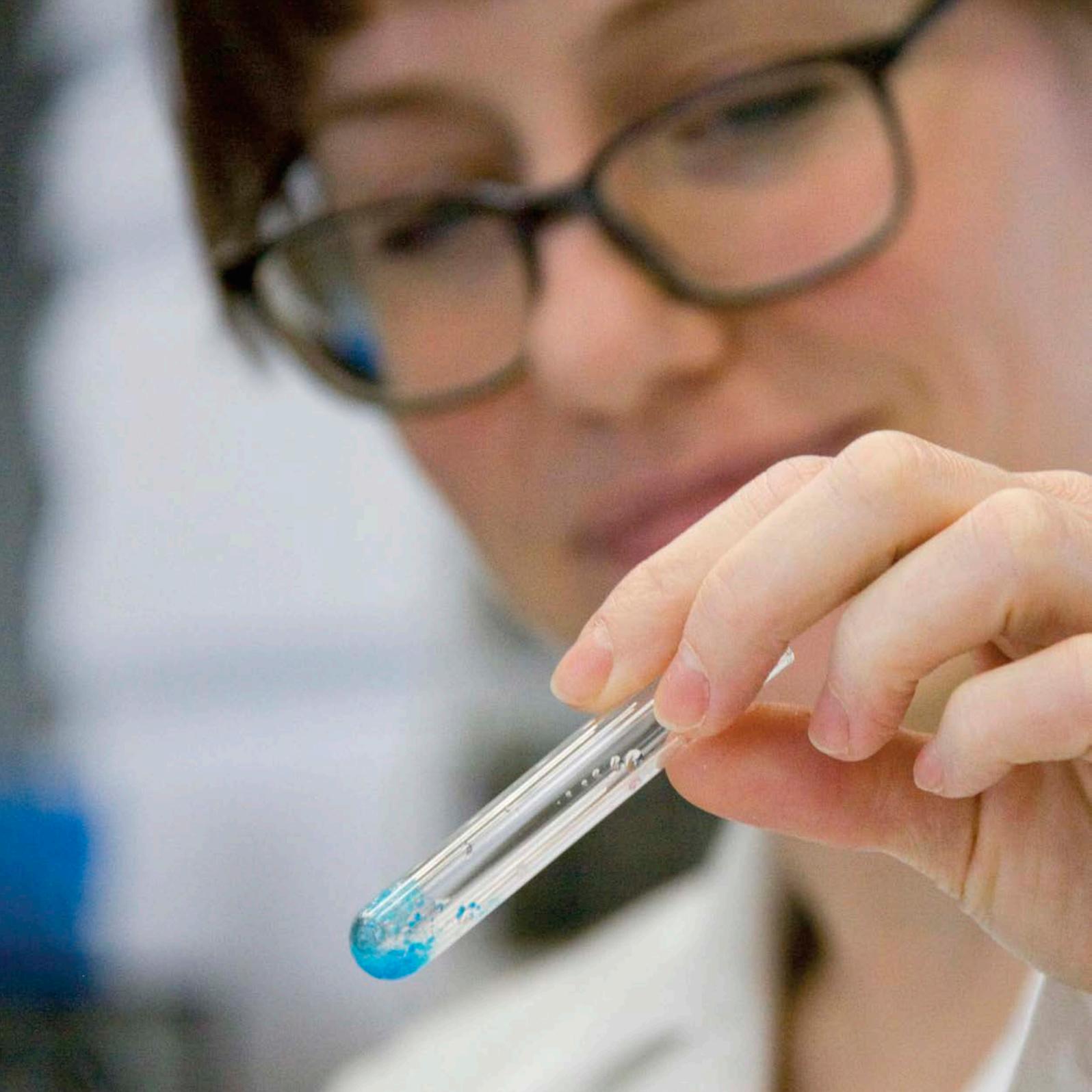
3.5: Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol

