



IN THIS NEWSLETTER: Editorial | UNODC Southern Africa Quick Facts | Introducing UNODC ROSAF - Part I | Stories

Editorial



Dear Readers,

We are proud to present to you the inaugural edition of the UNODC Southern Africa Newsletter. This Newsletter is being launched as we have embarked upon the development of the Regional Integrated Programme, in Partnership with the Southern African Development Community (SADC). This coincidence is fortunate. Among other objectives, this Newsletter will serve as a useful vehicle to connect the different stakeholders in the development of the Regional Programme. It will provide concise and timely information at every stage of the process. Beyond the Regional Programme, the Newsletter will connect us to all our partners and colleagues. It will keep everybody informed of our activities and showcase our achievements.

The first editions of our Newsletter will focus on introducing the office - our mandate, projects, partners and staff.

We aim to publish an issue every six weeks and will strive to keep the format of the Newsletter user-friendly and readable at a glance, drawing from the good practice set by our colleagues of the Regional Office of South Asia. For this we also rely on your feedback on possible improvements.

I hope you will enjoy reading this inaugural edition of our Newsletter and look forward to a long partnership with you, our readers.

Mandiaye Niang
Regional Representative
UNODC, Southern Africa
Pretoria



CORRUPTION
Your **NO** counts

Quick Facts about UNODC Southern Africa

Countries covered: Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe

Location: Pretoria, South Africa + Field Offices in: Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Zambia

Established: 1997

Staff: 73

Regional Representative: Mr. Mandiaye Niang



Global UNODC Stories

- [North East India: recognizing female injecting drug users](#)
- [Reinforcing Mexico's response to human trafficking: President Calderón recognizes role of Blue Heart Campaign](#)
- [Prison Reform in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

UNODC Everywhere



Useful Links

- <http://www.unodc.org/treatment/index.html>
International Network of drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation resource centres
- www.yournocounts.org
Corruption: A Crime Against the Millennium Development Goals
- www.ahppn.com
The African HIV in Prisons Partnership Network
- www.incb.org
International Narcotics Control Board

Global UNODC Campaigns



Introducing UNODC Southern Africa – Part I

Our Goal and Objectives

Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism

UNODC Southern Africa's work is structured around six key objectives in which it assists countries:

1. Strengthening the legislative and judicial capacity
2. Reducing drug trafficking and in controlling precursor chemicals
3. Preventing drug use and the spread of related infections
4. Countering trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants
5. Creating awareness about and reducing the incidence of domestic violence
6. Promoting victim empowerment

What We Do

In this first edition of our Newsletter, we will introduce two of our initiatives or projects:

Regional Programming

SADC and UNODC to address threats posed by crime and drugs jointly

In order to address current and evolving security and development threats posed by crime and drugs in Southern Africa, a new joint initiative by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and UNODC Southern Africa proposes the development of a joint Regional Programme.

While SADC Member States display differences, they also share a number of challenges and threats, including increasing levels of drug trafficking, drug abuse, migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons, rising levels of corruption and violent crime, widespread violence against women and children, and challenges emanating from the high prevalence of HIV and AIDS.

These developments pose severe challenges to the institutional and economic resources, government capacity to prevent and counter related threats, the rule of law, as well as overall stability and security in the region. Due to the fact that these challenges and their effects are not contained within one country and are in their nature transnational, it is imperative to address them in a concerted regional effort.

SADC, as the key regional entity, has been noting with concern the escalation of crime at both national and transnational levels, and that increasingly easy cross border movement enables offenders to escape arrest, prosecution, conviction and punishment.

In order to eliminate this rising threat to the security of citizens, SADC stresses the urgency of integrating the activities of its Member States.

UNODC, as the global leader in the fight against illicit drugs, transnational organised crime, migrant smuggling, human trafficking, terrorism and corruption, is ideally placed to provide support to the Member States with the promotion of the rule of law and human security in the region.

For this purpose, SADC and UNODC have signed this April a *Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation on Crime Prevention and Drug Control*.

