



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Promoting health, security and justice



**Cutting the threads of
drugs, crime and terrorism**

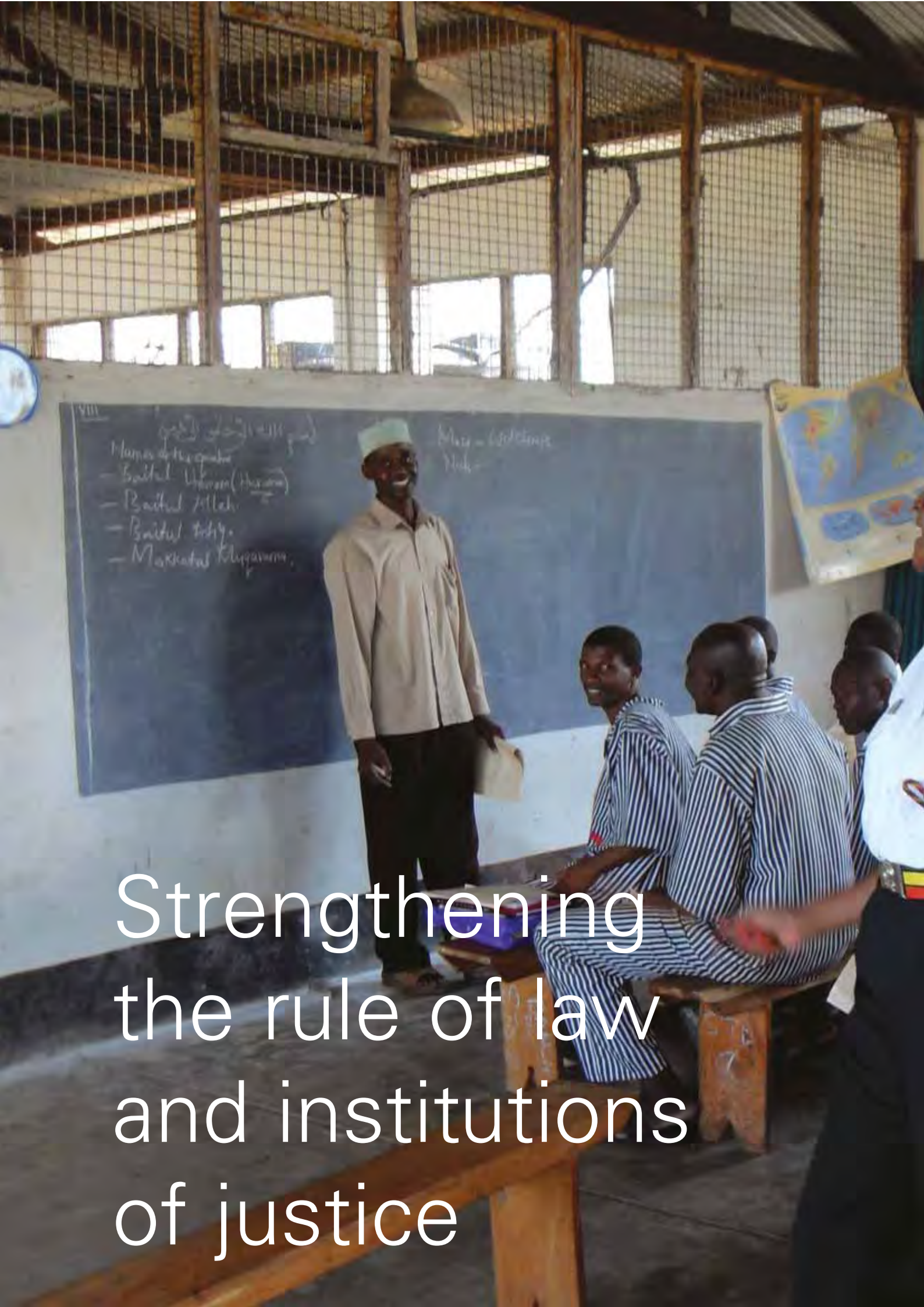
2010 Report

Lady Justice atop the Central Criminal Court in London. Photo: chillicheese, Brighton



UNODC:
Promoting
health, security
and justice

2010 Report



Strengthening
the rule of law
and institutions
of justice

Inmates attending class at Shimo La Tewa prison in Kenya. UNODC supports vocational skills training to help prepare prisoners to find work after their release.





Promoting
regional and
transnational
cooperation



Pakistani frontier forces from the Khyber Rifles patrolling the Khyber Pass checkpoint on the border with Afghanistan. This is the main border crossing for goods moving between Kabul, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. Photo: A. Scotti

INTABLE.

SIVE.

of the State Parties to
n Against Corruption
f Qatar



BE ACCOUNTABLE

BE INCLUSIVE

GO PUBLIC

Fostering transparency and integrity

NTABLE.

SIVE.

C.

CIVIL
UNCAC Coalition
SOCIETY

Akha women harvesting upland rice in Moung Khua, Phongsaly province, Lao People's Democratic Republic. UNODC supports the Phongsaly Alternative Development Fund to provide sustainable livelihoods for former opium poppy farmers.





Sustaining
healthy
communities

UNODC 2010

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Preface

I am proud to showcase UNODC's efforts to counteract drugs, crime and terrorism by promoting health, justice and security. The descriptions, personal accounts and photos in this report provide an overview of the many themes and theatres where UNODC is engaged.

A major focus of the 2010 report is organized crime, which is high on the international agenda because it poses a major threat to security, it undermines development and challenges democracy. Organized crime and ways to control it are currently being debated by the Security Council and will be taken up at the Crime Congress in Salvador, Brazil (in April), and at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (in October). By improving regional security and cooperation, by mainstreaming criminal justice into peacebuilding and peacekeeping operations and by providing technical assistance to strengthen law enforcement, particularly in weak States, we are reducing vulnerability to organized crime.

This report highlights UNODC's integrated approach to dealing with drugs, crime and terrorism. These threats cannot be tackled in isolation. Increasing security reduces the threat of drug trafficking that is the major source of revenue for criminal groups. Strengthening integrity tackles the corruption that enables crime. Promoting justice prevents criminals from operating with impunity. Improving health prevents the spread of drug addiction and blood-borne diseases—particularly in the developing world. And cutting criminal networks disrupts a range of illicit activities that carve out paths of death and destruction through some of the world's most fragile regions.

The report concludes by offering a blunt assessment of the Office's financial requirements: currently, resources available are minute compared to the gigantic menace that we face.

I hope this report gives you a better appreciation of UNODC's important work and of our mission to carry out some of humanity's most noble goals to tackle some of the world's most malign threats.



Antonio Maria Costa
Executive Director

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

April 2010

Afghan police officer inspecting a bus on the road from Kabul to the Pakistan border. This same road is used by traffickers to smuggle drugs and other contraband. Photo: A. Scotti



UNODC

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is committed to achieving health, security and justice for all by tackling threats from illicit drugs, organized crime and terrorism worldwide.

Transnational organized crime: a threat to security and development

Networks are one of the defining features of the twenty-first century. Globalized systems of trade, transportation and communication enable people and goods, as well as ideas and information, to travel around the world faster than ever before. For the most part, these networks contribute to progress, fostering development and increasing prosperity.

But the advances of globalization also make us vulnerable in new ways, and they have given rise to other, destructive networks that undermine security and development. Taking advantage of innovations in technology, communication and transportation, loose networks of criminals or insurgents can easily link with each other, and also with organized criminal groups that operate internationally. They smuggle illicit drugs, weapons, natural resources, counterfeit goods and human beings across borders and between continents for the enrichment of criminals, insurgents and crooked officials. In some cases, they generate economic profits that support terrorist groups as well.

The common thread connecting these malignant webs is transnational organized crime, which is largely driven by drug trafficking. Increasingly, criminal networks are overlapping and even converging, especially in the world's most vulnerable regions. They feed on poverty and instability, sow violence and fuel an expanding market for illicit drugs, and grow strong with help from corruption and money-laundering. All of this exacerbates existing problems, increasing instability and further undermining development and security.

Transnational organized crime syndicates are able to integrate their activities along the entire trafficking supply chain, from source to final destination, coordinating logistics, financing and distribution. This is true whether the product is drugs or people, arms or endangered species. Their networks are highly coordinated, efficient and resilient, posing an ever-growing threat to security and development worldwide.

To disrupt these criminal networks and the links between them, a commensurate response is required—one that is coordinated, integrated and transnational. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is spearheading regional and transnational initiatives that strengthen the rule of law, stability and development. Our efforts target the world's most vulnerable regions where the convergence of drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism threatens regional and global security. We are working with countries around the world to foster good governance, robust criminal justice systems and socio-economic development—all of which strengthen their capacity to confront and defeat transnational organized crime. In this way, UNODC is helping to build safer, more secure societies in which people can live without fear and work towards a more prosperous future for themselves and their families.

The UNODC strategy

Established in 1997, UNODC is a global leader in the struggle against illicit drugs and international crime, and the lead United Nations entity for delivering legal and technical assistance to prevent terrorism. Headquartered in Vienna, UNODC operates 54 field offices around the world, covering more than 150 countries. Crime, drugs and terrorism are high-priority issues for the United Nations. At a time when these problems without borders are becoming widely recognized as threats to individuals and nations alike, requests for coordinated UNODC initiatives at the national, regional and transnational levels continue to grow. Our work enhances security and improves the everyday lives of people across the globe.



Destruction of illegal firearms in Guatemala, March 2010.



Alleged Somali pirates on trial in Mombasa, Kenya, 2010.

The UNODC strategy for confronting crime, drugs and terrorism integrates both thematic and regional approaches to ensure that our initiatives are proactive, focused and effective. Our work falls into five interrelated thematic areas:

- Organized crime and trafficking
- Corruption
- Criminal justice reform
- Health and livelihoods
- Terrorism prevention

UNODC country and regional programmes support and complement these themes and translate them into action. To consolidate our presence where the threat from crime, drugs and terrorism is particularly severe or rapidly growing, we have established a series of regional programmes with the goal of creating localized hubs of action and expertise. We have begun our work in the following regions, with others to follow:

- East Asia and the Pacific
- South Eastern Europe
- East Africa
- Central America and the Caribbean

Working directly with Governments, international organizations, other United Nations entities and civil society groups, UNODC acts as a catalyst for action by developing and implementing programmes that are tailored to the needs of the countries and regions we assist and fully coordinated with our key areas of focus.

What we do

UNODC develops integrated approaches to eradicate or alleviate conditions that encourage criminal activities. Our work is guided by international mandates based on the rule of law. Within these mandates, we gather and analyse evidence that identifies trends and serves as a platform for action.

This foundation of research, which undergirds all our work, enables us to identify needs on the basis of facts. Because UNODC provides relevant stakeholders with unbiased data, we can serve as an honest broker in defining policy on key issues.



UNODC anti-human trafficking poster in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

UNODC offers in-depth expertise and a broad array of innovative tools and resources to prevent or address crime, drug trafficking and terrorism. We provide advice and assistance to counter these threats to security; accurate and reliable evidence-based research to inform and support policy and operational decisions; legislative and legal support to strengthen criminal justice institutions and the rule of law; norm setting to promote and establish best practices; and a wide range of technical assistance to enhance the capacity of Governments to build and sustain safe and stable societies.

Partnerships

UNODC partners with all stakeholders—including Governments, other United Nations entities, international organizations, civil society groups, development banks and the private sector—to implement comprehensive initiatives designed to address the challenges of drugs, crime and terrorism and to treat and rehabilitate their victims. We also work with domestic and international media and mobilize online and social media to raise awareness among stakeholders and the general public about the challenges transnational criminal activities pose and effective approaches to confront them.

Funding

The United Nations considers our work essential and effective. As a result, the UNODC mandate, already large, continues to expand. To carry out our initiatives, UNODC relies on voluntary contributions, mainly from Governments, which cover more than 90 per cent of our budget. However, we face a growing funding challenge: as demand for UNODC services has surged, support for our core functions has not kept pace. This jeopardizes our work both at headquarters and in the field, and compromises our ability to keep up with new areas of activity. Going forward, UNODC will require a much larger, more stable and sustainable commitment of resources if we are to fulfil our mandate effectively. Our governing bodies must tackle the fundamental issue of the UNODC financial system, especially at a time of budgetary constraints in most countries. The decline in 2009 of general purpose voluntary funding resources has continued, with a projected lower level of programme volume in 2010-2011, and thus reduced income in the form of programme support costs. This decline will severely impact the capacity of UNODC to maintain its effectiveness unless Governments unite today to address this problem seriously.

(For more details, please see the Finances and Funding section on page 63.)

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SILENCE
COURT IN SESSION

JUSTICE

Strengthening the rule of law, breaking the cycle of crime

At its most fundamental level, the rule of law means that no one is above the law. But it also means that everyone is entitled to access to justice and basic human rights. These principles are at the heart of the UNODC mission.

As transnational organized crime extends its reach around the globe, it is challenging the rule of law, especially in low-income countries and countries in or emerging from conflict. Crime thrives in institutional vacuums, flourishing where justice is weak and lawlessness and instability prevail. When countries lack strong institutions of justice—such as forceful criminal legislation, reliable law enforcement, a fair judiciary and a humane prison system—criminals find opportunities to profit. They do not concern themselves with the devastating impact crime can have on the lives of individuals and the security and development of countries and regions.

For organized crime, the whole world is one marketplace. As borders disappear or become unimportant, criminals are taking advantage of globalization. National approaches to combating organized crime are not sufficient; today we need to understand justice and the rule of law in ways that transcend borders. UNODC is well positioned to create the kinds of regional and transnational linkages needed to do this. Globally, in 2009, UNODC initiatives addressed piracy off the Horn of Africa, human trafficking and illegal container cargo transport, as well as other transnational threats to the rule of law.

Because organized crime quickly adapts to new opportunities for exploitation, UNODC devotes significant resources to research and analysis to develop metrics and tools for measuring and tracking trends in transnational criminal activity. Gathering facts and information on crime is particularly challenging, and UNODC is working to develop and refine measurements and standards to improve the ability of Governments and international institutions to collect and analyse data on crime. We also develop resources to assist policymakers in addressing problematic trends that have been identified; in 2009, for example, we issued the *Serious Organized Crime Threat Assessment Handbook* to give policymakers tools for assessing immediate threats, the direction of current trends and likely future challenges so that they can implement effective strategies to combat organized crime.

Because peace will not hold in a troubled country unless it is rooted in the rule of law, UNODC gives special attention to strengthening criminal justice systems in conflict and post-conflict countries such as Afghanistan, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Somalia and the Sudan. Some key components of our work in criminal justice reform in these and other countries include improving access to justice through legal aid, promoting restorative justice, preventing gender violence and supporting prison reform. Our largest criminal justice reform programme operates in Afghanistan, where we are contributing to the democratic reconstruction of the country through strengthening the legal framework, supporting administrative reform, rebuilding human and infrastructural capacity, and supporting the development of national policies in areas such as justice and counter-narcotics. UNODC efforts complement broader governance programmes in Afghanistan provided by the United Nations system.

Some of our major initiatives to strengthen the rule of law and counter transnational organized crime are highlighted below.

By strengthening the rule of law and institutions of justice, UNODC is helping to counteract the spread of transnational organized crime and enhancing security for countries and regions, as well as for individuals and communities.

UNODC-European Commission counter-piracy programme

The absence of the rule of law in Somalia, which has been without an effective central Government since 1991, has provoked a surge of maritime hijackings off the Horn of Africa. In 2009, 217 pirate attacks were reported in the region—almost double the number in 2008—menacing regional stability and the security interests of Member States.

While a few years ago Somali pirates attacked fishing trawlers, today, armed with automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades, they take on oil tankers, cruise liners and cargo ships. On average, they make US\$ 1 million per heist. Pirate groups are sometimes linked to other forms of organized crime since they maintain relatively sophisticated intelligence collection networks and are engaged in the systematic corruption of local officials. Ransom payments are widely distributed within local communities, making piracy a major source of income in Somalia.

In order to eliminate piracy, suspected pirates must be brought to justice, and the international community has enlisted Somalia's neighbours to assist in this process. Today, piracy suspects sit in jail awaiting trial in Kenya and the Seychelles, but this new responsibility is taxing their criminal justice systems.

