Regional Programme for West Africa 2016-2020
Regional Programme for West Africa 2016-2020

In support of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Action Plan to Address Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa 2016-2020
Photographs of the cover

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LETTER OF COOPERATION

Transnational organized crime in all its forms, illicit trafficking, terrorism, corruption, the laundering of criminal assets and terrorism financing, as well as weaknesses in the criminal justice system, HIV and drug abuse are increasing threats to development, peace and stability in West Africa. These constantly evolving threats, gradually erode the foundations of the State, by challenging the progress towards good governance and the implementation of the Rule of Law, ultimately compromising economic and human development in the sub-region.

The global nature of these challenges and their undeniable national and interregional ramifications, require our full attention. Regional and international cooperation should be at the core of the responses to be provided to successfully face the transnational threats that affect the whole of West Africa and impact the world at large.

Following the evaluation of the results of the UNODC Regional Programme and the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan for West Africa 2010-2014, and taking into account emerging threats and trends, UNODC has developed its new Regional Programme for West Africa, while ECOWAS elaborated its Regional Action Plan to Address Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa, both covering the period 2016-2020.

The ECOWAS Commission, its Member States and Mauritania were deeply involved in the elaboration of the new UNODC Regional Programme, particularly in the context of the Experts’ Consultation Meeting, held on 30 and 31 May 2016, in Dakar, Senegal, and later through a written consultative process. Conversely, UNODC experts have contributed to the development of the new ECOWAS Regional Action Plan, including at the Experts’ Group Meeting and the ECOWAS Ministerial Meeting, held from 2 to 4 September and on 5 September 2016, respectively, in Abuja.

These two strategic documents aim at mobilising joint efforts in order to successfully face current and future threats in West Africa. The pillars of the two documents are aligned and strategically complementary with the purpose of supporting a framework of national, regional and inter-regional collective action, to strengthen the capacities of States in the areas of governance, security and health promotion, linking national, regional and international actors.

While the primary responsibility for addressing the challenges that threaten peace and security in the region pertains to Governments, the role and the strong will of ECOWAS and the United Nations is to support Member States in addressing the scourges that often extend beyond West Africa.
Hereby, present at the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, UNODC, represented by its Executive Director, Mr. Yury Fedotov and ECOWAS and its Member States, represented by the President of the ECOWAS Commission, Mr. Marcel A. de Souza, confirm their commitment to cooperate for an effective and integrated implementation of the UNODC Regional Programme and the ECOWAS Action Plan, thus ensuring government ownership of development and security initiatives in the region, particularly in the fight against illicit drug trafficking, organized crime related to it, corruption and terrorism, as well as drug abuse in West Africa.

Signed in three original copies on 19 September 2016, in New York.

Executive Director
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Mr. Yury Fedotov

President
Economic Community of West African States Commission

Mr. Marcel A. de Souza
À Monsieur le Représentant régional de l’ONUDC pour l’Afrique de l’Ouest et du Centre.


Convaincu de l’importance de tenir informés ses partenaires régionaux de l’état d’avancement du nouveau Programme régional pour l’Afrique de l’Ouest, l’ONUDC a bien voulu convier la République islamique de Mauritanie à participer aux deux étapes constitutives de finalisation et de validation de ce nouveau Programme : la Réunion de consultation des experts, qui s’est tenue à Dakar, les 30 et 31 mai 2016 ainsi que la consultation écrite finale des différents gouvernements en juin-juillet 2016.

Les commentaires et suggestions effectués par les membres de la délégation mauritanienne présents lors de la Réunion de consultation des experts ont été pleinement pris en compte et la consultation écrite n’a fait l’objet d’aucune objection de notre part.

Par conséquent, j’ai l’honneur de vous informer que nous n’avons aucune observation particulière supplémentaire et que nous approuvons donc entièrement le Programme régional pour l’Afrique de l’Ouest 2016-2020 de l’ONUDC. Le Ministère de la Justice continuera à soutenir et à collaborer avec l’ONUDC afin de garantir un succès dans la mise en œuvre du Programme, dont les objectifs s’alignent pleinement avec les priorités nationales. La République islamique de Mauritanie s’engage à soutenir les efforts de l’ONUDC dans la région pour les cinq prochaines années dans les domaines de la lutte contre la criminalité transnationale organisée, le terrorisme, la corruption, le renforcement des systèmes de justice pénale et l’amélioration de la prévention, de la prise en charge et du traitement du VIH et de l’abus de substances psychoactives.

Nous tenons également à souhaiter plein succès à l’ONUDC pour la présentation de son nouveau Programme régional pour l’Afrique de l’Ouest, à New York, en septembre 2016. Dans ce but, je m’engage à ce qu’un haut représentant de notre délégation présent lors de la 71ème session de l’Assemblée générale des Nations Unies participe à cet événement.

Le Ministère de la justice du gouvernement de la République islamique de Mauritanie, profite de cette occasion pour renouveler à l’ONUDC l’expression de sa très haute considération.

Convinced of the importance of informing its regional partners on the progress of the new Regional Programme for West Africa, UNODC invited the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to participate in the finalization and validation of this new Programme through the Experts’ Consultation Meeting, which was held in Dakar on 30 and 31 May 2016, as well as through a final written consultation of the various governments in June-July 2016.

The comments and suggestions made by the members of the Mauritanian delegation attending the Experts’ Consultation Meeting were fully taken into consideration and the ensuing written consultation has received no objection from our side.

Consequently, I have the honour to inform you that we have no specific observation and we therefore fully endorse the UNODC Regional Programme for West Africa 2016-2020. The Ministry of Justice will continue to support and cooperate with UNODC in order to ensure a success in the implementation of the Programme, whose objectives are fully aligned with national priorities. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania is committed to support UNODC efforts in the region for the next five years to fight against transnational organized crime, terrorism, and corruption, as well as to strengthen criminal justice systems and improve drug and HIV prevention, treatment and care.

We would also like to wish UNODC full success for the presentation of its new Regional Programme for West Africa, in New York in September 2016. To this end, I will assure that a high representative of the Mauritanian delegation, present at the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, will participate in this event.

The Ministry of Justice of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania uses this opportunity to renew to UNODC the assurances of its highest consideration.

Signed by His Excellency Mr. Brahim Daddah, Minister of Justice of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.
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V. THE FIVE THEMATIC PILLARS

### PILLAR I – STRENGTHENING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

**Outcome 1** – National authorities more effectively use integrated and sustainable forensic services to support the criminal justice chain

**Outcome 2** – National authorities improve technical capacities of law enforcement agencies to respond to the challenges of organized crime and terrorism (including through regional cooperation) in line with human rights principles and UN standards

**Outcome 3** – National authorities strengthen capacities of prosecution, adjudication and defence institutions to respond to organized crime and terrorism, and provide access to justice, in line with UN standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and other relevant human rights principles

**Outcome 4** – National authorities operate and reform prison systems in compliance with human rights principles and UN standards, and effectively contribute to reducing recidivism and addressing radicalization in prison

**Outcome 5** – National authorities operate and reform justice for children in compliance with the international legal framework related to the rights of the child

**Outcome 6** – National authorities and practitioners enhance capacities to deal with children associated to violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, and prevent their recruitment, in accordance with the international legal framework

### PILLAR II – PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ILICIT TRAFFICKING

**Outcome 1** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter manufacturing and trafficking in illegal drugs, precursors and counterfeit products, in line with human rights principles and UN standards

**Outcome 2** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, in line with human rights principles and UN standards

**Outcome 3** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter maritime crime and piracy in line with human rights principles and UN standards

**Outcome 4** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter wildlife and forest crime

**Outcome 5** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter the illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms in line with human rights principles and UN standards

**Outcome 6** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter money-laundering and conduct effective financial investigations to track the proceeds of organized crime

### PILLAR III – PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORISM

**Outcome 1** – National authorities enhance their criminal justice responses to terrorism in conformity with the rule of law, human rights and relevant international requirements

**Outcome 2** – National authorities more effectively counter the financing of terrorism in accordance with the rule of law and relevant international requirements

**Outcome 3** – National authorities more effectively prevent and counter major terrorism challenges, such as violent extremism and foreign terrorist fighters, in accordance with the rule of law and relevant international requirements
PILLAR IV – PREVENTING AND COUNTERING CORRUPTION

Outcome 1 – National authorities reinforce the culture of integrity through preventive measures

Outcome 2 – National law enforcement authorities and criminal justice systems more effectively combat corruption

Outcome 3 – National authorities more effectively counter corruption in natural resource management

Outcome 4 – National authorities more effectively recover stolen assets and illicit financial flows

PILLAR V – IMPROVING DRUG AND HIV PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

Outcome 1 – National authorities, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders more effectively prevent the use of drugs

Outcome 2 – National authorities provide enhanced access to evidence-based drug dependence treatment, care and rehabilitation services

Outcome 3 – National authorities broaden and improve HIV prevention, treatment and care responses among drug users and those in detention settings

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<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome</td>
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<td>AIRCOP</td>
<td>Airport Communication Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>AQIM</td>
<td>Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb</td>
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<td>ARINSA</td>
<td>Asset Recovery Interagency Network for Southern Africa</td>
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<td>ARINWA</td>
<td>Asset Recovery Interagency Network for West Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATS</td>
<td>Amphetamine-type stimulants</td>
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<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
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<td>CAMES</td>
<td>Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l’Enseignement Supérieur</td>
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<td>CARIN</td>
<td>Camden Asset Recovery Interagency Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCP</td>
<td>Container Control Programme</td>
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<td>CCPCJ</td>
<td>Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice</td>
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<td>CENozo</td>
<td>Norbert Zongo Cell for Investigative Journalism in West Africa</td>
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<td>CND</td>
<td>Commission on Narcotic Drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coll.</td>
<td>Collective</td>
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<td>CONIG</td>
<td>Country Office in Nigeria</td>
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<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
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<td>CTITF</td>
<td>Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force</td>
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<td>CTU</td>
<td>Counter-Terrorism Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPA</td>
<td>Department of Political Affairs</td>
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<td>DPKO</td>
<td>Department for Peacekeeping Operations</td>
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<td>ECCAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of Central African States</td>
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<td>ECOSOC</td>
<td>United Nations Economic and Social Council</td>
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<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<td>EMCDDA</td>
<td>European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction</td>
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<td>FATF</td>
<td>Financial Action Task Force</td>
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<td>FTF</td>
<td>Foreign Terrorist Fighters</td>
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<td>GFP</td>
<td>Global Firearms Programme</td>
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<td>GIABA</td>
<td>Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money-Laundering in West Africa</td>
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<td>GMCP</td>
<td>Global Maritime Crime Programme</td>
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<td>GPML</td>
<td>Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism</td>
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<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</td>
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<td>ICCWC</td>
<td>International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime</td>
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<td>ICE</td>
<td>International Collaborative Exercises</td>
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<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Office</td>
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<td>INCB</td>
<td>International Narcotics Control Board</td>
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<td>INTERPOL</td>
<td>International Criminal Police Organization</td>
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<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization for Migration</td>
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<td>IPA</td>
<td>Integrated Programming Approach</td>
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<td>ISIL/Daesh</td>
<td>Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant</td>
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<td>JAITFs</td>
<td>Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces</td>
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<td>JPCUs</td>
<td>Joint Port Control Units</td>
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<tr>
<td>LEA</td>
<td>Law Enforcement Agency</td>
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<td>LEO</td>
<td>Law Enforcement Official</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAOC (N)</td>
<td>Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics</td>
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<td>MINUSMA</td>
<td>United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali</td>
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<td>MLA</td>
<td>Mutual legal assistance</td>
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<td>MUJAO</td>
<td>Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa</td>
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<td>NACIWA</td>
<td>Network of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa</td>
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<td>NDLEA</td>
<td>National Drug Law Enforcement Agency</td>
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<td>NENDU</td>
<td>Nigerian Epidemiological Network on Drug Use</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<td>NIP</td>
<td>National Integrated Programme</td>
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<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Office of the High-Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
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<td>OSIWA</td>
<td>Open Society Initiative for West Africa</td>
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<td>PWID</td>
<td>People who inject drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROEA</td>
<td>Regional Office for Eastern Africa</td>
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<td>ROMENA</td>
<td>Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROSEN</td>
<td>Regional Office for West and Central Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>RP</td>
<td>Regional Programme</td>
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<td>RSAME</td>
<td>Regional Section for Africa and the Middle East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sahel Platform</td>
<td>Regional Judicial Cooperation Platform for Sahel countries</td>
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<td>SC</td>
<td>Steering Committee</td>
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<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goal</td>
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<tr>
<td>S-DDD</td>
<td>Defined Daily Doses for statistical purposes</td>
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<td>SOM</td>
<td>Smuggling of migrants</td>
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<td>StAR</td>
<td>Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative</td>
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<td>TCUs</td>
<td>Transnational Crime Units</td>
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<td>TIP</td>
<td>Trafficking in persons</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOC</td>
<td>Transnational organized crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOCTA</td>
<td>Transnational organized crime threat assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>Train-the-trainers programmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNAIDS</td>
<td>Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS</td>
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<td>UNDAF</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDSS</td>
<td>United Nations Department of Security and Safety</td>
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<td>UNECA</td>
<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
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<td>UNGA</td>
<td>United Nations General Assembly</td>
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<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund</td>
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<td>UNIOGBIS</td>
<td>United Nations Integrated Peace-Building Office in Guinea-Bissau</td>
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<td>UNIPSIL</td>
<td>United Nations Integrated Peace-Building Office in Sierra Leone</td>
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<td>UNISS</td>
<td>United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel</td>
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<td>UNMIL</td>
<td>United Nations Mission in Liberia</td>
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<td>UNOCI</td>
<td>United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire</td>
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<td>UNODC</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
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<td>UNCAC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention against Corruption</td>
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<td>UNOWAS</td>
<td>United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSC</td>
<td>United Nations Security Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSG</td>
<td>United Nations Secretary-General</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNTOC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>USD</td>
<td>United States Dollars</td>
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<td>VAW</td>
<td>Violence against Women</td>
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<td>WACAP</td>
<td>West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime</td>
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<td>WACI</td>
<td>West Africa Coast Initiative</td>
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<td>WASAF</td>
<td>West Africa Strategic Assessment Framework</td>
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<td>World Customs Organization</td>
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<td>WENDU</td>
<td>West African Epidemiology Network on Drug Use</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<td>WLFC</td>
<td>Wildlife and Forest Crime</td>
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INTRODUCTION
I. INTRODUCTION

Based on past achievements of UNODC in West Africa, on lessons learned during the implementation of activities in the region as well as on the outcomes of the evaluation of the Regional Programme for 2010-2014 (hereafter “the previous RP”), the present Regional Programme (hereafter “the RP”) sets strategic priorities and expected accomplishments for West Africa for the period 2016-2020. It also highlights operational responses aimed at addressing security threats and reinforcing the rule of law in the region. It provides sufficient flexibility to remain relevant in a rapidly evolving context and provide assistance tailored to specific local needs.

The RP covers the period 2016-2020, in line with the timeframe of the new Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Action Plan to Address Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa. It takes into account the priorities identified in the new Action Plan and contributes to its implementation. Going beyond the ECOWAS Action Plan, the RP will also reflect additional priorities based on assessments undertaken by UNODC in the region, in particular under the West African Strategic Assistance Framework (WASAF). Similarly to the previous RP, the RP covers the 15 Member States of ECOWAS as well as Mauritania, but goes beyond the region and includes inter-regional cooperation where relevant and appropriate.

The RP will also serve as a framework for action to support Member States in achieving the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined in Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which was adopted on 25 September 2015 by the Member States of the United Nations. The Agenda is intended as “a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity that seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom”. The Agenda affirms that “there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development”. The Agenda draws together the strands of peace, rule of law, human rights, development and equality into a comprehensive and forward-looking framework. Reducing conflict, crime, violence, discrimination, and ensuring inclusion and good governance, are key elements of people’s well-being and essential for securing sustainable development. UNODC’s mandates cover many of these key elements and will provide support to Member States in achieving progress in that direction.

The Regional Programme for West Africa (2010-2014) underwent an in-depth independent evaluation from November 2014 to March 2015. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the RP, as well as the contribution of projects to achieving the objectives of the RP; and to inform the development of the present RP. The evaluation report noted that UNODC’s intervention in West Africa was overall highly relevant to strengthen in particular the capacity of Member States to work towards the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan against illicit drug trafficking, related organized crime and drug abuse in West Africa.

The evaluation stressed that UNODC’s expertise in technical assistance and threat analysis was widely recognized by all stakeholders. Regional networks such as the West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime (WACAP) and the Regional Judicial Cooperation Platform for Sahel countries (Sahel Platform) were highlighted as successful initiatives to be further analysed for potential replication. The findings of the evaluation were considered in the development of the present RP, and are included in the relevant sections.

1. The main achievements under the previous RP are highlighted in the report Enhancing international cooperation to strengthen efforts in West Africa to counter illicit drug trafficking, E/CN.7/2015/11, 16 December 2014, presented to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2015.
2. Under finalization with support from UNODC at the time of preparation of the present RP.
3. The WASAF on Serious and Organized Crime is a document which is intended as a strategic starting point setting out the totality of needs with regard to the ingredients essential to tackling serious and organized crime across four broad pillars: socio-economic environments, governance, criminal justice and disrupting crime. It was adopted by the G7+ Assistance Strategy Committee, which was launched in November 2014 to coordinate donor assistance against serious and organized crime. The G7+ comprises the G7 Member States, Colombia, Portugal, Spain, ECOWAS, the European Union (EU) Commission, Europol, INTERPOL, the EU Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics (MAOC(N)), UNODC and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS).
Relevant to this introduction is the following finding: “ownership should be supported through ensuring enhanced local participation, especially at the intervention formulation stages”. As part of the development of the present RP, experts from ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania and from the ECOWAS Commission were consulted in the context of a Consultation Meeting held on 30-31 May 2016 in Dakar, Senegal. The Experts’ Consultation Meeting was organized in order to allow for meaningful input on the Programme from national experts to the RP. It was attended by 40 national experts from 15 of the 16 participating countries, 3 experts from ECOWAS, 2 from the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and 30 UNODC experts from HQ, the Regional Office for West and Central Africa (ROSEN) and the Country Office in Nigeria (CONIG).

The participants discussed the cross-cutting issues covered by the RP such as data collection, international cooperation, capacity-building, cooperation with civil society and legislative assistance and confirmed their importance, while highlighting specific needs in the region. They also discussed the key challenges and threats in the region, confirming that the ones identified in the RP are indeed the key ones, while requesting UNODC to urgently pay attention to several emerging trends. During the same sessions, participants discussed the governance structure of the RP, and were presented with the concept of a steering committee. There was agreement that such a body can assist in overseeing the implementation of the programming, ensuring coherence between the RP and national strategies, setting priorities and supporting fundraising with donors.

A written consultation was then conducted on the draft Regional Programme during June-July 2016 with a letter sent to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Justice, Interior and Health of ECOWAS Member States, Mauritania, as well as to the ECOWAS Commission, and relevant international organizations. In the process, governments and ECOWAS expressed full support to the Regional Programme, its objectives and the priorities identified for 2016-2020 in the region.
Incineration Ceremony of almost 2 tons of drugs (mostly cannabis, cocaine and heroin) seized by the Senegalese authorities, on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, on 26 June 2015, in Dakar, Senegal.
II. SITUATION ANALYSIS

2.1. DRUGS, CRIME AND SECURITY CHALLENGES IN WEST AFRICA

2.1.1. Overview

As highlighted in the report *Transnational Organized Crime in West Africa: A Threat Assessment* of 2013 and confirmed in recent research reports, West Africa remains a region vulnerable to and affected by specific threats in terms of security and transnational organized crime (TOC). Current major threats include the use of the region as a transit area for cocaine and heroin; the development of local laboratories for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) and precursors; an increase in the local use of all types of drugs; a surge in terrorism-related threats and increasing links between organized crime and terrorism; intra-regional and inter-regional trafficking in persons, firearms, cigarettes and fraudulent medicines; smuggling of migrants and maritime crime and piracy in the Gulf of Guinea and along the West African coast. Moreover, while drug consumption is worryingly increasing in the region, efforts to support drug prevention, drug dependence treatment and care in a health-centred framework have been limited so far.

Under the G7+ Assistance Strategy Committee on Serious Organized Crime in West Africa, a gap analysis finalized in partnership with ECOWAS and UNODC within the WASAF, have established that serious organized crime continues to pose a threat for the region. Several West African countries continue to be transit countries for international drug trafficking, notably for cocaine trafficking, while other forms of TOC are also taking advantage of these countries’ vulnerabilities, and contribute to the process of “State erosion” in some countries.

2.1.2. Illicit trafficking of drugs, precursors and counterfeit products

As highlighted in the UNODC *World Drug Report 2015* the African continent continues to be a transshipment region for cocaine trafficking to Europe, with countries in West Africa reported as transit countries, as illustrated by significant seizures in countries in the region.

The principal means of transportation have evolved since 2012 with the increasing use of air transport and corresponding decrease of transportation by sea, a trend which is most likely related to the increased number of flights between South America and West Africa. For example, in December 2015, more than 200 kilograms (kg) of cocaine coming from Brazil via Morocco were seized in the cargo department of the Cotonou airport. Nevertheless, several seizures of importance in 2015 indicate that the maritime route continues to be greatly used by traffickers.

West Africa appears to have become an established source of the ATS smuggled into East and South East Asia via Southern Africa or Europe, with new trafficking routes linking previously unconnected regional methamphetamine markets. Several laboratories have been dismantled in the region: the first to be dismantled, in 2009, were laboratories in Guinea. Since June 2011, the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) in Nigeria dismantled 12 laboratories in the States of Lagos, Anambra and, more recently, Delta. ATS seizures increased by 480 % in 2013 compared with 2012, to attain 1,414 kg; 86 % of this volume was seized by the Ivorian authorities.

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10 Nigeria (290 kg of cocaine in 2013; 139 kg in 2014), Ghana (901 kg in 2013); Côte d’Ivoire (20 kg in 2013, down from 27 kg in 2012); or Togo (around 268 kg in 2014) - UNODC ROSEN data base. The database of the UNODC ROSEN compiles current information on drug seizures, which information is supplied by the States of the region as well as information available from open sources. The data includes seizures made outside of West and Central Africa but which have some type of connection to the sub-region (for example, transit through the sub-region, actors from the sub-region).
11 UNODC ROSEN data base.
12 On 5 March 2015, Bolivian authorities made a record seizure of 5,800 kg of cocaine near Santa Cruz, Bolivia destined to Burkina Faso transiting the Port of Tema, Ghana. On 15 March, Gambian authorities seized 45 kg of cocaine from a container and which cocaine was shipped from Brazil. Finally, one month later, Guinean authorities seized 81 kg of cocaine, also shipped from Brazil. On 21 January 2016, Bolivian authorities seized more than 8 tons of cocaine destined for Côte d’Ivoire. Additionally, since December 2014, several tons of cocaine were seized on the South America-Cabo Verde-Las Palmas route. The most recent interception occurred in March 2016, with a seizure of 500 kg off the coast of Cabo Verde (UNODC ROSEN data base).
Since 2013, major seizures were reported in Senegal and Nigeria, including a historic seizure of 266 kg of methamphetamine, as well as 310 kg of ephedrine, at the Murtala Muhammed Airport in Lagos. The products were destined to South Africa. More than 200 kg of methamphetamine originating from Cotonou were also seized in Johannesburg, South Africa in January 2015.13

As described in UNODC’s *Afghan opiate trafficking through the southern route*, globally, the total quantity of heroin seized in West and Central Africa is considered low. However, West and Central Africa account for one third of the total seizures in Africa.14 While seizures in West Africa have shown significant year-on-year variation, an increase trend has been observed since 2008.15 Heroin trafficking from Iran and Pakistan to Europe through the Near and Middle East and Africa, including West Africa (“Southern route”) is developing. Previously, West Africa was known primarily as a departure region for small-scale heroin trafficking, involving couriers. In the late 2000s, several large shipments of heroin trafficked in sea containers or as freight were seized in West Africa, suggesting that traffickers are now able to improve the logistics of trafficking and move much larger quantities, exploiting the region’s geographic, political and economic vulnerabilities. Since 2010, seizures have been reported in Nigeria, Benin, Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire. The majority of seizures effected were of heroin shipments destined for the region or without a specified destination. Once received by local traffickers, these shipments are likely compartmentalized for domestic sale and export by air, land and sea to various destinations. Nigeria seems to represent the epicenter of the heroin nexus in West Africa. In 2014, the NDLEA seized around 156 kg of heroin in ten different seizures.