3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

3b: Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all

UNODC GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT

UNODC supports countries to achieve universal access to comprehensive **HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services** for people who use drugs and for people in prisons. Interventions include developing and disseminating training manuals for law enforcement officials on HIV/AIDS service provision for people who inject drugs, and increasing the capacity of key partners to advocate for and implement a comprehensive package of nine evidence-based prevention, treatment and care interventions, as outlined in the above-mentioned UNODC-WHO-UNAIDS Technical Guide developed in 2009 and revised in 2012. UNODC advocates for the introduction of the comprehensive package of 15 key interventions that are essential for effective HIV prevention, treatment and care in prisons. UNODC works with partners to ensure that HIV interventions are gender-responsive and sustainable by enhancing collaboration among law enforcement, criminal justice and health authorities and the civil society sector, and by identifying and sharing best practices on effective and human rights-based drug policies. UNODC values the unique expertise that civil society and community-based organizations bring and engages them in all aspects of HIV response.



CHAPTER 2. ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF AND ACCESS TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES EXCLUSIVELY FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, WHILE PREVENTING THEIR DIVERSION

“We reiterate our strong commitment to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control, and international cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

Guided by the primary interest of protecting the health and welfare of humankind, UNODC works to increase the number of patients receiving appropriate treatment, including pain relief and palliative care, for conditions requiring the use of controlled drugs, while preventing the abuse and diversion of those substances. This dual responsibility of Governments is already recognized in the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol. Despite the universally recognized indispensability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in tackling pain in medical settings, undertreatment of pain due to the unavailability of controlled medicines represents a fundamental global inequity.

UNODC works with WHO, the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) in developing recommendations and tools to help policymakers and health-care personnel improve accessibility to and availability of controlled drugs while preventing diversion and abuse. UNODC developed a **document** to support policymakers in developing policies and national responses with technical guidance provided by experts in the core areas of system integration, education and awareness, and supply chain management. Additional guidance was provided in five cross-cutting themes: economic structures, consistent messaging, patient-centred care, prevention of diversion and misuse, and data or research approaches.

EXAMPLES

JOINT GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON ACCESS TO CONTROLLED DRUGS FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES WHILE PREVENTING DIVERSION AND ABUSE

UNODC is leading a coordinated global response to improve the access to and availability of controlled substances for medical purposes. This [Joint Global Programme](#) results from the cooperation between UNODC, WHO and the UICC. UNODC works with policymakers, communities and caregivers, and builds capacity among health-care professionals to improve the rational use of narcotic and psychotropic substances. UNODC helps Member States address major impediments that contribute to the underuse of controlled medicines, such as problems in sourcing from industry, cultural attitudes towards the treatment of pain and mental health disorders, and barriers related to legislation and policies.

DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL POLICIES ON AVAILABILITY OF AND ACCESSIBILITY TO CONTROLLED MEDICINES

The project [Response to Drugs and related Organized Crime](#), funded by the European Union and implemented by the UNODC Country Office for Nigeria, led to the production and publication in Nigeria of the National Policy on Controlled Medicines, National Guidelines for Quantification of Narcotic Medicines, and National Guidelines on Estimation of Psychotropic Substances and Precursors, as well as a draft National Guideline for Pain Management. The National Policy on Controlled Medicines elaborates practical approaches to ensure the availability of and accessibility to controlled medicines in Nigeria, articulates a policy framework in support of a more efficient supply chain, and makes funding recommendations to ensure the sustainability of the interventions to address the medical needs of patients in Nigeria. In Mexico, the Federal Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risk, together with the Mexican Health Foundation and the UNODC Liaison and Partnership Office, launched the project “Access without Excess”, aimed at supporting the recently approved administrative reform facilitating access to controlled medicines. Implemented with the direct participation of the Ministry of Health of Mexico City State and the private sector, the project aims to build a methodology for securing and strengthening the use, supply and dispensing of controlled medicines in hospitals, palliative care units and pharmacies in one of the largest cities of the world—Mexico City.