To support the prosecution of piracy suspects, in 2009 UNODC launched a joint programme with the European Commission that enhances criminal justice capacity among Somalia's neighbours to ensure that piracy trials and detentions are fair, humane and efficient, and that they take place within a sound rule-of-law framework. Initially, UNODC focused its core support on Kenya, where 10 convicted pirates are now serving their sentence and another 117 suspected pirates are in prison awaiting trial. Thanks to support received from other donor countries, we are also pursuing an ambitious programme to introduce capacity-building measures to other countries in the region that are willing to prosecute piracy suspects to reduce the burden on Kenya. Going forward, we will work with Somalia to improve prison conditions,

Sign at Nyeri prison in Kenya.



allowing the return of convicted Somali pirates, and increase Somalia's capacity to investigate, prosecute and detain suspected pirates in line with international standards.

By enhancing criminal justice systems in East Africa and the Western Indian Ocean, UNODC is helping ensure that suspected and convicted pirates receive fair treatment under the law, but also building sustainable structures to strengthen justice and the rule of law for all citizens in the region.

Palermo 10 years on: confronting transnational organized crime

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime is the main international instrument to counter organized crime and a critical force to spur coordinated international cooperation to fight organized crime. Also known as the Palermo Convention, it is supplemented by three protocols that target trafficking in persons, especially women and children; smuggling of migrants; and illicit manufacturing and trafficking of firearms. In its role as guardian of the Convention, UNODC helps countries create the domestic legal framework to investigate criminal offences related to organized crime and prosecute offenders, and adopt new frameworks for extradition, mutual legal assistance and international law enforcement cooperation.

In October 2010, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime will meet for its fifth session to take stock of global progress in implementation of the Convention in its first decade. The session will include a high-level segment to discuss new and emerging forms of crime and ways to enhance international efforts to halt their spread.

Also in conjunction with the tenth anniversary of the Convention, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will convene a special high-level meeting of the General Assembly in New York on transnational organized crime to foster universal adherence to the Convention and its Protocols and strengthen international cooperation.

Prison reform

Worldwide today, over 9 million people are in some form of detention, including more than 1 million children (persons under the age of 18). Some 2.25 million of these prisoners have not yet been tried. Women also account for a growing number of incarcerations in many countries. Faced with exploding prison populations, some criminal justice systems are struggling to cope.

In many of the world's prisons, conditions are far below minimum international standards, posing major humanitarian, public health and security challenges. Prisons serve as breeding grounds for infectious diseases like HIV and tuberculosis, and the number of prisoners with mental health-care needs is disproportionately high. Drug abuse is common in prisons, and inmates are vulnerable to mistreatment and abuse at the hands of poorly trained staff.

Most prisoners eventually return to society, bringing untreated problems, such as drug dependence and infectious diseases, with them, which can endanger the well-being of their communities. Moreover, imprisonment often amounts to criminalization of the poor. Without skills or opportunities for earning a living by legitimate means, former prisoners can easily slip back into a life of crime.

Prisons are part of the criminal justice system and they need to be included in criminal justice reform efforts. At the eighteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in April 2009, States called for a shift from a punitive response to crime to a more rehabilitative approach, and supported the increased use of non-custodial measures and sanctions to reduce prison overcrowding.

UNODC assists States with prison reform, giving particular emphasis to prison staff training and responding to the specific needs of women and vul-



Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs



Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand opened an exhibition in Vienna on the project "Enhancing Lives of Female Inmates", which proposes new rules for the treatment of women prisoners and non-custodial measures for women offenders. April 2009.

nerable groups such as children, prisoners with mental health-care needs, HIV-positive prisoners and prisoners with special needs. We help reduce the number of prisoners in pretrial detention, improve prison management, encourage the use of alternatives to imprisonment and assist with the social reintegration of prisoners, beginning with programmes in prison to prepare them for release. We work to ensure that prisoners receive adequate health care, particularly to prevent and treat HIV and drug abuse. We also prepare assessment tools, manuals and training modules based on United Nations standards and norms for criminal justice officials, such as the 2009 *Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs*.

UNODC presently supports prison reform projects in Afghanistan, Guinea-Bissau, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, Liberia, Nigeria and the Sudan, as well as the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and in 2010 we will begin to work with Kyrgyzstan.

Salvador 2010: strategies for preventing crime

The Government of Brazil is hosting the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Salvador in April 2010. Starting in 1955, crime congresses have been held every five years in different parts of the world to encourage dialogue and debate on approaches to crime, to articulate the multilateral agenda for criminal justice issues for the coming five years and to contribute to the adoption and implementation of national and international criminal justice best practices. The 2010 Crime Congress will consider comprehensive strategies for addressing global challenges to crime prevention and criminal justice systems, in particular those related to the treatment of prisoners, juvenile justice, the prevention of urban crime, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, terrorism and cybercrime.

In 2009, regional preparatory meetings in Costa Rica, Kenya, Qatar and Thailand highlighted special regional crime concerns, as well as successful experiences and promising approaches to addressing them. These regional meetings provided a platform for the discussions in Salvador, which will culminate in proposals for action that will firmly establish the criminal justice system as a central pillar of the rule of law; highlight the pivotal role that the criminal justice system plays in socio-economic development; and emphasize the need for a holistic approach to criminal justice system reform to strengthen the capacity of countries to deal with crime, particularly in its most sophisticated, transnational forms.

Pastino Lubang: guilty until proven innocent

It's everyone's worst nightmare: getting arrested and put in prison for a murder you did not commit. That's exactly what happened to 28-year-old Pastino Lubang of Juba, Southern Sudan. After 18 months' incarceration, he was finally pronounced innocent and released from prison. This is his story.

In December 2007, Pastino's sister was abducted. His family suspected that a certain young man was involved, so Pastino and several relatives went to talk to the young man's family. The discussion became heated and blows were exchanged. Pastino intervened and broke up the fight and his family went home. Then the police arrived. A member of the other family had been hospitalized with serious injuries. "They arrested 13 members of my family and took us to jail," Pastino says. "After eight days, the person in the hospital died and we were all charged with murder." After an initial screening, eight of Pastino's relatives were released, but he was among the five who were sent to Juba prison, "even though most of us had nothing to do with what happened." It was not until June 2009 that two of Pastino's relatives were convicted of murder and he and the others were released.

In police custody "detention conditions and treatment were very, very bad," Pastino says, whereas in prison "we were treated well and we did not face corporal punishment or beatings. There were some conflicts among prisoners because there were no guards inside the prison, but beside that we were fine." But physical conditions were abysmal: the prison lacked sanitation and bedding, and even food and water were in short supply.

Today Pastino works as an electrician at Juba prison and says that conditions for prisoners have gradually improved. Before his incarceration, he was unemployed for many years, so he is glad to have the job, but he wants more training. "I have only one hope," he says, "to get out of poverty so that I can better take care of my family."

Pastino's experience is not unusual. Southern Sudan's criminal justice system has been all but destroyed by two decades of civil war. The legal framework and prison policies still require extensive reform, and both prison administrators and prisoners need a better understanding of the law. Very few prison facilities survived the war and those that did are mainly staffed by demobilized soldiers and officers with little if any relevant training. Many people are held without due process or are incarcerated unnecessarily, exacerbating prison overcrowding.

UNODC, in partnership with the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and in cooperation with the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, is strengthening the capacity of the Southern Sudan Prison Service to institute reforms, meet international humanitarian standards and protect the human rights of prisoners. Since 2007, we have trained nearly 1,500 prison staff in areas such as leadership, policy and regulations, information management, and the treatment of prisoners with special needs, including women, children and the mentally ill. We provide vocational skills training for prisoners so that people like Pastino can learn a trade that will help them find work after their release, and we are helping revive the probation system to reduce prison overcrowding. UNODC also supports efforts to ensure more frequent review of criminal cases so that innocent people like Pastino do not remain unjustly incarcerated.

Pastino Lubang and Cheikh Toure, UNODC Juba project manager.



Pastino Lubang at work at Juba prison in Southern Sudan.



Human trafficking

Every year, thousands of men, women and children fall victim to traffickers in their home countries and abroad. Through coercion, deceit or force, they are exploited for their labour, sex or even their organs. Almost every country in the world is affected by this crime against humanity, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. Human trafficking can be extremely profitable and its perpetrators are often linked to organized crime. Yet because trafficking usually affects people on the margins of society, very few traffickers are convicted and most victims are probably never identified or assisted.

UNODC is working to change this. We help States to prevent human trafficking, protect its victims and prosecute its perpetrators in line with the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons. As of March 2010, 137 States are party to the Protocol.

UNODC helps countries draft laws and create comprehensive anti-trafficking strategies and assists with the resources needed to implement them. We offer specialized assistance, including the development of local capacity and expertise, and practical tools to encourage cross-border cooperation in investigations and prosecutions. UNODC also rallies international opposition to human trafficking among the private sector, civil society, the media and the general public through the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) and the Blue Heart Campaign. UN.GIFT focuses on reducing the vulnerability of potential victims and the demand for exploitation in all forms; ensuring adequate protection and support for those who fall victim to trafficking; and supporting the prosecution of traffickers. UNODC manages UN.GIFT in cooperation with the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. UNODC also acts as secretariat for the Inter-Agency Cooperation Group against Trafficking in Persons, which fosters coordination and cooperation among a wider group of United Nations entities and other international organizations.

In 2009, UNODC released the landmark *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, which catalogues and analyses the world's response to human trafficking based on criminal justice and victim assistance in 155

"Dacia express", a train from Bucharest to Vienna. Recent indications suggest that child trafficking in Europe is increasing. Photo: Alessandro Scotti/UN.GIFT

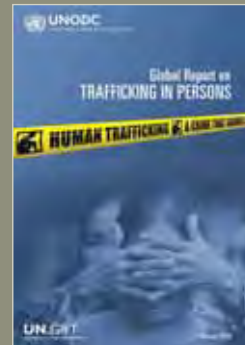




Child prostitute in Serbia. Globally, children are vulnerable to being trafficked into forced labour, domestic servitude, begging, the sex trade and warfare. Photo: Alessandro Scotti/UN.GIFT

Global Report on Trafficking in Persons: key findings

- The most commonly reported purpose of human trafficking is sexual exploitation (79 per cent), followed by forced labour (18 per cent), but many types of trafficking may be underreported, in part because they are largely “invisible” —including forced or bonded labour, domestic servitude and forced marriage, organ removal, and exploitation of children for begging, the sex trade and warfare.
- Women comprise by far the largest portion of trafficking victims (80-84 per cent).
- The number of convictions of traffickers is increasing, but not proportionately to the growing awareness (and, probably, size) of the problem.
- Most trade in humans occurs at the national or regional level, though interregional trafficking is also common.
- A growing number of countries are taking steps to address human trafficking, but there are still many, especially in Africa, that lack the necessary legal instruments to do so.



countries. The report provides information on legislative, institutional and criminal justice responses, increasing our partial understanding of the forces at play in human trafficking, including the relationship with organized crime. The report also highlights what we do not know. One of the key unanswered questions remains: “Just how extensive is human trafficking globally?” Without a sense of the magnitude of the problem, it is difficult to assess whether any particular intervention is having an impact. Our report demonstrates the clear need for definitions to be standardized internationally and for Member States to collect more and better information on trafficking in persons, including domestic crimes that are tantamount to human trafficking. This could contribute to greater compliance with the Protocol and enable States to combat human trafficking more strategically.

UNODC issued a number of important publications on human trafficking in 2009 within the framework of UN.GIFT. The *Anti-Human Trafficking Manual for Criminal Justice Practitioners* details promising practices at every phase of the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons. Its tools incorporate a victim-centric approach and are applicable in both civil and common law countries. *Combating*

Trafficking in Persons: A Handbook for Parliamentarians, which UNODC produced together with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, is intended to spur parliamentarians to enact sound laws and adopt good practices to strengthen national responses to human trafficking. It outlines measures to prevent trade in persons, to prosecute offenders and to protect victims, and includes a compilation of international laws and good practices, as well as guidance on how national legislation can be brought into line with international standards.

In 2009, UNODC developed, in cooperation with UN.GIFT, a model law to guide Member States in preparing national laws against trafficking in persons. The model law is adaptable to the needs of any State regardless of its legal traditions and social, economic, cultural and geographical conditions. It covers not only the criminalization of trafficking in persons and related offences, but also the different aspects of assistance to victims and the establishment of cooperation among different State authorities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). On a related topic, UNODC released a ground-breaking paper in 2009 on *Combating Trafficking in Persons in Accordance with the Principles of Islamic Law*. This paper analyses the Islamic legal framework on human trafficking and addresses the principles that prohibit exploitation and slavery and that call for the protection of victims in both international and Islamic law. It is targeted to both Islamic law practitioners who want to learn more about combating human trafficking and anti-trafficking practitioners who want to learn more about Islamic law, making it clear that a strong alliance can exist between Islamic and non-Islamic countries in preventing trafficking in persons.

Blue Heart Campaign against human trafficking

UNODC launched the Blue Heart Campaign in 2009 to encourage involvement and inspire action to help stop human trafficking. The blue heart represents the sorrow of those who are trafficked while reminding us of the cold-heartedness of those who buy and sell their fellow human beings. The use of "UN blue" underscores the commitment of the United Nations to combat this crime against human dignity. Just as the red ribbon has come to symbolize solidarity with people living with HIV/AIDS, we aim to make the blue heart into the international emblem of support for victims of human trafficking.

Raising awareness about human trafficking at the United Nations headquarters in New York.



The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons calls on States to engage in awareness-raising and public education about the risks of human trafficking. In April 2010, Mexico will launch the world's first national Blue Heart Campaign.

Individuals can support the Blue Heart Campaign too. UNODC encourages people to change their Facebook profile picture to the blue heart, upload the blue heart to their Web page, add it to their e-mail signature, spread the word through Twitter and learn more about the issues by watching videos about human trafficking on YouTube. Victims of human trafficking are often lost in society's shadows. Together, heart by heart, we can help to shine a light on this terrible crime and press for its eradication.

Astha: building a new life

Her hair is cut short and boyish, her jacket and trousers are masculine. “Today I dress like a man, talk like a man and behave like a man so that men won’t harass me or take advantage of me,” Astha* explains. She is one of thousands of young Nepalese women and girls who have been trafficked into a life of forced labour, sexual exploitation and constant fear. “At the age of 13, I was brought to a carpet factory in Kathmandu for work. I wasn’t aware that I was sold to the owner,” Astha says. “They made me work hard weaving carpets, and at night the owner would call me aside and sexually abuse me. I worked there for eight years and have seen girls who were forced by the owner to sell their kidneys.”

Thousands of Nepali girls are trafficked each year and are usually sent to India, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf States for sexual exploitation. Most come from rural areas. Many traffickers, who are often part of well-organized networks, entrap their victims and deceive their guardians by offering the girls marriage and a better life. Instead, they end up enslaved. According to Astha, girls who are sold to brothels can earn their captors as much as US\$ 250,000 during their “careers” as sex workers.

Astha was one of the fortunate few who escaped this brutal and degrading life. One day, an outreach worker from an NGO called Shakti Samuha came to the factory where she worked and talked about trafficking and the kind of help that was available. Astha sought the organization’s aid and got away.

Today, Astha works for Shakti Samuha as warden of its shelter for trafficked women in Kathmandu. Shakti Samuha was founded by Nepalese women who were themselves trafficking victims, so they understand what kinds of support and resources the women the organization serves need most. UNODC and its partners have provided support to Shakti Samuha’s shelter through its regional anti-trafficking project. The organization provides victims with food and shelter, counselling, vocational training—and acceptance. Most Nepalese women and girls who have been trafficked cannot return to their homes for fear of discrimination and abandonment. Indeed, family members are often complicit in trafficking in Nepal, so they are unlikely to welcome their daughters back. Shakti Samuha gives young women who were trafficked a new chance at life, helping them to gradually reintegrate into society and regain their dignity and self-respect. It also offers self-defence training against violence and classes in HIV prevention.

Shakti Samuha reaches out to young girls across Nepal, raising awareness about trafficking for sexual exploitation. It works with the Government of Nepal to help set up district-level anti-trafficking units that disseminate information. Shakti Samuha outreach workers also help women who may be sexually exploited in dance bars and factories.

* not her real name



Astha (right) and a colleague at the Shakti Samuha shelter in Kathmandu, Nepal.





Observation tower on the Afghan-Tajik border.

