United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

MAKING THE WORLD SAFER FROM DRUGS, CRIME, CORRUPTION AND TERRORISM

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

About UNODC 3

Introduction to the 2025 Annual Report 4

Global Presence 6

Financial Overview 8

Strategic Documents 10

THEMATIC AREAS

Addressing and Countering the World Drug Problem 11

Preventing and Countering Organized Crime 16

Preventing and Countering Corruption and Economic Crime 22

Preventing and Countering Terrorism 27

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice 31

Research 35

Normative Work 38

Key Conferences, Events and Meetings 41

UN-Wide Commitments 42

Strategy Enablers 43



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ABOUT UNODC



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As the only UN office dedicated to preventing and addressing drugs and crime, UNODC helps Member States to develop and implement comprehensive, evidence-based solutions to complex and interconnected drug and crime threats at the national, regional and global levels. Established in 1997, UNODC has its headquarters in Vienna, Austria. With a network of field offices across the globe, covering some 160 countries, most of our staff and projects are on the ground in the places where we can make a difference.



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INTRODUCTION TO THE 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



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(from left) UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, State President of Viet Nam Luong Cuong and UNODC Executive Director Ghada Waly at the opening ceremony of the UN Convention against Cybercrime.

In a year marked by intersecting crises and increasingly constrained resources, UNODC continued to deliver impactful results and strengthen global efforts to tackle drugs and crime and to foster peace through justice. 2025 was a test of resilience. Crime challenges, ranging from record highs in cocaine markets and ever more deadly synthetic drug threats to online scams and trafficking for forced criminality, continued to fuel new harms.

2025 was a year focused not only on achieving operational impact but also on driving efficiency, strengthening accountability and improving results-based management to ensure that Member States' resources entrusted to UNODC translated into real benefits for people and communities everywhere. At the same time, governments also recognized the urgent need to step up joint action against crime and made important advances towards more effective and fit-for-purpose multilateral responses.

The new UN Cybercrime Convention was opened for signature in Hanoi in October. The conference mobilized over 2,500 participants and concluded with 71 States and the European Union signing the Convention. Two additional signings brought the total to 74 signatories at the end of the year. The Convention, for which UNODC serves as secretariat, is the first UN criminal justice treaty in over 20 years and represents an outstanding achievement after a lengthy and arduous five-year negotiation process.

Across every region, Member States relied on UNODC expertise to counter trafficking and cybercrime, disrupt organized criminal groups, prevent and prosecute corruption, strengthen national justice systems and confront threats of terrorism. The Office supported frontline law enforcement, justice institutions and community initiatives.

Amid crises, a trusted partner like UNODC is needed more than ever, and with this comes the responsibility to demonstrate value for money and impact. UNODC's global field network is modernizing by aligning operational functions, reinforcing accountability and harmonizing business processes to accelerate delivery, in line with the goals of ongoing UN reforms. These efforts focus on ensuring efficiency and reducing administrative duplication, while strengthening oversight and service quality.



UNODC Youth Peace Champions from Borno, Yobe and Adamawa States in Nigeria participating in a mentorship session to lead powerful radio, TV and community campaigns.

Building on lessons learned, UNODC is accelerating the rollout of comprehensive, office-wide monitoring and reporting tools to ensure clearer chains of accountability and more robust data capture, strengthening results-based reporting. Efforts will carry into 2026 and be incorporated into the new corporate strategy for 2026-2030, which will outline UNODC's vision for a just world safer from the threats of drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism.



Training on timber trade enforcement in Da Nang, Viet Nam.



University students attending a high-level event on cybercrime in Mozambique.



Cybercrime Convention Signing Ceremony.

GLOBAL PRESENCE

UNODC's network of field offices has grown over more than 25 years. Spanning across all continents and regions, it provides a wide range of services to governments and other stakeholders in all UNODC mandate areas. With a physical presence in 102 countries and 77 per cent of personnel based in the field, the Office is committed to delivering impactful, evidence-based technical assistance and solutions worldwide, each tailored to address the specific needs of the communities it serves. UNODC's efforts are guided by the UNODC Strategy 2021–2025 as well as regional strategies, frameworks and programmes. More information is available on page 10.

164
countries and territories supported

102
countries with physical presence

2,961
total workforce

77%
of personnel based in the field



51%
female personnel

Strengthened UNODC presence in areas affected by conflict and crisis

In 2025, UNODC continued to deliver comprehensive, expert responses in conflict and crisis-affected regions. UNODC's sustained field presence in Haiti delivered robust and critical technical assistance. From equipping customs officers with the skills to identify contraband at passenger and cargo entry points to supporting the establishment of Specialized Judicial Poles for financial crimes, the Office contributed to strengthening efforts to combat organized crime in a highly volatile environment. UNODC's quarterly analytical reports to the UN Security Council pursuant to resolution 2692 (2023) on firearms trafficking routes and illicit financial flows further ensured that international decision-making was informed by timely, field-based analysis.

UNODC also continued to expand its work in Ukraine, delivering targeted technical assistance and promoting international cooperation. Efforts ranged from facilitating the first nationwide rollout of training on international prison standards to conducting an assessment to identify crime and corruption risks in the minerals sector. The Office also launched two reports on organized crime trends during wartime and the risks of trafficking in persons among Ukrainian refugees, which formed the basis for the development of the country's organized crime strategy and trafficking in persons strategy, respectively.