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

3b: Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE ON INCREASING ACCESS TO, AND AVAILABILITY OF CONTROLLED DRUGS FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES

As a result of an expert group meeting organized by UNODC on this topic in 2017, UNODC will publish a document entitled “Technical Guidance on Increasing Access to, and Availability of Controlled Drugs for Medical Purposes”, containing different strategies and actions Member States can take to address challenges related to increasing access to controlled drugs while preventing non-medical use. Civil society organizations partnering with UNODC have taken a leadership role in advancing the access to and availability of controlled drugs, and in particular UICC, Human Rights Watch, the International Association of Hospice and Palliative Care and the Pain and Policy Studies Group working with Wisconsin University have been invaluable partners in advocating for patient rights.



CONTAINER
CONTROL
PROGRAMME

CHAPTER 3. SUPPLY REDUCTION AND RELATED MEASURES; EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT; RESPONSES TO DRUG-RELATED CRIME; COUNTERING MONEY-LAUNDERING AND PROMOTING JUDICIAL COOPERATION

“We reiterate our commitment to protecting the safety and assuring the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying our efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

UNODC monitors the changing landscape of international drug trafficking, including the illicit cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of drugs, with a view to designing and implementing effective countermeasures. In order to reduce the illicit supply of drugs, UNODC builds the capacity of law enforcement agents to detect and seize illicitly trafficked drugs, strengthens the ability of Member States to prevent and provide effective responses to drug-related crimes, and increases the knowledge-base on drug-related matters through the establishment of practitioner networks and through publications such as the annual **World Drug Report**, the Drug Control Repository, and threat assessments, such as the one on the global Afghan opium trade.

The work of UNODC on promoting judicial cooperation and on addressing organized crime, corruption, money-laundering and terrorism also contributes to reducing illicit drug supply. Specific initiatives conducted by UNODC include the **Paris Pact Partnership to Combat Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan**; the programme on Building Effective Networks against Transnational Organized Crime (BENATOC) the Programme on Preventing and Combating Organized and Serious Crime and its regional networks of prosecutors and central authorities; the programme Strengthening Criminal Investigation and Criminal Justice along the Cocaine Route in Latin America, the Caribbean and Western Africa (CRIMJUST, implemented in partnership with INTERPOL and Transparency International); the UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme; the **UNODC-INTERPOL-WCO Airport Communication Programme**; the **Global Firearms Programme**; the **UNODC Programme to Prevent and Combat Organized and Serious Crime**; the **Global Maritime Crime Programme** and activities against the illicit manufacture and trafficking of fraudulent medicines.

The UNODC Illicit Crop Monitoring Programme supports drug crop cultivating countries in estimating illicit cultivation and production, and analyses the drivers of illicit cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush. In some cases, UNODC is also involved in the verification of crop eradication conducted by Governments. In South-Eastern Europe, for instance, UNODC developed a comprehensive approach to tackling illicit financial flows, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, by undertaking first-of-its-kind research on the revenues from opiate trafficking along the Balkan route, and consequently launching a large-scale technical assistance initiative to assist the region in countering the challenges identified.

EXAMPLES

UNODC-WCO CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME

The **Container Control Programme**, implemented by UNODC and the World Customs Organization (WCO), aims to fortify the structures and processes that minimize the exploitation of maritime containers for illicit drug trafficking and other transnational organized crime activities, with minimum disruption to the free flow of legitimate trade. The programme maintains strategic alliances with various security entities within Member States with operational ports, including customs, the police, maritime institutions and the private sector. Activities conducted under this programme include the creation of Joint Port Control Units, comprising analysts and search teams from different law enforcement agencies to systematically target high-risk containers, and the establishment of lasting training structures within the programme.

BUILDING EFFECTIVE NETWORKS AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME—BENATOC

Within the framework of the **BENATOC “networking the networks” initiative**, UNODC promotes stronger operational cooperation between existing international and regional law enforcement cooperation centres and organizations as well as with the networks of financial intelligence units. UNODC also provides support to Member States in various regions to strengthen and/or establish regional cooperation centres to promote crime-related intelligence-sharing and coordination of complex multilateral operations targeting all forms of organized crime and illicit financial flows. Under the Law Enforcement Training Network (LE TrainNet initiative of BENATOC), UNODC facilitates networking between law enforcement training and educational institutions for the exchange of curricula, training materials, tools, training methodologies, best practices and trainers.

