UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

UNCCT ANNUAL REPORT 2019

FOURTH YEAR OF THE UNCCT 5-YEAR PROGRAMME

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2019

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This report was funded from a generous contribution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism in support of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre.

Table of contents

Abbreviations and Acronyms 4

Foreword 7

I. Introduction 11

II. Programme Implementation 15

Project Overview 16

Project Objectives, Activities, Outputs and Impacts 33

Pillar I - Outcome 1: Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism 33

Pillar II - Outcome 2: Measures to prevent and combat terrorism 67

Pillar III - Outcome 4: Measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard. 101

Pillar IV - Outcome 3: Measures ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism. 125

Mainstreaming Human Rights and Gender 143

III. UNCCT Advisory Board, Outreach, and 'All-of-UN' 147

UNCCT Advisory Board 147

Consultations with Member States 150

Cooperation with United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities 152

IV. Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight 155

V. Communications & Visibility 170

VI. Resource Mobilisation & Financial Performance 175

VII. Conclusion & Strategic Priorities for 2020 182

Abbreviations and Acronyms

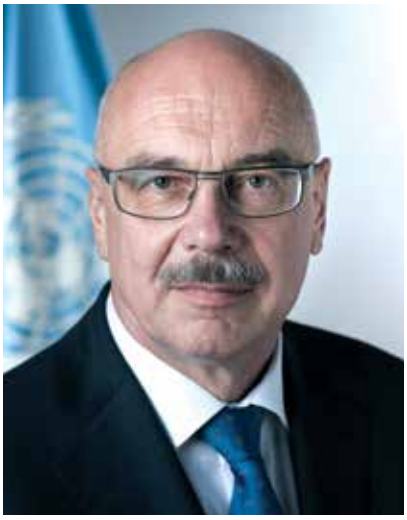
AIMC	Arab Interior Ministers Council
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
BSM	Border security and management
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism
CSOs	Civil society organizations
CTED	Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
ESAAMLG	Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FTF	Foreign terrorist fighters
GCTC	Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact
GICNT	Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICSANT	International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LAS	League of Arab States
NAP	National Action Plan
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Abbreviations and Acronyms

OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OICT	United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology
OPCW	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
P/CVE	Preventing and countering violent extremism
PVE	Preventing violent extremism
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
SOP	Standard operating procedure
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNAOC	United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRCCA	United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction

"The transnational nature of terrorism and violent extremism underscores the vital importance of multilateral cooperation to detect, identify and disrupt violent extremism and to bring terrorists to justice"

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations



UN Photo

Foreword

by the Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT and the Executive Director of UNCCT

This year was one of significant counter-terrorism achievements, including the territorial defeat of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in March, but also of stark reminders that terrorism remains one of the most serious global challenges to international peace and security, achieving the sustainable development goals, and realizing universal human rights. The global ISIL and Al-Qaida networks and affiliates endure, carrying out attacks and inciting violence and spreading their toxic ideologies both online and offline. Other concerning forms of terrorism and violent extremist ideologies have also emerged or gained ground. From New Zealand to Sri Lanka to the Sahel, this past year we have seen devastating terrorist attacks take the lives of many innocents. I would like to express my profound solidarity with all victims of terrorism across the world.

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) responded dynamically to these evolving terrorist threats. The Centre organized 95 capacity-building workshops and expert level meetings, engaging over 5,000 individuals in 2019. This represents a 90 percent increase in the number of individuals engaged, compared to 2018. UNCCT also organized 32 outreach and awareness raising events in 2019. This represents an almost 150% increase in the number of outreach events organized, compared to 2018. Responding to Member State demands and both Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, UNCCT also launched new programmes and expanded existing ones in priority areas such as countering the financing of terrorism, youth engagement, cybersecurity, victims of

terrorism, upholding human rights while countering terrorism, mainstreaming gender, and countering terrorist use of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear material.

These UNCCT global flagship programmes not only follow the priorities established by UNCCT's 5-year programme of work but are also attuned to Member States' priorities and most pressing challenges. Our programme on prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of foreign terrorist fighters, for example, has been developed to support Member States in addressing the untenable situation of over 100,000 people still stranded in detention and displacement facilities in the north-east of Syria, of which more than 70,000 are ISIL-associated women and children in the Al Hol camp. Their situation requires the urgent attention and action of all concerned Member States.

These kinds of global challenges require global solutions that can only be realized through strong partnerships. UNCCT has benefited from the guidance of its Advisory Board under the able chairmanship of Ambassador Abdullah A. Al-Mouallimi of Saudi Arabia. Acting at both the ambassadorial and expert levels, the Advisory Board has undertaken numerous joint initiatives with UN Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and developed multi-level and multidimensional partnerships. This year we have signed six new memoranda of understanding and other cooperation frameworks with prominent international, regional and national organizations. We have also established a UNCCT civil society engagement capacity, implemented joint initiatives and activities with non-profit organizations, and developed UNOCT's Civil Society Engagement Strategy to be implemented in 2020.

Through UNOCT's participation in the Secretariat's most important decision-making fora, including the Executive Committee of the Secretary-General and the Standing Principals Group, I have been able to raise awareness and promote sustain attention to the counter-terrorism agenda within the United Nations System. These efforts have brought increased visibility to UNCCT's priorities and programming, including on promoting the rights victims of terrorism, addressing the challenges posed by foreign terrorist fighters, cyber-security, and preventing the spread of violent extremism both online and offline, among other topics. This has helped us bring closer the policy-making bodies of the Organization with our programming and promote a cross-pillar and an 'all-of-UN' approach, with UNCCT at the center of our capacity-building efforts.

2019 has also been a year of expansion: in the number of partners, of people reached and trained by UNCCT, and of our team. New staff members with world class experience in key technical counter-terrorism areas such as strategic communications, border security and management, and prison management, among others, have bolstered the Centre's in-house expertise. The change management process initiated in 2018 and completed in 2019, helped us to determine optimal staff levels for UNCCT to be able to more effectively respond to the request by General Assembly resolution A/Res/72/284 for strengthened management oversight and staff member accountability for deliverables. It has been an expansion focused on enhancing our effectiveness, transparency and impact on the ground. For example, we established a new Programme Management Unit to assess the results and impact of our work, including through a new evaluation policy, systematic data collection, and high-quality reporting.

We also redoubled our efforts to improve the visibility of UNCCT's work. In December, we launched the new UNCCT webpage, which displays high-quality, visually attractive and

user-friendly information about our programmes and projects. We updated UNCCT's communications strategy and visibility plan; published videos, brochures, pamphlets and handbooks; launched a UNCCT exhibition on victims of terrorism; designed tailored campaigns to launch our programmes; ramped up our social media engagement; and prominently displayed UNCCT's branding in all our events and publications.

We are doing better work and we are better known, and as a result, UNCCT concluded four new contribution agreements through the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism for new or expanded programmes, including from one new donor, the Republic of Finland. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continues to be the main contributor, providing 75% of total cumulative contributions and pledges to UNCCT, with 30 donors making up the remaining 25%. Overall, the Centre's increased activities during the year were reflective of the increase in expenditure from $17.6 million in 2018 to $20.1 million in 2019. Through efforts to improve project management and monitoring, utilization rate was 75%, up from 69% in 2018.

Despite UNCCT's good results, we should not be complacent. We must continue to build on what has been accomplished on the road to becoming a worldwide recognized counter-terrorism Centre of Excellence. Despite operational constraints arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 provides a strategic opportunity to develop the new UNCCT programme of work, which will commence in 2021, guided by the outcomes of the evaluation of the Centre's performance.

Since its creation, UNCCT has been privileged by the generosity and vision of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As we near the end of our first 5-Year Programme of Work, we have seen improved implementation and better qualified staff each year, leading to a corresponding increase in activities and reach, utilizing funds from our 31 Trust Fund donors. In order to continue to respond to the many requests from Member States, we will need to ensure sustainable, predictable and diversified funding for UNCCT and its multi-year, multi-disciplinary programmes and projects in the years to come, as recommended by the Advisory Board.

2020 will be a critical year for UNCCT. The groundwork has been laid for the Centre to be ready to address the rapidly evolving terrorist landscape and new global challenges. UNCCT will strive to further increase the quantity and quality of its support to Member States, further contributing to the fight against terrorism worldwide. The current global COVID-19 pandemic poses a unique challenge to all Member States and could seriously impact the global terrorism landscape. UNCCT is already adapting its programme of work to respond to this challenge through virtual capacity-building initiatives. With the successful conclusion of the UNCCT's 5-year Programme of Work, I look forward to working closely with the Chairman and the Members of the Advisory Board to launch its next Programme of Work with a view to further developing UNCCT into a full-fledged Centre of Excellence.

Vladimir Voronkov
Executive Director, UN Counter-Terrorism Centre
Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism

As a global Centre of Excellence, UNCCT continues expanding its support to Member States on counter-terrorism, prevention and countering of violent extremism, support victims of terrorism and protection of human rights, through Global Flagship Programmes and provides expertise on some of the most critical policy work of UNOCT, including in terms of priority issues for Member States and the Secretary-General.

UN Photo / Evan Schneider

I. Introduction

The UNCCT is committed to the transparency of and the visibility in its work. This Annual Report provides a detailed account of the work of the Centre during the course of 2019, and is supplemented by the quarterly highlight reports issued by the Centre and made available through the UNCCT website (www.un.org/uncct), where additional information is available on the Centre and individual activities carried out throughout the year.

UNCCT was established in 2011 to promote international counter-terrorism cooperation and support Member States in the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through a voluntary contribution of the Government of Saudi Arabia. The General Assembly welcomed the establishment and encouraged Member States to collaborate with the Centre (A/RES/66/10). In 2014, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia donated an additional USD 100 million to UNCCT. Since its establishment, more than 30 countries have provided financial support to UNCCT and its projects. On 15 June 2017, the General Assembly established the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism

(UNOCT) through resolution A/RES/71/291 and decided to transfer UNCCT along with its staff and resources to the new Office.

2019 also saw the continuation and reinforcement of three important trends reported on in earlier years. Firstly, UNCCT continues to expand cooperation with key partners both within and beyond the UN system. The Centre also continued to develop and implement activities across all its sections and pillars and collaborated closely with the rest of UNOCT, thus bringing Member States tailored workshops and training that combine core issues such as human rights and border security and management, and strategic communications, gender, youth and cyber.

Secondly, the Centre has continued to develop broader thematic programmes that combine the lessons learned from earlier smaller projects with the ability to deliver support to Member States in a more flexible manner. During 2019 the Centre developed new major programmes on countering the financing of terrorism, cyber and new technology, gender, human rights, and prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration, some of which were launched in 2019 and others that will be launched in early 2020.

Thirdly, UNCCT continues to improve programme management effectiveness, including through the use of good practices, new standard operating procedures, and an enhanced focus on monitoring and evaluation. Much of this work has been facilitated by the reorganization of UNCCT, including the establishment of a new Programme Management Unit (PMU) staffed with project and programme management experts. During the course of 2019, the Centre saw a significant improvement in systematic data collection, which will make impact assessments, monitoring and reporting easier. A lot of this new data will be seen in this report. The establishment of PMU has also helped the Centre address some of its legacy issues. As will be seen in this report, efforts have been made to close inactive programmes and projects. This 'cleaning up' exercise will continue into 2020 and ensure that projects are formally closed, and lessons learned gathered for future use.

A further significant development has been the appointment of a UNOCT/UNCCT Gender Advisor who has ensured a clear focus on this important aspect of UNCCT's work. As detailed below, this has an impact not just on the Centre's many programmes and projects, but also on the broader policy work of the UNOCT and the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact.

Indeed, as a global Centre of Excellence on counter-terrorism, UNCCT provides expertise on some of the most critical policy work of UNOCT, including in terms of priority issues for Member States and the Secretary-General. In 2019, this has included a continued leading role on issues relating to victims of terrorism and the development of the "Key Principles for the Protection, Repatriation, Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Women and Children with Links to United Nations Listed Terrorist Groups," endorsed by the United Nations Secretary-General in April 2019, which calls upon Member States

to ensure that their nationals who are family members of suspected foreign terrorist fighters and do not face serious charges, are repatriated for the purposes of prosecution, rehabilitation and/ or reintegration.

Member States have continued to support UNCCT. As detailed below, the Centre has seen an increase in co-funding from both new and old donors. This success is a testament to the ability of the Executive Director to attract new donors and to the value that earlier donors, such as Canada, the European Union and Japan have seen in the programmes and projects implemented by the Centre.

The 2019 Annual report is divided into seven sections:

I. **Introduction**

II. Section II discusses **Programme Implementation** which includes:
   a. An overview of the projects including budget and expenditure of each project
   b. Individual projects organised by Pillar, outcomes and outputs including a brief description of objectives, activities, and results/impact
   c. Mainstreaming Human Rights and Gender

III. Section III discusses the **UNCCT Advisory Board, Outreach, and 'All-of-UN' cooperation**.

IV. Section IV covers **Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight** which includes:
   a. The UNCCT audit by the Office of Internal Oversight Services
   b. UNOCT Standard Operating Procedures
   c. Programme Review Board
   d. Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
   e. Key Challenges and Lessons Learned

V. Section V covers **Communications and Visibility**

VI. Section VI provides information on **Resource Mobilisation and Financial Performance**

VII. Section VII on **Conclusion and Strategic Priorities for 2020** outlining the Executive Director's vision for the way forward

EXHIBIT I

UNCCT 5-Year Programme Results Framework

Outcome 1: Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (Pillar I)	
Output 1.1:	Preventing Violent Extremism
Output 1.2:	Foreign Terrorist Fighters
Outcome 2: Combatting Terrorism (Pillar II)	
Output 2.1:	Counter-Terrorism Strategies
Output 2.2:	Countering the Financing of Terrorism
Output 2.3:	Border Security and Management
Output 2.4:	Cyber Security
Output 2.5:	Preventing and Responding to WMD/CBRN Terrorism
Outcome 3: Human Rights and Victims (Pillar IV)	
Output 3.1:	Human Rights
Output 3.2:	Victims of Terrorism
Outcome 4: International Cooperation (Pillar III)	
Output 4.1:	Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT)
Output 4.2:	Supporting the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities
Output 4.3:	Networks Related to Counter-Terrorism
Output 4.4:	South-South and Triangular Cooperation

UN Photo / Stuart Price

Meeting of Counter-Terrorism Centre Advisory Board. From left to right: Abdallah Yahya A. Al-Mouallimi, Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the UN, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office, and Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti, Chef de Cabinet to the Secretary-General.

II. Programme Implementation

The reporting period covers the fourth year of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme (2016-2020), which guides the Centre's work across four broad outcomes, each related to the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and 13 underlying outputs (see Exhibit I). These outputs are key thematic areas where the Centre offers technical expertise and provides capacity-building assistance to requesting Member States, international and regional organisations, as well as civil society organisations in counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism. These focus areas are aligned with the 2006 UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent biennial reviews, as well as relevant UN Security Council mandates pertaining to counter-terrorism.

Project Overview

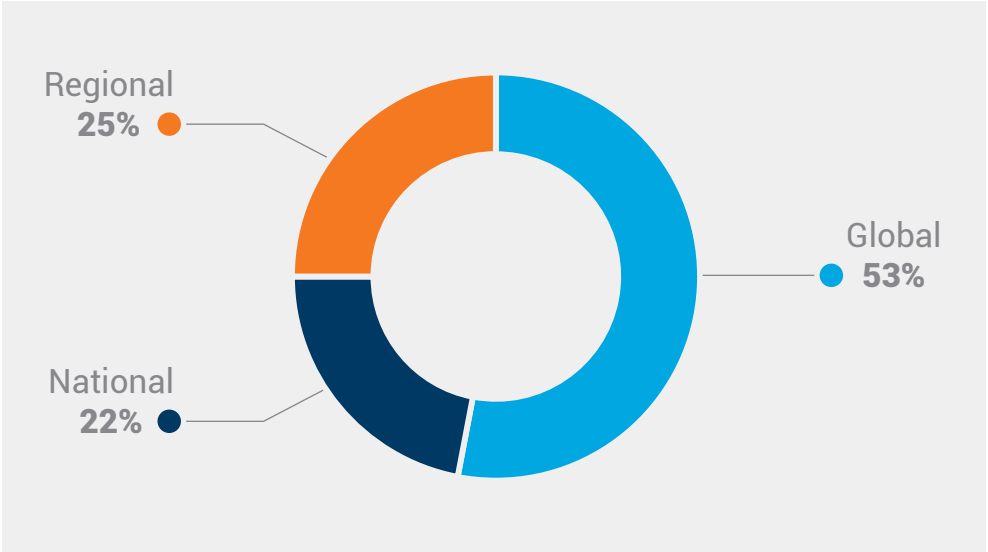
In 2019, UNCCT implemented 51 capacity-building programmes and projects of which 17 were completed during the reporting period. The Centre had 29 ongoing multiyear projects in the implementation phase and five projects in the initiation phase. Projects in the initiation phase are those that have been approved at the concept stage and are in the process of being developed into full-fledged projects. The focus of the projects initiated in 2019 are on youth entrepreneurship and engagement; countering terrorism narratives through media; small arms and light weapons; and counter-terrorism training to UN staff. Depending on the scale of the planned project this phase may include approved initial cost inducing elements, such as the recruitment of consultants to support with expertise and/or travel for beneficiary consultations through scoping missions.

The 51 UNCCT programmes and projects include 27 projects at the global level, 13 projects at the regional level, and 11 projects at the national level.

EXHIBIT II

Number of Projects by Geographical Scope

(as of 31 December 2019)



Among 17 completed projects and programmes in 2019, six were focused on support of the Member States in tackling conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism (Pillar I), including supporting juvenile offenders in prisons; building capacities to use social media to counter FTF phenomenon; providing youth technical training and

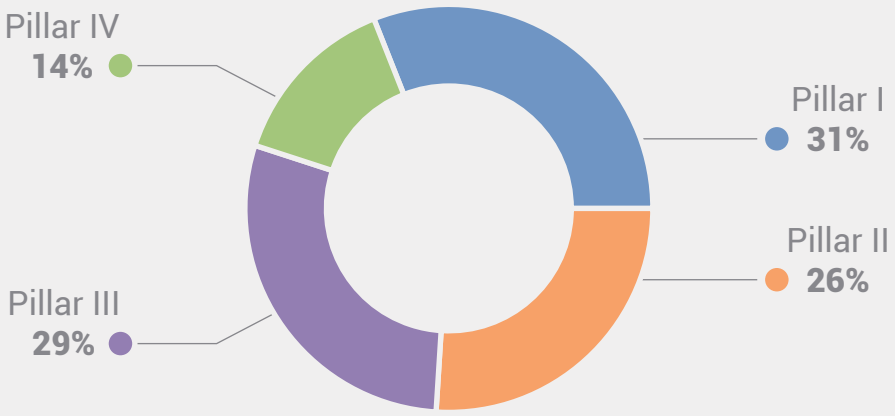
psycho-social support; and building capacities of technical and vocational training institutes. Two completed projects focused on development of regional strategies to counter terrorism and to prevent violent extremism in East Africa, the Horn of Africa, and Southern Africa (Pillar II). Additionally, eight completed projects focused on support of the Member States in building capacity and strengthening the role of the UN (Pillar III). These projects mainly related to the support of UNCCT to the Compact Working Groups where the Centre incentivized 'all-of-UN' projects on issues such as border management and law enforcement, protection of critical infrastructure, legal and criminal justice response, building skills for life and work, and strengthening the rule of law. Finally, one project focused on the support of human rights and victims (Pillar IV) through community engagement and facilitation of security sector reform.

Of 51 implemented programmes and projects, 16 focused on conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism (Pillar I), 13 projects support counter-terrorism (Pillar II), 15 projects support building the Member States' capacity and strengthening the role of the United Nations (Pillar III), and 7 projects support human rights and the rule of law (Pillar IV).

EXHIBIT III

Number of Projects by Pillar

(as of 31 December 2019)



In the reporting period, UNCCT provided capacity-building support to 100 Member States that reached 5011 individuals. As Exhibit IV demonstrates, these numbers represent an impressive increase by 64% and 90% respectively when compared to 2018 results.

EXHIBIT IV

Capacity Building Activities in 2018 and 2019

	2018	2019	Change %
Engaged Member States	61	100	+64%
Engaged Individuals	2642	5011	+90%
Organized Workshops & Expert Meetings	76	95	+25%
Outreach Events	13	32	+146%

A significant increase in numbers across all categories confirms that in 2019, the Centre not only grew in size and increased its staff numbers, but also significantly improved its ability to engage more individuals from a diverse range of Member States and deliver an increased number of capacity building activities.

To continually improve capacity building activities and further tailor to the needs of the beneficiaries, UNCCT conducted surveys at the end of each event as well as conducts an end-of-year survey to capture the demographics of the beneficiaries, to measure effectiveness of our capacity building events, and to obtain firsthand testimonies from the beneficiaries.

Exhibit IV details the description, duration, status, and geographical scope of all the Centre's projects under each of the four Pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the output that each project is contributing under the Centre's 5-Year Programme, as well as budget and expenditure of each project.

"An UNCCT workshop expanded my knowledge on impact of terrorism on public places. This helped me to understand which sectors/strategic partners I should work with in order to enhance prevention of terrorism in my country."

Participant from Thailand

"It allowed me to strengthen my knowledge and raise awareness of Security Council sanctions, and propose a policy to fight terrorism in my country."

Participant from Madagascar

EXHIBIT IV

Overview of the UNCCT Programmes and Projects in 2019

(in United States Dollars)

Pillar I

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar I	**Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism**				**7,953,591**	**5,564,338**	**71%**
UNCCT-2015-38 Preventing Violent Extremism through Strategic Communications – Phase III	Enhance the understanding and awareness of strategic communications for PVE; support interagency coordination and planning platforms for strategic communications; improve technical strategic communication skills	18 months (01 May 2019 to 31 October 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	1,848,625	1,748,706	95%
UNCCT-2016-47 Support for Juvenile Offenders in Prisons in Pakistan	Contribute to juveniles in prison in Pakistan charged under terrorism-related offences to gain improved access to sustainable livelihood, job acquisition and job retention skills and thereby gain resilience against terrorist propaganda and terrorist recruitment	19 months (01 July 2017 to 31 January 2019) **Completed**	National	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	-	-	-
UNCCT-2016-75 Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment in Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia (UNCCT-UNESCO)	Support selected Member States in North Africa and the Middle East to empower young men and women to become key actors in PVE, including by mainstreaming PVE through non-formal and informal education and strengthening cooperation with online youth communities and the media to combat hate speech and violent extremism	30 months (01 April 2018 to 30 September 2020) **Ongoing**	Regional	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	67,800	64,504	95%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar I	**Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism**				**7,953,591**	**5,564,338**	**71%**
UNCCT-2016-76 Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance and Openness through Media to Counter Narratives Associated with Terrorism in the Arab Region (UNCCT-UNESCO-LAS)	Dismantle conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism by creating a climate for enhanced dialogue, respect and mutual understanding through building the capacity of stakeholders, particularly youth and media professionals and leveraging the role of media	24 months (01 January 2019 to 01 January 2021) **Initiated**	Regional	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	-	-	-
UNCCT-2017-71 Gender Mainstreaming in the Office of Counter-Terrorism	Mainstream gender in the substantive work and operation of UNOCT	29 months (01 November 2017 to 31 March 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	-	148,470	
UNCCT-2017-72 Facilitate Coordinated "One-UN" Support to Member States on PVE Policy-Making and Developing National and Regional PVE Action Plans	Provide coordinated UN PVE policy support to requesting Member States and regional organizations by helping them develop, harmonize, and implement executive or legislative frameworks through their national/regional PVE Plans of Action	36 months (01 January 2018 to 31 December 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	1,368,402	583,677	43%
UNCCT-2018-01-80 Building the Capacity of Technical and Vocational Training Institutes in Indonesia and the Maldives	Provide knowledge, best practices, and capabilities to principals and teachers of technical and vocational training institutes in Indonesia and the Maldives to enable their institutes' students to acquire entrepreneurial skills and have improved access to jobs so that they gain resilience against violent extremist propaganda and/ or terrorist recruitment	6 months (01 July 2019 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	National	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	743,770	744,646	100%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar I	**Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism**				**7,953,591**	**5,564,338**	**71%**
UNCCT-2018-01-81 Building Capacity of Youth in the (formerly) Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan through Employment Training and Psycho-Social Support	Provide training in vocational skills, life skills and psycho-social support to young adults adversely affected by terrorist violence in FATA to enable them to earn a decent living and safeguard them from the threat of radicalisation by terrorists and violent extremists	36 months (01 January 2019 to 01 January 2022) **Completed**	National	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	227,478	10,214	4%
UNCCT-2018-01-90 Enabling Youth Entrepreneurship and Increasing Youth Employment Opportunities to Build Resilience Against Violent Extremism in Ethiopia	Enhance capacity of microfinance institutes and business development service providers to stimulate youth entrepreneurship and self-employment in Ethiopia, and thereby to strengthen the resilience of youth against violent extremism	17 months (01 July 2019 to 31 December 2020) **Initiated**	National	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	38,035	-	0%
UNCCT-2018-01-91 Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism in Asia (STRIVE Asia)	Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism in Asia (STRIVE Asia): a joint EU-UN partnership	48 months (07 January 2019 to 07 January 2023) **Ongoing**	Regional	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	2,273,028	1,273,736	56%
UNCCT-2018-I-CSO Engagement Civil Society Engagement Strategy for UNOCT	Civil Society Engagement Strategy for UNOCT	13 months (1 December 2018 to 30 December 2019) **Completed**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	133,453	122,352	92%
UNCCT-2019-01-93-B Support to Iraq on Youth Employment and Skills Development to Prevent Violent Extremism	Support to Iraq on Youth Employment and Skills Development to Prevent Violent Extremism	12 months (01 June 2019 to 31 May 2020) **Ongoing**	National	Outcome 1 Output 1.1	452,493	452,492	100%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar I	**Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism**				**7,953,591**	**5,564,338**	**71%**
UNCCT-2019-1-Youth Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme	This programme aims to empower and enable young people to contribute meaningfully in the United Nation's global, regional and national efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism, while contributing to international efforts to strengthen the resilience of youth to violent extremism and terrorism.	15 months (1st January 2020 to 31 March 2021) **Initiated**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.1			
UNCCT-2019-I-Social Media Investigations for Southeast Asia Enhancing the Skills of Southeast Asian Officials in Relation to the Exploitation of Social Media and the Internet to Counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon and Violent Extremism	Enhancing the Skills of Southeast Asian Officials in Relation to the Exploitation of Social Media and the Internet to Counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon and Violent Extremism	17 months (01 April 2018 to 01 September 2019) **Completed**	National	Outcome 1 Output 1.2	533,220	366,535	69%
UNCCT-2017-67 Enhancing Member State Capacities to Exploit Social Media in relation to Foreign Terrorist Fighters (UNCCT-INTERPOL)	Support Member States to expand their networks, enhance their understanding of the FTF phenomenon, and increase their investigative capacities in relation to the exploitation of social media and other internet-based investigations on FTFs	12 months (01 April 2018 to 31 March 2019) **Completed**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.2	267,283	182,430	68%
UNOCT-2017-66 Enhancing Information Sharing on Foreign Terrorist Fighters among Member States (UNCCT-INTERPOL)	Enhance cooperation among Member States and increase the quality and quantity of available information to stem the flow of FTFs	12 months (01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 1 Output 1.2			

Pillar II

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar II	**Preventing and Combatting Terrorism**				**6,573,405**	**4,893,048**	**74%**
UNCCT-2013-21 UNCCT List of Counter-Terrorism Advisors	Maintain an updated list of counter-terrorism advisors to provide timely capacity-building assistance to Member States, Un peacekeeping operations, UN special political missions and UN Country Teams as requested.	1 January 2013 **Completed**	Global	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	-	50,160	
UNCCT-2016-50 Facilitating the Development of a Regional Strategy for East Africa and the Horn of Africa to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism	Support the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategy for countries of the Horn of Africa and Tanzania to prevent violent extremism in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)	24 months (01 January 2018 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	-	-	-
UNCCT-2016-51 Facilitating the Implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Southern Africa	Support the Secretariat of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) in the implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Plan of Action for Southern Africa	24 months (01 January 2018 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	-	-	-
UNCCT-2017-69 Towards a Comprehensive Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia - Phase III	Provide coordinated UN system support to Central Asian countries to enhance capacity to fight terrorism and prevent violent extremism in a strategic manner, including through development of national and regional CT/ PVE strategies upon their request, providing capacity-building assistance in the priority areas of concern, exchanging best practices, and cooperating and coordinating with regional and international organizations in their CT/ PVE efforts in the region	36 months (01 January 2018 to 31 December 2020) **Ongoing**	Regional	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	1,054,936	241,471	23%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar II	**Preventing and Combatting Terrorism**				**6,573,405**	**4,893,048**	**74%**
UNCCT-2018-02-88 Supporting the Development and Implementation of a Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for the Arab World (UNCCT-AIMC)	Support the Arab Interior Ministers Council (AIMC) and AIMC Member States in developing and implementing a regional counter-terrorism strategy for the Arab region based on the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as regional needs and priorities	27 months (01 January 2019 to 31 March 2021) **Ongoing**	Regional	Outcome 2 Output 2.1	222,876	107,014	48%
UNCCT-2018-02-78 Capacity Building Project on Countering the Financing of Terrorism through Effective National and Regional Action	Build capacity on freezing of assets with a stronger focus on FTFs financing, financial intelligence sharing, risk assessments, and public-private partnerships	29 months (01 February 2018 to 30 June 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 2 Output 2.2	1,133,739	962,080	85%
UNCCT-2017-68 Strengthening Member State Capacities in the Area of Border Security and Management to Counter Terrorism and Stem the Flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (BSM programme)	Enhance Member State capacities in border security and management, including through the development of specialized projects, national and regional strategies and action plans, enhancing cross-border cooperation, and the provision of targeted training and equipment	48 months (31 January 2019 to 31 January 2023) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 2 Output 2.3	1,430,588	1,408,052	98%
UNCCT-2017-58 Enhancing the Capacity of States to Prevent Cyber Attacks Perpetrated by Terrorist Actors and Mitigate Their Impact	Raise awareness of cyber threats posed by terrorists and enhance knowledge on potential solutions to increase the IT security and resilience of critical national infrastructure	39 months (01 April 2017 to 30 June 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 2 Output 2.4	1,121,228	927,677	83%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar II	**Preventing and Combatting Terrorism**				**6,573,405**	**4,893,048**	**74%**
UNCCT-2018-02-79 Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction/ Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism (WMD/CBRN Programme)	Enhance capacities of Member States, International Organizations to prevent terrorists from accessing and using WMD/ CBRN materials and to ensure that they are better prepared for, and can more effectively respond to, a terrorist attack involving such weapons or materials.	36 months (28 September 2018 to 27 September 2021) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 2 Output 2.5	516,161	325,302	63%
UNCCT-2018-02-79-A Enhancing National Capacities to Prevent and Respond to Chemical and Biological Attacks in Iraq (under WMD/ CBRN Programme)	Enhance Iraq's capacities to prevent and respond to a terrorist attack involving chemical and biological weapons or materials	14 months (15 November 2019 to 14 January 2021) **Ongoing**	National	Outcome 2 Output 2.5	476,581	470,131	99%
UUNCCT-2018-02-79-B Enhancing Capabilities to Prepare and Respond to a CBRN Terrorist Attack in Jordan (under WMD/CBRN Programme)	Enhance the national capabilities of Jordan in the areas of preparedness and response to a terrorist attack involving CBRN weapons or materials	36 months (01 October 2018 to 30 September 2021) **Ongoing**	National	Outcome 2 Output 2.5	173,540	146,248	84%
UNCCT-2019-02-79-C Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (UNCCT-UNODC)	Promote adherence to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism through legislative assistance and judicial training, as well as outreach and capacity-building activities ICSANT	36 months (01 January 2019 to 31 December 2021) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 2 Output 2.5	443,753	254,908	57%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar II	**Preventing and Combatting Terrorism**				**6,573,405**	**4,893,048**	**74%**
UNCCT-2020-II-SALW Small-Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)	Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: Preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of Small-Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and their illicit supply to terrorists - Supporting the implementation of SCR.2370/2017 and the Madrid Guiding Principles	15 months (07 January 2020 to 06 April 2021) **Ongoing**	Regional	Outcome 2 Output 2.5	-	-	-

Pillar III

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar III	**Strengthening the Role of the United Nations System and Building States' Capacity to Prevent and Combat Terrorism**				**2,664,085**	**2,294,604**	**86%**
UNCCT-2017-74* Supporting Regional Efforts of the G5 Sahel Countries to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism (I-ACT)	Support the G5 Sahel countries in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy at the regional level through an "All-of-UN" approach, in close collaboration with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat	26 months (01 April 2017 to 31 May 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 4 Output 4.1	390,369	300,032	77%
UNCCT-2018-03-85 Promotion of Sustainable Peace and Development through Building of Skills for Life and the World of Work in the Sahel (UNCCT-UNESCO under I-ACT)	Support peace and sustainable development through strengthening youth competencies, including through inclusive education policies, strengthening skills and values for socio-economic integration, and capacity building of teacher trainers and teachers	13 months (01 May 2018 to 31 May 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 4 Output 4.1	-	-	-

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar III	**Strengthening the Role of the United Nations System and Building States' Capacity to Prevent and Combat Terrorism**				**2,664,085**	**2,294,604**	**86%**
UNCCT-2018-03-86 Strengthening Rule of Law-Based Criminal Justice Measures and Related Operational Measures Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism (UNCCT-UNODC under I-ACT)	Strengthen judicial and operational cooperation among G5 countries, and enhance capacity of their law enforcement and criminal justice officials to address legal and criminal justice challenges related to FTF and violent extremism in compliance with human rights, as well as to conduct investigation of terrorism and related cases	19 months (01 June 2018 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 4 Output 4.1	-	-	-
UNCCT-2018-03-87 Programme Coordination of the G5 Sahel Framework (I-ACT)	Support the programmatic needs of the regional I-ACT Framework through the recruitment and deployment of required professional and general service staff	24 months (01 January 2018 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 4 Output 4.1	636,190	476,119	75%
UNCCT-2017-73-a Border Management and Law Enforcement Relating to Counter-Terrorism (seed project)	Raise awareness, increase knowledge and strengthen capability of Member States and relevant international and regional entities on collecting, recording and sharing of biometric information on terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters at the international level, and through the establishment of a Compendium of existing good practices and recommendations	16 months (01 January 2018 to 30 April 2019) **Completed**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	-	4,273	
UNCCT-2017-73-d National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies (seed project)	Developing national comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies in support of the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions 1963 (2010) and 2129 (2013)	**Completed**	National	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	33,024	32,552	98%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar III	**Strengthening the Role of the United Nations System and Building States' Capacity to Prevent and Combat Terrorism**				**2,664,085**	**2,294,604**	**86%**
UNCCT-2017-73-h Protection of Critical Infrastructure Including Internet, Vulnerable Targets and Tourism Security (seed project)	Develop guidelines and a Compendium of Good Practices on the protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks	23 months (01 February 2018 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	41,326	41,326	100%
UNCCT-2017-73-i Communications (seed project)	Counter terrorist narratives through the development of good practices, recommendations for effective monitoring and evaluation and toolkit	21 months (30 August 2018 to 31 May 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	-	93,846	
UNCCT-2017-73-j Legal and Criminal Justice Response to Terrorism (seed project)	Develop guidelines on the role of the military in supporting the collection, sharing and use of evidence for promoting rule of law and human rights compliant criminal justice responses to terrorism	23 months (01 February 2018 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	14,387	12,427	86%
UNCCT-2019-02-79-D Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge About Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism (UNCCT-UNICRI seed project)	Enhance knowledge and awareness of scientific and technological advances relevant to WMD terrorism through the preparation and dissemination of a research-based report	15 months (21 March 2019 to 21 June 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	113,043	113,044	100%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar III	**Strengthening the Role of the United Nations System and Building States' Capacity to Prevent and Combat Terrorism**				**2,664,085**	**2,294,604**	**86%**
UNCCT-2019-03-94 Raising Awareness on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure from Terrorist Attacks in Accordance with UNSCR 2341 (2017) and Enhancing States' Capabilities in this Area	Raising Awareness on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure from Terrorist Attacks in Accordance with UNSCR 2341 (2017) and Enhancing States' Capabilities in this Area	12 months (01 January 2019 to 31 December 2019) **Ongoing**	National	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	332,133	229,497	69%
UNCCT-2019-01-93-A Developing a comprehensive and integrated Iraqi national counter-terrorism strategy in support of the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions	The objective of this project is to support the Government of Iraq with developing a comprehensive and integrated national counter-terrorism strategy, in line with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, its review resolutions, and relevant UN Security Council resolutions	12 months (01 July 2019 to 30 June 2020) **Ongoing**	National	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	796,252	796,252	100%
UNCCT-2019-02-92 CT/PVE Awareness Training for UN staff	To train the UN staff members engaged in CT/PVE on the UN counter-terrorism architecture/structure and international norms and principles, as well as relevant international legal instruments and frameworks, including human rights standards	16 months (22 February 2019 to 30 June 2020) **Initiated**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2	-	-	-