UNODC's work in Afghanistan focused on addressing the world drug problem by providing alternative livelihoods for former poppy farmers, supporting drug use prevention, treatment and rehabilitation and conducting research to inform responses. Additional efforts included developing community-based early warning systems for detecting and preventing radicalization into violent extremism against ISIL-K and other violent extremist actors in high-risk border regions.

1 Headquarters

10 Regional Offices

6 Country Offices

2 Liaison Offices

87 Programmes Offices



Following the change in regime in Syria in December 2024, UNODC established a surge initiative in early 2025, with experts engaging in constructive dialogues with key ministries and institutions, including Foreign Affairs, Interior, Justice, Health, Borders, Social Affairs and the Central Bank, to identify national priorities and outline coordinated responses. With "captagon" production and trafficking being a major concern, joint research on synthetic drugs in the Arab countries by UNODC - Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) has been critical in providing timely and reliable information to inform targeted technical assistance aligned with broader UN system efforts. Renewed cooperation efforts have further led to a surge in "captagon" seizures in the region, with over 500 million tablets reported by the Syrian authorities alone, and the dismantling of 15 industrial-level laboratories and 13 smaller facilities for storage in the country.

In Myanmar, where ongoing conflict, economic challenges and weakened governance structures have contributed to the expansion of the illicit drug economy, UNODC's Myanmar Opium Survey continued to support governments, humanitarian partners and regional stakeholders in developing informed responses to illicit crop cultivation and its drivers. Complementing its analytical and policy work, UNODC also supported alternative development programmes and emergency humanitarian drug prevention and health response initiatives, including by implementing family skills programmes in camps for internally displaced persons.

Through these and other efforts, and in line with UNODC's mandate and international standards, the Office contributes to addressing the crimes that fuel and sustain violence, conflict and instability, exacerbate societal tensions and erode trust in governments. In doing so, it supports crisis prevention and response, facilitates recovery, bolsters community and institutional resilience and advances the rule of law, helping to restore stability and lay strong foundations for sustainable peace and development.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

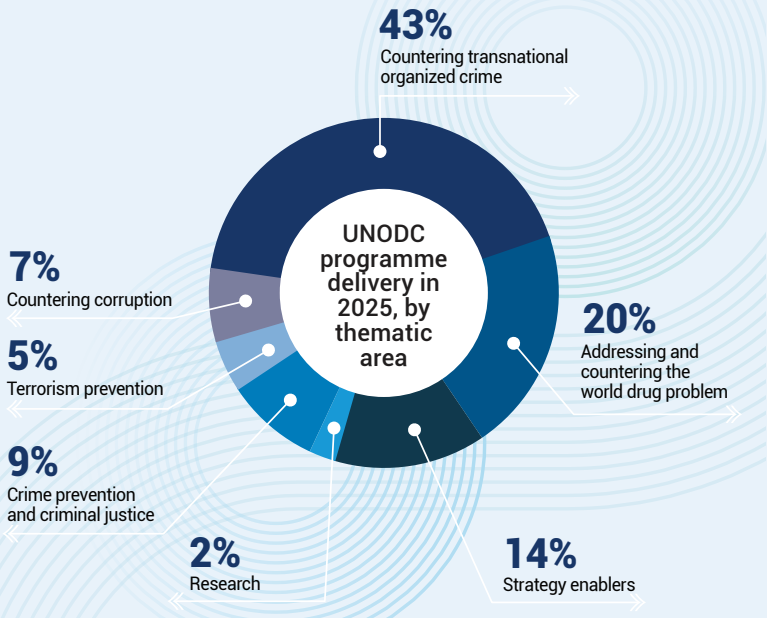
In 2025, resource limitations stemming from the regular budget liquidity crisis and reduced extrabudgetary contributions from certain donors, as well as the continuing imbalance between earmarked (special-purpose) and unearmarked (general-purpose) contributions, posed significant challenges to UNODC's operations. These constraints compromised its ability to respond to rapidly changing global priorities, to deliver on global mandates and to strengthen enablers of development.

UNODC's total revenue reached $526.0 million in 2025. Voluntary contributions continued to form the backbone of support at global, regional and national levels, with earmarked contributions comprising 87.1 per cent ($458.1 million). The general-purpose or unearmarked contributions represented a vital but limited portion of UNODC's budget, reaching $3.4 million, less than 1 per cent of UNODC's total income. Despite their modest share, these funds played a crucial role in sustaining core programmatic functions, including research and forensic and scientific services. Furthermore, assessed contributions to the UN, under the regular budget, continued to form a minor part (4.7 per cent) of total revenue, at $24.7 million.