Over the past years there has been an evident proliferation of counterfeit and substandard medicines in the West African markets, highly risking the lives of people in the region. Pharmaceutical drugs transported through mainstream commercial channels are also a cause for concern, and some are used for drug abuse, e.g. synthetic opiates. Others are fraudulent medicines which are drugs that are not what they purport to be. In 2012, over 140 tons of illicitly imported painkillers were seized by Joint Port Control Units (JPCUs) established under the Global Container Control Programme (CCP) in Benin and Togo alone, most likely destined for markets in the Sahel.17 In addition to the harm they inflict on users, some fraudulent medicines foster the growth of drug-resistant pathogens, which pose a global health threat. It is estimated that at least 10 % of all essential imported medicines circulating in West Africa are fraudulent.18 Unscrupulous street vendors and unwitting pharmacies sell these fake drugs, which also pose a threat to the integrity of national health systems at large. Most of these substandard and counterfeit drugs originate in Asia. Under the framework of the CCP, the JPCUs established in Benin, Ghana, Senegal and Togo seized large quantities of counterfeit viagra, tramadol and other analgesic medicines. The seizure of over USD 380,000 in counterfeit medicines in early 2016 in the port of Dakar is probably only a small part portion of the overall profits of traffickers in the region and indicates that more is required to counter the threat.

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13 UNODC ROSEN data base.
15 Ibid., p.98.
16 Ibid., p.97.
2.1.3. Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants

Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants are highly lucrative crimes, generating billions of dollars of annual profits globally, and have become a growing cause of concern to West African States. Beyond the criminal aspects, trafficking in persons (TIP) is also a serious human rights violation that transforms the victims into objects of exploitation. Similarly, the smuggling of migrants (SOM), especially when accompanied by aggravating circumstances, can expose migrants to various abuses and violations of their fundamental rights and endanger their lives while generating major profits to the smuggling networks. In 2010, UNODC estimated that smuggling of West African migrants into Europe generated USD 150 million a year.\(^{19}\) Considering current flows of irregular migration and the resulting crisis in Europe since summer 2015, it is reasonable to believe that profits in the region have gone up considerably.

According to UNODC’s *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* 2014,\(^ {20}\) TIP in West Africa is mainly internal and regional, but major inter-regional trafficking routes also exist, with victims from West Africa, mostly women and children, identified especially in Europe and the Middle East. The forms of exploitation vary according to the context and the victims are trafficked to areas where the potential profit from their exploitation is the highest. The forms of exploitation include among others sexual exploitation (pimping networks), forced labour (in domestic work, gold mining sites, agriculture, fishing, construction, manufacturing, livestock), exploitation through forced begging and removal of organs, while new forms are evolving. Forced labour accounts for 37 % and sexual exploitation for 53 % of trafficking in Africa and in the Middle East, while the rest is made of other forms of exploitation including forced child begging and recruitment of child soldiers.\(^ {21}\)

![Talibés, forced begging children in Dakar, Senegal. ©UNODC.](image)

As highlighted in UNODC’s *Regional Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants 2015-2020*,\(^ {22}\) migration routes are constantly changing according to economic shocks, humanitarian crises, terrorist threats and political instability as well as migration policy measures taken by the States. The number of irregular migrants who reached Europe by sea through the Central and Western Mediterranean routes has increased substantially since 2013, from approximately 55,000 in 2013 to 160,000 in 2015.\(^ {23}\) The majority of these irregular movements are facilitated by well-organized smuggling networks. In the Sahel, the smugglers often use “traditional” migration and smuggling routes through Niger, Mali, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Mauritania and Libya.\(^ {24}\) Niger and Mali are the two main transit countries through which most of the migrants trying to reach Northern Africa and Europe are being smuggled.

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\(^{21}\) Ibid., p.5.


Many migrants enter Niger and Mali legally under the ECOWAS Protocol relating to Free Movement of Persons, Residence, and Establishment, where they procure the services of smugglers. Air transportation, which requires forged documents, is also used but less frequently.

In Niger, the city of Agadez has gradually become the most important smuggling hub. From there, migrants continue their journeys to Libya (Bitma, Dirkou then Madama) and to Algeria (through Arlit). Despite the chaotic situation in Libya and the high risk of loss of life while crossing the desert and the Mediterranean, the authorities of Niger have estimated that at least 100,000 migrants transit through their territory annually. In many cases, migrants are smuggled in extremely dangerous circumstances and in too many cases never reach their final destinations, or are stranded in cities of transit, such as Agadez and Arlit in Niger. Despite the growing number of vessels engaged in rescue operations, death toll in the Mediterranean has increased in 2015.

**2.1.4. Firearms trafficking**

West Africa continues to be severely affected by the uncontrolled manufacturing and proliferation of firearms and ammunition as a consequence of armed conflicts and their spill-over effect in the wider region. In particular, the destabilization of Libya and Mali since 2011-2012 has illustrated the fragility of West African arms control, with weapons spreading throughout the region and nourishing both TOC and terrorism. Firearms control is a cross-cutting objective in the context of preventing and addressing armed conflicts, terrorism and organized crime and should constitute a key component of any effective security and stability efforts.

Most countries lack adequate legislative frameworks and the necessary technical skills and means to implement the relevant regional and international legal instruments, including the Firearms Protocol effectively and in a continuous and autonomous manner. The lack of adequate data on firearms and empirically verifiable data on firearms trafficking and related areas are additional impediments for a proper understanding of the extent and dimension of the firearms problem and its impact on human security and safety in the region and beyond.

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26 Information provided by Nigerien authorities to UNODC in meetings conducted as part of developing the Political Declaration and Action Plan adopted in Valletta, Malta, in November 2015.
27 According to IOM, 1,218 migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa were reported as dead or missing in the Mediterranean in 2015 (IOM, Missing Migrant Project).
2.1.5. Piracy and maritime crime

While piracy off the Horn of Africa has been steadily declining since 2012, there has simultaneously been a significant rise in piracy, armed robbery against vessels, and other maritime crimes in the Gulf of Guinea region, which is home to some of the biggest offshore oilfields in the world. While piracy off the Horn of Africa has primarily involved armed attacks on commercial vessels with a view to hijacking the vessel and taking the crew hostage for ransom, attacks in West Africa have primarily taken the form of “oil bunkering”. Oil tankers are attacked and oil is siphoned from the vessel on-site, before being sold on the black market. Assessments and fact-finding missions by UNODC in the region determined that currently no State bordering the Gulf of Guinea possesses the necessary combination of jurisdictional provisions, offence-creating legislation, and judicial capacity needed to undertake prosecutions against piracy.

2.1.6. Wildlife and forest crime

West Africa suffers from threats to its wildlife and fauna, as a result of the illicit trade of its species and wildlife products. The region has a high level of biodiversity in a small forested area and the fauna of this sub-region includes endemic and emblematic species, such as the pygmy hippopotamus, several primates, antelopes, birds, amphibians and reptiles. Furthermore, wetlands of the region are important for migrating birds. Groups specialized in this form of crime use the same roads and hubs exploited by other TOC networks. These criminal syndicates often use this illegal business to finance other forms of crimes, and profits fuel corruption. The main form of illicit wildlife trade in West Africa is the trafficking of ivory through two key transit hubs, Nigeria and Togo. However, other countries in the sub-region are also involved in the illegal trade of wildlife, not only as transit countries but also as domestic markets. Trade in illegal timber and non-timber products also represent a significant proportion of the illegal trafficking that occurs in West Africa.

29 UNODC, World Wildlife Crime Report, 2016, p.43: “According to the DNA evidence, a second, but less well understood, source lies in Central Africa, at the juncture between Cameroon, the Republic of the Congo and Gabon. This area, known as the Tri-National Dja-Odzala-Minkébé (TRIDOM) trans-border forest, covers 178,000 km², or 10% of the Congo Basin rainforest, and includes 11 protected areas. The forest elephants that occur in this area are more difficult to survey than savanna elephants and, for this reason, the size of the population is unclear. But poaching levels are high, and much of the ivory exported from West Africa appears to originate in this area”.

30 Ibid., pp.36-38: “The logging of Pterocarpus erinaceus is particularly worrying because it is a fire-resistant and nitrogen-fixing species that grows in arid areas, without which desertification becomes a risk. In addition, in both Southeast Asia and West Africa, rosewood is sourced from areas where insurgents are active, and so may be seen as a source of conflict finance”.

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2.1.7. Trafficking of counterfeit cigarettes

Counterfeit cigarettes are known to be a trade worth millions of US dollars, generating high profits while posing a very low risk to criminals. Contraband cigarettes often enter West Africa through Benin, Ghana and Togo. In 2015, the JPCUs established in Benin, Ghana under the CCP seized over 220 million counterfeit cigarettes destined mainly for Niger and Burkina Faso. The cigarettes are transported by road through the Sahel, which serves as a hub for further distribution and smuggling into other regions. It has been deduced that cigarettes smuggling remains extremely lucrative and that its proceeds fuel and fund other criminal activities.

2.2. DRUG DEPENDENCE AND HIV

2.2.1. Illicit drug use

There is only limited information available on the drug use situation in West Africa including among youth. According to the World Drug Report 2016, the limited data available suggest that cannabis use is increasing in West and Central Africa (around 31 million people or 12.4 % of the population age 15-64; range: 5.1-13.3 %) and is higher than the global average (3.8 %; range: 2.7-4.9 %). The 2012 International Narcotics Control Board Annual Report estimated the number of cocaine users in West and Central Africa at 1.5 million people. The World Drug Report 2016 shows a ‘best estimate’ of around 1.7 million cocaine users for West and Central Africa, though with a huge range (0.6 - 2.6 million people), clearly reflecting the weakness of the underlying database for arriving at sub-regional estimates. The prevalence of the use of cocaine (0.7 %; range: 0.2-1.1 %), is probably above the global average (0.4 %; range: 0.3-0.5 %) while the use of other illegal psychoactive substances seems to be rather close to or below the respective global averages. ATS use seems to be rising, as does the consumption of crack and cocaine. In recent years, the misuse of tramadol (a lower potency opioid) has also been reported in some parts of the continent.

31. UNODC and the World Customs Organization (WCO), CCP Annual Report 2015, p.27.
32. UNODC, World Drug Report, 2016, p.XV.
34. UNODC, World Drug Report, 2016, p. XV.
For instance, data from the first Nigerian Epidemiological Network on Drug Use (NENDU) 2015 show that 71% of opioid users declared tramadol as the first most frequently used drug. Aside from the increasing role of Africa, including West and Central Africa, as a transit area, the number of past-year users of opiates is estimated at between 0.5 and 1.2 million in West and Central Africa, equivalent to 0.2-0.5% of the population age 15-64.

**Data collection**

The broad ranges for drug use estimates mentioned above are again a consequence of the paucity of data from African countries, which also extends to data from law enforcement authorities. Clearly, one of the key priorities in the region is thus to build data collection and research capacities.

This is confirmed by the inability of countries in West and Central Africa (together with countries in other parts of Africa) to respond to questions in UNODC’s Annual Report Questionnaire on Drugs. This is the case for both drug supply and drug demand related questions. Reported information is largely limited to some drug seizure data and perceived drug use trends.

**Treatment**

There is limited capacity to provide evidence-based drug dependence treatment services for people affected by drug use disorders in West Africa. Health-care systems in the region are overstrained due to outbreaks, epidemics, poverty and weak infrastructure. This may impede attempts to introduce pharmacological drug treatment intervention and limit the availability of drugs for medical purposes. None or very limited services are available in the health care system or through civil society organizations. People with drug use disorders often do not access health services at all or are often only seen at psychiatric wards at a very advanced stage of their disease. Only few countries have specialized drug dependence treatment services. Infrastructure, equipment, supplies, medication, and follow-up schemes are weak or non-existent. Data on treatment provided is often non-existent.

**Access to pain medication (opioids)**

Access to pain medication (opioids) is also extremely limited in the region reflecting both limited health budgets and reluctance of medical doctors and the health authorities to prescribe them, concerned that such medication – given poor controls at the national level and high levels of corruption - could be diverted to illegal markets. This in turn leads to very low consumption forecasts reported to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and subsequently to extremely low imports of such substances into the region.

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36. According to comments from experts in the Experts’ Consultation Meeting, May 2016.
While average legal consumption of opioid analgesics exceeded 30,000 daily defined doses for statistical purposes (S-DDD) per million inhabitants per day in North America over the 2011-2013 period and close to 10,000 S-DDD in West and Central Europe and in the Oceanian region, the African average amounted to less than 30 S-DDD of opioid analgesics per million inhabitants over the 2011-2013 period and – in contrast to other regions – per capita consumption has been even falling from already very low levels (close to 50 S-DDD in Africa over the 2001-2003 period). Levels of less than 200 S-DDD per million inhabitants per day are generally considered to be “inadequate” and levels of less than 100 S-DDD are considered to be “very inadequate”. Several West African countries even show levels of just 10 S-DDD or less. This is clearly below the above mentioned thresholds and even below the very low African average. Consequently, severe pain is often left untreated, although medical professionals could relieve most people of such pain.

2.2.2. HIV and AIDS

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) epidemic among people who inject drugs (PWID) is still on the rise in many parts of the world. UNODC, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank estimate that there were 11.7 million (range: 8.4 million-194 million) people who injected drugs in 2014. Among them, 14 % or 1.6 million people (range: 1.0-3.9 million) are living with HIV. Estimates suggest that 5.4 % of PWID live in Africa. Access to a comprehensive package of HIV prevention, treatment and care services for people who inject drugs and people in prisons is disproportionately low including in the West African region.

Cameroon, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana and Nigeria together contribute to 82% of people newly infected in the region and 78 % of the HIV burden. 52 % of the new infections are from Nigeria. For West and Central African countries with available data, HIV prevalence among PWID is the following: Cameroon (22.2 %) in 2009, Senegal (9.4 %) in 2011, Benin (6.7 %) in 2013, Nigeria (4.2 %) in 2010, Ghana (0.69 %) in 2003, Mali (1.3 %) in 2003, and Togo (0.7 %) in 2003. Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) prevalence among PWID is also high among PWID although data is unavailable for many countries. The prevalence of HCV among PWID in Ghana is 40.1 %. The contribution of new infections is primarily attributed to the key populations including people who use/inject drugs in the community and in prisons.

38. Ibid.
39. Ibid., para 69.
2.3. TERRORISM

Terrorism is one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and poses fundamental challenges to the international community as a whole. In the *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, Member States reaffirmed that “acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening territorial integrity, security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism”.

West African countries are increasingly confronted with serious terrorism threats, most notably from Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) in the Sahel and beyond (for example in Côte d’Ivoire) and Boko Haram, which initially operated in Nigeria and has now spilled over to Cameroon, Chad and Niger. The terrorist threat is constantly evolving and new threats such as foreign terrorist fighters and violent extremism are emerging. These, as well as terrorist financing and the increasing nexus between terrorism and organized crime, generate growing concerns.

While not a new occurrence, the extent of the **Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF)** phenomenon appears unprecedented, prompting the adoption of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. FTFs are individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning, preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict. They pose an immediate threat to countries of destination by providing support to terrorist groups and fuelling conflicts, but also represent a high risk for countries of origin or third countries, through potential terrorist attacks, radicalizing others, recruiting, raising funds and providing training or logistical support. The FTF phenomenon is complex and profiles, motivations, modes of recruitment, types of financing and routes are diverse. West Africa, and particularly the Sahel, already concentrates FTF and has the potential to become a major origin, transit and destination hub for such fighters, as recognized by the authorities of the region during a dedicated conference organized by UNODC in Dakar, Senegal between 29 September and 1 October 2015. The number of FTFs active in the Sahel is difficult to assess but general patterns can be identified.47

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46. UNSC, Resolution 2178 (2014), *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts*, S/RES/2178 (2014), 24 September 2014; Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) calls upon Member States to address this threat by enhancing their cooperation and developing relevant measures to prevent and tackle this phenomenon, including information-sharing; border management to detect travel; as well as the appropriate criminal justice responses.
**Terrorist financing** is also a growing threat in West Africa, characterized by increasing support from international terrorist organizations to West African extremist groups; the use of both legitimate and illegitimate resources and methods to raise funds; and of formal and informal channels to move these funds, taking advantage of the cash-based nature of the region’s economies.\(^48\)

The financing of FTF as defined by Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014) is a source of concern and a challenge for the international community and national authorities of the West African region. The counter-financing of terrorism (CFT) laws, mechanisms and structures established are not fully capable of prohibiting all of the FTF financial support mechanisms envisaged in the UNSC resolution 2178 (2014). Moreover, most counter-terrorism financing regimes were introduced only recently. Institutions, law-enforcement agencies and judicial systems lack the expertise required to fully investigate this relatively new offence.

**Violent extremism** has also evolved and has taken on new forms and capabilities. Extremist groups now occupy large areas of territory in West African countries, have seized and are generating substantial financial resources (e.g. through drug trafficking, smuggling of migrants, kidnappings, illicit trade), are making sophisticated use of social media and communication tools to propagate their messages, disseminate their ideology, and/or incite violence. While far from being its only manifestation, the phenomenon of FTF has given additional impetus and priority to the issue of how to manage violent extremist offenders and prevent radicalization.

In the course of last years, the **number of children** (any person below eighteen years old) **associated with violent extremist groups**,\(^49\) **including terrorist groups,**\(^50\) has also notably increased. Reports indicate that there are thousands of children abducted, recruited, used, or otherwise associated with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups all over the world. In the West Africa region, children **represent a specific target group for the purposes of recruitment.**

Because they are less costly than adult fighters, children represent a crucial resource to ensure the future of the groups, both strategically and ideologically. They are used to assume various roles, such as porters, spies, cooks. Moreover, they are often subject to sexual exploitation, become involved as child soldiers, and are **used as suicide attackers.** Governments of a number of countries, and most notably those affected by the **Boko Haram crisis,** face complex challenges to combine effective prevention and responses to recruitment of children, providing adequate accountability mechanisms to prevent impunity when the perpetrators of crimes are children, and at the same time fulfil the rights of children in contact with the justice system, protecting them from enhanced risks of secondary victimization.

Another worrying trend is the growing **links between organized crime and terrorism.** Security Council resolution 2195 (2014)\(^51\) noted that “terrorists benefit from transnational organized crime in some regions, including from the trafficking of arms, persons, drugs, and artefacts and from the illicit trade in natural resources including gold and other precious metals and stones, minerals, wildlife, charcoal and oil, as well as from kidnapping for ransom and other crimes including extortion and bank robbery”. In May 2015, the Secretary-General stressed “that the impact on international peace and security of terrorists benefiting from transnational organized crime is increasing, since their interactions may enable them to accumulate the financial and political resources to rival sovereign States” while “high levels of violence and crime are undermining the legitimacy of States (understood as both trust in the State and the State’s ability to protect and comply with the rule of law)”.\(^52\)

Terrorists can benefit from TOC in a variety of ways, i.e. “by coercion or taxation, cooperation and direct engagement”.\(^53\) In the Sahel, it has been reported that TOC groups have been paying AQIM to secure the trafficking of goods across the region. Abductions and gender-based violence carried out by Boko Haram is a deliberate tactic to “lure security forces into an ambush, force payment of a ransom or exchange prisoners”.\(^54\) In West Africa, a repeated allegation is that terrorist groups participate in cocaine trafficking, but there is yet limited evidence to support that claim. AQIM is also reported to be involved in informal taxation of smuggled goods in the Sahel in order to finance their activities. Terrorist groups also commit kidnapping with TOC networks support, in exchange for ransom or in order to obtain political concessions.

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\(^{49}\) The term “children associated with violent extremist groups” is used in this to refer to children who are used or exploited to commit or prepare acts of violence, but also, e.g., those used as messengers, spies or for sexual purposes. In line with the *United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG)’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (A/70/674, at para. 2), violent extremism is considered in this proposal “as, and when, conducive to terrorism”.

\(^{50}\) The term “terrorist groups” is used to refer to the entities listed by “the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL (Daesh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee”, formerly known as the “1267/1989Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee”.


\(^{53}\) Ibid.

\(^{54}\) Ibid.
2.4. CORRUPTION

Corruption is highly prevalent in West Africa according to all global, regional and national surveys. A survey by Afrobarometer reveals that in average 53% of citizens interviewed in West Africa consider that their governments handle badly or very badly the fight against corruption. As concerns different government institutions, according to the same survey, 36% of people consider all or most members of government to be corrupt, 44% consider all or most police officers to be corrupt and 34% consider all or most magistrates to be corrupt. In other words, more than one third of the population considers all or most officials involved in the criminal justice chain to be corrupt.

Corruption undermines efforts to combat terrorism, drug trafficking, human trafficking, wildlife and forest crime (WLFC) and other forms of organized crime in the region. Law enforcement entities and judicial systems are regularly subverted by bribery with income generated from these illicit activities. There is an urgent need to increase efforts to strengthen integrity and accountability as part of holistic reform of justice sector institutions. High levels of corruption in the security and defence sectors also explain low morale of ill-equipped ground forces in certain parts of the region. In a number of countries, the recurrent military coups, violent protests, and election violence can be traced back to dissatisfaction over entrenched corruption.

In addition, capacities to prevent corruption need to be strengthened, in particular in the areas of conflict of interest regimes, asset disclosure systems, transparency of public finances as well as engagement with the private sector and civil societies. In implementing relevant measures, States should particularly reflect the outcomes of the UNCAC Implementation Review mechanism.

West Africa is rich in natural resources. Oil has been discovered in recent years in several West African countries, which is both an opportunity and a curse for their development. The scramble for these resources often results in the subversion of good governance and the proliferation of corrupt practices. Populations do not benefit from the exploitation of the natural resources, which breeds discontent and may contribute to mass emigration and the recruitment of young people by terrorist and organized crime networks. In addition, over the years, billions of US dollars have been siphoned off the national economies in West Africa to tax havens, which calls for effective stolen asset recovery policies and strengthening international cooperation to ensure such recovery.

2.5. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

One of the main challenges to fighting organized crime, corruption and terrorism in West Africa has to do with the state of the administration of criminal justice systems. Lack of investment in the sector, political interference in the administration of justice and corruption, are some of the reasons that have progressively undermined the effectiveness of the justice sector in delivering justice to people.

Forensics

At the level of investigations, there is a gaping absence of forensic capability to support the independent investigation of serious crime, often leading law enforcement to rely on confessions and witness testimony that is not always reliable, and may encourage abuse of power.

There is a need to reinforce forensic science capabilities as forensic science makes it possible to analyse new substances while providing objective evidence in support to fair and transparent criminal justice systems. Effective forensic laboratories are central to international cooperation and to evidence-based data exchange, which are essential for the investigation of transnational organized crime cases. To be fully effective in countering transnational crime, law enforcement authorities also require regional coordination, harmonisation of strategies and approaches, and facilitation of operational cooperation on transnational issues. The ECOWAS Commission could play such a coordinating role, yet currently, there is no forensic network in the region.

