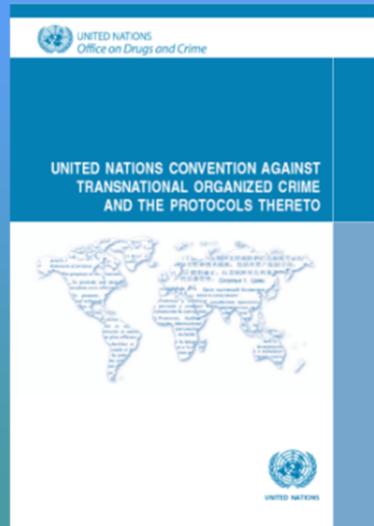


GLOBAL PROGRAMME AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

To provide technical assistance to States to implement the Organized Crime Convention in order that they may effectively prevent and combat different forms of serious and organized crime.

GPTOC Team:

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The Organized and Serious Crime Programme (GPTOC) focuses on assisting states with the implementation of the core elements of the Organized Crime convention. This includes judicial and law enforcement cooperation, mutual legal assistance, witness protection and criminal intelligence and investigations.

One pillar of the programme concerns networking with the aim to establish and link networks of practitioners to enhance information sharing and operational capacities. As you know, most organized criminal activities require that law enforcement and prosecuting officials obtain information and evidence – through informal and formal channels- from other jurisdictions. The process of international cooperation in criminal matters, whether for extradition, mutual legal assistance or confiscation of assets, can be very difficult and time consuming, impeding the ability of authorities to obtain the information and evidence they need, resulting in a lack of cooperation and prosecutions.

Our response is to strengthen capacity in this area and to support the institutionalization of central authorities to serve as centres of national expertise and focal points for incoming and outgoing requests. We are doing this by establishing Regional networks of Central Authorities and Prosecutors, modelled after the European Judicial Network and Eurojust.



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NETWORKS OF CENTRAL AUTHORITIES & PROSECUTORS

REFCO

Network of
Specialized
Prosecutors
against
Organized
Crime



WACAP

West African
Central
Authorities and
Prosecutors
against
Organized
Crime



Next...

Gulf Region
MENA Region

Central Asia &
Southern
Caucasus

East Africa

Western Balkan
Prosecutors

We started this in Central America with a network of organized crime prosecutors from 10 countries in the region. These were people in like professions, working on cases that are in some way related to drug trafficking in the region, but most did not communicate with their counterparts in neighbouring countries. The REFCO network brought them together and provided a means for mutual support, collaboration and exchange of knowledge – as well as bringing operational benefits to ongoing cases.

This was replicated in 2013, with the creation of the West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors(WACAP). WACAP is supporting the establishment and strengthening of central authorities, equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to manage international cooperation processes, and facilitating contacts to exchange information at the informal and formal levels. Additionally, WACAP aims to build capacity to handle complex serious and organized crime prosecutions, becoming a forum for the exchange of information on investigation methodologies, and facilitating cooperation in ongoing cases. The next plenary meeting is planned to be held the week of 17 November in Ghana and we will have a meeting of the Ministers of Justice at the same time to approve the charter and regulations of this network. Linked to WACAP, UNODC is establishing a network of practitioners on asset recovery in which one national WACAP focal point will be a member. And to maximize resources, we are holding the meeting of these networks back to back. So, the first ARINWA meeting will be held the week prior to the WACAP plenary.

In 2014, we have secured agreement of the Gulf States to form a network based on the WACAP model and we are working with the FO and the involved countries to begin. Additionally, under the framework of the League of Arab States, there has been a Ministerial resolution to create a network to combat organized crime and terrorism. UNODC and the League held a regional meeting this past March and discussions are ongoing.

This summer, UNODC obtained agreement to establish of a network of Central Authorities and prosecutors from Central Asia and Southern Caucasus with their counterparts from main transit and destination countries for the purpose of investigation and prosecution of various forms of transnational organized crime. A next meeting will be held in October.