The Memorandum guides cooperation between SADC and UNODC on profes-

sional training, provision of expertise and technical assistance with regard to crime prevention and drug control initiatives in all SADC Member States.

The official launch of the joint SADC-UNODC Regional Programme is envisaged for the first quarter of 2012.

Illicit Drugs

Drug Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation



UNODC is the guardian of the three [International Drug Control Conventions](#). As the lead United Nations entity tackling drug demand reduction in the region, UNODC Southern Africa has partnered with the regional Governments through their relevant departments in implementing a series of large-scale projects.

South Africa

In 2004, in partnership with the National Department of Education and the National Department of Social Development, UNODC ROSAF implemented the *"National Drug Awareness and Schools Education Programme"* whose immediate objectives were (1), *To provide support to the Government, on a pilot basis, in the implementation of the national policy and guidelines on substance abuse prevention*

and management, in primary and secondary schools as well as in further education and training institutions and (2), To assist the Government in the development and implementation of a context-sensitive drug awareness and advocacy strategy in South Africa aimed at preventing drug abuse and create awareness on HIV and AIDS among at-risk youth.

Currently UNODC Southern Africa and the Provincial Government of the Western Cape and through the Department of Social Development is implementing the *"Drug Demand Reduction and related HIV Prevention Project in the Western Cape Province"*. The project's overall objective is to reduce drug abuse and related HIV and AIDS, and other unhealthy behaviour among youth and other vulnerable populations in the Western Cape Province. A comprehensive set of measures for HIV and AIDS prevention and care among drug users is being provided to enhance

the capacity of government and NGOs to deliver efficient and effective services and programmes.

In particular, the project will establish:

- A reliable baseline database and an efficient monitoring system on drug use and related HIV in the Province;
- Well targeted prevention interventions among youth, drug users, sex workers and other vulnerable populations, through community outreach and school initiatives; and
- Provide drug dependence treatment for drug users, either on a limited in-patient basis or on an out-patient basis, to stop or reduce their drug use and risk-behaviour likely to increase their vulnerability to HIV infection for those who are HIV^{ve}, and increase compliance to HIV care for those who are HIV^{ve}, thus reducing the risk of infecting others.

Malawi

In 2005, in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Security, UNODC ROSAF implemented a project entitled *"Malawi Pilot Drug Awareness and Capacity Building"*. The objective of the project was to raise awareness on drug abuse and related HIV/AIDS transmission among youth in selected beneficiary schools and communities through the development and implementation of a context-sensitive drugs and HIV/AIDS awareness campaign and advocacy strategy and also .

UNODC also annually observes the "International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking" in order to raise awareness and publishes the World Drug Report which analysis global trends and developments in drug production, trafficking and abuse. In our STORIES FROM UNODC ROSAF section on the following page you can read more on this.



WORLD DRUG CAMPAIGN



Find out more about the World Drug Campaign on:

www.unodc.org/drugs or www.facebook.com/worlddrugcampaign

International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking commemorated in Sasolburg



Sasolburg - June 26 is the *International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking*. Every year, since it was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1987, this day serves as a reminder of the goals agreed to by Member States of creating an international society free of drug abuse. This year's Theme was:

Global Action for Healthy Communities without Drugs

Communities affected by drug abuse and illicit trafficking were at the centre of this year's commemoration of this International Day in South Africa in the township of Zamdela by Sasolburg in the Free

State Province. Zamdela was chosen because of its high prevalence rate of substance abuse and the suffering brought on this community through this abuse, for example high levels of crime and health problems.

UNODC Southern Africa partnered with the National Department of Social Development, the provincial Department of Social Development of the Free State, as well as other National and Provincial Departments in organising the event. On Sunday morning, the event was started off by an awareness-raising march to the Zamdela stadium. The march was led by the South African Police Service, members of the clergy, the Deputy Minister of Social Development, the Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, the MEC of Social Development from the Free State, the MEC of Social Development from the Eastern Cape Province,

other provincial and local politicians, and UNODC's Regional Representative, Mr. Niang.

Following the march the officials and approximately 2100 guests gathered at the Zamdela stadium.