SECURITY

Building safe and stable societies

The international community is increasingly aware that organized crime, drug trafficking, corruption and terrorism are tightly intertwined, and that they aggravate instability and threaten regional and global security.

Criminal organizations and terrorist networks flourish in unstable countries where law enforcement and border controls are weak, poverty is endemic and officials are corrupt—with a devastating impact on human security. Crime prospers in volatile conditions and also tends to propagate them, as instability in one country can easily spill over to neighbouring countries and then to the wider region, becoming a threat to international security.

The effects on security of transnational crime, and of drug trafficking in particular, can be catastrophic. Most illicit drugs are sourced in conflict-ridden regions in Asia and Latin America, where they undermine development, damage the environment and also fund and thus perpetuate insurgency and, in some places, terrorism. Traffickers have far more resources than States in poor and vulnerable transit areas like the Andes, Central America, the Caribbean, West Africa, the Balkans and Central Asia. They use their dirty money to buy political and economic influence, often resorting to bloodshed to assert control.

West Africa is a recent case in point. This region has become a key transit hub for cocaine smuggled from Latin America to serve a booming market in Europe. Operating largely with impunity, drug traffickers are breeding widespread corruption and threatening security in the region. It was UNODC that first sounded the alarm on the crisis and spearheaded efforts to build national capacity and regional cooperation to reduce the vulnerability of West Africa to crime and corruption.

It is precisely at such points of confluence of drugs, violence, corruption and terrorism that measures to oppose organized crime and drug trafficking dovetail with security initiatives, including counter-terrorism assistance. A coordinated regional response involving vigorous law enforcement coupled with economic development is the most effective antidote to these transnational threats. UNODC plays a catalytic role in building bridges within and between regions to develop joint law enforcement initiatives and to foster integrated approaches to strengthen stability, the rule of law and development. We help States implement security sector reforms and strengthen their capacity to disrupt the links between organized crime, drug trafficking and insurgency.

The following pages provide concrete examples of how UNODC is enhancing security around the world.

UNODC regional programmes

In 2009, UNODC launched regional programmes covering East Asia and the Pacific, East Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, and South-Eastern Europe in full consultation with the countries of these regions to promote the rule of law and security in particularly challenging areas.

- The **East Asia and the Pacific** regional programme reinforces the rule of law by focusing on trafficking, governance and criminal justice; it supports health and development through initiatives address-

UNODC mobilizes and promotes regional and transnational cooperation to confront the growing threat to security posed by the convergence of organized crime, drug trafficking, corruption and terrorism.

ing drug demand reduction, HIV/AIDS among injecting drug users, prisoners and other vulnerable groups, and sustainable livelihoods.

- The **East Africa** regional programme is based on three pillars: countering organized crime, trafficking and terrorism; fighting corruption and promoting justice and integrity; and improving health and human development.
- The **Central America and the Caribbean** programme strengthens regional capacity to fight drugs, crime and terrorism and all their attendant problems, such as trafficking and gang violence.
- The **South Eastern Europe** regional programme focuses on three interlinked areas: serious crime and trafficking; integrity and criminal justice systems; and drug prevention and treatment, including HIV prevention, treatment and care among drug users.

These programmes are supported by regional political declarations at the ministerial level and regional plans of action. UNODC has secured not only the political endorsement of regional Governments, but also their strong sense of ownership and commitment to regional cooperation, as well as the support of funding partners and institutions.

In 2010, UNODC will launch regional programmes in West Africa, Central Africa, North Africa and the Middle East, Southern Africa, Central Asia and Latin America. These programmes will enable UNODC to dramatically expand our thematic expertise in each of these regions and strengthen our efforts to promote fair, transparent and efficient criminal justice systems.

Terrorism prevention

Terrorism threatens security at every level. Acts of terrorist violence endanger the physical security of individuals and communities, sowing fear and panic. Terrorism undermines the rule of law, destabilizing countries and regions and jeopardizing sustainable peace. It can also have a devastating impact on trade and other economic activities, which in turn harms development.

Today, no country can deal with terrorism alone. To confront the terrorist threat effectively, States must unite behind a comprehensive global response within the framework of criminal justice. Perpetrators must be brought to trial, either in their home countries or through extradition. No country should offer a safe haven to terrorists.



Notification by the Czech Republic of Article 7 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (2005). Mr. Pavel Sladky, Third Secretary, Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in Vienna, April 2009.

UNODC provides States with legal and technical assistance to help them prevent terrorism. Our Terrorism Prevention Branch helps States to achieve full ratification of the 16 universal legal instruments against terrorism and to develop and apply domestic legislation for their implementation; provides capacity-building assistance to strengthen criminal justice systems; facilitates international cooperation in criminal matters pertaining to terrorism; and strengthens collaboration on legal aspects of counter-terrorism with relevant regional and international organizations.

In 2009, Member States that had received legal assistance from UNODC undertook 46 new ratifications of the universal anti-terrorism instruments. Meanwhile, UNODC provided 65 countries with legal assistance, supplied specialized legal training to approximately 1,500 criminal justice officials and reached 140 countries through national or regional counter-terrorism activities.

In 2010, the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch is enhancing its focus on knowledge-building in specialized areas such as nuclear, chemical and biological terrorism, victims of terrorism, financing of terrorism, maritime issues and the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes. The Branch is also developing long-term, customized assistance for criminal justice practitioners involved in the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism cases and a range of crimes potentially linked to terrorism. At the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2010, the Branch will launch a digest of terrorism case studies based on the experience of criminal justice practitioners in countries around the world that will showcase best practices in bringing terrorists to justice.

Mombasa Chief Magistrate Rosemelle Mutoka on regional cooperation against piracy



Rosemelle Mutoka, Chief Magistrate of the High Court in Mombasa, Kenya.

“If we cannot solve the problems in Somalia, we cannot solve the problem of piracy,” says Rosemelle Mutoka, Chief Magistrate of the High Court in Mombasa, Kenya’s major port.

Most of the pirates who prey on ships off the Horn of Africa are Somalis, but after years of devastating civil war, Somalia does not have the capacity to pursue pirates and bring them to justice. Because piracy affects regional security and international commercial interests, other countries in the region, notably Kenya, are stepping into the breach and arresting and prosecuting alleged pirates.

The piracy proceedings are taking place in Mombasa. Since Kenya assumed responsibility for conducting piracy trials, 10 pirates have been convicted in Chief Magistrate Mutoka’s courtroom and an additional 117 are awaiting trial.

Most States have been reluctant to put pirates on trial because of the many practical complications. Thus, the Kenyan solution has gathered strong international support. However, it impacts the Kenyan criminal justice system, presenting new challenges to established legal frameworks. While the legal aspects of trying Somali pirates are relatively straightforward, there are other problems, such as future repatriation of prisoners to a country where a stable legal framework does not exist. Moreover, Kenya’s willingness to take on the piracy trials has put the international spotlight on the local criminal justice system, including the police, prosecution, courts and prisons, subjecting it to considerable scrutiny.

The UNODC counter-piracy programme is helping Kenya deal with the challenges piracy poses to its criminal justice system. The programme delivers in four key areas: law enforcement, prosecution, courts and prisons. UNODC provides legislative review and assistance; support to the police, prosecution and judiciary; logistics and information technology; witness and trial support; prison repairs and refurbishments; training of prosecution, police, maritime authorities and prison management and officers; and the development and sharing of regional expertise.

All of this has helped improve conditions throughout Kenya’s criminal justice system, ensuring that the human rights of prisoners and the accused—whether Somalis or Kenyans—are protected. Thanks to UNODC assistance, “the piracy cases go smoother,” according to Ms. Mutoka, and inmates at Shimo LaTewa prison, Mombasa’s main detention centre for both suspected and convicted pirates, now benefit from significantly improved conditions.

Without a sustained regional effort to wipe out piracy, the stability and security of the entire Horn of Africa will continue to be threatened. UNODC is working to build up the capacity of other States, including Somalia and other countries that are parties to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships. “Other countries have to follow the Kenyan example,” Ms. Mutoka asserts. “It is good for Kenya and its international image to take the lead in piracy prosecutions, but other States clearly have to follow.” In February 2010, the Seychelles announced that, with support from UNODC, it will also become a regional centre for the prosecution of piracy.

Pirate boat intercepted off the Horn of Africa.



The Container Control Programme and the Airport Communication Project

More than 420 million maritime containers move around the globe each year, accounting for 90 per cent of international trade. Yet only 2 per cent of these containers are inspected, creating opportunities for organized crime syndicates and terrorists to use them for criminal purposes. To address this gap in security, UNODC and the World Customs Organization have created the Container Control Programme. The programme has achieved spectacular results, intercepting containers carrying illicit drugs and diverted precursor chemicals, as well as halting containers transporting endangered species, hazardous materials and goods intentionally mislabelled for fraud and revenue evasion. In 2009, Costa Rica and Panama joined Ecuador, Ghana, Pakistan, Senegal and Turkmenistan in the programme. Six States in Latin America and the Caribbean, plus sites in Africa, the Balkans, Central Asia and countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, are targeted for assistance in 2010.

The Container Control Programme's innovative approach centres on joint port control units comprising analysts and search teams from different law enforcement agencies (e.g. customs, police) who are trained to work together to systematically inspect containers in a targeted manner. Beyond this focus on capacity-building, the programme also fosters communication as the critical link connecting an expanding international network of law enforcement professionals who work on container profiling, selection and search.

Aircraft, meanwhile, are increasingly being used to transport illicit drugs, weapons and victims of human trafficking between countries and regions, and international concern is mounting about their continued vulnerability to acts of terrorism. Based on the successful model of the Container Control Programme, UNODC will begin offering States assistance in air border management in 2010 through a new initiative called the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP). AIRCOP will build capacity at airports, upgrading professional skills, introducing new work practices and creating inter-agency partnerships along the same lines as the maritime container programme. Initially, 10 international airports in West Africa, as well as in Brazil and Morocco, will establish joint airport interdiction task forces that will be trained and linked to one another so they can share information in real time on the movement of certain cargo and passengers. We anticipate that AIRCOP will help deter the use of transnational air transport for criminal purposes.



Search of this shipping container in Karachi, Pakistan, resulted in the seizure of cannabis resin packaged as coffee.





In 2009, the UNODC Regional Office for Brazil and the Southern Cone facilitated an agreement between the Government of Brazil and the Government of Guinea-Bissau to build a police academy in Guinea-Bissau. Photo: Henrique Santos

West Africa: where drugs, organized crime and corruption converge

West Africa is a paradise for organized crime, offering ideal conditions for trafficking contraband: a strategic location, porous borders, weak governance, widespread poverty and extensive corruption. As a result, criminals and insurgents are exploiting the region. West Africa serves as a transit point between Latin America and Europe for US\$ 1 billion-worth in cocaine, as a destination for counterfeit medicines and toxic waste, and as a source of stolen natural resources, particularly oil. Human trafficking, whether for forced labour or sexual exploitation, also occurs in the region.

UNODC, was the first to alert the international community to the menace that transnational organized crime poses to security and development in West Africa, and to global security more broadly. Cocaine trafficking and oil theft are the most destabilizing forms of crime in region. These activities fund criminals and extremists, undermine Governments and are turning already corrupt regimes into criminal enterprises. Since 2004, UNODC has issued reports documenting the threat, including the 2009 report *Transnational Trafficking and the Rule of Law in West Africa: A Threat Assessment*. UNODC has initiated programmes to strengthen the capacity of West African countries to fight organized crime and corruption, and we have mobilized Governments in the region to work together, with support from others members of the international community, to meet the threat head on.

As maritime interdictions of illegal cargo increase thanks in part to the global UNODC Container Control Programme, traffickers active in West Africa are increasingly taking to the skies. A clandestine fleet of jet aircraft regularly transports cocaine and possibly weapons to West Africa from Latin America. The drugs are transported onward for distribution in Europe, but it is likely that the weapons stay in the region. The planes return to Latin America carrying unexamined cargo and unidentified passengers who may be involved in illicit activities.

UNODC is helping West Africa reduce its vulnerability to transnational organized crime. In April 2009, UNODC, the United Nations Office for West Africa, the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) launched an initiative to support implementation of the Economic Community of West African States regional action plan to address drug trafficking, organized crime and drug abuse (2008-2011). The initiative is building national and regional capacities in law enforcement, forensics, intelligence, border management and money-laundering, and strengthening criminal justice systems. It is also establishing specialized transnational crime units, initially in Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Regional cooperation against drug trafficking and organized crime



Model of a ditch designed to help stop drug traffickers from entering the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and the States of Central Asia share a common problem: drug trafficking. Afghanistan is the wellspring of the global opium trade, accounting for 93 per cent of all opium poppy cultivation. About 80 per cent of the drugs derived from Afghan opium poppies are smuggled out by transnational organized criminal groups through the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan; the rest flow through Central Asia. Drug trafficking through these regions threatens security and development by enriching and empowering organized criminal groups, creating instability and feeding corruption.

National efforts have been undertaken to hold back the flow of drugs, particularly in the Islamic Republic of Iran, where hundreds of kilometres of ditches and walls have been constructed to stop traffickers. However, there

are limits to what any State can achieve alone through interdiction, especially in the inhospitable deserts and mountains along Afghanistan's borders. Success depends on information exchange and intelligence-led joint actions targeting the major transnational trafficking networks.

To improve regional cooperation in addressing this common threat, UNODC has developed the Triangular Initiative among Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan to foster intelligence sharing and carry out joint counter-narcotics operations. The Triangular Initiative enhances border management cooperation among these countries through a step-by-step approach that includes confidence-building measures, information and intelligence exchange and operational activities to halt the flow of drugs and disrupt transnational criminal networks. In 2009, the three countries established a joint planning cell in Tehran for sharing intelligence and launching joint operations. They also agreed to establish border liaison offices on each side of their respective frontiers and to step up the number of joint patrols and joint operations. Three successful joint actions were carried out in 2009, resulting in drug seizures and the arrest of traffickers.

Also in 2009, UNODC officially launched the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC) to promote cooperation among law enforcement agencies in the region and enhance counter-narcotic activities. Headquartered in Almaty, Kazakhstan, CARICC serves as Central Asia's main centre for intelligence exchange and analysis, and coordination of joint operations. Members States include Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Afghanistan's involvement, initially with observer status, is under consideration.

Both CARICC and the Triangular Initiative are part of the UNODC-coordinated Rainbow Strategy to counter the threat posed by opiates originating in Afghanistan. This strategy engages both Afghanistan and neighbouring countries in targeting internationally agreed priority areas, including border management, precursor chemicals, financial flows and drug abuse prevention and treatment.

CARICC facilitates intelligence sharing among the Central Asian States to identify and disrupt transnational trafficking networks, strengthen regional criminal justice capacity and build security and confidence among States in the region. It also offers an opportunity to strengthen partnerships among organizations active in Central Asia, such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Economic Cooperation Organization.

CARICC has already begun to achieve results: trafficking channels have been identified, traffickers arrested and over 100 kg of heroin were seized in 2009. Moreover, CARICC is already recognized as an effective model for regional cooperation in combating drug trafficking and transnational organized crime. In 2009, the Gulf States agreed to establish a similar centre using CARICC as its prototype.

The devastating impact of opium originating in Afghanistan

Although it is widely recognized that Afghanistan is the world's principal source of opium, much less well known is the scale and impact of the opiate trade once the drugs leave Afghanistan. In the 2009 report *Addiction, Crime and Insurgency: The Transnational Threat of Afghan Opium*, UNODC documents the devastating impact that the 900 tons of opium and 375 tons of heroin trafficked from Afghanistan each year have on the health and security of countries along the Balkan and Eurasian drug routes, as well as of China, India, the Russian Federation and European countries. Drugs from Afghanistan have an annual market value of US\$ 65 billion, cater to 15 million drug users, cause 100,000 deaths each year, are contributing to the spread of HIV at an unprecedented rate and are a source of funds for criminal groups, insurgents and terrorists. Moreover, since 2006, much more opium has been produced in Afghanistan than is consumed worldwide, and the resulting stockpile is now large enough to meet two years' worth of world heroin demand. In its report, UNODC also documents that interdiction rates decline as the drugs move closer to their end markets, which means that confiscating the drugs in Afghanistan would be a more efficient and effective approach to disrupting the heroin supply chain.