Data collection

Ability to collect, analyse and preserve data on crimes reported, investigated, prosecuted and adjudicated remains a challenges for many of the countries. Support for building capacity data collection, analysis and maintenance remain a priority for the region.

Access to justice

In most countries in West Africa, access to justice and protection of citizens’ legal rights remain a challenge, particularly to vulnerable individuals including women (in particular circumstances), youth, indigenous people and those living in remote areas. Most systems lack lawyers who provide adequate legal aid. The numbers of practicing lawyers are low in proportion to the overall population and the large majority of these lawyers reside in urban areas, whereas the majority of the population lives in rural or peri-urban areas. Countries with legal aid laws have minimal budget allocations to legal aid and do not have a national strategy on the implementation of legal aid services. Most often, access to legal aid is missing at all stages of the criminal justice process, particularly at police stations and sometimes also in prisons and in lower courts.
Witness protection
Many countries lack specific legislation in the area of witness protection despite the call by several international instruments for States to take necessary measures for effective protection of witnesses against eventual acts of retaliation or intimidation and to re-enforce cooperation in this domain. Even though most countries have some protective measures, they are generally spread in different texts, making their implementation incomplete.

Children in conflict with the law
The treatment of children and young persons in conflict with the law by the justice system is another challenge. The fact that child alleged offenders are often treated similarly to adults under the law of some West African countries, and both adult and juvenile criminal justice systems may frequently use deprivation of liberty as the primary sentencing option, further enhances children’s exposure to violence. The lack of a specialized approach to justice for children, and the disproportionate use of deprivation of liberty may also fail to consider the needs and best interests of children, address the root causes that bring them into conflict with the law, and provide concrete opportunities to improve reintegration. In addition, they may foster backlogging of judicial proceedings, overcrowding of custodial facilities, and, as a consequence, increased costs and undermined effectiveness of the justice system.

Emerging challenges also include the increasing risk of recruitment of children by violent extremist, including terrorist, groups. When abducted, recruited, or otherwise associated with these groups, children become victims of violence at multiple levels. They may be exploited to perpetrate acts of extreme violence, against civilians or in the context of military action, they are subject to sexual exploitation or enslavement, they are used as cooks, porters, and spies. In addition, they face stigmatization and a high risk of becoming victims of violence by communities, law enforcement and military forces, upon return, demobilization or apprehension. Tackling such challenges requires an integrated and multi-layered approach, based on the fulfillment of the rights of the child as defined by the international legal framework.

Violence against children

Violence against children, whether in the family, schools, alternative care and justice institutions, the workplace or the community, is a global challenge, and still affects many countries in the region. Oftentimes, it is implicitly socially condoned and not legally sanctioned, and thus remains frequently invisible, unrecorded, unprosecuted and unpunished. While children in any form of care are vulnerable to violence, this risk is heightened for children in the custody of police or in justice institutions. This is because the institutional treatment of children regarded as being anti-social or criminal is likely to be more physically and psychologically punitive.\(^{58}\)

Violence against women

Violence against women is a challenge for several countries of the region. Women continue to suffer from serious and various forms of gender-based violence for which there is tolerance and acceptance. Only a negligible number of sexual and gender based violence cases are investigated and prosecuted in most criminal systems.

Prison administration

Prisons in most countries still suffer from overcrowding. Prolonged detention is common due to slow processing of caseloads, ineffective or delayed investigations, limited use of pre-trial release, inefficient case management practices, inappropriate sentencing practices and a lack of adequate legal representation and delayed or prolonged trials. Prison conditions generally do not meet minimum standards. No system to evaluate the risk of prisoners and to properly classify them is in place, and there are little to no vocational, educational or rehabilitation activities and programmes to enable meaningful post-release integration of prisoners into society and the labour market. There are also insufficient measures to prevent recidivism, and release programmes are either lacking or under-used. These constitute conditions that create a potential environment for radicalization and recruitment into extremism.

International cooperation in criminal matters

Among countries in the region, there is a high ratification level of the main UN Crime and Corruption Conventions, which contain a strong element of international cooperation. All West African countries have ratified the UNTOC,59 its first Protocol60 and the UNCAC,61 and almost all of them have ratified the two other Protocols supplementing the UNTOC.62 However, many grapple with passing adequate implementing legislation and other measures to operationalise their obligations.

With the implementation of various regional networks like the WACP, the Sahel Platform and the Asset Recovery Interagency Network for West Africa (ARINWA) international cooperation has improved greatly over the past few years. However, a lot still needs to be done to further strengthen capacity with respect to cross-border investigations, prosecution and adjudication of transnational organized crimes, sharing information and data on TOC and expeditious Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) in criminal matters.

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3.1. OBJECTIVES OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME

3.1.1. Enhancing the rule of law and human security in West Africa

The overall objective of this RP is to contribute to enhancing the rule of law and human security in West Africa. The RP provides a strategic framework for UNODC’s work in the region by highlighting a set of priorities and operational responses for the period 2016-2020, while offering sufficient flexibility to adapt to evolving threats and Member States’ specific needs and constraints. The RP articulates on-going and future global, regional and national programming efforts. In addition to ensuring coordination and, whenever possible, synergies between these efforts, it promotes integrated and transnational responses.

3.1.2. Fulfilling UNODC mandate in the region

UNODC Regional Programme is designed to prevent and combat crime, terrorism and health threats and strengthen criminal justice systems in line with international human rights standards. It is also consistent with UNODC’s strategic framework for 2016-2017, the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), which guide UNODC work at the global level. It is also consistent with the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation.

UNODC mandates are grounded in the:

- International drug control conventions (1961, 1971 and 1988);
- United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003);
- International instruments related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism;
- United Nations standards and norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

As the United Nations specialized entity in criminal justice reform and countering organized crime and terrorism, UNODC possesses the technical expertise to address these challenges in a comprehensive and integrated manner. UNODC offers support in the adoption and implementation of international drugs, crime and terrorism conventions and instruments, and direct technical assistance for law enforcement and justice authorities and professionals. As the guardian of the United Nations crime conventions, UNODC focuses on strengthening its partners’ capacities to act in a more effective, efficient, and fair manner, in accordance with international law, standards and norms.

3.1.3. Supporting West African States through partnership with ECOWAS

The RP will continue to support the efforts of the Member States of ECOWAS and Mauritania in addressing TOC, corruption, terrorism and cooperation between regional stakeholders. ECOWAS is a key partner to UNODC in the region, and the RP will reflect common strategic priorities and responses, as defined, in particular, by the ECOWAS Action Plan to Address Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa 2016-2020. The RP will also support relevant initiatives and policy documents adopted by ECOWAS, such as the ECOWAS Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2013).
3.1.4. Supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

A fundamental objective of the RP is to contribute to the implementation of Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Agenda draws together the strands of peace, the rule of law, human rights, development and equality into a comprehensive and forward-looking framework. Reducing conflict, crime, violence and discrimination, and ensuring inclusion and good governance, are key elements of people’s well-being and essential for securing sustainable development. This new global agenda assigns to the United Nations system a key role based on a culture of shared responsibilities, collective action and benchmarking for progress. Almost all of UNODC’s mandates reflect universal aspirations embedded within the SDGs, and UNODC has the technical expertise and experience in capacity-building in the region to support Member States in reaching those goals, namely:

- **Goal 3**: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;
- **Goal 5**: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;
- **Goal 8**: Promote Sustained, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth, Full and Productive Employment and Decent Work for All;
- **Goal 11**: Make Cities Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable;
- **Goal 14**: Conserve and Sustainably Use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development;
- **Goal 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;
- **Goal 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;
- **Goal 17**: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Goal 16 is of particular importance to UNODC as it ensures that the rule of law, peace and security are included in the new global agenda. UNODC will contribute to ensure that all global norms and standards (i.e. UNTOC, UNCAC, drug conventions, UN standards and norms on criminal justice and crime prevention, as well as the legal instruments against terrorism) are effectively reflected in national and regional agendas, as this is a key post-2015 challenge.

Equally, UNODC’s work on drugs and health is inextricably linked to multiple Targets of Goal 3. The Office has an existing mandate on a number of fronts, including supporting a balanced public health-oriented approach to the drug problem by working to end discrimination against, and promote interventions for, people who use drugs and strengthening the access to comprehensive, evidence-based, and gender-responsive services for prevention of drug use and treatment of substance use disorders, including as an alternative to imprisonment. UNODC is also mandated to provide HIV prevention, treatment and care among people who use drugs and in prisons.

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UNG A, Resolution 70/1, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A/RES/70/1, 25 September 2015.
Consequently, in the context of SDGs, the RP will mainstream crime and drug control in the development agenda, strengthen the policy dialogue with national and regional stakeholders in promoting the rule of law to combat transnational organized crime and terrorism, improve the dialogue and cooperation with civil society, and support “knowledge networks” across the region.

In line with the SDGs, major topics under the RP will also include the tackling of corruption and money-laundering at all levels, as these hinder economic development and facilitate the financing of terrorism; the improvement of prison management and respect for human rights therein to prevent them from becoming grounds for radicalization and extremism; and the fight against trafficking of human beings, drugs, arms and cultural property. Further focus will be on eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls, including trafficking, sexual exploitation and other types of exploitation.

3.2. STRATEGIC APPROACH

The RP reflects UNODC’s Integrated Programming Approach (IPA), which aims to improve effectiveness of interventions and incorporate the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005), the Accra Agenda for Action (2008) and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2011)65 into UNODC programming with the view to obtain:

- An integrated programme ownership by Member States;
- Five types of interventions/cross-cutting themes approach;
- Synchronization of action with national and regional policies and priorities; and
- Better coordination with donors and partners.

The international community’s response to the challenges and threats in the region has not been as effective as it could have been, often due to the silo-ed treatment of the various types of organized crime, terrorism, drug use and the HIV and AIDS epidemic as unrelated topics. There are cross-cutting issues that underpin these challenges, such as weak rule of law, weak criminal justice systems, corruption and illicit financial flows. UNODC’s capacity to combat corruption and to strengthen countries’ justice systems are key features in the fight against TOC, the prevention of terrorism and addressing the health risks and needs of people who use drugs and the ones in prison. UNODC is in the unique position to address such issues holistically, identifying links between such threats and by developing programme responses emphasizing synergies. This approach has been at the core, in particular, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2009;66 as well as resolution 2195 (2014) on terrorists benefitting from TOC.67 The RP thus follows an integrated approach, designed to minimize the silo-ing of programming in the region by providing a flexible framework under which synergies can be distinctly captured and addressed. A variety of synergies exist between the sub-programmes of the RP; for example, between terrorism and TOC; between maritime and wildlife crimes (including fisheries); between corruption and law enforcement trainings; between illicit financial flows and terrorism prevention. One of the main objectives of the RP is to mainstream key cross-cutting issues into the relevant sub-programmes, including strengthening anti-corruption frameworks and capacities in other UNODC mandate areas.

UNODC’s assistance within the RP relies on five major types of interventions/cross-cutting themes that are linked to each other and will be carried out under each of the five thematic pillars. In order to allow increased understanding of how criminal networks operate and overlap, UNODC requires capacity to provide research and analytical support to all thematic pillars. This will ensure that UNODC interventions within all the pillars, mainly through legislative assistance, technical assistance and capacity-building in the region, are based on evidence gathered through previous and fundamental assessments in order to be fully effective. Furthermore, to ensure the efficiency of the pillars’ different outcomes, UNODC will continue supporting and promoting the development of regional and international cooperation between all the different State actors involved in addressing illicit trafficking and transnational organized crime, which is the key to the success of the RP, while involving civil society actors when applicable and relevant.

65 Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-Operation, adopted at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Busan, Republic of Korea, 29 November-1 December 2011.


In addition, objectives in the region are achieved through synergy between infra-regional and interregional interventions, and multi-country and country-level activities. The RP builds on the strength of global programmes and complement this work regionally. The RP emphasizes the added value of UNODC at a multi-country level. UNODC, through its Regional Office and network of field offices in the region, has the capacity to respond to transnational threats with a flexible approach that includes national, cross-border, sub-regional and regional solutions. UNODC has a well-established experience as the facilitator of sub-regional and regional cooperation initiatives in West Africa (see the five types of interventions below). The Office supports the establishment and activities of a number of regional and sub-regional cooperation networks, such as WACAP, the Sahel Platform, and the Security Cooperation Platform of the G5 Sahel (Plateforme de Coopération en Matière de Sécurité du G5 Sahel - PCMS), ARINWA and NACIWA. It also promotes regional and interregional cooperation between law enforcement agencies (LEAs) under the West Africa Coast Initiative (WACI), the CCP, the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP) or the Sahel Programme.

While promoting multi-country responses, UNODC continues to consider national initiatives, as the building blocks to effective international cooperation, to be important cornerstone of its programmatic approach. The country-level programming approach followed under the previous RP, which aimed at building comprehensive National Integrated Programmes (NIPs) in every participating State, proved over-ambitious and ill-suited to most donors’ preference for multi-country and theme-specific interventions, as well as to some of the governments’ strategic approach to addressing TOC. The RP will therefore adopt a more flexible approach to country-level programming, supporting the implementation of NIPs only where relevant and possible.

UNODC’s partnership with the African Union (AU) will also continue to inform the RP. The priorities pursued by the AU in its Plan of Action on Drug Control (2013-2017), its efforts in the areas of corruption, firearms trafficking, border control and maritime security, as well as, more broadly, under its Agenda 2063, will be reflected, where relevant, in the RP.

Lastly, initiatives under the RP build upon UNODC’s core competencies and areas of expertise, and a conscious effort will be made to maintain strong partnerships with other UN agencies, international organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to complement work and divide tasks, aiming at efficient funds utilization.

3.3. HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING

One of the findings of the evaluation of the previous RP was that UNODC should integrate more effectively human rights and gender in its objectives and activities. This was taken into account in the planning of the RP’s logframe and of specific activities.

3.3.1. Human rights

Human rights are at the core of all work of the United Nations system and – together with peace, security and development – represent one of the three interlinked and mutually-reinforcing pillars of the United Nations as enshrined in its Charter. UNODC is in a unique position to work across all three pillars in its efforts against crime, drugs and terrorism and in supporting Member States establishing a safe society founded on the rule of law. In this regard, CND Resolution 51/12 reaffirmed the importance of countering the world drug problem in a multilateral setting with full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms.68

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68 CND, Resolution 51/12, Strengthening cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities for the promotion of human rights in the implementation of the international drug control treaties, 2008.
UNODC’s assistance is based on the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, and preventing HIV and drug use which provide a collective vision of how criminal justice systems should be structured and help to significantly promote more effective and fair criminal justice structures.

The standards include the following:

- Standards and norms related primarily to persons in custody, non-custodial sanctions, child justice and restorative justice;
- Standards and norms related primarily to legal, institutional and practical arrangements for international cooperation;
- Standards and norms related primarily to crime prevention and victim issues;
- Standard and norms related primarily to good governance, the independence of the judiciary and the integrity of criminal justice personnel.

With its expertise in the areas of the rule of law, crime prevention, criminal justice and security sector reform, as well as drug prevention, treatment and care, UNODC has the potential to significantly contribute to promoting human rights in criminal justice systems. The Position Paper on UNODC and the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights will continue to provide guidance on how human rights are further integrated into the work of UNODC.

In line with its position paper, UNODC requires that its partners in implementing the RP, including in particular national counterparts and civil society organizations also promote human rights principles. This is reflected in the RP’s logframe, in particular in outcomes related to capacity-building of national authorities.

Particular attention will be given to the United Nations system-wide policy Human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security force. The policy provides that the risks of the recipient entity of UN support committing grave violations of international humanitarian, human rights or refugee law should be assessed and mitigated, in consultation with national authorities. This may include training of relevant professionals on human rights issues, including “training of trainers”.

In addition, the focus on supporting the implementation of SDGs and measuring progress through specific indicators, will allow showing the impact of UNODC’s interventions on the promotion of human rights already mainstreamed in the relevant SDGs (and in particular SDG 16).
### 3.3.2. Gender

Gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched in every society and in many areas of the world. To date, 189 countries have ratified the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*[^69], signalling their commitment to implementing a human rights-based response to the benefit of women and girls. Yet, all too often women are denied control over their bodies, denied a voice in decision-making, and denied protection from violence. Furthermore, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security acknowledges the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls. It calls for the adoption of a gender perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls during conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction.

UNODC’s assistance will be based on relevant international standards and norms, including the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, the updated *Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*, the *UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders* (*Bangkok Rules*) and relevant Crime Commission resolutions, and the *Guidance Note for UNODC Staff on Gender mainstreaming in the work of UNODC*.

UNODC projects and activities under all pillars will apply a gender-sensitive and gender-responsive approach. This includes for example activities to provide access to legal aid; treatment of women offenders and women in prisons (Pillar I); capacity-building on protection of and assistance to victims of trafficking in persons (Pillar II); support to women drug users; HIV and drug use related interventions to women living in closed settings (Pillar V). In the context of counter-terrorism efforts (Pillar III), all capacity-building activities are designed in line with human rights principles, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions. Data collection and proposed activities will look at gender differences in relevant areas of work, such as the impact of corruption on women (Pillar IV). Partnerships with civil society will be developed and strengthened (in line with UNODC and national rules and regulations) so as to raise awareness of these issues.

In addition, UNODC will strive to not only consider gender mainstreaming in the context of obtaining equal participation of men and women in training activities, but to also counter persisting stereotypes and to ensure the application of international best practices by national institutions. Further consideration will be given to the removal of obstacles to secure equal access of men and women to UNODC activities and encouraging national authorities to take active measures to increase the number of women professionals among all criminal justice agencies.

STRUCTURE AND SCOPE
OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME
4.1. OVERALL STRUCTURE

The previous RP was based on four broad pillars mixing thematic (I-Combating Organized Crime, Illicit Trafficking and Terrorism; II-Building Justice and Integrity; III-Improving Drug Prevention and Health) and methodological objectives (IV-Promoting Awareness and Research). One of the findings of its evaluation was that “the RP, while keeping a structure based on thematic sub-programmes, should also place more emphasis on regional and integrated interventions, in line with the approach followed under the Sahel Programme and WACI”.

The architecture of the current RP is therefore structured around five thematic pillars describing the outcomes the Office is intending to produce (WHAT) concerning the different main threats in the region, as well as five types of interventions, setting out the methodology that is used for this purpose (HOW).

The five pillars of the RP mirror the five thematic areas of UNODC Strategic Framework for 2016-2017 and 2018-2019 so as to enable coordinated implementation of and reporting on mandates:

1. Strengthening criminal justice systems
2. Preventing and countering transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking
3. Preventing and countering terrorism
4. Preventing and countering corruption
5. Improving drug and HIV prevention, treatment and care

In addition to the five thematic pillars, the RP also highlights five cross-cutting themes which are relevant for the five pillars.

- Research and trend analysis
- Legislative assistance
- Capacity-building
- Regional and international cooperation
- Engagement of civil society and the general public

Activities to be carried out present a combination of the two: under each pillar all types of activities will be conducted, although not necessarily under each of the outcomes.

4.2. CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

The RP is based on five cross-cutting themes, or interventions, which are relevant for each of the five pillars and are interlinked: data collection and research inform interventions such as legislative reform, policy advice and capacity-building. Regional and international cooperation is required under all pillars and should include capacity-building of those involved. Ensuring public engagement and civil society involvement is key to strengthening rule of law and may inform data collection efforts.

4.2.1. Research and trend analysis

UNODC is a knowledge-based organisation whose policies, achievements and outcomes are a direct function of the research-based knowledge which it is able to obtain and, subsequently, to massage in order to provide added value. In turn, added-value knowledge is the foundation from which effective policy, evidence-based decisions, and strategic responses may be conceived and implemented as a means to counter national and regional security threats emanating from illicit activity, the pernicious impact of which on stability, governance, security, public health and human rights in the sub-region is well acknowledged.
Accurate data collection is the backbone of research and essential to its integrity: the selection of appropriate data collection instruments and well-conceived instructions for appropriate discharge reduce the risk of distorted or of misleading research. In the sub-region, competent data collection and research methodologies remain ineffectual and inefficient and thus hinder proactive development and the implementation of prudent response mechanisms required to combat security threats. Hard data on crime-related issues, both direct (such as drug trafficking) and indirect (such as drug consumption) is lacking. Comprehensive analytical studies on the profile of organized criminal groups involved in illicit trafficking, on their modus operandi and on their routes used is limited, though improving, as is information on the connection between organized crime and terrorism. These shortcomings are the result of several factors: deficits of capacity and of infrastructure; corruption; structural and functional flaws of social institutions, inter alia, which impede jointly and severally the generation, the management, the analysis and the reporting of data. The paucity of hard data on drug- and crime-related issues has a particularly devastating impact on the capability of the many fragile States in the region to respond effectively.

The importance of data collection and research is also evident with respect to the SDGs. Each indicator of the SDGs requires the provision of accurate data in order to facilitate evidence-based policy responses. As example, the attainability of Target 16.5 of substantially reducing corruption and bribery in all forms cannot be evaluated without comparative statistical measures. With respect to the SDG “bribery,” a sub-measurement differentiating gender not only provides an informative base, but also is supportive of the United Nation’s emphasis on gender equality and on human rights. Furthermore, to undertake statistical research beyond the reach of RP Member State organisms, UNODC contemplates entering into constructive partnerships with institutions such as universities and dedicated civil society organisations which are capable of providing or abetting the collection of such statistical measures (beyond the on-going engagement with national statistical agencies).

In the past, UNODC produced a number of studies, statistical exercises and surveys on West Africa with support from a dedicated research team based in Dakar. Research outputs associated with West Africa have typically contributed to the World Drug Reports, regional assessments in support of UNODC’s Regional Programme development such as Transnational Organized Crime in West Africa: A Threat Assessment (2013), The role of organized crime in the smuggling of migrants from West Africa to the European Union (2011), thematic studies such as The Global Report on trafficking in Persons (2014) or research outputs under the Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime. Assistance was also provided to build the capacities of West African countries to conduct research and analysis on drugs and crime in the region, which has resulted in improved contributions from the region to the annual questionnaires submitted by UNODC.

Efforts are also under way from the side of the UNODC-WHO Programme on Drug Dependence Treatment and care to support Member States in their efforts to set up national drug information systems. Senegal finalized its first annual report on 2015. UNODC and WHO also jointly developed a facility survey to be used for additional mapping and data collection at the level of treatment services, which is piloted also in the region (e.g. Côte d’Ivoire). In addition the first report of the pilot Nigerian Epidemiological Network on Drug Use was finalized in 2015.

One of the findings of the evaluation of the previous RP was that data research and analysis capability should be a priority so as to feed in governments and donors with evidence-based information as well as creating a good understanding of the root causes of problems. In its effort to counter negative impacts such as paucity of hard data, corruption and structural weakness, UNODC will assist Member States to improve their capacity to generate, to obtain, and to manage information, as well to produce evidence-based analytical reports in order to foment appropriate policy design and implementation at the national and regional levels. Such assistance entails the development of information-sharing techniques and concepts to encourage countries to increase and to strengthen information sharing in order to enhance the efficiency and the effectiveness of LEAs dealing with organized crime-related issues. Hence, UNODC will undertake research and trend analysis specific to each of the five thematic pillars and thereby provide to relevant stakeholders the basis for informed strategic operations, policy and decision making. UNODC will also support the development of national and regional capacities to produce, to disseminate and to analyse drug- and organized crime-related data and statistics.
In line with the structure of the RP and the UNODC thematic Programme on research, trend analysis and forensics (2015-2016), UNODC will undertake research and trend analysis in relation to each of the five thematic pillars, and disseminate the results, in order to provide relevant stakeholders with evidences for informed strategic operations, policy and decision making. UNODC will also support the development of national capacities to produce, disseminate and analyse drug and organized crime data and statistics, and provide expert advice to drug-testing laboratories and forensic institutions. Particular efforts will be devoted to supporting countries’ capacities to monitor targets of SDGs in line with the new monitoring framework that will be adopted internationally.