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar III	**Strengthening the Role of the United Nations System and Building States' Capacity to Prevent and Combat Terrorism**				**2,664,085**	**2,294,604**	**86%**
UNCCT-2013-24 Fostering International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Promoting Collaboration between National, Regional and International Counter-Terrorism Centres and Initiatives – Network Against Terrorism Phase II	Strengthen collaboration between national, regional and international counter-terrorism centres and initiatives, and promote a global network against terrorism, including through the creation and maintenance of a web directory and international conferences	(from January 2013) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.3	-	-	-
UNCCT-2017-70* Enhancing south-south exchange of expertise between experts from Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism*	Enhancing south-south exchange of expertise between experts from Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean on countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism	24 months (01 March 2019 to 28 February 2021) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.4	307,360	195,261	64%

* Projects UNCCT-2017-74 and UNCCT-2017-70 is funded by the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund administered by the Executive Office of the Secretary General

Pillar IV

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar IV	**Ensuring Respect for Human rights and the Rule of Law as the Fundamental Basis of the Fight Against Terrorism**				**3,763,623**	**2,685,396**	**71%**
UNCCT-2015-40 Training of Law Enforcement Officials on Human Rights, the Rule of Law and the Prevention of Terrorism	Enhance the understanding, skills and experience of law enforcement and security officials on international human rights standards and counter-terrorism	29 months (25 October 2017 to 31 March 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 3 Output 3.1	621,283	371,466	60%
UNCCT-2017-55 Security Sector Reform in an Era of Terrorism/ Violent Extremism: Women's Rights in the Sahel Region (UNCCT-UN Women)	Strengthen capacity of the security sector across the G5 Sahel countries to protect and promote women's rights while preventing and countering violent extremism under the I-ACT Framework for the G5 Sahel	37 months (01 December 2016 to 31 December 2019) **Completed**	Regional	Outcome 3 Output 3.1	-	-	-
UNCCT-2017-64 Enhancing the Capacity of States to Adopt Human Rights Based Treatment of Child Returneest	Assist Member States to develop comprehensive policies to support child returnees through a human rights based and gender-sensitive approach including through the development of a handbook on good practices	12 months (01 September 2019 to 30 August 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 3 Output 3.1	911,597	806,214	88%
UNCCT-2017-65 Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards at Borders in the Context of Counter-Terrorism (under BSM programme)	Enhance awareness of border authorities on international human rights standards applicable to border security and management, including on screening, referral, interviewing, detention and removal	15 months (31 October 2018 to 31 January 2020) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 3 Output 3.1	179,272	-	0%
UNCCT-2017-73-g Basic Human Rights Reference Guide on Proscription of Organizations in the Context of Counter-Terrorism	Basic Human Rights Reference Guide on Proscription of Organizations in the Context of Counter-Terrorism	19 months 18 May 2018 to 31 December 2019 **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 3 Output 3.1	99,948	-	0%

Project Number, Name	Project Description	Duration/ Status	Scope	Outcome/ Output (5-Year Programme)	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
Pillar IV	**Ensuring Respect for Human rights and the Rule of Law as the Fundamental Basis of the Fight Against Terrorism**				**3,763,623**	**2,685,396**	**71%**
UNCCT-2015-43 Supporting the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization in Prisons	Support participating countries in Asia, North Africa and the Middle East to implement prison-based disengagement programmes to dissuade extremists from violence, and to assist former violent extremist	49 months (01 May 2018 to 30 April 2022) **Ongoing**	National	Outcome 3 Output 3.1	804,549	820,912	100%
UNCCT-2018-04-83 Victims of Terrorism Support Programme	Strengthen the capacity of Member States and civil society organizations to assist and support victims of terrorism in protecting and promoting their rights and needs	36 months (01 June 2018 to 30 June 2021) **Ongoing**	Global	Outcome 3 Output 3.2	1,146,970	727,641	63%

	Budget Released (a)	Expenditure (b)	Imp. Rate (c)= (b)/(a)
GRAND TOTAL, Pillars I through IV	**20,954,704**	**15,527,386**	**74%**

Project Objectives, Activities, Outputs and Impacts

PILLAR I

Outcome 1: Measures to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States prevent and counter violent extremism and address the Foreign Terrorist Fighter phenomenon (Outcome I, UNCCT 5-Year Programme)

Output 1.1 **Preventing Violent Extremism - Through UNCCT support, requesting Member States and the United Nations have an increased capacity to prevent and counter the appeal of violent extremism and its underlying causes.**

In the latest General Assembly review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in June 2018 (A/RES/72/284), Member States emphasized "the significance of a sustained and comprehensive approach, including through stronger efforts, where necessary, to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism", and highlighted the promotion of tolerance and diversity, inclusion of youth and women, as well as engagement with local communities and non-governmental actors in developing strategies to counter violent extremist narratives and address the drivers of violent extremism. The Secretary-General has instructed the UN system to place absolute priority on the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, based on national and regional priorities and ownership. This is an integral part of the mandate of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, and a high priority area of the UNCCT programme of work.

Subsequently, and informed by the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services audit, the UNCCT has taken proactive steps to enhance the impact of its capacity-building activities in support of Output 1.1. This involves, inter alia, consolidating stand-alone projects within four main programmatic frameworks: (i) gender mainstreaming and capacity-building; (ii) policy assistance to prevent and counter violent extremism; (iii) youth engagement and empowerment; (iv) preventing and countering violent extremism through strategic communications.

This has allowed for additional agility across thematic areas of expertise, as shown for instance in the implementation of a workshop for Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutes in the Maldives in September, which delivered training on gender, strategic communications, rehabilitation and reintegration, and the prevention of violent extremism. Such comprehensive capacity-building assistance echoes the whole-of-society approach that transcends all UNCCT programmes that aim to prevent and counter the appeal of violent extremism and its underlying causes.

UNCCT continued to support regional approaches to preventing and countering violent extremism throughout 2019. UNCCT cemented new and stronger relationships with organizations such as Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Southeast Asian Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT), and worked in partnership to co-design and deliver tailored P/CVE capacity building and technical advice in P/CVE policy development and strategic communications. For example, the global programme on policy assistance to prevent and counter violent extremism created a reference guide to develop national and regional action plans, which in 2019 has become the global common analytical framework for the formulation of such plans. Gender mainstreaming activities in UNOCT have already had significant impact through the establishment of a gender marker system and standard operating procedures that require the integration of this system into new programmes and projects to receive internal approval.

UNCCT-2015-38 **Preventing Violent Extremism through Strategic Communications – Phase III**

Status: Ongoing

The multi-year project aims to strengthen the capacity of Member States, UN entities, and other stakeholders to prevent the appeal of terrorism using strategic communications at the national, regional, and international levels. The project provides practical, evidence-based and locally relevant training on strategic communications, including campaign development, audience analysis, measurement and evaluation, and crisis communications, coupled with timely analysis of the latest trends in terrorist and violent extremist exploitation of communication methods.

The project supports Member States in the implementation of:

- UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent consensus reviews by the General Assembly (latest A/RES/72/284), which encourages Member States to engage local communities and non-governmental actors in developing "tailored strategies to counter the violent extremist narrative".

- UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE, A/70/674; A/70/675), which identifies strategic communications, the Internet and social media as one of the seven priority areas and calls on Member States "to develop and implement national communications strategies" that are tailored to local settings, gender sensitive and based on international human rights standards.

- Security Council resolution 2354 (2017) which calls for the implementation of a comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives.

Now in its third phase, the project has focused on the delivery and consolidation of context-specific capacity building and technical assistance to national governments, civil society, regional organisations and the UN system. The project is implemented at three different levels: 1) Raise awareness and enhance the understanding of the use of strategic communications for PVE through: 'StratCom 101' Workshops; 2) Advise Member States on how to develop institutional frameworks to support strategic communications for PVE; and 3) Provide technical support on strategic communications focused on tailored training and advice.

Southeast Asia

Throughout 2019, the project provided ongoing Strategic Communications technical support to the Philippines on the drafting and implementation planning of its National Action Plan to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism (NAP P/CVE), partnered closely with the UN Country Team. The project hosted a series of workshops with government officials, civil society, and the UN Country Team in the Philippines, as part of piloting an integrated, Whole of Society model of communications capacity building to ensure sustained assistance for enhanced strategic communications skills and institutional frameworks:

Photo: UNCCT/ Amani Alkhiami

UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee meeting on countering terrorist narratives and preventing use of Internet for terrorist purposes, 29 January 2020.

- The first two workshops were held in March on the fundamentals of strategic communications and how it could support the NAP P/CVE. The first workshop took place in Tagaytay (12-13 March) and offered the latest information regarding terrorist use of strategic communication and took a co-design approach in the Philippines context with an inter-ministerial group of government officials. A parallel workshop was held in Manila (14 March), which brought together relevant UN Country Team agencies to cover the same issues, but in the context of the UN's support to the Government of the Philippines in implementing the NAP P/CVE.

- Building on this work, a subsequent workshop was held in Manila (17-18 June) which brought together the same government participants to co-design and draft a cohesive, coordinated narrative for the strategic communications plan for the NAP P/CVE. In parallel, a similar workshop was held with the UN Country Team (20-21 June) and with the UN Country Team Heads of Agencies (19 June), for the UN to understand the Government of the Philippines' narrative, design a cohesive UN approach, and build senior level political support from within the UN system.

- This activity was followed by a workshop in Manila (25-26 July) to 'pressure test' the narrative designed by representatives from the Government of the Philippines by running multiple media engagement simulation exercises, for example mock press conferences, radio and television interviews. This workshop also scoped options for a Community of Practice for government officials implementing the Strategic Communications Plan for the NAP P/CVE.

In Malaysia, UNCCT conducted a PVE through Strategic Communications Planning Workshop (24 July) with the SEARCCT in Kuala Lumpur. This workshop co-designed future cooperation with the SEARCCT for capacity building activities in the South East Asian region, focused on counter and alternative narratives and youth engagement, alongside the Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED). In Jakarta, UNCCT in close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), CTED and INTERPOL, delivered a joint StratCom/Social Media workshop on "Enhancing Skills of Officials in Relation to the Exploitation of Social Media and the Internet to Counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon and Other Violent Extremism" (20-21 August). The workshop targeted government officials from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, and focused on building participants knowledge on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) use of communications, and relevant tools to help counter this threat. The StratCom project team led presentations on how to use proactive and reactive strategic communications to prevent and counter violent extremism through introducing strategic communications theory and methodology and good practice institutional mechanisms.

The Middle East

During 2019, UNCCT supported the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Whole of Society support to the Jordanian Prevention Platform project. This included conducting sensitization training on strategic communications for PVE in Amman, Jordan (5 May), to national-level and grassroots civil society organizations (CSOs) working with vulnerable young people. The workshop focused on helping CSOs in Jordan better target and measure outreach and communication campaigns.

East Africa

Building on UNCCT's earlier engagement with IGAD in support of a regional approach to P/CVE in East Africa and the Horn of Africa, the StratCom Project developed an operational-level capacity building partnership with the International Centre of Excellence on P/CVE in 2019. This was launched through a co-design workshop held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (27-28 May). This workshop identified a significant need for capacity building assistance for governments to communicate more effectively after terrorist attacks.

Building on this workshop, an inaugural joint UNCCT- IGAD Regional Workshop on Strategic and Crisis Communication in Nairobi, Kenya (9-11 December) was held, which focused on enhancing understanding of terrorist and violent extremist communications objectives after an attack and exploring best practice approaches to planning effective crisis communications responses. The workshop included participation from governments in key line ministries in East Africa (Kenya, Djibouti, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Somalia), as well as

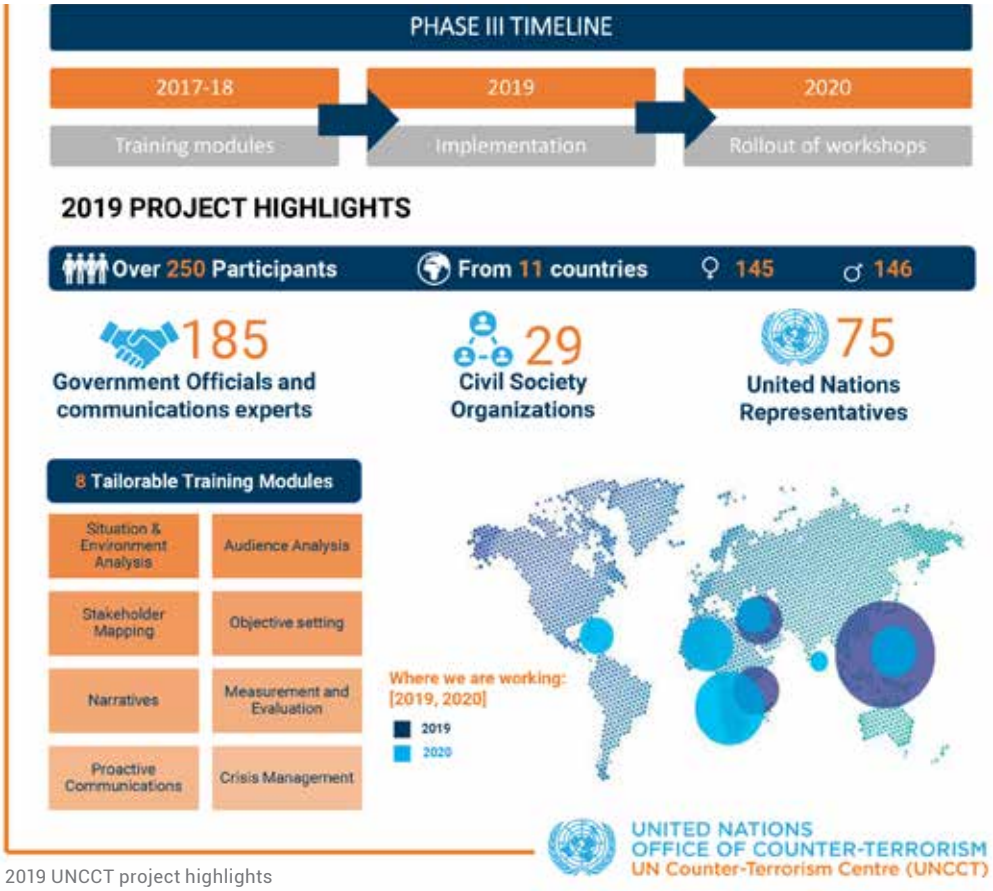
Photo: UNCCT/ Amani Alkhiami

UNCCT and IGAD Centre of Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism joint regional strategic communications workshop, December 2019.

civil society leaders from Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda, and media representatives. The workshop exposed participants to the methodology and practice of P/CVE through exercises in crisis communications, including a 'real time' simulation exercise that required participants to respond to an evolving crisis situation related to online terror from a regional terrorist organization.

Results/Impact

In 2019, the project delivered training through a series of 11 capacity building workshops in strategic communications for PVE, which brought together over 290 participants from across the Middle East, South East Asia and East Africa. The project exceeded the anticipated success related to participants' self-reported increase in capacity and knowledge, as well as the target numbers of participants trained across government, civil society and the UN System. Beneficiaries have included government spokespeople, senior communications officials, and policy and operational leads in CT and P/CVE, in addition to Chief Executive Officers of CSOs working with vulnerable young people, and religious leaders. As a result of the successful workshop implementation and support provided through participation



2019 UNCCT project highlights

"All the topics covered in this workshop were important. They complement each other to have a very good communication strategy."

Participant

"You never really get prepared enough for a crisis, but this training has been quite empowering."

Participant

"There were many views and various stakeholders represented. A true model of what one needs to do in 'strategic comms' to reach stakeholders and even to keep the dialogue open."

Participant

Adobe Stock Photo

in conferences and seminars, there has been increased visibility of the project and demand for support in strategic communications for PVE. In particular, regional level workshops have yielded interest from national level governments for additional capacity building support.

A focus on tailored, sustained and scalable support has also allowed the StratCom Project to assist beneficiaries address real gaps and challenges in P/CVE at a national and local level. Some indications of the short-term impact of this work have included reports from beneficiaries of co-designed products being used to support senior level government communications on P/CVE, including in speeches, talking points, and in social media strategies. Working to support beneficiaries at a national policy level has assisted in the development of more cohesive Whole of Government communications and is work that the StratCom Project will continue to scale in 2020.

The StratCom project also mainstreamed good practice PVE StratCom methodology and skills development as part of the core learning modules in other, related UNCCT PVE and CT projects. As one example, the PVE StratCom team devised and delivered learning modules focused on understanding terrorist exploitation of communications, and good practice proactive communications methodology to the UNCCT's Social Media team's South East Asia workshop on countering FTF recruitment online held in Tokyo, Japan (29-30 August). The StratCom project also devised and delivered tailored learning modules on audience analysis and campaign design as part of the broader Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) workshop held in Male, Maldives (26-30 September).

Over the course of the year, greater collaboration with partners was established, particularly with CTED, with the co-delivery of workshops in support of efforts to implement a comprehensive international framework and guidelines to counter terrorist narratives as per Security Council resolution 2354 (2017). In 2020, UNCCT will ensure that best practices from StratCom project activities are used to inform CTED in the development of their strategic communications work, including assisting CTED's development of strategic communication-specific indicators for country assessments, and in the broader implementation of Security Council resolution 2354 on counter-narratives.

In 2020, the StratCom project will continue to deliver capacity building assistance in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and East Africa, and will expand its geographic focus to include South Asia, West Africa and the Caribbean. The project will continue to focus on technical capacity building that is tailored to meet the needs of government, UN entities and civil society, and will explore the option of enhancing project activities in support in crisis communication responses to PVE and brokering implementation support for beneficiaries, responsive to emerging local strategic communications for PVE needs.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Japan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom.

UNCCT-2016-76 Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance and Openness through Media to Counter Narratives Associated with Terrorism in the Arab Region (UNCCT-UNESCO-LAS)

Status: Initiated

In 2019, UNCCT, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the League of Arab States (LAS) continued consultations on the implementation modalities of a potential two-year project, which seeks to promote dialogue, tolerance and openness through the media to counter narratives associated with terrorism. If funding is identified, the project will leverage the role of media in creating a climate for enhanced dialogue, respect, and mutual understanding through the following activities: fostering media and information literacy among 240 youth; developing advocacy campaigns; and improving journalistic standards, knowledge and awareness among 260 media professionals. Implementation for the project is expected in 2020.

UNCCT-2017-72 **Facilitate coordinated "one-UN" support to Member States on PVE policy-making and developing National and Regional PVE Action Plans**

Status: ongoing

The global PVE policy assistance programme aims to support requesting Member States and regional organisations in developing and implementing policies including national and regional plans of action to prevent and counter violent extremism (PCVE). It seeks to facilitate 'All-of-UN' support through a strategic partnership with all Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities including UNDP, UNODC, UNESCO and UN Women.

The global PVE programme supports Member States in the implementation of:

- the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent consensus reviews by the General Assembly (A/RES/70/291 and A/RES/72/284), which invites Member States to develop national plans of action to prevent violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

Launched in January 2018 for an initial period of two years, the programme seeks to provide support for up to ten Member States and two regional organizations. As of September 2019, 72 Member States have developed a PVE strategy/Plan of Action with UN agencies and entities having provided support to over a third of them. In 2019, UNCCT initiated support to four Member States - Bangladesh, Sudan, Sri Lanka and Somalia, as well as ASEAN.

Photo: UN Women

During the reporting period, the programme focused on three goals for delivery of policy-making assistance in different geographies: coordination, cohesion and comprehensiveness. In Bangladesh, to foster coordination between the Government, donors, civil society partners and UN implementing entities, the programme deployed a PVE Coordination Officer in the Resident Coordinator's Office in July 2019, and co-sponsored, together with UNDP and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the first-ever "National PVE conference" Dhaka. In Somalia, the programme also deployed a PVE advisor to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia to support the revision of the National PVE strategy and foster greater consensus between the Government, donors and UN entities on the implementation of the strategy.

To ensure cohesion in Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (GCTC) entities' PVE efforts in South-East Asia following ASEAN's adoption of the Bali workplan to operationalize the Regional PVE plan of action, the programme facilitated the creation of a "UN Contact Group for the Bali workplan". The Contact Group, open to all GCTC entities, would be a mechanism for joint reporting to ASEAN on the PVE activities of the GCTC entities in the region. The programme had earlier coordinated UN system-wide inputs to the Bali workplan. In Sudan, to ensure joint delivery, the programme initiated together with UNDP-Sudan the process of designing a PVE strategy and PVE National Action Plan, which align with the objectives set for the Transitional period.

To ensure comprehensiveness in delivery of PVE policy assistance, the programme has sought to highlight the normative link between PVE and the United Nations' larger conflict prevention and sustaining peace agenda, as well as the need to consider PVE as part of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) efforts in some mission settings. During the reporting period, UNCCT participated in the 2nd Gulf Cooperation Council Conference of Network of CVE centers where UNCCT offered to help develop the network's Joint Action Plan into a workplan of

Photo: UNCCT

Aswan Forum preparatory workshop "Towards a new typology of armed groups", 16-17 October 2019

activities based on international good practices and the Aswan Forum preparatory workshop: "Towards a new Typology of Armed Groups" where UNCCT was able to advocate for and raise awareness among Member States about the need of integrating PVE into DDR efforts in some asymmetric conflict environments such as Mali and Somalia. UNCCT was also able to map debates around Rehabilitation and Reintegration of FTFs among various actors including Member States in Africa and UN agencies.

During 2020, the programme will also work to support requesting Member States in devising policies that address social cohesion challenges as means to Preventing Violent Extremism.

Results/Impact

The "Reference Guide to developing National and Regional PVE Action Plans" released by the programme in 2018 has now become the common analytical framework for formulation of National Action Plans worldwide, as highlighted in the Global Center on Cooperative Security's September 2019 study titled "National Strategies to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism".

The Programme's approach of deploying a PVE Coordination Officer in Resident Coordinator's Offices (RCOs) to align Governments, donors and UN Country Team's efforts on PVE has been warmly welcomed by Member States, and the programme intends to do more such deployments to requesting Member States and RCOs during 2020.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Korea and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2019-1-Youth Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme

Status: Initiated

This Programme aims to empower and enable young people to contribute meaningfully in the United Nations' global, regional and national efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism, while contributing to international efforts to strengthen the resilience of youth against radicalization. It will reinforce and augment youth-focused PCVE-efforts across the UN system that support and promote the positive role young people play, and foster partnerships with civil society organizations in this regard. The first phase of developing a Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme was initiated within UNCCT in 2019.

The first phase focuses on developing a data-driven, evidence-based, human rights compliant and youth-informed programme and will establish formal mechanisms and an engagement platform for meaningful youth participation.

The programme supports the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its review resolutions which notes the important and positive contribution of youth in efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism conducive to terrorism and encourages Member States and UN entities to consider instituting mechanisms to involve youth in the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and intercultural and interreligious dialogue and develop, as appropriate, an understanding of respect for human dignity, pluralism and diversity, including, as appropriate, through education programmes; and to empower youth by including them in decision-making processes and considering practical ways to include youth in the development of relevant programmes and initiatives aimed at preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism. The UN Plan of Action to prevent violent extremism also identifies youth empowerment as a priority, and the UN Youth Strategy, launched in September 2018, is a strong message to the whole UN system to improve the way in which it engages youth.

As part of this Programme, and pursuant to Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on youth, peace and security which "urges Member States to consider ways to increase inclusive representation of youth in decision-making at all levels […] to counter violent extremism", UNOCT is considering the establishment of a Youth Advisory Group supported by UNCCT. Membership in this Group would consist of young people from different regions, age groups, gender, and background, as well as Member State delegates, and as part of its mandate and terms of reference, it could publish a recurring report on the global status on PCVE through youth engagement and empowerment. There will also be a global quantitative survey-based study to create a data-driven approach to youth engagement. Through UNCCT, UNOCT will also continue to work with UN entities in the PCVE Working Group, within the framework of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to advance and reinforce the work on PCVE through engagement and empowerment.

Taking a collaborative approach to deliver as 'One-UN', UNCCT held bilateral consultation meetings with UNDP, the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNESCO, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), as well as an initial inter-agency consultation meeting in this reporting period. UNCCT has also consulted with stakeholders in civil society, notably the United Network of Young Peacebuilders, and other civil society organisations through the UN Major Group for Children and Youth. UNOCT became a member in the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development in March 2019, and regularly participated in the Global Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security through UNCCT. Given the broad support for this youth initiative, UNCCT has explored joint projects with Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities that will further support and complement its Youth Programme, and two new joint projects are ready to be launched in 2020.

Results/Impact

UNCCT organized a roundtable with key stakeholders to discuss and outline an effective programme approach that ensures meaningful participation of youth in its activities. This meeting included participants from UNDP, UNAOC, ILO, and youth leaders from civil society organizations from several countries. Insights from this consultation were integrated in the design of the first phase of the Youth Programme, and strategic partnerships with actors were strengthened. As the Programme rolls-out in 2020, it will benefit greatly from these consultations and organize 15 national and regional Youth Forums in close partnership with Member States, Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, and civil society organizations, particularly youth-led organizations. This will create a space where young people can discuss and influence programmes, policies, and action plans to prevent and counter violent extremism, in line with #UN75 where the Secretary-General has called on the UN system to listen broadly, closely, effectively and actively to the voices of youth.

Apart from numerous consultations with key stakeholders and thorough considerations about the launch of the Programme, the UNCCT Executive Director, Mr. Voronkov, met and engaged with five young leaders who are active in efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism in their local communities. They shared key activities and priorities from their work, including efforts to address online hate speech, promote tolerance and a culture of peace, arranging policy dialogues, using sports as a means of prevention and engagement, and human rights as a prerequisite to all counter-terrorism and PCVE measures. Mr. Voronkov underscored the importance of working with youth as partners in prevention and encouraged the young leaders with his appreciation for their efforts in this regard.

This is an indication of the comprehensive direction that UNOCT is taking with regards to PCVE through youth engagement and empowerment, as

Photo: UNOCT / Shuyu Luo

USG Voronkov meeting with young leaders.

several other key programmes of UNCCT are incorporating youth elements and youth-focused components throughout their activities. Examples include in strategic communications, cyber security, rehabilitation and reintegration, victims of terrorism, young parliamentarians, and gender mainstreaming. UNOCT is also playing a proactive role at the policy level, including through making youth engagement and empowerment a prominent theme of the regional high-level counter-terrorism conferences, particularly those organized in Budapest, Nairobi, and Abu Dhabi. The UNCCT Youth Programme provided substantive servicing to all these activities.

UNCCT-2016-75 **Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment in Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia (UNCCT-UNESCO)**

Status: ongoing

The project was officially launched at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in 2018 and aims to prevent violent extremism through youth empowerment by promoting a culture of peace, tolerance, social cohesion, community resilience, as well as inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue with the youth in North Africa and the Middle East, with a specific focus on Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.

The project supports Member States in the implementation of:

- UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent consensus reviews by the General Assembly (A/RES/72/284), which encourages Member States to include youth in the development of relevant programmes and initiatives aimed at preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism.
- Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security, which stresses the importance of addressing conditions and factors leading to the rise of radicalization to violence and violent extremism amongst youth, which can be conducive to terrorism.

In the implementation of the project, UNCCT and UNESCO have ensured a youth focus, with activities designed to promote youth empowerment and allowed young participants to drive the activities towards innovative solutions to advancing tolerance. Because implementation of some project activities in target countries could not take place as planned for a variety of reasons, this project has been extended until 30 September 2020.

Impact/Results

In total, this project has engaged over 5,000 young people from different countries of the Middle East and North Africa in 2019, in over 30 capacity-development and training workshops, and 15 seminars and international conferences. The project has also developed 4 knowledge products, including a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Radicalisation and Terrorism, which is hosted on the France Université Numerique platform. Through a variety of communications and outreach activities at the project and activity levels, including through capacity-building with youth-led radio shows, the project has reached tens of thousands of people across the region. One key activity was the Arab World Heritage Young Professionals Forum, gathering 32 young participants in Tunis, 2-6 December. The Forum explored the role of cultural heritage in prevention efforts, reinforcing the positive and inspiring role that young people play in this regard. A short feature video was created, and a few testimonials from participant have been captured and can be accessed through these links:

- **Feature video:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zD7fKfQxZ8&feature=emb_logo
- **Testimonials:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fi3aL9lQnH8&feature=emb_logo

During the reporting period, the project organized a series of cultural heritage activities to strengthen positive identity and community resilience.

UNESCO/ Émilie Dejasse

UNESCO artwork of PVE and Youth by Émilie Dejasse.

These activities helped young people to better understand cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue, the marginalization of youth, and cultural and civic expression. The project also organized Media Information Literacy (MIL) training activities. These trainings have raised awareness of young journalists on conflict sensitive reporting, addressing misinformation on media platforms and the importance of investigating trending news and locating its source, the ethics of journalism, MIL concepts, the effects of media on emotions, benefits and risks of the Internet, cyberbullying and hate speech. Young journalists were also provided with the necessary reporting training to ensure that information is transmitted to the public in an ethical and professional manner.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Canada and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-01-81 Building Capacity of Youth in the (formerly) Federally-Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan through Employment Training and Psycho-Social Support

Status: Completed

In 2015, UNCCT, in collaboration with the Prime Minister Youth Programme (PMYP) of Pakistan, conducted a national level needs assessment conference, which identified the need to support youth affected by terrorist attacks in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan, now merged with neighbouring Khyber-Pakhtunkwa Tribal District. The Project was planned in consultations with Pakistan Prime Minister's Youth Programme and aimed at training around 150 young people from the formerly Federally-Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) of Pakistan in marketable trades that would be determined based on local market and business demands, in order to help youth affected by terrorism regain opportunities for employment, livelihood earning and strengthen their resilience.

Under the Project, UNCCT would partner with national and/or UN agencies that have access to the sensitive region to deliver the trainings.

Despite strong interest and ready support from the Government, the Project could not commence implementation. After final consultations with relevant stakeholders, the Project's closure process will be initiated in 2020.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2016-47 Support for Juvenile Offenders in Prisons in Pakistan

Status: Completed

UN Photo

Trainees learning vocational trades at Haripur prison in Pakistan

In 2015, UNCCT, in collaboration with Prime Minister Youth Programme (PMYP) of Pakistan, conducted a national level need assessment workshop in Islamabad. During the workshop, it was revealed that barring a few prisons, most prisons in Pakistan lack the necessary resources to provide a suitable environment to juveniles, where they can learn life, soft, and vocational skills, stay safe from further radicalization in prisons and develop aptitude for attaining a stable livelihood once they are released. Realizing this critical deficiency, UNCCT initiated a project to support select prisons in three provinces of Pakistan where juveniles apprehended on violent offences would be provided with vocational training in order to provide them opportunities to earn livelihood and stay free from radicalization in prisons settings.

The Project delivered trainings in three provinces: Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, and Sindh. The prisons chosen for providing the skill trainings were Haripur and Mardan in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Quetta District Jail in Balochistan, and Youthful Offenders Industrial School (YOIS), Hyderabad in Sindh. At the provincial level the key counterparts were the Home Departments, Prison Department, and respective Technical Education and Vocational Skills Authority (TEVTAs).

Consultations were held with the prison administrations of the identified prisons. All the available juveniles were interviewed and their academic level and aptitude for vocational training were ascertained- the juveniles showed interest in three

types of trainings, i.e., tailoring, electrician, and motorcycle mechanic. The TEVTAs were contacted and the requirement for training equipment, material and trainers were identified. Procurement of the training equipment and material was done through UNDP Pakistan while the trainers were selected through the TEVTAs.

Skill trainings: Three months long trainings in the trades of 'electrician' and 'tailori' was arranged for 32 juveniles in Haripur prison, while 21 completed the trainings. Three months long trainings for 'motorcycle mechanic' and 'tailoring' trades were arranged in Quetta prison for 40 juveniles while 28 completed the trainings. Three months long trainings in 'tailoring' and 'electrician' trades were arranged in YOIS Hyderabad while 24 completed the trainings. Three months long trainings in 'tailoring' and 'basic electrician' trades were arranged for 70 juveniles (half for females) in Mardan, out of which, 28 male and 19 females completed the trainings.

Course completion certificates were awarded to trainees in Haripur, Quetta and YOIS Hyderabad. Assessment of the trainings was also conducted at these prisons.

Results/Impact

On completion of the training, one hundred percent of the 70 recipients (trainees) at Haripur, Quetta, and YOIS Hyderabad prisons believed that the trainings in the given trades were relevant and useful.

One hundred percent of the recipients expressed satisfaction with the quality of the trainings including that of the training equipment and material, as well as that of instruction. However, there was an almost unanimous desire for a longer duration training as compared to three months. This was due to the fact the trainees believed the skill trainings would be more beneficial for them as compared to other opportunities available to them in the prisons.

Skill trainings were conducted in the different provincial prisons in many ways. The most common method was for the trainings to be conducted through trainers who had been imprisoned for longer duration. These 'trainers' acted as master trainers, and in turn imparted these trainings to other inmates. The trades taught were mostly traditional trades such as carpet weaving, rug making, woodwork, shoe making etc. The tools for these trainings were generally conventional, with limited training material provided for practice. In the case of Haripur prison, the government had established a Skill Development Centre (SDC), which provided modern equipment, and appointed trainers from KP TEVTA. However, no trainings were being imparted due to lack of training material.

The project demonstrated how initial skill trainings could be provided through professional trainers (rather than fellow inmates), with relevant

and abundant training equipment and material. This would also introduce modern ways of skill trainings to the prison administration. As a result of these trainings, computer trainings were initiated by SDC Haripur (using the already provided but unused computers) and utilizing the skills of trained computer experts from amongst the inmates.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-01-90 Enabling Youth Entrepreneurship and Increasing Youth Employment Opportunities to Build Resilience Against Violent Extremism in Ethiopia

Status: Initiated

To support the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia to strengthen the resilience of its youth against violent extremism, UNCCT, together with the Qatar-based non-governmental organisation Silatech, initiated an 18-months project, with starting date in April 2019. The project aims to leverage the microfinance sector and its reach in rural areas to stimulate youth entrepreneurship and self-employment in borderland communities in South and South-East Ethiopia. It will train staff in microfinance institutes to deliver sustainable loan products to young men and women. It will also deliver training-of-trainers workshops to business development service providers to create a sustainable ecology of local actors that can support young entrepreneurs with fair credits, business development advice and mentorship. In 2019, the project planned to deliver a needs assessment study to identify gaps and opportunities, as well as up to four (4) trainings for staff in microfinance institutes.