Uzbekistan's biggest drug seizure

The truck would not have attracted the attention of a casual observer. After all, it was simply transporting cattle through Kashkarya Province in southern Uzbekistan. But a team of Uzbek law enforcement officers suspected otherwise.

Halting the truck, they discovered a metal box hidden in the front compartment that contained 368 kg of heroin. Further inspection uncovered another 200 kg of the highly addictive drug concealed in the chassis of the vehicle. Heroin was the truck's real cargo; the cows were just a cover.

"The amount we confiscated would have been used to produce over 7 tons of street drugs," according to an official from the Uzbek National Security Service. "At street value, it's worth 10 million US dollars."

To date, this remains the largest drug haul in Uzbekistan's history, totalling more than all the heroin seizures in the previous year combined. UNODC assistance was pivotal to this interception. Several officers who participated in this joint operation of the Uzbek National Security Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs had been trained in counter-narcotics investigation by UNODC experts through a NATO-Russia Council programme for Central Asian and Afghan law enforcement personnel. This training programme, which runs from 2006 to 2011, aims to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officers from agencies involved in combating drug trafficking in Central Asia and Afghanistan. UNODC counter-narcotics specialists from NATO countries and the Russian Federation have already trained 1,000 law enforcement officers from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

As the Kashkarya heroin seizure illustrates, effective law enforcement can disrupt the drug supply chain. If this massive shipment of heroin had not been intercepted in Uzbekistan, it most likely would have been disseminated to thousands of drug users in the Russian Federation and Western Europe. Drug seizures also strike a blow against transnational criminal organizations, helping to strengthen regional security.

Central Asian law enforcement officers taking part in a NATO-Russia Council counter-narcotics training programme.





International Anti-Corruption Day 2009 in Lima, Peru; "For a Peru without Corruption" public information fair sponsored by the Government of Peru. The anti-corruption wheel was the featured attraction at the UNODC information booth; by spinning the wheel, visitors won anti-corruption materials and learned about the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

INTEGRITY

Fostering transparency and good governance

Corruption is a key obstacle to economic and social development. Although corruption is a global phenomenon, evidence shows that it harms poor people disproportionately. It distorts markets, stifles economic growth and diverts funds from public services, hurting the most vulnerable. When Government funds are siphoned into personal bank accounts, fewer resources are available to build schools, hospitals and roads. When foreign aid disappears into private coffers, major infrastructure projects grind to a halt.

Development is not corruption's only victim. Corruption debases democracy, impairing Governments' ability to function effectively and provide the critical services that their citizens need. As a result, people lose confidence in Government and become less willing to support it. Corruption also undermines the rule of law, enabling groups involved in organized crime—including trafficking in drugs, arms, natural resources and people—to grow and prosper. This in turn jeopardizes security. Corruption can also facilitate the activities of terrorist networks.

Yet, there is nothing inevitable about corruption, which is not an impersonal, unstoppable force. Corruption results from personal decisions, usually motivated by greed—or poverty. Thus, preventing corruption and building up a culture of integrity and the rule of law are responsibilities shared by every sector of society—not just Government—and each individual.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption is the first legally binding global anti-corruption instrument. It obliges the 143 States that have ratified it to prevent and criminalize corruption, promote international cooperation, recover stolen assets and improve technical assistance and information exchange. The Convention applies to both the public and private sectors.

The Convention provides all national, regional and multinational anti-corruption efforts with a single set of agreed-upon anti-corruption obligations and guidelines. Its power will only be realized, however, if it is rigorously implemented. UNODC, as guardian of the Convention, provides technical assistance to States parties and signatories by helping them ensure judicial integrity, improve legislation, share good practices and develop strategies to fight corruption effectively. We also urge businesses to comply with the Convention and we support civil society organizations in their role as public watchdogs and promoters of transparency and ethical behaviour in both the public and private sectors.

Doha 2009: a new mechanism to review implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption met in Doha in November 2009 to take stock of global progress in implementation and consider ways to step up international efforts to prevent and fight corruption. The Conference also placed strong emphasis on preventing corruption, establishing a working group to further explore good practices in this field.

The most important outcome of the Doha meeting, however, was the States' agreement to establish a mechanism to review implementation of the Convention. Under the new mechanism, all States Parties

UNODC mobilizes Governments, business, civil society, the media and citizens around the world to fight corruption and promote a culture of transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors.

will be reviewed every five years on the fulfilment of their obligations under the Convention. On the basis of self-assessments and peer review, the mechanism will help identify gaps in national anti-corruption laws and practices.

The Convention's new monitoring mechanism represents a major breakthrough in the global campaign against corruption. From now on, knowledge on efforts against corruption will be based on facts and not perceptions.

To support the monitoring mechanism, UNODC has developed a state-of-the-art software programme for self-assessment that will identify States' strengths and weaknesses in countering corruption and pinpoint where technical assistance is needed. Identical software has been developed to assess States' implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols.

The high cost of corruption

- Estimates indicate that the cost of corruption equals more than 5 per cent of the global gross domestic product (US\$ 2.6 trillion), with over US\$ 1 trillion paid in bribes each year.
- Corruption accounts for 10 per cent of the total cost of doing business globally and as much as 25 per cent of the cost of procurement contracts in developing countries.
- Moving a business from a country with a low level of corruption to a country with a medium or high level of corruption is equivalent to levying a 20 per cent tax on that business.
- Studies suggest that some countries have lost up to 20 per cent of their internal revenues to corruption.

Source: World Bank

Aligning business with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Corruption is not just another part of doing business, the oil that greases the wheels. In fact, corruption is a hidden overhead cost that drives up prices and diminishes product quality. It also erodes corporate integrity, undermines confidence between business partners and can destroy the reputation of once-trusted companies.

Clearly, the private sector has a lot to lose from corruption. But it also has considerable incentive—and leverage—to stop it. More and more business leaders recognize the need to protect their companies and employees from the destructive influence of corruption. In 2009, chief executive officers from some of the world's foremost companies took the unprecedented step of calling on Governments to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption. For its part, UNODC urges businesses to align their anti-corruption practices with the Convention.



Anti-Corruption Policies and Measures of the Fortune Global 500.

In 2009, UNODC teamed up with Pricewaterhouse Coopers to produce a guide for companies that want to harmonize their business practices with international standards of integrity and transparency. This guide, entitled *Anti-Corruption Policies and Measures of the Fortune Global 500*, collects existing practices used to prevent corruption in some of the world's biggest companies and underscores the need to promote them so that they are widely respected and applied. Two important lessons are clear: businesses must set the tone from the top by enforcing a zero-tolerance policy, and checks and balances must be in place to strengthen integrity and eliminate any wrongdoing. The less corruption is tolerated, the sooner a culture of cheating will be replaced by a culture of integrity.

Illegal logging in Indonesia: the link between forest crime and corruption



Illegal logger in Sungai Putri forest, Kalimantan island, Indonesia. Photo: UNODC / Ajit Joy.

At a small jetty on the Tolak River, a skiff sits low in the water, loaded with timber. A narrow trail of planks leads from the riverbank into the Sungai Putri forest on Kalimantan island in Indonesia. The trail is surrounded by thick underbrush and tree stumps, plus a scattering of young trees. Three kilometres in, the harsh buzz of a chainsaw disturbs the peaceful atmosphere. Two kilometres further, six barefoot young men—boys, really—appear. One of them hoists the chainsaw, its metre-long blade making him seem smaller than he is. His comrades carry freshly hewn planks on their shoulders.

These boys are illegal loggers. They spend three or four days at a time in the mosquito-infested forest, cutting down four large trees a day. They haul the wood out to the river along the wooden track on a makeshift two-wheel dolly. For their efforts, they earn roughly US\$ 3. Small teams like these are common in Indonesia's forests, but so too are large, well-organized illegal logging crews, sometimes working for well-known companies that hold legitimate logging permits.

Indonesia possesses 123 million hectares of forest—10 per cent of global forest cover, including the third largest tropical rainforest—and the country is a leading supplier to the world's legal timber market. However, the growing global demand for and falling supply of wood, coupled with inadequate law enforcement and forestry management, means that Indonesia is also a major source of illegally harvested timber. The Indonesian Ministry of Forestry estimates that in recent years, the country has lost between 1.6 million and 2.8 million hectares of forest annually—the equivalent of between 3 and 5 hectares a minute—to illegal logging and land conversion. Meanwhile, logging has degraded much of the remaining forest cover and, as easily accessible forests have been cleared, loggers are moving into pristine forests in once remote areas like Kalimantan.

Illegal logging relies on corruption to stay in business. It depends on the complicity of officials throughout the entire production chain from forest to port, including forest rangers, local government, transport authorities, police and customs. Organized criminal groups are involved in transporting illegal timber, as well as endangered species, out of the country and across multiple borders.

Illegal logging undermines legitimate industry by undercutting prices for wood on the global market, and represents billions in lost tax revenue. At the community level, it destroys traditional ways of life centred on the forest, even as it makes local people complicit in deforestation. They know nothing about global warming and may not realize they are harming their own communities; they are simply trying to eke out a living.

But illegal logging is not just Indonesia's problem. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that cutting down forests around the world contributes to almost 20 per cent of overall greenhouse gas emissions into the Earth's atmosphere. In other words, the devastation of Indonesia's forests is endangering us all.

UNODC is working to break the link between illegal logging and corruption in Indonesia. We are strengthening the capacity of Indonesian law enforcement and criminal justice officials to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate forest crimes and corruption cases linked to them, including targeting money-laundering by the organized crime kingpins behind these illegal activities rather than going after low-level perpetrators like the boy-loggers in Sungai Putri forest. We are also working closely with civil society organizations to support "barefoot investigators" who look for and expose forest crimes in their local communities.

Logs ready for the saw mills in Indonesia. Timber logged illegally is often mixed with logs from legal forest concessions. Photo: UNODC / Ajit Joy.



Corruption in Afghanistan

Poverty and violence are usually portrayed as the biggest challenges confronting Afghanistan. But ask the Afghans themselves and you get another answer: corruption is their biggest worry. In 2008 and 2009, UNODC conducted a national survey on corruption based on interviews with 7,600 Afghan citizens in 12 provincial capitals and more than 1,600 vil-lages around the country. The survey's findings were published in January 2010 in the UNODC report *Corruption in Afghanistan: Bribery as Reported by Victims*. Corruption is part of everyday life in Afghanistan: one of every two Afghans interviewed had to pay at least one bribe to a public official. According to the UNODC report, Afghan citizens paid approximately US\$ 2.5 billion in bribes in 2009, which is equivalent to 23 per cent of the country's gross domestic product, and coincidentally is similar to the 2009 proceeds of the opium trade (US\$ 2.8 billion). Corruption is a major impediment to improving security, development and good governance in Afghanistan, but it also enables other crimes, including drug trafficking and terrorism. The report clearly demonstrates the need for an anti-corruption strategy in Afghanistan and UNODC stands ready to work with the Afghan Government to implement it.



Civil society organizations: partners for change

Building a culture of integrity that resists corruption requires not only the active participation of Government and business, but also of ordinary citizens. Civil society organizations can push Governments and businesses to be more transparent by serving as watchdogs and public educators, as well as partners that can help the public and private sectors institute good practices and maintain momentum to bring about positive change.

In order to strengthen this kind of partnership in the fight against corruption, over 110 representatives of some 40 civil society organizations from all over the world attended the fifth session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Doha in November 2009. Emulating the successful example of the "Beyond 2008" initiative, which highlighted the contribution of NGOs to formulating international drug policy, the gathering at Doha focused on bridging the gap between policymakers and civil society on issues of corruption.

In 2010, UNODC will extend this positive experience of engaging at an early stage with civil society to other areas of our mandate: crime prevention and criminal justice. At the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in April 2010 in Salvador, Brazil, over 70 ancillary meetings organized by NGOs will provide an opportunity for civil society organizations to interact with Governments on issues of crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law, and also enhance their capacity to tackle these challenges.



Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, 9-13 November 2009, Doha, Qatar. Civil society briefing session on 8 November.



Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (right) and the Brazilian children's cartoonist Maurício de Sousa on International Anti-Corruption Day 2009. UNODC presented an award to Mr. De Sousa for his cartoons encouraging ethical behavior among children.
Photo: Ricardo Stuckert/PR



Your NO against corruption counts

Corruption is a crime that harms us all. It undermines social and economic development, exacerbates inequality and injustice, and weakens the fabric of society. And as Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has underscored, "the vulnerable suffer first and worst." Stopping corruption is crucial to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development.

UNODC is calling on people around the world to say no to corruption. We can all help stop officials from accepting bribes and kickbacks and stealing Government resources if we raise our voices together. In 2009, UNODC and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) jointly launched a global anti-corruption campaign to rally public support for a culture of integrity and transparency in both the public and the private sectors. On December 9, International Anti-Corruption Day, the campaign organized awareness-raising events in 14 countries about corruption's corrosive impact on society and what people can do in their everyday lives to help stamp it out. In Brazil, for example, over 700 people participated in an event organized by UNODC and the Office of the Comptroller General of Brazil, including President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of the Supreme Court Gilmar Mendes and numerous ministers and other senior officials. President Lula chose this moment to sign a draft bill for submission to the National Congress making corruption among senior government officials a serious crime. Noting that poor people get arrested for stealing a loaf of bread while white-collar criminals often go unpunished, President Lula encouraged the media to continue bringing corruption scandals to light. "I would rather keep seeing many headlines about corruption," he said. "If there were no headlines, we would still be robbed, but without knowing it."

www.yournocounts.org



"Corruption is a Crime against Development" banner displayed on the headquarters of the Colombian National Prosecutor's Office and National Police Direction during the week of International Anti-Corruption Day 2009.



International Anti-Corruption Day 2009 celebration in Senegal.

Preventing money-laundering



UNODC anti-money-laundering software tools.

Since money drives both corruption and organized crime, law enforcement authorities try to follow the money trail so they can stop crime and corruption at their source. But crooked public officials and corrupt businesspeople, as well as drug traffickers and other criminals, have come up with numerous ways to sanitize their dirty money. Money-laundering enables them to disguise the illegal origins of their wealth, throw off suspicions of law enforcement and erase any incriminating traces of illegal activity. Terrorist networks use similar methods to move money around to finance terrorist actions.

UNODC strengthens the capacity of States to detect, seize and confiscate the proceeds of crime and corruption and to prevent the financing of terrorism and insurgency. We offer an array of specialized software tools to law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, regulatory and asset recovery agencies and national financial intelligence units to help them investigate, monitor and evaluate suspicious financial transactions.

In 2009, UNODC finalized common law model provisions on money-laundering and financing of terrorism in cooperation with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Monetary Fund. These provisions are a crucial resource for Governments in drafting legislation for identifying and confiscating the proceeds of corruption and other types of crime.

Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) initiative

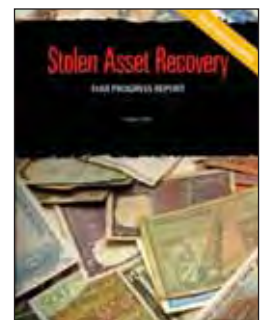
UNODC, together with the World Bank, is working to build a world where there are no safe havens for stolen assets. The joint Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) initiative works to help countries detect and recover money stolen through acts of corruption.

The foundation for the StAR initiative is the United Nations Convention against Corruption and in particular, its Chapter V, which contains groundbreaking asset recovery provisions. Working through such global forums as the Group of 20, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and other multinational bodies, the StAR initiative fosters collective global public action to tackle corruption.

Through the StAR initiative, UNODC and the World Bank work with Governments, regulatory authorities, multilateral organizations, financial institutions and civil society organizations in developing and industrialized countries. The initiative provides knowledge, access to information and capacity-building opportunities to help empower national authorities to bring stolen assets back to their countries and to ensure funds remain in countries where they belong.

The policy agenda set for the StAR initiative is part of a broader engagement by UNODC and the World Bank on international cooperation in criminal matters and global collective action on governance issues. Since its launch in 2007, the initiative has built up considerable trust and confidence in an international environment that was initially polarized on asset recovery issues. It has created a knowledge base about corruption among stakeholders and mobilized a high level of political support for the asset recovery agenda, as well as for the detection of the proceeds corruption and their deterrence. The StAR initiative also promotes the sharing of innovative global best practices on how stakeholders are detecting, deterring and recovering assets stolen through acts of corruption.