In June, a regional meeting to establish a similar mechanism for East African States was held in Zanzibar and we have been fund raising to move forward

In the Balkans, UNODC is part of the consortium with GIZ and the Center for International Legal Cooperation of the Netherlands who will implement the second phase of the EU funded Prosecutors Network of the Western Balkans, with focus on drug trafficking, human trafficking and trafficking in firearms. As you see, we have made a lot of progress in a short period of time.

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE & INVESTIGATIONS



financial crimes



wildlife &
forest crimes

Intelligence as a cross-cutting issue



human trafficking &
migrant smuggling



drug trafficking

Another key area of activity under the project concerns criminal intelligence and investigations. The provisions of UNTOC on intelligence analysis and information sharing, as well as the use of special investigation techniques and joint trans-border investigations cut across all thematic areas concerned with TOC. We have developed a number of tools related to criminal intelligence, investigations and also a manual on organised crime threat assessments, and have a full-time criminal intelligence trainer to deliver a range of in-house courses in support of UNODC programmes.

At present we are working closely with colleagues from our regional office in Nairobi on the development of TOCUS – multi-agency anti-organized crime units - in Eastern Africa, starting with Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

The TOCUS will be based on the model used in West Africa, and become national focal points for transnational investigations.



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INTER-REGIONAL DRUG CONTROL APPROACH

**Programmatic inter-connectivity between Global, Thematic,
Regional & Country programmes.**

7 priority areas identified:

- Acting on analysis of crime trends;
- Joint, coordinated actions against drug trafficking and OC;
- Training programmes and information sharing networks;
- Specialised operational units on container control;
- Legislation & policies on maritime crime;
- Cooperation among OC prosecutors coordinated regionally;
- Countering money laundering and financing of terrorism.

IRDC is an initiative started last year, which connects various UNODC programmes aimed at stemming the flow of drugs originating from Afghanistan. 12 ongoing programmes were identified as having activities directly connected with this aim.

An inter-divisional task team was formed to agree a joint work plan on the 7 priority areas that were identified.

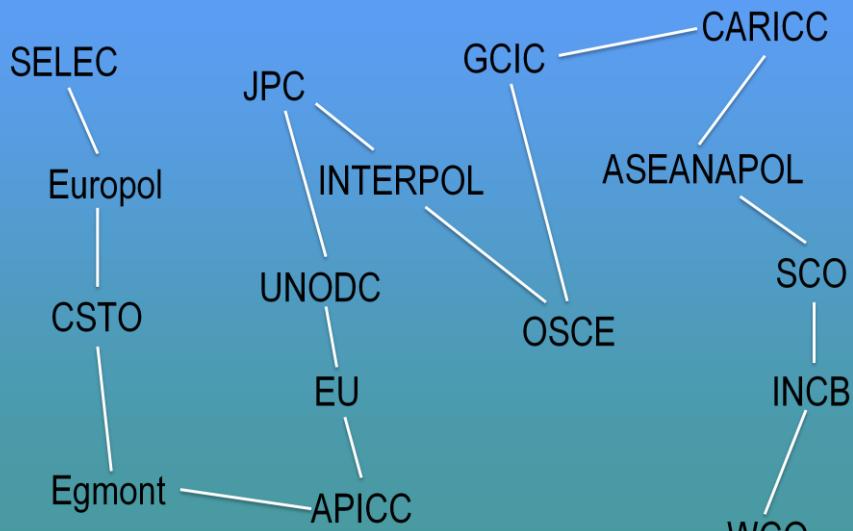
This has led to a number of positive outcomes including preventing duplication of effort, allowing the cross-fertilisation of ideas, and providing cost efficiencies.



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NETWORK OF INTELLIGENCE NETWORKS



In support of the IRDC approach, an international network of LE networks was established in 2013 to strengthen information sharing and coordination mechanisms, and promoting closer cooperation between existing law enforcement centres and platforms. The inaugural meeting took place in Istanbul in December. It secured the agreement of the 16 participating organisations to collaborate further, and culminated in a joint statement by all parties. UNODC intends to coordinate further meetings, the next taking place in Doha, hosted by GCIC in next month. This will seek to incorporate more operational elements.

The intention is to eventually extend this approach to link up the various regional prosecutor networks, and also to law enforcement training centres.