Due to resource and capacity constraints, no activity has been implemented in 2019. The project is on hold and will be reviewed in 2020 for possible change in focus within the same overall objective to strengthen youth resilience against violent extremism.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the State of Qatar.

UNCCT-2018-01-80 Building the Capacity of Technical and Vocational Training Institutes in Indonesia and the Maldives

Status: Completed

This project was initiated in 2018 as a progression of similar capacity-building focus of UNCCT in Pakistan and Bangladesh. The goal of the project was to empower Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutes of Bina Lingkungan Keluarga (TVET/BLK) to play an effective role in efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism, as well as in reintegration and rehabilitation. By June 2019, agreements were reached with ILO in Indonesia and the Governments of Indonesia and the Maldives for four capacity-building workshops in September 2019. The workshops incorporated a range PCVE-specific themes, including PCVE through strategic communications, PCVE through youth engagement and employment, gender dimensions of PCVE, local approaches to PCVE and cross-sectorial cooperation, focusing on internalizing knowledge about violent extremism, radicalization as well as rehabilitation and reintegration.

In Indonesia, three five-day capacity-building workshops were conducted to 150 participants. The workshops were held in Jakarta, Semarang and Surabaya, in partnership with the Government of Indonesia (Ministry of Manpower), the Indonesian National Counter-Terrorism Board (BNPT), ILO and national civil society organization the Wahid Foundation.

In the Maldives, one four-day capacity-building workshop was conducted to 50 participants. The workshop was organized in partnership with the Government of Maldives, the National Counter-Terrorism Center, and Maldives Polytechnic, and involving UNODC and ILO as part of the delivery.

Impacts/Results

In Indonesia, the workshops trained a total of 183 participants composed of officials from the Ministry of Manpower, and about 140 different TVET, including TVET Komunitas. Participants had different professional roles at their BLK, e.g. teacher/instructor, counselor, chief/manager, administrative/budget staff. Over 75% per cent of participants came from Jawa, with and equal distribution between East, West and Central, and the remainder from elsewhere in Indonesia, e.g., Sumatra, Sulawesi, Papua, and Kalimantan. The participants developed more than 15 PVE-tools and over 100 business cases as follow up action to strengthen their institutes, some of which were already being implemented and having an impact in the local communities.

In the Maldives, the workshop trained a total of 47 participants, including teachers, instructors, counselors, and managers, as well as law enforcement and senior policy advisors from relevant Government Ministries and civil society organizations. The participants identified a series of tangible actions that could be implemented to improve service delivery as well as increased awareness around issues pertaining to social cohesion, disenfranchisement, and intolerance. The participants also created strategic communications campaigns that were proposed through a pitching competition to the Minister for Higher Education who attended the closing session and endorsed two of the campaigns to be launched in the Maldives.

As a follow-up activity after the workshops in Indonesia, ILO engaged extensively with the Ministry of Manpower and key participants to create a PVE Field Guide for BLK that could be integrated in the national curriculum for BLK institutes across Indonesia. This would result in increased awareness about violent extremism in BLK institutes and their role in preventing it. Additionally, some short feature videos from the workshops in Indonesia were created:

- **Jakarta:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XW0jLiwNfSg
- **Semarang:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiNXvcGNSeA&t=47s
- **Surabaya:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_5wgODN_UA

A key lesson learned from comparing the outcomes between Indonesia and the Maldives is the importance of sustained field presence, which in most cases for UNCCT would mean substantively engaging with the UN Country Team as a key stakeholder. In the case of Indonesia, this was mainly ILO and the Resident Coordinator's Office, where ILO continued to work with the Ministry of Manpower to create and sustain a broader national impact beyond the direct outcomes of the workshops delivered as part of this project.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of Japan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2019-01-93 Support to Iraq on Youth Employment and Skills Development to Prevent Violent Extremism

Status: Ongoing

As follow up to the joint UNOCT-CTED scoping mission in January 2018, UNCCT seeks to provide support to Iraq's Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs through capacity-building trainings for its Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutes. The project will raise awareness of TVET around their role in prevention of violent extremism and radicalization, as well as in rehabilitation and reintegration efforts. Moreover, the project aims to provide direct skills training in vocational areas that are in demand in Fallujah and the Anbar province (e.g. carpentry, metalworking, tailoring, haircutting, cosmetology, and culinary arts), or skills that enable them to work remotely and access distant labour markets with better employment opportunities (e.g. within the IT-sector, which may include coding, programming, website design and layout, or database management). This would contribute to strengthening the local economy and resilience of young people. This activity is in support of a whole-of-society approach to preventing and countering violent extremism, as per the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. UNCCT will also provide direct skills training to 200 youth in Fallujah. The project is part of a support package to the Government of Iraq and implemented through UNOPS.

In 2019, a financial agreement was reached with UNOPS to start implementation. However, due to delays in the recruitment of consultants and the selection of a vendor, training activities will commence in 2020 with a five-day training workshop for officials of the TVET institutes, as well as direct skills training to about 200 youth in the Fallujah area towards the second half of 2020.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of Japan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-I-CSO Civil Society Engagement Strategy for UNOCT Engagement

Status: Ongoing

In 2019, UNCCT redoubled its efforts to strengthen engagement with civil society to ensure a whole-of-society approach to preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism, and effective rehabilitation and reintegration, with a focus on the three key areas of gender, youth and human rights. By enhancing civil

CSW63 Townhall Meeting of United Nations and Civil Society.

UN Photo / Ryan Brown

society engagement throughout UNOCT, UNCCT aims to improve the quality and impact of UNOCT programmes, contributing to the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

UNCCT has also made concerted efforts to ensure collaboration with civil society in its capacity building activities. One of the areas where civil society collaboration has been particularly strong is the victims programme under which the UNCCT works closely with associations of victims of terrorism. For example, UNCCT facilitated the establishment of a networks of victims' associations in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, which have been active in providing support in response to terrorist attacks and building peer to peer engagement. UNCCT produced two handbooks to support victims' associations to better support victims in the areas of rehabilitation, P/CVE, restitution, and advocacy. The UNCCT has also ensured that the views of civil society were reflected in the development of the "Handbook on Children Affected by the Foreign-Fighter Phenomenon: Ensuring a Child Rights-Based Approach", published in 2019. UNCCT has ensured through its South-South Cooperation programming the sharing of knowledge and expertise between civil society organizations and southern Member States.

Another area where UNCCT has worked closely with building the capacity of civil society on P/CVE is in Strategic Communications. Under the P/CVE through Strategic Communications project, UNCCT has provided tailored skills development and capacity building to civil society organisations in a whole-of-government workshop organized in the Philippines in March 2019, and a workshop dedicated to civil society working with vulnerable young people in Jordan in May 2019.

UNCCT's countering the financing of terrorism (CFT) programme also engages civil society, by incorporating civil society input into curriculum development and training delivery and participation on the CFT programme's steering committee.

In addition, civil society partnered with UNCCT to implement the Cybersecurity Innovation Challenge (also known as a "hackathon") by providing mentorship to participants to develop their ideas into viable solutions. Civil society is also active in the Joint Plan of Action for the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia project, where civil society organizations participated in a training to deepen professional dialogue between countries of the region, enhance knowledge and share experience regarding good practices on countering the use of the internet for propaganda and recruitment purposes.

Impacts/Results

The project commenced in 2019 to determine best practices in relation to civil society engagement. This resulted in the development of a Civil Society Engagement Strategy for the Office, which represents an initial effort to enable the establishment of structures and systems to support meaningful engagement. Civil society engagement in the UNOCT is meant to be an adaptive process that will evolve and continue to be shaped by best practices and lessons learned over time through an established, iterative monitoring and evaluation process. UNCCT's efforts to engage civil society will continue in 2020 and beyond.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Spain and Switzerland.

UNCCT-2017-71 Gender Mainstreaming in OCT

Status: Ongoing

The UNOCT Gender Adviser was recruited by UNCCT in August 2019 and tasked with ensuring that gender equality is mainstreamed in all aspects of UNOCT's work both in terms of focus, work methodologies and increasing UNCCT's portfolio on gender specific projects.

The project will strengthen UNCCT's support to Member States in implementing:

- UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy and its latest Review (A/72/284), which recognize the important role of women's contributions to the implementation of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy and call on international, regional and sub-regional organizations to ensure the participation and leadership of women in efforts to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism.

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, briefs the Security Council meeting on Women and peace and security, 29 October 2019.

UN Photo / Eskinder Debebe

- The Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE, A/70/674; A/70/675) which contains several critical recommendations including the mainstreaming of gender perspectives across PVE efforts; investment in gender sensitive research and data collection; the inclusion of women in the CT prevention and response mechanisms; the need to recognize the gendered impact of violent extremism.

- The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda, composed of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 (2000) and subsequent eight UNSCRs, provide the framework for considering women's human rights and needs within conflict and conflict- affected settings including those which relate to CT/PVE.

UNOCT adopted a gender marker to score projects in accordance to their approach on gender equality. Accompanying the gender marker is a guidance note to provide orientation for integrating gender equality and the empowerment of women into project design. Currently efforts are underway to establish a financial tracking system to allow for the identification and analysis of the funds allocated to gender equality and women's empowerment within UNOCT programming, including UNCCT programmes and projects.

Impacts/Results

Gender briefings were conducted for the UNCCT, aimed at reaching a common understanding regarding gender concepts, regulatory framework,

discuss some of the programming entry points and priorities and understand the application of the gender marker, gender mainstreaming and gender analysis. Additionally, gender reviews were done for several UNCCT projects with concrete recommendations on how to integrate gender perspectives, as well as Briefing Notes and Talking Points for Senior management on Gender Equality and Women, Peace and Security related issues.

The Gender Adviser provided a gender-themed session in the Project 'Building Capacities of Technical and Vocational Training Institutes in Indonesia and the Maldives' in Semarang, Indonesia and facilitated the participation of UN Women in the remaining Workshops organized by the project. An additional gender-themed session was provided in the project 'Preventing Violent Extremism through Strategic Communication' in the UNCCT – IGAD Joint Regional Strategic Communication Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya.

UNOCT is currently preparing to undertake a gender assessment and develop a gender policy, as well as developing its comprehensive gender programme to enhance UNCCTs portfolio of specific gender projects and establish a full-fledged Gender Unit within UNCCT which will allow for technical assistant and targeted support for UNCCTs programming and policy interventions.

The UNCCT is currently supporting two specific gender projects, namely:

1. UNCCT Gender Mainstreaming Project under which the gender assessment and gender policy will be developed.
2. Security Sector Reform in an Era of Terrorism/ Violent Extremism: Women's Rights in the Sahel Region. UN Women project (implemented under Output 4.1. See below)

Two additional seed funding projects were also approved for 2020:

1. Seed funding 'Promoting implementation of United Nations Guidelines for gender sensitive approaches to prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration'. UN Women project (Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group on Gender)
2. Seed funding 'Consultation with Women Groups on the Global CT Strategy Review'. UN Women project (Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group on Gender)

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-01-91 Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism in Asia (STRIVE Asia): a joint EU-UN partnership

Status: ongoing

Photo: UNCCT

USG Voronkov at the launch of the programme in New York.

This four-year programme, a joint EU-UN partnership, contributes to PCVE in Central, South and South East Asia as the spread of violent extremism poses a significant threat to national and global efforts to promote peace and security. The spread of violent extremism across these countries also undermines progress made towards fostering sustainable development and upholding human rights.

STRIVE Asia takes a "whole-of-society" and multi-stakeholder approach to develop and implement PCVE action plans and other policy documents based on international standards, good practices and lessons learned, and to strengthen local resilience through community-led PCVE initiatives.

The programme is jointly implemented with UNODC and UNDP. 2019 was the first year of the four-year programme, which is structured around three main outputs:

- **Output 1:** Enhancing the capacity of national and local authorities, legislative bodies, civil society and the private sector for PCVE policy-making, in particular, the capacity to develop and implement PVE national action plans;
- **Output 2:** Enhancing the role of law enforcement actors in preventing violent extremism in close collaboration with non-government actors; and
- **Output 3:** Strengthening local resilience of at-risk communities through the support of community-led initiatives in the PCVE area.

In 2019, the programme commenced the inception phase, mainly comprised of scoping missions in Central Asian countries, including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as in Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Maldives.

Results/Impact

The intended impact of STRIVE Asia initiative is to contribute to preventing and countering violent extremism in Central, South, South East Asia through a multi-stakeholder approach, including governments, security actors, civil society and private sector entities.

In September, UNCCT and the EU, with the cooperation of UNODC and UNDP, co-organized a side-event to formally launch the STRIVE ASIA Programme, which brought together more than 80 experts and practitioners, including law enforcement and security practitioners; government representatives; policy makers; and civil society organizations to share good practices and engage in a candid discussion on the specific challenges and opportunities that lay before the STRIVE Programme.

In 2019, STRIVE Asia's inception phase featured scoping missions to the targeted regions, with the aim of identifying potential beneficiary countries to seek national buy-in to participate in this Project.

The scoping visits resulted in a robust inception report, which included substantive analysis of the manifestations of violent extremism as per the specific national context, including priority gaps and needs, the landscape of civil society organizations, movements and networks, a comprehensive mapping of existing PCVE activities in the beneficiary countries in order to avoid national and regional duplication with existing initiatives.

The inception report informed the process of developing a work plan of the implementation phase, communications strategy, a monitoring and evaluation strategy including the collection of lessons learned throughout the Project. Implementation will commence in May 2020.

This project is made possible by financial support from the European Union and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with in-kind contributions from UNDP and UNODC.

Output 1.2 **Via UNCCT support, requesting Member States have an increased ability to understand and address the Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) Phenomenon.**

Started globally in 2019, the trend of returning FTFs and their accompanying family members back to the countries of their origin has aggravated the issues reiterated by the Security Council resolution 2396 (2017). Among other issues, the resolution calls for strengthened judicial cooperation and implementation of appropriate prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration strategies for FTFs. General Assembly resolution 72/284 on the sixth Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy further highlights "the importance of strengthening international cooperation on information-sharing, border security, investigations, judicial processes, extradition, improving prevention and addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, preventing and countering incitement to commit terrorist acts, preventing radicalization to terrorism and recruitment of foreign terrorist fighters, disrupting and preventing financial support to foreign terrorist fighters, developing and implementing risk assessments on returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters and their families, and prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts, consistent with applicable international law."

The Center is coordinating an "all-of-UN" approach in the process of working with FTFs, delivering policy and technical support. To support requesting Member States in their efforts to address the threat posed by FTFs, UNCCT is implementing projects to increase States' ability on screening, prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration of FTFs. This includes global policy guidance, thematic projects on children affected by terrorism and violent extremist prisoners, and a number of geographic projects. Furthermore, the Centre's programmes/projects on border security and management, countering terrorist financing, and cyber security are all designed to address the evolving FTF phenomenon.

According to the 25th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team submitted to the Security Council Committee pursuant to UNSCRs 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), "there is widespread Member State consensus that these exceptional circumstances require an exceptional international response to the crisis". And "repatriation of these people to their States of origin and/or nationality will be challenging in the short term but holds out the greatest hope of mitigating the longer-term threat".

During the reporting period, the projects "UNCCT-2015-43 - Supporting the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons" and "UNCCT-2017-64 - Enhancing the Capacity of States to Adopt Human Rights Based Treatment of Children Affected by Terrorism, in particular, by the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon" projects have been moved from Pillar I to Pillar IV, as the scope of these projects have evolved to focus beyond FTFs, and focus more generally on ensuring human rights and rule of law in the treatment of violent extremist offenders and children affected by terrorism more broadly.

UNCCT-2017-67 Enhancing Member State Capacities to Exploit Social Media in relation to Foreign Terrorist Fighters (UNCCT-INTERPOL)

Status: Completed

The project supports Member States in the implementation of:

- The sixth biennial Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/72/284) and UNSCR 2396 (2017), which address exploitation of information and communications technologies, including the Internet and social media, for terrorist purposes and the need for the international community to globally counter these activities.

In 2018, UNCCT launched this joint project with INTERPOL to enhance the capacities of participating Member States to use information on the internet and social media to counter and prevent the FTF phenomenon. The project sought to enhance Member States' access to information and digital evidence on FTFs, including digital identifiers in INTERPOL's FTF alerts, and to increase their capacity to exploit FTFs' use of online communications, through the delivery of three regional workshops for Member States in South-East Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia, the first of which was held in 2018.

In 2019, UNCCT, together with its implementing partner INTERPOL, held two regional capacity-building workshops that raised awareness of the evolving FTF phenomenon and its gender dimension, the misuse of the Internet and social media by terrorists, and relevant INTERPOL tools and services. The workshops also included training on open source investigations, taking into account gender and human rights considerations when exploiting social media and the internet to prevent and counter the FTF phenomenon. The first workshop was held on 14-16 January for 14 law enforcement officers from seven Member States of the Middle East and North Africa region convened at INTERPOL Headquarters in Lyon, France. The second workshop was held on 25-27 February for 15 law enforcement officers from five South Asian Member States in Singapore. Participants benefited from case studies of online investigations and private sector perspectives regarding collaboration with law enforcement. CTED and UNODC supported the activities with presentations on requesting electronic evidence across borders.

"OSINT investigations and the practical exercises about social media exploitation were the most useful aspects of this workshop."

Participant – Lyon Regional, January.

As part of the outcomes of these capacity building activities, UNCCT and INTERPOL produced the handbook "Using the Internet and Social Media for Counter-Terrorism Investigations" with valuable contributions from CTED, UNODC, UN WOMEN, and the International Association of Prosecutors. The handbook was published in the second quarter of the year and launched at an event for Member States at the ECOSOC chamber of the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The launching event was attended by 92 delegates representing 61 Members States.

Results/Impact

The UNCCT-INTERPOL workshops contributed to building awareness and understanding of government officials and civil society representatives on FTFs' exploitation of the Internet and social media for terrorist purposes and the use of these technologies to prevent, identify and disrupt terrorist activity, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In the second half of 2019, based on the positive feedback received from Member States that had participated in the regional workshops, UNCCT developed the in-depth project "Enhancing the skills of Indonesian, Malaysian and Filipino Officials in relation to the Exploitation of Social Media and the Internet to counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomenon and violent extremism" to respond to the capacity building needs of those Member States (see below).

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2019-I-Social Media Investigations for Southeast Asia	Enhancing the Skills of Southeast Asian Officials in Relation to the Exploitation of Social Media and the Internet to Counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon and Violent Extremism

Status: Completed

This project was developed as an outcome of the prior UNCCT-INTERPOL capacity-building project entitled "Enhancing Member State capacities to use

social media to prevent and counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomenon", which had been implemented for beneficiary Member States in Europe, Middle East and South East Asia in 2018 and 2019 (see above).

The project started with a joint launching workshop in Tokyo, Japan, on 11 and 12 July, where Indonesian, Malaysian and Filipino officials exchanged their views on their current practices relating to the use of social media by Foreign Terrorist Fighters and other violent extremists, and presented the latest national trends on the Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomenon.

This was followed by three national-level capacity building workshops in the Philippines (Tagaytay, 19 and 20 August 2019), Indonesia (Jakarta, 20 and 21 August 2019) and Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur, 26 and 27 August 2019), organized to address the respective aspects in legislation, including on the prohibition of incitement to commit a terrorist act, human rights obligations during investigations, relevant UNSCRs and governance of internet service providers. Additional related topics discussed during the national activities included on-line research and data analysis, to enhance investigative capacities to exploit information on the internet and social media platforms as they related to FTFs and violent extremists, including on their travels and associations.

The project discussions were concluded with a final joint workshop for officials from the three beneficiary Member States that was held in Japan (Tokyo, 29 and 30 August) to report on the best practices shared during the workshops of the project.

Finally, in collaboration with UNRCCA, and under the programme "Joint Plan of Action to Implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia", UNCCT conducted a cross-pillar activity in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (13-14 November), consisting of a two-day training for more than 40 participants from Central Asia to share experiences and good practices in countering the use of the Internet for propaganda and recruitment purposes.

"The workshop was useful in forging inter-agency network."

The Philippines National, August

"The dark web training gave an insight on how terrorist groups communicate with each other."

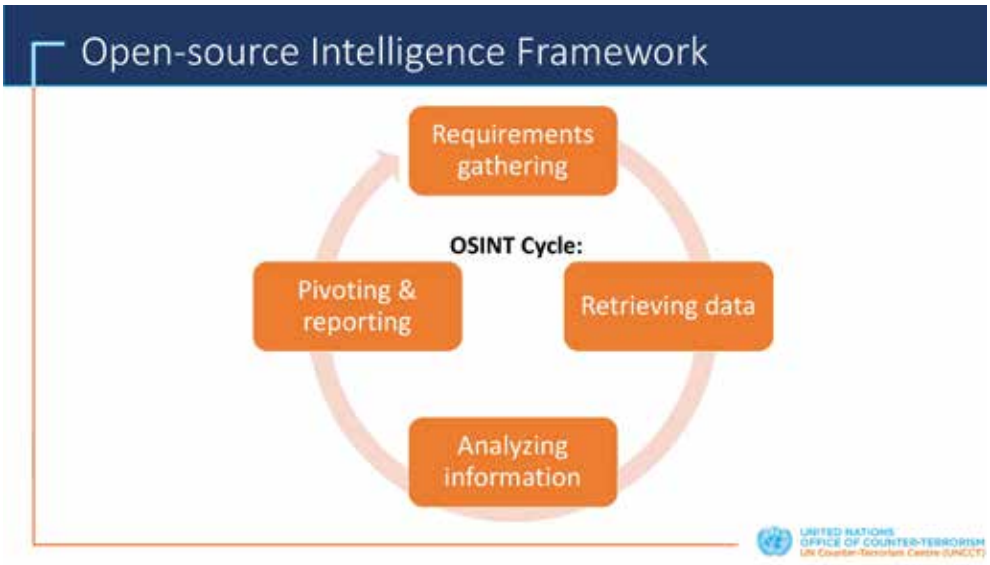
Malaysia National, August

"OSINT discussion is very useful for me as investigator, it will be very helpful for me to automate work."

Regional - Tokyo July

Joint workshop for Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, 11-12 July 2019

Photo: Fernando



Results/Impact

UNCCT successfully held six capacity building workshops under this project with attendance of a wide range of mid-level Member State officials. The joint launching and closing activities encouraged collaboration among Member States in regard to their efforts on countering the terrorist use of the Internet and Social Media and on investigating FTFs and violent extremists across borders, achieving the first outcome of the project that aimed to expand regional networks of participating officials.

In the span of five months, UNCCT successfully trained 191 officers, who collectively expressed having achieved an increased capacity to stem the flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters and to prevent the radicalization of Foreign Terrorist Fighters and violent extremists (87% average score of participant responded to their increase of knowledge). Participants also recognized attaining better access to best practices in relation to the issues of legislation, research, analysis, and investigation using open source information obtained from the Internet (94% average score of participants response). UNCCT worked in close collaboration with UNODC and INTERPOL, who provided invaluable substantive inputs and contributed to some of the workshops.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of Japan and the Kingdom of the Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2017-66 Enhancing Information Sharing on Foreign Terrorist Fighters among Member States (UNCCT-INTERPOL)

Status: Ongoing

During 2019, UNCCT and INTERPOL worked closely to further develop the joint project on Enhancing Information Sharing on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF)s among Member States. Adjustments were required to reflect the changing nature of the FTF phenomenon, as well as to ensure alignment with new programming being developed to address new issues, including in particular the return and relocation of FTFs and their families.

The project supports Member States in the implementation of:

- UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy consensus reviews by the General Assembly (A/RES/72/284), which has stressed the importance of strengthening international cooperation to address the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing.

- UNSCR 2396 (2017) which "calls upon Member States to improve timely information sharing… on foreign terrorist fighters, especially among law enforcement, intelligence, counterterrorism, and special services agencies…".

The re-designed project was approved at the end of 2019 for implementation in 2020 and will aim to enhance the ability of Member States to prevent and counter the FTF phenomenon through enhanced information-sharing, specifically as related to the screening of potential FTFs utilizing INTERPOL databases, including I-24/7 connectivity, as well as the use of battlefield evidence. The project will also be used to raise awareness of United Nations system-wide support on the efforts to address the FTF phenomenon through the screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration, and the INTERPOL HOTSPOT initiative which aims to increase the amount of data that INTERPOL member countries contribute to its fingerprint and facial images databases. In the long term, this will help detect foreign terrorist fighters and criminals who try to cross borders illegitimately.

UNCCT and INTERPOL plan to launch the implementation of the project in 2020, through a global launching conference that will help raise awareness and map out Member State requirements in this area. This will be followed by the delivery of three regional workshops, focusing on gathering and sharing information related to prisoners, as well as biometric data to intercept the movement of FTFs. The project will also support Member States in identifying the type of required information as well as the appropriate mechanism to receive, hold, and transmit information.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of the Kingdom of Belgium, the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of the Saudi Arabia.

PILLAR II

Outcome 2: Measures to prevent and combat terrorism

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States and regions counter terrorism in a strategic manner, combat the financing of terrorism, and prevent the travel of terrorists and cyber terrorism (Outcome 2, UNCCT 5-Year Programme)

Output 2.1 **Via UNCCT support, requesting Member States and regions have in place holistic and integrated counter-terrorism strategies based on the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategies**

The multidimensional nature and transnational scope of the terrorist threat requires that counter-terrorism responses are coordinated, both at national and regional levels, and engage all of society and all of government. Regional and national counter-terrorism strategies provide useful frameworks for involving and coordinating both government and non-government actors, identifying gaps and capabilities, setting strategic objectives and priorities, building commitment, and monitoring actions and processes. UNCCT is working actively with national and regional partners, the Global Compact entities, and relevant Global Compact Working Groups, in particular the National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies Working Group, to develop and implement inclusive and integrated counter-terrorism strategies based on the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars, particularly in Central Asia. The global PCVE programme provides policy guidance and technical assistance to requesting Member States and regional organisations in the development of PVE action plans based on national and regional priorities. The Centre has also continued its support for the development of a regional strategy for the Arab region.

UNCCT-2016-50 **Facilitating the Development of a Regional Strategy for East Africa and the Horn of Africa to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism**

Status: Completed

Engagements in 2019 were focused on the implementation of specific priority thematic issues such as Strategic Communications, Cybersecurity, and Border Security and Management.

Results/Impact

Following the successful support in earlier years to IGAD for the development and implementation of a comprehensive regional strategy for countries of the Horn of Africa and Tanzania to prevent violent extremism in cooperation with the IGAD engagements in 2019 were focused on the implementation of specific priority thematic issues such as Strategic Communications, Cybersecurity, and Border Security and Management. The related activities were carried out and reported under the relevant global programmes as detailed elsewhere in this report. Consequently, it was decided to close this project.

Further strategic engagements with East Africa and the Horn of Africa on counter-terrorism and PCVE will continue in 2020 under relevant UNCCT global programmes and in response to the "African Regional High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism and the Prevention of Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism" that was organized by UNOCT with the Government of Kenya and held in Nairobi in July 2019.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of the Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2016-51 Facilitating the Implementation of the Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Southern Africa

Status: Completed

Engagement in 2019 was focused on the implementation of specific priority thematic issues, including in particular countering the financing of terrorism.

Results/Impact

Following the successful support in earlier years to SADC for the development and implementation of a comprehensive regional strategy for countries of the Southern Africa Development Community in cooperation with the SADC Secretariat engagement in 2019 was focused on the implementation of specific priority thematic issues, including in particular countering the financing of terrorism. The related activities were carried out

and reported under the relevant global programmes as detailed elsewhere in this report. Consequently, it was decided to close this project.

Further strategic engagements with Southern Africa on counter-terrorism and PCVE will continue in 2020 under relevant UNCCT global programmes and in response to the "African Regional High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism and the Prevention of Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism" that was organized by UNOCT with the Government of Kenya and held in Nairobi in July 2019.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of the Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2017-69 Towards a Comprehensive Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia - Phase III

Status: Ongoing

The project aims to enhance national and regional efforts to counter terrorism in Central Asia through a plan of action to be implemented across the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Phase III of the project "Towards a comprehensive implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy for Central Asia" profited from continued collaboration between UNCCT and United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) over the reporting period. Consultations with all five Member States, CTED, donors and partners were held to develop a plan for implementation that ensures regional and national ownership, sustainability and impact. In addition to Afghanistan, Mongolia has also participated in regional activities.

UNCCT and UNRCCA intensified work in the area of countering terrorism and prevention of violent extremism, supported by the UNCCT Liaison Officer in Ashgabat and in partnership with regional organizations, UN Global Compact entities and civil society. UNCCT and UNRCCA took special care to highlight the protection of human rights as a primary concern. In 2019, UNCCT and UNRCCA organized regional tailored capacity-building trainings on border security and management, countering the financing of terrorism and preventing the use of the internet for propaganda and recruitment purposes. Turkmenistan also received support on the development of a national counter-terrorism strategy. Looking ahead, UNCCT stands ready to provide support to Central Asia as it continues work on repatriating and reintegrating the families of foreign terrorist

JPOA- BSM training in Dushanbe, Tajikistan (6-8 Aug 2019)

Photo: UNCCT

fighters. Since Phase III of the project will end in 2020, a High-Level review of the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia is foreseen.

Results/Impact

Central Asian states and the region have increased national ownership and increased knowledge on border security management, countering the financing of terrorism, and terrorists use of the internet as a result of the capacity building and technical assistance received. These countries are now also better prepared to respond strategically to emerging priority areas identified in the 2017 High Level Dialogue, General Assembly resolution 70/291, recommendations drawn from the previous phases and CTED recommendations. Central Asian states have developed effective policies and best practices to prevent and counter violent extremism through increased understanding about roots of violent extremism, improved access to information and analysis, and enhanced opportunities for exchanging good practices in key priority areas of the Joint Plan of Action to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The project also ensured cooperation and coordination with regional and international organizations in their efforts to combat terrorism and prevent violent extremism in the region.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-02-88 Supporting the Development and Implementation of a Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy for the Arab World (UNCCT-AIMC)

Status: Ongoing

This project contributes to preventing and countering terrorism in the Arab region, as well as to strengthening regional counter-terrorism cooperation and coordination, through the development and implementation of a regional counter-terrorism strategy for the Arab World, based on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Through the formal endorsement by the 36th session of the Arab Interior Minister's Council (AIMC), the project was officially launched on 3 March 2019. It will be implemented in two phases by UNCCT and the General Secretariat of the AIMC for a period of 4 years and 9 months from April 2019 to December 2023 with an estimated total budget of $5.37 million.

Photo: UNCCT

Implementation of the first phase started in April 2019 to support the development of a new updated Arab regional counter-terrorism strategy aligned with the four Pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as of a plan of action to facilitate the implementation of the regional strategy, for its possible adoption at the Annual Meeting of the AIMC in March 2021.

In that regard, on 1 and 2 September, UNCCT and AIMC co-organized the first meeting of the Arab High Committee to launch the project in Tunis. Subsequently, several meetings gathering experts specialized in each of the four Pillars of the Global Strategy will meet with UNCCT to discuss various regional priorities and matters pertaining to preventing and countering terrorism in the region.

Result/Impact

The implementation of the project has resulted in enhanced support to and increased awareness of AIMC of the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including presentations by senior UN experts

during the first meeting of the Arab High Committee in September 2019. The Arab High Committee identified priority areas and agreed on a common approach and methodology with a view towards forming sub-committees to continue work on the development of the strategy and its plan of action, which sets the review and development phase in motion towards a new updated Arab regional counter-terrorism strategy to be finalized in 2021.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2013-21 UNCCT List of Counter-Terrorism Advisors

Status: Completed

Result/Impact

Over the years, the UNCCT List of Counter-Terrorism Advisors has provided invaluable support to a number of UNCCT projects and programmes. Several highly skilled experts were available to the Centre and were deployed to Member States as part of the Centre's capacity-building projects. With the development of broader thematic programmes, UNCCT has focused on the recruitment and rostering of expert consultants with specific expertise in the relevant areas, such as strategic communications, cyber, countering the financing of terrorism and south-south cooperation. As a consequence, more limited use of the UNCCT List of Counter-Terrorism Advisors was seen in 2019.

As part of its efforts to close projects with limited activities, it was decided to also close this long-standing effort, with a view to possible reconfigure and relaunch in 2020, based on a new assessment of needs both within UNCCT and beyond.

The Centre is grateful to the Counter-Terrorism Advisors who made themselves available to support the global efforts to counter terrorism and prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of the Saudi Arabia.

Output 2.2 **Through UNCCT assistance, requesting Member States and regions have in place policies, legislations and trained officials to counter the financing of terrorism.**

The Security Council adopted resolution 2462 in 2019, a landmark call from the United Nations to all Member States on the urgency to suppress terrorist financing. UNSCR 2462 constituted an important step forward in the international community's efforts against terrorism financing by consolidating existing obligations in a single document, expanding the focus to include key emerging issues, addressing critical concerns over the potentially negative impact of counter-terrorism measures on impartial and much-needed humanitarian programming, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening international cooperation to ensure the exchange of relevant financial intelligence. It also called upon UNOCT and its components to "enhance coordination with the aim of delivering integrated technical assistance on counter-terrorist financing measures, including assistance that will improve the capacity of Member States, upon their request, to implement this resolution," and to continue to cooperate with Member States…to provide [them with] technical assistance and capacity-building [support]."

In addition to resolution 2462, the Security Council has adopted a number of other resolutions that lay out the normative framework for international action to address the threat of financing of terrorism, including UNSCR 2133 (2014) on kidnapping and hostage taking by terrorists, UNSCR 2178 (2014) on suppressing the financing of FTF travel and activities, UNSCR 2195 (2014) on preventing terrorists from benefiting from transnational organized crime, and UNSCR 2199 (2015) on preventing terrorist groups in Syria and Iraq from benefiting from trade in oil, antiquities and hostages and from receiving donations, among others. Member States are required to criminalize terrorist financing, enhance domestic and international cooperation, prevent the movement of funds across borders, improve monitoring of financial flows, freeze terrorist assets, prevent ransom payments, and suppress illicit trade and trafficking in persons, cultural goods and other natural resources.

To support Member States' implementation of the international legal framework and to strengthen the resilience of their financial systems against the terrorist threat, UNCCT has implemented critical capacity-building projects to provide assistance on counter-terrorist financing practices, more recently increasing focus on the integration of financial intelligence and risk assessments, and promotion of cooperation between the public and private sectors. During 2019, and especially in response to resolution 2462, UNCCT developed a global capacity-building programme on countering the financing of terrorism that will offer assistance to Member States on a broad range of topics in a multi-tiered and structured manner, allowing UNCCT to respond to requests for assistance in a flexible manner addressing issues of key concern to individual Member States. This programme will be launched in 2020.

A money exchanger counts Somali shilling notes on a street in Mogadishu.

UN Photo / Stuart Price

UNCCT-2018-02-78 **Capacity Building Project on Countering the Financing of Terrorism through Effective National and Regional Action**

Status: Ongoing

The project continued to build capacity on freezing of assets with a stronger focus on FTFs financing, financial intelligence sharing, risk assessments, and public-private partnerships.