Success in recovering stolen assets and the proceeds of corruption ultimately depends on effective governance and ending impunity within countries. Thus, in 2010, the StAR initiative will expand its work on awareness-raising on asset recovery issues in developing countries and on advocating reforms in financial centres to eliminate safe havens for dirty money. In addition, partnerships will be built with champions within the financial industry, which is the first line of defence in detecting the proceeds of corruption.



StAR progress report
October 2009.

Iraq: cracking down on corruption

It was like a scene in a Hollywood movie. On 3 May 2009, the Iraqi police went to the Ministry of Trade to arrest nine officials, including two of the Minister's brothers, for stealing public funds. The police were met by a hail of bullets. During the 15-minute shoot-out, all but one of the wanted men escaped out the Ministry's back door.

The Government of Iraq estimates that billions of dollars in public funds have been lost to embezzlement and bribes since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. Although almost every Government department is alleged to be rife with corruption, it is suspected that one of the worst offenders is the Ministry of Trade, which is in charge of importing and distributing food rations. It is thought that the Ministry may be responsible for the loss of hundreds of millions of dollars to embezzlement.

Parliament forced the Minister of Trade, Abdul Falah Sudani, to resign on 14 May 2009, for procuring poor-quality and expired foodstuffs for the national rationing programme and mismanaging the Ministry, including by hiring his brothers, who allegedly embezzled millions of dollars from food contracts. Moreover, Sudani was under suspicion of stealing public money himself.

Once forced from office, Sudani must have known it was only a matter of time before he too would be arrested. On 30 May, he boarded a flight for Dubai. Once the plane was airborne, he must have breathed a sigh of relief, thinking he'd succeeded in evading justice. But his escape was foiled. The Iraqi Ministry of the Interior ordered the aircraft to turn back mid-flight. When it landed at Baghdad airport, Sudani was arrested.

Iraq is getting serious about cracking down on corruption. After the fiasco at the Ministry of Trade and within days of Sudani's attempt to flee the country, Iraq's Commission on Integrity announced that some 1,000 arrest warrants had been issued for public officials accused of corruption, including at least 50 senior figures. The nine Ministry of Trade officials were tried and sentenced to prison terms of one to three years. As of February 2010, former Minister Sudani was still awaiting trial.

UNODC is assisting the Government of Iraq and the Commission on Integrity to build an effective anti-corruption system. We are helping to strengthen the legal, regulatory and institutional framework to prevent and combat corruption and to enhance and maintain accountability, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors. In particular, we are strengthening the law enforcement capacities of the Commission of Integrity and investigative judges to carry out effective investigations, prosecutions, adjudications and sanctions of fraud and corruption. We are providing training and tools to prevent money-laundering and to aid in asset recovery so that some of those billions lost to corruption will be returned to the Iraqi public and contribute to rebuilding the country.

UNODC has also supported the development and implementation of a national anti-corruption strategy recently adopted by the Iraqi Council of Ministers, and we are engaging the Iraqi public in promoting a culture of integrity and honesty through public-private coalitions and partnerships against corruption. Public integrity is a shared responsibility and UNODC is providing concrete tools and channels for Iraqi civil society organizations and individual citizens to play an active role in the fight against corruption.

Anti-corruption protest in front of the city hall in Kut, Iraq, on 28 May 2005.

Banner reads: "No to administrative corruption". Photo: REUTERS/Jaafer Abed Sahab RCS/TC



Children at a World Drug Day 2009 event in South Africa.



HEALTH

Putting health at the centre of drug policy

Illicit drugs threaten public health worldwide. They inflict a heavy toll on users and their families, but the larger community also suffers. Often closely linked with organized crime, illicit drug production and trafficking damage communities, undermine security and impede development, holding back entire societies. The economic cost of drug use and drug dependence in some countries can amount to 2 per cent of the gross domestic product when related criminal activities are included.

Worldwide, UNODC estimates that in 2009 between 172 million and 250 million people used illicit drugs, of whom between 18 million and 38 million were drug dependent. Drug use is one of the top 20 risk factors to health globally, and among the top 10 in developed countries. Drug users are at increased risk of contracting infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis and tuberculosis that can easily spread to the general population and add to the health care burden.

Yet drug dependence and abuse can be treated, and drug trafficking and illicit manufacturing can be reduced. Indeed, in the past decade, progress has been achieved across the globe to decrease demand for illicit drugs and to curtail and contain production and trafficking.

UNODC views drug dependency above all as a health concern. Drug users can be helped, their addiction can be treated, and these individuals, once recovered, can contribute to their communities. Branding drug users as criminals is not an effective way to deal with the illicit drug problem. Instead, UNODC promotes integrating drug treatment into mainstream health and social welfare systems, and ensuring that treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes are accessible to all who need them. Investing in prevention and treatment lowers health-care costs, improves security and contributes to social cohesion and development.

On the supply side, UNODC supports local, national and international efforts to move against those trafficking in illicit drugs and increase security. The traffickers are the real criminals, not the drug users. Cracking down hard on traffickers and producers constricts supply and makes trade in illicit drugs a more dangerous business for criminals. UNODC also fosters viable economic alternatives for both farmers who grow drug-related crops and vulnerable urban youth who might otherwise be drawn into the illicit drug trade. However, if supply reduction policies are to succeed, they must be implemented hand-in-hand with demand reduction policies aimed at preventing, treating and rehabilitating people dependent on drugs.

UNODC promotes and supports evidence-based policies, strategies and interventions that are based on a public health and human rights approach to reducing drug use and the social burden it creates. Our drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation efforts focus on decreasing vulnerability among at-risk groups, including women, youth, prisoners, people who have been trafficked and people living with HIV/AIDS. We also conduct research to better understand what makes people vulnerable to addiction, and to monitor illicit drug production, trafficking and consumption worldwide.

UNODC supports drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes in dozens of countries around the world. The 2009 flagship activities described here are intended only to highlight the scope and reach of our efforts to counter the global scourge of drugs.

To confront illicit drugs effectively, UNODC addresses both supply and demand. We strive to eradicate the conditions that feed the global drug problem, including poverty, instability, ineffective governance and law enforcement, and the disease of addiction.



High-level segment of the 2009 Commission on Narcotic Drugs.



A decade of progress in international drug policy

Compared to a decade ago, awareness of drug dependence as an illness has risen, with a resulting shift in attention towards treatment, care and rehabilitation as an alternative to criminal punishment of drug users. This increased attention to substance abuse as a health issue has helped to stabilize demand for illicit drugs by helping drug users kick the habit and stay off drugs and by focusing on prevention. Meanwhile, more effective law enforcement targeting illicit drug producers and traffickers, combined with development assistance, including investments in alternative development to enable opium poppy and coca bush growers to switch to legitimate crops, has helped to curtail and contain the production of illicit drugs.

Yet these successes in controlling the illicit drug trade have had an unintended toxic consequence: the rise of a vast criminal economy that has taken advantage of vulnerable regions where governance is weak or unstable, law enforcement is absent or corrupt, poverty is extreme and violence is endemic. According to UNODC estimates, the global market for illicit drugs is valued at over US\$ 300 billion annually. If the illegal drug industry were a country, its gross national product would rank twenty-first in the world, right after Sweden.

The illicit drug economy threatens security and development in countries already stricken by poverty and instability, but its deadly tentacles penetrate every country on the planet. Because drug cartels control such immense amounts of money, they now have the power to influence politics and business at the highest levels and gain control of entire regions. One of the most effective ways to weaken these criminal syndicates is to attack their finances, yet inadequate enforcement of existing crime control agreements and an unwillingness to consider stronger measures against money-laundering hinder that approach. This state of affairs jeopardizes the international drug control system, undermining the effectiveness of the United Nations Conventions against Drugs and endangering health, security and development worldwide.

Against this backdrop, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its fifty-second session in Vienna in March 2009 to evaluate progress over the previous decade and to identify future priorities, goals and targets for tackling the illicit drug industry.

The highlight of the session was a high-level segment to review drug control in the decade since the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, which took place in 1998. Heads of State and Ministers issued a political declaration and a plan of action and agreed on further steps to reduce the threat that drugs pose to health and security.



Canning palm hearts in a UNODC alternative development facility in Peru.



Drug user receiving medical care in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

Although the targets contained in the political declaration are very ambitious, it is important to aim high to help spur States to do all that they can to reduce the drug problem. While the ultimate goal of complete elimination may be elusive, achieving progress towards it is not. The action plan that accompanies the political declaration offers a rich array of practical options and cooperative actions to help countries decrease both the supply of and the demand for illicit drugs.

Setting the tone for drug control policy for the next decade

In the political declaration, States recognized that they have a shared responsibility for solving the world drug problem, and reaffirmed their commitment to international cooperation and multilateral approaches to reduce the supply of and the demand for illicit drugs. Crucially, they underscored that health is the foundation for international drugs policy and recognized the need for support services to prevent drug use and to treat, care for and rehabilitate drug users. Calling for a balanced and comprehensive approach and recognizing the human rights of drug users, in the declaration States established 2019 as the target date for eliminating or significantly reducing:

- Illicit cultivation of drug-related crops
- Demand for illegal substances
- Illicit production, manufacture, marketing, distribution of and trafficking in psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs
- Diversion of and trafficking in precursor chemicals used to produce drugs
- Money-laundering related to illicit drugs

In the accompanying action plan, States proposed measures to reduce the illicit supply of drugs, as well as remedies for abuse and dependence and ways to control precursors and amphetamine-type stimulants. They emphasized relying on scientific evidence to support interventions; mainstreaming drug treatment and rehabilitation into national health-care systems; and ensuring universal access to drug demand reduction services. In addition, they underscored the need for international cooperation to eradicate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush crops and the importance of alternative development opportunities for farmers.

“Looking Beyond”: building a stronger partnership with civil society

Over 440 NGOs from around the world representing more than 12 million members participated in “Beyond 2008”, the global NGO forum to review progress made in the 10 years since the General Assembly held its twentieth special session. The forum marked an important milestone in the contribution of NGOs to the formulation of global drugs policy. The input of practitioners and others active at the grassroots level has helped ensure that drugs policy will be relevant and effective and truly serve its intended beneficiaries in a way that solely top-down policymaking cannot.

UNODC commissioned an independent evaluation of the “Beyond 2008” initiative to measure its success in bringing the voice of NGOs to the 10-year review process. The evaluators determined that the initiative was a highly effective and efficient catalyst for building and mobilizing a strong, vibrant and professional global civil society. As a result, UNODC is extending this model to other areas of our mandate. Through a new initiative called “Looking Beyond”, we are consolidating and scaling up our partnership with civil society in areas such as crime prevention, criminal justice, corruption and human trafficking. We believe that working closely with NGOs will strengthen policymaking in these areas, spread best practices more widely and create more inclusive approaches to tackling these challenges.

The World Drug Report 2009

According to the UNODC *World Drug Report 2009*, global markets for cocaine, opiates and cannabis are steady or in decline, while production and use of synthetic drugs is feared to be on the rise in the developing world. The report was launched in Washington, D.C., to mark World Drug Day on 26 June by UNODC Executive Director Antonio Maria Costa and the newly appointed director of the United States Office of National Drug Control Policy, Gil Kerlikowske. Key findings include:

- Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, where 93 per cent of the world’s opium is grown, declined by 19 per cent in 2008.
- Colombia, which produces half the world’s cocaine, saw an 18 per cent decline in cultivation and a staggering 28 per cent decline in production compared to 2007.
- Global coca production, at 845 tons, is at a five-year low despite some increases in cultivation in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Peru.
- The cannabis plant remains the most widely cultivated drug crop in the world, and its products are the most widely used, although estimates about use are less precise than those about cultivation. Data also show that cannabis is more harmful than commonly believed.
- In terms of consumption, the world’s biggest markets for cannabis (North America, Oceania and Western Europe), cocaine (North America and some parts of Western Europe) and opiates (South-East Asia and Western Europe) are all stable or have decreased. Data is less clear for developing countries.
- News on synthetic drugs—amphetamines, methamphetamine and “ecstasy”—is mixed. Use has levelled off in industrialized countries but in the developing world there is concern that consumption may be growing.



Rosicler Romaña: cultivating cacao instead of coca



Rosicler Romaña on her farm in San Andrés, Colombia.

Rosicler (“Roci”) Romaña rises each day at 4 a.m. and travels an hour to her five-acre plot near the village of San Andrés, in Colombia. It’s land she worked as a child, at her father’s side, but she only began farming it herself recently. In the 1980s, when Roci was still a girl, her family was forced to flee their home because of armed conflict. A decade later, a paramilitary group came to San Andrés and initiated a new cycle of terror and violence, and Roci’s family abandoned their farm.

Eventually, peace was restored in San Andrés and Roci, who is now 34 and a single mother of four, returned with her children to the long-deserted family farm. Some of the neighbouring farmers were growing coca bush to feed the booming cocaine market. Roci considered taking up illicit cultivation herself because she needed to earn enough to support her family. However, with help from Colombia’s innovative Forest Warden Families (*Guardabosques*) Programme, which UNODC supports, she planted cacao plants and plantain trees instead. The plantain trees are already yielding marketable fruit, but the cacao plants take longer to mature.

Nevertheless, Roci knows her cacao has a solid commercial future: “I work hard with the cacao because I know that it can take me out of poverty.”

Since 2003, more than 100,000 Colombian families have benefited from participating in the *Guardabosques* programme, which aims to eliminate illicit cultivation and promote a culture of legality and sustainable development. The programme targets indigenous and Afro-Colombian rural communities in environmentally strategic regions where families are at risk of becoming involved or are already directly involved in the cultivation of illicit crops. It empowers families to become active participants in local and regional social and economic development processes, eradicate illicit cultivation and protect Colombia’s forest, soil and rivers. The *Guardabosques* programme has also opened new domestic and international markets for Colombian agricultural products like cacao, coffee, heart of palm and honey, and helped create a market for ecotourism.

Participating families commit to keeping the countryside free of illicit crops and, in return, the *Guardabosques* programme provides them with a modest economic incentive and a wide range of technical assistance to develop their marketing and management skills, promote environmental awareness and organic farming practices, and foster local cooperation in the production and sale of crops. *Guardabosques* families are obliged to save 40-50 per cent of their financial incentive to co-fund productive projects or purchase their land, and to develop and implement strategies to reclaim and safeguard their environment. As a result, *Guardabosques* families are protecting or recovering hundreds of thousands of acres each year, and the vast majority have affirmed their commitment to never cultivate illicit crops again. In the programme’s first five years (2003-2008), more than 35,000 acres of illicit crops were eliminated voluntarily with a very low replanting rate (5 per cent), and over 12,000 families purchased more than 150,000 acres in 99 municipalities.

Today, Roci is a leader of the San Andrés community and her farm is a showcase for both outside visitors and local farmers. She has hired two people to help her and her children run the farm, and she consults regularly with UNODC technical experts for news about plants and organic farming techniques that can increase her crop yield. She has turned herself into an example and an inspiration for many local people and is eager to share her knowledge. “If someone comes to my house,” says Roci, “I’ll open the door and demonstrate that you can achieve anything you want.”

Rosicler Romaña packing freshly harvested plantains.



Joint programme between UNODC and the World Health Organization

In 2009, UNODC launched an international drug treatment and care initiative in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) that is a landmark in the development of a comprehensive, integrated health-based approach to drug policy. The UNODC-WHO Joint Programme on drug dependence treatment and care aims to provide humane and accessible care to greater numbers of people with drug dependence and drug-related diseases (particularly HIV/AIDS) in low- and middle-income countries, resulting in their rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

The Joint Programme, which actively involves Governments, health professionals, NGOs and funding agencies, represents a revolution in thinking about how to deal with the drug problem. Rooted in an evidence-based understanding of drug dependency as a disease rather than a crime, the programme places prevention, treatment and care of drug use disorders squarely within mainstream health-care systems as part of an integrated continuum of care.

To best serve its target populations, the Joint Programme is developing low-cost outreach treatment and care services and increasing access to services in rural and remote areas. It will also provide alternative measures to imprisonment for dependent drug users where appropriate and, where this is not possible, offer drug dependence treatment in prison settings. The programme also supports regional networks of quality service providers working on drug dependence treatment, social support services and HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

The Joint Programme is mapping population needs, available services and programmes, and legislative frameworks for drug dependence treatment, care and rehabilitation. It supports university research and development of curricula and training programmes for professionals involved in treating drug users. It will also develop international recommendations, guidelines and standards for translating research findings into practice, and advocate changes in policy and legislation to support humane and effective drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Smoking opium in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.