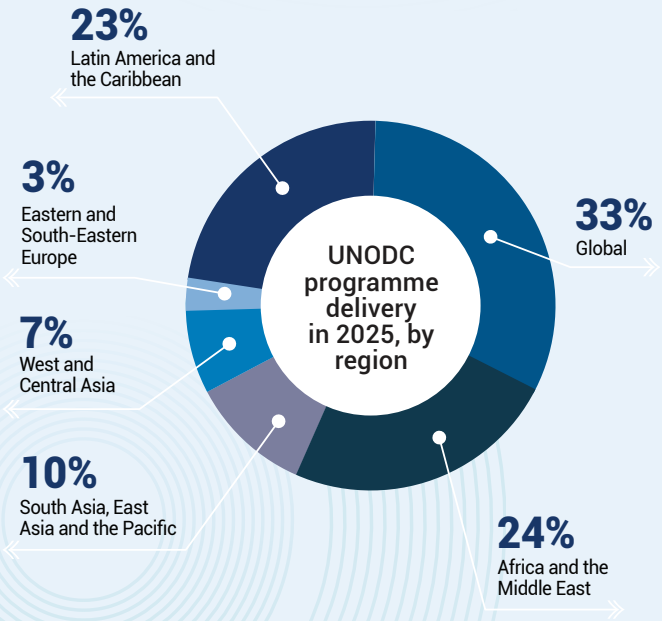
2025 Revenues and Programme Delivery (USD million)

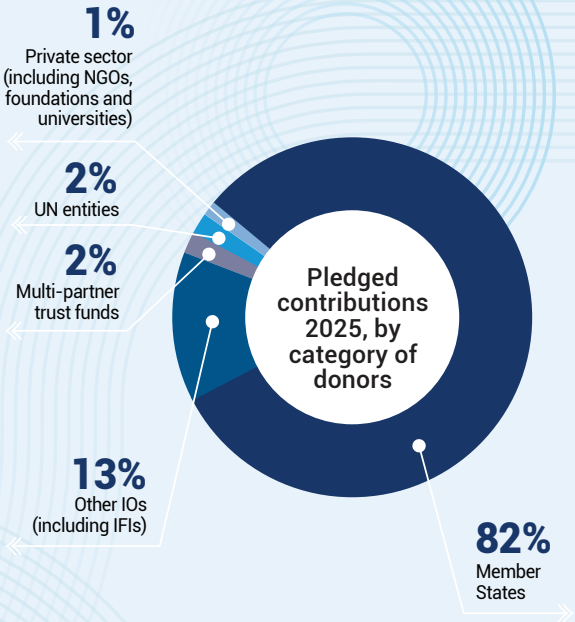
	Breakdown				Total
	General purpose	Special purpose	Programme support costs	Regular budget	
Revenues Received	3.4	458.1	39.8	24.7	$526.0 million
Programme Delivery	5.1	378.1	39.5	24.7	$447.4 million

In 2025, the main areas of UNODC programme delivery were border management, alternative development, anti-corruption, anti-money-laundering, terrorism prevention, countering human trafficking and migrant smuggling, addressing crimes that affect the environment and countering cybercrime. The largest deployment of resources by thematic area was related to transnational organized crime.



The overall expenditure on implementation in 2025 reached $447.4 million. This represented a decrease of $29.9 million or 6.3 per cent compared to 2024. Of the $447.4 million total, $302.0 million was used on the implementation of work within UNODC's network of field offices. UNODC recorded an expenditure on its global programmes of $145.5 million or 32.5 per cent of the overall total. By region, the largest resources deployed were to the region covering Africa and the Middle East ($109.0 million or 24.4 per cent), followed closely by the Latin America and Caribbean region ($102.4 million or 22.9 per cent).





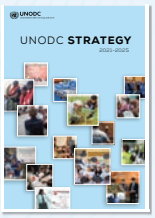
Despite a high level of pledges received in 2025, generally reflecting the strong commitment of its partners to advancing the Office's mandate, several areas of UNODC's programmes saw a significant reduction. Member States remained the primary contributors to UNODC's activities, totalling $475.7 million pledged. Their support was supplemented by key contributions from non-governmental sources and international organizations, including international financial institutions, which collectively pledged $77 million. Efforts to expand and diversify UNODC's partner base resulted in 36 new partners in 2025, which pledged a total of $8.2 million. In line with its 2021–2025 corporate fundraising plan, the Office continuously strives to expand and diversify its funding sources and explores innovative fundraising strategies, including digital fundraising, and maintains strategic dialogues and partnerships to boost contributions and enhance UNODC's global impact.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

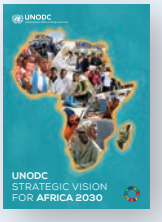
In its final year of implementation, the UNODC Strategy 2021-2025 continued to guide the Office's contributions to global peace and security, human rights and development, providing a strategic vision with key commitments across all areas of work, focusing on the world drug problem, organized crime, corruption and economic crime, terrorism and crime prevention and criminal justice. This roadmap also identified critical change and efficiency enablers, such as enhanced communication, evaluation, results-based management and partnership, that reinforced UNODC's capacity to deliver responses effectively, efficiently and with accountability. Through the implementation of the Strategy, UNODC also contributed to protecting the rights of and addressing the specific challenges faced by vulnerable populations, including women, children, youth and persons with disabilities. Regional, country, and thematic strategic visions and frameworks have complemented the corporate Strategy, further guiding UNODC's technical assistance to Member States in delivering comprehensive solutions to drug and crime issues, leaving no one behind.