UNODC will continue to conduct research on the evolution of transnational criminal threats and to develop or support threat assessments and analysis, combining quantitative and qualitative information, to assist Member States in the region to identify trends, emerging issues and priorities. Outputs and products of research conducted under the RP will vary depending on emerging programme priorities and requests from Members States in the region.

4.2.2. Legislative assistance

As the custodian of the international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, UNODC recorded significant progress in supporting West African States in enhancing their national legislative frameworks in these areas.

All 16 countries covered by the Regional Programme have ratified the UNTOC, its First Protocol on trafficking in persons and the UNCAC. The Second Protocol supplementing the UNTOC on smuggling of migrants has been ratified by all, except for Côte d’Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau and the third one supplementing the UNTOC on firearms trafficking has not been ratified by Gambia, Guinea and Niger.

UNODC supported countries in ensuring consistency between the international instruments and the relevant national legislation. Among many examples, in Mali, UNODC prepared draft laws, at the request of and for the consideration of the Government, in the areas of terrorism prevention and the fight against TOC, including drug trafficking; in Burkina Faso, support was provided to update the law governing the “Autorité supérieure de contrôle d’État” (ASCE) in order to make it more independent and effective; in Nigeria, the civil aviation legislation was brought into compliance with the relevant international instruments on terrorism prevention; and in Mauritania, a new and improved law on legal aid allowing better access to justice for its citizens was adopted with support from UNODC.
UNODC will support the drafting of new legislation and/or the revision of existing legislation to align national legal frameworks with relevant international conventions and standards related to each of the five thematic pillars, and for the implementation of the enacted legislation through necessary measures. As highlighted by national experts during the Experts’ Consultation Meeting, such legislative assistance should be comprehensive and coherent across the thematic pillars. It should also take into account the relevant human rights principles as reflected in the UN standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice and other relevant principles.

4.2.3. Capacity-building

UNODC will support the establishment and strengthening of skilled, well-trained and well-equipped national counterparts working on issues related to each of the five thematic pillars. This includes the preparation and harmonization of training curricula and related tools, training through formal workshops and operational exercises, on-the-job mentoring, study visits, computer-based-training and training of trainers. In addition, follow-up surveys collecting information on operationalization of knowledge will be conducted and agreements with national counterparts will be sought to ensure that recipients of trainings remain on the job, in order to increase the effectiveness of the interventions proposed.

This approach is in line with the findings of the previous RP evaluation, requiring that “mentoring activities should become more systematic, even if this is detrimental to the quantity of activities carried out, and would require increased “training of trainers” capacity-building.” It was also confirmed during the Consultation Meeting, where national experts proposed different approaches to ensuring the use of knowledge acquired.

4.2.4. Regional and international cooperation

One of the findings of the evaluation of the previous RP was that “the RP, while keeping a structure based on thematic sub-programmes, should also place more emphasis on regional and integrated interventions, in line with the approach followed under the Sahel Programme and WACT”.

A fundamental cross-cutting objective under the previous RP was to promote regional cooperation between national players involved in addressing TOC and terrorism. UNODC supported the creation of regional platforms for this purpose:
• The West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors against Organized Crime (WACAP), launched in May 2013, is a platform to build the capacity of judges and prosecutors to address organized and serious crime, including justice sector responses to terrorism. It also facilitates international legal assistance at the regional and interregional levels. Focal points include all 15 ECOWAS countries plus Mauritania and Chad as observers. The ECOWAS Commission and the ECOWAS Court of Justice are important stakeholders;

• The Regional Judicial Cooperation Platform for the Sahel countries (Sahel Platform) was created in June 2010. The Platform brings together national focal points from Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal and further supports sub-regional cooperation in the areas of counter-organized crime and terrorism prevention. Furthermore, in 2015, UNODC supported the development of the PCMS to enhance cooperation on the field of security between the G5 Sahel;

• The Asset Recovery Interagency Network for West Africa (ARINWA) was launched in November 2014. Drawing on the experiences from the Camden Asset Recovery Interagency Network (CARIN) and the Asset Recovery Interagency Network for Southern Africa (ARINSA), ARINWA provides policy guidance and training on asset forfeiture, encourages exchanges of best practices and facilitates operational cooperation;

• The Network of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa (NACIWA) was created in 2010 in order to promote coordination and cooperation between anti-corruption authorities in West Africa.

In 2015, UNODC held a joint meeting of the WACAP, ARINWA and the Sahel Platform in Abuja, Nigeria from 5 to 8 October 2015. The meeting was organized in cooperation with the Office of the Attorney General and in particular, with the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Office of International Affairs. International cooperation in criminal matters, as well as law enforcement cooperation was identified as an area of priority for the region to effectively respond to emerging threats, during the Consultation Meeting.

UNODC will continue to foster regional and international cooperation not only in the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism but also in the prevention and treatment of drug use and HIV. This will include support to law-enforcement initiatives (as WACI, CCP and AIRCOP), judicial cooperation initiatives (as the Sahel Platform and the WACAP) and other networks of practitioners (as NACIWA and ARINWA). It may also include a Platform for Border Units, for capacity-building, expanding and building on existing successful initiatives.
Due linkages will also be ensured with other regions when relevant, for example with Northern Africa on issues related to the Sahel (drug trafficking, corruption, terrorism and TIPSOM), Central Africa on wildlife and forest crime or with Latin America and the Caribbean concerning drug trafficking. The RP will also aim to better coordinate and streamline the activities of these initiatives and networks to ensure synergies between them and greater impact.

4.2.5. Engagement of civil society and the general public

One of the findings of the previous RP’s evaluation was that “UNODC’s image would be greatly enhanced by engaging more with the civil society and supporting regional collaboration between the civil society and governments.” Such collaboration is also needed in raising awareness about the complex issues brought by the main existing threats in West Africa as TOC, corruption and drug use disorders undermine the fabric of society.

In this respect, UNODC will seek key partnerships with CSOs not only to disseminate advocacy-related information to the communities, but also to draw from their wealth of knowledge and expertise about realities on the ground. This will also allow to build on their potential strength in aspects of practical service delivery (e.g. in the area of prevention and treatment of drug use disorders). In addition, UNODC will continue to work with civil society in order to assist and support victims of crime (for example victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants). In the Experts’ Consultation Meeting, it was mentioned that proper mapping of relevant CSOs is an important element of designing interventions that involve CSOs. While most of the relevant civil society actors in the region are known to UNODC, it will verify they have the appropriate experience and capacity, in line with its internal rules.
THE FIVE THEMATIC PILLARS
Under the five thematic pillars of the RP, and in line with the services it provides under cross-cutting themes, UNODC will seek to assist Member States to enhance and better coordinate their national and regional actions in order to strengthen their criminal justice systems, effectively prevent and tackle transnational organized crime, terrorism and corruption and develop and improve their drug prevention, dependence treatment and care services.

V. THE FIVE THEMATIC PILLARS

PILLAR I – STRENGTHENING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

Pillar I mainly supports Goal 16 of the SDGs. It will, in particular, contribute to the reduction of violence and deaths of persons in police custody and in prisons through improved prisons management (Target 16.1), promote the rule of law at the national level through its mainstreaming in all activities (Target 16.3), and assist to put in place mechanisms to encourage transparency and accountability in the relevant institutions (Target 16.6). All have a direct influence on promotion, respect and fulfilment of human rights in the criminal justice systems.

Under Pillar I, UNODC will continue to facilitate data collection on the incidence of reported crime and the operation of criminal justice systems, in the framework of the United Nations Surveys on Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS).70 Survey results provide an overview of trends and interrelationships between various parts of the criminal justice system, by investigating access to justice, the efficiency of the criminal justice system, as well as prison conditions, in an effort to promote informed decision-making in administration, both nationally and internationally. This data collection will feed into research products published by UNODC, at national, regional and global levels, and inform the national and regional counterparts of the latest trends as pertaining to reported crime. Under the aegis of the RP, UNODC will also help facilitate the implementation of the recently launched international classification of crimes for statistical purposes.

The data gathered will be used to inform interventions in administration of criminal justice in the region. Interventions will be planned and implemented in close collaboration with the stakeholders in the countries to ensure greater impact, and include legislative reform, training and mentorships, design and development of strategies and policies for reform and facilitation of law enforcement and judicial cooperation.

UNODC provides scientific advice and support to implement national, regional and international activities. Scientific support is provided for a number of different purposes, from developing capacity and enhancing performance of national laboratories, developing standards and laboratory working procedures to ensuring that scientific findings are followed up and used effectively for operational purposes (in support of the criminal justice system, regulatory and health authorities, and law enforcement activities), and for trend analysis and policy development.

A large part of the support to be provided to West African States is linked to increasing the reliance on forensic science-based evidence rather than only relying on confessions for prosecution. Support will be provided in terms of training, mentoring, equipment and supplies in order to improve professionalism and the quality of analyses and services, on the basis of internationally accepted standards. This is an important activity also in terms of its human rights’ impact. Reducing reliance on confession reduces the occurrence of coerced confessions and abuse of power by law enforcement agencies. Support will also aim to ensure that forensic science services, data and information are progressively used for evidence-based operational purposes, strategic interventions, and policy and decision-making.

In addition, support will be provided to encourage inter-regional and global collaboration through the development of a regional network of forensic providers and links with other regional networks.

UNODC support in the area of forensic services will focus on the following aspects:

- Enhancing the availability and relevance of forensic best practices
- Strengthening the scientific and forensics capacities
- Improving the use of forensics for evidenced-based operational activities

A well-trained LEA which operates within the rule of law is the building block in the fight against serious organized crime. There is, in West Africa, an immediate need for reform and training of the various LEAs (including drug enforcement agencies) to improve compliance with the rule of law. This will involve programmes targeting the improvement of the integrity of agencies, strengthening technical capacities, and human rights training. This in turn will assist in strengthening public confidence in those agencies. Adequate resources and adequate working conditions are obviously an important element of strengthening these agencies, and UNODC will engage with governments in the region to encourage them to dedicate adequate resources, UNODC will also engage with the donor community.

Working with relevant partners such as INTERPOL and regional bodies as the ECOWAS Inter-Ministerial Drug Control Coordination Committee and relevant national institutions, UNODC plans the following activities:

- Conducting training programmes
- Assisting in putting in place mechanisms for accurate data collection
- Assisting in the introduction of legislative changes, as necessary
- Facilitating closer coordination with prosecutors in the fight against organized crime while ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights

Outcome 1:
National authorities more effectively use integrated and sustainable forensic services to support the criminal justice chain

Outcome 2:
National authorities improve technical capacities of law enforcement agencies to respond to the challenges of organized crime and terrorism (including through regional cooperation) in line with human rights principles and UN standards
In furtherance of the UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice as well as the expressed needs of Member States, UNODC will continue to support the States of West Africa in building criminal justice institutions that are better placed to meet the challenges of organized crime and terrorism in a fair, humane and accountable manner.

UNODC’s intervention will include assisting in the drafting or review of legislation, putting in place national strategies and training of officials involved in the administration of criminal justice.

UNODC has supported the Liberia’s Public Defence Office, since its establishment, to provide quality criminal defence to indigent Liberians, through training, development of practice manuals and provision of computers and internet services. UNODC will continue to support the Office and seek to replicate this model where appropriate in other countries. The Office will also continue and expand its assistance to the Sahel countries to have a comprehensive legal aid regime, building on lessons learned and promising practices from the region (e.g. “maisons de justice”). UNODC will also seek to encourage and assist States to make use of the UNODC model law on access to legal aid developed in 2015, and the relevant standards and norms in this area.

Most countries in West Africa do not have witness protection and victims’ support regimes. This in turn can and does affect the willingness and capacity of witnesses of serious organized crime and terrorism to cooperate with the criminal justice officials. In the Sahel, UNODC has started assisting countries to put in place strategies and legislation for the protection of victims and witnesses of crime. The RP will seek to extend this assistance to all the countries in the region.

Prosecutors and judges are at the forefront of the fight against organized crime and terrorism. Their training needs to be pursued in order to ensure more effective prosecution and adjudication of these serious crimes. In addition to capacity-building, UNODC will seek to assist in the development of legislation and measures to promote their independence, accountability and integrity. UNODC will also help the administration of these institutions put in place mechanisms for accurate data collection. This outcome will contribute to the promotion of respect for the rule of law, ensure equal access to justice, and assist in building accountable and transparent prosecutorial and adjudicatory systems and overall help to bring stronger and more effective criminal justice institutions.

Therefore, UNODC will prioritize interventions in the following areas of work:

- Improving access to justice, in particular strengthen access to legal aid
- Reinforcing witness protection and victims support, including protection for whistleblowers
- Enhancing capacity-building for prosecutors and judges

ROSEN has been in the forefront of assisting countries in the region to reform prison systems in order to deal with chronic overcrowding and poor facilities. However, a lot remains to be done in this area and the challenges continue to grow, including with the increasing numbers of persons who are arrested for acts of terrorism, perpetrated by Boko Haram and other terrorist groups.

On the basis of the relevant standards and norms, and in particular the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), UNODC will continue to provide support to reform prison management, reduce the use of imprisonment where alternatives are more appropriate, and ensure that the special needs of women prisoners are met.

Prison management will be improved through improving data management and training of prison staff. Reducing prison overcrowding will be achieved through putting in place alternatives to imprisonment and encouraging their use. Vocational training and education in prisons will be among measures for rehabilitation and reintegration.
This includes the following interventions:

- Legislative review as necessary in all areas below
- Improving data management in prisons
- Training of prison management and staff (on issues such as Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), regulations, dynamic security and prison intelligence, evaluation and classification of prisoners)
- Establishment of social reintegration and rehabilitation programmes
- Introduction and enhanced application of alternatives to imprisonment
- Reducing overcrowding
- Improving treatment of women offenders

In order to ensure compliance of countries in the region with accepted international standards and norms on justice for children, significant changes in domestic law and institutional arrangements will be required. UNODC will support review of existing criminal laws affecting children, propose reform and conduct training of actors in the criminal justice chain. In addition, effective implementation requires States to design a wide range of policies, rules, and procedures. Many countries do not possess the required expertise or such expertise is only available at high cost. Technical assistance may therefore focus on providing long-term advice and expertise to support the development and implementation of such policies, rules, and procedures.

To apply these policies and rules, countries will need to build a body of highly skilled practitioners. The required skill-sets range from the development and strategic planning of violence prevention and child justice policies to the investigation, control and punishment of violence against children in full respect of rule of law principles and child rights standards, the evaluation and strengthening of institutions and public service management. Assistance will focus on strengthening the capacity of practitioners on these issues, including the development of training curricula, training manuals, training of trainers and the design of cost effective methods and tools for the conduct of training activities.

A general challenge faced by many States is the lack of adequate coordination, communication and cooperation between different institutions, including those in charge of child protection, justice and health. This leads to delays in the processing of cases, not only for children in conflict with the law, but also for child victims and witnesses of crime. Both groups of children might be experiencing prolonged trauma as a result of protracted proceedings. Extensive multi-agency and cross-level cooperation between different sectors, such as justice, social welfare, health, and education, and possibilities for coordinated case management will be promoted.

A particular priority area would be improving prevention and responses to violence against children.

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Ensuring that a fair criminal justice system for children is in place is particularly relevant for countries in the region, considering reports of the growing involvement of children in cases of terrorism and organized crime.

Technical assistance will focus on preventing and responding to recruitment and violence against children associated with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, while ensuring adequate accountability for the offences that they may have committed. At a time when various States are undergoing legislative reforms in the field of national security to ensure prevention and effective prosecution of terrorism-related acts, technical assistance and advice will be provided to ensure that the rights of children, whether as victims and witnesses, or as alleged offenders, are duly taken into account. Particular attention will be given to the specific needs of girls associated to violent extremist and terrorist groups.

In addition, UNODC would support specialized capacity-building of practitioners, strengthen the institutional framework; and pilot specific programmes aimed at the reintegration of children allegedly involved in terrorism-related activities, with special attention to the needs of girls associated to violent extremist and terrorist groups.

Following legislative reform, technical assistance may therefore focus on:

- Providing long-term advice and expertise to support the development and implementation of such policies, rules, and procedures
- Strengthening the capacity of practitioners on the key issues
- Promoting multi-agency and cross-level cooperation between different sectors
- Promoting coordinated case management
- Supporting the adoption of operational measures to implement international standards and norms relating to justice for children

Outcome 6:
National authorities and practitioners enhance capacities to deal with children associated to violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, and prevent their recruitment, in accordance with the international legal framework.

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In addition, UNODC would support specialized capacity-building of practitioners, strengthen the institutional framework; and pilot specific programmes aimed at the reintegration of children allegedly involved in terrorism-related offenses. A specific focus on the treatment of child alleged offenders, and children deprived of liberty, regardless of the type of offence, is also considered essential for the purposes of tertiary prevention. The outcome will contribute also to the objectives of Pillar III on preventing violent extremism and terrorism, and its implementation will rely on the support from the Justice Section and the Terrorism Prevention Branch.

This shall include:

- Supporting legislative review to ensure that the rights of children are duly taken into account
- Supporting specialized capacity-building of practitioners
- Strengthening institutional frameworks
- Improving treatment of alleged child offenders, especially those deprived of their liberty
- Supporting reintegration of children allegedly involved in terrorism related activities, with special attention to the needs of girls associated to violent extremist and terrorist groups
PILLAR II – PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

Pillar II supports Goal 16 of the SDGs. It will, in particular, contribute to the reduction of “all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere” (Target 16.1), while also aiming at reducing the “illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime” (Target 16.4), and “develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels” (Target 16.6). Goal 15 will also be supported by the Pillar in order to assist Members States to “take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products” (Target 15.7).

The SDGs also include several specific targets, under Goals 5, 8, 10 and 16 that are directly linked to preventing and combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. These targets include among others the aims to “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” (Target 5.2); to “take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking…”(Target 8.7); “protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers…”(Target 8.8); to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies” (Target 10.7); and to “end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children” (Target 16.2).

As mentioned, most of the States in the region are parties to the main international instruments on organized crime and illicit trafficking, but lack the capacity for their meaningful implementation. Under the previous Subprogramme 1, a number of national, regional and global initiatives contributed to support West Africa in addressing organized crime, illicit trafficking and terrorism. Under WACI, fully operational Transnational Crime Units (TCUs) were established in Liberia and Sierra Leone, where, despite the implementation challenges caused by the Ebola outbreak, encouraging results in terms of arrests, convictions and seizures of drugs were achieved, including as a result of joint operations. Preparatory steps towards the establishment of TCUs were taken in Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau. Progress was also achieved in addressing illicit drug trafficking.73

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73 UNODC, Enhancing international cooperation to strengthen efforts in West Africa to counter illicit drug trafficking, E/CN.7/2015/11, 16 December 2014.
UNODC will continue to facilitate data collection and analysis on trends and developments pertaining to illicit drug production, trafficking and use in the region with a view to strengthen the knowledge base of national and regional counterparts in West Africa. This includes efforts to encourage comprehensive responses to data collection tools such as the Annual Reports Questionnaire, which contributes in particular to the annual World Drug Report. Other UNODC research activities focus on specific drug type and/or have a specific geographical scope (such as West Africa). In the field of synthetic drugs for example, UNODC publishes a triennial global report covering trends and patterns of ATS and new psychoactive substances, complemented by reports on priority regions, including on West Africa in 2012. Similar focus on the region is also visible in the recent report Afghan opiate trafficking through the southern route.

UNODC will also support the Member States enhancing the capacities of their law enforcement entities to better prevent and address transnational organized crime and the trafficking of illicit drugs, precursors and counterfeit products.

UNODC is currently assisting national institutions to build strong detection and interdiction capacities at the international airports through AIRCOP. In collaboration with INTERPOL and the WCO, UNODC will continue to help establishing Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces (JAITFs), which will serve as an inter-service response team (Police, customs and immigration). They will pool resources, share information and intelligence through a real-time communication system, both internally and with other JAITFs in the region and the world, with the aim to disrupt illegal networks through an intelligence-led approach. UNODC will provide both capacity-building training and secure inter-airport communication equipment to contribute to further strengthen the internal security systems and implement effective air border screening and management procedures. This intelligence-led approach to border management will have a direct and positive impact on combating cross-border crime, notably in the areas of illicit drug trafficking but also human trafficking, wildlife and forest crime and terrorism.

UNODC supported ECOWAS and its Member States in the area of border control. Under the CCP, multi-agency JPCUs were established in Benin, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Senegal and Togo, with increasing results in terms of drug seizures. UNODC also supports governments in establishing a suitable institutional framework for the unit, through some form of inter-agency agreement. The key of success of the programme is UNODC and WCO’s on-going support to the units through mentoring, exchange visits, study tours and advanced training on specific issues. UNODC will also aim to promote communication and cooperation between the different national LEAs working along a common border.

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Outcome 1: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter manufacturing and trafficking in illegal drugs, precursors and counterfeit products, in line with human rights principles and UN standards

74 See for example UNODC, Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment, Amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances, May 2014.
75 UNODC, West Africa - 2012 ATS Situation Report, June 2012.
76 UNODC, Afghan opiate trafficking through the southern route, June 2015.
Efforts made by Member States to professionalize LEAs with a counter-narcotics mandate need to be sustained and supported. The strategy is to increase the professionalism of investigators by providing training on investigation techniques and the concept of intelligence-led policing while improving knowledge in database management and international collaboration in drug crime investigation. Besides the capacity-building component, tailored support at the equipment dimension is envisaged, upon the assessment of needs.

The existing training system for LEAs in the region is not sufficient to adequately prepare its officers to fulfil the critical role they play in the criminal justice chain and in countering the trafficking of illicit drug and precursors. UNODC aims to support law enforcement training institutions in curriculum development and equipment support to improve the training capacities. Also under the context of the Networking of the Law Enforcement Training Institutions – “LE TrainNet” (launched by UNODC in April 2015) UNODC aims to support exchange of best practices amongst experts, trainers and managers of law enforcement training institutions.

The UNODC global eLearning training programme will be further established in the region, in order to strengthen the training system for LEAs. UNODC will work with the Member States to ensure that eLearning modules are integrated with existing curriculum at the relevant training institutions ensuring compatibility and complementarity. Additional specific trainings and seminars on drug trafficking and terrorism courses delivered by international law enforcement experts will also complement the roll-out of the eLearning scheme.

Through a comprehensive approach, UNODC, in collaboration with the Department for Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), UNOWAS and INTERPOL, has developed the WACI to strengthen national law enforcement and intelligence-gathering capacities in five ECOWAS Member States, namely Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone. UNODC intends to continue to support the creation and operational strengthening of TCUs in all five WACI implementing countries.

At the country level, the cooperation mechanisms can be improved namely by: (i) Facilitating institutional agreements for the creation of TCUs; and (ii) Providing functioning and operational TCUs staff with well-trained officers and required equipment and infrastructure to carry out their operations.

At the regional level, the main outcome is to increase the exchange of information and intelligence among ECOWAS Member States, and between them and the ECOWAS Commission to counter illicit drug trafficking and organized crime in an international framework. To that effect, the project promotes and supports the appropriate information exchange and operational cooperation of TCUs with other LEA’s in close cooperation with INTERPOL National Central Bureaus in the region and INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Abidjan.

At the international level, UNODC will support and facilitate regular exchanges regarding investigations, by supporting not only capacity-building training courses in international cooperation matters related to organized crime and illicit drug trafficking, but also promoting a regular plan of exchange visits. The regular plan of exchange visits will be based on the analysis of the investigative needs of the Member States’ law enforcement obligations.