“Smiling again with my grandchildren”, Mr. Boun Tien after drug treatment. Kham Nua village, Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

Treatnet

The UNODC-WHO Joint Programme builds on the accomplishments of Treatnet, the international network of drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation resource centres that UNODC inaugurated in 2008 and implemented in 2009. UNODC partners with Governments in establishing Treatnet centres, but Governments must take ownership of the programme. Each centre provides effective and humane drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation interventions, and extends these services to reach more people, particularly outside major cities. Treatnet also offers training for both health-care professionals and non-professionals involved in drug treatment, care and rehabilitation.

In its first year, Treatnet centres opened in 25 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The programme has already prepared over 200 trainers and master trainers and 2,565 Treatnet staff—but the impact of their instruction reaches much further. All of these trainers and staff share their knowledge and new perspectives on drug treatment and care with colleagues, health-care workers and the broader community, which is helping to change attitudes towards drug users and to erase the stigma surrounding drug addiction, which remains the greatest challenge to recovery.

Trends in drug treatment

Drug dependence treatment needs vary by region.

- In Africa and Oceania, cannabis is the main drug for which people receive treatment (Africa, 63 per cent; Australia and New Zealand, 47 per cent).
- In Asia and Europe, opiates are the primary drugs treated (Asia 65, per cent; Europe, 60 per cent).
- Meanwhile, in North and South America, cocaine dependence represents the largest share of drug treatment (North America, 34 per cent; South America, 52 per cent).
- There are several indications that the global problem with amphetamine-type stimulants is worsening, and that such stimulants are now the focus of a significant portion of drug-dependence treatment in Asia (18 per cent), North America (18 per cent) and Oceania (20 per cent).

Source: UNODC World Drug Report 2009

Mohamed Rashid: chasing away the dragon

“I was an obsessive drug addict for 19 years, and it was like being trapped in a cell with no light or oxygen,” Mohamed Rashid says. Introduced to drugs by friends at the age of 16, he spent his youth idling in the streets smoking marijuana since there were few job opportunities in his home of Malé, an island in the Maldives.



Mohamed Rashid running a “Drug Safe Island” programme on a rural island in the Maldives.

Seeking a stronger high, Mohamed moved on to harder drugs, and ultimately heroin. “Those were my worst days,” he says. “I would inhale one bullet, which is five grams of heroin, every 24 hours.” Placing the heroin on a piece of foil, he would move a burning lighter under it and inhale the smoke—which is known as “chasing the dragon.”

Mohamed sold drugs to support his habit and was arrested three times. His addiction took control of his life. “I stole from family members. I emotionally blackmailed my wife and spent all her salary buying drugs. I sold everything in my house,” he confesses. “I forgot that I was a son, a husband and a father.”

But his family did not forget. “I survived only because they did not lose hope in me,” he acknowledges. His family continued to care for him, but eventually Mohamed realized that they were ashamed of him. “Because of me, they too could be discriminated against. I was a curse and shame for them. That is when I decided to change my life.”

He looked for drug treatment centres but found nothing appropriate, so he attempted the painful process of withdrawal on his own. Eventually, he was put on a waiting list to enter a centre run by the Maldives Drug Rehabilitation Services, but while he was waiting he was arrested. In prison he was admitted to the rehabilitation ward, where the National Narcotics Control Board monitored him. Before he could return to his community, he had to be drug-free for five years and demonstrate good behaviour. Once released, he attended aftercare programmes for recovering users.

“It was by attending those meetings that I realized I could recover,” Mohamed says, “that if I make up my mind not to take drugs, then half the battle is won. Then, any treatment will work for me because I will make an effort to cooperate.” But he also realized that support programmes would be more successful if they involved recovering and recovered drug users. So he started an organization called Journey that is run by recovering drug users to help others in the treatment process. Journey provides peer counselling and psychosocial support, monitors the behaviour of participants to prevent relapses, and conducts awareness-raising programmes on the harmful effects of drugs. “Above all, we did not discriminate against [drug users] or make them feel like outcasts and criminals,” Mohamed emphasizes. “We treated them with love and understanding because we knew what they were going through.”

Mohamed Rashid at an HIV awareness event in the Maldives.



Today, Mohamed works in drug rehabilitation services at the Maldives Ministry of Health and Family. He has also served as a senior police officer in the National Security Services. Mohamed has been in recovery for the last seven years and remains drug-free.

UNODC supports the Government of Maldives in the design and implementation of its first Drug Control Master Plan, which comprises a comprehensive package of services for injecting drug users and their sex partners.



Teenagers taking part in a drug awareness initiative in Bulgaria on World Drug Day 2009.

World Drug Day: do drugs control your life?

Young people are especially vulnerable to illicit drug use. They tend to focus on the tantalizing highs and not the dangerous lows that drugs provide, and they are often misinformed about, or unaware of, the serious health risks, including an increased chance of contracting virulent infectious diseases like HIV, hepatitis and tuberculosis.

The UNODC world drug campaign reaches out to young people to provide them with the facts about illicit drug use and help them avoid letting drugs take control of their lives. On 26 June 2009, the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, UNODC released a new public service announcement targeted at youth that vividly shows how drug use damages the lives of four young women and men; it will be aired regularly on CNN throughout 2010. UNODC also hosted World Drug Day concerts, rallies and other public events for kids and families around the globe to promote drug-free communities. We also use social media like Facebook and Twitter to engage and inform young people about the realities of drug use and to encourage them to make healthy choices.

Reducing the vulnerability of injecting drug users and prisoners to HIV

The world made a historic commitment in 2006, when the General Assembly called for achieving universal access to comprehensive interventions for HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010. In response, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), which brings together 10 United Nations system entities—including UNODC—in a collaborative response to HIV, declared universal access as the top priority.

UNODC is the lead agency within UNAIDS for HIV prevention and care among injecting drug users and in prison settings. Although the global response to HIV has made extensive progress over the past two decades, HIV continues to spread rapidly among people who inject drugs and among prisoners in various regions of the world. Despite marked increases in funding for the overall HIV response, the gap between available resources for HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services for prisoners and people who use drugs and what is actually needed to achieve universal access remains wide.

Together with other members of the UNAIDS family, UNODC has significantly strengthened its efforts to provide universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for injecting drug users and prisoners through a new initiative called the UNAIDS outcome framework (2009-2011). This initiative calls for joint action to reach the most vulnerable populations and bold new measures to break through social, political and structural constraints impeding access to effective HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services.

With over 100 dedicated staff based at the country level, UNODC works on HIV in 55 priority countries in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, South and South-East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. We help countries provide people who use drugs, prisoners and people vulnerable to human trafficking with comprehensive, evidence-informed HIV services. We support the review and development of effective policies, legislation, strategies and programmes, and we

In 2009, UNODC organized the first national consultation on HIV/AIDS in prison settings in Brazil.



strengthen the capacity of national partners—including Government agencies, civil society and community organizations—to ensure that these most at-risk groups receive optimum HIV services. UNODC also actively promotes the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS in the development and implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for effective HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.

UNODC is also establishing regional networks in Africa and Latin America that focus on HIV in prison settings, inviting all stakeholders to exchange expertise with the common objective of developing comprehensive HIV prison policies and programmes in each country. In 2009, UNODC organized the first national consultation on HIV/AIDS in prison settings in Brazil.

AIDS 2010: Rights Here, Right Now

With the 2010 deadline for providing universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support on the immediate horizon, the XVIII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2010), will be a clarion call for leadership, accountability and action. Convened by the International AIDS Society in partnership with UNODC and UNAIDS, the conference is the world's premier gathering devoted to AIDS. The event will draw global attention to the need for continued investments to broaden human rights, health and development goals.

Some 25,000 scientists, policymakers, health-care professionals, civil society representatives and people living with HIV/AIDS will assemble in Vienna in July 2010 to review new scientific knowledge, take stock of progress and chart a way forward in the effort to end the pandemic. We also expect some 2,500 journalists from over 100 countries; through their coverage of the conference, they will help spread information and new findings on HIV/AIDS to people all over the world. At AIDS 2010, there will also be numerous public programmes at a "global village", including information sessions, networking zones, NGO exhibition booths, art exhibits, film screenings, performing arts and much more. A special youth programme will target activities to strengthen the participation of young people and spotlight youth issues at the conference.

The theme of AIDS 2010, *Rights Here, Right Now*, underscores the need for concrete human rights measures to protect those most vulnerable to and most affected by HIV—including women and girls, people who use drugs, prisoners, sex workers, migrants, men who have sex with men and transgender persons. Vienna was chosen as the venue of the conference in part because of the central role it plays in bridging Eastern and Western Europe and because of its proximity to Eastern Europe and Central Asia, where an estimated 1.5 million people are living with HIV/AIDS and where HIV is spreading rapidly, largely through injecting drug use.

For more information, visit www.aids2010.org.



Facts about HIV/AIDS and injecting drug use

- There are an estimated 15.9 million injecting drug users worldwide, and up to 3 million of them are infected with HIV.
- The highest concentrations of HIV-positive injecting drug users are in Eastern Europe, East and South-East Asia and Latin America. In parts of these regions, as many as 40 per cent of injecting drug users are HIV-positive.
- Injecting drug users often have little or no access to HIV prevention and treatment services. For example, globally, only two needle syringes per injecting drug user are distributed per month. Only 8 per cent of injecting drug users receive opioid substitution therapy. Only 4 per cent of HIV-positive injecting drug users receive antiretroviral therapy.

Sources: UNAIDS (2010); Mathers, B. et al. (2008); and Mathers, B. et al. (2010).

Rolandas Daugilis: learning the facts about HIV and injecting drug use

“When I was using drugs, I had no fear of getting infected with HIV,” says Rolandas Daugilis, a 48-year-old former heroin user in Telšiai, Lithuania. “But no one knows what might have happened in extreme conditions if there were no other options. Maybe I would have taken the risk and shared the syringe.”

For almost 24 years, Rolandas injected heroin. Over the years, he tried many times to quit, but only succeeded once he started methadone substitution therapy in 2007. He credits methadone with giving back his life: “Methadone has brought me back to normal life and it lets me experience the joy of living. Methadone gave a new chance to me and my family.”

Although Rolandas didn’t know too much about HIV while he was using drugs, he did know that the virus could be transmitted by sharing needles with someone who was infected. So he was careful about using his own syringe and not sharing. Despite his long-term drug use, today he remains HIV-negative.

When he was hospitalized for heroin detoxification in the Klaipeda Centre for Addictive Disorders, Rolandas came face to face with HIV because most of the Centre’s other patients, who were all injecting drug users, were HIV-positive. “I knew that you cannot get HIV from just being near the person,” he says, “so I was not afraid of them and I interacted with those guys the same as with the others.” He notes, however, “unfortunately there were people who avoided them.”

During his hospitalization, Rolandas took a course on HIV/AIDS. He learned more about how HIV is transmitted and how to protect himself from infection. He also learned about treatments for HIV/AIDS, and that people living with the disease can lead productive lives within their communities. “Now that I’m in the methadone programme and can see everything clearly,” Rolandas says, “of course I’m afraid of getting infected.” But now he also knows what he can do to minimize that risk, and how he can help educate others about the facts of HIV transmission, prevention and treatment.

Rolandas participates in a methadone maintenance programme that was started in Telšiai, Lithuania, with support from UNODC; it is now funded by Lithuania’s national health budget. In addition to improving the physical and psychological health of drug users who are dependent on opioids, one of the programme’s main goals is to reduce their risk of HIV infection.

Injecting drug use is one of the key factors contributing to the rapid spread of HIV in the Baltic States, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. According to a 2009 European Commission study, the percentage of injecting drug users who are HIV-positive in some Lithuanian cities has jumped from 1 per cent in 2005 to 8 per cent in 2008. The situation is much worse elsewhere in the Baltics: in Riga, 22 per cent of injecting drug users are infected with HIV, while in Tallinn, 55 per cent of injecting drug users are HIV-positive.

Methadone substitution therapy is highly effective in reducing behaviours that put injecting drug users at risk of contracting HIV. World Health Organization studies in Lithuania and other countries have demonstrated a significant decrease in unsafe injecting practices and improvements in the health and social status of those being treated with methadone.

Rolandas Daugilis receiving methadone substitution therapy in Telšiai, Lithuania.



UNODC Illicit Crop Monitoring Programme staff surveying opium poppy fields in Myanmar.



RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Data, tools and expertise to inform drug and crime policies

UNODC research on drugs and crime is thorough, objective and firmly based on evidence. We rely on scientific methods to help us achieve justice, security and health for all. Our findings are grounded in data gathered by Governments, UNODC and other international institutions. UNODC and other experts use this information to identify and analyse drug and crime trends, which enables us to detect both improvements and emerging threats and to pinpoint areas where interventions are most likely to achieve positive results. Our research findings also provide a solid basis for the development of practical tools, training and other resources for policymakers, legislators and criminal justice professionals, which in turn impacts policy and practice.

Research publications

Policymakers, experts and journalists worldwide rely on UNODC research on drugs and crime. Because our data is evidence-based and objective, we are often asked to serve as an honest broker in policy formulation on key issues.

UNODC research publications report our findings and inform national and international drug and crime policies. Each year, we publish a number of authoritative reports on global, regional and national trends in drugs and crime. Our premier publication, the annual *World Drug Report*, provides comprehensive, balanced information on drug trends at the global, regional and national levels. We also produce illicit crop monitoring reports, including an annual Afghanistan opium survey and regular updates on coca cultivation in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, opium poppy cultivation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar, and cannabis cultivation in Morocco.

UNODC also tracks crime statistics and produces specialized reports on crime, such as the 2009 *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* and the 2010 report *Corruption in Afghanistan: Bribery as Reported by Victims*. In April 2010, UNODC will release the first global report on transnational organized crime. Gathering facts and information on crime is particularly challenging and UNODC is working to develop and refine measurements and standards to improve the ability of Governments and international institutions to collect and analyse crime data.

All of our in-depth research reports and crop surveys, as well as news and information about drugs and crime, are fully accessible on the UNODC website. Many are available in more than one language.

Tools for practitioners

UNODC produces a wide variety of specialized tools and resources for legislators, policymakers, law enforcement and criminal justice officials, health-care providers, NGOs and other practitioners who work in areas covered by our mandate. These include handbooks, manuals, model laws, case studies, assessment instruments, training modules and other resources and reference tools. Many are provided in local languages as well as English, and most are available on the UNODC website as well as in printed form.

To give some sense of the range of practical tools we produce, as well as the breadth of issues they cover, here are a few examples from 2009: a *Multilingual Dictionary of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Under International Control*; a manual on *United Nations Criminal Justice Standards for United Nations Police*; a *Handbook on Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism*; and a model law and related commentary on *Justice in Matters Involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime*. Many other UNODC tools and resources produced in 2009 are mentioned elsewhere in this report.

UNODC is one of the world's leading sources of reliable data, analysis and forensic science services related to illicit drugs and crime. We also provide practical tools and resources for policymakers, legislators and criminal justice professionals.

CRIME

SEALED EVIDENCE
DATE _____ BY _____
DO NOT REMOVE

Case No. _____ Date Collected _____ Time Collected _____ Officer _____
Description of Item _____ Case No. _____ Collected By _____
Location Where Found _____

CHAIN OF POSSESSION									
Obtained From	Date	By	Received From	Date	By	Class To	Time	Permitted To	Time

Use this form to record the chain of possession for all evidence collected. It should be filled out by the collector and maintained with the evidence. It is the responsibility of the collector to ensure that the chain of possession is maintained at all times.

Forensic science materials for preserving and analyzing crime scene evidence.
Photo: UNODC / M. Borovansky-König



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SCIENTIFIC AND FORENSIC SERVICES

Science in the service of justice, security and health

UNODC scientific and forensic services aim to improve the national forensic capacity and capabilities of Member States to meet internationally accepted standards, to ensure the worldwide availability and accessibility of internationally accepted standards, and to increase the use of forensic science services, data and information for evidence-based operational purposes, strategic interventions and policy and decision-making. Our forensic services cut across a number of UNODC mandates and activities, supporting work related to countering trafficking in drugs and persons, smuggling of migrants, and identifying fraud.