Scan the QR code and learn more about how UNODC is tackling the world drug problem, fighting organized crime, preventing and countering terrorism, corruption, money-laundering and economic crime and promoting fair and effective criminal justice systems through its network of field offices, guided by regional strategic visions and frameworks.

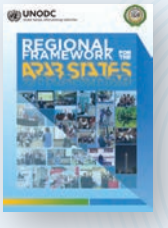
UNODC STRATEGY 2021-2025



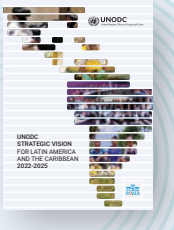
UNODC STRATEGIC VISION FOR AFRICA 2030



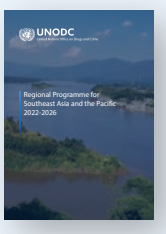
UNODC REGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ARAB STATES 2023-2025



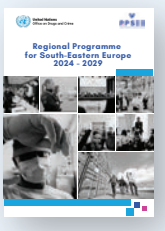
UNODC STRATEGIC VISION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2022-2025



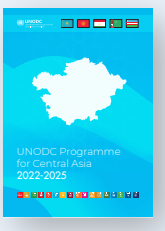
UNODC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (2022-2026)



UNODC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE (2024 - 2029)



UNODC PROGRAMME FOR CENTRAL ASIA (2022 - 2027)



UNODC REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SOUTH ASIA (2024-2028)



THEMATIC AREA

ADDRESSING AND COUNTERING THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM



UNODC personnel collecting data on opium poppy cultivation for the Myanmar Opium Survey launched in December 2025.

UNODC's World Drug Report 2025 reveals that globally the number of people who used drugs rose to 316 million in 2023, representing a 28 per cent increase over the past ten years. Against this backdrop, UNODC continues to support Member States in advancing comprehensive and evidence-based responses to the world's rapidly evolving drug challenges. The Office's work includes strengthening States' ability to detect and intercept illicit drug flows at borders and assisting countries in decreasing communities' dependence on illicit economies by providing sustainable alternatives to illicit cultivation. By equipping States with the latest scientific tools and practices, UNODC strengthens countries' forensic and scientific capacity, enhancing their abilities to detect emerging substances and understand market trends. The Office also works with Member States to strengthen prevention, treatment, care and recovery services for people with drug use disorders; provide effective HIV prevention and treatment in prisons and other closed settings; and ensure access to controlled medicines for legitimate medical needs, while safeguarding the licit supply chain from diversion. Additionally, through its research portfolio, UNODC provides timely and comprehensive analysis and tools to help countries anticipate and address drug-related threats, driving more effective and coordinated global action.

373 drug testing and toxicology laboratories across **92** countries provided with UNODC laboratory quality assurance support	**191.5** tons of drugs and chemicals safely disposed of by Member States after UNODC technical assistance	**> 54,000** people reached through drug use disorder treatment and care efforts across **36** countries	**> 75,000** individuals in **36** countries reached through drug use prevention programmes
30 Member States supported in ensuring better drug and HIV prevention and treatment, including in prison settings	**> 75,000** families benefited from UNODC's alternative development technical assistance	**> 540,000** users from 203 countries and territories actively using the **500** resources and tools in the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs	**1,415** new psychoactive substances monitored by the UNODC Early Warning Advisory from **153** countries and territories



The rehabilitation of irrigation canals has helped restore water supply to agricultural lands affected by severe drought in the Badakhshan Province.

Reducing illicit crop cultivation by supporting communities to transition to legal economic activities

In 2025, UNODC continued to expand alternative development interventions in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru, supporting farmers to transition away from illicit crop cultivation. In Afghanistan, UNODC implemented an innovative mushroom cultivation initiative designed to enhance women's economic empowerment, strengthen household food security and introduce a sustainable, low-cost income source in the provinces of Badakhshan, Helmand and Kandahar. As a direct result, 180 women-headed households produced and sold 739 kilograms of mushrooms, generating 107,080 Afghanis in income. In Bolivia, though the acquisition of Fairtrade certification and specialized technical assistance in geolocation, traceability and deforestation assessments – ensuring compliance with the European Union regulation on deforestation-free products (EUDR) – 115 families from former coca-producing communities exported 38 tons of coffee to Europe at a 48 per cent higher price, improving and diversifying household incomes. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, UNODC expanded its operations in Phongsaly Province by supporting an additional 393 households and 167.08 hectares of coffee cultivation. As a result of these initiatives, over 1,316 households in areas historically affected by opium poppy cultivation now benefit from consistent and scalable alternative development pathways. By focusing on high-yielding, marketable crops, supporting entrepreneurship, preserving the environment and fostering local ownership, alternative development interventions help drive long-term economic sustainability and address the challenges posed by the world drug problem. With a significant new contribution from Colombia to UNODC's work in the country, an additional 30,000 families in vulnerable territories are benefiting from comprehensive alternative development programmes.