Therefore, under the RP, UNODC will focus on the following interventions:

- Conducting in collaboration with relevant national institutions data collection and analysis on trends and developments on trafficking in illegal drugs, precursors and counterfeit products
- Building detection and interdiction capacities at airports, seaports and land borders
- Supporting national institutions with a counter-narcotics mandate
- Supporting law enforcement training institutions
- Stimulating inter-agency cooperation and international cooperation including related to the determent of the precursors and identification of illegal laboratories
- Supporting capacity-building activities towards strengthening national and regional capacities for intelligence gathering, analysis, database and sharing
- Supporting regional and international cooperation through the WACI
UNODC supported the efforts of the West African States to prevent and combat TIP and SOM through provision of legal and technical assistance. Major achievements include the adoption of a new law against SOM in Niger in May 2015, and the adoption of the first holistic national strategy and plan of action against trafficking in persons in Côte d’Ivoire. Various training initiatives have been conducted in almost all ECOWAS countries concentrating especially on the aspects of detection, investigation and prosecution of TIP and SOM. In Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso, close collaboration has been established with the training institutes for police and gendarmerie and modules on TIP and SOM have been integrated into national training curricula, and permanent instructors have been trained. Large awareness-raising campaigns conducted in Senegal and in Côte d’Ivoire have reached tens of thousands of people, and hundreds of victims have been assisted and repatriated back to their origin countries through collaboration with NGOs.

Outcome 2 of the RP will address both TIP and SOM in a holistic manner. The approach of the RP is further defined through UNODC’s Regional Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in West and Central Africa (2015-2020), which presents the envisaged responses of UNODC to support Member States on these two thematic issues in accordance with the UNTOC and its additional Protocols on the Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants. This Strategy is a result of extensive consultation with ECOWAS, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) Secretariats and all Member States, as well as other crucial stakeholders to ensure its consistency with the needs and lessons learnt in the region and on-going national, regional and global initiatives.

Currently most of the Member States have established enhancing the understanding on TIP and SOM within the Member States to coordinate the fight against trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. However, the budgets of these bodies are inadequate and they lack the capacities to implement their mandates. On SOM, national coordination efforts are extremely limited and actions fragmented. Therefore, UNODC aims to provide technical assistance to enhance the capacities of these bodies both at national and regional levels.

Currently the regional judicial cooperation on TIP and SOM is very limited, and in most of the cases only criminals that operate in the destination countries are detected, thus limiting the possibility of dismantling the entire transnational criminal network. In order to enhance the exchange of information and best practices, existing and new regional platforms as well as trainings will be used to strengthen judicial cooperation between Member States.

Most of the countries in the region have started to address trafficking and smuggling issues only in the last decade and there is still very little research data and information on the phenomena. The routes, means of transportation and methods used, as well as people involved, are constantly changing and beyond the authorities’ control. Therefore, existence of updated and detailed information is a prerequisite for the development of effective strategies and measures. UNODC aims to enhance the availability of information through research and regional advisory and information sharing workshops.

Data collection is inadequate in many countries of the region and the methodologies used for this purpose are unreliable. Therefore, erroneous or incomplete information is being circulated and in general, there is very little data on SOM. In order to address this situation, UNODC plans to support the Member States as well as ECOWAS and ECCAS Secretariats to enhance national and regional level data collection.

Although most of the countries in the region have ratified UNTOC and its additional Protocols on SOM and TIP, only few countries have transposed the provisions fully and satisfactorily in their national legal frameworks. The countries will be supported to enhance their legal frameworks in line with the international standards ratified.

An adequate response to TIP and SOM includes the design and implementation of holistic and coherent national strategies involving all stakeholders, including civil society. UNODC aims to continue supporting the Member States in developing national policy documents and strengthening the capacities of civil society participation to these processes.

The police, immigration officers, border police, gendarmes and magistrates are key players in the repression of TIP and SOM. However, these actors have often limited, inaccurate or partial knowledge and they lack of technical and material capacity to detect cases and conduct investigations and prosecutions. Due to this need, various training initiatives will be conducted jointly with the training institutes for police, gendarmerie and magistrates using UNODC’s training material, as well as in-depth specialized trainings on TIP and SOM will be conducted.

A certain number of good practices have been developed in regard to assistance to victims of trafficking (especially on children). However, in most of the countries in the region, there is a lack of identification, assistance, protection, support as well as repatriation of victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants. Irregular migrants are often considered as offenders and not smuggled migrants. Therefore, their rights and needs are rarely taken into account. In this perspective, State and non-State actors will be supported through trainings and grants as well as to develop referral mechanisms.

In order to reduce the “demand” for various forms of TIP, it is necessary to raise public-awareness of these phenomena and practices. In addition, stronger efforts need to be taken in order to inform and sensitize the migrants of the real risks related to using the services of smugglers and the human rights violations that they might be exposed to during the journeys.

In order to implement UNODC’s response, close collaboration will be developed with relevant external partners as well as with UNODC headquarters and other relevant offices. Especially important collaboration is expected to be conducted with North and Central African countries as well as with CONIG. Related to SOM, synergies will be sought especially with UNODC Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA) in the framework of their strategic document UNODC Contribution to International Efforts to Address the Smuggling of Migrants across the Mediterranean which feeds directly into the European Agenda on Migration and the EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling (2015-2020), in a similar way as does UNODC’s Regional Strategy on TIP and SOM for West and Central Africa.

In line with the Strategy for 2015-2020, UNODC aims to support ECOWAS and its Member States in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants in the following aspects:

- Strengthening the national and regional coordination bodies on combating TIP and SOM
- Promoting and strengthening judicial cooperation
- Enhancing the availability of updated information on modus operandi and trends
- Strengthening Member States’ capacities to collect data in order to measure TIP and SOM
- Improving compliance of national laws with international instruments on TIP and SOM
- Supporting the definition of national strategies and concrete actions to fight TIP and SOM
- Strengthening the capacities of investigation and prosecution officers of TIP and SOM
- Strengthening the competencies and capacities of CSOs and actors of protection and detection for more effective referral and assistance to victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants
- Enhancing the understanding on TIP and SOM within the Member States

Countering maritime crime in West Africa is an important component of UNODC action, as the West African coast constitutes a strategic position with regard to all kind of maritime traffics. Drugs, including cocaine coming from South America, are often trafficked by sea reaching the region, as the trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants (TIPSOM) which are further crimes of concern in the region. Illegal fishing is damaging local economies, exploiting resources without almost any effective law enforcement action at sea able to allow prevention and punishment, and piracy and armed robbery are affecting the life and well-being of thousands of seamen, resulting in an immense cost to the region.

As part of its Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP), UNODC already performed five assessments on legal frameworks in the Gulf of Guinea, three major workshops on piracy and maritime crime and three international coordination meetings among Benin, Gabon, Nigeria and Togo. Togo changed its legislation on maritime crime and piracy introducing the provisions suggested by the GMCP. Gabon also reformed its criminal law, even though the reform remained only effective for a few months. Nigeria is currently drafting a new legislation on piracy with the direct support of the GMCP. Mentors are currently supporting Ghana and São Tomé and Príncipe’s law enforcement agencies, while Benin, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe and Togo currently benefit from the GMCP’s legal reform and legal awareness programme.

The GMCP launched in 2014 a project82 aimed at facilitating not only legal reforms, but also the capacity of prosecutors and LEOs to apply the law of the sea in the Gulf of Guinea. Legal reform and capacity-building support to national authorities are aimed at providing the Gulf of Guinea States with legal tools and expertise to respond with effective prosecutions of pirates. Until now, no prosecution has ever been implemented in the Gulf of Guinea for piracy crimes. After all, to obtain an effective prosecution or a prosecution at all, a text of law has to be enacted in all national legislations in order to have the criminal jurisdiction of the prosecuting State extended beyond the territorial sea, hence 12 nautical miles.

The overall aim of the GMCP’s implementation in the Gulf of Guinea, and West Africa more broadly, is to support Member States in prosecuting maritime crime, including piracy. This will involve assistance in developing legal frameworks and policies, maritime institution building, capacity-building in judicial and law enforcement institutions, creation of networks and coordination entities, as well as support to enhance cooperation among Member States. Piracy in West Africa will be addressed through supporting selected countries in developing their ability to prosecute armed robbery, piracy and other maritime crimes more broadly, including by adapting their legislation to apply universal jurisdiction. These selected countries will be assisted in order to enhance understanding on maritime crime and piracy among practitioners, strengthen cooperation between international law enforcement agencies and gather data on the situation.

Most States in West Africa have a legal framework which is not adequate for prosecuting pirates. Universal jurisdiction is implemented, at the national level, only in a few countries. Even the internal organization of the national authorities is often in need of reform aimed at establishing the competent authority to deal with maritime crime. The basis of an effective prosecution is the work of trained law enforcement officials (LEOs). To deal with maritime crime, LEOs have to act in compliance with international law, collect evidence in the most efficient way, and deliver the evidences collected to the prosecution authority in compliance with the national procedural law. This sort of knowledge is lacking, and the work of GMCP in West Africa will focus on this capacity-building task.

Implementing the current line of work, prosecutors and judges will be trained to face legal scenarios. The current low prosecution rate is clearly a consequence of the prosecutors and judges lacking the required knowledge on law of the sea in its connection with crime, including investigation. The lack of proper equipment and materials is often a challenge, and operational capacities of national navies and coastguards are in need of support. Trials of suspected criminals apprehended at sea often involve use of technologies and infrastructure to perform tasks efficiently in order to ensure prosecution of maritime crimes.

Therefore, under the RP, specific activities include:

- Reforming legal frameworks on maritime crime
- Conducting trainings for law enforcement officials
- Conducting trainings for prosecutors and judges
- Enhancing infrastructure and equipment support

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In order to effectively respond to the challenge of wildlife and forest trafficking, most countries in West Africa need to establish more robust laws, as well as enhance their investigative, law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial capacities to stem the corruption and illicit flow of money associated with illicit wildlife and forest trafficking. There is also a need to strengthen inter-agency cooperation by establishing effective cooperation between NGOs and governments. Relevant countries need to build awareness of the threats that wildlife and forest trafficking poses to security and development, and also strengthen transnational cooperation, as wildlife and forest crime has transformed into one of the largest forms of transnational organized crime. Natural resource governance is one of the key components of the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework (2008)\(^\text{83}\) and ECOWAS is in the process of developing a Plan of Action for Natural Resource Governance and the accompanying Enabling Mechanism. UNODC will work with ECOWAS on these issues.

The UNODC’s Global Programme for combating WLFC has expanded in recent years. Many Member States of the AU have asked for the support of UNODC to tackle this form of crime. Traffickers are very active and the awareness regarding WLFC has grown in the region. Wildlife, forest and fisheries crime are not only imminent threats to the natural biodiversity and wildlife conservation, but also a significant factor of enrichment for transnational organized crime groups and negatively impact the development of the rule of law.

In most West African countries, the legal instruments available to deal with organized WLFC consist of specific standards on this crime and general standards compiled in a Penal Code. These domestic laws require to be strengthened or updated to effectively address illegal exploitation and illegal trade in wild fauna and flora, implementing strong deterrent penalties appropriate to the nature and gravity of WLFC.

It is widely observed that national law enforcement agencies in West Africa lack training in technical investigation related to WLFC in addition to interrogating criminals, preparing police statement, lack of expertise on prosecuting offenses linked to WLFC. Due to its transnational nature and with the aim to address it with “one hand”, the combat against WLFC requires to be undertaken by law enforcement bodies in a cooperative manner, should it be at national, regional or international level. The data related to wildlife crime (seizures and related arrest) is not centralized neither does meet the international standard. UNODC will enhance the capacity of the local LEAs to establish database related to WLFC meeting international standard. In addition, UNODC will strengthen the capacity of LEAs in charge of fighting WLFC in collecting data and information, processing, and disseminating.

The development of sustainable and alternative livelihoods for communities affected by illicit trafficking in wildlife and forest resources is crucial to reducing supply and demand. It will include livelihood initiatives provided to populations vulnerable to illegal logging and wildlife poaching as a result of social and economic marginalization.

Driving factors and preventive strategies, including advocacy, awareness-raising and civil society empowerment on the harms caused by illegal trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora, will be developed in collaboration with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), governmental and non-governmental partners, policy makers, donors and the private sector, with the aim of reducing demand for illegally obtained WLFC products.

Under the RP, the objective of UNODC interventions will be to reinforce the national penal chain and to advocate for regional and transnational cooperation. To this end, the activities of the programme will be focused on the following components:

- Strengthening national legal frameworks in the area of wildlife and forest crime
- Strengthening national law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial capacities
- Strengthening cooperation between international law enforcement agencies
- Reducing supply and demand through the promotion of alternative livelihoods
- Gathering and report data, and qualitative information on wildlife and forest crime
- Capacity-building on laundering of money generated from trafficking of wildlife and forest crime

UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, which also covers West Africa, will directly support the implementation of the RP and will be used as a vehicle for the implementation of activities in the region to ensure consistency and alignment of available resources in the region to address this crime.

Although many countries in the region have taken decisive steps to prevent and combat the illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms, cognisant of their nexus to other forms of crime, as drug trafficking, money-laundering or terrorism\(^\text{84}\) and the negative effect that their uncontrolled proliferation creates among the civilian population, the situation remains challenging. Most of the countries have not yet enacted the required legislative reforms that would strengthen the proper criminal justice response. Moreover, insufficient technical skills and resources, accompanied by an overall weakness of the criminal justice system to detect, investigate and prosecute such crimes, contribute to high levels of undetected cases, and thus possibly to an underestimation of the real extent of the problem.

The **Firearms Protocol**\(^\text{85}\) and other instruments, such as the **Arms Trade Treaty**\(^\text{86}\) provide the international legal framework to establish a control regime to prevent illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms. Pillars of such regime are the creation of national registries of firearms, proper marking of all firearms produced and imported, systematic recording and tracing of all seized firearms to identify the point of diversion from legal to illegal ownership and use, and international collaboration in firearms tracing.

The Global Firearms Programme (GFP) has supported the strengthening of national and regional firearms control regimes in order to prevent illicit manufacturing and trafficking, and enhancing Member States’ capacities to investigate and prosecute criminal organizations and networks engaged in the illicit firearms business and related forms of organized crime.

**Specialized and impartial legal assistance** will be given for the review, assessment and development or amendment of domestic legislation systems to ensure compliance with the Firearms Protocol and the UNTOC. UNODC has conducted legislative assessment and gap analysis in several West African countries and will expand this work to other countries in the sub-region.

UNODC will ensure **capacity-building to apply firearms control measures** to reduce proliferation, and to prevent their illicit trafficking, including support to firearm marking programmes; voluntary registration/collection and destruction programmes for firearms and ammunition; strengthening national record keeping systems and storage security and stockpile management, in particular for seized and confiscated weapons.

UNODC will provide tailor-made **specialized training courses** on the legal framework, investigations and prosecution against firearms illicit trafficking and also, on regional and international cooperation in criminal matters for law enforcement and criminal justice officers.

In 2015, UNODC developed and published the **Study on Firearms**\(^\text{87}\) collecting data from 2010-2014 on firearms and their illicit trafficking. The GFP will continue to assist in the development of these data collection and analysis efforts on seized weapons that are recorded and traced in accordance with international instruments. The SDG indicator 16.4.2 was developed taking into account such data collection efforts, and UNODC will be in a position to collect data on progress toward achieving this goal. The socio-political causes for proliferation of arms in the region are not sufficiently explored and could be included in future surveys.

Finally, UNODC will assist in the development of **effective international cooperation**, information exchange and promotion of south-south cooperation, foster the development of appropriate ways and means to improve cooperation between investigators and magistrates through regular meetings and experts networks on firearms criminality.

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\(^{86}\) Arms Trade Treaty, New York, 2 April 2013.

\(^{87}\) UNODC, Study on Firearms, A study on the transnational nature of and routes and modus operandi used in trafficking in firearms, 2015.
Therefore, under the RP, the GFP will continue the following interventions:

- Bringing legislative and technical assistance in policy and legislative development
- Supporting the implementation and capacity-building in firearm management, record keeping, marking and collection campaigns
- Providing assistance to develop effective criminal justice responses for investigation and prosecution, in particular support capacity-building in detecting trafficking and managing borders
- Contributing to enhance data collection and analysis capacity
- Supporting effective international cooperation

Illicit financial flows can be reduced in two ways. The first is prevention, based on anti-money-laundering legislation and customer due diligence. The second is suppression, based on the anti-money-laundering investigations or on financial disruption. Both approaches are covered by UNODC Global Programme against Money-Laundering, the Proceeds of Crime and Financing of Terrorism (GPML).

In order to combat all forms of organized crime, law enforcement efforts should focus on tackling what drives criminal business, i.e. its proceeds. There is a need to adopt an asset oriented approach, to follow the money trail and target the benefits of criminal activities. This approach consists in identifying, seizing and confiscating the proceeds generated by criminal activities. Most of West African countries have recently been making progress in this area, adopting legal tools on asset forfeiture. Yet, identification, confiscation and management of assets remain challenging in the region.

UNODC provided technical assistance to various ECOWAS countries under the GPML. Since 2010, GPML has developed and delivered a series of Train-the-Trainer workshops on financial investigations. In 2015, the GPML has delivered a “train the trainers” programme on financial investigation in four ECOWAS countries (i.e. Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Senegal). A key outcome of this programme is the identification of 42 new trainers who have been trained over four weeks to deliver themselves training on financial investigations in their respective countries. To date, this training has been replicated by the new trainers for over 900 national law enforcement practitioners. The “train-the-trainers” programme will be implemented in eight West African countries by the end of 2016, and is involving national training institutions in each step of the implementation to ensure sustainability.

GPML also assisted in launching the ARINWA, at the end of 2014. This network is built around focal points of ECOWAS countries to exchange on asset identification, tracing, confiscation and management. GPML supported the organization of ARINWA 2015 plenary, together with the WACAP and the Sahel Platform, to discuss synergies between these initiatives.

Promotion and support to this initiative will continue through regional and national expert workshops focusing on asset management and recovery. Activities will also emphasize the importance of domestic coordination and regional cooperation between Member States and existing networks.

Therefore, under the RP, GPML will continue to provide technical assistance in West Africa to strengthen national and regional capacities to seize, confiscate, manage and recover assets from organized crime. These activities are closely coordinated with two ECOWAS structures: the GIABA and ARINWA.

Special focus will be given to:

- Strengthening domestic capacity in investigating financial crime and detecting stolen assets
- Strengthening domestic and regional capacity in managing and recovering assets
PILLAR III – PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORISM

In the *United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy*, Member States reaffirmed “that acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening territorial integrity, security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism”.

West Africa and the Sahel region in particular, are of main concerns to the international community in the global fight against terrorism. Since 2012, in the context of the Mali crisis, the increasing terrorist activities in the region mainly conducted by Al Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Boko Haram and other related terrorist groups, have led to major instability and highlighted the need for considerable capacity-building efforts and for the development of adequate national legislative frameworks against terrorism. Under the RP, UNODC will assist Member States in developing and strengthening their legal responses to terrorism, in compliance with the rule of law and human rights standards while focusing on the financing of terrorism and violent extremism.

In accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the UNGA in 2006, as well as the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) endorsed by the UNSC in 2013, UNODC will continue providing West African countries with the assistance needed to strengthen their criminal justice responses to terrorism, in accordance with the rule of law, including human rights.

To ensure effective implementation, the Office will provide the West African Criminal Justice and LEOs with specialized training to undertake effective investigation and prosecutions of terrorism cases, in accordance with the rule of law and human rights. This specialized training to undertake effective investigations of terrorism will include the investigation of threats prior to terrorist attacks, improvement of agency organization and data collection and analysis as well as more effective inter-agency communication channels. Training in post-blast investigation techniques will also be provided. Assistance is required to build law enforcement’s capacity to effectively conduct these pre and post-attack investigations, which will then serve as a sound basis for subsequent criminal cases handled by prosecutors and judges. Under the RP, UNODC will support criminal justice agencies in preventing and addressing terrorism as well as promote reintegration into society of radicalized individuals who have been incarcerated, in line with Pillar I.

International cooperation is required by most of the international legal instruments against terrorism. UNODC will support capacity-building in this area as a cross-cutting issue. Among others, UNODC will support regional mechanisms such as the G5 Sahel, its PCMS and in particular the Early Warning Mechanism by supporting the creation of national Counter-Terrorism Units (CTUs) in the G5 countries and by providing specialized training on information gathering and analysis and intelligence sharing among these units.

Activities will include:
- Supporting the adoption of adequate national counter-terrorism legal regime in conformity with the relevant international legal instruments, and appropriate institutional framework
- Supporting the effective implementation of the national counter-terrorism legislation through specialized training to undertake effective investigation and prosecutions of terrorism cases, in accordance with the rule of law and human rights, in particular to criminal justice agencies in charge of addressing terrorism
- Strengthening capacity of criminal justice and LEOs in effectively handling international cooperation requests, in particular mutual legal assistance and extradition
- Supporting sub-regional mechanisms such as the Sahel Platform
- Enhancing synergies between the Sahel Platform and other cooperation mechanisms for West African countries also supported by UNODC, such as the WACAP and ARINWA
- Supporting improved data collection and enhanced knowledge including causes of and trends in terrorism through assessment missions and specific studies

All proposed assistance activities will integrate and mainstream relevant human rights dimensions and will facilitate human rights compliance with measures adopted to counter terrorism. In addition, UNODC will also provide West African countries with specialized assistance focused on human rights aspects of criminal justice responses to terrorism. Insofar as children associated with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, are affected by criminal justice measures, technical assistance based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international legal instruments will be delivered also in the context of Pillar I, Outcome 6.

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Evolving terrorist threats to international security, as well as the development of new terrorist modus operandi and features, require constant adaptability and efforts from Member States. Funds and financial infrastructure are an essential enabler to terrorist networks – without funds or the ability to raise, move, use and store funds, terrorists would be unable to carry out attacks and shadow governance activities.

Terrorists rely on money derived from a variety of sources to carry out terrorist attacks. While terrorists’ priority is not necessarily to disguise the origin of money which can be legal or not, they are instead concerned with concealing its destination and the purpose for which it has been collected.

Several international legal instruments such as resolutions 1267 (1999)\textsuperscript{91} and 1373 (2001)\textsuperscript{92} adopted by the Security Council under Chapter VII, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999)\textsuperscript{93} require from Member States the criminalization of acts related to the financing of terrorism.

UNODC is one of the most experienced global providers of anti-money-laundering (AML) and counter-financing of terrorism (CFT) training and technical assistance. UNODC is the Chair of the UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force’s (CTITF)\textsuperscript{94} CFT working group and will therefore assist West African countries in complying with these requirements by supporting the adoption of an adequate national legal regime. In addition, the Office will provide specialized training to criminal justice and LEOs to effectively investigate and prosecute terrorism financing cases.

The assistance provided to Member States will focus on developing capacity at national and regional levels on detecting, investigating and prosecuting CFT cases, including developing understanding and disruption capabilities in areas where terrorists exploit profit streams from criminal networks, for example human trafficking, abuse of non-profit organizations, theft and sale of antiquities and cultural property, exploitation of wildlife and natural resources, financing of improvised explosive device networks and kidnapping for ransom.

Activities will include:

- Supporting the adoption of an adequate national legal regime
- Providing specialized training to criminal justice and LEOs to effectively investigate and prosecute terrorism financing cases
- Developing capability at national and regional levels on detecting, investigating and prosecuting CFT cases
- Supporting development of expertise in investigating the financing of FTFs
- Supporting the building of national data collection and analysis capacity to better understand how terrorism is financed and how to deter and disrupt financial flows including profit streams from criminal networks (for example drugs and human trafficking, abuse of non-profit organizations, exploitation of wildlife and natural resources, financing of improvised explosive device networks and kidnapping for ransom)

\textsuperscript{94} For more information, see: \url{https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/}. 