During 2019, UNCCT has continued to support interested Member States in developing the laws, policies, institutions and practices to effectively identify, detect, pursue and deny financing by terrorists and their supporters. The adoption of Security Council resolution 2462 (2019) has given further impetus to UNCCT's efforts in this field. In response to the resolution, UNCCT has developed an expanded global capacity-building programme on countering the financing of terrorism that is premised on four pillars – awareness raising, comprehensive needs assessments, legislative support and operational capacity-building. When launched in 2020 it will include a focus on 11 topics related to countering the financing of terrorism.

The 11 focused topics related to countering the financing of terrorism:

1. Terrorist designations and asset freezing
2. Criminalization, prosecution and conviction of terrorism financing
3. Investigations of financial flows related to terrorism financing and disruption strategies

4. Domestic and international financial intelligence sharing
5. Protection of the non-profit organization sector (NPOs)
6. Regulation of money and value transfer systems (MVTS)
7. National risk assessment (NRA)
8. Detection and disruption of the illegal cross-border transportation of cash and bearer negotiable instruments (BNIs)
9. Financial inclusion and de-risking
10. Innovative financial technologies, including mobile payment services and virtual assets
11. Public-private partnerships (PPPs), including with designated non-financial businesses and professions (DNFBPs)

UNCCT has worked at both the national and regional levels to address the threat of terrorist financing. UNCCT has liaised closely with CTED to identify specific countries for support and priority needs within countries in order to help beneficiary States develop or strengthen laws, institutions and practices on countering terrorist financing.

Building on capacity-building support offered in the preceding year, UNCCT continued engagement with Tunisia, Mauritius, and Mongolia during 2019. In Tunisia, UNCCT supported the implementation of a new decree on countering the financing of terrorism. In Mauritius (February 2019) and Mongolia (April 2019), UNCCT delivered workshops for around 60 participants from a variety of national authorities, to help identify vulnerabilities faced by the NPO sector and good practices to engage the NPO sector in a manner that did not impede their work and yet helps safeguard their activities from terrorist abuse. In Mauritius, UNCCT held a dedicated seminar for parliamentarians that raised awareness of the vulnerabilities faced by the non-profit sector. In this regard, UNCCT benefited from the participation of the Charity Commission of England and Wales and the Canada Revenue Agency as key operators with extensive experience in this field. UNCCT helped Mauritius identify ways to develop laws on the protection of the NPO sector, which Mauritius was able to demonstrate during the course of the year through the adoption of key pieces of legislation. The satisfaction rate from both workshops stood above 85% on average.

In addition, UNCCT initiated capacity-building support for Bahrain, Sri Lanka and Madagascar. In July 2019, in the aftermath of the Easter bombings in Sri Lanka, UNCCT responded to a call from national authorities and the UN Country Team to jointly deliver a comprehensive training to more than 100 Sri Lankan officials from a broad cross-section of agencies on terrorist financing, supervision,

investigations and prosecution, especially as it pertains to the protection of the charities sector from terrorist abuse. These trainings helped lay the groundwork for future work, especially in conducting a possible risk assessment for Sri Lanka's NPO sector that could take place in the future. In September 2019, UNCCT organized a training workshop for Bahraini officials which also focused on best practices on the protection of the NPO sector from terrorist abuse. That workshop was deeply appreciated by Bahraini officials, who called for an additional event to consider the issue more intensively in 2020. Finally, in December 2019, UNCCT commenced work with Madagascar, including to enhance the awareness of officials of international obligations on countering the financing of terrorism.

UNCCT has also prioritized support to key Financial Action Task Force (FATF)-style regional bodies. In continuation of its longstanding engagement with the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG), through which UNCCT developed a region-wide Counter-Financing of Terrorism Operational Plan, adopted at the Ministerial level in 2018, UNCCT organized two workshops to promote the implementation of the Operational Plan. In this regard, a subregional consultation was convened in Istanbul in October 2019 for ESAAMLG member jurisdictions in Eastern Africa, which brought together around 25 officials from Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. A second event brought together around 30 officials from seven (7) countries of the Southern African region in Pretoria in December 2019, to discuss priority steps and capacity-building needs to promote the implementation of the Plan. A final subregional meeting will be organized in early 2020 in Eswatini to complete the consultations process and to finalize next steps on the implementation of the Plan. All subregional events have helped ESAAMLG identify ways through which the Plan could be implemented through priorities that vary from region to region.

UNCCT carried out a large number of strategic consultations with partners, including national and regional capacity-building providers and training centers, to establish frameworks and platforms for meaningful and impact capacity-building possibilities for additional Member States to benefit from. In February 2019, UNCCT partnered with the International Monetary Fund to discuss key elements on financial investigations and develop a related capacity-building training module to help law enforcement and financial investigators on financial intelligence sharing. The training module is now ready for deployment to interested Member States. In addition, UNOCT also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Guardia di Finanza of Italy to help deliver trainings to officials from beneficiary countries on financial investigations, anti-money laundering, countering terrorist financing, legislation building and international cooperation. The first country to benefit from this partnership will be Mongolia, with a training organized for 22 Mongolian officials in Rome in January 2020. In order to ensure adequate coordination, UNCCT has also initiated consultations with the EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism to explore joint delivery and complementary action in order

to ensure that beneficiary Member States acquire capacity-building support in the most constructive ways possible. Finally, UNCCT has also engaged with the Royal United Services Institute in London to explore possibilities of running study tours for national experts from beneficiary countries so that UNCCT could offer a variety of ways through which officials can be trained on best practices related to countering the financing of terrorism.

In 2020, with the launch of the new expanded programme on countering the financing of terrorism, UNCCT will further deepen its work with Bahrain, Mongolia and Tunisia, and expand its outreach to additional countries in Southern Africa, East and South Asia and the MENA region, in particular to assist countries implement key provisions of UNSCR 2462 (2019) and FATF recommendations.

Results/impact

UNCCT has provided sustained support to targeted authorities and agencies and has been a consistent source of information and guidance to build their awareness, understanding and implementation practices. In Mauritius, for example, UNCCT worked closely with national authorities to expand its outreach to include parliamentarians, which led to a better understanding amongst these lawmakers on Mauritius's international obligations. This has helped Mauritius adopt laws and regulations that met international standards in a better way. Similarly, UNCCT's and CTED's continuing dialogue with Tunisia has led to additional progress made by Tunisia's National Commission for Counter-Terrorism, including on designations of terrorist organizations and freezing of their assets. At the regional level, the engagement with ESAAMLG has ensured a continued focus by the Member States on the implementation of the Regional Operational Plan on Countering the Financing of Terrorism, including by supporting them in adjusting their regulations and practices to make them more consistent with international standards and obligations.

Finally, UNCCT's partnerships with key training institutes, such as the Guardia di Finanza of Italy, will lead to more practical exposure for beneficiary countries, thereby leading to more concrete impact on the ground in the coming years. As the expanded global programme on countering the financing of terrorism commences implementation in 2020, there will be additional opportunities to build on past work, including that done by Global Compact entities such as UNODC and IMF.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of India and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Output 2.3 **Based on UNCCT assistance requesting Member States and regions have improved border security management, including through enhanced inter-agency and international cooperation**

Ensuring effective border security and management is essential for preventing and countering the flow of suspected terrorists and foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) across land, air, and maritime borders, as well as the cross-border movement of illicit cargo, including weapons, arms, and munitions that may be used for terrorist purposes. Despite enhanced measures taken by Member States in the last few years to strengthen border security, particularly in light of the evolving FTF phenomenon, capacities among States in this area vary widely and gaps continue to exist in the collection, use and sharing of passenger data, effective control of identity papers and travel documents, border screening processes, technical equipment and trained border personnel, and coordinated border management. To respond to the gaps, UNCCT supports Member States and regional organizations in implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant UNSCRs such as 1373 (2001), 2178 (2014), 2396 (2017), and 2482 (2019) through the provision of tailored technical assistance on border security and management good practices, cross-border cooperation and information sharing, and border management strategies.

UNCCT-2017-68 **Strengthening Member State Capacities in the Area of Border Security and Management to Counter Terrorism and Stem the Flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (BSM programme)**

Status: Ongoing

In January 2019, UNCCT launched its comprehensive new programme that aims to strengthen Member State capacities to prevent the cross-border movement of terrorists and stem the flow of FTFs through improved border security and management (BSM). The programme framework outlines the development of a broad range of underlying thematic capacity building projects over the next four years that will generate outputs and outcomes to help address identified gaps, including increasing awareness of the importance of responsible data sharing related to biometrics to counter terrorism and strengthening capabilities related to other cross-border communication technologies, while accounting for the complex nature of the border environment which includes multiple modes of travel.

The programmatic framework is intended to be flexible in nature to meet the evolving needs and requirements of Member States in addressing key gaps and challenges, including as identified by CTED, to correspond to funding availability, allow for close coordination with Global Compact partner entities and address the ever-changing threat landscape. The multi-year, global programme allows the Centre to provide on-going BSM and counter-terrorism expertise to Member States, implement targeted, specialized capacity-building projects and develop good practices and handbooks.

The comprehensive programme contributes directly to the implementation of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions which underscore the strategic importance of addressing issues relating to border security and management as important components towards countering terrorism and stemming the flow of FTFs.

For year one of the programme, key deliverables achieved include:

- Partnerships established with and thematic support provided to key Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, regional, and sub-regional organizations, including: International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), World Customs Organization (WCO), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), the European Border and Coast Guard Agency - FRONTEX, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), IGAD, and CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS).
- Provision of thematic expertise to Member States, regional and/or sub-regional bodies in developing and implementing comprehensive border management strategies and action plans which incorporate counter-terrorism measures.
- Delivery of specialized, tailored capacity -building training based on established 'Good Practices in Border Security and Management to Strengthen National and Regional Capacities in Countering Terrorism' at both the national and regional levels.
- Promoting utilization of the UN Compendium of Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics in Counter Terrorism and regional activities to enhance awareness, knowledge and capacity of States to use and share biometric data in a responsible manner.
- Updating and elaboration of guidance materials, such as the cross-border travel cycle modules pertaining to air travel for passengers and goods.

While the UNCCT BSM programme is global in scope, implementation was focused on high priority regions where both the threat of terrorism and needs of Member States are most acute. In this regard, three national and six regional specialized

training activities which aimed to enhance national and regional border management capacities and strengthen inter-agency and cross-border cooperation were delivered in 2019 in the following key regions: East Africa, West Africa-Sahel, South East Asia, Central Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). These training activities contributed directly to Outcome 1 of the BSM programme in which assisted Member States and regional bodies have enhanced awareness and understanding of established "Good Practices" in the area of BSM as they relate to countering terrorism and stemming the flow of FTFs across borders. Corresponding to this is the enhancement of cross-border cooperation and intra and inter-agency coordination on matters pertaining to counter-terrorism.

At the request of Member States, including Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso, and Cote D'Ivoire, strategic expertise to support the development and implementation of comprehensive border management strategies and plans of action to counter terrorism was also provided. In this regard, comprehensive consultations were held with a broad range of national governmental and law enforcement authorities to provide guidance and support towards the inclusion of counter-terrorism elements within the Member States' national border management strategies. Efforts to support Member States nationally and regionally, particularly in Africa and LAC, will continue in the coming year.

The specialized training delivered in 2019 under the framework of the BSM programme included:

- A three-day regional training delivered in Niamey, Niger together with IOM Immigration and Border Management (IBM), which was attended by 50 border officials from Mali, Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger. This training sought to enhance cross-border cooperation as well as the capacities of border authorities to counter terrorism and trans-national crime within the critical Liptako-Gourma and Parks W/Arly/Pendjari region.

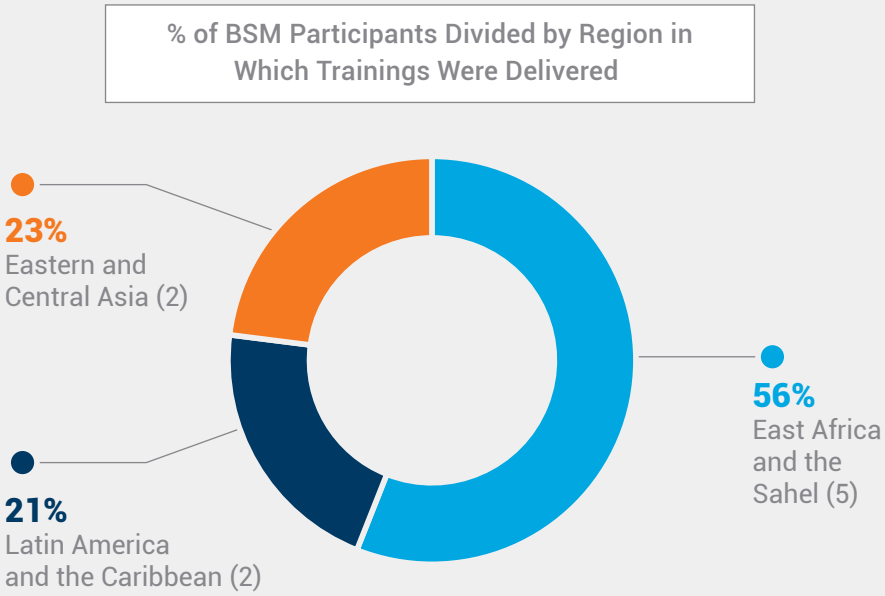
- A three-day regional training to enhance understanding and knowledge of established good practices for effective border security and management as a means of countering terrorism in Central Asia was delivered to 30 border law enforcement officials to enhance cross-border cooperation and interaction among the five participating Central Asian States, plus Mongolia and Afghanistan, and support implementation of the Joint Plan of Action for the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia.

- A three-day regional training that aimed to enhance cooperation and strengthen national and regional border management capacities within East Africa to counter terrorism and prevent the movement of FTFs. The high-level training was delivered together with UNODC, and in cooperation with IOM and the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) Regional Counter-Terrorism Centre of Excellence (CTCoE). A total of 28 senior government officials from Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Somalia, Tanzania, and Ethiopia responsible for border management, counter-terrorism and intelligence matters participated in the training.

- A three-day training on 'Good Practices in Border Security and Management' was delivered together with IOM to 35 border officials from nine Southeast Asian countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam) to help strengthen the capacity of border law enforcement authorities to develop and implement more coordinated border management strategies and enhance cross-border and regional cooperation.

- UNCCT, together with regional experts from the Nairobi Immigration Liaison (NAIL) Team (an international coalition of immigration and border management experts based at embassies in Nairobi), delivered a two-and-a-half-day training to 30 frontline border law enforcement officials operating at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi which focused on preventing the cross-border travel of terrorists and others who may pose a security-related threat by enhancing skills and capacity in detecting document fraud and profiling at borders. The training sought to enhance inter-agency cooperation on national border management and counter-terrorism efforts in Kenya.

- In collaboration with IATA and UNODC, UNCCT delivered a three-day training on "Airport Counter-Terrorism Techniques, Foreign-Terrorist-Fighter (FTF) Patterns, Risk Assessment and Crisis Management" to 45 airport frontline officers and representatives from the private sector, in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. The training aimed to strengthen capacities of front-line border officials in Punta Cana's Airport to counter terrorism and stem the flow of FTF's.



Overall number of BSM activities delivered globally in 2019: **26**

Total number of in-class trained participants: **152**

Total number of continue trained participants: **350**

Visibility of the programme was promoted through strategic outreach and the provision of expertise at more than 15 events at the international level, including workshops, seminars, congresses and conferences. Highlights include the presentation of the programme to key European Union partners in February 2019, providing substantive expertise at the Biometrics@Borders conference in Vienna in March 2019 and at the WCO Asia-Pacific Security conference in Kyoto in May 2019.

Results/Impact

During the first year of implementation, the programme has had global impact in raising awareness of the strategic importance of effective border management as a means for countering terrorism as well as building the capacity of border law enforcement officials to operationalize and apply established good practices.

These results have been achieved by establishing cooperative partnerships and coordinating closely with a wide range of partners at the global,

regional and national levels. The strategic partnerships have contributed to more sustainable and impactful delivery of programmatic outputs and amplified the support provided to Member States on the ground.

With regard to capacity-building results, the most significant impact has been measurable enhancement of intra and inter-agency and cross-border cooperation through the integration of various border management stakeholders as participants in the national and regional training that was delivered. Assessment of formal feedback from participants broadly indicates that the trainings delivered have contributed towards enhancing border management capacities of beneficiary Member States to operationalize established 'Good Practices'.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Joint UNCCT and UNODC-AIRCOP activities for building the capacity of frontline officials at international airports to address terrorism-related threats

Under the framework of the BSM programme, UNCCT worked with the UNODC global AIRCOP programme to develop a specialized project to build the capacity of Member States in addressing threats to international air travel posed by FTFs, including returnees and relocators, and other potential terrorist threats thus contributing to enhanced border security and management within the targeted regions.

This project entailed the development and delivery of a series of specialized, targeted training programmes to existing AIRCOP task forces and border enforcement agencies located at high-priority airports as a means of enhancing national and regional capacities to identify, detect and intercept FTFs and other potential terrorist threats. The training incorporated identified good practices relating to BSM in the context of counter-terrorism with established AIRCOP training and mentoring activities. In addition to focusing on enhancing BSM capacity in the context of counter-terrorism, the project also incorporated awareness raising on relevant international human rights standards and gender dimensions relating to border law enforcement.

In this context, three five-day targeted training programs were delivered jointly with the UNODC global AIRCOP programme in 2019 to more than 450 border law enforcement authorities in East Africa, West Africa-Sahel and the Caribbean-Latin America. In May 2019, the pilot training was delivered to 28 participants

from five different national border management authorities in Kenya. This was followed by a regional training in July 2019 in Santo Domingo delivered to 45 in-class participants as well as more than 350 who followed the specialized training via an online learning platform. Finally, in September 2019, the specialized training was delivered to 26 participants from Senegal, Mali, Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso and Mauritania.

Results/Impact

Feedback received from participants indicated that the training enhanced their awareness of terrorism-related threats as well as strengthened their capacities to profile, detect and intercept FTFs, returnees and other potential terrorist threats, and to facilitate further investigations in accordance with domestic and international legislation.

Joint UNCCT and CTED activities for increasing and strengthening awareness, knowledge and capacity of Member States to use and share biometric data in a responsible manner to enhance border security and counter terrorism

A second specialized project under the BSM programme framework includes joint activities with CTED to enhance awareness, knowledge and capacity of States to use and share biometric data in a responsible manner to enhance border security and counter terrorism.

The adoption of Security Council resolution 2322 (2016) marked the first time that the Council had called on Member States to share biometric data to detect and identify terrorists, including FTFs, and UNSCR 2396, adopted in 2017, made the collection and use of such data by national authorities a requirement.

As there was no existing international reference or guidance material available for Member States in this area, an initiative was developed aimed at raising awareness, increasing knowledge and strengthening capability of Member States to use and share biometric data on terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters, and use such data in a proper and responsible manner.

"We would like to express our most sincere appreciation to the United Nation Centre of Counter Terrorism (UNCCT) and their experienced facilitators of the Border Security and Management Unit who were able to give a different view and approach on how best our borders can be secured. Our Security Officers are now more motivated, aware and appreciate the essence of working together, ensuring the safety of our staff, passengers, sharing information and above all focused on securing our borders"

training recipients, Kenya

Results/Impact

The first phase of this 'Biometrics Initiative' saw the collaborative development of the 'UN Compendium of Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of biometrics in Counter Terrorism' in association with the Biometrics Institute. The Compendium has since been translated into French, Russian, and Spanish for Member States to use as a practical guidance tool. In this regard, a number of Member States have advised that the Compendium has provided critical guidance and support in their efforts to implement biometric operating systems.

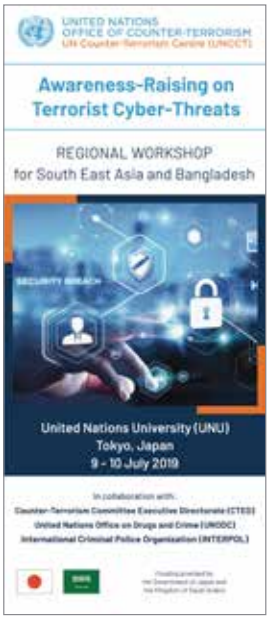
As the UN Compendium was developed and elaborated within the framework of a long-term project, the Biometric Initiative moved into a second phase in 2019 with a joint UNCCT-CTED briefing to Member States held in New York in March 2019. The briefing continued to raise awareness of recommended practices by providing Member States and international organizations with an overview of the UN Compendium as well as outlining forthcoming phase II activities for 2020. In this regard, planning has begun for a series of regional activities that will aim to further increase and strengthen awareness, knowledge and capabilities of Member States on the responsible use of biometric technology and operating systems as tools for enhancing BSM and countering terrorism.

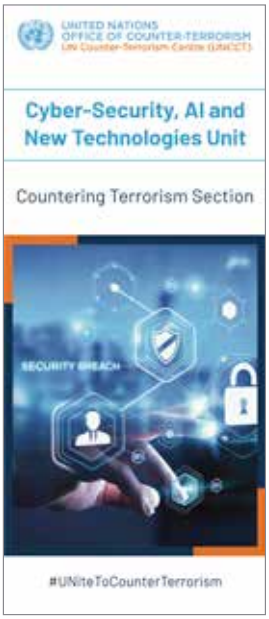
This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Output 2.4 **Through UNCCT support, requesting Member States are better able to prevent terrorist cyber-attacks, and mitigate the effects and expedite recovery should they occur**

2019 saw a significant expansion of UNCCT support to Member States under this output reflecting an increasing concern among Member States about the threat of terrorist cyber-attacks. This was also reflected during the sixth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) (A/RES/72/284) where Member States expressed "concern at the increasing use, by terrorists and their supporters, of information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet and other media, and the use of such technologies to commit, incite, recruit for, fund or plan terrorist acts".

Likewise, UNSCR 2341 (2017), on the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, recognizes cybersecurity as one of the streams of effort for protection, while calling upon Member States "to establish or strengthen national, regional and international partnerships with stakeholders, both public and private, as appropriate, to share information and experience in order to prevent, protect, mitigate, investigate, respond to and recover from damage from terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure facilities, including through joint training, and use or establishment of relevant communication or emergency warning networks".





The term "use of Internet for terrorist purposes" refers to a wide range of activities. It can mean the distribution of propaganda for radicalization, incitement to commit attacks, recruitment and glorification of the attacks (which UNCCT addresses through its work under Outcome 1 of its 5-Year Programme, as detailed above), but it also can refer to the use of ICT to perpetrate cyber-attacks. Such cyber-attacks could have wide-ranging effects, potentially leading to death and disruption of critical services. Several terrorist organisations, including Al-Qaida and ISIL (Da'esh), have expressed a clear intent to build offensive cyber capabilities that would allow them to carry out attacks on critical infrastructure. During the reporting period, UNCCT has sought to address the immediate need to enhance Member States' security and resilience against cyber-attacks, including their ability to recover and restore systems should attacks occur, as well as bringing those responsible to justice.

"The conference geared us up. For us, for our agency, and for our country to GET READY, BE PREPARED, and BE READY for Cyber terrorism issues, threats and attacks. For us to come up with mechanism, tools on how to detect, deter and prevent such scenarios. Who to collaborate, coordinate and communicate with in order to enhance capacity. For us to fully understand the emerging threats of Cyber Crime and its linkage to Terrorism. The conference enlightened us to the seriousness of its threat. Most importantly, we are assured by a partner, UNCCT in particular, that they are willing to give their guidance and support. To share their skills, knowledge and expertise in order for us to cascade the objective of this program and institution. The workshop gave us an opportunity to work with our counterparts, and enhanced our networking capacity. Lastly, we are unified by UN to deal with the threats, and to work in one common goal and objective, which is to protect our system and community from cyber terrorism. Thank you for this opportunity. Rest assured that when we get back to our home country, being the Intelligence Chief, and Anti Terrorist Group of the Bureau of Immigration, I will make all efforts to make use of the program shared."

Participant – Regional Tokyo workshop, July 2019

UNCCT-2017-58 Enhancing the Capacity of States to Prevent Cyber Attacks Perpetrated by Terrorist Actors and Mitigate Their Impact

Status: Ongoing

In order to support the efforts of Member States to address the worrying phenomenon of terrorist cyber-attacks against critical infrastructure, UNCCT launched phase I of this capacity-building project in 2018 in collaboration with UNODC, with the overall objective to contribute to the enhanced capacity of Member States and private organizations to prevent cyber-attacks carried out by terrorist actors against critical infrastructure, mitigate the impact, and recover and restore the targeted systems should such attacks occur.

During 2019, the project focused on the South Asia and South East Asia regions, delivering regional workshops and national-level capacity development workshops to identify regional good practices in cyber-security and identify opportunities for capability enhancement to prevent and mitigate cyber-attacks perpetrated by terrorist groups.

A regional workshop took place in Tokyo, Japan, in July 2019, to raise awareness among the participating Member States in the selected region of the terrorist cyber-threats for seven (7) beneficiary Member States: Bangladesh, Brunei, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. In September 2019, an in-depth training workshop was organized for five (5) selected Member States as a pilot activity focusing on the protection of critical infrastructure of the Financial and Energy sectors. Experts from private sector, academia and Member States' Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTS) were invited to participate as moderators and provided specialized knowledge and case studies.

As part of the Centre's Cybersecurity and New Technologies portfolio, UNCCT took part in the Drones Expert Working Group of the INTERPOL WORLD conference from 2 to 4 July. UNCCT also contributed to the European Union's High-Level International Conference on Countering the Threat Posed by Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), held in October in Brussels. The conference brought together EU Member States, International Organizations, UAS private sector entities among other relevant stakeholders for an interactive dialogue on the threat posed by UAS and possible mitigation measures. UNCCT presented the work of the United Nations on the different uses of UAS including in the context of peacekeeping operations and humanitarian activities.

On 20 September, UNCCT in collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), INTERPOL and CTED, organized the workshop "UNSCR 2341 (2017) and the Role of Civil Aviation in Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Terrorist Attacks", at ICAO's Headquarters in Montreal, Canada. This workshop

was organized as a side event to ICAO's Aviation Security Symposium 2019, and within the framework of the UN Global Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection. UNCCT presented the Cybersecurity dimension of Security Council resolution 2341 (2017) on the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks. Thirty-five (35) participants from Member States and the private sector attended the workshop and provided valuable feedback that will be incorporated into UNCCT's Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence and New Technologies future programme which will be launched in 2020.

On 3-4 December, the IGAD Security Sector Program organized a regional training for 28 participants from seven (7) Member States on cybersecurity, terrorist use of internet and gathering and handling evidence from electronic devices. UNCCT delivered sessions on 1) protecting critical infrastructure from terrorist cyber-attacks, 2) open source intelligence and 3) online terrorism investigations. After these sessions, participants expressed interest in additional capacity building initiatives on investigations in the Dark Web and encrypted terrorist communications. In 2020 UNCCT will be responding to these requests for capacity-building support through its new Cybersecurity, AI and New Technologies programme.

UN Photo / Fernando

In-Depth Workshop for Bangladesh, Brunei, Lao PDR, Philippines and Thailand, 3-6 September 2019.

Between October and December 2019, UNCCT collaborated with the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT) and the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) to hold its first Innovation Challenge (Hackathon) on "Countering Digital Terrorism". The challenge was segmented into two stages. The first stage was an online call-for-proposals that asked for both technical and non-technical solutions to address one or more of the following thematic areas: 1) Kinetic cyber-attacks to critical infrastructure and/or Internet of Things (IoT) devices, 2) Spread of terrorist content online, 3) Online terrorist communications, 4) Digital terrorist financing. More than 200 young people from across the globe

submitted 60 ideas to the challenge, of which 13 teams were selected to attend the next stage, based on the quality of the proposals and geographical distribution of the teams, with a special emphasis on South East Asia and Africa.

The second stage consisted of a two-day on-site event at AIT in Vienna. During the event, expert speakers presented relevant topics relating to technology, youth and counter-terrorism. Young participants leveraged the support of mentors from UNCCT, OICT, AIT (representing academia) and the Global Center for Combating Extremist Ideology - Etidal (representing civil society), which helped them further develop their ideas into viable and sustainable solutions. On the last day, the teams presented their projects in 5-minute pitches to a panel of five judges. The winning solution consists of a USB evidence extractor that law enforcement first responders can use to gather electronic evidence and quickly identify digital terrorist activities. UNCCT will further engage with participants of this event for future programmatic activities.

"I met knowledgeable and talented people from various countries."

Hackathon – Vienna, December 2019

"The skill-based training has been helpful and I am thankful to all the Mentors for helping us reflect on some of the questions that we had not thought about but were critical in passing our message."

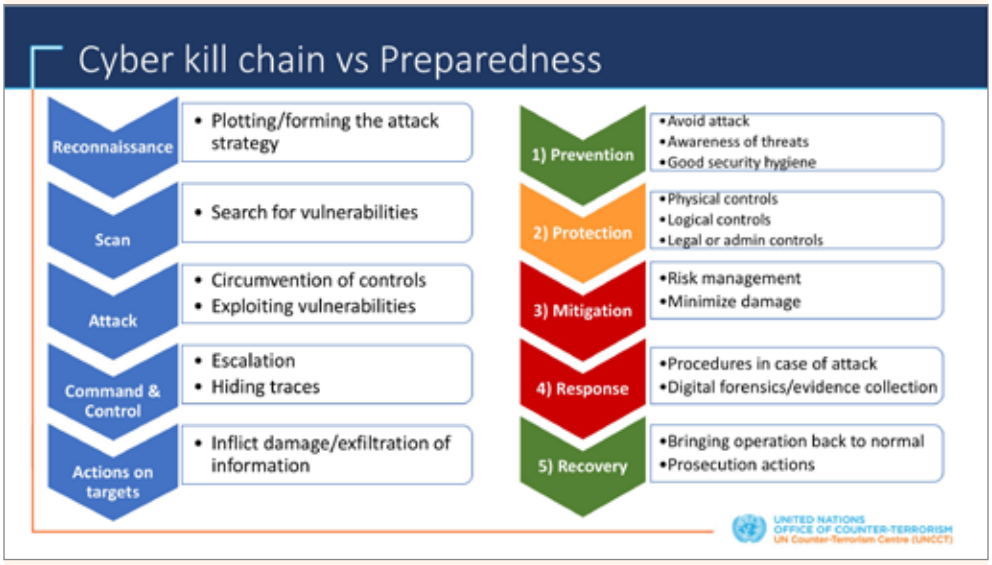
Hackathon – Vienna, December 2019

Results/Impact

During the reporting period, the capacity-building activities contributed to building awareness and understanding of government officials on the terrorist cyber-threats as well as build their capacities on the protection of Critical Infrastructure from those threats. The regional and pilot workshops contributed to improve information sharing of expertise among participating Member States' officials.

Collectively, the workshops were well received by the participants, gaining an average of 84% satisfaction rate. Aside from the transfer of knowledge that takes place during the workshops, it was noted by many participants that the impact of the workshop on the expansion of their network among counterparts in other Member States was invaluable.

Involvement in the various High-level regional conferences throughout the year has enabled UNCCT to expand its network of experts in areas of new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, UAS threats and counter UAS technologies. The knowledge gained and network of experts established will help in the implementation of UNCCT's future programme development on Cybersecurity and New Technologies.



The results of the Innovation challenge were numerous. Firstly, it helped raise the awareness of digital terrorism among the global youth by involving them to find solutions to counter digital terrorism. In addition, the ideas and solutions presented, ranging from countering cybersecurity threats on Critical Infrastructure, countering the finance of terrorism, to prevention of violent extremism and strategic communication, can be utilized as part of UNCCT's programmatic activities. As a result of the hackathon, various teams will be engaged in other UN activities to ensure continuity and sustainability of the impact of the activity. By doing so, UNCCT is ensuring exposure and involvement of the youth in their respective regions with senior officials of their Member States.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Output 2.5 **Through UNCCT support, requesting Member States and International Organizations have enhanced capacities to prevent terrorist from accessing and using WMD/CBRN materials and are better prepared for, and can make more effective respond to, terrorist attacks involving such weapons or materials.**

Adobe Stock Photo

In 2018, UNCCT, in consultation with its Advisory Board, added a new output to its 5-Year Programme to effectively respond to Member State requests for support in addressing the threat of terrorist use of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons. 2019 saw the continued expansion of these efforts through a number of capacity-building and awareness activities.

The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy calls upon the Member States, International Organizations and the UN System to: combat smuggling of CBRN materials; ensure that advances in biotechnology are not used for terrorist purposes; improve border and customs controls to prevent and detect illicit trafficking of CBRN weapons and materials; and improve coordination in planning a response to a terrorist attack using CBRN weapons or materials. In the Sixth Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the General Assembly called upon all Member States to "prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery… and [encouraged] cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and International Organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard."

The prospect of non-state actors, including terrorist groups and their supporters, gaining access to and using WMD/CBRN materials is a serious threat to international peace and security. Over the years, terrorist groups have tested new ways and means to acquire and use more dangerous weapons to maximize damage and incite terror, including weapons incorporating CBRN materials. With advancements being made in technology and the expansion of legal and illegal commercial channels, including on the dark web, some of these weapons have become increasingly accessible.

UNCCT-2018-02-79 **Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction/Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism (WMD/CBRN Programme)**

Status: Ongoing

The Programme on Preventing and Responding to WMD/CBRN Terrorism seeks to advance Member States' and International Organizations' understanding of the level of the threat of this type of terrorism and to support their prevention, preparedness and response efforts. It seeks to strengthen partnerships to contribute to existing capacity-building efforts of the international community and provides capacity-building support, focusing on areas such as border and export control, strategic trade control, illicit trafficking, protection of CBRN materials and critical infrastructure, incident response and crisis management, and CBRN forensics, among others.

The Programme aims to achieve its goals by enhancing the visibility of UNCCT activities; strengthening strategic partnerships with members of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and Member States' international initiatives; advancing knowledge and understanding of the threat; implementing capacity-building projects to support Member States; and supporting the Global Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection.

(1) Visibility

The Programme was presented at several events at the international level, including meetings, seminars, congresses and table-top exercises organized by the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) Implementations Support Unit (ISU) of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), INTERPOL and the World Health Organization (WHO). Similarly, the Programme was featured at the Chemical and Biological Defense Science & Technology Conference (18-21 November, Cincinnati, United States of America) organized by the Department of Defense of the United States of America, an event that gathered more than 1,000 scientist and researchers.

(2) Partnerships

During 2019, the Centre consolidated its partnership with the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), a platform composed of 88 Member States and six international organizations. Specifically, UNCCT co-organized two regional workshops in Nigeria (9-11 April, Abuja) and Morocco (3-5 December, Tangier), attended the GICNT plenary meeting in Argentina and was part of a joint exercise between Canada and the United Kingdom on nuclear detection and nuclear forensics.

Moreover, the Centre strengthened cooperation with the Group of Seven (G7) Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (GP), an initiative composed of 30 Member States that coordinates capacity-building programming in this area. UNCCT was invited by France to deliver a statement during the joint G7-GP session on nuclear security.

UNCCT also joined the meetings of the Nuclear Security Contact Group (NSCG) in Hungary and Austria. The NSCG is a group of 47 Member States committed to continue the legacy of the Nuclear Security Summits, including the enhancement of nuclear security architecture and implementation of commitments. The Centre contributed to the high-level discussions of the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) Global Dialogue on Nuclear Security in both France (10-12 February, Paris) and Germany (5-6 November, Velen).

Finally, UNCCT continued to exchange information with the Group of Experts of the Security Council 1540 Committee, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), UNODA, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs.