> *"It is truly rewarding to see your efforts bear positive fruit (...) This orchard stands as a successful example of how the UNODC Alternative Development Programme promotes sustainable licit livelihoods through modern agricultural practices and prevents farmers from illicit poppy cultivation."*
>
> **Mohammad,**
> *beneficiary of the Programme*



Nepalese customs officer using a precursor test kit provided by UNODC for rapid, accurate identification of narcotics and illicit chemicals.

Expanding scientific and technical competence to respond to drug-related crime

The availability and use of quality forensic science services, data and information are essential to understanding emerging threats and for combating drug trafficking. In 2025, UNODC reinforced its high-impact technical and scientific training, empowering national law enforcement and forensic teams to keep pace with fast-evolving drug challenges. More than 300 law enforcement and forensic professionals from 32 Member States participated in tailored training courses across key forensic science disciplines, including laboratory identification of drugs in seizures; the analysis and identification of drugs in toxicology samples; the use of handheld detection devices for the identification, safe handling and disposal of synthetic drugs; crime scene investigation; and the detection of falsified and counterfeit security documents. Along with the distribution of 1,300 drug and precursor testing kits to front-line officers, these efforts supported Member States in developing more comprehensive, coordinated and effective responses to drug-related crime.

Strengthening prison health systems for HIV and infectious disease response

In 2025, UNODC strengthened HIV and infectious disease responses in prisons and other closed settings across 15 countries in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Working with national authorities, the Office's technical assistance helped reinforce prison health governance, align services with international standards and improve health outcomes for people deprived of liberty. In Angola, for example, the first integrated prison health assessment generated critical evidence now guiding reforms to HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis and mental health services for more than 1,700 people across three provinces. Regionally, collaboration with the Southern African Development Community resulted in a standardized Corrections Health Assessment Tool, enabling Member States to identify service gaps and direct investments more effectively. In the Middle East and North Africa, newly developed technical manuals on communicable diseases, mental health and women's health are supporting prison administrations in strengthening service delivery. To sustain this progress, UNODC also enhanced the skills of more than 1,300 prison, probation and health personnel across 12 countries, building stronger institutional capacity to address infectious diseases in closed settings.



Participants during a training on international standards for treatment and rehabilitation of people with drug use disorders in prison settings in Uzbekistan.



Young people participating in a Friends in Focus' Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in Guatemala.

Advancing drug use prevention by institutionalizing systemic approaches, strengthening family skills programmes and engaging young people

With the launch of the Children Amplified Prevention Services (CHAMPS) initiative in 2024, UNODC introduced a transformative model for drug prevention and child development that bridges the gap between policy and practice and transforms siloed efforts to multisectoral collaboration under institutionalized prevention infrastructure, aligned with the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention. With the launch of the initiative in Norway in 2025, CHAMPS has expanded its geographical footprint to ten Member States, with all countries having established formal national steering committees, creating a centralized mechanism for inter-agency coordination on prevention. Additional prevention efforts in 2025 included rolling out the first Friends in Focus pre-pilot across 12 countries, including Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, aiming to equip youth with the skills to deliver peer-to-peer drug prevention, ensuring that young people are not just beneficiaries but key actors. The training of 120 young leaders reached over 2,000 of their peers, initiating a multiplier effect that brings prevention directly into schools and communities to strengthen resilience, challenge misconceptions and foster peer environments that reduce vulnerability to substance use. In India, through the RiseUp4Peace initiative, the Office promoted crime and drug prevention among over 9,000 students, educators and young people. In the State of Palestine, the implementation of crime prevention through sports and family skills programmes benefited over 190 youth, who in turn further supported 1,112 children, families and displaced persons through community initiatives. Through these efforts, UNODC reaffirms its commitment to promoting comprehensive, scientific evidence-based and multisectoral prevention systems for children and adolescents and to advancing prevention efforts that are for youth and by youth.



Mozambican criminal investigators during a training-of-trainers on the use of RAMAN devices and data analysis.

Strengthening the fight against drug trafficking by enhancing law enforcement capacities and introducing cutting-edge technology

Sustained mentoring and capacity-building support from UNODC led the Liberian authorities to achieve historic operational breakthroughs in 2025, including the country's first-ever controlled delivery, a record cannabis seizure of 1,929 kg in September and an unprecedented seizure of over 150,000 Tapentadol pills in October. The Office's support was further extended to the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA). Between May and September, 450 officers across 15 counties and at Roberts International Airport completed a blended curriculum combining online and in-person training. The programme strengthened competencies in drug identification, interdiction strategies, intelligence analysis and dismantling clandestine laboratories, increasing the number of skilled personnel in high-risk areas by 25 per cent and significantly improving interdiction timelines and case clearance rates. In Mozambique, UNODC's technical assistance enabled the dismantling of an airport-based facilitation network, resulting in 14 arrests following near-real-time investigations. Moreover, the deployment of testing capacity in all provinces, combined with laboratory-based and training-of-trainers programmes, supported several major seizures, including 42 kg of heroin and 90 kg of methamphetamine in Nampula province. Further, training on open-source intelligence enabled investigators to locate and apprehend a long-sought fugitive in a drug trafficking case.