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In the *Doha Declaration*, Member States committed to counter violent extremism and radicalization to violence, which can be conducive to terrorism, and to enhance efforts to implement de-radicalization programmes. Moreover, the *UN Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism* highlights the importance of preventing the radicalization of young persons, including children, and their recruitment by violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups.

The Security Council, in its resolution 2178 (2014) related to FTFs and adopted under Chapter VII, recalled its decision, in resolution 1373 (2001), “that all Member States shall ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice, and decides that all States shall ensure that their domestic laws and regulations establish serious criminal offenses sufficient to provide the ability to prosecute and to penalize in a manner duly reflecting the seriousness of the offense”. It further called upon Member States to improve international, regional, and sub-regional cooperation to prevent the travel of FTFs from or through their territories.

During the most recent meeting of the Steering Committee for the UNODC Sahel Programme held on 12-13 April 2016 in Dakar, Senegal, participating Sahel and neighbouring countries reiterated their concerns about FTFs operating in their region, and the serious threat to security and stability that it poses on their respective territories. Country representatives agreed on the importance to take into consideration new trends such as the phenomenon of children associated with violent extremist groups, or the links between, on the one hand, trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants and on the other hand, between transnational organized crime and terrorism. Country representatives therefore requested UNODC to assist in building capacities of their competent authorities to effectively handle these cases, especially with regard to investigation, prosecution and judicial cooperation as well as to strengthen capacities to implement border control measures that allow to better detect and prevent amongst others, FTFs to cross their borders. UNODC will respond to this request by assisting to strengthen knowledge and skills of criminal justice and LEOs, as well as policy-makers relating to FTFs, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, and the involvement of children in violent extremist groups, in order for West African countries to be able to better tackle these phenomenon. This assistance will be provided mainly through seminars and training workshops. Finally, UNODC will support rule of law-based criminal justice measures to emerging terrorism and violent extremism-related challenges, including the recruitment of terrorists and the use of the internet for terrorist purposes.

All proposed assistance activities will integrate and mainstream relevant human rights dimensions and will facilitate human rights compliance in measures adopted to counter the FTFs’ phenomenon. Insofar as children outside their country of citizenship or habitual residence are associated with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, technical assistance based on the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and other relevant international legal instruments will be delivered also in the context of Pillar I, Outcome 6.

UNODC is mindful of the many social, economic and political causes of terrorism. UNODC is also taking into consideration the global development agenda as well as work done in this field by other development agencies to address the root causes of terrorism. UNODC is aware of the plurality of actors that can contribute to addressing terrorism. Beyond supporting criminal justice response, UNODC will engage with civil society.

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The recruitment of vulnerable individuals by violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, is a growing phenomenon, increasingly requiring the attention of governments and justice professionals. During their contact with such groups, children are exploited to assume various roles, such as porters, spies, cooks, they are often subject to sexual exploitation, become involved as child soldiers in open hostilities, are used to carry out executions, and as suicide attackers. At the same time, they become particularly dangerous instruments in the hands of those exploiting them and/or instrumentalizing them for the purpose of committing criminal offences.

Under the RP, activities will include:

- Providing technical assistance to West African States to understand and address violent extremism
- Providing technical assistance to West African States to ensure that vulnerable individuals are better served and protected by justice systems
- Support the coordination between these actors, sectors and levels is a necessary programmatic component of any effective response of the justice system to the association of vulnerable individuals with violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups
- Assist West African States to strengthen the FTF-related knowledge and skills of criminal justice and law enforcement officials, as well as policy-makers in order for West African countries to be able to better tackle this phenomenon

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PILLAR IV – PREVENTING AND COUNTERING CORRUPTION

While all countries in West Africa have ratified the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), very few have adopted legislation to bring their national legal frameworks in line with the Convention. Moreover, most countries in West Africa lack national anti-corruption strategies, adequate asset disclosure systems, access to information legislation and witness and whistleblower protection legislation.

All countries in West Africa have set up anti-corruption bodies (except for Cabo Verde and Gambia) but these institutions are generally established on a weak legal basis. They lack the necessary powers and resources to undertake effective investigations and do not have prosecution powers (except for Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone), which remain vested in the executive or politically controlled by the executive, hence the very few cases of corruption prosecuted in the region. Moreover, the staff of these institutions lacks experience and training.

UNODC has provided anti-corruption technical assistance in West Africa since 2008, mainly sensitizing national stakeholders about the UNCAC and its review mechanism. Since April 2013, UNODC also has a dedicated Anti-Corruption Advisor (P4) for West and Central Africa based in Dakar, Senegal. UNODC’s proximity to anti-corruption actors in West Africa has increased the demand for technical assistance at the regional and country level.

While anti-corruption efforts have mainly focused on the legislative level bringing national laws in line with the UNCAC, other types of capacity-building are increasingly in demand in order to prevent and combat corruption effectively in the region. UNODC’s law enforcement activities, for example, require that integrity and reducing corruption in law enforcement operations is fully considered and integrated to ensure their effectiveness. Under the RP, UNODC will work closely with countries to support their participation in the Review Mechanism for the Implementation of UNCAC, and to develop action plans to address the findings and recommendations emerging from the completed country assessments.

Under the RP, UNODC will work closely with relevant authorities to provide an understanding of the threat posed by corruption at the national and regional levels. Since the measurement of corruption is a sensitive topic, UNODC will ensure that methodologically sound approaches are used to measure corruption and its vulnerabilities, and to produce studies strictly based on available evidence. It will also undertake data collection and research activities in close collaboration with relevant authorities and provide technical assistance to national counterparts as requested in this domain while also gathering data on this threat.
Chapter II of the UNCAC calls upon governments to develop coordinated policies to prevent corruption. It sets out a number of preventive measures that governments are required or encouraged to undertake. Some of these measures have been initiated in West Africa, while others have not yet been adopted. The RP will support countries in West Africa to participate in the second cycle of the **UNCAC Review Mechanism** that focuses on Chapters II and V of the Convention. Through the UNCAC country reviews priority areas for intervention in every country will be identified and technical assistance will be provided to respond to the gaps identified through these reviews.

Some general trends have already been identified across West Africa that will be encouraged and receive specific attention. These include (1) Asset disclosure, (2) Investigative journalism, (3) Education programmes in universities and (4) Civil society organizations.

**Asset disclosure** is an effective means to detect and prevent potential conflicts of interest and to restrict public officials’ ability to enrich themselves. It makes it more complicated for public officials to embezzle public funds and invest them in personal assets. It also provides useful information for LEAs in case public officials are investigated for corruption. Most countries in West Africa have developed asset disclosure systems, but very few have satisfactory systems in place. Most of them require substantial legislative and technical reforms. The **Dakar Declaration on Asset Disclosure** (adopted in May 2014) sets out guidelines for asset disclosure systems, which provide a framework for improving systems in the region. The RP will support these reforms.

**Investigative journalism** can strengthen the fight against corruption by exposing corrupt practices in government systems. Currently, the media in West Africa have little capacity for investigative journalism. In November 2014, journalists from across West Africa gathered in Saly, Senegal, and adopted a declaration calling, among other things, for the establishment of a Centre for Investigative Journalism for West Africa. In July 2015, journalists gathered again to formally set up the “Norbert Zongo Cell for Investigative Journalism in West Africa (CENOZO)” at the National Press Centre Norbert Zongo in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The RP will support efforts to develop capacity of investigative journalists in the region.

Currently, almost no university in West Africa has **anti-corruption education programmes**. In June 2015, UNODC partnered with the Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l’Enseignement Superieur (CAMES) and held a first training for university professors in Doha, Qatar, to promote anti-corruption education in universities. It is expected that CAMES will further support the development of anti-corruption education in universities across the region. Several universities have already approached UNODC to get further technical support to develop their curricula. The RP will support the development of these curricula across the region, as well as relevant master’s programmes on corruption and financial and economic crimes.

**Civil society organizations (CSOs)** are critical actors in promoting anti-corruption reforms in the region. Across West Africa, anti-corruption CSOs are still thinly spread. Transparency International currently has six chapters in the region. These CSOs usually also have weak capacity and are not always able to engage on topical issues like access to information legislation, national anti-corruption strategies or political party funding. Over the years, UNODC has built strong relations with the CSO UNCAC coalition and CSOs from across Africa through the UNODC trainings for CSOs. The RP will build on those relations to support CSOs’ engagement on anti-corruption reforms. It will also seek to support the establishment of new anti-corruption NGOs in countries where such actors are still lacking in order to promote the anti-corruption agenda.

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100 For more information, see: [https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/ouaga---cenozo.html](https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/ouaga---cenozo.html).

101 Transparency International (TI) Secretariat is based in Berlin, Germany. Civil Society Organizations can apply to become a “chapter” of TI in a specific country. TI Berlin decides which NGO can use the title of “TI Chapter” in a given country. There is only one TI chapter per country. They are not set up by TI Berlin, but they are endorsed by TI Berlin. In West Africa, only 6 countries have a TI chapter.

Specifically, activities will include:

- Supporting measures to prevent corruption, in particular following up on UNCAC review recommendations on legal provisions, regulations and policies, including, where appropriate, assessment of specific gender vulnerabilities and measures to mitigate them.
- Supporting the protection of whistleblowers, mechanisms to report corruption anonymously, and raise awareness in this regard.
- Supporting reforms on asset disclosure in line with the Dakar Declaration on Asset Disclosure (May 2014) which sets out guidelines for asset disclosure systems, thus supporting asset recovery.
- Supporting efforts to develop capacity of investigative capacities of journalists and the media in the region.
- Supporting the development of education curricula, including in university, across the region, as well as relevant master’s programmes on corruption and financial and economic crimes.
- Supporting NGOs, including women groups and other relevant actors in order to promote the anti-corruption agenda, while building existing relations with CSOs to support their engagement in anti-corruption reforms.
- Supporting measures to prevent corruption within, and with support of, the private sector.

Chapter III of the UNCAC requires States Parties to strengthen their capacities to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate corruption offences. States parties have to criminalize certain acts detailed in articles 15-25 of the UNCAC. Furthermore, legal and other measures have to be adopted to strengthen law enforcement dealing with acts of corruption. This includes whistleblower and witness protection and special investigative techniques, among others. Chapter IV of the UNCAC requires States Parties to improve international cooperation in the fight against corruption.

Currently, most countries in West Africa have participated in the UNCAC Review Mechanism on Chapters III and IV. Recommendations have been adopted to bring national legal frameworks in line with the UNCAC, however, only two countries have adopted comprehensive national legislation to bring their national laws in line with the UNCAC (Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire). Most countries still have to implement UNCAC country review recommendations.

Corruption in law enforcement and justice systems undermines the effectiveness of UNODC programmes in other thematic areas. Therefore, the RP will also focus attention on building integrity across law enforcement authorities and justice systems in the coming years. Under the RP, UNODC will strengthen anti-corruption institutions, judges, prosecutors and the main law enforcement institutions, in line with the relevant provisions of the UNCAC.103

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103 Articles 8 and 11 of the UNCAC, New York, 31 October 2003.
At the regional level, the RP will support the implementation of the newly adopted Strategic Plan (2015-2017) of the NACIWA. It will also seek to support the development of model legislation on anti-corruption institutions in the region, strengthen investigative skills of investigators and provide training to prosecutors and judges to adequately pursue these criminal cases. Training will be provided at the national and regional level, through the NACIWA Anti-Corruption Academy in Abuja, Nigeria. Finally, the RP will pursue legal reforms, for example, in the areas of whistleblower and witness protection and special investigative techniques.

Concerning law enforcement authorities, UNODC will support efforts to promote integrity in container control units, transnational crime units, anti-trafficking airport units, national police, gendarmerie and other law enforcement authorities in the region. Similar initiatives will also be developed with the judiciary and prosecution services. UNODC will roll-out surveys and develop strategies to curb corruption in these institutions, organise capacity development activities and support the development of curricula in police training academies and magistrates training schools. UNODC will also support civil society providing them with the tools and techniques to monitor law enforcement and judicial authorities.

UNODC will also assist national counterparts involved in UNODC’s regional law enforcement activities related to countering drugs, human trafficking and organized crime. UNODC will use existing platforms such as the meetings of its different existing law enforcement programmes (CCP, AIRCOP) to promote measures to enhance integrity within national counterpart units. These measures will include the adoption of standard operating procedures that minimize the risks of corruption in day-to-day operations.

The RP will support countries in West Africa to develop stronger criminal justice responses to corruption by:

- Implementing the recommendations emanating from the UNCAC country reviews on Chapters III and IV of the UNCAC
- Strengthening anti-corruption institutions, including their independence
- Strengthening the capacity of judges and prosecutors to deal with corruption cases in line with due process guarantees
- Strengthening integrity in law enforcement and justice systems in the region through holistic situation assessment of the working environment, and sharing of good practices (including collaboration with on-going initiatives addressing border control and customs, e.g. AIRCOP, CCP)

West Africa is rich in natural resources. In the oil sector, exploitation concessions have been awarded in several countries in the region in recent years and new bidding rounds are underway. Countries concerned include: Niger, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Senegal. Global and regional players are moving in to extract the oil wealth of some of the poorest countries in the world. These resources could generate tax revenues several times exceeding budgets and official development assistance envelopes and, if adequately used potentially bring economic and social progress for West African populations. The same goes for fish stocks and other natural resources (e.g. iron deposits in Guinea). They provide potentially enormous revenues for countries in the region, and require highlight qualified human resources within the industry, as well as regulatory and investigative bodies.

At the same time, there is a high risk that these resources will be mismanaged and end up enriching only a small elite instead of the population currently living in extreme poverty. Moreover, natural resources have fuelled conflict and instability in the past as different political factions vied for control over these resources and the extraordinary opportunity for wealth they represented.

Under the RP, UNODC will focus on the fishing industry and the oil sector in West Africa, alongside other natural resources sectors, and seek to promote transparency in these sectors, in particular, with regard to the beneficial ownership of those involved. Furthermore, training packages will be developed for investigators to allow themselves to be familiarized with the common techniques used in these sectors to siphon off profits. Civil society will also be supported to undertake advocacy campaigns to promote legal reforms in these sectors to promote integrity, transparency and accountability in these sectors.

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104 In 2010, the anti-corruption institutions of West Africa have constituted a Network of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa (NACIWA). With UNODC support, NACIWA recently established a new Executive Committee and a Secretariat in Dakar (Senegal), which adopted a Strategic Plan (2015-2017), as well as a new Constitution.
Activities will focus on:

- Promoting transparency in targeted sectors (fishing and oil industry and other natural resources), in particular, with regard to the beneficial ownership of those involved, the agreements signed by the concerned parties, as well as access to information (e.g. annual reports) on quantities, exports and revenues, in line with international good practices
- Developing training packages for investigators, prosecutors, judges and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. regulators) to allow themselves to be familiarized with the common techniques used in these sectors to siphon off profits
- Supporting civil society to undertake advocacy campaigns to promote legal reforms in these sectors to promote integrity, transparency and accountability in these sectors

The African Development Bank, the African Union High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa and the Open Society Institute for West Africa (OSIWA), have all highlighted the tremendous losses incurred in revenue due to trade mispricing and other illicit financial flows. If the bulk of these illicit financial flows are not direct profits from corruption, the African Union report highlighted that corruption is both a source and an “enabler” of illicit financial flows. In that regard it is important for anti-corruption bodies to be aware of these issues and to provide support for reforms to prevent illicit financial flows from occurring.

Many billions of USD have also been looted from the region by corrupt government officials. Some of these stolen assets have been recovered in part, for example, from the Sani Abacha regime. In total, anti-corruption bodies in the region have recovered approximately USD 2.55 billion, the bulk in Nigeria (some USD 2.35 billion), with the remaining USD 20 million in Mali, Togo, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Ghana. The levels of recovery are however far below the amounts stolen from countries in the region. As governments increasingly alternate through democratic processes in the region, the chances for asset recovery efforts to take place also increase.

The RP will seek to support efforts to detect and recover stolen assets and illicit financial flows. UNODC is uniquely positioned given the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative in partnership with the World Bank to contribute to these efforts to return stolen assets to the region.

While studies have been undertaken at the regional level on illicit financial flows, fewer studies have been commissioned at the country level. The RP will support such studies and promote legislative and regulatory reforms to prevent illicit financial flows. Asset recovery has mainly taken place through criminal court cases, but civil non-conviction based asset forfeiture should also be encouraged across the region. The RP will promote such reforms in countries that are interested in using this approach.

Finally, recovered assets should be well managed. The RP will encourage countries to consider using a percentage of the recovered assets to promote on-going anti-corruption efforts. Links will also be created between the NACIWA and the ARINWA.

Activities will focus on:

- Support efforts to detect and recover stolen assets and illicit financial flows, including the alleviation of bank secrecy and capacity-building
- Support national studies on illicit financial flows
- Promote legislative and regulatory reforms to prevent illicit financial flows
- Promote reforms to allow for civil non-conviction based asset forfeiture in countries that are interested in using this approach
- Encourage countries to consider using a percentage of the recovered assets to promote on-going anti-corruption efforts
- Build capacity of national authorities
- Promote the continued effective functioning of relevant networks, and create links between the NACIWA and the ARINWA

Outcome 4: National authorities more effectively recover stolen assets and illicit financial flows
PILLAR V – IMPROVING DRUG AND HIV PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

Drug prevention and health

Over the past few years, drug use and drug use disorders have become a growing concern in West Africa. Addressing this challenge requires an integrated approach to the drug problem, tackling the supply and demand sides in parallel.\(^\text{108}\) Therefore there are strong links between Pillar V and Pillar II.

HIV and AIDS

In the area of HIV prevention; the primary activities conducted in the West African region for PWID were 1) Review of policies and reform in line with the WHO/UNODC/UNAIDS comprehensive package addressing HIV prevention, treatment and care services for PWID and prisoners; 2) Training on enhancing partnerships between law enforcement and civil society organizations in the context of drug use and HIV; 3) Engagement with the CSOs and National AIDS control Agencies supporting formation of HIV prevention, treatment and care services network; 4) Support to National Strategic Workplans, Drug control masterplans; 5) Providing technical support to countries for Global Fund country applications.

With a view to promote evidence-based drugs use prevention policies and programmes at the regional and national levels, UNODC will organize workshops with policy-makers aimed at presenting, discussing and promoting International Standards on Drug Use Prevention\(^\text{109}\) and resolutions 57/4\(^\text{110}\) and 58/3\(^\text{111}\) of the CND, as well as other relevant international standards. During these seminars, national counterparts in charge of planning the national prevention response in their countries will be guided to develop concrete action plans for improving the effectiveness of prevention planning in their respective domains of responsibility.

Depending on needs, follow-up seminars guiding the stakeholders to improve the evaluation of effectiveness of their prevention activities could be organized, with a view to further strengthen quality of evidence-based prevention planning in the region. UNODC will also promote the integration of programmes for drug use prevention in educational systems, in coordination with relevant organizations, utilising the upcoming UNODC-WHO-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) guidance on school based drug prevention. In accordance with the ECOWAS Action Plan this should include primary and secondary schools and, also both private and government-owned schools. Coordination at regional and national levels may also be further strengthened via developing and endorsing quality standards (benefitting from the work in the area undertaken by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), to complement the national drug prevention strategies developed in the aforementioned capacity-building workshops.

\(^\text{108}\) As advocated by the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.


\(^\text{110}\) CND, Resolution 57/4, Supporting recovery from substance use disorders, 2014.

\(^\text{111}\) CND, Resolution 58/3, Promoting the protection of children and young people, with particular reference to the illicit sale and purchase of internationally or nationally controlled substances and of new psychoactive substances via the Internet, 2015.
UNODC and ECOWAS will also reinforce their engagement with civil society to support drug prevention, treatment and care, in line with the ECOWAS Action Plan. UNODC will continue to work with civil society to implement and/or deliver and expand evidence-based drug use prevention interventions (including alcohol and tobacco) targeting especially youth, families and communities. UNODC will also help civil society to implement and/or deliver and expand early interventions, psychosocial support and rehabilitation services and referral activities to the treatment services.

To facilitate implementation of national action plans, relevant school, family skills training and high-risk group programmes will be planned. Tools will be translated and culturally adapted, including training materials and monitoring and evaluation instruments; and facilitators and national trainers will be trained for piloting, evaluating and disseminating the programmes. Specifically, in order to prevent the extremely young generation in West Africa from using drugs, it is important to focus on youth and family relationships.112

Additional approaches such as prevention in the community, in the health care and social welfare systems and at workplaces, as well as the use of social media and youth networks (study visits/workshop/leadership trainings) will be explored. Relevant professionals such as school teachers, social workers, psychologists, counsellors and facilitators will be trained in the implementation of evidence-based interventions with the aim to pilot their feasibility and effectiveness in the region. Pilot interventions will be evaluated with respect to their effectiveness in changing substance use behaviours, attitudes, skills and other evidence-based mediators. Results, best practices and lessons learned will be shared and disseminated.

Efforts to raise public awareness on the dangers of drugs and the importance of the fight against drugs will continue, in particular on the occasion of the Annual International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26 June each year. Standardized material on sensitization on drug use could be developed so that messaging on drugs emphasises a health and human rights based approach.

UNODC will also continue to monitor trends pertaining to drug use and prevention in West Africa. UNODC’s partnerships with UNAIDS, WHO and the World Bank will help collect the data sources of stakeholders and enable the development of joint estimates based on consensus. UNODC will also support the development of the capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate data on the extent, patterns and trends of drug use and on the related risk factors in the countries with regionally comparable methodologies and common indicators. Similarly, capacities to monitor and evaluate prevention policies and programmes will be supported. A network of researchers and academic institutions will be developed to facilitate sharing of epidemiological and evaluation research methodologies, information and results.

UNODC will target the youth (in schools and out of schools), including by engaging with families, which can act both as a powerful risk and as a protective factor for the healthy child and youth development, as well as schools. In addition, prevention in the community, in the health care and social welfare systems and at workplaces, as well as the use of social media and youth networks for prevention purposes together with evaluation components will be explored. Relevant professionals such as school teachers, social workers, psychologists, counsellors and facilitators will be trained in the implementation of evidence-based interventions with the aim to pilot their feasibility and effectiveness in the region.

Activities will focus on:

- Engaging policy-makers to promote relevant international standards and develop concrete action plans for improving the effectiveness of prevention planning
- Reinforcing UNODC and ECOWAS engagement with the civil society
- Raising public awareness and sensitization on drugs prevention treatment and care among stakeholders (e.g. prisoners officials and religious leaders), in particular on the occasion of the annual World Drug Day
- Reinforcing the region’s capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate data on the extent, patterns and trends of drug use and on the related risk factor and report on it
- Reinforcing the region’s capacities to monitor and evaluate prevention efforts, including by creating a network of researchers and academic institutions

112 UNODC has initiated a global project called: "Prevention of drug use, HIV/AIDS and crime among young people through family skills training programmes in low- and middle-income countries". This project provides evidence-based training in family skills. Research has shown that families can act both as a powerful risk and as a protective factor for the healthy child and youth development. Family factors have a central position, together with peer influence, in all models attempting to explain the path that may lead children and youth to initiate drug use. However, while peer influence is often the major reason why adolescents initiate negative behaviours, studies have shown that a positive family environment is the primary reason why youth do not engage in behaviours such as alcohol and drug use.
A cornerstone of the Regional Programme is the outcome document of the UN General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem 2016, which reaffirms the framework for cooperation provided by the three international drug control conventions and highlights the need for comprehensive, balanced and integrated rights-based approaches to drug control.