Passionate Appeals to fight Drug Abuse

During the commemoration, the audience listened closely and interacted enthusiastically with passionate appeals by speakers as well as performances by choirs, singers and drama groups.

In his address to the audience, UNODC Regional Representative Mandiaye Niang, pledged UNODC's support for efforts of the South African government to fight drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

Keynote speaker, Deputy Minister of Social Development Ms. Ntuli encour-

aged all community members to work together to stop the scourge of drug abuse and reminded the audience that July is Youth Month "in remembrance and celebration of the invaluable contributions that youth have played, and continue to play in our country". She called substance abuse one of the biggest challenges for the youth of today and called for intensified efforts by all.

The event ended with a commemoration and prayer for all those who have fallen victim to substance abuse and particularly the children who are being orphaned, abandoned or abused everyday addicted parents.

[Message of the Secretary-General on the occasion of International Day](#)

World Drug Report launched in Pretoria



Pretoria - On Monday 27 June, Mr. Mandiaye Niang, the new Regional Representative of UNODC Southern Africa, presented the [2011 World Drug Report](#)

at an official launch at the University of South Africa (UNISA) in Pretoria.

The World Drug Report is an annual publication providing comprehensive facts and figures on the global drug situation with respect to the supply and demand for illicit drugs. It has been recognised as presenting one of the most comprehensive pictures of the international drug problem and is a primary global tool in monitoring the collective fight against illicit drugs.

The 2011 World Drug Report shows that globally drug use has remained stable and some 210 million people, or 4.8 per cent of the population aged 15-64, took illicit substances at least once in the previous year. However, demand has soared for substances not under international control, such as piperazine and cathinone. The effects of cannabis are also being mimicked by synthetic cannabinoids, or "spice".

Estimates and analyses of developments and trends on the African continent are impeded by a very limited availability of recent and reliable data in many African countries. Nevertheless, data on the Southern African region, and on South Africa in particular, is more reliable and recent.

Cannabis remains the most abused drug on the African continent followed by heroin. Amphetamine-type Stimulants (ATS) are used much less. The production of illicit drugs on the continent is dominated by cannabis herb cultivation mostly for local use and Morocco remains worldwide the biggest producer of cannabis resin, destined for the European markets. While only Egypt and South Africa have a history of ATS manufacturing, indicators suggest emerging ATS manufacturing in West Africa, as well as growing ATS trafficking from African countries, particularly West Africa, South Africa and East Africa, to East and South-East Asia.

Furthermore, East Africa, but also South Africa, are increasingly being used as transshipment hubs for heroin and a diversification of cocaine trafficking routes, moving away from West Africa, seems to have resulted in increased use of South Africa between South America and Europe. These emerging trafficking trends are seen as a big potential threat for African countries, as many of these states lack the capacities to address the problem and increased trafficking often results in increased local consumption.

The 2011 World Drug Report is available for download [here](#).

UNODC ROSAF mourn the sudden death of Chris Opondo



On 12 May 2011, our colleague Mr. Chrisostom J. Opondo suddenly passed away at the age of 44. We are deeply shocked and saddened by this tragedy.

Mr. Opondo, originally from Kenya, was a Monitoring and Evaluation Expert with our Victim Empowerment Programme for two and a half years. During his time in our office he touched the lives of many and left a lasting impression on everyone who had the privilege of knowing him through his kindness, his humble and calm personality, his ability to build bridges where there were differences and his dedication to work and to helping others. He leaves a great gap, which we cannot fill and we will forever remember him.

UNODC Southern Africa wishes Mark Shaw all the best for the future

Mark Shaw, a South African national, is leaving UNODC after nearly 10 years. In his last assignment he was in charge of the Integrated Programme and Oversight Branch in Vienna, Austria, a position in which he worked very closely with our regional office.

We would like to thank him for his valued contribution to the work of UNODC Southern Africa and wish him all the best for the future.

Thank you for reading the UNODC Southern Africa Newsletter

For comments, suggestions, questions or to unsubscribe please contact the Newsletter Team at

fo.southafrica@unodc.org | www.unodc.org/southernafrica