(3) Threat/risk analysis

UNCCT worked closely with INTERPOL during the reporting period to develop a collaborative framework for a global study on advancing knowledge and understanding of the risk and level of the threat of terrorist groups accessing and using WMD and CBRN materials to perpetrate terrorist attacks. The study will adopt a region-by-region approach and will be divided into five phases, with each phase covering one region that will be assessed for non-state actor and CBRN-related threats. The first phase will be jointly implemented by UNCCT and INTERPOL and will focus on the Middle East and North Africa region.

(4) Capacity-Building

UNCCT implemented three multi-year pilot projects in 2019 to support Member States in prevention, preparedness and response to WMD/ CBRN terrorism, including:

- Enhancing National Capacities to Prevent and Respond to Chemical and Biological Terrorist Attacks in Iraq, in partnership with the Department of State of the United States of America
- Enhancing Capabilities to Prepare for and Respond to a CBRN Terrorist Attack in Jordan, in partnership with NATO
- Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, in partnership with the European Union and UNODC

These projects will be reported separately in the section below as projects UNCCT-2018-02-79-A to C.

The Centre dedicated part of 2019 to preparing a capacity-building methodology to develop specific support for Member States. This included: a mapping of capacity-building initiatives, a list of courses, and a capacity-building assessment. This will constitute the basis for future programming.

(5) International Inter-Agency Coordination

The Centre supported the newly established Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection in the preparation and launching of its projects on:

- Ensuring Effective Inter-Agency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks – Phase III
- Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge about Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism

Further details are provided about these projects under Outcome 4.2. below.

Results/Impact

During its second year of implementation the programme achieved distinctive capacity-building results and grew exponentially in the outputs of visibility, strategic partnerships and international interagency coordination.

With respect to the capacity-building output, the programme commenced to move from pilot projects to a more sustainable approach. In this regard, the programme invested in the creation of a standard methodology that will allow to support more Member States during 2020 and 2021. Through a stand-alone capacity-building regional table-top exercise in Nigeria, UNCCT delivered capacity-building support to 56 international participants from 17 countries on nuclear security legal framework and response mechanisms.

Photo: UNCCT

Valiant Eagle: Response Coordination and Legal Frameworks Workshop in Abuja, Nigeria, 9-11 April 2019.

The programme increased visibility considerably and had an outreach to approximately 1,500 people and collaborated with more than 15 International Organizations and International Initiatives. Through this work the Centre enhanced awareness of key issues relating the WMD/CBRN terrorism and brought an increased understanding of the role of UNOCT and UNCCT in bringing UN-wide coherence and capacity-building support to Member States at their request.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Finland and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-02-79-A Enhancing National Capacities to Prevent and Respond to Chemical and Biological Attacks in Iraq (under WMD/CBRN Programme)

Status: Ongoing

The reported use of chemical weapons by ISIL against Iraqi military demonstrates that the group may have obtained the tools and know-how to manufacture and use weapons of mass destruction. Despite recent successes of Iraq against ISIL there are still relevant concerns about WMD/CBRN terrorism.

The project's goal is to contribute to making Iraq safe and secure from chemical and biological terrorism. More specifically, the project seeks to contribute to preventing terrorist groups, such as ISIL, from gaining access to and using chemical and biological weapons or materials and ensuring that Iraq is better prepared for and can more effectively and efficiently respond to a chemical and biological terrorist attack on its territory.

The project, which was launched in November 2019, will continue implementation over the course of 14 months. For the purposes of implementation, UNCCT is partnering with the Departments of State, Energy and Justice of the United States of America and working closely with several ministries and security stakeholders of Iraq.

In December 2019, UNCCT and the Department of Energy of the United States of America organized the National Biological and Chemical Awareness Raising Conference in Istanbul, Turkey. The Conference focused on chemical and biological research safety and security.

Results/Impact

Through the project UNCCT and its partners have supported the enhanced capacity of 19 Iraqi officials on biological and chemical research safety and security, its evaluation, mitigation strategies, administrative controls, development, validation and verification of SOPs, as well as personal protective equipment, engineering controls and laboratory equipment, thus contributing to Iraqi counter-terrorism efforts.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-02-79-B **Enhancing Capabilities to Prepare and Respond to a CBRN Terrorist Attack in Jordan (under WMD/CBRN Programme)**

Status: Ongoing

The project's goal is to contribute to enhancing Jordan's resilience to CBRN terrorism. More specifically, considering the presence of terrorism throughout the region and the recent uses of chemical weapons in neighboring Iraq and Syria, the project seeks to contribute to ensuring that national authorities in Jordan are better prepared for, and can more effectively and efficiently respond to, any such attack on its territory.

UNCCT is working closely with Jordan and the NATO in the implementation of this 36-month project, which began in October 2018. UNCCT also ensures close coordination with regional and international organizations, including the EU and UN entities which are members of the Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection - INTERPOL, UNICRI, UNODA, UNODC and WHO.

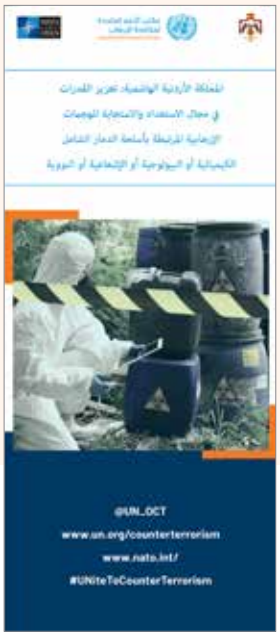
In March 2019, USG Vladimir Voronkov, NATO Assistant Secretary-General Antonio Missiroli and the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the UN Ambassador Sima Sami Bahous launched this first-ever NATO–UN flagship project. This high-level activity was followed by a scoping mission and two self-assessment workshops in Jordan. The year concluded with an awareness raising workshop for Jordanian Senior Leaders.

In 2020, the project will organize a training for first responders, a drafting workshop for the National Crisis Plan on CBRN terrorist attacks and will commence with the planning conferences of the Field Exercise planned for 2021.

UN Photo

Launching and Signing Ceremony with USG Voronkov Dr. Antonio Missiroli, Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges.

Results/Impact



Second Self-Assessment and Senior Leaders Workshop
Zarqa, Jordan, 9-10 December 2019.

In 2019 the project a self-assessment of Jordanian WMD/CBRN terrorism preparedness and response allowing Jordan to target its national efforts on priority areas. The partners also enhanced the capacity of 48 Jordanian officials on CBRN preparedness and response. These officials also presented the results of the above self-assessment to their Senior Leaders, thereby increasing awareness on the gaps in preparedness and response and bringing inter-agency coordination to a new level.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Photo: UNCCT

UNCCT-2018-02-79-C Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (UNCCT-UNODC)

Status: Ongoing

The possibility of terrorists gaining access to nuclear and radiological materials is a significant threat to humanity and international peace and security. The possibility of such materials falling into the hands of non-State actors or terrorist groups is certainly very real. In June 2018, for instance, it was reported that ISIL had seized 40kg of low enriched uranium from scientific institutions at the Mosul University in Iraq. As of 2019, the IAEA Incident and Trafficking Database listed more than 3,000 incidents involving illicit trafficking and other unauthorized activities involving nuclear and radioactive materials reported by Member States.

The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) calls for cooperation among Member States in preventing terrorist attacks by sharing information and assisting each other in connection with criminal investigations and extradition proceedings. The project contributes to the universalization of ICSANT and its implementation by Member States. More specifically, the project raises awareness of ICSANT and strengthens the capacity of Member States to detect and respond to the threat of terrorists acquiring nuclear or other radioactive materials. This three-year project is jointly implemented with UNODC and financially supported by the European Union.

In April 2019, the project was launched in New York by the Executive Director of UNCCT, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, the Deputy Secretary General of the European External Action Service, Mr. Pedro Serrano and the Chief of UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch, Mr. Masood Karimpour. A similar event was held in Vienna in May 2019. Furthermore, the project was promoted in several international fora such as the G7 GP, the GICNT, the IAEA Information Exchange Meetings, the NTI Dialogue on Nuclear Security and the NSCG.

With respect to implementation, UNCCT undertook the first steps for the preparation of an academic study to understand the reasons for non-adherence to ICSANT. In December 2019, UNCCT, together with Morocco and the GICNT, organized the first technical regional workshop on nuclear security at borders for the Middle East and North Africa regions. The event focused on illicit radiological and nuclear material detection challenges at green and blue borders (land and sea – the space between the official crossing points).

Photo: UNCCT

Launching event with USG Voronkov, Mr. Pedro Serrano Deputy Secretary General for Common Security and Defence Policy and Crisis Response of the European External Action Service (EEAS), 25 April 2019.

Results/Impact

The launching events of the project held in New York and Vienna reached out to 126 Member States. Additionally, the first technical workshop of the project benefitted 96 international participants from 31 countries on detection of illicit nuclear and radiological materials at borders. This exercise demonstrated how implementation of ICSANT supports border security by providing a legal basis for cooperation, and technical and non-technical information exchange between States Parties.

This project is made possible by support from the European Union.

UNCCT-2020-II-SALW Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: Preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of Small-Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and their illicit supply to terrorists - Supporting the implementation of SCR.2370/2017 and the Madrid Guiding Principles

Status: Initiated

The international community has increasingly acknowledged and expressed its concern at the nexus between terrorism and multiple forms of organized crime, including trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW), as a serious threat to peace, security and an obstacle to sustainable development. Terrorists utilize or benefit from organized crime to procure their material and other means to finance or support their activities. The Security Council highlighted the need to address this growing concern in its resolution 2370 (2017). Further, the Secretary-General in his report S/2015/366 concluded that terrorist groups rely on arms trafficked by regional criminal networks to maintain their operational capabilities.

To address this threat, UNCCT worked together with UNODC over the course of 2019 to develop a pilot capacity-building project with a focus on Central Asia region. The project, which will be launched in early 2020, aims at addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus, by enhancing criminal justice responses to prevent and combat the illicit trafficking of SALW and to disrupt the illicit supply of such arms to terrorist groups. The project will be implemented in close coordination with CTED, UNODA and Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

PILLAR III

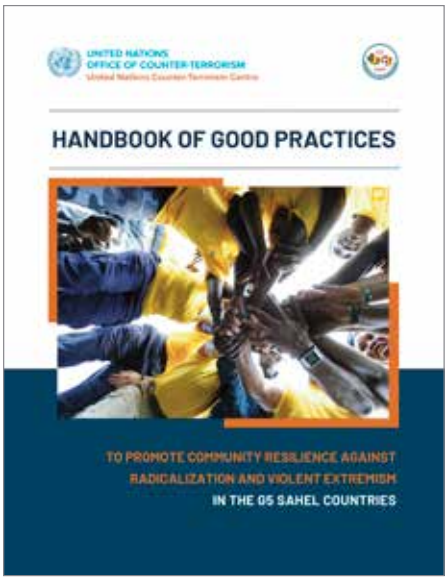
Outcome 4: Measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard.

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States, UN entities and other stakeholders cooperate to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism (Outcome 4, UNCCT 5-Year Programme)

Output 4.1 **I-ACT is promoted and expanded to cover additional requesting member states and priority gaps are identified and addressed in a coherent manner by relevant CTITF (Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities)**

In 2019, UNCCT continued to implement and promote an integrated, strategic and system-wide approach to capacity building for the balanced implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through its Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative. I-ACT has supported requesting governments and regional organisations in their implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a coordinated and coherent manner. This initiative sought to strengthen coordination, coherence, and information-sharing among Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities that participate in capacity-building activities under the I-ACT Framework, as well as to improve their joint analysis of counter-terrorism and PVE needs of Member States and regional organisations, including through organizing and facilitating joint missions.

In 2019, I-ACT continued to be implemented at the regional level in the G5 Sahel region in response to the Security Council's request by resolution 2195 (2014) and S/PRST/2015/24, which encouraged UNOCT (then CTITF) to expand its I-ACT Initiative to the G5 Sahel to ensure an 'All-of-UN' approach in the delivery of technical assistance in counter-terrorism and PVE. Through its I-ACT, UNCCT supported the G5 Sahel particularly in the areas of criminal justice, border security management, and prevention of violent extremism. To expand the I-ACT programme to the G5 Sahel region this Framework consisted of several strategic, mutually supportive, gender and human rights sensitive projects, which continued to be implemented by UN Women, UNESCO, UNODC, and UNOCT/UNCCT in close cooperation with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat. All the projects under I-ACT were completed 2019. Also, during the reporting period, the I-ACT Unit of UNCCT continued to deepen its partnerships with beneficiary countries through regular consultations and conducted its work in line with the priorities identified by



these countries and the region, in order to prepare the next phase of UNOCT's engagement with the region.

In this connection, by, the second half of 2019, UNCCT, which had continued to grow restructured accordingly, and gradually shifted its support through global programmes along key P/CVE and CT thematic areas to continue delivering capacity-building assistance in the G5 Sahel to respond to the region's identified needs, at the regional and national levels. Programmes such as the Global Border Security Management Programme and the Global PVE Strategic Communications Programme subsumed many of the activities formerly included in the I-ACT Framework, and are continuing to support G5 Sahel countries such as Burkina Faso that are facing serious terrorist threats, building upon the momentum created by I-ACT. Capacity-building support will also be provided in other areas such as cybersecurity. Moving forward in 2020, a newly formed UNCCT West Africa Unit will work with well-established regional bodies on newly invigorated initiatives, such as the ECOWAS Action Plan to Eradicate Terrorism, alongside key coalitions, including the Coalition for the Sahel and the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel (P3S) to counter the growing terrorist threat in West Africa.

UNCCT-2017-74 **Supporting Regional Efforts of the G5 Sahel Countries to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism (I-ACT)**

Status: Completed

This UNCCT project, implemented in close cooperation with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, was launched in April 2017 under the regional I-ACT Initiative for the G5 Sahel to help implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism in the G5 Sahel region.

The project sought to support all the thematic areas covered by the I-ACT Framework for the G5 Sahel, which were based on needs assessments conducted by CTED and other UN entities, and were aligned with the priorities established by

the G5 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger). These focus areas were: (1) preventing violent extremism; (2) border management and cross-border cooperation; (3) rule of law and criminal justice; and (4) overall counter-terrorism coordination. The Framework was implemented within the Framework of the U Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), and mutually reinforced the support provided by the United Nations system and bilateral partners to the G5 Sahel region.

The project actively engaged government officials of the G5 Sahel countries from relevant agencies involved in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, and civil society organizations from the G5 Sahel region.

During the reporting period, UNCCT supported regional efforts of G5 Sahel countries to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism. In March, the Center organized a regional technical workshop in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on good practices in community resilience to radicalization and violent extremism in the G5 Sahel countries. This workshop was instrumental in pulling together shared practical experiences, lessons learned and good practices and local context, that was used to develop a handbook on good practices in building community resilience against violent extremism including among cross-border communities in G5 Sahel countries.

In May, UNCCT organized a regional workshop in Nouakchott, Mauritania, to validate the draft handbook. The validation workshop provided participants with the opportunity to put forward suggestions on the content, which covered several topics such as community dialogue, counter-narratives and alternative messaging to violent extremism, youth and women's role in building and strengthening community resilience to violent extremism, as well as initiatives developed by cross-border communities.

Result/Impact

The active participation of civil society, religious and traditional leaders, youth and women's representatives, as well as State actors involved in the prevention of violent extremism and the fight against terrorism made the development of this handbook an inclusive process. The handbook was prepared in French and translated into the five other UN official languages for further dissemination to relevant stakeholders. UNCCT is in the process of reviewing the translations and will be printing the handbook in 2020.

This project is made possible by support from the contribution of the Peace and Development Trust Fund administered by the UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

UNCCT-2018-03-85 Promotion of Sustainable Peace and Development through Building of Skills for Life and the World of Work in the Sahel (UNCCT-UNESCO under I-ACT)

Status: Completed

Launched in May 2018, this project was the initial phase of a programme that aimed to support peace and sustainable development through strengthening youth competencies for life and work in the Sahel, in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and Sustainable Development Goal 4 on inclusive and equitable quality education and promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all. The project sought to (1) promote inclusive education policies in favor of disadvantaged groups within society; (2) strengthen the skills, attitudes, and values of young people to increase their socio-economic integration; and (3) build the capacity of teacher trainers and teachers to enable learners to acquire basic knowledge and the values of "living together".

During the reporting period, the project completed a study on school violence in Mauritania. In Burkina Faso and Niger, the project also developed the methodology and data collection tools as a preparatory step to conduct research on teachers' perceptions and knowledge of violence in schools. The studies on (school violence?) in these countries will be part of the next phase of the programme.

Guidance was also provided to technical teams of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger on how to adapt the forthcoming "Teacher's Guide on Youth Empowerment for Resilience, Peacebuilding and the Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education in the Sahel" to their national context. Contextualization is the first step of the countries' action plans on PVE through education (PVE-E). In Mali, about 50 basic education teachers (10% women) were trained on PVE, building on the case of the 2012 crisis.

Photo: UNCCT

I-ACT workshop in Mauritania (2018)Zarqa, Jordan, 9-10 December 2019.

In Niger, two videos were produced on the role of teachers in peacebuilding and the alternatives to violence in children's education. They will be made available as awareness-raising tools during the teacher training process on PVE in the country.

Result/Impact:

The training workshops and guidance provided to technical teams and educators increased their awareness of youth empowerment and resilience and PVE, to support the development and adoption of national action plans for PVE through education.

Also, with UNCCT's support, the web platform Learning to Live Together Sustainably (LTLT) was successfully launched on social media by UNESCO and the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), on 2 April 2019. In this connection, PVE focal points nominated by the Ministries of Education of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger were trained on the use of the LTLT platform. Separately, in Timbuktu, Mali, a conference on "living together", tolerance and the fight against violent extremism was organized by the Municipal Youth Council and attended by about 200 young people (30% women) during the month of culture.

This project, the initial phase of the programme, ended on 27 May 2019. Funding for the second phase of this project was included in the first United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism Consolidated Multi-Year Appeal for 2019-2020.

This project was made possible with support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-03-86 Strengthening Rule of Law-Based Criminal Justice Measures and Related Operational Measures Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism (UNCCT-UNODC under I-ACT)

Status: Completed

International judicial cooperation in criminal matters remains a key element in the fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime, especially in the Sahel where these growing threats are increasingly transnational in nature. In this regard, the project aimed to: (1) strengthen judicial cooperation among the G5 Sahel countries; (2) enhance capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice

officials to address legal and criminal justice challenges related to FTF and violent extremism; (3) enhance national capacity for human rights compliance in criminal justice responses to terrorism and violent extremism; (4) strengthen operational cooperation among the G5 Sahel law enforcement and intelligence authorities; and (5) enhance operational capacity to conduct complex investigations and apply special investigation techniques on the investigation of terrorism and related cases.

During the reporting period, six (6) activities were implemented under the project. A national training workshop on strengthening criminal justice and law enforcement officials' ability to build terrorism cases was held in Mauritania in February and followed by a two day-mentoring session to review current challenges on pending cases and provide tailored advice on building more solid terrorism cases. A national training workshop was held in Burkina Faso in March, addressing witness protection for investigators, prosecutors and investigating judges. Additionally, regional cooperation has been reinforced through three (3) sub-regional meetings: one in February, with the aim of enhancing communication and cooperation among members of CT specialized judicial and investigations units within the region through the drafting of a constitutive charter and rules of procedure creating a regional network (REPUS/Sahel) ; in October in Mauritania with the organization of a joint meeting of the Sahel Judicial Cooperation Platform (PCJS) focal points (from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal) and the G5 Sahel, to establish a framework of cooperation between both institutions; and in November, in Senegal to deepen the discussions held in March and establish possible collaboration between the G5 Sahel and the PCJS through the drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which has been submitted for review by Ministers of Justice of the G5 Sahel countries.

Result/Impact

As a result of the October meeting, participants agreed on recommendations regarding the composition and objective of a Technical Committee composed of PCJS focal points and G5 Sahel experts to explore ways of materializing the cooperation between the G5 Sahel and the PCJS. As mentioned above, a follow-up meeting took place in November in Dakar, Senegal. The Technical Committee finally amended and adopted a draft MoU between the PCJS and G5 Sahel, prepared by UNODC.

The activities conducted during the period under review contributed to meeting the project outcomes in various ways:

- Participants of the Burkina Faso training on witness protection confirmed they had acquired better insight into the concepts of victims and witness protection in the context of terrorism cases,

and how to incorporate those in ongoing procedures. Investigators and magistrates acknowledged the necessity to improve treatment of victims and witnesses. Several participants emphasized how the training had enabled them to understand the specific situation of children in terrorism cases, and how to handle such situations.

- The national training in Mauritania addressed in particular how to conduct complex investigations and apply special investigative techniques in cases of terrorism, criminal association in relation to terrorism, and related cases. Whilst these concepts are fairly new, they are essential to terrorism related investigations. The training was considered very helpful to bring investigators and magistrates to incorporate these innovative techniques into criminal procedures, yet further assistance in this specific field is needed. The training, which builds on previous legislative support provided by UNODC on special investigative techniques in Mauritania, contributed to enhanced awareness with relevant stakeholders, including policy makers, on the need to introduce robust legislation that will organize the use of these techniques, and make sure they are not being abused, thus preserving human rights. Participants also expressed the need for further training

- The regional activities directly supported strengthened judicial cooperation between G5 Member States, by providing opportunities for the focal points to discuss matters of strategic interest and to further pending cases during bilateral closed sessions. In addition, draft constitutive documents of a regional network of investigative agencies specialized on terrorism cases from all participating countries were finalized and considered for adoption. Considering existing arrangements under the G5Sahel PCMS (Plateforme de Cooperation en Matiere de Sécurité), it was suggested that aligning investigative cooperation with judicial cooperation might be more effective under an MoU between the G5 Sahel (representing the PCMS) and the Sahel Platform for Judicial Cooperation. A draft MoU was finalized during the November meeting in Dakar and submitted to the Ministers of Justice of the G5 Sahel countries for review and adoption. A signing ceremony has been included in the agenda of the Mauritania Presidency of the G5 Sahel, effective as of February 2020.

This project was made possible with support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2018-03-87 Programme Coordination of the G5 Sahel Framework (I-ACT)

Status: Completed

During the period, the regional I-ACT Framework consisted of four regional, mutually reinforcing, gender and human rights sensitive projects submitted by UN Women, UNESCO, UNODC and UNCCT, and implemented in cooperation with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat. This project supported the programmatic needs of the regional I-ACT framework through the recruitment and deployment of required professional and general service staff. UNCCT recruited two Programme Management Officers based in New York and in Nouakchott, respectively. The Centre's field deployment helped strengthen cooperation with the G5 Sahel countries, and other key partners in the region, while the Team in New York planned, supervised, and conducted the overall coordination of the Framework's activities.

During the second half of the period, OCT deployed a, expert consultant to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for two months to work with the government in assessing their capacity-building needs and, developing a detailed, prioritized report in key areas that required urgent support. Following the consultancy, UNOCT deployed a Programme Coordination Officer to the region that worked with the UN RC's Office in Burkina Faso and relevant UN agencies and INTERPOL as Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entity, to develop an inter-agency programmatic response to these support needs involving outputs from 8 agencies. The comprehensive and coordinated programme proposal has been well received from lead donor countries for the country, including the EU, France and Germany, while discussions continue to obtain funding.

This project was made possible with support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Photo: UNCCT

I-ACT – G5 Sahel Regional Workshop on Human Rights (2018).

Output 4.2 **Relevant CTITF (Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact) entities have an enhanced capacity, within their mandate, to address terrorism and violent extremism, including in particular through joint efforts.**

Following the launch of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact in 2018 and the inaugural meeting of the Global Compact Coordination Committee meeting at the end of 2018, 2019 saw significant developments in the further strengthening of inter-agency coordination and coherence. This included the restructuring of the Global Compact Working Groups and the adoption of their Joint Programme of Work in July 2019 (see further below).

UNCCT has continued to play a central role in ensuring the success of this work, including by having UNCCT subject matter experts contribute to Compact Working Groups discussions. UNCCT also continued to provide seed-funding to joint Working Group projects aimed at addressing high priority issues that benefit from an 'All-of-UN' approach. The seed-funding projects detailed below not only generate useful products that are endorsed by all relevant UN entities, but also serve as an essential adhesive of each Working Group. By having all the relevant Compact entities coming together to implement UNCCT supported seed-funding projects the Centre is supporting the central aim of the Compact to enhance coordination and coherence, not just on the specific project but on all related actions by the individual entities. As a Centre of Excellence, UNCCT is also developing a common training curriculum for UN staff that will ensure that all staff have a shared baseline understanding of key counter-terrorism and PCVE issues and documents.

UNCCT-2019-02-92 CT/PVE Awareness Training for UN staff

Status: Initiated

Given the increasing importance of the fight against terrorism, conflation of 'armed groups' recognized under humanitarian law with 'terrorist groups', as well as the rise in violent extremism in many parts of the world, it is of paramount importance for the UN staff members engaged in this field to be fully aware of the UN counter-terrorism architecture/structure and international counter-terrorism and PCVE norms and principles, as well as relevant international legal instruments and frameworks, including human rights standards.

UNCCT in cooperation with United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) will develop, starting January 2020, an online training module informed by the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on various aspects of counter-terrorism and PCVE designed to provide a common baseline knowledge of UN staff members who operate in the counter-terrorism and PCVE environment. The recipients of the

training will be both the UN staff members working in offices and agencies part of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact that manage programmes and projects related to counter-terrorism and PVE, as well as UN country team staff deployed to the areas affected by terrorism and violent extremism. Those could include Security Sector Reform Officers, Political Affairs Officers, Civil Affairs Officers, Joint Mission Analysis Centres (J-MAC) staff, and Human Rights Officers. Such an awareness raising will also ensure that UN counter-terrorism related activities, including those organized by UNCCT and other agencies, are well understood and supported on the ground.

UNCCT will also work with UNSSC to provide in-person training to officials wishing to expand their knowledge. The Awareness training will promote the implementation of the UN GCTS in an "All of UN" approach and enhance UNCCT's as a Centre of Excellence. The training course will also increase the UNCCT visibility within the UN architecture.

This project is made possible with support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2019-01-93-A **Developing a comprehensive and integrated Iraqi national counter-terrorism strategy in support of the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions**

Status: Ongoing

Launched in July 2019, the objective of this project is to support the Government of Iraq with developing a comprehensive and integrated national counter-terrorism strategy, in line with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, its review resolutions, and relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The intended outcome is the development of the Iraqi National Counter-Terrorism Strategy that integrates all four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a balanced manner, and supports national authorities in countering and preventing terrorism.

In the reporting period, UNCCT delivered an awareness-raising workshop to ministries and agencies in the Iraqi Government that are involved in the drafting of the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Centre has also made available relevant UN documents and best practice guides, and information on international legal instruments. UNCCT leverages the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Working Group on National and Regional Strategies, to provide assistance and recommendations, while taking an All-of-UN approach.

During the reporting period, UNCCT also engaged the United Nations Project Office (UNOPS) to deploy a small project team to support the delivery of further assistance under this project, and to facilitate and provide on-the-ground support to the implementation of activities in Iraq under four additional UNCCT projects:

- Enhancing National Capacities to Prevent and Respond to Chemical and Biological Terrorist Attacks
- Preventing Violent Extremism through Strategic Communications
- Countering Financing of Terrorism (CFT) through Effective National and Regional Action
- Support to Iraq on Youth Employment and Skills Development to Prevent Violent Extremism

Results/Impact

The Iraqi Government established an inter-agency working group for the development of the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy that simultaneously acts as central focal point for the engagement with UNCCT on this initiative.

UNCCT assistance also resulted in the preparation of an initial draft of the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy that the Government of Iraq shared with UNCCT. Based on the draft, the Centre provided advice with the support of a Senior Technical Expert. The Centre awaits the development of a second draft in 2020, to provide further assistance.

This project is made possible with support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2019-03-94 **Raising Awareness on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure from Terrorist Attacks in Accordance with UNSCR 2341 (2017) and Enhancing States' Capabilities in this Area**

Status: On-going

This joint project contributed to a wider dissemination of the Compendium of good practices and to raise awareness on the protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks in accordance with UNSCR 2341 (2017) and enhancing of States' capabilities in this area. The project contributed to reaching out more

effectively to national authorities responsible for developing measures, including strategies and action plans, to protect critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks. This project was delivered under a "One-UN"-approach by including all relevant Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities.

The impact of the project is particularly relevant to a number of Pillar II topics of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, especially enhancing border control, law enforcement and collaborating with international and regional organizations as well as private sector actors to develop to strengthen the capacity of Member States to prevent and combat terrorism. Furthermore, resolution 2341 (2017) explicitly reiterates the need to undertake measures to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by denying terrorists access to the means to carry out their attacks, as outlined in Pillar II of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. The project contributes to raising awareness among Member States and international and regional entities of the implementation of resolution 2341 by identifying key areas, good practices and actions needed. It contributes to increase understanding of the challenges posed by terrorist attacks against CI and enhance strengthening national interagency coordination in protecting CI against such attacks.

The project was implemented and coordinated under the Global Compact working group on Emerging threats and critical infrastructure protection. The project connected and streamlined the activities of different entities in the field of critical infrastructure protection and ensured the appropriate coordination and integration among different entities.

This project was a follow up to the development of the Compendium of good practices and included a series of regional workshops with a view to raise awareness and knowledge of Member States in this field. The Compendium developed within this project was used as a practical tool during the regional expert workshops.

During the period, CTED, OCT and INTERPOL, held two regional workshops in Tunis from 30 April to 2 May focusing on Sahel/Maghreb and West African countries, in Johannesburg from 12 to 14 November focusing on East and Southern African countries. A third workshop focusing on Central African countries is planned to take place in 2020.

The workshops have been tailored to respond to the specific needs of the region/participating countries benefitting from CTC/CTED assessments and recommendations and the expertise of the relevant member entities. The workshops have also integrated The Addendum to the guiding principles on foreign terrorist fighters (2018) promoting the relevant guiding principles. Preparations for the workshops were coordinated through the ETCIP working group and following each workshop, a briefing was delivered to the working group on the main outcomes of the workshops.

Result/Impact

Feedback received from the participating States has revealed the need to obtain further guidance to enhance measures, policies and strategies to improve preparedness for terrorist attacks and other security threats against critical infrastructure and "soft" targets, and also on specific issues, including through sharing of good practices. INTERPOL, as the Chair, will continue to engage and work in close partnership with CTED, OCT and other key entities to enhance implementation of Council resolution 2341 (2017) and other relevant resolutions. CTED, OCT and INTERPOL will continue to co-organize similar awareness-raising workshops for States of other regions (depending on additional funding) and will continue to work together to promote the Compendium of good practices and other relevant initiatives.

This project is made possible with support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Seed-Funding for Global Compact Working Group Projects

UNOCT has established a process to provide seed funding from the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism to Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entities which were given an opportunity to present proposals for the consideration of the UNOCT Programme Review Board, serving as a project governance and monitoring mechanism. The seed-funding is meant to be catalytic and project proposals should clarify sources of co-funding and elaborate on sustainability.

During 2019, a number of seed funding projects approved from 2017 and 2018 were concluded and are reported on below.

In the course of 2019, UNCCT worked with the Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Groups who applied for seed-funding for 2019-2020 in the overall amount of USD 169,500 per Working Group. A number of seed funding projects were approved in early 2020 for implementation and will be report in the next Annual Report. Prior to submitting project proposals, the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entities were required to ensure that the proposed project meets the eligibility criteria, including alignment with the Joint Programme of Work of the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee for 2019-2020 and the Terms of Reference of the respective Working Groups. More detail on the cooperation with the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee is provided in section IV of this report.

UNCCT-2017-73-a **Border Management and Law Enforcement Relating to Counter-Terrorism (seed project)**

Status: Completed

The aim of this project, also detailed above (see Output 2.3), was to raise awareness, increase knowledge and strengthen capability of Member States and relevant international and regional entities on collecting, recording and sharing of biometric information on terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters at the international level, and through the establishment of a Compendium of existing good practices and recommendations.

Results/Impact

Through this project, UNCCT and CTED, in association with the Biometrics Institute, led the drafting, issuance and launch of the 'UN Compendium of Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of biometrics in Counter Terrorism'. The Compendium has since been translated into French, Russian, and Spanish. Under the framework of project UNCCT-2017-68 (the BSM programme), UNCCT continues to promote the Compendium for Member States to use as a practical guidance tool.

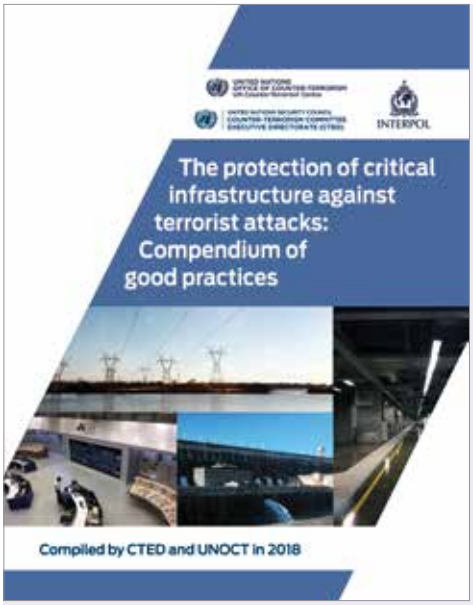
This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

UNCCT-2017-73-d **Developing National Comprehensive and Integrated Counter-Terrorism Strategy in light of Security Council Resolutions 1963 (2010) and 2129 (2013) (seed project)**

Status: Completed

Pursuant to the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolutions 1963 (2010), 2129 (2013) and 2395 (2018), the project's objective was to assist the Government of Iraq with drafting an Integrated Comprehensive National Counterterrorism Strategy that involves all relevant national authorities as well as the private and civil society organizations. UNCCT enhanced engagement with the Government and held an awareness raising workshop on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Results/Impact



Based on the assistance of UNCCT, the Government of Iraq prepared the initial draft of a national counter-terrorism strategy and submitted it to UNCCT for comments and assistance. The Government also formed an inter-agency working group to finalize the drafting of the strategy, and submitted a note to Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, requesting further support from UNOCT and CTED on the further development of the strategy based on international principles."

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

UNCCT-2017-73-h Development of Guidelines and a Compendium of Good Practices on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks (seed project)

Status: Completed

This seed project, implemented by the Global Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection (Previously known as the CTITF Working Group on Protection of Critical Infrastructure Including Internet, Vulnerable Targets and Tourism Security), developed and published the 'Compendium of Good Practices for the Protection of Critical Infrastructures against Terrorist Attacks' in June 2018. The Compendium was designed as a tool to support a wide range of actors, including policy makers, law enforcement authorities and private sector stakeholders with responsibilities for designing, improving and implementing policies and measures to protect critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks, in compliance with Security Council resolution 2341 (2017).

During the course of 2019 the Working Group printed hardcopies of the Compendium ensuring a wider dissemination. The Compendium was also

translated into French, allowing for a wider use among Member States, including in Africa. As noted above, UNCCT also supported a presentation of the Compendium at ICAO Headquarters in Montreal together with ICAO and CTED.

Results/Impact

The main result of the seed funding was the production of the Compendium of good practices. Prior to the development of the Compendium, there was no compiled guidance material at international level on this topic. The Compendium, as the result of the phase I of this joint project, has significantly raised the awareness and understanding of the importance of critical infrastructure protection against terrorist attacks and the measures needed at State level to effectively implement the provisions of SCR 2341(2017).