Developing tailored responses to the synthetic drug problem through the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs

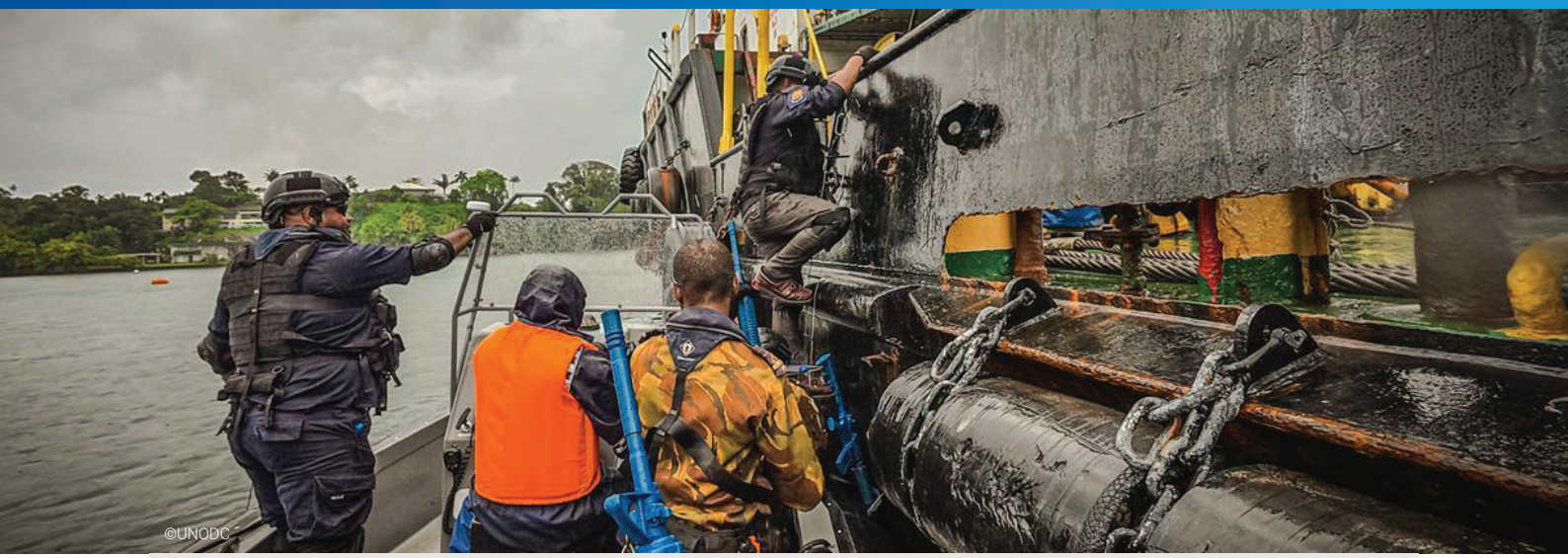
Since its launch in 2021, the UNODC Synthetic Drug Strategy has significantly strengthened global capacity to confront the fast-evolving synthetic drug crisis by providing a comprehensive, science-based framework across 130 countries. In 2025, the Office launched the Strategist, an interactive planning tool within the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs that enables users to design tailored responses to the synthetic drug problem. Through a structured question-and-answer methodology, the Strategist guides users across the four spheres of action (multilateralism, early warning, health responses and counternarcotic interventions), supporting the assessment of existing capacities, the identification of gaps and the prioritization of strategic actions. Based on user inputs, the tool generates a customized synthetic drug strategy aligned with the UNODC Synthetic Drug Strategy. This effort helps move beyond the "one-size-fits-all" approach towards context-specific responses that translate global commitments into national action and contribute to addressing the world drug problem more effectively.



Training on the detection, identification and safe handling of synthetic opioids for Guinea-Bissau.

THEMATIC AREA

PREVENTING AND COUNTERING ORGANIZED CRIME



Maritime law enforcement officers conducting boarding drills during a Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) training in Suva, Fiji.

From illicit drugs, firearms and wildlife trade to online scams and trafficking in persons, transnational organized crime poses a multifaceted and ever-evolving threat that endangers lives and livelihoods, undermines institutions and the rule of law and obstructs economic and social development across the globe. In this context, UNODC's work remains central to the international response, supporting governments and regional networks to prevent, investigate and prosecute transnational organized crime, as well as assist victims. Through legislative assistance, capacity-building, awareness-raising, forensic support, research and the facilitation of regional and international cooperation, the Office promotes the accession to and effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols. Opened for signature in 2025, UNODC is further mandated to promote and support the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime, thereby strengthening the global legal framework to address crimes committed by means of information and communications technology systems.

15 Member States and a regional organization supported in the development and implementation of whole-of-society strategies against organized crime	**> 4,700** seizures of illicit commodities[1] and **848** high-risk passenger interceptions supported by UNODC	**230** human trafficking/migrant smuggling investigations and prosecutions conducted or contributed to by UNODC-trained practitioners	**346** arrests of alleged traffickers and smugglers through joint operations conducted or contributed to by UNODC-trained practitioners
1,700 practitioners from **10** countries engaged in UNODC-supported joint cross-border operations to combat illicit firearms trafficking and related crimes **>1,500** criminal justice practitioners trained	**80** investigations on crimes that affect the environment supported with advisory, forensic and laboratory assistance	**77** countries supported in preventing and countering cybercrime through technical assistance and capacity-building **>6,600** criminal justice practitioners trained	**350** cybercrime cases related to online CSAM[2] reviewed **>150** investigations initiated or advanced and **>100** victims (minors) identified and rescued with UNODC support

1 Including drugs, falsified medical products, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) protected species, currency, fraudulent or stolen documents, Intellectual Property Rights infringements, precursor chemicals, strategic goods, weapons, and explosives, and tobacco.