With regard to policies, legislations and strategies in support of effective treatment of drug use disorders, UNODC will support the analysis of national drug dependence treatment and care legislation and policies to identify potential opportunities and challenges for the implementation of evidence and community-based interventions, and will support the drafting of adequate regulation, where appropriate. Almost all West Africa’s countries are party to the three international drug conventions, which allow for treatment to be provided as an alternative to criminal justice sanctions in adequate cases. There is a further need to strengthen a health-centred approach to drug dependence in the region, as opposed to the still more punitive approach that often prevails. UNODC therefore aims at facilitating workshops to discuss and potentially review existing legal and policy frameworks with national governments and other relevant stakeholders including from the health and the criminal justice system to ensure those policies that allow the effective provision of a continuum of evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care services in the community for people with drug use disorders as well as the effective implementation of approaches of treatment to be provided as an alternative to criminal justice sanctions in adequate cases of minor nature offenses.

To improve the availability of evidence-based interventions for drug dependence treatment and care, UNODC will provide support for the adaptation and adoption of existing evidence-based standards (especially the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders – Draft for Field Testing, UNODC 2016), tools and guidelines as well as the development of regional specific standards, tools and guidelines for the implementation of evidence-based drug use disorder treatment services and programmes, in particular for community-based services for the treatment and care of people with drug use disorders.

UNODC will also support on-going regional and national efforts towards the development of evidence-based and community-based services for people with drug use disorders. In order to avoid a “one size fits all approach”, a wide range of diverse and evidence-based drug treatment interventions should be made available at different levels of the health and social support system of West African countries. In coordination with relevant organizations such as ECOWAS or the AU and with partners such as the WHO, UNODC will also promote the mainstreaming of the treatment of substance use disorders in health - including primary health care - and social welfare systems of countries in the region. This will allow for the treatment gap between the people affected by drug use disorders and the limited number of those actually having access to evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care services to be addressed as to be monitored by drug information systems as mentioned below. Additionally, the options to develop treatment services based on evidence and targeting the unique needs of critical populations such as women and children will be further explored.

With a view to establish capacity-building networks for the dissemination of evidence-based information and skills on drug dependence treatment and care, UNODC will promote the adaptation and delivery of training modules for training and certification (by Member States) of practitioners on evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care, building on past training efforts, e.g. through Treatnet trainings. More specialized tools might also be considered in addition (e.g. on self-help groups, on special populations such as pregnant women or children). UNODC will continue to support the development of a network of regional expert trainers and regional training hubs to ensure sustainable regional capacity to deliver effective training on the treatment of substance use disorders for the training of trainers and practitioners at national academic and training institutions. In addition, other learning and information exchange mechanisms will be supported as appropriate, including mentoring, exchange and study visits. Institutions from the region as well as from other regions might also be brought in to share experience and expertise.

With regard to the capacity for research and evaluation on drug use disorders and the effectiveness of treatment responses, including related data collection mechanisms, some initial experiences already exist in the region. UNODC and WHO are jointly supporting the development of a National Drug Observatory in Senegal in the framework of the UNODC-WHO Programme on Drug Dependence Treatment and Care and another drug treatment information system is under development supported by UNODC in Nigeria.
Furthermore, while there are on-going efforts to develop national drug information systems, those need to be linked at regional level with a view to the development of a regional drug information system. Efforts to streamline and enhance national data collection efforts have been initiated by ECOWAS through the development of the West African Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (WENDU) indicator. More concerted efforts are however necessary to implement at least some minimum data collection components at all treatment services (e.g. Treatment Demand Indicator, UNODC/WHO Substance Use Treatment Facility Questionnaire, WENDU indicator) which can then contribute to the development of broader national and regional drug information systems. UNODC will aim at the development of a network of reference centres (academic and research institutions as well as drug treatment services) within the region, to develop standards, methodologies, tools and skills for planning, monitoring and measurement of outcomes and progress in the provision of effective treatment services and interventions.

With a view to enhance the capacity of countries increasing access to controlled drugs to ensure patients suffering from pain will be able to access safe, secure and medically monitored pain medication, UNODC will support the national partners to carry out reviews of their health systems on perceived barriers and challenges in access to opioids and palliative care services. UNODC will support the development of training materials and undertake 1) Develop a data collection mechanism to estimate the needs for controlled drugs; 2) Increase the capacity of national governments to collect data related to estimating the needs for controlled drugs; and 3) Support training of health professionals in assessing and treating pain.

Activities will include:

- Supporting data collection, research, quality assurance and evaluation capacities
- Reviewing existing legal and policy frameworks to ensure they allow the effective provision of a continuum of evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care services
- Adaptation and adoption of existing evidence-based standards, tools and guidelines and development of regional specific standards, tools and guidelines
- Adaptation and delivery of training modules for training and certification (by Member States) of practitioners
- Supporting increased availability of drug-dependence treatment services
- Promoting drug treatment as alternative to imprisonment in adequate cases (linked to Pillar I outcome 4)
- Promote increased access to pain medication with an effective control mechanism

SDG Goal 3, Target 3.3 is to end AIDS by 2030. Outcome 3 will contribute to achieving this goal and to implement the UNAIDS Strategy 2016-2021 On the Fast-Track to end AIDS that calls for a 75% reduction of new HIV infections including among PWID by 2020.

In the region, there is an urgent need to realign HIV prevention, treatment and care responses and law enforcement approaches to support prevention and treatment of HIV and hepatitis B and C among PWID. Criminalization disrupts access to HIV prevention, treatment and care services and other evidence-based prevention and treatment programs, drives PWID away from preventative medical care, reinforces stigma and discrimination and increases risks associated with injecting drug use. Hence there is a need to work towards creating improved laws and policies that prevent access to HIV prevention, treatment and care services and also ensure that the rights of prisoners including PWID are adequately addressed. Very little is currently done to address the specific HIV needs of PWID in the community and in prisons in West Africa.

In order to reach the UNODC 2020 target of reducing 75% new infections among people who use drugs and in prison settings, the following key elements should remain central for West Africa:

- Improving access for PWID, including young people, to the key and most cost-effective HIV interventions, namely needle and syringe programmes, opioid substitution therapy, HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT) and ART, including scaling up evidence-based comprehensive HIV services
- Promoting the protection of the right to health of PWID and of people in prison settings
- Empowering the civil society to ensure greater access for PWID to HIV prevention, treatment and care services and creating a space for the CSOs to share views with the law enforcement agencies
- Engaging the AU and ECOWAS to promote a regionalization of global efforts in these areas to increase ownership and promote mutual accountability and shared responsibility

A wide view of the Security Council open debate on
"Peacebuilding in Africa".
28 July 2016.
VI. PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

6.1. LESSONS LEARNED

The Regional Programme for West Africa (2010-2014) underwent an in-depth independent evaluation from November 2014 to March 2015. The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of the RP, as well as the contribution of projects to achieving the objectives of the RP; and to inform the development of the present RP.

The evaluation report noted that UNODC’s intervention in West Africa was overall highly relevant to strengthen in particular the capacity of Member States to work towards the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan to Address Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime and Drug Abuse in West Africa. It also stressed that UNODC’s expertise in technical assistance and threat analysis was widely recognized by all stakeholders. Regional networks such as WACAP and the Sahel Platform were highlighted as successful initiatives to be further analysed for potential replication.

These findings have been closely considered in the development of the present RP and are mentioned throughout this document.

6.2. COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Coordination and partnership-building with all relevant national, regional and international stakeholders were key objectives to UNODC in the implementation of its Regional Programme.

UNODC actively contributed to enhance United Nations inter-agency coordination and cooperation in West Africa. A major development in this regard was the UNODC Contribution to the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, which was developed by the UNSG pursuant to Security Council resolution 2056 (2012). UNODC’s Sahel Programme focuses on criminal justice capacity-building in order to combat, in an integrated way, illicit trafficking, organized crime, terrorism and corruption, and contributes to the “Security” and “Governance” pillars of the UNISS. UNODC also took part in the work of the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections in Guinea and Mali and of the Inter-Agency Security Sector Reform Task Force in Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau and Guinea, mainly in relation to the West Africa Coast Initiative (WACI). At country level, UNODC participated in the development and implementation of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF) in West Africa, the Delivering as One efforts in Benin, Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Sierra Leone and Togo, as well as the integrated offices and missions present in the region: United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI), United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations Integrated Peace-Building Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), and United Nations Integrated Peace-Building Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL). In Mali, UNODC staff is located in the specialized task force dedicated to counter-narcotics and TOC within the MINUSMA’s police component. At programme and project level, UNODC pursued the objectives of the Regional Programme through a number of joint regional and global efforts, such as the WACI; the CCP, an initiative by UNODC and the WCO; the UNODC-WCO-INTERPOL AIRCOP; and the Programme on Drug Dependence Treatment and Care implemented by UNODC and the WHO.

UNODC further engaged with a broad range of regional and international partners. In addition to its direct participation in the operationalization of the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan, UNODC also continued to contribute to the implementation of the AU’s Plan of Action on Drug Control 2013-2018, which provides the overall political and strategic framework for addressing these issues across the continent. UNODC also contributed to the AU’s strategies on corruption prevention, firearms trafficking prevention, border control and maritime security. UNODC collaborated with the civil society on different levels.

For example, under the global UNODC Youth Initiative, which is aimed at empowering youth to become active in their schools, communities and youth groups for the prevention of substance abuse, UNODC supported four projects via small grants to NGOs in Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. UNODC contributed to the preparation of the report of the West Africa Commission on Drugs Not Just in Transit: Drugs, the State and Society in West Africa.121

**Partnerships:** National ownership and mutual responsibility are crucial for a successful implementation of the RP. A key strategic partnership is already in place with ECOWAS and plays a critical role in galvanizing Member States political buy-in. UNODC is closely engaged with relevant national counterparts, including ministries of interior, justice and health, law enforcement, the judiciary and anti-corruption agencies, as well as agencies concerned with supporting victims of crime, addressing drug use and tackling the HIV epidemic among people who use drugs and in prison settings.

UNODC actively engages with all relevant UN agencies and international organizations in the region to ensure programmatic cooperation, complementarities and synergies: peace-building and peacekeeping missions, UNDP, UNOWAS, DPA, UNAIDS, the WCO, INTERPOL... In dealing with complex and sensitive issues, such as drug use and HIV, crime and criminal justice reform, there is also a strong need to promote solid partnerships with civil society across the region, as highlighted under the fifth cross-cutting type of intervention of the new RP. The presence of a knowledgeable and capable civil society plays an important role in building societies based on the rule of law and acting as effective support to health, economic and security government policies. Civil society can help former inmates and reformed drug addicts harmoniously reintegrate into society; act as relays to health services to conduct outreach and awareness-raising; support anti-corruption efforts by acting as whistleblowers; help mediating local conflicts and counter the narrative of terrorist organizations.

Where appropriate, UNODC will promote the involvement of CSOs in the new RP, in accordance with the legal systems and national legislation in each State, in particular in the fields of drug and HIV prevention and treatment, children justice reform and anti-corruption. These efforts will be achieved mostly through capacity-building, awareness-raising and the provision of grants (in line with UNODC and national rules and regulations). Where applicable, UNODC will map CSOs and networks in the region working on the thematic areas outlined in the RP, carry out targeted advocacy campaigns with CSOs to raise awareness at the local level, and create and reinforce existing communication channels with Member States, international organizations, and experts.

**6.3. UNODC INTERNAL ARRANGEMENTS**

In order to ensure that sufficient expertise and capacity are in place to drive forward UNODC’s mandates and respond to national priorities throughout West Africa, UNODC has had an increasing presence in the region since 2012. Its field office networks comprises a Regional Office for West and Central Africa (ROSEN) in Dakar, Senegal, a Country Office in Nigeria (CONIG) in Abuja, Nigeria, as well as nine field offices in Cotonou, Benin; Praia, Cabo Verde; Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire; Accra, Ghana; Bissau, Guinea-Bissau; Monrovia, Liberia; Bamako, Mali; Niamey, Niger; and Freetown, Sierra Leone.122

The RP will be implemented through different programmes and projects managed by UNODC ROSEN, CONIG and the different thematic branches and sections based in UNODC Headquarters (HQ).

The responsibility for the oversight of the RP implementation lies with ROSEN in close cooperation with the Regional Section for Africa and the Middle East (RSAME) of UNODC HQ. ROSEN will be in charge of monitoring activities, reporting on the performance of the RP, informing on the progress of the RP and on corrective actions, and organizing Steering Committee (SC) meetings.

As was the case for the RP 2010-2014, the objectives and the implementation of the new RP and of UNODC thematic programmes will be consistent and mutually reinforcing. Coordination of field-led initiatives with the thematic programmes, and vice-versa, will be systematically ensured. The role of RSAME will remain key in this respect.

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The current management structure for activities in Nigeria, led by CONIG, will be maintained. Coordination and synergies with activities implemented in the region will be reinforced through participation of CONIG and Nigerian representatives in the SC to be established under the new RP.

6.4. STEERING COMMITTEE

The evaluation of the previous RP led to the finding that “ownership should be supported through ensuring enhanced local participation, especially at the intervention formulation stages; beneficiary leadership; and in-depth institutional analysis. A continued effort in this direction would give national stakeholders a clear understanding of the relevance of these thematic areas to ensure stability and progress and encourage investment in the development of the strategy to deal with the problem.” In particular, it was suggested, “the RP should have a formalized governance structure comprising a steering body with decision making powers.”

In order to ensure ownership from and better coordination with relevant stakeholders, a SC will be established. Terms of Reference will be prepared in the upcoming months.

In the Experts’ Consultation Meeting on the RP, the idea that a SC may be established to oversee the implementation of the RP was supported. It was suggested that the SC have the following functions:

- Promoting coherence between the RP’s objectives and existing and upcoming national strategies related to UNODC mandates;
- Establishing priorities to match available funding;
- Making sure that the fundraising strategy emphasizes donor coordination (especially with ECOWAS) in order to prevent duplication or competition;
- Making sure that the regional programme includes cooperation and coordination with all relevant stakeholders for its implementation.

6.5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Instruments and procedures for recording progress in the framework of the RP will be developed to allow a constant flow of relevant information to be ultimately used for reporting and advocacy. For this purpose, the RP will continuously collect data (means of verification) on achievement in relation to the objectives and indicators of the different pillars and outcomes of the RP. Monitoring findings will be discussed at the SC meetings and serve as a basis for corrective measures to adjust the RP strategy. The Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), which should be further elaborated under the new ECOWAS Regional Plan of Action, will provide additional data to contribute to the discussions during the SC meetings. In addition, annual updates will be provided to the Regional Programme’s Steering Committee.

A mid-term evaluation and final evaluation will take place over the 5-year span of the RP. Both will be independent evaluations, carried out by an external team of evaluators under the guidance of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU). The evaluations are expected to provide an in-depth analysis of the RP performance including relevance to the problems, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and contribution to the objectives. The mid-term evaluation will provide input for corrective action during the lifetime of the RP, whereas the final evaluation will feed the next phase of the RP.

Unlike other UNODC Regional Programmes, the RP for West Africa will not be implemented through pillar subprogram projects corresponding to the themes outlined above. Instead, its implementation will rest on discreet projects, on-going and foreseen, that will work towards achieving the outcomes identified.

Accordingly, evaluation of the Regional Programme will, in the first instance, be a summation and analysis of the evaluations of all relevant projects. In addition, regarding the RP, the issues to be evaluated will include the ability of the programme to foster more upstream policy dialogue, its ability to identify and respond to emerging needs in a flexible manner and to foster cross-pillar approaches, allowing UNODC to help States mount a government response to complex issues that do not respond well to siloed solutions.

The findings of the evaluation of the previous RP will be implemented, including that “UNODC should re-train staff on the project cycle in order to strengthen formulation and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) capacities, which would improve the design and implementation of projects and allow for better impact measurement”.
### 6.6. RISK MANAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>External Risks</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Mitigation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Corruption within the counterpart structures prevents or hinders achieving the Regional Programmes’ objectives. | High | High | The risk cannot be prevented as such by the Office. However:  
• UNODC will foster policies and good practices through capacity-building, training and awareness to improve understanding of the provisions of the UNCAC. Anti-Corruption activities are a key component of the RP;  
• Should it become apparent during the Programme implementation that the risk materialized, UNODC should seek satisfactory guaranties from the government(s) concerned that this will be addressed, and link technical assistance in other thematic areas to commitment to progress in addressing corruption. |
| The security situation does not allow the conducting of activities Political instability / Coup d’Etat / Severe security situation in a country or parts of a country. | Medium | High | • Should this risk materialize, UNODC would follow the advice provided by the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and the national authorities and wait for the situation to become safe enough to resume its activities. It will Keep HQ updated on security situation in the country and enhance coordination with the UNODC Security Focal Point; and keep donors informed on impact of security situation on programme delivery;  
• UNODC will relocate its activities to safer regions within the same country when possible;  
• When political instability is related to elections (to be held during known periods), should it become clear that implementation might slow down in a country due to electoral period, UNODC will try to compensate by increasing the level of activities in countries not affected by such national developments, and plan to carry out key activities, as much as possible, prior to elections;  
• In case of outbreak of violence and a required (temporary) suspension of implementation in one of the countries in the region, UNODC can send officials to another country in order to provide its assistance;  
• Some interventions under the Regional Programme have a regional coverage while being implemented through national activities. In case violence erupts in a given country, UNODC will be able to focus on countries not affected by violence or instability and continue overall implementation until it can restart activities in the affected countries;  
• In the case of coup d’Etat, UNODC would consult with DPA and UNDSS to assess the recognition of the new government by the international community and the security situation and decide if the situation allows a continuation of project activities.123 |
| Counterpart(s) experience difficulties in participating in UNODC-organized events (due to conflicts of agendas and/or the lack of funding to attend events). | Medium | Low | • UNODC would aim at setting agreed dates for activities sufficiently in advance to ensure participation and allocate adequate budgets in line with its rules (for DSA and travel);  
• UNODC would proceed in accordance with the previously agreed work plan and conduct activities as foreseen;  
• In case Regional Programme Steering Committee meetings are delayed, UNODC would nevertheless move the implementation forward on a provisional basis until a meeting is held to officially endorse the annual work plan. |

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123 For example, project MLIU58 has been suspended in March 2012 after the coup d’Etat in Mali. The project then had to be closed pre-maturely and the funds were re-allocated to other UNODC projects. After the 2012 coup d’Etat in Guinea-Bissau, a limited presence could be maintained through an international consultant, but the majority of funding was frozen, allowing only very limited activities, which led to the downsizing of the office.
### Identification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Risk Mitigation Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| New operational capacities of some beneficiary structures may (be perceived to) contribute to human rights violations. | Low         | High   | UNODC will apply its own position paper on human rights and the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy, and the Rights up Front Initiative. In addition, it will:  
• Include human rights training in its activities where appropriate;  
• Monitor the activities of beneficiary law enforcement agencies, in line with human rights standards;  
• Maintain a dialogue with national counterparts on the subject. |
| Legislative revisions envisaged are blocked or not applied (for political or technical reasons). | Low         | Medium | • A dialogue would be established between the government(s) concerned and the UN country team (including UNODC) in order to overcome the obstacle(s) met. |
| A weak knowledge base hinders capacity-building.                               | Low         | Medium | • UNODC will agree with national authorities on basic requirements for participation in training activities;  
• When necessary, UNODC may use pre-training assessments;  
• UNODC will apply some degree of flexibility to adapt its activities to the capacity of the professionals to be trained. |
| High turnover in Member States’ institutions reduces continuity of implementation and/or affects sustainability (e.g. with regard to training of trainers). | Medium      | Medium | • UNODC will do its utmost to secure agreements from the Ministries concerned to ensure that staff trained under the Regional Programme stay in place for an adequate period and perform the tasks they were trained for;  
• UNODC will advocate for the establishment of appropriate handover procedures and overlapping time between departing and arriving staff. |
| Lack of available reporting data on progress in implementation.                | Low         | Medium | • Set up a mechanism to warn of potential reporting problems in advance;  
• Sensitize counterparts to the need for certain kinds of information;  
• Identify avenues through agreement on alternative indicators can be established (for example, through the Steering Committee);  
• Prioritize data collection capacity-building under each of the pillars. |

### Internal Risks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Risk Mitigation Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Adequate financing is not forthcoming.                                        | Medium      | High   | • Based on UNODC expertise and experience in the region, it will continue to lobby key stakeholders and partners to position UNODC as the primary agency in drugs, crime, corruption, and terrorism-related matters;  
• Intensify the outreach to key donors, e.g. through the organization of donor roundtables, meetings on thematic issues;  
• Finalize on-going donor mapping exercise and intensify efforts to enlarge the pool of donors in the region;  
• Maintain regular exchange of information between UNODC (HQ) and the Regional Office on fund raising strategies;  
• Receive continued guidance in the implementation of Full Cost Recovery (FCR) by HQ. |
| Failure to meet the requirements and obligations specified by donors, in particular implementation rate (due to internal administrative processes and/or over-cumbersome reporting requirements). | Medium      | Medium | Reform and improvements to UNODC management and administrative systems and processes are on-going, including financing mechanisms for regional programmes and human resources management. In November 2015, UNODC changed its enterprise resource planning system to Umowa in order to apply the latest management best practices currently rolled out across the United Nations Secretariat:  
• Maintain continuous dialogue with donors and advocate for a more flexible approach to fund allocation and reporting;  
• Improve operational and financial planning;  
• Generate periodic reviews of expenditure reports against budget allocations and potential savings. |
| UNODC administrative processes might impede flexible implementation of initiatives in line with evolving needs. | Medium      | Medium | • Maintain continuous dialogue with donors and advocate for a more flexible approach to fund allocation;  
• Improve operational and financial planning;  
• Generate periodic reviews of expenditure reports against budget allocations and potential savings;  
• Careful review of cost efficiencies and effectiveness to further align office structures and functions. |
ANNEX I: FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

Donors’ relations and fund-raising initiatives will be coordinated within UNODC in close consultation with the Co-Financing and Partnership Section as well as the Regional desk and Thematic Sections to ensure synergy, complementarity and to avoid overlaps.

Advocacy and fund raising – lessons learned
One of the findings of the evaluation of the previous RP was that “UNODC should sensitize donors to the importance of flexible funding mechanisms so as to allocate resources more effectively to the fluctuating needs and constraints faced in the region, and to orient donor priorities towards research and awareness-raising efforts as well as proven priorities on the ground.” Given UNODC significant dependence on donor funding to implement its programmes of support the region, multilateral and bilateral donors are crucial partners. An analysis of donor interests will maximize UNODC’s networks, outreach capabilities and local expertise in the region. Both considerations were taken into account in the development of the fundraising strategy.

The structure of the RP was adapted to allow donors flexibility in selection of activities to support. The matrix below presents the interconnection of cross-cutting technical assistance and thematic pillar components.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matrix of thematic pillars and types of interventions</th>
<th>Types of interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research and trend analysis</td>
<td>Legislative assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thematic pillars</td>
<td>I. Strengthening criminal justice systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>II. Preventing and countering transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>III. Preventing and countering terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV. Preventing and countering corruption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>V. Improving drug and HIV prevention, treatment and care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When deciding about funding priorities, a donor could choose to contribute to a thematic pillar; OR one of the identified types of interventions; OR a thematic pillar and a type of intervention at the same time. For instance, the donor could desire to fund capacity-building in the field of terrorism or/and the pillar on corruption or/and the regional and international cooperation in all the themes. The double angle approach through thematic pillars and the five types of interventions should allow easier and more pragmatic engagement with the donor community. The vehicle through which funding will be disbursed would still be projects and programmes, whose scope, logframes and contents will be defined in more details in relevant project and programme documents.

Guiding principles on resource mobilization
Requests for UNODC to deliver technical assistance through programmes and projects are mostly ad hoc and often respond to immediate needs of beneficiary and/or donor governments. No core or assessed budgets are available for UNODC project and programme implementation. All financial resources for UNODC projects and programmes come from voluntary contributions from governments and regional or international organizations. Consequently, resource mobilization is an essential responsibility of UNODC if it wants to continue delivering technical assistance through projects and programmes.
Over the last two decades, the volume of activity of UNODC has grown exponentially because its mandates are highly relevant and visible in the international community – in particular in relation to terrorism and transnational organized crime. In other words, donors invest funds in UNODC programmes and projects that they consider a response to acute priorities. In addition to the Headquarters, UNODC presence in the field or thematic experts often have an important role to play in resource mobilization, as beneficiaries and potential donors require access to the knowledge and expertise that feel is required for implementation.