To ensure further use and sustainability of this effort, UNCCT supported a follow-on project to enhance awareness of the Good Practices provided in the Compendium and provide Member States with guidance and examples of existing practices (project UNCCT-2019-03-94 above)

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2017-73-i **Countering Terrorist Narratives: Good Practices, Recommendations for Effective Monitoring and Evaluation and Toolkit (seed project)**

Status: Ongoing

This seed project, implemented by CTED within the scope of the Global Compact Working Group on P/CVE, in consultation with UNCCT, seeks to support Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 2354 (2017). The project seeks to gather good practices, provide evidence-based recommendations for effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and produce a tool kit to guide Member States and other key stakeholders in their efforts to develop counter and alternative narratives. The project presented preliminary findings for the first two phases of the projects at the Counter-Terrorism Committee's open meeting on "Countering terrorist narratives and preventing the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes" held on 28 January 2020. The comprehensive report and toolkit are expected in May 2020.

Results/Impact

The project presented preliminary findings for the first two phases of the projects at the Counter-Terrorism Committee's open meeting on "Countering terrorist narratives and preventing the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes" held on 28 January 2020. The comprehensive report and toolkit are expected in May 2020.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2017-73-j **Development of Guidelines on the Role of the Military in Supporting the Collection, Sharing and Use of Evidence for Promoting Rule of Law and Human Rights Compliant Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism (seed project)**

Status: Completed

In December 2019, CTED launched the publication of the "Guidelines to facilitate the use and admissibility as evidence in national criminal courts of information collected, handled, preserved and shared by the military to prosecute terrorist offences." The aim of this seed project launched in 2017 was to strengthen criminal justice responses to terrorism by facilitating the use and the admissibility as evidence of information preserved, collected and shared by the military. During 2019, UNCCT supported the adoption, translation and printing of the guideline by 31 October 2019. The project was led by CTED and UNODC, in close consultation with the member entities of the Working Group on Legal and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism.

The project was implemented in close collaboration with the International Center for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague. The draft text of the Military Evidence Guidelines was reviewed by the members of the Working Group and by other relevant stakeholders and experts. The Guidelines are based on several sources, including international law and practices of some Member States.

Results/Impact

The Military Evidence Guidelines is a first attempt at the international level to address this complex issue and already has a lasting impact. The Council of Europe and NATO have invited the UN to share its experience in drafting these Guidelines to help them shape their own policy guidance on this topic, putting the UN in a leading position to advice Member States and regional organizations on having a rule of law approach to counter-terrorism.

The Guidelines also convinced Japan to support CTED for strengthening rule of law-compliant criminal-justice responses to terrorism in South-East Asia with regard to the use and admissibility of information preserved, collected and shared by the military to bring terrorists to justice. CTED conducted informal working-level consultation in Malaysia on 5-6 December 2019, where it identified some exceptional circumstances in which the military could be helpful in the collection of information to be used as evidence in terrorism-related cases. Those circumstances are as follows:

- Where the National Security Council designates a certain area as a security area
- Where the military acts as first responder in the event of a terrorist attack
- Where the military is the target of a military attack
- Where the Navy would be in pursuit of, or encounters, terrorists on the high seas
- Where the military receives information from a foreign military regarding terrorists present in Malaysia

In early 2020, the Guidelines already show a lasting positive impact on the obligation of states to bring terrorist to justice in compliance with international, especially international human right law and international humanitarian law. For example, UNODC is already using the Guidelines for its technical assistance projects in Niger and Nigeria and will translate them in Portuguese to launch similar activities in Mozambique and in Arabic for activities in the Middle East and North Africa. In the case of Niger, the Guidelines with their emphasis on interagency cooperation, were instrumental in the successful signature in early 2020 of a MOU between the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Interior and are being used to produce a SOP for the three ministries to cooperate in criminal justice matters.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2019-02-79-D **Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge About Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism (UNCCT-UNICRI seed project)**

Status: Ongoing

New scientific developments and emerging technologies are transforming life, industry, and the global economy in positive ways. At the same time, some of these technologies, such as synthetic biology, artificial intelligence, drones and additive manufacturing – also known as 3D printing – present significant potential for misuse by terrorist groups.

This project, developed by the Global Compact Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection, considers how advances in science and technology could augment or enhance terrorist capabilities to acquire and/or deploy WMD. The project also identifies innovative technology solutions that could be applied to countering WMD terrorism. The project commenced implementation in March 2019 and will run until May 2020.

UNCCT collaborated with UNICRI in the organization of the First Expert Workshop which was held at the UN Office in Geneva in October 2019. The experts discussed and validated several risk scenarios related to: (a) the misuse of unmanned aerial vehicles; b) AI-powered cyber-attacks; c) the misuse of synthetic biology, including gene-editing technologies; and d) the misuse of additive manufacturing. The scenarios will be used for triggering discussion among industry, academia, law enforcement, and international organizations and will serve as the basis for recommendation for strengthening CBRN security.

Results/Impact

In 2019, this project produced a methodology that included ten risk scenarios that were discussed among 36 experts coming from Member States, International Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Private Sector. Based on the discussions, UNCCT and UNICRI issues a report which provides an analysis of the technological feasibility and necessary capabilities (such as skills, knowledge, resources, equipment, etc.) terrorists would require to perpetrate these forms of attacks. This report raises awareness on the different risks that international community are facing in terms of misuse of science and technology with a focus on the WMD/CBRN field.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Output 4.3 **Through UNCCT support, professional linkages between relevant global, regional and national counter-terrorism centers have been enhanced**

As a global Centre of Excellence, UNCCT has the opportunity to bring together a wide range of counter-terrorism and PCVE entities both within and beyond the United Nations system. As described throughout this reporting, during 2019 UNCCT significantly expanded its cooperation with such entities, including by entering into Memoranda of Understanding.

UNCCT-2013-24 **Fostering International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Promoting Collaboration between National, Regional and International Counter-Terrorism Centres and Initiatives – Network Against Terrorism (NAT) Phase II**

Status: Ongoing

The 'Network Against Terrorism' (NAT) is a digital platform for information sharing and collaboration among the counter-terrorism centers at global, regional, and national levels. The NAT consists of four separate portals: Prevention of Violent Extremism PVE (PVE), Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT), Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) and UNCCT portal.

These portals provide a secure platform that enhances collaboration, communication, and information sharing among the network of members. The network consists of counter-terrorism centers and member states. Access to content is restricted to the members, who must log in to access the platform.

In the reporting period, this platform has been used by 335 entities, who accessed information on 733 counter-terrorism projects and associated activities. Additionally, 16 new Counter-Terrorism National Plans were published on the platform and two new good practice guides:

- UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech
- Preventing Extremism in Fragile States, A New Approach: Final Report of the Task Force on Extremism in Fragile States

In 2019, the number of new NAT users has increased by 23 and totaled to 215 unique users. The number of experts has increased by 13 and totaled to 107.

Result/Impact

As part of the UNOCT efforts to enhance effective coordination and coherence the Office started the development of a Global Compact platform, which will be launched in 2020. The Office drew extensively on lessons learned from the development and use of the NAT Portal, and will assume some of the intended functionalities, e.g. in terms of having a central Compact repository of project information and outputs, such as reports and guidelines.

As such, UNCCT will work with partner entities to explore how a new iteration of the NAT Portal could continue to add value to international counter-terrorism cooperation, e.g. by focusing on the work of non-Global Compact entities with which UNCCT is expanding cooperation.

Output 4.4 **Through UNCCT support, South-South and triangular counter-terrorism capacity building cooperation has been enhanced**

UNCCT promotes South-South Cooperation in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism as a dynamic modality of international cooperation especially since its scale, scope and the number of actors has expanded. Building on its ground-breaking global project, UNCCT facilitates exchanges of expertise between countries from the global South, which innovative and successful southern-generated policies and initiatives respond to the specific challenges faced by developing countries in tackling terrorism and the conditions conducive to its spread.

UNCCT-2017-70	Project to Foster South-South Cooperation in Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism

Status: Ongoing

Quote by the Secretary-General in his opening Statement at the UN Conference on South-South Cooperation, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 20-22 March 2019.

"South-South Cooperation is a global exercise of all countries of the South to benefit everyone, including the Least Developed Countries. Every country, every partner has something to share or teach, whatever their circumstances."

Photo: UNOCT / Shuo Li

Promoting South-South Cooperation in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism.

The UNCCT global project on "Enhancing the exchange of expertise between experts from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean" was launched in March 2019 in Buenos Aires, Argentina at the second UN High-Level Conference on South-South Cooperation (SSC). It is being undertaken in two stages, which consist of a scoping phase and an implementation phase.

In the period under review, the UNCCT Team undertook consultations with Member States from the four regions through contact with their Permanent Missions and scoping missions to discuss the project; raise awareness; meet with relevant national authorities and identify potential partners. Consultations

were also undertaken with international and regional organizations as well as civil society and with potential donors or partners for Triangular Cooperation. A Mapping Report, Study and Recommendations for the way forward were completed. Engagements with Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Inter-Agency Working Groups resulted in the successful inclusion of SSC related language in their Terms of Reference.

An Expert Meeting on "Promoting South-South Cooperation in CT/PCVE" was organized on 20-21 November in New York. The meeting initiated the implementation phase of the project to help further inform the project; generate awareness and momentum; explore ways to enhance collaboration through SSC; brainstorm on potential areas of cooperation, challenges and opportunities for SSC in CT/PCVE and identify existing south-south initiatives that could be scaled up with UNCCT support. The meeting brought together 27 senior experts from across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean and regional organizations such as the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), the Arab Interior Minister Council (AIMC), the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), the Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO/RATS), and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The meeting was also attended by UN agencies: CTED, UNDP, UNESCO, OHCHR, UN Office on South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) as well as the Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

> "This meeting marks the beginning of a substantive dialogue on building new partnerships with Member States from the global South on CT/PVE. The devastating impacts of terrorism and violent extremism continue to be borne most heavily by those living in developing countries,"
>
> Mr. Jehangir Khan
> Director UNCCT, at the opening of the Expert Meeting

The participation of Member States at the Expert Meeting confirmed their interest in participating in the project and in supporting SSC in CT/PCVE. Participants recommended that the United Nations serve as a neutral platform to promote SSC, to help address inter and intra-regional reluctance to share information and to coordinate existing initiatives.

They also suggested that UNCCT play a role of "match-maker" after Member States have identified their needs and made recommendations for the way forward.

In 2020, UNCCT will initiate the implementation phase of the project by organizing workshops to enhance capacities, discuss best practices, compile a 'record of expertise' and facilitate exchanges between countries. The outcomes of the

Photo: UNOCT / Shuo Li

Promoting South-South Cooperation in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism.

workshops will feed into a handbook of CT/PVE good practices available in the global South. The implementation phase will also see the establishment of a "Forum of Experts" and the development and operationalization of an on-line knowledge sharing platform although a possibility to make use of UNOSSC on-line platform ("South-South Galaxy") will be explored to avoid duplication of efforts.

Results/Impact

The scoping phase of UNCCT South-South Cooperation project included consultations to identify countries interested in participating in the project; desk research to map and identify relevant good practices in CT/PCVE and lessons learned as well as Centers of Excellence that have relevant best practices and technical assistance to share and to identify priority interlocutors. Experts/focal points were also identified.

This scoping phase revealed several good practices in countries of the global South that fit within the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism strategy and are in line with human rights as well as international agreements, treaties and protocols. It has also revealed the existence of significant exchanges through regional groups and a willingness to scale up these practices on a bilateral, regional and inter-regional levels. Countries are also beginning to institutionalize SSC into new and existing government structures, some with a specific focus on CT/PVE, which offers further opportunities.

This project is made possible by support from the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund administered by the Executive Office of the Secretary General.

PILLAR IV

Outcome 3: Measures ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism.

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States ensure respect for human rights as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism (Outcome 3, UNCCT 5-Year Programme).

Output 3.1 **Through UNCCT support, requesting Member States have access to good practices on ensuring respect for human rights while countering terrorism and are enabled to apply them**

Counter-terrorism measures may interfere with or restrict human rights and consequently generate or fuel grievances that may create the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288) and its subsequent reviews, as well as several resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, underscore Member States' obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law while countering terrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

Through the provision of targeted capacity building support and technical assistance, including sharing of good practices to address gaps identified by Member States, UNCCT assists requesting Member States ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law in their counter-terrorism measures and efforts. The Centre's technical assistance in this regard includes training of law enforcement officials on applying human rights-compliant standards in their counter-terrorism work, including the investigation and detention of persons for terrorism-related offenses; developing human-rights-based and gender-responsive training guides for border officials to apply international law standards in their border security and management when countering terrorism; and providing practical guidance to Member States on ensuring a the human rights-based treatment of children affected by terrorism, particularly those accompanying or associated with foreign terrorist fighters. During 2019, UNCCT also developed a programme with CTED and UNODC on the screening, prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration of individuals suspected of terrorism, which will start implementation in 2020. The Centre also mainstreams human rights across its capacity-building programming under other pillars of the Global Strategy.

UNCCT-2015-40 Training of Law Enforcement Officials on Human Rights, the Rule of Law and the Prevention of Terrorism

Status: Ongoing

This multi-year global project effectively started in 2015 and continues to be implemented in the MENA Region (Iraq, Jordan and Tunisia) and Africa (Mali, Cameroon and Nigeria).The project is jointly implemented by UNCCT and OHCHR through the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law and Supporting the Victims of Terrorism. In Phases I and II of the project, two rounds of trainings were conducted between 2015 and 2018 in Tunisia, Iraq, Jordan, Mali, Nigeria and Cameroon for senior- and mid-level law enforcement and security officials on human rights standards applicable to their counter terrorism work.

After delays in project implementation caused by operational challenges, implementation resumed in early 2019 on Phase III, which focused on training of trainers (ToT). Two senior consultants, recruited in March 2019, worked with the two national legal experts in Cameroon and Nigeria, and OHCHR in the beneficiary countries, to adapt the training curriculum and tools to the national contexts. Subsequently, the training-of-trainers programme, which is essential to project sustainability and impact, was launched in November 2019 with a joint event in Amman, Jordan on 23-27 November 2019 for 34 law enforcement and security officials (33 men, 1 woman) from Jordan, Iraq and Tunisia. Eleven senior officials from Jordan's Ministry of Interior attended the opening. UNCCT and OHCHR delivered similar training-of-trainers courses in Bamako, Mali on 10-14 February 2019 and in Douala and Kribi, Cameroon on 17-28 February 2019 for 45 middle and senior-level Malian and Cameroonian law enforcement and security officials (38 men, seven women).

Results/Impact

The project has resulted in a cadre of 411 law enforcement and security officials (378 men, 33 women) from six Member States who are trained in the application of human rights-compliant measures in their counter-terrorism work. More than 80% of participants in each of the trainings reported in their post-workshop evaluation questionnaire that the training had enhanced their practical skills and knowledge on human rights norms and standards applicable to counter-terrorism.

Additionally, the training curriculum and other tools have been adapted to the national contexts and can therefore be integrated into the curriculum

of training institutions in the beneficiary countries, as their officials have committed to doing. The officials (71 men, 8 women) who have been trained as trainers would be able to replicate the training within their respective agencies.

The end-of-project evaluation is planned for the next reporting period. This critical phase will assess the results achieved and systematically capture good practices and lessons learned. It will also feed into the development of a comprehensive UNCCT Human Rights programme.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Canada and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2017-65 Ensuring Compliance with Human Rights Standards at Borders in the Context of Counter-Terrorism (under the Border Security and Management programme)

Status: Ongoing

This is a joint UNCCT and OHCHR project to support Member States' compliance with human rights standards at borders in the context of their counter-terrorism measures. In the previous reporting period, four regional consultations were delivered in South-East Asia, Southern Africa, G5 Sahel, and North Africa. Based on comments and technical inputs from stakeholders, comprising legal and migration experts, officials of Member States, and international organisations, UNCCT and OHCHR developed a draft training manual for border authorities. A gender consultant had supported the integration of gender perspectives during the consultations and in the development of the training manual.

In 2019, UNCCT and OHCHR reviewed and finalised the training manual in preparation for publication and translation (into French, Arabic, Spanish and Russian), now planned for the second quarter of 2020. During 2019, a training of trainers workshop mainly for OHCHR staff was delivered in Geneva in April to expand the pool of potential trainers. The training was provided in cooperation with the UNCCT.

The second phase of the project is under development. The concept envisages delivering targeted national-level trainings and regional policy dialogues, using the training manual and other tools and guidance already developed, including the screening Handbook and Pocket Book for border officials.

Results/Impact

The strong interest demonstrated by Member States, international organisations, migration experts, and a broad range of other stakeholders who participated in the regional consultations and expert group meetings indicates that they highly value the practical guidance the training manual (trainer's guide) offers to Member States on human rights-compliant and gender-responsive measures in border security and management within the context of counter-terrorism. The final version of the manual contains specific learning objectives and sections to address gender dimensions of border security and management.

The publication, translation and dissemination of the manual in the second quarter of 2020 will enable a more accurate and objective assessment of how this project has achieved its stated objectives.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Switzerland.

UNCCT-2017-55 Security Sector Reform in an Era of Terrorism/ Violent Extremism: Women's Rights in the Sahel Region (UNCCT-UN Women)

Status: Ongoing

UN Photo / Harandane Dicko

MINUSMA Implements Project in Gao, Mali.

Results/Impact

Through the implementation of this UN Women led project, it was possible to ascertain the level of application of relevant human rights and gender equality laws and frameworks in security responses in the G5 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger). The project produced country studies regarding above mentioned gender equality and human rights compliance of security sector institutions within the G5 Sahel countries, which revealed a variety of perceptions from different actors, including government, civil society organizations, human rights and gender advocates involved in the prevention and the fight against violent extremism conducive to terrorism and terrorism. The studies also revealed the specific challenges faced in each country and context and made recommendations to the government, including security sector institutions, national bodies for counter-terrorism, as well as national human rights commissions, among others, to overcome these challenges. Feedback Workshops were organized in the 5 countries of the G5 Sahel and at the regional level, where 107 key actors convened from the different countries (51 women and 56 men) to review and validate the data collected for the studies from government, civil society organizations, human rights and gender actors involved in the prevention and fight against violent extremism and terrorism. Partners involved in the implementation of the project are: UN Women, key Ministries related to security, defense, human rights and gender (Ministries for the Promotion of Women, Security, Defense, Justice, Religious and Cultural Affairs), women's and youth organizations, the Peacekeeping School and technical and financial partners.

The project will be finalized in 2020 with the production of the training guide on gender equality and human rights within security sector institutions, with trainings to be conducted in the G5 Sahel countries.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2017-64 **Enhancing the Capacity of States to Adopt Human Rights Based Treatment of Children Affected by Terrorism, in particular by the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon**

Status: Ongoing

With the recent military defeat of ISIL, suspected foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) and their families, including a large number of children, are being returned or are returning to their countries of origin or to third countries. Some remain stranded in areas of conflict under untenable humanitarian conditions with no foreseeable end in sight. In its resolution 2396 (2017), the United Nations Security Council called upon Member States to assess and investigate individuals whom they have reasonable grounds to believe are "terrorists, including suspected foreign terrorist fighters and their accompanying family members. Children are considered especially vulnerable in this context and in need of specialized support. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy has stressed the urgency to treat these children in accordance with their rights and pursuing their rehabilitation and reintegration.

The project supports Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) and other related Security Council resolutions which underscore the need for Member States to prosecute, rehabilitate, and reintegrate foreign terrorist fighters and their families, while noting that children may be especially vulnerable to radicalization to violence and in need of particular social support while stressing that children need to be treated in a manner that observes their rights and respects their dignity, in accordance with applicable international law.

Following an Expert Group Meeting held in New York on relevant international standards, and two regional consultative meetings held in Southeast Asia and Europe to share the outcomes of the expert meeting and to identify good practices and challenges in the regions to be highlighted in the Handbook, all held in 2018, the UNCCT held a third regional consultative meeting in 2019 for the Middle East and North Africa Region. The meeting was hosted by the Government of Jordan and held in Amman on 31 January – 1 February 2019. Approximately 35 people participated in the meeting, with officials from Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia from Counter-Terrorism Agencies, Ministries of Justice, Prisons, Judges, and Prosecutors, as well as relevant Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities and civil society organizations.

In April 2019, UNCCT organized a Validation meeting in New York to receive comments on the second draft of the handbook and to formulate key recommendations to Member States. The Validation meeting was held with 30 participants, including UN experts, civil society representatives, legal scholars and judges.

The first phase of the project was completed with the production of the Handbook "Children Affected by the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon: Ensuring a Child Rights-Based Approach" that provides a summary of international human rights and humanitarian standards, to support Member States' compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law in the treatment of such children. The Handbook addresses several issues, including: (1) key principles to protect the rights of children under this category while addressing States' security concerns; (2) human rights considerations for children placed on watch lists; (3) nationality and risk of statelessness; and (4) detention with and separation from their parents.

Phase II of the project is jointly implemented with UNODC and commenced in September 2019 with the launch of the Handbook. The aim of the project is to enhance Member State awareness of the standards and support Member States in integrating them in their national efforts. Building on the global activities implemented during phase I of the project, phase II aims to implement capacity-building and technical support activities at national level to support Member States in Central Asia to implement the guidance provided in the Handbook and in the "Key Principles for the Protection, Prosecution, Repatriation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Women and Children affiliated with United Nations-listed Terrorist Groups" (April 2019).

Following the launch of the Handbook, UNCCT and UNODC organized a regional workshop in Kazakhstan in October that brought together Central Asian Member State representatives from the security and justice systems, to discuss approaches and measures to prevent child recruitment and exploitation and promote the rehabilitation and reintegration of children affected by terrorism. The main outcome of this event was that participants increased their understanding of strategies to address the issue of child recruitment and exploitation as well as the rehabilitation and reintegration of children recruited and exploited by terrorist or violent extremist groups, at global, regional and local levels. Participants expressed that they would be able to integrate the key considerations and learnings into the execution of their duties. The objectives included: raising awareness and enhancing understanding of the recruitment and exploitation of children by terrorist and violent extremist groups, discussing relevant international

legal and normative frameworks, identifying promising practices and lessons learned, developing and applying key principles elaborated in the relevant UNCCT and UNODC tools (including the UNCCT Handbook on "Children affected by the Foreign-Fighter Phenomenon: Ensuring a Child Rights-Based Approach") to ensure that they offer regionally relevant guidance for the development of comprehensive and integrated prevention and rehabilitation action plans at the national level. Thirty-two participants from Ministries of Labour, Justice, Interior, Education, the national security apparatus, and civil society from seven national delegations (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) participated.

Impacts/Results

The best practices and outcomes in the three regional consultations in 2018 and 2019 and recommendations from the validation meeting were incorporated into the publication of the Handbook on "Children Affected by the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Phenomenon: Ensuring a Child Rights-Based Approach", to complete Phase I of the project. The Handbook contains key international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law principles and standards Member States are obligated to consider when developing policies and measures concerning such children, especially in relation to Security Council resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017) as well as the Addendum to the Madrid Guiding Principles (2018). The handbook provides key considerations, principles and elements to officials in developing comprehensive policies to support child returnees through a Human Rights-Based, Gender and Age-Sensitive approach. With the Handbook Member States are better able to design national policies that both address legitimate security concerns and ensure respect for children's rights.

As a first activity under Phase II, UNCCT co-hosted with UNODC on 30 September the launch of the Handbook, on the margins of the 74th UN General Assembly, with more than 100 representatives of Member States, UN entities, and civil society in attendance. The event featured a High-Level Panel and an Expert Panel, which helped to increase awareness and understanding of Member States on the treatment of children affected by terrorism, particularly those affected by the FTF phenomenon, and on human rights compliant measures to better protect those children from violence.

An extension of the project has been granted in 2019 to allow the implementation of tailored national capacity building activities based on the findings of the Handbook and the Key Principles. Project activities in 2020 will indeed focus on increasing the capacity of one selected Member State in Central Asia to better protect children affected by terrorism, particularly those affected by the FTF phenomenon, from violence and

ensure they are treated in a human rights-compliant manner. In 2020, a technical assistance needs assessment mission, legal advisory services related to the treatment of children affected by terrorism, particularly those affected by the FTF phenomenon, one national expert consultation, and two national training events on the treatment of children affected by terrorism, will be implemented in the selected country.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of the Kingdom of Belgium, Japan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UNCCT-2015-43 Supporting the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization in Prisons

Status: Ongoing

The project aims to strengthen the resilience of societies against violent extremism and radicalization to violence while respecting human rights standards, by increasing the capacity of selected Member States to effectively manage violent extremist prisoners (VEPs) and prevent radicalization in their prisons. It is a joint initiative with UNODC and CTED. The project seeks to enhance the capacity of prison administrations to systematically assess the risks and needs of VEPs, as well as to deliver inter-disciplinary disengagement interventions. It also aims to improve the social reintegration prospects of former VEPs through the provision of post-release services.

Photo: UNODC

Official launch of the project in Uganda during the High-Level Roundtable held in Kampala in September 2019

The project, which is also part of the UN Capacity Building Implementation Plan to Counter the Flow of FTFs, will also **support Member States in their implementation of:**

- UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its latest Review (A/72/284), which "expresses concern about the danger of recruitment and radicalization to terrorism, including in prisons", and "calls upon law enforcement and criminal justice authorities to better counter the threat of returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, to counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism and radicalization to terrorism, and to enhance efforts to implement deradicalization programmes".

- Relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 2396 (2017), which calls upon Member States to, inter alia, address radicalization to violence and terrorist recruitment in prisons.

Project implementation commenced in the three target countries - Kazakhstan, Tunisia and Uganda with Prison Services as leading interlocutors and local civil society organizations involved. Uganda was selected as the third project country at the beginning of 2019 with the scoping mission held in June. This was followed by the official launch of the project in Uganda during the High-Level Roundtable held in Kampala in September, attended by senior government officials from across foreign affairs, security and corrections sectors, and representatives from the European Union (EU), UNODC and CTED.

In Uganda and Kazakhstan, eight expert group meetings were organized for stakeholders from the criminal justice system, prison staff, security agencies, religious groups and civil society to discuss issues of risks and needs assessment, disengagement and social reintegration.

In Kazakhstan the project started its work with 8 pilot male and female prisons in Karaganda and Pavlodar region assisting in conducting a prison security audit, risk and needs assessment and disengagement interventions. The representatives of local municipalities, social services and civil society organizations were involved in four prison visits and follow up discussions organized in this regard.

Project lessons learned were advocated during an event on the management of VEPs and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons in New York (26 June 2019) and Security Council Open Arria Formula meeting on Challenges to Radicalization in Prisons (12 November 2019). The beneficiary states senior representatives participated at the 28th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (May 2019) and had a project meeting in Vienna in October 2019.

Impact/Results

In 2019, the project delivered 13 workshops, 9 expert meetings and round tables on issues of prison security, risk and needs assessments and prisoners' classification, to almost 400 prison staff, criminal justice professionals and civil society representatives from all project countries (with women making up 35% of training participants).The outcomes of the trainings were incorporated into the training modules on management of VEPs in Kazakhstan, the tailored training modules for Uganda and Tunisia will be developed in 2020 .

While the project was in the initial stage of implementation during 2019, there are some concrete results. The Ministry of Interior in Kazakhstan approved the Decree on establishing Prison Staff Training Center with governmental funds allocated for its work. Kazakhstan Interagency working group on developing Prisoner Classification system was launched in June 2019 with the first draft of framework of prisoners' classification system finalized in November 2019.

In Uganda, as a result of technical support missions and High-Level Roundtable held in Kampala in September, the country workplan was developed, carefully tailored to the local context and endorsed by the Uganda Prison Service.

The project is experiencing challenges related to security and political sensitivities around the topic of violent extremism and terrorism, general level of prison conditions, and absence of sufficient and stable human resources among prison staff. The project team is working closely with UNOCT policy units to mitigate the risks and plans a set of high-level events in all project countries in 2020. Expert support on improving prison condition is included into national working plans.

In 2020 the project will be intensified in Tunisia and Uganda where the project activities started later in 2019.

This project is made possible by support from the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The European Union and the Government of the Netherlands support the project through funding to UNODC for this joint project.

Output 3.2 **Enhanced capacity to provide support to victims of terrorism**

Through UNCCT support, Member States have enhanced capacity to provide support to victims of terrorism, including by strengthening their voices.

Recognizing the rights and needs of victims, standing in solidarity and raising public awareness about the impact of terrorism on individuals' lives is essential to ensuring that victims of terrorism attain truth, justice and dignity. Developments at the international, regional and national levels on victims has significantly progressed since the sixth review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Support to victims has moved beyond symbolic solidarity towards a more robust engagement to advance the rights and needs of victims, including those of women and girls who are often directly targeted by terrorist groups and subjected to gender-based violence. This is reflected in the two recent milestone resolutions dedicated to victims of terrorism and the establishment of a Member State driven Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism. The establishment of an annual International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism (A/RES/72/165) on 21 August signifies the solidarity of the international community with victims, and General Assembly resolution 73/305 further emphasizes Member States' commitment to victims, particularly by calling for comprehensive assistance plans to be developed to support victims of terrorism.

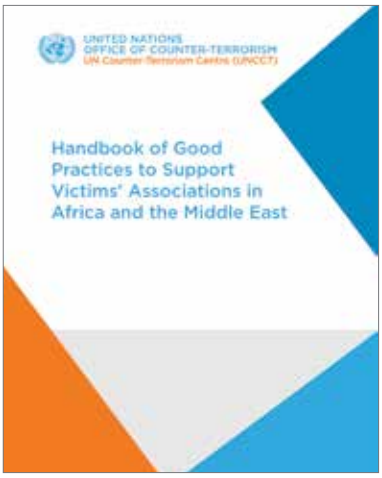
UNCCT-2018-04-83 Victims of Terrorism Support Programme

Status: Ongoing

The UNCCT Victims of Terrorism Support Programme aims to show solidarity with, raise awareness on, and contributes to protecting, promoting and respecting the rights and needs of victims of terrorism, including those of women and girls, and to the increased capacity of Member States and civil society organisations to assist and support victims through a wide range of activities. During the reporting period, this has included strengthening victims' networks, peer-to-peer engagement, a handbook for victims associations in Asia, advocacy and outreach, a documentary, multi-media products, including for social media, and the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal.

Handbook of Good Practices to Support Victims' of Terrorism Associations in Africa and the Middle East

The Arabic and French translations of the Handbook of Good Practices to Support Victims' Associations in Africa and the Middle East, along with the English version, were published during the reporting period. The Handbook seeks to support victims' associations across Africa and the Middle East better support victims.



Guidelines and Principles to Assist, Protect and Support Victims' of Terrorism Associations in Asia Pacific

The Guidelines seek to strengthen the efforts and effectiveness of civil society organisations working with victims and are intended to serve as a repository of information and examples of good practice for victims associations on how to effectively and successfully ensure that victims' concerns remain a priority and where actions can be implemented in the best interests of victims. From February to June 2019, UNCCT held three expert group meetings (EGM) in Thailand (26-28 February), South Korea (27-29 March) and Singapore (18-20 June) to develop the Guidelines. Participants came from across Asia Pacific, and included victims, representatives from victims' associations, experts, and academics from Afghanistan, Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and Sri Lanka, along with support from colleagues in Europe and the United States. The guidelines are expected to be published in 2020.

Outreach activities

In 2019, UNCCT continued to raise awareness, advocate and outreach to both Member States and civil society on victims' issues. During the reporting period, UNCCT established a new civil society network that includes victims' associations from Asia and continued to build on existing networks in Africa, the Middle East, North America and Europe. The networks aim to bring together victims' associations, to stand in solidarity with victims and victims organisations, to coordinate activities, especially around the International Day, and support civil society activities on victims.

As Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and as the Executive Director of UNCCT, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov has indicated that the Victims of Terrorism Support Programme is one of the top priorities of the Office. In this regard, the Executive Director has made a point of meeting victims whenever he

travels on mission as well as in New York. During his missions to Spain in February and Israel in June he listened to the concerns of victims and victims associations and discussed how the United Nations can better support them. On 3 June, Mr. Voronkov met with a group of youth victims from across the world in New York and discussed issues around victims' rights, recognition and combatting the financing of terrorism.

As part of its efforts to strengthen Member States technical knowledge on victims, the UNCCT, on 8-9 May 2019, participated in an inter-agency retreat organized by the Resident Coordinator's Office in Tunisia, under the UN Joint Programme on Preventing Violent Extremism, to explore how to assist the Tunisian Government, including the National Commission for Counterterrorism, in their efforts to better support victims of terrorism. The mission allowed UNCCT to support the planning for the Tunisian national authority PCVE plan with a focus on victims of terrorism and may lead to further activities in the future as the UN Joint Programme on PVE develops its action plan.

The UNCCT participated in events to raise awareness of the programme's activities and support to victims and Member States. This has included participating in the first conference for victim support organisations in Asia in March where UNCCT spoke about its work with victims of terrorism in the region. UNCCT also attended several conferences and meetings in Europe addressing the victims' issue, including participation in an international conference on providing support to victims of terrorism in the 21st century in Madrid on 7 May and meetings with Member States, civil society organizations, victims and victims associations in Spain, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom from 8 to 10 May. In June 2019, the Victims Unit attended two conferences in Strasbourg, France on victims: on 11 June, the Network for Victims of Terrorism and Mass Violence (INVICTM) International Symposium that focused on international cooperation to better support victims of terrorism and mass violence and on 12-13 June, the Victim Support Europe Conference that focused on recovery for victims of all crimes. On 21-23 November, UNCCT Victims Unit attended the VIII International Congress for Victims of Terrorism, held in Nice, France, in which the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism was a keynote speaker.

On 18 November 2019, UNCCT organized a brown bag discussion at UN Headquarters with Dr. Rivka Tuval-Maschiach, Senior Adviser to NATAL Israel Trauma and Resiliency Center. The discussion centered around "Victims of Terrorism and the Power of Resilience" where Dr. Tuval-Maschiach discussed the importance of a victim centric approach which recognized the impact of terrorism on victims, the rights and needs of victims of terrorism, and to express solidarity by arriving at common ground on how to develop an effective approach towards resilience. Around 25 people attended the event.

Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism

On 25 June 2019, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. António Guterres, launched the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, a group of like-minded Member States working to uphold victims' rights and to advocate for their needs. Co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Spain and Afghanistan to the United Nations, the Group consists of 38 Member States, including two regional organisations, with the State of Palestine and UNOCT and UNODC as observers. On 3 December 2019, UNCCT and the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism co-hosted an open briefing to discuss the International Commission of Jurists (ICT) publication on the "Human Rights of Victims of Terrorism: A Compilation of International Sources". Moderated by UNCCT, the discussion, also featured the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism, and focused on the rights of victims, including their role in the context of the 7th review resolution of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the importance of strengthening the legal framework on victims.

The Second commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism

The second commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to Victims of Terrorism, based on General Assembly resolution 72/165, focused on the resilience of victims and their families: how they have coped and what they have done to transform their experiences to aid healing and recovery. UNCCT, in collaboration with the Global Compact Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism and Victims of Terrorism, held three events from 20-22 August 2019 to commemorate the Day.

UN Photo / Manuel Elias

Launch Meeting of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, Adela Raz, PR of Afghanistan, 25 June 2019.

The first event, hosted by the Executive Director of UNCCT on 20 August, included screening the third documentary under the UNCCT Victims of Terrorism Documentary series on "Resilience in the Face of Terrorism: Victims' Voices from Cameroon and Nigeria" and explored the regional impact of attacks by Boko Haram on an internally displaced woman from Cameroon and a refugee from Nigeria. The event included the Deputy Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations. An interactive roundtable discussion, chaired by UNCCT, with three victims from Australia, Germany and the United States followed the screening to further discuss their experiences and what it means to be resilient. The event was closed by the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Global Communications and was attended by approximately 60 persons.