2 Child Sexual Abuse Material.



Firearms seized from Operation KAFO VI.

Six countries, one frontline: Combating firearms crime through cross-border cooperation

Since 2019, cross-border operations in West Africa codenamed "KAFO" have facilitated the interception of thousands of illicit firearms and ammunition and led to the conviction of various suspects on arms trafficking and terrorism and to the dismantling of criminal networks in the region. In 2025, as part of the sixth iteration, UNODC provided support to Burkina Faso, Benin, Ghana, Mali, Niger and Togo to strengthen a regionally integrated response to illicit firearms trafficking and related crimes. To maximize impact and ensure its sustainability, KAFO VI focused on the training of frontline officers, effective investigation and prosecution of offences and national ownership of counter-trafficking mechanisms in a complex security environment. UNODC trained more than 500 criminal justice practitioners, who in turn shared this expertise with 1,254 additional frontline officers, expanding operational reach and impact. The operation, conducted by Members States with UNODC support, led to the seizure of 158 firearms, over 80,000 rounds of ammunition, 221,333 explosive items and 85,574 metres of detonating cord. Furthermore, related firearms collection campaigns recovered 957 additional firearms and 580 rounds of ammunition. Some 90 per cent of these weapons were profiled, marked and destroyed by national authorities. The operation also led to the seizure of significant quantities of illicit drugs, including heroin, cocaine, cannabis and tramadol tablets.

Creating safer online environments for children and adolescents in Central America

In 2025, UNODC partnered with Ministries of Education in Guatemala and Honduras to conduct targeted awareness campaigns addressing cybercrime and related online risks, including drug use, trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation. As a result, over 300 schools strengthened their role as frontline prevention actors, helping children and adolescents better understand online risks and adopt safer behaviours. Additionally, through a strategic public–private partnership with Grupo Salinas/ Fundación Azteca, high-quality educational content tailored to young audiences was produced and disseminated via Televisión Azteca and digital platforms, expanding access to prevention messaging. Through the continued implementation of the "Gira Vive" initiative, which combines digital broadcasts and in-person awareness-raising activities such as the theatre play "The Faces of Cybercrime," UNODC reached over 100,000 people, including at least 8,000 children and adolescents aged 7–18. By providing technical assistance to governmental authorities and strengthening partnerships with civil society and the private sector, the Office contributes to reinforcing institutional capacities to prevent cybercrime and cyber-enabled crimes, building safer environments where children and youth can thrive.



Thai university students, migrants, civil society, government, law enforcement and private sector representatives gathered in Bangkok to raise awareness and prevent human trafficking and other abuses facilitated by digital technology.



Prosecutors, investigators and central authorities from various countries visiting a raided scam centre in Phnom Penh together with UNODC officials.

Strengthening support to address trafficking in persons for forced criminality in Southeast Asia's scam centres

Across Southeast Asia, a growing web of transnational crime is forcing thousands of people into trafficking and exploitation. Victims from over 50 countries are being compelled to commit online scams, such as romance fraud and crypto schemes, under constant threat of violence. To address this rising form of trafficking, in 2025, UNODC continued to provide technical assistance to the Emergency Response Network – a regional platform established in 2024 to facilitate the timely exchange of information and intelligence among law enforcement agencies from Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam – contributing to the initiation of six joint investigations addressing cases of trafficking in persons. In Thailand, in coordination with the Royal Thai Police and 13 government agencies, UNODC established the Specialized Cyber Scam Operations and Trafficking in Persons for Forced Criminality Taskforce to further strengthen prevention efforts, victims' rescue and protection and investigations and prosecutions. Additional efforts included the launch of #TrappedInScamCrime at the end of the year, a regional public awareness campaign to expose and prevent trafficking in persons for forced criminality in scam centres. The survivor-informed and multi-platform features include survivor testimonies, regional data and high-impact visuals showing the step-by-step recruitment, entrapment and abuse that victims suffer inside scam centres. Through technical assistance, partnership building and awareness-raising efforts, UNODC is contributing to tackling organized crime at its roots.

Following the crypto trail: UNODC specialized training contributed to investigative progress in Costa Rica's Operation Madre Patria

The criminal use of cryptocurrency and blockchain technology is becoming increasingly professionalized and complex. Investigating these crimes can place a significant burden on law enforcement agencies, underscoring the value of specialized training and cross-border cooperation. Since 2023, UNODC has been training Costa Rica's Judicial Investigation Police (OIJ) investigators, prosecutors and judges on cryptocurrencies, Open Source Intelligence techniques and digital forensics, providing the skills and resources required to advance complex fraud investigations, including "Madre Patria," a mega-case involving real estate fraud, money laundering and corruption. In 2025, after years of investigations and capacity-building, the OIJ and the Organized Crime Prosecutor's Office conducted the second-largest police operation in the agency's history, deploying 516 officers across five provinces to carry out 47 simultaneous raids. This operation resulted in 39 suspects arrested, including notaries, police investigators and a sitting judge; 35 vehicles confiscated; 13 high-value properties seized; over $20 million in illegal assets frozen under court custody; and 18 bitcoins (valued at approximately €1 million) frozen in Spain — Costa Rica's first-ever bitcoin frozen abroad. With UNODC's support, the OIJ will disseminate "Madre Patria" best practices and lessons learned to law enforcement peers across Latin America, strengthening regional efforts to counter cybercrime.