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

- 10b:** Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes
- 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- 16.4:** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
- 16.5:** Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms
- 16.6:** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

GLOBAL PROGRAMME AGAINST MONEY-LAUNDERING, PROCEEDS OF CRIME AND THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM

Through this **programme**, UNODC assists Governments in confronting criminals who launder the proceeds of crime, including drug trafficking, through the international financial system. It also provides Governments, law enforcement authorities and financial intelligence units with strategies to counter money-laundering, advises on improved banking and financial policies and assists national financial investigation services. Moreover, UNODC assists States Parties in preventing and counteracting, through appropriate domestic measures, the financing of terrorists and terrorist organizations, whether such financing is direct or indirect through organizations that also have or claim to have charitable, social or cultural goals or that are also engaged in unlawful activities such as illicit arms trafficking, drug dealing and racketeering, including the exploitation of persons for purposes of funding terrorist activities. Strategies include granting technical assistance to authorities from developing countries, organizing training workshops, providing training materials, designing specialized practical and cutting-edge tools, as well as transferring expertise between jurisdictions.



CHAPTER 4. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: DRUGS AND HUMAN RIGHTS, YOUTH, CHILDREN, WOMEN AND COMMUNITIES

“We reiterate our commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

Strengthening the rule of law is at the core of the UNODC mandate. The Office supports Member States in the design and implementation of drug policies that respect, protect and promote human rights, and in promoting fair and accountable criminal justice systems. UNODC also raises awareness on and assists policymakers and law enforcement officers in the effective implementation of United Nations standards and norms, such as the “[Bangkok Rules](#)” on the treatment of women offenders, the “[Beijing Rules](#)” on the administration of juvenile justice, the “[Tokyo Rules](#)” on non-custodial measures and alternatives to conviction and punishment, and the “[Nelson Mandela Rules](#)” on the management of prison facilities and the treatment of prisoners. UNODC develops and implements initiatives on justice for children, support and assistance to victims, gender equality in the criminal justice system, the elimination of violence against women, and prison reform and alternatives to imprisonment, including for drug-related offences. In addition, UNODC develops tools and publications on designing human rights-based drug policies which cater to the specific needs of individuals and vulnerable groups.

The global work of UNODC on the prevention of drug use and the treatment of drug use disorders specifically addresses the unique needs of women and girls within a framework of human rights through the publication of guidance documents, the training of professionals and the implementation of gender-based services meeting the needs of women and girls. In particular, UNODC developed and disseminated the guidelines “Addressing the specific needs of women who inject drugs—Practical guide for service providers on gender-responsive HIV services”, including through national workshops, and is currently developing, in cooperation with UN Women, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other partners, a practitioner’s toolkit on women’s access to justice programming, which includes a focus on the gender dimension of the world drug problem and guidance to make justice systems and responses more gender-sensitive.

EXAMPLES

UNODC GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN THE FIELD OF CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

UNODC supports governments globally to ensure that children are well served and protected by justice systems. The work of the Office includes providing treatment for children in the criminal justice system who have substance abuse problems, which is a prerequisite for preventing recidivism and promoting social reintegration. In Colombia, UNODC worked with government institutions to develop a plan of action on preventing drug abuse among children, and to develop a drug outpatient treatment for children in contact with the juvenile justice system as alleged offenders, in particular children in detention. In Cabo Verde, UNODC worked together with government institutions on drug use prevention and the treatment of children with substance abuse problems in the justice system, and provides ad hoc technical assistance to government institutions for developing and establishing pilot drug-treatment courts.

LINE UP LIVE UP (GLOBAL PROGRAMME FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DOHA DECLARATION)—YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH SPORTS

Line Up Live Up is a global youth crime prevention initiative launched by UNODC that builds on the power of sports as a tool for peace. It aims to strengthen life skills and increase knowledge of the consequences of crime and substance abuse in order to minimize risk factors and maximize protective factors related to crime, violence and drug use. In a setting of interactive and fun sports activities, the programme brings together youth, sports coaches and teachers to strengthen valuable life skills, such as resisting social pressure to engage in delinquency, coping with anxiety and communicating effectively with peers, skills which can positively influence behaviour and attitudes of at-risk youth and prevent anti-social and risky behaviour.

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

- 5.1:** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- 5.2:** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- 5.c:** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels
 - 11.1:** By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums
 - 16.2:** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
 - 16.3:** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

PROMOTING ALTERNATIVES TO IMPRISONMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH DRUG USE DISORDERS

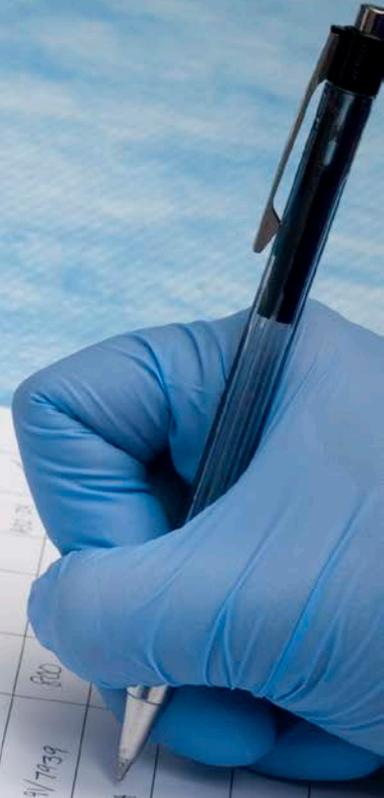
People with drug use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system are a particularly vulnerable group with specific needs, including treatment. Addressing their needs and vulnerabilities requires strong collaboration between health and justice authorities and, in appropriate cases, a focus on providing treatment as an alternative to conviction or punishment, as acknowledged in the international drug control conventions and various CND resolutions. To promote efforts in this direction, UNODC and WHO launched a joint initiative on “**Treatment and care of persons with drug use disorders in contact with the Criminal Justice System**”. Based on information collected from 50 Member States and over 80 health and justice practitioners from different regions, as well as representatives of regional organizations and civil society, UNODC and WHO developed a technical tool on existing options and promising practices to provide treatment as an alternative to conviction or punishment, in line with international conventions, standards and norms.



Rack 2

II. Samples in the Procedure:

Number and Color Code of DNA Sample	eyeGENE DNA ID: Sequence of DNA Extraction	Qubit Input ID/Output ID	DNA Extraction Results	Sample Name				
			Volume (µL)	Concentration (ng/µL)	A	B	C	D
1.	5472/3545	800						
	4054/3401	200						
	430/4456	200						
	408/3749	200						
	349/7039	200						
	454							



CHAPTER 5. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES IN ADDRESSING AND COUNTERING THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM: EVOLVING REALITY, TRENDS AND EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES, EMERGING AND PERSISTENT CHALLENGES AND THREATS, INCLUDING NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE THREE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL CONVENTIONS AND OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

“We reiterate our commitment to strengthening our efforts in addressing and countering emerging and persistent challenges and threats of all aspects of the world drug problem, and note the need to effectively respond to the evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances through comprehensive, integrated and balanced drug control policies and programmes that take into account their transnational implications and that are in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and to strengthen our international, regional and subregional cooperation (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

The work of UNODC on research, trend analysis, and laboratory and forensic science forms part of the Office’s strategic mandate to assist Member States in their efforts to achieve global security, justice and health through the provision of knowledge. Through this work, UNODC aims to understand the rapidly changing world drug problem, monitor persistent challenges and detect new ones, such as the establishment of new drug trafficking routes, the unprecedented global expansion of the new psychoactive substances (NPS) market, and new forms of crime related to the use of the Internet, such as drug trafficking on the darknet and the illicit use of cryptocurrencies, in order to develop appropriate and evidence-based policies.

UNODC undertakes thematic research programmes, manages global and regional data collection, provides scientific and forensic services, defines research standards, and supports Member States in strengthening their data collection, research and forensics capacity. UNODC collects drug statistics through [annual reports questionnaires](#) and [individual drug seizure](#) reports sent to Member States, and generates and disseminates statistics on drugs, crime and criminal justice at the international level. UNODC works to strengthen the methodological underpinnings of drug statistics and to ensure that its data collection activities remain abreast of emerging realities and areas defined by the international framework on drug policy. UNODC also works to strengthen national capacities to produce, disseminate and use statistics on drugs, crime and criminal justice within the framework of official statistics.

UNODC produces a wide range of studies and publications on drug and crime matters, including the annual [World Drug Report](#), reports on drug use, drug production and trafficking, and transnational organized crime.

EXAMPLES

UNODC EARLY WARNING ADVISORY ON NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES

UNODC developed the [Early Warning Advisory](#) (EWA) as a response to the emergence of NPS at the global level. The EWA aims to monitor, analyse and report on trends in NPS, including on patterns of distribution and use, as a basis for effective evidence-based policy responses. It also serves as a repository of information and data on these substances and a platform for providing technical assistance to Member States. EWA is administered by the UNODC Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends programme, which seeks to improve the capacity of targeted Member States to generate, manage, analyse, report and use information on illicit synthetic drugs.

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

3.5: Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol

3.b: Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all

17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

17.19: By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON CYBERCRIME

In response to the complex nature of **cybercrime**, UNODC works to promote long-term, sustainable responses by supporting national authorities. UNODC provides training courses to law enforcement authorities in the areas of cybercrime investigations, digital forensics and the use of electronic evidence. In 2015, a cybercrime repository was developed and integrated as part of the **UNODC SHERLOC portal**, becoming the first available global tool containing laws, cases and lessons learned on cybercrime and electronic evidence. UNODC cooperates with key anti-cybercrime players such as the International Telecommunication Union, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), INTERPOL, UNICEF, the Council of Europe, and the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORKS ON DRUG USE

The UNODC Regional Office for West and Central Africa, in collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), is setting up **national epidemiology networks** to feed harmonized data into the West African Epidemiology Network on Drug Use, a regional network with national focal points from 16 countries. The national epidemiology networks on drug use, currently active in Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, will serve as an interactive platform that allows drug use professionals to share good practices on data collection, analysis and dissemination, to identify existing drug use patterns, monitor drug use patterns and problems, and disseminate information to communities and stakeholders on a regular basis.



CHAPTER 6. STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

“We reiterate our commitment to supporting our efforts at all levels, based on common and shared responsibility, to effectively address and counter the world drug problem and to enhance international cooperation (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

The world drug problem is complex and multifaceted, and as such, tackling it requires joint action by all relevant stakeholders. UNODC convenes multi-stakeholder partnerships at the international level and assists Member States in convening them at the national level to improve policy coherence and consequently the effectiveness of international, regional and national efforts to counter the world drug problem. In the field of drug control, UNODC partners with United Nations entities, such as WHO, INCB, UNAIDS, UN Women and UNICEF, and other international organizations, such as INTERPOL, OSCE and other regional organizations. UNODC also recognizes the critical role played by civil society organizations (CSOs) and has developed strong partnerships with global, regional and national CSOs, including those representing the population of people who use drugs.

UNODC has an extensive network of field offices which allows it to effectively set up partnerships. UNODC has repositioned itself in Europe and West and Central Asia through its One UNODC Concerted Approach, and its three-tier concept involving initiatives at national, regional and international levels. This allows for more effective interconnectivity among its Global, Regional and Country Programmes, including through the Networking the Networks initiative, and increased impact in key thematic areas involving at the same time countries of origin, transit and destination as part of a common and shared responsibility approach.