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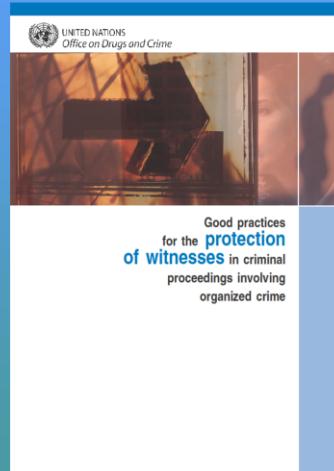
PROTECTION OF WITNESSES

Tools, legal assistance and capacity building

PROTECTION PROGRAM

PROTECTIVE MEASURES

GOOD PRACTISE



Witness protection measures are important for prosecuting important cases that depend upon the testimonial evidence and where the witnesses have been are reasonably can be expected to be intimidated. Witness protection programmes have proved to be a crucial tool in efforts to prosecute sophisticated criminal organizations because without this tool there is no reason for witnesses to cooperate with the authorities and provide information and testimonial evidence about their criminal associates.

The protection of witnesses in criminal matters is based on these three building blocks complimenting and supporting each other with the most complete system being a mixture of all three disciplines.

The protection of witnesses thus starts with basic police protection and good operational practices (non procedural measures) that create a sound basis for the protection of witnesses, victims and related persons.

This is followed or complimented by judicial protective methods and may end as a last resort, in special protection measures as inter alia offered by the Witness Protection Program (a mix of the above plus special covert interventions).

UNODC has developed tools and provides legal assistance and capacity building to practitioners in this area.

The Good Practices manual was developed in consultation with over 60 countries and international organizations. It is a comprehensive guide for anyone wanting to know about all the issues relating to witness protection, from the different forms of procedural measures such the use of shield to the objectives of a covert witness protection programme.

Technical assistance related to witness protection

- Legal and institutional assessments, including advice on developing witness protection policies/strategies
- Legislative drafting assistance
- Awareness raising for criminal justice authorities (judges, prosecutors, police and prison officials)
- Develop and provide specialized training
- Provision of advisors to assist in the establishment of witness protection units

Advisors

- Due to its covert nature and highly specialized work, the actual implementation of a dedicated witness protection programme/unit requires the support of experienced experts.
- Supported Kenya with a witness protection mentor working side by side with them over a period of 18 months.
 - Revised law, drafted regulations, development of staffing, office, vehicle and equipment requirements, ToRs for posts, budget, SoPs, training on risk and threat assessments, etc..

FRAUDULENT MEDICINES



- Model legislative provisions
- Capacity building for law enforcement & judicial authorities
- Research
- Awareness raising
- Fund raising

Trafficking in fraudulent medicines is a growing threat with global dimensions, but it affects disproportionately regions where infectious diseases are endemic and control capacities weak. Three years ago, a resolution called for UNODC legal, technical and research expertise to strengthen national capacities and to develop the international cooperation against that threat. (Resolution 20/6 Apr. 2011). One of the most life threatening and alarming trends in fraudulent medicines is the production and sale of fraudulent anti-malarial medicines. People are unwittingly buying fake products which have no medicinal value, and they and their children are dying as a result.

In collaboration with the research section, we have a two phase approach. We are in the process of developing model legislative provisions on the topic which MS will be able to adapt to their needs (modelled after our existing model legislative provisions on drugs, human trafficking and on the OC Convention).

Our research section has begun to look at analysing and designing a strategy against the trafficking in fraudulent anti-malarial medicines and help MS to build their capacities to combat them, as well as increasing public awareness to the dangers of buying sub-standard products.

In the second phase, we will deliver assistance based upon the model legal provisions, assist States in launching an international response to the trafficking in fraudulent anti-malarials, and scale up data collection, analysis and strategy formulation efforts to address other priority aspects of the threat.

For that of course, and to continue all of this work against organized crime, we need funds to continue our high quality work. We manage to achieve a lot with very little resources both as a stand along programme and as one of the few programme that provides specialist expertise to other programmes. So if your country has an interest in any of these areas of our work, please come and talk to us, we can tell you more about our accomplishments and plans, and we can discuss your substantive or regional priorities and help us to keep doing what we're doing.