To raise funds for the RP for West Africa, UNODC will focus on the development of new programmes within the international community’s priorities and package existing programmes and projects as contributions to addressing those priorities within the framework of the Programme. UNODC will support programme development by research to underline UNODC’s understanding of the situation and expertise.

In its outreach to potential donors, UNODC will highlight its comparative advantage:

- **Expertise:** As the guardian of the UNTOC and its related Protocols, the UNCAC, as well as the various international instruments on drug control and counter-terrorism, UNODC has a unique expertise in supporting Member States to address organized crime and related illicit trafficking and terrorism through legislative, criminal justice and law enforcement advisory services.

- **Track record:** UNODC has a track record with regard to results and implementation through its programmes, the thematic areas or in the region, which is targeted (if applicable).

- **Impartiality and convening power:** As a UN organization that is governed by the States it supports and that focuses primarily on the delivery of technical assistance, UNODC provides impartiality and neutrality that other actors often do not have. As such, it also has the ability to bring stakeholders together in a politically neutral environment.

- **Government ownership:** UNODC ensures government ownership as a necessary condition for a successful programme delivery, which contributes to the uptake and sustainability of its programmes.

- **Field presence:** UNODC’s field presence in different regions around the world has given it extensive knowledge of the illicit trafficking and organized crime situation and enabled it to establish strong collaborative ties with national authorities and partner organizations.

In line with the finding that the visibility of the RP should be enhanced (with additional resources), several steps will be taken as described below.

The Regional Programme has been launched by the UNODC Executive Director in a side event to the 71st session of the General Assembly co-chaired by the President of ECOWAS in New York in September 2016. The event has been publicised in advance to ensure attendance of all major donors and stakeholders.

UNODC will ensure that (high-quality: accurate, timely, impartial and relevant) outreach to (potential) donors takes place continuously, at various levels and through various means to establish visibility of UNODC’s expertise and capacity among potential donors, for example:

- **Websites and social media:** websites are low-maintenance, accessible communications tools that can efficiently disseminate up-to-date messages to a large and/or targeted audience.

- **Printed documents:** printed documents such as brochures, reports and advocacy materials that present information in an accessible way (professional design, pictures and graphs) to demonstrate programmatic progress.

- **Targeted mailings:** e-mails to partners on topics that are relevant to them highlight the relevance of the work of UNODC.

- **Invitations to activities:** involving partners as observers in activities such as workshops and training courses can generate interest and appreciation for programme implementation.

Such activities could also be planned in connection with the meetings of the RP Steering Committee, taking advantage of the participation of experts from the region and sharing reports on progress in implementation.

UNODC will do a mapping exercise of relevant donors, which will be the focus of all the above-mentioned efforts.
## ANNEX II: INDICATIVE BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PILLARS</th>
<th>TITLES</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PILLAR I</td>
<td>Strengthening criminal justice systems</td>
<td>11,000,000</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>39,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILLAR II</td>
<td>Preventing and countering transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking</td>
<td>22,000,000</td>
<td>22,000,000</td>
<td>11,000,000</td>
<td>11,000,000</td>
<td>11,000,000</td>
<td>77,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILLAR III</td>
<td>Preventing and countering terrorism</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>17,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILLAR IV</td>
<td>Preventing and countering corruption</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>5,800,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>17,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILLAR V</td>
<td>Improving drug and HIV prevention, treatment and care</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>46,000,000</td>
<td>43,800,000</td>
<td>25,500,000</td>
<td>25,500,000</td>
<td>25,500,000</td>
<td>166,300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ANNEX III: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

### PILLAR I
**STRENGTHENING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS**

**Outcome 1:** National authorities more effectively use integrated and sustainable forensic services to support the criminal justice chain.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that participate in regional/international networks of practitioners, sharing forensic best practices;</td>
<td>• Member States (MS) records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that actively participate in UNODC (e.g. international collaborative exercises) and/or other forensic proficiency testing schemes;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 3 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed standards and laboratory working procedures to ensure that scientific findings are used in support of the criminal justice chain.</td>
<td>• Draft regulations, analysis of MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 3 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SDG 16**

**Outcome 2:** National authorities improve technical capacities of law enforcement agencies to respond to the challenges of organized crime and terrorism (including through regional cooperation) in line with human rights principles and UN standards.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have signed inter-agency cooperation agreements that improve law enforcement, criminal intelligence and prosecutors cooperation;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries with evidence of improved data gathering, analysis and use on organized crime, such as drug, precursor, arms and other illicit goods trafficking;</td>
<td>• Analysis of data submitted to UNODC from MS and follow-up questionnaires on data use and relevant UNODC reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries regularly submitting the UN-Crime Trends Survey (UN-CTS) with complete and high quality data;</td>
<td>• National UN-CTS questionnaires;</td>
<td>Baseline: 2 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of inter-regional/regional networks and cooperation platforms that have been established/strengthened for cooperation and information sharing regarding law enforcement.</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 networks/platforms Target: 2 networks/platforms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SDG 16 Targets**
- 16.1, 16.3,
- 16.a
**Outcome 3**: National authorities strengthen capacities of prosecution, adjudication and defence institutions to respond to organized crime and terrorism, and provide access to justice in line with UN Standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and other relevant human rights principles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>Targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed/formulated standard operating procedures (SOPs) that have been formulated/developed for enhanced inter-institutional collaboration between law enforcement agencies and prosecution;</td>
<td>• Documents on professional standards of conduct available, UNODC reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries where judiciary apply improved understanding of new and emerging forms of crime and terrorism;</td>
<td>• Programme documents, validated through pilot projects with UNODC assistance, analysis of MS records/reports (including on judicial decisions) and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have initiated action to strengthen the legislative framework that applies to prosecution, defence and adjudication services and bring it more in line with standards ensuring effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice system, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed programmes for improving access to legal aid;</td>
<td>• Programme documents, validated through pilot projects with UNODC assistance, analysis of MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed programmes, measures and legislation for improving the protection of victims, witnesses, and whistleblowers, with input from UNODC.</td>
<td>• Programme documents, validated through pilot projects with UNODC assistance, analysis of MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome 4: National authorities operate and reform prison systems in compliance with human rights principles and UN standards, and effectively contribute to reducing recidivism and addressing radicalization in prisons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries where prison reform programmes have been developed and/or implemented to improve prison management, including data management, specialized staff training and an improved legislative and regulatory framework for prison staff;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 3 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries where alternatives to imprisonment have been developed and/or implemented;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries where social reintegration and rehabilitation programmes were developed, with an inter-institutional participation;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports, field visits and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries where prison reform programmes have been developed and/or implemented to address the radicalization of prisoners, such as individual risk and needs assessments to facilitate proper classification of prisoners; prison intelligence and dynamic security;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports, field visits and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries with improved prison facilities/capacities to address prison overcrowding and comply with standards related to separation, as well as the treatment of women offenders.</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports, field visits and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Outcome 5: National authorities operate and reform justice for children in compliance with the international legal framework related to the rights of the child.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have initiated action to review their laws, regulations and policies to ensure compliance with international standards, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC assessments and analysis and review of new/revised legislation, strategies and action plan documents, MS reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 country supported through assessment Target: 5 countries supported through assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have put in operational measures to implement international standards and norms relating to justice for children, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC assessments and analysis and review of new/revised MS reports from institutions and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of national practitioners by country (m/f) trained and applying training in ‘measures aimed to prevent and respond to violence against children’, and report operational use of trainings.</td>
<td>• UNODC records of meeting and capacity-building activities, training records and reports and follow-up questionnaires.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 practitioners Target: 200 practitioners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome 6: National authorities and practitioners enhance capacities to deal with children associated to violent extremist groups, including terrorist groups, and prevent their recruitment, in accordance with the international legal framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that initiated action to adapt (or adopt) legislative and regulatory frameworks compliant with the international legal framework related to the rights of children, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC assessments and analysis and review of new/revised legislation, strategies and action plan documents, MS reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: NA Target: 3 new countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr of practitioners (m/f) trained and applying specialized training to deal with children associated to violent extremist groups, and report operational use of trainings.</td>
<td>• UNODC records of meeting and capacity-building activities follow-up questionnaires.</td>
<td>Baseline: 40 practitioners Target: 200 practitioners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PILLAR II
PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries involved in research exercises (assessment missions) and considering recommendations to improve their data gathering capacity, analysis and use on drug, precursor and counterfeit products trafficking at national and regional levels;</td>
<td>• Analysis of data submitted to UNODC from MS and follow-up questionnaires on data use, SMART and World Drug and other relevant UNODC reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 4 countries Target: 8 countries</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries regularly submitting Annual Request Questionnaire (ARQ) and Individual Drug Seizure (IDS) reports to UNODC with complete and high quality statistical data;</td>
<td>• Annual questionnaires submitted to UNODC;</td>
<td>ARQ: Baseline: 4 countries Target: 8 countries IDS: Baseline: 1 country Target: 3 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of inter-regional/regional networks and cooperation platforms that are established/strengthened for cooperation and information sharing regarding TOC offences;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 network/platform Target: 4 networks/platforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of national and regional structures/initiatives/networks/organizations, including joint operation units, such as BLOs, TCUs, PCUs and/or JAITFs, established or strengthened to increase cross-border cooperation, including on issues such as intelligence gathering, joint investigations;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 16 structures/networks Target: 26 structures/networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of national and regional inter-agency cooperation agreements signed that address law enforcement/criminal intelligence/border control.</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 16 agreements Target: 31 agreements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome 2: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants in line with human rights principles and UN standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Baseline/Target</th>
<th>Targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of national and regional inter-agency cooperation agreements signed to strengthen national and regional coordination on combating TIP and SoM;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 11 agreements Target: 21 agreements</td>
<td>16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed/prepared for adoption improved domestic legislation on TIP and/or SoM with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 5 countries (TIP) and 0 countries (SoM) Target: 10 countries (TIP) and 6 countries (SoM)</td>
<td>16.2.3 16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed/reviewed and/or implemented comprehensive strategies, actions plans and policies addressing TIP;</td>
<td>• Strategy/policy documents, analysis of MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 6 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that collect, analyse and report on data on TIP and SoM.</td>
<td>• Analysis of data submitted to UNODC from MS and follow-up questionnaires on data use.</td>
<td>Baseline: 10 countries Target: 14 countries</td>
<td>16.a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcome 3: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter maritime crime and piracy in line with human rights principles and UN standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Means of Verification</th>
<th>Baseline/Target</th>
<th>Targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have developed and operationalized legal instruments, action plans, policies and comprehensive strategies to prevent and counter maritime crime and piracy;</td>
<td>• Strategy/policy documents, analysis of MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 6 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
<td>16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries submitting information on cases of illicit goods detected from close examined containers, based on profiling and risk assessment;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 country submits information of seizures Target: 6 countries that submit information of seizures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries where refurbished or newly constructed facilities for maritime law enforcement are in use, and in compliance with international standards and norms.</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 4 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome 4: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter wildlife and forest crime in line with human rights principles and UN standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>SDG 15 and SDG 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and names of countries that have implemented the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit and developed Action Plans on that basis;</td>
<td>• Country TK requests, assessment mission reports and country action plans;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 4 countries</td>
<td>Targets 15.7, 15.c, 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and names of countries that have strengthened/are strengthening law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial responses to wildlife, forest and fisheries crime (training, equipment, legislative reviews, establishment of multi-agency task teams), with assistance from UNODC;</td>
<td>• Training records, reports and follow-up questionnaires, inventory records, Memorandums of Understanding signed, and Standard Operating Procedures developed, policies and strategies adopted;</td>
<td>Baseline: 3 countries (Togo, Ghana, Senegal) Target: 6 countries (including baseline)</td>
<td>Indicator 15.7.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of countries that report increase in wildlife seizures, and increase in the percentage of wildlife, forest and fisheries crime cases resolved/adjudicated in line with due process guarantees;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 country (Togo) Target: 3 countries (including Togo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of countries that are developing/developed national prevention strategies including advocacy, awareness raising, alternative livelihoods, and civil society empowerment, with input from UNODC.</td>
<td>• Meeting reports, campaign documents and publications, strategies developed.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 2 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcome 5: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter the illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms in line with human rights principles and UN standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>SDG 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries with evidence of improved data gathering, analysis and use on firearms, ammunition and other related illicit goods trafficking at national and regional levels;</td>
<td>• Analysis of data submitted to UNODC from MS and follow-up questionnaires on data use and relevant UNODC reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 country Target: 6 countries</td>
<td>Targets 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have initiated action to enhance legislative and regulatory frameworks to combat illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports, assessments and MS reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
<td>Indicator 16.4.2 Proportion of seized small arms and light weapons that are recorded and traced, in accordance with international standards and legal instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that apply firearms control measures to reduce proliferation, and to prevent illicit trafficking.</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 6 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Outcome 6**: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter money-laundering and conduct effective financial investigations to track the proceeds of organized crime.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have initiated action to enhance legislative and regulatory frameworks to combat money-laundering, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports, FATF assessments and MS reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of inter-regional/regional networks and cooperation platforms that are established/strengthened for cooperation and information exchange on AML.</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Target: 5 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PILLAR III
PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORISM**

**Outcome 1**: National authorities enhance their criminal justice responses to terrorism in conformity with the rule of law, human rights, and relevant international requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have initiated action to ratify the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism; adopt/revise relevant domestic legislation; and/or develop action plans, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• Ratification documents; information from depositories of the international legal instruments against terrorism, parliamentary records, UNODC assessments and analysis and review of new/revised legislation, strategies and action plan documents, MS reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and names of countries that have strengthened/are strengthening law enforcement, prosecutorial and judicial responses to terrorism cases, in compliance with human rights;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports (including post training questionnaires on number of terrorism cases in which agencies have benefited from UNODC assistance to investigate, prosecute or adjudicate the case);</td>
<td>Target: 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and names of countries involved in research exercises (assessments) to develop recommendation to improve their data collection capacity, analysis and use on extremism and terrorism in the region, with support from UNODC;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of relevant studies, research missions and reports on countries in the region, produced in coordination with national authorities;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Target: 4 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of international cooperation requests in terrorism cases processed through regional judicial cooperation networks and platforms.</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ratification documents; information from depositories of the international legal instruments against terrorism, parliamentary records, UNODC assessments and analysis and review of new/revised legislation, strategies and action plan documents, MS reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Target: 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports (including post training questionnaires on number of terrorism cases in which agencies have benefited from UNODC assistance to investigate, prosecute or adjudicate the case);</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 requests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Target: 10 requests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SDG 16**

Targets: 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.a

Indicator 16.4.1
Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)

**Baseline/Target:**

- **Targets:**
  - 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.a

- **Indicator 16.4.1**
  - Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)

**Baseline/Target:**

- **Targets:**
  - 16.3, 16.4, 16.6, 16.a

- **Indicator 16.4.1**
  - Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)
### Outcome 2: National authorities more effectively counter the financing of terrorism, in accordance with the rule of law and relevant international requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>SDG 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have initiated action to enhance legislative and regulatory frameworks to combat the financing of terrorism, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports, FATF assessments and MS reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 country Target: 5 countries</td>
<td>Indicator 16.4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of agencies that have undertaken an initiative to develop their data collection and analysis capacity, with assistance from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 agencies Target: 4 agencies</td>
<td>Indicator 16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of practitioners (m/f) trained and applying specialized training on investigating and prosecuting terrorism financing cases, including financing of FTFs, and report on its operational use.</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports and follow up questionnaires.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 practitioners Target: 80 practitioners</td>
<td>Total cases of money-laundering prosecuted/in instance in accordance with national legal framework</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indicators: 16.3, 16.4, 16.a

### Outcome 3: National authorities more effectively prevent and counter major terrorism challenges, such as violent extremism, and foreign terrorist fighters, in accordance with the rule of law and relevant international requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>SDG 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of national agencies with increased operational capacity to counter radicalization and violent extremism, including the recruitment of foreign terrorist fighters;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports, including reports on application of training modules;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 agencies Target: 5 agencies</td>
<td>Targets 16.1, 16.3, 16.a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of practitioners (m/f) trained and applying specialized training to deal with violent extremism; and report on its operational use (to be read in relation to Pillar I, outcome 6).</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports and follow up questionnaires.</td>
<td>Baseline: 40 practitioners Target: 200 practitioners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indicators: 16.1, 16.3, 16.a
# PILLAR IV
PREVENTING AND COUNTERING CORRUPTION

## Outcome 1: National authorities reinforce the culture of integrity through preventive measures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries actively involved in Cycle II of the UNCAC review mechanism;</td>
<td>• UNCAC review reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 15 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that are reviewing/ reviewed legal provisions/ regulations/policies related to the prevention of corruption, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries (for the upcoming review cycle) Target: 6 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries with improved asset disclosure systems in place;</td>
<td>• Data collected from MS through UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries implementing surveys on the experience of corruption by the population or business sector and producing analytical reports.</td>
<td>• Publication of analytical reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 country Target: 3 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SDGs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16.5, 16.6, 16.10, 16.a</td>
<td>16.5.1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Outcome 2: National law enforcement authorities and criminal justice systems more effectively combat corruption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries reviewing/developing legal provisions/ regulations and reforms to strengthen institutions (in response to gaps identified through Cycle I of the UNCAC review mechanism), with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 2 countries Target: 7 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. of practitioners (m/f) trained and applying trainings, in particular trainings organized by the Network of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa (NACIWA) Anti-Corruption Academy;</td>
<td>• NACIWA report and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 1 training Target: 6 trainings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Percentage of corruption cases resolved/adjudicated (in line with due process guarantees) in relation to the cases filed, increased.</td>
<td>• Data collected from MS through UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>To be established through data collection</td>
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</table>

**SDGs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16.5, 16.6, 16.10, 16.a</td>
<td>16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome 3: National authorities more effectively counter corruption in natural resource management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>SDG 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries reviewing/adopting legal provisions/regulations/policies and other measures to promote transparency in the natural resource sector, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• Data collected from MS through UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td>Indicator 16.5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that develop national strategies to combat corruption in natural resource management in partnership with national anti-corruption bodies, the private sector, and civil society;</td>
<td>• Data collected from MS through UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries whose national anti-corruption bodies actively investigate corruption in the natural resource sector.</td>
<td>• Data collected from MS through UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 2 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
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</table>

### Outcome 4: National authorities more effectively recover stolen assets and illicit financial flows.

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<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>SDG 16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that participate in regional/international networks of practitioners for asset recovery;</td>
<td>• MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
<td>Indicator 16.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have improved asset recovery and management systems;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have effectively recovered stolen assets nationally and/or internationally in corruption cases investigated by their anti-corruption bodies.</td>
<td>• Data collected from MS through UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 6 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
<td>Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### PILLAR V
**IMPROVING DRUG AND HIV PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE**

**Outcome 1:** National authorities, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders more effectively prevent the use of drugs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have created comprehensive, national or specific prevention plans that outline policies and interventions in line with the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention or subsequent international guidelines, with support from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports and analysis of Member States records/reports;</td>
<td><strong>Target</strong> 3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that report implementing evidence based interventions, involving civil society where appropriate (together with the types of intervention and nr: reached via them);</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports and analysis of Member States records/reports; followed-up questionnaires and visits by UNODC experts;</td>
<td><strong>Baseline:</strong> 0 countries (TBC) <strong>Target:</strong> 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that report evaluating the effectiveness of evidence based prevention policies and/or intervention(s);</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports and analysis of Member States records/reports;</td>
<td><strong>Baseline:</strong> 1 country <strong>Target:</strong> 5 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that report initiatives to raise awareness on drugs prevention treatment and care among stakeholders (ex.: prisoners officials, religious leaders), in particular on the occasion of the annual World Drug Day.</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports and analysis of Member States records/reports, press releases.</td>
<td><strong>Baseline:</strong> 1 country <strong>Target:</strong> 5 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SDGs**

**SDG 3**
**Outcome 2 :** National authorities provide enhanced access to evidence-based drug dependence treatment, care and rehabilitation services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators:</th>
<th>Means of Verification:</th>
<th>Baseline/Target:</th>
<th>Target 3.5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have taken concrete measures on the development of drug information systems with a view to treatment data collection (Treatment Demand Indicator (TDI, mapping, facility survey));</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td>Indicator 3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psycho-social and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have taken concrete measures to review and amend laws, regulations and/or policies to allow for comprehensive and gender responsive drug dependence treatment and care, with input from UNODC;</td>
<td>• UNODC reports and analysis of MS records/reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 2 countries Target: 7 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries, number of participants and assessments of trainings on evidence-based drug dependence treatment and care (pre, post, operational reports);</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports, follow up questionnaires; pre and post training evaluation;</td>
<td>Baseline: at least 4 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that report an increase in the availability of operational treatment services for drug use disorders in their country;</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have implemented quality assurance mechanisms for their treatment services in line with International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders;</td>
<td>• UNODC reports and analysis of MS records/reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries providing drug treatment services as alternative to incarceration in adequate cases and in a gender-sensitive manner; (linked and duplicate to Pillar I);</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have taken concrete actions programmes on increasing access to pain medication including: data collection on estimating pain medication requirement, request quota from INCB and training of health professionals.</td>
<td>• MS reports to INCB, updated list of essential medicines, training reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 2 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 3</strong></td>
<td>National authorities broaden and improve HIV prevention, treatment and care responses among drug users and those in detention settings.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Indicators:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Means of Verification:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Baseline/Target:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have reviewed and if necessary amended/developed laws, policies and normative guidance to offer access to effective comprehensive HIV treatment and care, including for those living in closed settings;</td>
<td>• UNODC monitoring reports and analysis of MS records/reports;</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have increased coverage and access to quality drug dependence treatment, comprehensive package of HIV prevention, treatment and care interventions for people who use/inject drugs and people living in prisons in a people centred, rights based, gender and age responsive manner, and inclusive of civil society;</td>
<td>• UNODC, WHO and UNAIDS reports;</td>
<td>For people in prisons Baseline: 0 countries Target: 5 countries For people who use/inject drugs Baseline: 3 countries Target: 10 countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Nr. and name of countries that have opioid overdose prevention and care programmes in community and closed settings.</td>
<td>• (Analysis of) MS records/reports and UNODC monitoring reports.</td>
<td>Baseline: 0 countries Target: 2 countries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| SDG 3 |
| Targets 3.3, 3.5 |

i. In support of ECOWAS Action Plan OUTCOME 2: EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND NATIONAL/REGIONAL COOPERATION AMONG RELEVANT AGENCIES INVOLVED IN COUNTERING DRUG TRAFFICKING, ORGANISED CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE.

ii. In support of ECOWAS Action Plan OUTCOME 3: APPROPRIATE, ADEQUATE AND EFFICIENT LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR EFFECTIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM TO FIGHT DRUG TRAFFICKING, ORGANISED CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE WITH DUE REGARD TO FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RULE OF LAW.

iii. In support of ECOWAS Action Plan OUTCOME 5: SUSTAINABLE SYSTEM OF RELEVANT, VALID AND RELIABLE DATA ON DRUG USE, DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ORGANIZED CRIME IS DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINED.

iv. In support of ECOWAS Action Plan OUTCOME 4: REDUCED DRUG DEMAND THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE, SUSTAINABLE PREVENTION OF DRUG USE, DRUG DEPENDENCE TREATMENT, SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, INCREASED ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES.