

UNODC helps countries and its people to reduce illegal drugs and crime throughout the world and to address justice and human security. It helps Member States with technical assistance, legal advice and research within the framework of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the three United Nations Conventions on Drugs.

UNODC South Asia is present in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

UNODC trainings and workshops



Nagarkot, Nepal: Workshop to develop a health camp programme

UNODC in partnership with Youth Vision is initiating a health camp programme aimed at assisting drug users, especially those dependent on opioid drugs in Nepal. The health camp initiative will be conducted in line with UNODC's approach of Low Cost Community-based Care and Support (LCCS) for drug users. The LCCS model draws on locally available resources and community members to provide services to

drug users within the community. In order to develop an operational plan aimed at conducting the health camps at various locations in Nepal, UNODC organized a workshop from September 3 – 6, in Nagarkot, Nepal.

New Delhi, India: Training of trainers on 'Advocacy, Community Mobilization and Referral Networking'

UNODC organized a training of trainers based on the training manual 'Advocacy, Community Mobilization and Referral Networking' developed by UNODC for the National AIDS Control Organization. As part of the 'Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria-Round 9 grant for HIV in India', the three day workshop was conducted for master trainers who would train project managers and counsellors working in injecting drug user (IDU) targeted interventions. 34 participants attended the training from August 6-8.

Dhaka, Bangladesh: Training on methadone maintenance treatment

UNODC in collaboration with Save the Children, CARE Bangladesh and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b) organized a training on methadone maintenance treatment for the newly recruited staff providing opioid substitution treatment at the Maulaviabazar Drop-in Centre at Dhaka City. The training was organized from September 16-20 in Dhaka.

Dhaka, Bangladesh: Forensic training on drug law enforcement

The Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), Bangladesh organized a forensic training, with technical assistance from UNODC, from August 23-26 at DNC Forensic Lab, Dhaka. The training focused on the technical aspects of drug detection, sampling, drug testing, use of test kits, recording and reporting. Staff from DNC working in drug law enforcement were present at the training.

Internal News Corner

The Office bids farewell to Ms Aishath Arufa



Ms. Aishath Arufa joined UNODC as one of the first staff when UNODC opened an office in Maldives in April 2010. Arufa worked as a Programme and Finance Assistant and has now decided to leave UNODC for family reasons. We will greatly miss her.

The Office would like to congratulate Ms Neiha Bansal



Neiha Bansal has been selected against the post of a project officer under the Siemens Integrity Initiative, India. We extend our sincere congratulations to Neiha for this appointment.

Dhaka, Bangladesh: First CBT centre inaugurated



The Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), Bangladesh, installed its first computer based training (CBT) centre in Dhaka, Bangladesh. UNODC transferred CBT software and installed 11 computers at the centre, the first of its kind in Bangladesh. The installation was followed by training for CBT managers and enforcement officials from DNC. The Director General, DNC expressed keen interest in the modules on strengthening and capacity building of drug law enforcement. CBT is a global training programme developed by UNODC that aims at enhancing the training capacity of law enforcement agencies in the areas of drug trafficking, human trafficking, money laundering etc. Following the installation, different offices in Bangladesh have expressed their desire to establish similar centres. The first CBT centre in South Asia was established in 2010 at the National Academy of Customs Excise and Narcotics, Faridabad, Haryana, India. Since then, countries like Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal have established CBT centres in various departments.

Manipur, India: Commemorating International Overdose Awareness Day



International Overdose Awareness Day observed on

August 31 each year, commemorates those who met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose. Observed across the globe, the day aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death. Marking the day, the Manipur Network of Positive People (MNP+) in collaboration with Manipur State AIDS Control Society, Department of Prisons and UNODC organized a programme around the theme "Prevention and Remembrance". Prisoners were given vital information about drug overdose including signs and symptoms of an overdose. In his address, Mr. Deepak Singh, President, MNP+ highlighted the problems faced by drug users including lack of education and awareness. Mr. Sunil, Counsellor of the opioid substitution treatment (OST) project of MNP+ said that drug users should not only be treated with medicine but steps should also be taken to help them integrate into mainstream society.

Upcoming Events

18 – 19 October, New Delhi, India: UNODC in coordination with the Government of India has undertaken a comprehensive country assessment on the current status of victim support providers and criminal justice actors in India. A national consultation is being organised by UNODC to share the key findings of this assessment and to develop guidelines to set up a victim assistance and protection mechanism for trafficked survivors in India.

22-23 October, Dhaka, Bangladesh: UNODC is organizing a national level sensitization programme for civil society organizations on HIV prevention in prisons in Bangladesh.

31 October, New Delhi, India: UNODC is conducting a refresher training programme on opioid substitution treatment for Bihar prison officials in New Delhi.