Whereas UNODC scientific and forensic services have traditionally focused on drugs, in recent years we have devoted more attention to applying scientific methods to combating other forms of criminal activity. Adhering to forensic best practices from the crime scene to the courtroom helps ensure that the criminal justice process is fair and effective. UNODC forensic services provide tools and resources for law enforcement and criminal justice professionals to improve crime scene awareness and protect and preserve evidence. In 2009, we published the manual *Crime Scene and Physical Evidence Awareness for Non-forensic Personnel* and followed up with a pilot training programme cosponsored with INTERPOL devoted to crime scene awareness and investigation in Nigeria. In 2010, we will offer a similar training programme in Pakistan and introduce a computer-based training module on crime scene investigation that will enable law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners in many more countries to benefit from our expertise. We will also begin providing basic crime scene kits that include tools for preserving and collecting physical evidence at the crime scene.

Drug research and analysis, including efforts to enhance the quality of national drug-testing services, remain a priority for UNODC scientific and forensic services. Our international quality assurance programme assesses, improves and standardizes the work of national drug-testing laboratories through blind testing and analysis of their performance and provision of tools required to meet international standards. In 2009, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs called on UNODC to increase our work in this area, so we are introducing a secure and confidential online mechanism for evaluating the performance of national drug-testing laboratories and providing them with near real-time feedback that will enable us to support more laboratories in more countries.

Given growing international concern over the rise in illegal production and use of amphetamine-type stimulants, UNODC launched the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme in 2007 to provide quality information on synthetic drugs, including patterns of trafficking and use. The global SMART programme works with Governments in particularly vulnerable regions to improve their ability to track and analyse trends in synthetic drug production, trafficking and use so that they can develop and implement effective policies to address the problem. To date, the programme is cooperating with 11 Member States in East Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific. In 2009, the programme began publishing a twice yearly update on global developments in synthetic drug use, an important source of data and trend analysis for policymakers and law enforcement and criminal justice officials around the world.

UNODC provides quality assurance support and other technical services to a wide range of stakeholders involved in drug control and crime prevention, including drug analysis and forensic science laboratories, criminal justice and law enforcement authorities and regulatory and health authorities.



Young Buddhist monks in
an Internet café in Luang
Prabang, Lao Democratic
People's Republic.
Photo: Hank Leung

UNODC.org

Engaging with a global audience

In 2009, UNODC joined the world's most popular social networking sites, enabling people all over the world to interact with UNODC and with each other on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube. Thanks to these interactive communication tools, we are actively fostering an international dialogue covering an array of issues related to justice, security, health and integrity in which all viewpoints are welcome. We are reaching a larger and much more diverse audience, especially among young people, NGOs and professionals working in the field. What's more, our audience is not limited to communicating in English, which means that many more voices and perspectives are now represented in the global debate on drugs and crime. As a result, the UNODC website is more popular than ever, and the number of users continues to grow steadily.

The UNODC website is an invaluable source of the most current information on the issues covered by our mandate for experts, policy-makers, educators, the media and ordinary people around the world. Users can keep up to date on UNODC activities and global developments in drugs and crime through our electronic newsletter and RSS feeds, and get a more complete story through Flickr, YouTube, podcasts and videocasts.

UNODC has led the way within the United Nations system in taking advantage of new online tools for dialogue and interactive communication, and other United Nations entities have begun to follow our example. UNODC has only begun to tap into the potential of social networking, yet as of January 2010, we already had over 10,000 supporters of the UNODC Blue Heart Campaign on Facebook—one of the largest Facebook groups devoted to ending human trafficking.

Going forward, depending on sufficient resources, UNODC will continue to enhance our website to enrich the resources it offers, make it more interactive and increase its accessibility to people who communicate primarily in languages other than English.

UNODC is communicating with an ever-expanding global audience. Our website and social networking tools are encouraging dialogue and debate and increasing awareness and understanding of the issues.



Twitter: follow the latest UNODC updates in different languages:

twitter.com/unodc - English
 twitter.com/unodcesp - Español
 twitter.com/unodcprt - Português
 twitter.com/unodcrus - Русский



Facebook: become a UNODC fan or join one of our campaign groups and causes:
 facebook.com/unodc



YouTube: view interviews, video news releases and public service announcements:
 youtube.com/unodc



Flickr: take a look at a selection of UNODC campaign and event pictures:
 flickr.com/unodc

Destruction of firearms in Bigene, Guinea-Bissau.
Photo: United Nations Peacebuilding Support
Office in Guinea-Bissau



PARTNERSHIPS

Cooperation towards shared goals

In 2009, UNODC partnerships resulted in two particularly noteworthy outcomes: our first joint programme with the European Community (to counter piracy off the Horn of Africa) and a joint programme with the World Health Organization on drug dependence treatment and care.

In 2009, UNODC developed productive relationships around regional issues with the African Union Commission, the Caribbean Community and the Central American Integration System (SICA). We also increased our cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank. Of growing importance is our cooperation with the corporate sector and private foundations, which encompasses advocacy, marketing support, project management and training, as well as direct sponsorship of UNODC projects, including research and publications.

UNODC continues to engage with the multi donor trust funds office, which only funds projects developed through United Nations country teams. In 2009, UNODC secured such funding from the "One UN Funds" for projects in Cape Verde, Mozambique and Viet Nam and from the UNDP Spain Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund. The multi donor trust funds are a growing source of UNODC project support. Furthermore, UNODC staff have been placed in the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau and the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone.

UNODC cooperation with other United Nations entities is extensive and growing. We play a leading role in several multi-agency initiatives, including UNAIDS, UN.GIFT and the United Nations Rule of Law Coordination and Resources Group. In 2009, UNODC signed a memorandum of understanding with UNDP to increase and enhance collaboration and joint initiatives and avoid duplication of technical assistance programming designed to strengthen the rule of law, criminal justice systems and anti-corruption efforts.

In 2009 we cooperated with the following entities:

- Coordinating Action on Small Arms
- Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- Department of Political Affairs
- Economic Community of West African States
- Inter-American Development Bank
- INTERPOL
- International Maritime Organization
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Office for West Africa
- World Bank
- World Health Organization

To extend the reach and impact of our work, UNODC cooperates with an array of international and regional organizations, United Nations entities and other partners.



FINANCES AND FUNDING

Growing demand versus shrinking core financial support

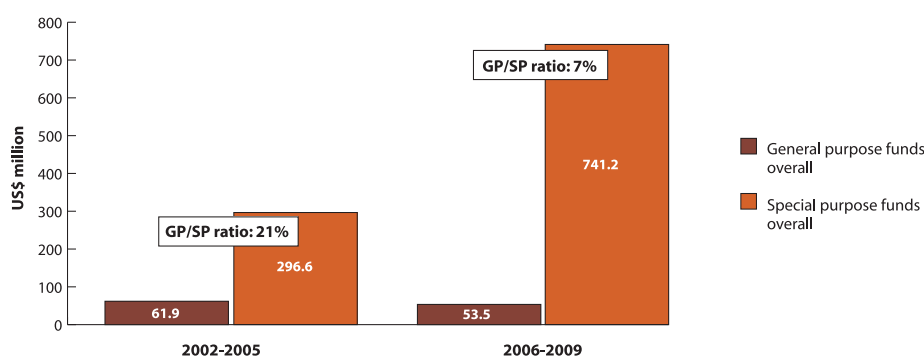
UNODC relies on Member States to fund our efforts to tackle crime, drugs and terrorism worldwide. We also receive financial support from multi-donor trust funds, other United Nations entities, international financial institutions, private foundations and other organizations.

Most of our funding¹ is tightly earmarked for special purposes and programmes, while un-earmarked funding for general purposes is limited. In 2009, as a consequence of the global financial crisis, UNODC experienced a sharp decline of 26 per cent in general purpose income—which finances a key part of our core budget and activities. General purpose funds represent less than 6 per cent of total funding available to UNODC, and their decline has a disproportionate impact on day-to-day operations and our ability to carry out our mandate. General purpose funds pay for UNODC core programmatic functions such as policy analysis and research, strategic planning, independent evaluation, advocacy, field offices and our financial monitoring system.

The effectiveness of UNODC is severely compromised by this flawed funding model. As the diagram below starkly illustrates, even though overall funding for UNODC has increased in recent years, general purpose funds have declined in both relative and absolute terms.

UNODC requires adequate, predictable and sustainable resources in order to fulfil its mandate effectively.

Ratio of general purpose funds to special purpose funds (2002-2009)*



* as of 3 February 2010

UNODC has begun to take steps to overcome this challenging situation by rationalizing and simplifying its fragmented, project-based approach with the development of integrated regional and thematic programmes. We have also substantially realigned our field office network, increased cost-sharing with special purpose projects and streamlined the work of some organizational units. However, even though we are striving to streamline UNODC governance and programming, these efforts are not sufficient. In 2009, 29 general purpose-funded posts were abolished and significant reductions were made to operating expenses, travel, training, consultancies and contractual services. Today, we are not trimming fat, but cutting into the bone, which affects our capacity to implement, manage and evaluate our programmes.

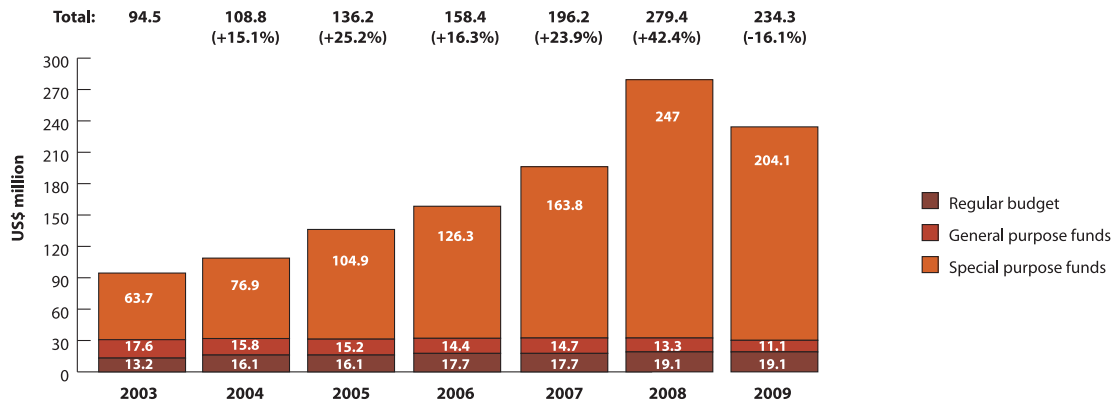
¹ Throughout this text, the term "funding" refers to funding agreements signed in 2009, part of which may be collected in later years. The term "income" refers to actual collections recorded in 2009.

Funding trends

The General Assembly allocates less than 1 per cent of the United Nations regular budget to UNODC; in the two-year budget period of 2008-2009, this amounted to US\$ 41 million, accounting for 7.6 per cent of the total UNODC income.

In 2009, voluntary contributions were pledged in the amount of US\$ 215.2 million, which represents a decline of about 17 per cent compared to 2008 (US\$ 260.3 million). However, overall voluntary funding for the two-year budget period 2008-2009, which totalled US\$ 475.5 million, represented an increase of more than 50 per cent over the total received in 2006-2007 (US\$ 319.3 million).

Funding 2003-2009*



* as of 3 February 2010

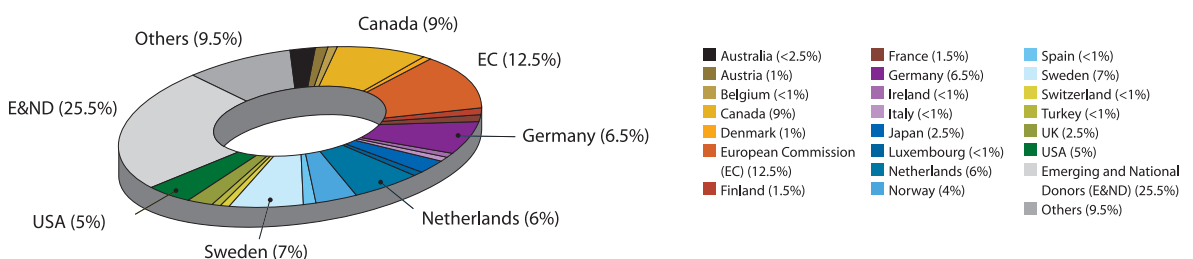
In 2009, the largest donors, accounting for 46 per cent of voluntary contributions, included: the European Commission (12.5 per cent), Canada (9 per cent), Sweden (7 per cent), Germany (6.5 per cent), the Netherlands (6 per cent) and the United States (5 per cent). The largest national donor, funding UNODC programmes domestically, was Colombia (US\$ 41.7 million), followed by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (US\$ 3.5 million) and Brazil (US\$ 2.95 million).

In 2009, 93 per cent of general purpose funding came from a small group of donors (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States). In addition, China, India, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation provided sizeable contributions for general support, and Brazil, Colombia and Mexico contributed significant cost-sharing to the local support budget.

UNODC experienced a marked shift in the composition of its funding in 2009. The major donor group provided about 65 per cent of all voluntary funding compared to 54 per cent in 2008, whereas emerging and national donors accounted for about 26 per cent. Other contributors, including United Nations entities, international financial institutions and private foundations, provided about 9 per cent, an 8 per cent increase from 2008. UNODC received significantly larger pledges in 2009 from Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

A complete list of 2009 pledges is included at the end of this section.

Distribution of 2009 pledges (US\$ 215.2 million)



UNODC income and expenditures, 2008-2009, by source of funding

(in millions of United States dollars)

	2008	2009 estimated	total 2008-2009 estimated	per cent change from 2008 to 2009
Drug and crime funds				
General purpose funds				
Income	17.8	13.1	30.9	(26.4)
Expenditure	(14.5)	(11.8)	(26.3)	(18.6)
Programme support cost funds				
Income	16.6	18.7	35.3	12.7
Expenditure	(12.6)	(12.8)	(25.4)	1.6
Special purpose funds				
Income	254.3	179.4	433.7	(29.5)
Expenditure	(184.5)	(186.1)	(370.6)	0.9
Total drug and crime funds				
Income	288.7	211.2	499.9	(26.8)
Expenditure	(211.6)	(210.7)	(422.3)	(0.4)
Regular budget expenditure ^a	(19.2)	(21.8)	(41.0)	13.5
<small>^a Includes sections 16 and 22 of the programme budget of the United Nations</small>				

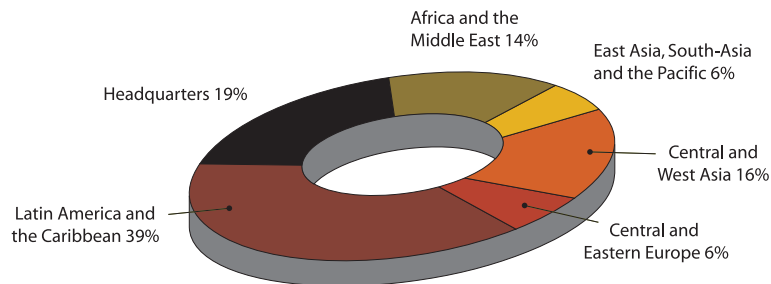
Special purpose funds. By far the largest portion of the UNODC budget, special purpose funds are voluntary contributions earmarked for specific programmes and projects. They finance the technical cooperation and other substantive activities at UNODC headquarters (in Vienna) and in the field.

General purpose funds. These funds are un-earmarked voluntary contributions that finance core elements of the executive direction and management of UNODC, the positions of field representatives and their deputies in UNODC field offices, and our Programme and Financial Management Information System (ProFi).

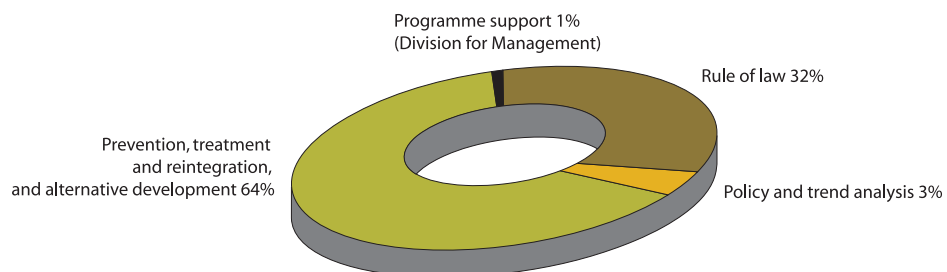
Programme support cost funds. These are funds recovered through the application of a charge against activities funded from special purpose contributions. These resources finance central administrative and programme management functions at headquarters and project management functions in the field offices.