The second event on 21 August was the launch of the UNCCT photographic exhibition, "Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Resilience" by the Secretary-General and attended by over 220 people, including 60 Permanent Missions. The event was co-hosted by UNCCT and the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, and featured keynote speakers including Mr. Voronkov, the co-chairs of the Group of Friends, and three female victims from Canada, Kenya and the United Kingdom. The event also webcast live at webtv.un.org.

UN Photo / Eskinder Debebe

Secretary-General António Guterres makes remarks at the Launch of "Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Resilience" Exhibition.

The UNCCT photographic exhibition, which featured 20 victims' statements and stories from around the world demonstrating their individual journey and experience of resilience, was displayed in the Conference Building of the United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 30 August 2019.

The third event, on 22 August, moderated by UNCCT, was a brown bag discussion with five victims from America, Argentina, Germany, Kenya, and the United

USG Voronkov speaks with Sarah Tikolo at the launch of the photographic exhibition.

UN Photo / Eskinder Debebe

Kingdom at UN Headquarters to discuss how best to support victims of terrorism in their short, medium, and long-term needs. The discussion, joined by more than 40 participants, ranged from how victims see the International Day and the kinds of issues that the Day should highlight in the future, as well as important themes for the upcoming Victims Congress.

The Victims of Terrorism Support Portal

The UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal continued to increase both its content and viewing figures during the reporting period. In 2019, the Portal continued to see strong engagement with its users as there were 126,738 page views, an 81% increase on page views as compared to 2018. New content, such as the guest interview series, relevant news, and multimedia coverage of victims' events, was regularly uploaded to the Portal to make it relevant and timely to victims' needs. During this period, the main spike in views was registered after well publicized terrorist attacks, including in Afghanistan, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and Nepal. On 21 August, to commemorate the second International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, 1,231 page views were recorded. Directly following the participation of the UNCCT Victims Unit at an international conference on victims of terrorism in Nice, France, where over 500 victims of terrorism were gathered, 3,162 page views were recorded on 26 November, the highest number of page views on a single day in 2019.

The English Directory of Support Organisations page was one of the most visited pages, with the Spanish homepage being the second most visited language page. The Portal also hosts multimedia content, including documentaries. A new

Image details from the poster: "Surviving Terrorism: The Power of Resilience".

Photo: UNCCT

documentary 'Resilience in the Face of Terrorism: Victims Voices from Cameroon and Nigeria', was added to the Portal in August 2019, which was launched as part of the International Day activities.

Results/Impact

Since its launch of the global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme, UNCCT has further expanded its work on and for victims of terrorism and broadened and strengthened its outreach and advocacy work to strengthen Member States and civil society efforts on victims of terrorism. Through the activities of the programme, including filming the third documentary and use of multi-media, the photographic exhibition to commemorate the International Day, toolkits and Guidelines, the UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal, handbooks, support to Member State and outreach and awareness raising activities with victims of terrorism, UNCCT was able to contribute to greater awareness and understanding of the importance of upholding the rights of victims and supporting their needs. These outcomes have also helped to shape the Victims Programme to make it more relevant and timely to victims' needs. The Programme has contributed to Pillars I and IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its subsequent reviews which has further emphasized the importance of victims as an important factor in preventing and countering violent extremism. The global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme will continue to build on its activities from 2019, including organizing the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism.

This project is made possible by support from the Governments of Morocco, the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Spain.

Mainstreaming Human Rights and Gender

Human Rights

The Centre continued to strengthen its efforts to support Member States to implement Pillar IV of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy – measures to ensure respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism. As detailed above, an increased number of interventions were delivered this year, focusing on human rights considerations in particular areas of counter-terrorism and prevention/countering of violent extremism, such as law enforcement, border security and management, cyber-security, and protecting the human rights of children affected by the foreign terrorist fighters phenomenon.

At the strategic and technical levels, the Centre strengthened its engagement and partnership with key human rights actors, such as OHCHR, CTED, the UN Special Rapporteur for the protection and promotion of human rights while countering terrorism, and civil society organisations active at the global, regional and local levels. During the High-Level Segment of the UN General Assembly in September 2019, the Centre organized a side event on 'Ensuring the rights of children of foreign terrorist fighters' to raise awareness of the situation of such children. Panelists included the Executive Director of CTED, a representative of OHCHR, the Special Rapporteur, and the representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

UN Photo / MINUSMA

Also in September 2019, the Centre led the development of human rights mainstreaming guidelines and accompanying template to provide guidance to staff developing capacity building support and technical assistance projects and programmes. The Guidelines contains indicators and a checklist on integration of human rights considerations in the lifecycle of all projects and programmes. As a requirement under the UNOCT's new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), all project/programme proposals for consideration by Programme Review Board (PRB) must include the Human Rights Mainstreaming Template, with specific information on how these projects or programmes will integrate human rights norms and standards and contribute to human rights objectives.

The Centre is developing a comprehensive programme with human rights mainstreaming as a key component. Under the programme, the Centre seeks to strengthen its internal capacity by training staff and managers on human rights standards applicable to counter-terrorism, developing a monitoring mechanism, and recruiting a dedicated staff to promote compliance with the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP).

Gender

In 2019, UNCCT recruited a Gender Advisor and undertook the following measures: a) Adopted a gender marker to score projects and programmes in accordance to their approach to gender equality and women's empowerment at the planning stage; b) Initiated efforts to establish a financial tracking system to track compliance with the 2010 Secretary-General call for all UN managed preventing and countering violent

UN Photo

USG Voronkov discussed women and counter-terrorism at a side-event.

extremist funds to allocate 15 percent of funding to projects focused on gender equality and women's empowerment (S/2015/2016); c) Specific guidance was put in place within UNOCT Standard Operating Procedures, for all projects to include gender dimensions within project development and implementation, as well as for all project concepts to be reviewed by the Gender Adviser. Preparations were done for a gender assessment as a baseline for programming and policy development to inform the development of the UNOCT Gender Policy to be completed in 2020. In tandem, a comprehensive gender programme was initiated to enhance UNCCT's portfolio of gender specific projects and establish a full-fledged Gender Unit to allow for full compliance with the gender mandate of the UN.

UNCCT also supports the Global Compact Gender Working Group on Adopting a Gender Sensitive Approach to Preventing and Countering Terrorism, which is chaired by UN Women.

In 2019 gender perspectives were considered in the implementation of several areas of intervention of UNOCT, including discussions of the specific situation and needs of VoT in preparations for the development of the 'Guidelines and Principles to Support Victims of Terrorism in Asia Pacific', and the portrayal of women in the photographic exhibit and roundtable discussions showcasing the resilience of victims of terrorism for the second commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.

UNCCT contributed to and coordinated the inter-agency effort that resulted in the development of the "Key Principles and Initial Guidelines for the Protection, Prosecution, Repatriation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Women and Children affiliated with United Nations-listed Terrorist Groups".

The UNCCT led development of the upcoming global framework on Screening, Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Foreign Terrorist Fighters, devoted particular consideration to incorporating gender dimensions, including through the participation of relevant UN Agencies entities and CSOs in the planning stages.

The UNCCT Reference Guide on developing national and regional Preventing of Violent Extremism (PVE) Plans of Action considers Gender as one of the 7 necessary indicators for the framing of a PVE national or regional plan of action. Additionally, the programme for Policy Assistance to the Prevention of Violent Extremism contains a specific Gender Equality Outcome, namely: 'Assisted Member States have increased their ability to empower young people and increase gender equality to promote social cohesion and inclusion into decision-making processes at all levels.' As a result, efforts for developing PCVE National Action Plans in Sri Lanka, Sudan and Mozambique initiated in 2019 and have included relevant stakeholders, such as women leaders and women led organizations in the development of the process and drafting of Plans. UNCCT also supported the development of the ASEAN Bali workplan to operationalize the Regional

PCVE Action plan prepared with due representation of women and gender perspectives in the drafting process. UNCCT is making efforts to align National PCVE action plans with National Women Peace and Security Action plans.

Capacity building initiatives, e.g. on technical and vocational education and training institutes in Indonesia included gender sessions to discuss the gender-specific impact and response to violent extremism.

The Strategic Communications ('StratCom') Project integrated gender sessions in its training initiatives and ensured gender balance in beneficiaries, presenters and panelists. The Project also raised awareness of participants regarding the importance of gender responsive PCVE.

The Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Programme ('Human Rights Programme') highlighted gender dimensions in some of its training modules and tools (e.g., trainer's guide for border authorities on complying with international human rights standards) and developed a training module (trainer's guide) for border officials.

The Cybersecurity and New Technologies programme implemented two projects which included training sessions on Human Rights and Gender mainstreaming, such as aspects of non-discrimination in counter-terrorism actions. Specifically, the project "Enhancing the Skills of Officials in Relation to the Exploitation of Social Media and the Internet to Counter the Foreign Terrorist Fighters Phenomenon and Other Violent Extremism" produced a Handbook on the "Use of Internet for Counter-Terrorism Investigations" with a section produced in close collaboration with UN Women on the gender dimensions of online terrorist presence (see details above).

UNCCT is supporting UN Women in the implementation of a project entitled 'Sector Reform in an Era of Terrorism/ Violent Extremism: Women's Rights in the Sahel Region', which produced a series of studies regarding the level of application of relevant human rights and gender equality laws and frameworks in security responses in the G5 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger), which will lead to the production of a handbook and several capacity strengthening initiatives in the area.

As part of an inclusive and whole-of-society approach to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism, UNCCT brought together Member States, regional/sub-regional organizations, UN entities, private sector, and civil society, especially young people and women, to share information and best practices, develop innovative partnerships, and produce consensual outcomes. In 2019, UNOCT, supported by UNCCT, initiated the organization of separate CSO workshops during the Regional Conferences, starting with the United Arab Emirates Conference in December 2019 with the participation of women civil society organizations.

UN Photo Meeting of the UNCCT Advisory Board in Riyadh (2018)

III. UNCCT Advisory Board, Outreach, and 'All-of-UN'

UNCCT Advisory Board

The UNCCT Advisory Board consists of 21 Member States and the European Union as Guest Member, and provides advice to the UNCCT Executive Director on the Centre's operations and its programmes, projects, and proposals. The Board, chaired by the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador Abdallah Yahya Al-Mouallimi, convenes at the level of Permanent Representatives and experts.

In 2019, the UNCCT Advisory Board met once at the Ambassadorial level on 29 May, which was preceded by three expert level meetings held on 13 March, 4 April and 18 April.

Ambassador Level Meetings

The 18th Meeting of the Advisory Board of UNCCT was convened in New York on 29 May 2019. Ambassador Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi chaired the meeting.

The UNCCT Executive Director, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, provided an overview of the Centre's programming, focusing his remarks on four key areas: 1) capacity building support to Member States in 2018; 2) the deliberative process started in Riyadh to address the four thematic themes (the role and composition of the UNCCT Advisory Board; the thematic and geographical priorities of UNCCT; fund mobilisation and utilisation; and the monitoring and evaluation of the Centre's programmes and projects); 3) the OIOS Audit of UNCCT and subsequent change management process; and 4) an overview of key strategic priorities of UNCCT work and operations. Dr. Jehangir Khan, UNCCT Director, presented the Centre's 2018 Annual Report, the achievements and future priorities of UNCCT, including the upcoming review of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme.

The discussions of the Advisory Board focused on issues critical to the Centre's operations and programming: (1) the upcoming review of the UNCCT Five-Years Programme; (2) the OIOS Audit and the subsequent report/recommendations; (3) resource mobilization focusing on sustainability, predictability and diversification; (4) monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the Centre's programmes and projects; (5) the Centre's thematic and geographic priorities; and (6) the future role and composition of the Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board members congratulated UNCCT on the achieved results presented through the Annual Report. It also welcomed the profiling of UNCCT as a Centre of Excellence. The Board further advised the Centre to continue to focus on effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of its work, in order to meet that goal.

Most members expressed support to the current thematic priorities set out by the Centre's 5-Year Programme for the balanced implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Board welcomed the Centre's approach to adjust its priorities based on evolving threats in line with the Review of the Global Strategy, relevant Security Council resolutions, and the assessments and recommendations of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

In terms of funding, Advisory Board members highlighted the need to sustain and diversify the Centre's funding. In that context, the Board encouraged effective utilization of existing resources through a more rapid and efficient development and implementation of projects that address the urgent priorities as identified by beneficiary countries. Further, the Board advised continued enhancement of the Centre's transparency and management efficiency.

The UNCCT Executive Director expressed his commitment to continue to advance on the issues raised by the Advisory Board members. Mr. Voronkov informed that UNCCT

Advisory Board meeting Ambassador Abdallah Yahya A. Al-Mouallimi, Advisory Board Chair and Mr Vladimir Voronkov, USG of UNOCT and Executive Director of UNCCT.

Photo: UNCCT

is strengthening transparency and accountability, including through the development and application of Standard Operating Procedures and the PRINCE2 methodology in programme/projects management and performance reporting. He also noted that UNCCT will increase implementation, enhance visibility, and continue to assess the impact of its programmes and projects.

Mr. Voronkov also informed the Advisory Board that in line with the recommendation of OIOS, and taking into account the views and recommendations of the UNCCT Advisory Board, the Centre will review and revise its 5-Year Programme in 2020, to ensure that its programme of work fully supports the implementation of the 6th and subsequent biennial Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions.

Through continued dialogue and collaboration with the Advisory Board, the Centre will continue to improve its working methods to ensure greater implementation and impact in the field.

Expert Level Meetings

Given the Advisory Board's interest in the Office for Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) audit of UNCCT, an Advisory Board expert meeting was convened on 13 March to provide members with a detailed briefing by OIOS auditors about their Report 2018/121, which was released in December 2018 and shared with the Board members.

This audit covered the activities of UNCCT from January 2016 to July 2018, focusing on three areas: (1) strategic planning and performance reporting; (2) resource mobilization; and (3) project management. OIOS briefed the Advisory Board on the audit objective and scope, methodology, summary observations and next steps. UNCCT had accepted the 12 recommendations, committing to focus on the highlighted areas for improvement. Advisory Board members were informed that UNOCT/UNCCT had launched a process of active implementation of the audit recommendations such as: established timelines and divided responsibilities to assign accountability for each implementation action. An update on the implementation of audit recommendations is outlined in section III.

The Advisory Board experts again met of 4 April and 18 April, for a follow-up discussion on the OIOS audit recommendations and a discussion on the Working Paper on the Role and Composition of the UNCCT Advisory Board. At the request of the Advisory Board, the UNCCT was requested to produce and circulate the Working Paper on the new role and composition of the Board which focuses the discussion on role and responsibilities, membership, and selection. UNCCT suggested to move forward step-by-step, guided by the Chair and the Advisory Board. The consultations at expert level fed into the Ambassadorial meeting.

Consultations with Member States

Photo: UNCCT

Joint UNOCT CTED meetings in Spain in support to victims of terrorism programme, 2019.

Visit of USG Voronkov to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, September 2019.

Photo: UNCCT

Other major initiatives through which the Office engaged Member States during the year included the Leaders' Dialogue with the Heads of States and Governments of Jordan, France and New Zealand during the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Week in September, and the launch in February of the first Consolidated Multi-Year Appeal for 2019-2020, which presented several UNCCT programmes/projects for donor funding.

Under-Secretary-General Voronkov held 60 bilateral meetings with Member States and international partners on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in September and 69 bilateral meetings on the margins of the High-Level Regional Conferences, in which UNCCT programmes and projects were promoted. During the year, Mr. Voronkov held 22 high-level visits to 18 countries (9 in Europe and America, 4 in Asia-Pacific, 4 in the Middle East and 1 in Africa), including three (3) countries with the Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of CTED, Ms. Michèle Coninsx. These visits have enabled strategic level discussions on terrorism trends and counter-terrorism priorities, as well as technical discussions on specific counter-terrorism issues and capacity-building cooperation.

UNOCT continued to develop and strengthen counter-terrorism partnerships between the United Nations and Member States, international, regional and sub-regional organizations to support global, regional and national efforts to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. In 2019, the Office signed several Memoranda of Understanding and other cooperation frameworks, notably with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on the Joint Implementation of the Project on Enhancing Capabilities to Prepare for and Respond to CBRN Terrorist Attacks in Jordan (March);

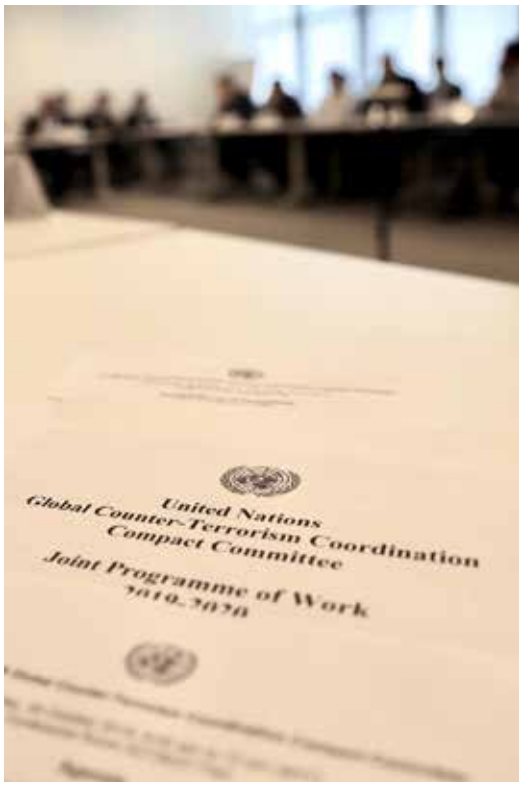
the Guardia di Finanza (March); the European Union (April); the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (May); the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (September); and Hedayah (December). In addition, UNCCT continued to leverage its cooperation frameworks with the African Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Arab Interior Ministers Council, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the Collective Security Treaty Organization.

Cooperation with United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities

In 2019, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (the "Counter-Terrorism Compact") launched by the United Nation Secretary-General in December 2018 was fully operationalized. The interagency process on counter-terrorism was revitalized through eight working groups aligned against the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including a new working group on resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation. The Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee, chaired by the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and Executive Director of UNCCT, Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, adopted a joint programme of work for 2019-2020 to steer the implementation of the Compact, and met on quarterly basis. As of 31 December 2019, 42 entities had signed the Counter-Terrorism Compact as member or observer and participate, consistent with their own mandates, in what is now the largest coordination framework in the United Nations system.

Throughout 2019, UNCCT senior officials and experts actively participated in the meetings of the Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Groups, with an active role as chair or co-chairs in several of them. The Working Groups served as platforms to coordinate the development and implementation of UNCCT programmes and projects, including in the areas of PCVE, border security and management, countering the financing victims of terrorism, preventing and responding to WMD/CBRN terrorism, promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of law. Several joint projects undertaken by the Working Groups were supported through catalytic seed-funding from the UN Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund. This resulted for instance in the publication of "Guidelines to facilitate the use and admissibility as evidence in national criminal courts of information collected, handled, preserved and shared by the military to prosecute terrorist offences," which were developed by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), through the Counter-Terrorism Compact.

Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Committee meeting



UN Photo

In addition to its active participation in the Counter-Terrorism Compact, as an integral part of UNOCT, UNCCT continued to collaborate bilaterally with several Counter-Terrorism Compact entities. UNCCT worked closely with CTED with a view to ensuring effective and systematic integration of CTED's technical assistance recommendations into UNCCT projects and programmes. UNCCT experts participated, on behalf of UNOCT, in two assessment visits conducted by CTED on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. UNCCT also continued to benefit from the threat assessments produced by the Analytical and Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee and the participation of the Monitoring Team's experts in some UNCCT activities, including on detecting, preventing and countering the financing of terrorism.

UNCCT continued to collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other UN entities to facilitate coordinated support to requesting Member States and regional organizations for the development and implementation of local, national and regional PCVE plans of action. UNCCT worked with UNDP and UNODC to complete the inception phase of the STRIVE ASIA Programme. UNCCT and UNESCO jointly implemented a project on "PCVE through youth empowerment" and developed another two-year project, in partnership with the League of Arab States, on promoting dialogue, tolerance and openness through the media to counter narratives associated with terrorism.

In 2019, UNCCT and UNODC launched a joint project on Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), with activities held in New York, Tangier and Vienna. UNCCT also worked with UNODC in the development of a project on the links between terrorism and the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW). UNCCT actively engaged with the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), within the framework

of its project on Strengthening global mechanisms for responding to deliberate use of disease. UNCCT contributed to tabletop exercises and drafting workshops to support the development of a Biological Bio-Emergency Management Framework for Deliberate Events. UNCCT and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapon (OPCW) collaborated in the preparation of Phase III of the project on Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks, with the framework of the Counter-Terrorism Compact. UNCCT also supported the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Initiative on Health and Security Interface, including activities in Jordan and Sri Lanka. The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) remained throughout 2019 a key partner in UNCCT capacity-building efforts, including through a joint project on "Using the Internet and Social Media for Counter-Terrorism Investigations;" and collaboration in a "Global Study on Threats and Risks of CBRN terrorism."

UNCCT partnered with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to finalize a Training Manual on the international human rights standards applicable to border security management. OHCHR also provided substantive inputs in the development of the UNCCT Handbook on "Children Affected by the Foreign-Fighter Phenomenon: Ensuring a Child Rights-Based Approach." UNCCT and OHCHR jointly delivered a "training-of-trainers" event for law enforcement and security officials in the MENA region in November 2019.

Member States briefing, October 2019

Photo: UNCCT

IV. Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight

UNCCT Audit by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)

In its audit of the UNCCT published on 6 December 2018, the OIOS found that UNCCT made important advances in establishing processes and systems for the management of its activities, and made recommendations to improve efficiency, effectiveness and transparency in areas of strategic planning and organization, resource mobilization, and project management.

During 2019, considerable progress was made by UNOCT toward the implementation of the audit reports twelve (12) recommendations to further improve efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of UNCCT capacity-building projects. The recommendations made in

the 2018 report included a review and update of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme, as well as an updated operational workplan for its implementation; enhanced tracking of UN counter-terrorism projects and activities to catalogue mandates and programmes of relevant counter-terrorism actors and to analyse gaps or overlaps; and that UNCCT work with Member States to review the role, membership, working methods and reporting needs of the UNCCT Advisory Board.

In addition, the OIOS audit recommended improving qualitative and quantitative reporting of the programme performance and impact of UNCCT activities; finalizing a strategy and plan for sustainable resource mobilization for all activities; and clarifying the structure of the Office as well as the roles of individual project managers within UNCCT.

The OIOS audit further recommended that standard operating procedures for the development and approval of new UNCCT projects be promulgated, that a plan be established for UNCCT staff to be equipped with the necessary skills to manage UNCCT projects; that UNCCT implement an enhanced system to track and manage its projects; and that UNCCT implement a mechanism to record and disseminate project results, lessons learned and good practices gained from the management and implementation of UNCCT capacity-building projects.

In each of these areas notable progress was made, including through the issuance of standard operating procedures pertaining to the administrative and programmatic work of the UNCCT, the creating of improved tracking systems to monitor programme activities and results, the establishment of the Programme Management Unit within the UNCCT (discussed later in the present report), and a restructuring of and strengthening of the management for the organizational units within the UNCCT.

With respect to the review of the UNCCT as recommended by both OIOS and the UNCCT Advisory Board, on 19 December 2019 the United Nations entered into a contract with an external evaluation firm in order to produce a strategic forward-looking evaluation report that will evaluate the current status and performance, and future strategy of the UNCCT, including by undertaking an assessment of the progress made toward attainment of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme Outcomes in a balanced manner and provide information that will guide the future orientation of capacity-building projects. As per the statement of work in the contract with the evaluation firm, the evaluation will be process-oriented aimed at collecting, reviewing and using data to find the right adjustments needed to improve the performance of current projects while increasing the alignment of future projects to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

UNOCT Standard Operating Procedures

In 2019, the Office of the Under-Secretary-General (OUSG), in close consultation with UNCCT and other UNOCT Sections/Branches, developed and issued 17 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), to streamline and standardize working processes, clarify roles and responsibilities, and improve the quality of products and services across the Office. This work constituted an integral part of the change management process initiated by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov in September 2018 at the request of Member States and informed by relevant General Assembly (A/71/291, A/72/284) and Security Council resolutions, operational and staff needs, and the OIOS audit recommendations.

The UNOCT SOPs cover a range of issues: OUSG roles and responsibilities, including information and communication products; working processes of the Programme Review Board (PRB); resource mobilization and donor relations; project management processes and roles and responsibilities of programme/project managers and supervisors during the project lifecycle; security, information and social media management; preparation, execution and follow-up of regional conferences; budget processes; UNOCT monitoring and evaluation framework; and human resources processes.

The SOPs dedicated to programme/project management provide step-by-step actions on how to start, initiate, implement, control and close programmes/projects based on UN standards for results-based management, Prince2 project management methodology, and existing good practices adopted by UNOCT/UNCCT as relevant to its programme of work and activities. They introduce new mandatory and optional reporting templates for UNCCT programmes/projects to be used in the different stages of the project lifecycle, as well as a suite of project management and monitoring and evaluation tools to monitor, record and assess programme/project performance and progress. The SOPs also introduce improved templates for developing concepts to initiate programmes/projects ('project brief' and 'project product description') and full-fledged programme/project documents and supporting materials to start programme/project implementation ('project initiation documentation').

During the reporting period, a number of trainings were delivered for all UNOCT staff on the new programme/project management processes, procedures, templates and related roles and responsibilities based on the SOPs. These included the OUSG briefing for all UNOCT staff led by Mr. Voronkov on 8 August; a series of 'open house sessions' delivered by the OUSG to sensitize staff and programming partners, obtain their feedback and respond to questions on the SOPs; a number of interactive working sessions with individual programme/project management teams to guide and facilitate the application of SOPs; and the first UNOCT induction training on 10-11 October, which provided an overview of SOPs, focusing on programme/project management, monitoring and evaluation, and financial and budget processes, among other issues.

This work directly contributed to ensuring a more transparent, effective and efficient delivery of capacity-building assistance, in line with the expectations of the UNCCT Advisory Board and other beneficiary and donor Member States. They further supported the implementation of the OIOS audit recommendations in areas of strategic planning and organization, resource mobilization, and project management. The SOPs have provided the operational framework and tools to guide the work of the PRB and the UNOCT Sections/Branches, including the newly established Programme Management Unit (PMU) of UNCCT. As a result of this work, the PMU has been able to systematically collect, monitor and report on performance data of UNCCT programmes and projects, and UNCCT has been able to initiate, develop and implement programmes and projects in a coherent, structured and quality manner.

UNOCT Programme Review Board

On 15 June 2019, following the 22nd meeting of the UNOCT Programme Review Board (PRB) since its establishment in 2017, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov approved the issuance of a new SOP governing the membership, roles and responsibilities as well as working processes of the PRB. The SOP established that the PRB would be responsible for quality control and quality assurance with regard to proposed programmes and projects; monitoring of ongoing projects; and for closure of completed projects. The SOP further established that the PRB would advise and make recommendations to the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism on the alignment of proposals with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, mandates established by the General Assembly and the Security Council, policies, rules and regulations of the United Nations, and the directives, guidelines and SOPs of the UNOCT.

The new SOP streamlined the work of the PRB by reconfiguring its membership and directing that meetings would take place on a quarterly basis, with an increased amount of time that project documentation would be made available for review prior to meetings.

On 1 November 2019, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov appointed his Deputy, Mr. Raffi Gregorian, as the Chair of the PRB, and thanked the outgoing Chair, Mr. Jehangir Khan, Director of UNCCT, for his chairmanship of the Board since its inception in November 2017.

Prior to the issuance of the new SOP, in the first half of 2019, the PRB held a total of five meetings in which it considered new project and programme proposals, modifications or extensions to existing projects, and requests for seed funding. On its new quarterly schedule, the PRB met once in the third quarter (in September) and once in the fourth

quarter (in December). The Board continued to function as an internal oversight mechanism to ensure that programmes and projects were properly aligned with the UNCCT 5-Year Programme and the priorities of Member States. A total of 47 agenda items were considered by the PRB during 2019, for which the PRB recommended approval of activities with a total value of $21 million.

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Under the overall supervision of the Under-Secretary-General, UNOCT has a shared system of roles and responsibilities in performing monitoring and evaluation functions. The Monitoring and Evaluation Unit within SPPSS provides overall policy guidance, supports with setting up monitoring frameworks and conducts evaluations and training in these areas based on the UNOCT SOPs.The monitoring function within UNCCT is conducted by project managers with support from the Project Management Unit (PMU).

The UNCCT monitors and measures the progress and impact of its 5-Year Programme (2016-2020), based on the 'Programme Results Framework'. The Framework is based on four (4) outcomes corresponding to each Pillar of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy and thirteen (13) outputs that each correspond to an outcome and comprise several projects. These outcomes and outputs measure progress against five core activities in the UNCCT 5-Year Programme:

- Promotion of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and information sharing on international norms, standards and good practice
- Strengthening the capacity of requesting Member States (individual, organizational, institutional) and other entities (regional organisations, civil society organisations, and media)
- Strengthening institutional frameworks (at the national, regional levels and multilateral levels, with technical support to legislation/policy/strategies and plans/systems and procedures)
- Improving cooperation on implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (regional, South/South, triangular, state-society, multilateral)
- Improving coherence and coordination in the UN system for delivering the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy ('All of UN')

EXHIBIT V

The Programme Results Framework utilises five Outcome Indicators

Outcome Type	What is being measured?
"Improved Effectiveness of UNCCT to…"	Change in UNCCT effectiveness (a measure of the extent to which an objective is achieved) as a service provider.
"Enhanced awareness and capacity of recipients to…"	Measures change in personal/ organisational capacity, achieved by recipients through using UNCCT services.
"Enhanced institution framework (policy, strategy, legislation, mainstreaming HR etc.) …"	Measures contributions to strengthening institutional frameworks, achieved by recipients through using UNCCT services.
"Improved cooperation between …"	Measures increased cooperation, supported/ facilitated by UNCCT services.
"Improved coherence/coordination within the UN system to…"	Measures increased cooperation within the UN system.

EXHIBIT VI

The Results Framework uses eight Output indicator types

Indicator Type	What is being measured?
Number of Member States, Regional Orgs and Civil Society Orgs that request and receive UNCCT support.	Demand for UNCCT products UNCCT response and # of activities Type of entities requesting and receiving UNCCT support
Level of recipient **satisfaction** with the relevance and quality of UNCCT support.	Beneficiary perception of the quality and relevance of UNCCT products
Percentage of recipients that perceive they have **improved knowledge and skill** after participating in a UNCCT activity.	Quality and relevance of UNCCT products Promotion of UNGCTS norms/standards Strengthening capacity of individual officials

Indicator Type	What is being measured?
Percentage of recipients reporting they **use good practice/are better able perform their duties/ develop policy, laws, plans and/ or programmes**, 6-12 months after participating in a UNCCT activity.	Promotion of UNGCTS norms/standards Strengthen capacity of individuals and organisations
Number of recipient Member State/ Regional Orgs developing **policies, laws, plans and programmes** that integrate GCTS standards and good practice.	Promotion of GCTS norms/ standards/good practice Organisational and Institutional development
Number of (new) instances of cooperation among Member States at the regional level that request and receive UNCCT support, to develop integrated counter-terrorism strategies.	Promotion of GCTS norms/standards Strengthen of regional organisations Strengthen regional policy and cooperation frameworks/organisations Strengthen regional action
Improved coherence and coordination in delivery of capacity building assistance within the United Nations' system	Strengthen "All of UN" coherence and quality of services.
New instances of cooperation (South/ South and triangular, regional, web-based information sharing between centres)	Strengthen cooperation, based on GCTS standards and good practice.

UNCCT Performance Assessment

As a Centre of Excellence in delivering capacity-building support on counter-terrorism, UNCCT aims to increase the number of countries that receive coordinated technical assistance for the integrated and balanced implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and to strengthen engagement with Member States, international, regional and subregional organisations, UN entities, and civil society through capacity-building efforts. In performing its functions, UNCCT is committed to improving the quality of its capacity-building activities and enhancing the overall satisfaction of beneficiaries with its services.

In this context, the UNOCT, in 2019, implemented different initiatives to strengthen programme/project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluations, with the aim to improve and sustain their impact. These included regular assessment of implementation progress of programmes/projects based on the Programme Results Framework; the development and issuance of SOPs; the drafting of an evaluation policy with set criteria for evaluability of all ongoing and completed projects; and the delivery of monitoring and evaluation training for staff members.

As noted above, UNOCT issued a set of SOPs on programme/project management, including a dedicated SOP on monitoring and evaluation, which provide the approach, processes and practical tools to establish and sustain an improved results-based monitoring, reporting and evaluation system, and to ensure that the products and services delivered by the Office contribute to achieving the desired results. The SOPs emphasize the requirement for each programme/project to develop a comprehensive results-based monitoring and evaluation framework that establishes baselines and targets for all capacity-building projects upon which impact assessment would be done. This framework requires the development of appropriate performance indicators for monitoring and measuring progress with respect to outputs, outcomes and impact and indicate when, how and by whom the performance data will be collected, and how it will be reported. The SOPs also introduce a set of monitoring and evaluation databases and tools to support and complement the project monitoring and evaluation framework, including monthly and annual performance monitoring sheets, baseline assessment questionnaire, activity assessment form, lessons learned survey, and project registers to enable project managers to register risks and mitigation responses, quality criteria, lessons, issues and changes requiring corrective action.

During the reporting year, UNCCT undertook one extensive portfolio review exercise of 2019 programmes and projects. UNCCT project managers had an opportunity to present their respective programmes and projects to Under-Secretary-General Voronkov. Individual project briefings with the senior management provided an opportunity to present key challenges in the delivery of programmes/projects and to identify potential solutions to resolve these challenges to ensure timely and effective implementation.

In line with the UNCCT 5-Year Programme that calls for a mid-term evaluation to assess the Centre's outcomes, performance and lessons learned, and at the initiative of the UNCCT Advisory Board, a third party has been engaged to conduct a review of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme, which is expected to be initiated in 2020 and provide an independent evaluation of the work of UNCCT.

Internal M&E Capacity

Following consultations on M&E capacities in the Office, a training programme was developed and the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer conducted a series of training on results-based monitoring and evaluation principles and practices to project managers. In 2019, a total of 30 staff including 28 project managers and assistants were trained on basic M&E concepts and tools, including the use of data gathering instruments to obtain data on performance indicators.

Programme Management Unit (PMU)

Background

The Programme Management Unit (PMU) was established in June 2019, in response to OIOS recommendations for improvement of the UNOCT/UNCCT programme and project delivery. As part of the UNOCT change management process, which was initiated at the request of the Member States and completed in 2019, PMU became a separate unit reporting to the Director of UNCCT. PMU's mandate, roles and responsibilities was further defined by the UNOCT internal administrative framework, including Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), promulgated throughout 2019.

PMU provides programme management support to the Director of the UNCCT, focusing on the UNCCT programmes and projects. Additionally, in close coordination with Office of Under-Secretary-General (OUSG) and Strategic Planning and Programme Support Section (SPPSS), PMU provides project management and information management support, covering performance monitoring and reporting processes. PMU is the custodian of project and programme data, which is monitored and reported in accordance with the UNCCT 5-Year Programme framework.

PMU's overall objective is to support the integrated delivery of UNOCT/UNCCT mandate through the following cross-cutting activities:

1. support of senior management in formulation and implementation of programme delivery activities
2. quality assurance of project deliverables and relevant documentation
3. information management
4. performance monitoring and reporting
5. coordination

PMU's roles and responsibilities are defined by the UNOCT internal legal and administrative framework.

Senior management support

PMU provides assistance to the Director of UNCCT in the formulation, development and implementation of the Center's programme delivery, building on the vision of the USG. This includes project management, planning, budget, and reporting, among other support.

During the reporting period, PMU has also provided substantive and technical support to the UNCCT Advisory Board meetings at the Ambassadorial and expert levels.