EXAMPLES

UNODC AND MEKONG COUNTRIES PARTNERSHIP ON DRUG CONTROL IN THE GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION

The [Mekong Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control](#) is the primary instrument through which the Governments of Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam commit to strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility. UNODC is the only neutral non-State party signatory, with its Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific providing secretariat and technical assistance to its political process and associated action plan. The latest revision of the Sub-Regional Action Plan endorsed by the region in 2017, with drugs and health as its first prioritized thematic area, was the first of its kind to consider and seek alignment with the recommendations contained in the special session outcome document. This includes operational recommendations on evolving realities, trends and existing circumstances; on cross-cutting issues related to drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities; and proportionate and effective policies and responses, as well as legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to the justice sector.

As regards drug use and treatment matters, UNODC developed a training toolkit on community-based services for people who use drugs which gained the endorsement of several countries in the region. This approach equips government and civil society health-care and outreach workers with the necessary skills to provide services to people who use drugs where they are most needed—in their community. On the supply reduction side, the work of UNODC in the region includes capacity-building activities targeting frontline law enforcement officers along major drug and precursor trafficking routes in the Mekong region. UNODC provides cross-border cooperation training courses on issues such as investigative capacity on vehicle search, informant management, evidence collection, surveillance and simultaneous raids, and provides Mekong countries with frontline drug and precursor identification kits, as well as organizing training workshops on their usage.

UNODC—ECOWAS PARTNERSHIP ON ADDRESSING DRUG USE AND DRUG TRAFFICKING IN WEST AFRICA

Through joint meetings and a written consultative process, UNODC and ECOWAS worked together to develop the new UNODC Regional Programme for West Africa, and the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan to Address Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa, both programmes covering the period

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

- 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

2016–2020. The UNODC Regional Programme supports the efforts of the ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania in addressing transnational organized crime, corruption, terrorism and cooperation between regional stakeholders. ECOWAS is a key partner to UNODC in the region, and the Regional Programme reflects common strategic priorities and responses, and supports relevant initiatives and policy documents adopted by ECOWAS, such as the ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Strategy of 2013.

INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION ON CRIMINAL MATTERS—CRIMJUST AND GPTOC PROGRAMMES

In response to the complex, increasingly globalized nature of criminal activities, UNODC has developed several programmes to enhance cooperation on criminal matters. The CRIMJUST programme on [Strengthening criminal investigation and criminal justice cooperation along the Cocaine Route in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa](#), aims to fight organized crime in general, and drug trafficking in particular, along the cocaine route in those regions. UNODC partnered with INTERPOL and Transparency International to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to law enforcement and criminal justice entities, supporting Member States to enhance the capacity and integrity of the criminal justice institutions to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate organized crime, as well as to foster cooperation at regional and interregional levels for effective action in drug trafficking cases.

Another example of cooperation on criminal matters is the [UNODC Global Programme on Preventing and Combating Organized and Serious Crime](#) (GPTOC), which assists Member States in implementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime more effectively, providing technical and legislative assistance as well as practical tools to enable criminal justice practitioners to better address transnational organized crime in its many manifestations, including drug trafficking. UNODC facilitates the development of regional judicial cooperation networks and cooperation among all such networks. Three regional networks of central authorities and prosecutors have been established: The West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime, the Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors from Source, Transit and Destination Countries in response to Transnational Organized Crime in Central Asia and Southern Caucasus and the Great Lakes Judicial Cooperation Network.

La Casa del Chocolate 2015

DE CACAO CULTORES DE ANORI



CHAPTER 7. ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT; REGIONAL, INTERREGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED BALANCED DRUG CONTROL POLICY; ADDRESSING SOCIOECONOMIC ISSUES

“We reiterate our commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies (...)”