Regular budget resources. These are received from the biennial programme budget of the United Nations. These funds cover programme activities as submitted to the General Assembly in sections 16 and 22 of the United Nations proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

2009 special purpose funds - expenditure by region



2009 special purpose funds - expenditure by theme



An uncertain future: UNODC effectiveness is undermined by an unsustainable funding model

The UNODC funding model is inadequate given the scope of our mandate. We are heavily dependent on just a handful of donors, and our core budget has decreased over time even as we face ever-rising expectations. Moreover, because UNODC depends so heavily on voluntary contributions, we are particularly vulnerable to the prevailing conditions of the global economy. For example, by late 2009, voluntary funding for the UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch had suffered a precipitous drop of almost 35 per cent in anticipated revenues, necessitating staff lay-offs. As a result of the global financial crisis, total pledges in 2010 are anticipated to decline further.

If UNODC is to fulfil its mandate effectively, we need a stronger commitment from Member States to provide us with adequate and stable core funding. While we will continue to improve the UNODC governance structure and financial situation, ultimately UNODC will only be successful if we receive sufficient and sustainable resources.

In 2009, the UNODC governing bodies, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, established a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group to respond to this situation. The working group has been tasked with assessing the problems and formulating recommendations on how to improve the governance structure and financial situation of UNODC. It will submit its report and recommendations to the Commissions at their respective sessions in March and May 2010.

In view of our continuing financial difficulties, the UNODC consolidated budget for 2010-2011, which was approved by the Commissions in December 2009, is fiscally austere. The cost-saving measures UNODC instituted in 2009 have been extended through 2011. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its review of the consolidated budget, commended UNODC for its proactive efforts to contain general purpose costs and for its prudent approach to managing programme support cost funds. The Committee is of the view that the prevailing economic situation warrants continued caution and restraint, and it recommended that UNODC continue to exercise prudence in the utilization of general purpose and programme support cost resources.

For the first time in UNODC history, the General Assembly expressed concern about our financial situation when it adopted the overall budget of the United Nations Secretariat for 2010-2011 in December 2009. The General Assembly also asked the Secretary-General to submit proposals in his proposed programme budget for 2012-2013 to ensure that UNODC has sufficient resources to carry out its mandate.

The UNODC funding model is clearly unsustainable and therefore requires strong action by our governing bodies. Member States must tackle this issue. Otherwise, the limited regular budget allotment, coupled with a drastic reduction in general purpose funding and a projected decline in programme volume due to the current economic and financial downturn, will severely impact the ability of UNODC to implement our mandate efficiently, achieve results, promote policymaking and preserve and maintain our chief asset—the expertise and knowledge we provide to the world.

Donor Support

Pledges for 2009 (Drugs and Crime) in US\$

as of 3 February 2010

MAJOR DONORS				
Donor		Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total
1	Australia	5,037,512	383,400	5,420,912
2	Austria	2,006,059	268,524	2,274,583
3	Belgium	295,858	179,138	474,996
4	Canada	18,616,442	720,721	19,337,163
5	Denmark	1,328,665	957,268	2,285,933
6	European Commission	26,390,577	-	26,390,577
7	Finland	2,373,773	733,612	3,107,385
8	France	3,242,039	383,632	3,625,671
9	Germany	12,692,616	815,642	13,508,258
10	Ireland	198,939	150,602	349,541
11	Italy	1,173,062	-	1,173,062
12	Japan	4,190,724	920,175	5,110,899
13	Luxembourg	932,652	131,234	1,063,886
14	Netherlands	12,264,074	340,000	12,604,074
15	Norway	6,973,358	1,259,446	8,232,804
16	Spain	572,020	133,136	705,156
17	Sweden	13,794,854	1,508,652	15,303,506
18	Switzerland	854,453	-	854,453
19	Turkey	490,000	200,000	690,000
20	UK	5,784,127	-	5,784,127
21	USA	9,666,055	1,353,000	11,019,055
Sub-total major donors:		128,877,859	10,438,182	139,316,041

EMERGING AND NATIONAL DONORS				
Donor		Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total
22	Algeria	-	10,000	10,000
23	Bahamas	-	1,000	1,000
24	Bangladesh	-	1,000	1,000
25	Bermuda	350,000	-	350,000
26	Bolivia	599,886	5,000	604,886
27	Brazil	2,948,633	-	2,948,633
28	Cameroon	-	1,129	1,129
29	Chile	-	10,000	10,000
30	China	100,000	100,000	200,000

Donor	Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total	
31	Colombia	41,656,488	40,000	41,696,488
32	Croatia	-	14,000	14,000
33	Ecuador	60,000	-	60,000
34	FIC Namibia	100,000	-	100,000
35	Greece	127,877	20,000	147,877
36	Hong Kong SAR	-	13,978	13,978
37	Hungary	-	39,765	39,765
38	India	431,763	103,000	534,763
39	Israel	20,000	15,000	35,000
40	Kazakhstan	50,000	-	50,000
41	Kuwait	-	5,000	5,000
42	Lao People's Democratic Republic	-	1,000	1,000
43	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	3,500,000	-	3,500,000
44	Maldives	31,794	-	31,794
45	Mexico	300,000	-	300,000
46	Monaco	65,616	10,540	76,156
47	Morocco	-	8,000	8,000
48	New Zealand	51,144	-	51,144
49	Pakistan	-	996	996
50	Panama	200,000	3,000	203,000
51	Peru	1,078,730	-	1,078,730
52	Poland	145,349	-	145,349
53	Qatar	1,351,050	-	1,351,050
54	Republic of Korea	170,000	137,200	307,200
55	Russian Federation	425,000	75,000	500,000
56	Singapore	-	5,000	5,000
57	Slovenia	-	7,530	7,530
58	South Africa	95,000	-	95,000
59	Sri Lanka	-	5,000	5,000
60	Tanzania	292,420	-	292,420
61	Thailand	60,000	20,000	80,000
62	Tunisia	-	1,527	1,527
63	United Arab Emirates	231,275	-	231,275
64	Venezuela	-	10,000	10,000
Sub-total emerging and national donors		54,442,025	663,665	55,105,690

UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES				
Donor	Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total	
65	UNAIDS	8,180,038	-	8,180,038
66	UNDP	2,326,637	-	2,326,637
67	UNFIP	31,980	-	31,980
68	UNICEF	30,000	-	30,000
69	UNICRI	313,694	-	313,694
70	UNMAS	232,100	-	232,100
71	UNOPS	578,401	-	578,401
72	United Nations Children's Fund	5,660	-	5,660
Sub-total United Nations agencies		11,698,510	-	11,698,510

MULTI-DONOR TRUST FUNDS				
Donor	Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total	
73	One UN - Cape Verde	906,600	-	906,600
74	One UN - Mozambique	100,000	-	100,000
75	One UN - Vietnam	1,967,639	-	1,967,639
76	UNDEF	379,419	-	379,419
77	UNDP/Guinea-Bissau MDG Fund	193,938	-	193,938
78	UNDP/Honduras MDG Fund	121,852	-	121,852
79	UNDP/Spain MDG Fund	988,163	-	988,163
80	World Bank - UNODC Star Fund	360,000	-	360,000
Sub-total multi-donor trust funds		5,017,611	-	5,017,611

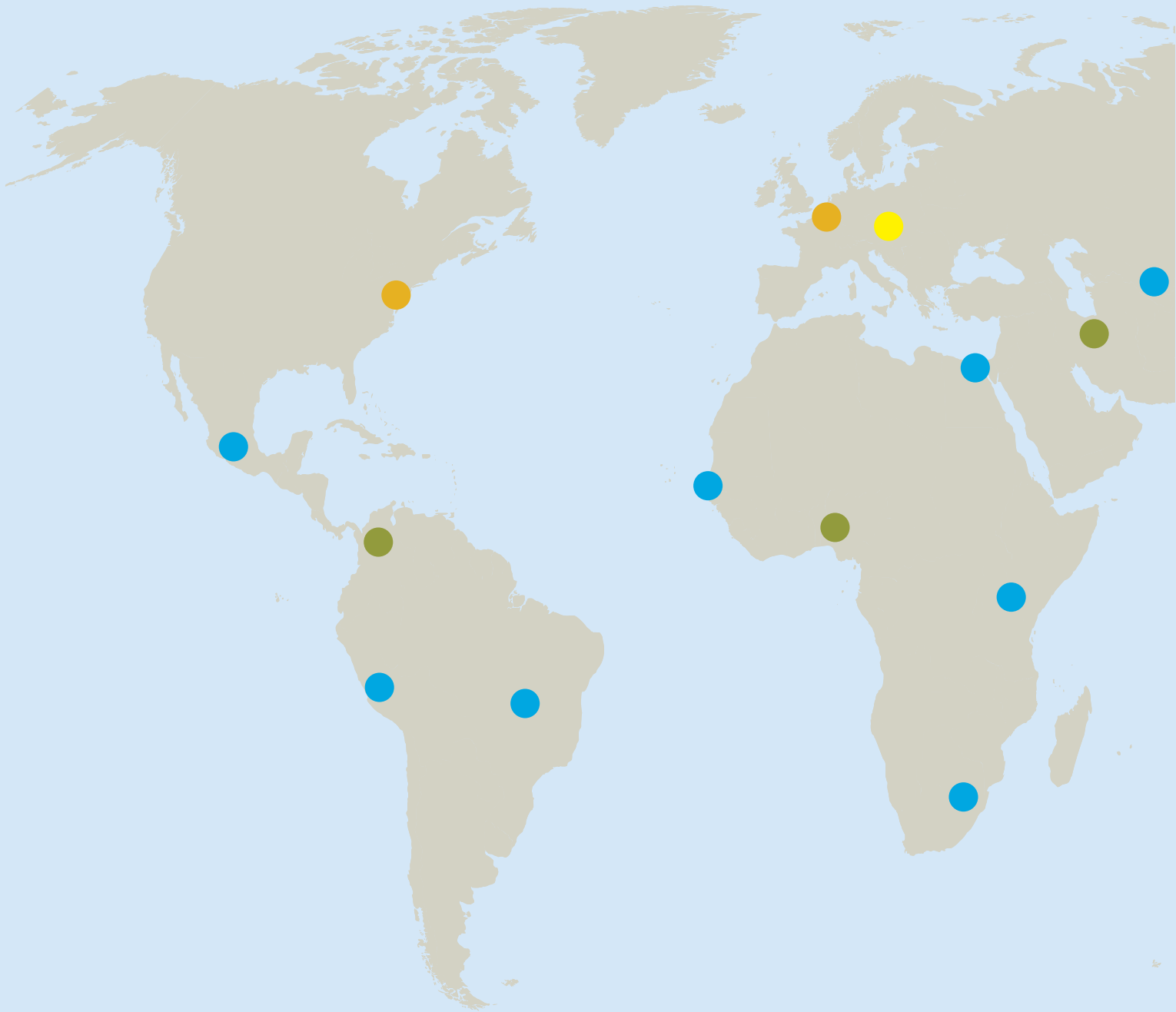
INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (IFIs) AND OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS				
Donor	Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total	
81	Council of the Baltic Sea States	105,700	-	105,700
82	INTERPOL	10,422	-	10,422
83	Indian Ocean Commission	4,518	-	4,518
84	NATO/NRC	320,000	-	320,000
85	OPEC Fund	1,189,759	-	1,189,759
86	OSCE	13,123	-	13,123
87	Organization of American States	60,000	-	60,000
88	World Bank	744,769	-	744,769
Sub-total IFIs and other inter-governmental organizations		2,448,291	-	2,448,291

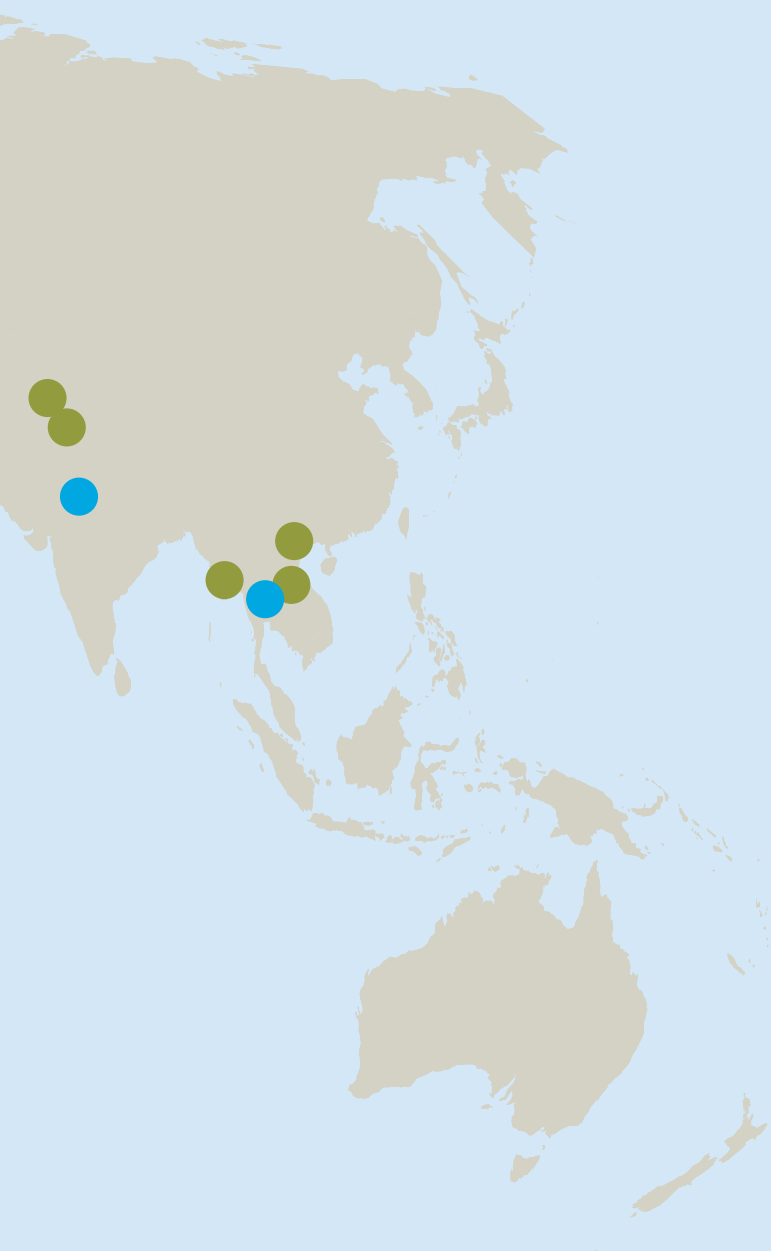
PRIVATE AND OTHER DONATIONS				
Donor	Special purpose funds	General purpose funds	Total	
89	ARTOC Group Inv. & Dev.	22,000	-	22,000
90	Anglogold Ashanti Colombia	95,000	-	95,000
91	COPARMEX, Nuevo Leon	557,580	-	557,580
92	Caixa Seguros	11,696	-	11,696
93	DAPC-Japan	173,824	-	173,824
94	Drosos Foundation	600,000	-	600,000
95	FIC Kosovo	53,050	-	53,050
96	Korea University and KYMNA	-	8,703	8,703
97	Moshino	21,269	-	21,269
98	Public Donation	34,829	-	34,829
99	Global Network HIV/AIDS (GNP+)	52,316	-	52,316
Sub-total private donations		1,621,564	8,703	1,630,267
Sub-total other donations		20,785,976	8,703	20,794,679

GRAND TOTAL	204,105,860	11,110,550	215,216,410
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UNODC field office network

UNODC operates in more than 150 countries around the world, working closely with governments and civil society to strengthen security and the rule of law and improve health and development for all.





Regional offices

- Regional Office for Brazil and the Southern Cone
- Regional Office for Central Asia
- Regional Office for Eastern Africa
- Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
- Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean
- Regional Office for Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Ecuador
- Regional Office for South Asia
- Regional Office for Southern Africa
- Regional Office for West and Central Africa
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Liaison offices

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Headquarters

The cover design of this report is intended to suggest some of the major transnational routes for illicit trafficking. It is an artistic rendering only and should not be interpreted as factual.

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