Quality Assurance

PMU supports UNCCT quality assurance process by reviewing project deliverables and relevant documentation. PMU team members are certified PRINCE2 project management practitioners and advise on how to apply the methodology and best practices in UNCCT projects.

In 2019, PMU has provided quality assurance support across UNCCT programme/projects following applicable rules and regulations, and in line with the functions stipulated by SOPs. It has also supported the UNCCT Director and the OUSG in overseeing the overall performance of the Center by monitoring progress based on established performance indicators.

Information Management

PMU is a custodian of UNCCT project performance information including Project Master List. This provides key project information, CTED recommendations addressed by the programme/project, and financial data for all UNCCT programmes/projects.

In 2019, in line with its third function, PMU has developed and enhanced a number of information management products. In October, PMU launched the revised UNOCT Project Performance Master List, which serves as a tool for performance monitoring and analysis; informs programme and resource planning; supports quarterly and annual reporting; and improves accountability. The Master List reflects projects information, including financial data, and CTED recommendations.

With these project data tools developed, PMU has successfully coordinated the update of UNCCT project information for the Matrix of UN Counter-Terrorism Projects, which contributes to the consolidated counter-terrorism and PCVE projects implemented by Global Compact entities across the Four Pillars of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.

Furthermore, PMU developed UNCCT Project Database with metadata function. It is planned to be launched in 2020. PMU has also supported migration of UNCCT shared drive to Share Point, which is scheduled to be completed in 2020.

During the reporting period, PMU also supported the development of the new UNOCT website by providing technical expertise.

Monitoring and Reporting

In 2019, PMU successfully delivered on its main products: project performance reports to management on monthly, quarterly, and annual basis. PMU also provided input to the UNOCT Monthly Highlights and prepared and consolidated inputs for two Quarterly Highlights reports and the UNCCT 2019 Annual Report.

PMU also successfully supported monitoring and controlling of budgetary allocations through finalization of UNCCT financial statements and reports. In cooperation with the functionally related entities across the UNOCT, PMU helped in enhancing the process of planning and forecasting. Namely, PMU performed a coordination and capacity building function to the project managers during the UNCCT 2020 cost plans exercise.

PMU also contributed to the development of the proposed UNOCT 2021/22 programme budget by compiling UNCCT's input and harmonizing the internal reporting tool to the new UN programme budget template.

Through the PMU and to ensure transparency and accountability, UNCCT produced one (1) Progress Report covering the first half of the reporting year (January-July), and one (1) Quarterly Project Highlight Report covering the third quarter (July-September), which provide information on the status of implementation of programmes and projects during the reporting period. The Centre has revised the structure of these reports to make it more concise and user-friendly and to include a dedicated section providing a financial overview, with a view to increasing focus on the results and impact achieved in the implementation of projects.

Coordination

All the above activities are also part of one crosscutting function of the PMU – coordination. PMU supports and coordinates efforts with different units across the UNOCT in development of harmonized operational level plans, and ensuring coherence with the overall strategic direction, in planning, monitoring and evaluation tools.

Through regular engagement and consultative meetings on functionally cross-cutting subjects with the OUSG, SPPSS, the Policy, Knowledge Management and Coordination Branch (PKMCB), and the Executive Office, PMU contributed to developing and applying inclusive programme management and monitoring solutions in order to avoid overlaps, such as the UNOCT Project Performance Master List.

Result/Impact

An overall result of the PMU's performance in the second half of 2019 was enhanced effectiveness and coherency of UNCCT plans and performance reports with a system-wide planning process. The PMU was thus able to contribute to UNCCT's objectives to be translated in concrete, measurable and desirable results in line with the OIOS recommendations.

In 2019, PMU also contributed to the harmonization of UNCCT's planning, monitoring and reporting processes with the requirements of the new SOPs, promulgated throughout the year. As a result, UNCCT's performance reporting saw significant improvement in quality, format, and compliance with deadlines.

Through the review of programme/project documents, and advising on applying PRINCE2 methodology and the applicable SOPs, PMU contributed to increased quality of the programme/project proposals before being presented to the PRB for review. Through the review and consolidation of individual UNCCT programmmes and projects cost plans for 2020, PMU, in coordination with SPPSS, contributed to preparation of UNCCT/UNOCT financial and HR forecast in a timely and accurate manner.

The PMU contributed to improved and coordinated collection and utilization of data. It further enhanced coordination and streamlined the information flow within the UNCCT, as well as between UNCCT and the entities across the UNOCT. Through this work, PMU contributed to enhanced UNCCT system for improved quantitative and qualitative reporting of UNCCT programme performance and increased accountability, improved transparency and visibility, and strengthened coordination and information sharing across the UNOCT.

Evaluation

Following extensive consultations internally and with relevant UN agencies on how to deepen knowledge of the conduct of evaluations, a draft evaluation policy has been developed which will be finalized and implemented in 2020. The Evaluation Policy provides the overall framework for planning, undertaking and use of evaluations in the Office. It is aligned with the Office standard operating procedures on monitoring and evaluation which provides the purpose and processes of conducting evaluations, types of evaluations, selection of programmes/projects for mandatory evaluation based on evaluability criteria, and related roles and responsibilities. In UNOCT, evaluations will be conducted to strengthen accountability and transparency with partners, promote information sharing, contribute towards learning and effective information management for achieving results and value for money for all programmes and projects implemented. As the main programme and project implementing unit in UNOCT this work has a significant impact for UNCCT.

Given the portfolio of projects undertaken annually, an evaluability criterion to qualify a project to undergo an evaluation has been established. Projects will be included in the evaluation plan based on the level of financial investments, risks associated with the project, duration of the project and complexity of the project. Projects will also be evaluated based on the formal commitments made to partners and stakeholders in the terms and conditions of relevant donors.

Through the UNOCT Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, UNCCT will also undertake evaluation to promote organizational learning and encourage innovation by providing new insights of information for future planning. Evaluations will be performed at different times and to address different elements of the results chain, from assessing needs or determining baseline conditions at programme, project and activity conception to evaluating the impact and contribution to the UNGCTS upon project completion. Between these two points, evaluations will include formative and other types of process-related assessments including evaluation of outputs, and summative evaluations focusing on different levels of outcomes.

The types of evaluations that will be undertaken by the Office are guided by the ST/SGB/2018/3.1 and United Nations General Assembly Resolution 68/658.[1] The following types of evaluations will support the UNCCT's efforts to strengthen accountability, continuous learning and promote a results-based evaluation culture for better performance: Baseline Assessment, self-evaluation, in-depth evaluations and system-wide evaluations.

The evaluations will consistently generate information that demonstrate accountability towards the attainment of results outlined in the UNCCT Workplan and help to measure, assess, and analyse the progress of project performance. The Policy, in addition to ensuring accountability and oversight for performance and results, will promote a culture of using evidence from evaluations to support organizational learning. Through the timely incorporation of recommendations and lessons learned into decision-making processes, evaluations will improve programming of projects in the Office to make them more efficient and effective.

UNCCT will ensure that evaluations are planned and conducted based on utility of its information to improve project implementation, make judgements about the ultimate benefits of the project to beneficiaries and stakeholders, sustain and/or expand the project, document and publicize the project's achievements and to making relevant and timely contributions to learning, informed decision-making processes, and accountability for results. Information from commissioned evaluations will be used to examine strategies, objectives, relevance, effectiveness, results, impact, sustainability and added value of UNCCT technical assistance.

Evaluations Undertaken

UNOCT's new M&E provisions allows for greater introspection on the role of UNCCT and on how it can better support Member States and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy. In 2019 a self-evaluation of the 'Prevention of Violent Extremism through Youth Empowerment in Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia' project was initiated. This joint UNCCT- UNESCO project presents an opportunity for UNOCT to identify lessons with the aim of enhancing impact of

1 Policy for Independent System-wide Evaluation of Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System.

PCVE programming as well as allowing for continuous learning to improve UNOCT's programmatic interventions more broadly.

This self-evaluation's main conclusion is that despite important shortcomings at its inception stage, the project has delivered against expected outcomes and is performing well against project indicators to meet its targets. The project was found to be effective in providing young people with the space and opportunity as agents of change capable of implementing violence prevention activities. The project made a substantial contribution in providing visibility to project activities. The project was also found to be relevant by contributing to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its reviews.

The self-evaluation report will be finalized in 2020, reflecting the identified lessons and making important recommendations to inform UNCCT 's work going forward and its evolution into a Centre of Excellence. These findings can be generalized to most activities under UNCCT and will support in improving overall project design and implementation. This includes developing context specific theories of change and needs assessments beyond the scope of CTED to include elements from the UN PVE Plan of Action and the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its reviews. The theory of change to provides a clear framework for planning and designing activities and measuring and assessing their impact vis-á-vis expected outcomes.

Key Challenges and Lessons Learned

UNCCT has piloted and developed several global counter-terrorism flagship programmes deemed to be important by successive General Assembly reviews and Security Council resolutions. These programmes are in place and delivering capacity-building support to beneficiaries at the global, regional, national and local levels.

In the previous Review Resolution (A/RES/72/284), Member States encouraged UNOCT to continue its collaboration with United Nations agencies and bodies while also ensuring overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system. The aim is to maximize synergies, promoting transparency and greater efficiencies and avoiding duplication of their work.

In response, UNOCT/UNCCT is committed to establishing regional Programme Offices as may be required to support the implementation of UN System programmes in CT, including the UNCCT's Global Flagship Programmes.

Regional Programme Coordination Officers (RPCOs) are now located in the West Africa/ Sahel Region, the Central Asian Region and the Southeast Asia Region with plans to establish the remaining two offices for the East Africa Region and in the Middle East and North Africa Region in 2021.

2019 experienced a growth in project contributions when compared with the two previous years. The UNCCT engages with donors on funding for specific projects and the advantages and disadvantages of earmarking contributions, while recognizing that decision to earmark funding rest with the donor. Through his own advocacy, the Executive Director is strongly committed to ensuring the continued and sustainable diversification of the Centre's donor base.

To facilitate a more flexible and effective implementation of its project activities, the Centre relies UN partners in beneficiary countries. Partners such as the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), UNDP and the United Nations Office for Project Services provide logistical support in coordination of system-wide CT efforts and project implementation. Through these project support arrangements with UN presences on the ground, including UN Peace Operations, UNDP and UNOPS, the Center maintains the project ownership. Implementing partners focus on the logistical side of the operations on a cost recovery basis, which then allow UNCCT to focus on the policy and substantive leadership.

During 2019, portfolios expanded and staff members moved across the various Programmes to reinforce a strong alignment of programmes and expertise. To enhance effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and improved quality of the product, a centralized system of project reporting was introduced. As a result, UNCCT saw an overall improvement in its regular reports.

The Centre is building on lessons learned in 2019 by incorporating them in project risk assessments and mitigation plans.

UN Photo / Mark Garten

V. Communications & Visibility

During the reporting period, enhancing communications and visibility of the Centre continued to be the priority of the Office. The Office updated the communications and visibility strategy and plan that seeks to enhance the visibility of UNCCT. In line with the strategy, the Office also developed a visual identity guidebook for UNCCT that provides guidance on the consistent usage of the UNCCT brand.

Under-Secretary-General Voronkov continued to systematically promote the programmes and projects of UNCCT during his visits and bilateral meetings with Member States and international and regional organizations, including on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Week and in his briefings to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and UNOCT regional conferences. He also briefed Member States on the activities of UNCCT during quarterly briefings.

Outreach Events

To further strengthen the branding of UNCCT as a Centre of Excellence and raise awareness of its programmes, projects and resources, the Office has undertaken a number of communication initiatives, including several outreach events. On the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, UNCCT launched 'The Power of Resilience' exhibition to highlight UNCCT's role in giving voice to victims of terrorism. The exhibition was opened by H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The exhibition has since been on permanent display on the 27th floor of the UN Secretariat and was also promoted through a social media campaign in collaboration with the Department of Global Communications.

Other outreach events organised and supported by UNCCT in 2019 included:

- The launch of the UNOCT Multi-Year Appeal that includes 9 UNCCT projects (7 February)
- The launch of the joint NATO CBRN project in Jordan (5 March)
- A brownbag discussion on the "The 2018 Global Terrorism Index" (21 March)
- A briefing to Member States with CTED on "Raising Awareness: UN Compendium on Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics in Counter-Terrorism" (22 March)
- Launch of the ICSANT project in New York (25 April) and in Vienna (27 May) with UNODC and the European Union
- An event and a survey on youth engagement in Baku, Azerbidjan with UNESCO and UNAOC on the margins of the 5th world Forum on Intercultural Dialogue (2-3 May)

Photo: UNCCT

International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, meeting with victims of terrorism, 21 August 2019.

- A side event on the margins of the Dushanbe, Tajikistan in partnership with the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) (16-17 May)
- The launch of the UNCCT Handbook of Children Associated with Foreign Terrorist Fighters, jointly organized with UNODC (30 September)
- The UN-EU Strive Asia project joint event with the European Union (26 September)
- The launch of UNCCT project on South-South cooperation (25 November)
- A GCTF and Tajikistan joint event on countering the financing of terrorism (27 September)
- A Ministerial meeting with the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism (24 September)
- Launch of UNCCT Cybersecurity Innovation Challenge, in collaboration with OICT and UNTIL (7 December)

All these high-level events and activities of UNCCT were promoted by UNOCT through the website and social media platforms, furthering UNCCT visibility with Member States and other key stakeholders.

Promotional material

Information products and promotional materials were also produced and disseminated at outreach events, workshops and conferences.

These materials included: UNCCT promotional video, the UNCCT Annual Report, UNCCT handbooks and guides, UNCCT project brochures and flyers, banners, as well as the Office's newsletter, 'UNOCT Monthly Review', featuring UNCCT's work prominently.

In 2019, more than 2,500 flyers and 5 banners were produced for UNCCT projects including for South-South Cooperation, Strategic Communications, Border security Management, Cybersecurity, Small Arms and Light Weapons.

Publications

UNCCT Handbook of Children Associated with Foreign Terrorist Fighters was issued in English, French Arabic and Russian.

A joint publication was developed with INTERPOL on '*Using the internet and social media for Counter-Terrorism investigations publication*'. In addition, the '*Guidelines to facilitate the use of battlefield evidence to prosecute terrorist offenses and strengthen efforts to bring terrorists to justice*' was produced in collaboration with CTED.

The UN Compendium on Recommended Practices for the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometrics in Counter-Terrorism was translated printed in English and in Russian in collaboration with CTED.

Website

The Office has expanded and strengthened the online presence of the Centre through a new website and strategic use of social media. The new UNCCT website (www.un.org/uncct) features UNCCT programmes and projects in a more engaging, and user-friendly way. Through timely posting of statements, press releases, web stories on the website, visibility and transparency of the Centre's work are further enhanced. In 2019, a total of 917,819 Pageviews were recorded and a close to 100 per cent increase in traffic for UNCCT website was observed compare to last year's traffic for the High Level Week of the General Assembly.

Social media

The Centre's digital presence was also strengthened through social media engagement. The Office continued to use a dedicated hashtag #UNCCT to consistently promote the Centre's work on UNOCT Twitter handle @UN_OCT. Over 2019, the reach and impacts of UNCCT tweets were broadened by a 230 per cent expansion of followers' base of @UN_OCT. Between 24 September 2018 and 2 October 2019, 165 tweets with the #UNCCT hashtag were issued by 97 contributors including Member States and civil society, generating close to 1 million impressions and reaching 450,000 accounts. The most popular event promoted was the launch of UNCCT Handbook on Children Associated with Foreign Terrorist Fighters. For this event, 6 tweets were published, generating a total of 20,641 impressions.

Another successful social media campaign is the launch of UNCCT exhibition, 'The Power of Resilience'. Eight #UNCCT tweets were published, generating 17,000 impressions.

The social media assets produced by the Office were picked up around the world by @UN, @UNGeneva, @Interpol_HQ, @UNESCO, @UNMigration, @OSCE, @IPU, @UNICRI, UN Information Centres as well as Foreign Affairs Ministers of Member States, Permanent Missions to the UN and victims' associations.

The Way Forward

In 2020, efforts will continue to enhance the Centre's visibility and transparency of its activities. UNCCT will organize an exhibit to promote its s work and strengthen its brand as a Centre of Excellence. It will also continue to plan outreach events and disseminate attractive information and promotional materials. The Centre's digital presence will also be strengthened through its new website in six languages, engaging social media content, and through close collaboration with Department of Global Communications, the Office of Information and Communications Technology and other partners including Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities.

UN Photo / Manuel Elias

VI. Resource Mobilization & Financial Performance

Resource Mobilization for UNCCT

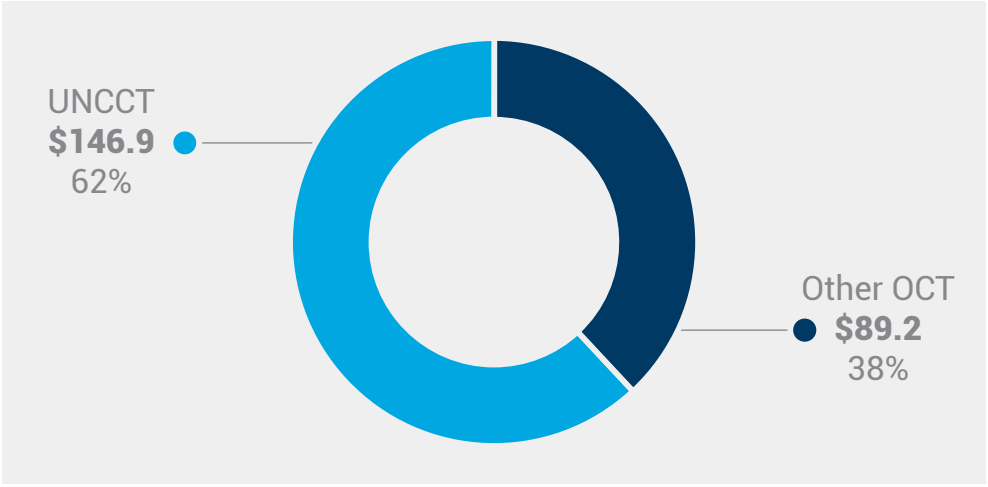
UNOCT continued to actively engage with donors to expand the extra-budgetary funding for its programmatic activities outlined in the UNCCT 5-Year Programme in support of requesting Member States. The level of funding for this section has been disaggregated to show UNCCT funding. All pledges received before the creation of UNOCT in June 2017 have been designated as funding for UNCCT projects and activities. Any pledges received since July 2017 is then separated depending on whether it is earmarked for a UNCCT programme or other UNOCT programme or project. Funding for UNOCT is still heavily earmarked.

By end 31 December 2019, the cumulative pledges and contributions received by UNOCT through the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism (since its inception in 2009) and other allocations was $236 million, of which, cumulative contributions received in cash was

$163.4 million. Of the total cumulative pledges and contributions, $146.9million or 62 per cent was earmarked for UNCCT programmes and projects.

EXHIBIT VIII

Share of cumulative pledges received by UNOCT through the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism (since its inception in 2009) and other allocations, to 31 Dec 2019 (USD $m, %)



In 2019, four contribution agreements were entered into with Member States, including with one new donor, Finland. The new contribution agreements in 2019 were mostly to support expanded programmes such as the UNCCT projects on 'preventing and responding to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) terrorism' (Finland) and 'enhancing South-South exchange of expertise' (UN Peace and Development Trust Fund administered by EOSG) or a new project on 'addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: Preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons and their supply to terrorists' (Russian Federation), showing the continued support by donors for UNCCT to expand its thematic reach, and finally, a contribution was received in support of the on-going Victims of Terrorism Programme (Spain). In addition, contributions were received from 5 other donors for agreements signed in prior period, namely from Canada on Human Rights, the European Union on ISCANT and STRIVE Asia programmes , Norway on the PVE programme, and the United Kingdom on Phase III of the Strategic Communications project. In 2019, the total pledges and contributions received in 2019 was $4.4million, of which, cash contributions of $3.6 million were received for UNCCT from agreements signed in the current or prior periods. These new funds from additional donors provide a valuable addition to contributions provided in earlier years, including primarily from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which remains UNCCT's biggest donor and which UNCCT is still substantially drawing on for the implementation of its programmes and projects.

EXHIBIT IX

Overview of contributions and pledges to the UNCCT in 2019

(in United States dollars, as of 31 December 2019)

Donor	Total pledges and contributions received 2019 a = b+c	Contributions received in cash b	Balance of pledges made in 2019 c
European Union	1,840,340	1,840,340	-
EOSG PDF funds (China)**	1,140,080	307,360	832,720
Russia	500,000	500,000	-
Norway	397,797	397,797	-
Canada	273,710	273,710	-
Finland	87,854	87,854	-
Belgium	82,575	82,575	-
United Kingdom	45,825	45,825	-
Spain	32,629	32,629	-
TOTAL	**4,400,811**	**3,568,091**	**832,720**

**Allocation from the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund administered by the UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

In 2019, UNOCT lead the coordination of and launch of the first consolidated Multi-Year Appeal for projects from Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities for the 2019-20 period. It included 60 global, regional and national projects from 10 UN submitting entities for a total of $193.8million. It included 27 projects that were jointly implemented by UN agencies and 2 projects from UN Resident Coordinators on behalf of five or more members of the UN Country Team, demonstrating the cooperation, coordination and all-of-UN approach and included a number of UNCCT programmes and projects. It presented the first global picture of UN resources needs for counter-terrorism and PCVE projects and showcased the diverse, wide-ranging and targeted UN activities by geographic region, and included a number. As the first joint appeal, the platform provided visibility to UNCCT programmes and products, as well as the collaboration with other entities to deliver capacity building support in different thematic areas and geographic regions.

EXHIBIT X

Cumulative pledges to UNCCT, through the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism (since its inception in 2009) and other allocations**

(in United States dollars, as of 31 December 2019)

Donor	Total Pledges (excluding in-kind) a=b+c	Contributions received (Cash) b	Balance of pledges c
1. Saudi Arabia	110,000,000	110,000,000	-
2. European Union	10,015,124	3,299,680	6,715,443
3. United States	5,458,903	5,458,903	-
4. Norway	3,806,300	3,334,862	471,439
5. Japan	2,946,612	2,946,612	-
6. Spain	2,291,667	2,291,667	-
7. EOSG PDF funds (China)**	2,061,960	2,061,960	
8. United Kingdom	1,449,193	1,434,721	14,472
9. Russia	1,441,500	1,441,500	-
10. Canada	1,221,253	1,161,040	60,213
11. Denmark	683,858	683,858	-
12. Sweden	677,040	677,040	-
13. Netherlands	630,455	630,455	-
14. Switzerland	583,621	548,621	35,000
15. Germany	555,745	555,745	-
16. Republic of Korea	390,000	390,000	-
17. United Arab Emirates	350,000	350,000	-
18. Kazakhstan	300,000	300,000	-

UNCCT ANNUAL CLIENT SURVEY

"It allowed me to strengthen my knowledge and raise awareness of Security Council sanctions, and propose a policy to fight terrorism in my country."

From Madagascar

"I'm able to monitor terrorist threats in social media and wider internet"

From Bangladesh

"I was able to help victims of terrorism with rehabilitations, specifically with health care and children's education."

From India

Donor	Total Pledges (excluding in-kind) a=b+c	Contributions received (Cash) b	Balance of pledges c
19. India	275,000	275,000	-
20. Belgium	270,855	270,855	-
21. Qatar	250,000	250,000	-
22. Italy	166,400	166,400	-
23. Colombia	125,000	125,000	-
24. Finland	87,854	87,854	-
25. Turkey	60,000	60,000	-
26. Liechtenstein	40,000	40,000	-
27. Australia	30,058	30,058	-
28. Morocco	30,000	30,000	-
29. Nigeria	10,000	10,000	-
30. Kenya	5,000	5,000	-
31. Algeria	2,500	2,500	-
TOTAL FOR UNCCT	**146,865,555**	**138,919,331**	**7,296,567**

**Allocation funded by the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund administered by the Executive Office of the Secretary General

UNCCT continued to inform donors of the progress made in the implementation of projects, with the issuance of reports in line with the provisions of contribution agreements. The detailed UNCCT quarterly and annual reports are now shared with all donors and Member States, and available on the Office website.

Financial Overview for UNCCT

As of 31 December 2019, UNCCT utilized 75% of the budget issued during the year, with a total expenditure of $20.1million, reflecting the results of the increased UNCCT project and programme activities and change management process during 2019 that strengthened and supported project management and implementation processes.

EXHIBIT XI

Total UNCCT budget and expenditure for 2019 and expenditure distribution by pillar (US$)

Pillar	Pillar Description	Consumable Budget (a)	Consumed Budget (b)	Imple-mentation Rate (c) = b/a
Pillar I	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism	11,230,493	8,476,209	75%
Pillar II	Combatting Terrorism	9,255,518	7,048,027	76%
Pillar III	Supporting International Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism	3,087,590	2,560,234	83%
Pillar IV	Human Rights and Victims	3,079,590	2,034,109	66%
TOTAL		**26,653,191**	**20,118,579**	**75%**

UNCCT ANNUAL CLIENT SURVEY

"A UNCCT workshop expanded my knowledge on impact of terrorism on public places. This helped me to understand which sectors/strategic partners I should work with in order to enhance prevention of terrorism in my country."

From Thailand

"It helped me to prepare a proposal on how to mitigate illicit trafficking of nuclear materials."

From Morocco

EXHIBIT XII

Distribution of UNCCT 2019 budget across the 4 Pillars

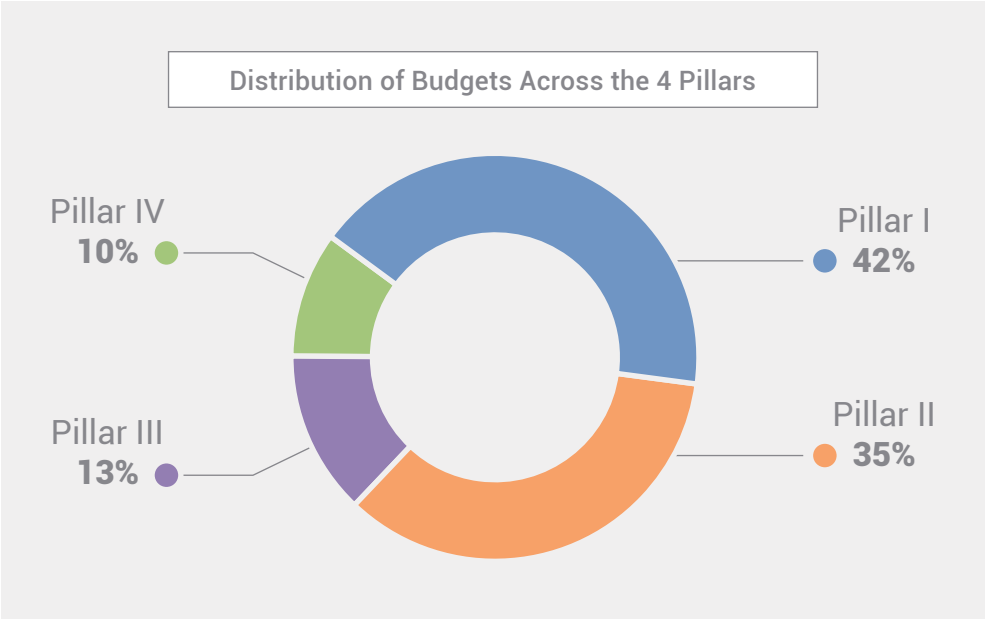
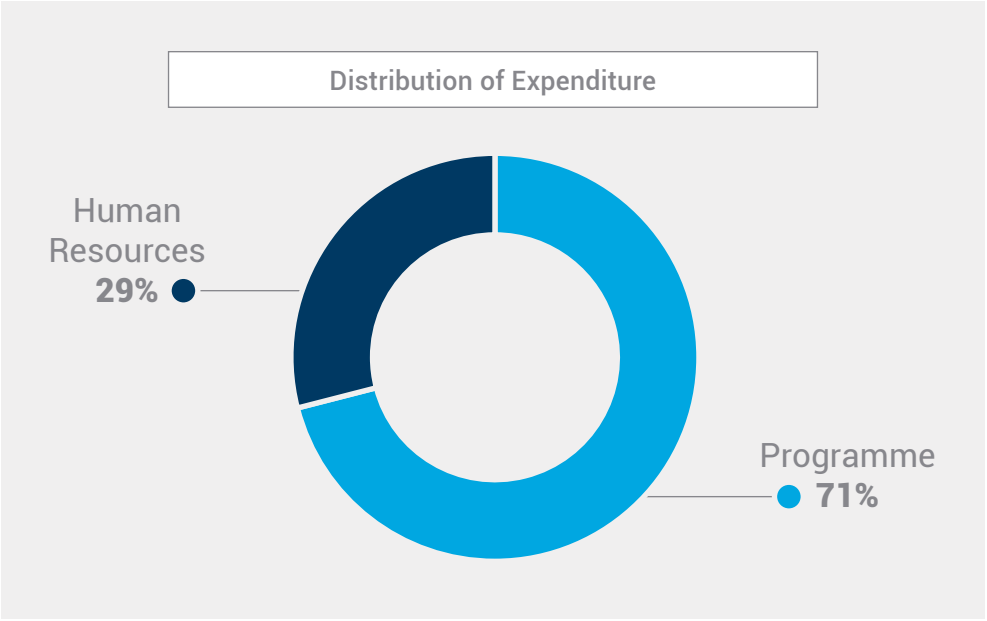


EXHIBIT XIII

Distribution of 2019 Expenditure in the project budgets implemented by UNCCT



UN Photo / Evan Schneider

VII. Conclusion & Strategic Priorities for 2020

As this report is being finalized, the global COVID-19 pandemic has hit the world causing death and suffering, as well as economic damage at an unprecedented scale. The full impact is still to be seen, but it is already clear that the world will be a different place. The pandemic is a sobering reminder of the need for the world to stand together to address transnational threats. Much like the pandemic, terrorism respects no borders and hits innocent people randomly, and often without much warning. Where terrorism hits the hardest, people see the negative impact on their economy and their livelihoods.

There is little doubt that 2020 will be a challenging year for the international community, for the United Nations, and for the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre. Attention will rightly be focused on addressing the pandemic, supporting those who become ill, as well as the everyday heroes who keep our societies running, from nurses and doctors, to food-chain workers, delivery people, and law enforcement personnel. Global economics will also radically change, and political and financial support for international counter-terrorism efforts may no longer be among the top priorities of many Member States.

At the same time, the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism have not disappeared – and indeed, the conditions may become ever more prevalent given the catastrophic economic downturn. Terrorists have not disappeared – indeed, many are using instability at the global, regional and national levels to further their aims. In many countries, individuals convicted of terrorist offences, including foreign terrorist fighters, are likely to finish their sentences in the coming few years, or may even be released early. We can hope that many will have been rehabilitated in prison, but some will constitute new threats to society. In the last few years we have also seen an increase in new forms of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, which will likely continue to be a growing threat especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is in this landscape that UNCCT is developing its strategic priorities for 2021 and beyond.

The Centre's priorities will build on the results of 2019 which was a significant year for UNCCT. The Centre saw a positive development in its implementation rate and a continued expansion of engagement with Member States in supporting their implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. As detailed in this report, the Centre trained more than 2,400 individuals through more than 70 capacity-building workshops, receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback concerning the quality of its work and the impact that it is having in the beneficiary Member States' efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism.

These positive results were achieved at the same time as UNCCT underwent significant changes as a result of the change management process initiated by the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UNCCT. This included a restructuring of the Centre to align its work more clearly with the four Pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and the establishment of a new Programme Management Unit.

The Centre also continued the trend of developing and launching larger thematic multi-year programmes that allow it to respond effectively to Member State requests, as well as the technical assistance needs identified by CTED. Leveraging its strategic position within UNOCT, UNCCT also expanded its engagement with Compact entities and, as has been demonstrated throughout this report the majority of UNCCT projects and programmes are now implemented with partner entities, thus building synergies and avoiding duplication and overlap. UNCCT also expanded cooperation beyond the Compact entities, expanding its work on youth and other civil society organizations.

Throughout 2019 UNCCT continued to expand its visibility, culminating with the launch of the new UNOCT website containing a large dedicated section on UNCCT (www.un.org/uncct), which provides details about the history and work of the Centre. A significant number of tweets using the hashtag #UNCCT were also published during the year. UNCCT also produced a number of pamphlets which provide easy to access information about the individual flagship programmes the Centre is implementing.

2019 was also a positive year in terms of fund-raising and other support arrangements such as the provision of Junior Professional Officers to the Centre. As a result, around 25% of funding for the Centre has now been received from other donors than the founding donor, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In spite of the economic uncertainty which we now enter globally, UNCCT is on a solid economic foundation for the last year of its 5-Year Programme.

As we write this, we know that this last year of the 5-Year Programme will be significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. A large number of workshops, conferences, trainings, scoping missions, etc. have been postponed or cancelled. UNCCT staff are telecommuting and are focusing their efforts on continuing to provide support to Member States in implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy remotely. UNCCT is also front-loading work that can more easily be done while working at home, such as the development of handbooks, guiding documents, training materials, etc. At the same time, UNCCT is working closely with other colleagues in UNOCT to develop webinars and a dedicated UNOCT Learning Management System that will allow us to reach beneficiaries even when we cannot travel. Such tools will significantly impact our work, also once travel restrictions are lifted, and will likely lead to more cost-effective and sustainable capacity-building.

UNCCT will also revisit its business model as it starts the development of its new Strategic Programme Framework that will replace the 5-Year Programme. The Centre wants to be closer to the beneficiaries and is working with a number of Member States to explore support for the establishment of UNOCT Programme Offices from which UNCCT will deliver its work.

With new and expanded large-scale programmes in priority areas such as countering the financing of terrorism; youth engagement, gender, cybersecurity, human rights, victims of terrorism, WMD/CBRN terrorism, and screening, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of FTFs, the Centre is well placed to address the terrorism and violent extremism challenges of the future. Some of these issues are of perennial concern, while others, such as border security and management, bio- and cyber-terrorism, have become even more crucial in a pandemic impacted world.

During the course of 2020 UNCCT will also receive the results of an evaluation conducted by KPMG which, inter alia, will provide recommendations on the further development of UNCCT as a Centre of Excellence. In addressing this development, the Centre will be focusing on a renewed vision and business model based on the following seven elements:

a. The further development and on-going promotion of large-scale UNCCT flagship programmes in key thematic areas

b. Continued hiring of a limited number of new expert staff with distinct and specialized expertise in the approved flagship programmes, and potentially based in Programme Offices closer to the beneficiaries

c. Becoming an information hub and "convener" for international, regional and national counter-terrorism centres

d. Potentially expanding the scope of the Centre's work to also include relevant and operationally focused research and analysis, including for the development of monographs, handbooks, op-eds, and other relevant documents that will benefit and improve the provision of capacity-building Member States and located clearly on the UNOCT/UNCCT website

e. Greater presence and impact in the field through new programme offices in priority regions as well as regional and national project coordinators

f. Establishing greater visibility by stepping up visibility measures, including through the production of video materials, an improved website, and by proactively making UNCCT experts available to news outlets as a go-to source for terrorism and violent extremism expertise

g. Improving UNCCT's sustainability and reach by developing an on-line digital training platform (Learning Management System - LMS) and establishing a training center in Rabat

Only by remaining agile and adaptable will UNCCT be able to continue to respond to Member State requests for support in the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. As we have seen through the challenges of the global pandemic, the entire staff of UNCCT remains committed in our support to Member States in ensuring a future without terrorism.

UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

www.un.org/uncct