(GA resolution S-30/1)

UNODC promotes drug control policies that are development-oriented and address the root causes of the world drug problem as well as its socioeconomic consequences. Alternative development is the main method used to address illicit drug crop cultivation, and it aims to provide sustainable livelihoods to communities that cultivate illicit drug crops by providing farmers with an economically viable, legal alternative to growing coca, opium or other illicit crops. UNODC emphasizes environmental protection and improves access to local and international markets for alternative development products. UNODC not only aims to reduce illicit drug crop cultivation and drug abuse, but also to improve the broader socioeconomic context as a way of reducing dependence on illicit activities, and efforts are also made in the areas of health, education, basic infrastructure, community development and food security, among others. UNODC-supported alternative development in Afghanistan, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru empowers communities while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from development interventions.

UNODC is increasing its research activities on alternative development to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation and to provide evidence on the effectiveness of alternative development. In Afghanistan, UNODC is working jointly with UNDP on establishing baselines and improving impact assessment of alternative development projects. Through its socioeconomic survey reports, UNODC aims to improve the understanding of the different challenges that illicit crop cultivation poses on the sustainable development agenda, including through the use of relevant human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability, and other measurements in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, and prompted by the adoption of the special session outcome document, UNODC is exploring the concept of urban alternative development to address the illicit manufacture of drugs in urban areas. In the outcome document, under the thematic chapter on alternative development, Member States recommended measures to encourage the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in both urban and rural areas, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services, and through tackling drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration in order to promote peaceful and inclusive societies. UNODC is conducting a series of expert group meetings, in close cooperation with Germany and Thailand, to further define the concept of alternative development in urban settings and design specific interventions for implementation.

EXAMPLES

DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN COLOMBIA

The UNODC Country Office for Colombia, together with the Colombian Government and as an important component of the 2016 Government-FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia) Peace Accord, supports the implementation and monitoring of an integrated and sustainable strategy to reduce illicit crops and promote alternative development and a culture of legality in Colombia. To this effect, UNODC signed an agreement with the Special Administrative Unit for Territorial Consolidation, a part of Colombia's National Department for Social Prosperity. The UNODC Country Office for Colombia supports the Ministry of Justice and Law of Colombia in providing technical assistance to departmental administrations in the implementation and follow-up of the Departmental Comprehensive Drug Plan for the control of the supply and demand of drugs. In addition, a framework agreement among the Ministry of Justice of Colombia, UNODC and OHCHR is being developed with a view to generating theoretical, technical and operational recommendations for the design and implementation of a human rights-based drug policy at the national level.

LINKS TO SDG TARGETS

- 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- 6:** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- 16:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN MYANMAR

The UNODC Country Office for Myanmar provides support to smallholder opium poppy farmers in Southern Shan State to grow perennial crops—coffee, high-quality tea and avocado—and high-value vegetables for alternative income sources to gradually reduce livelihood dependence on opium poppy cultivation. UNODC organizes and strengthens the technical, managerial and institutional capacities needed to promote public-private partnerships, and produce and commercialize quality agricultural products for domestic and international markets. UNODC also aims to improve natural environmental conditions and increase biodiversity to produce better agro-ecological conditions for farming communities in project areas. In addition, UNODC strengthens the capacity of relevant government agencies to share information and resources, and to conduct projects on environmental sustainability and the scaling up of alternative development work.

ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUBPROGRAMME IN AFGHANISTAN

The UNODC Country Office of Afghanistan implements large- and small-scale alternative livelihoods interventions designed to increase crop production and income for farmers. Projects with a strong counter-narcotics component include capacity-building in pistachio, saffron, grapes, roses, greenhouses, poultry farming, backyard gardening, animal husbandry and carpet weaving. Another component of the programme focuses on women's economic empowerment. The programme supports women's business groups by providing vocational training, business development training and grants to set up businesses for a period of 24 months. At national level, UNODC provides policy support to the Government on the design, implementation and monitoring of alternative livelihoods programmes, and at the regional and inter-regional levels, UNODC strengthens market linkages.

[YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE WORK OF UNODC HERE](#)



UNODC

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