UNODC's awareness raising campaign in Mexico to prevent trafficking in persons among Indigenous and Afro-Mexican communities reinforced prevention efforts through animated videos, radio spots and a practical reporting guide.

Ensuring direct, victim-centred assistance to victims of trafficking in persons through the United Nations Trust Fund (UNVTF)

Trafficking in persons has severe and lasting consequences for victims, who require both urgent protection and sustained support to rebuild their lives. In 2025, the UNVTF continued to provide small and medium-sized grants to grassroots civil society organizations that deliver comprehensive protection and recovery services tailored to individual needs. More than 3,200 victims received emergency support, over 4,000 received medical care, and more than 2,300 benefited from psychosocial counselling. Legal aid was provided to more than 1,500 victims to support access to justice and legal status procedures. In addition, over 1,650 beneficiaries accessed vocational training and/or formal education opportunities, while nearly 700 victims received repatriation and reintegration support. By combining emergency protection with health, psychosocial, legal, education and reintegration assistance, funded partners support recovery and help reduce the risk of re-victimization.

> *"Living in Baja California, a border region affected by human trafficking, I was surprised by the lack of awareness. People are often misled. Thanks to our collaboration with UNODC, we've conducted training and spread awareness in our communities, using our own language and culturally relevant media."*
>
> **Margarita Cruz,**
> *Indigenous activist from Mexico*



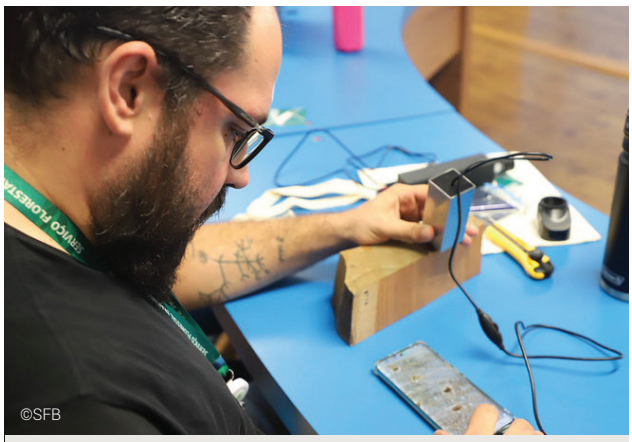
A survivor of human trafficking participating in vocational training through a UNVTF-funded project.



Site visit to the Mponeng Gold Plant in South Africa.

Strengthening Member States' defences against crimes that affect the environment

In 2025, UNODC expanded its minerals portfolio to enhance Member States' capacities to prevent and counter crime and corruption across the minerals supply chain. Its diagnostic tool and targeted situational assessments played a key role in improving understanding of how organized criminal groups exploit the extractive sector, generating evidence to inform operational planning and policy responses. Building on these foundations, the Office launched an operational mapping exercise in Southern Africa to assess regional organized crime threats in the mining sector and facilitated a regional consultation to review the Southern African Development Council (SADC) Mining Protocol, resulting in draft amendments that integrate strengthened criminal justice and rule-of-law provisions. In Brazil, in partnership with the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) and São Paulo State University (UNESP), UNODC developed and launched Lignum brasilis, an artificial-intelligence-based timber identification application designed to strengthen environmental enforcement and combat forest crime. The tool enables rapid and accurate field identification of high-value and protected native timber species, supporting traceability efforts and investigations into criminal groups involved in illegal timber supply chains. Additionally, UNODC, in partnership with the Federal Highway Police (PRF), supported capacity-building efforts to standardize timber identification methodologies and strengthen the detection of fraudulent forest management and transport documentation. As a result, 7,020 m³ of irregular timber were seized, including a national record of 2,043 m³ apprehended in a single operation.



Brazilian Forest Service specialist using the AI-based wood identification app developed in partnership with UNODC.



Inspectors at the Port of Veracruz in Mexico participating in specialized training on container profiling and inspection.

Protecting trade and connectivity: Advancing airport and port security

Airports serve as vital gateways for trade and connectivity, yet they also present vulnerabilities as channels for illicit trafficking. The growing volume of air cargo and increasing sophistication of criminal networks have underscored the need for specialized law enforcement capabilities to detect high-risk goods while ensuring the seamless movement of legitimate commerce. In the Maldives, to enhance the country's ability to detect, interdict and prevent illicit consignments, UNODC established an Air Cargo Control Unit at Velana International Airport and equipped 15 customs officers with hands-on, real-time skills on the interdiction of high-risk air cargo. The Office also provided critical tools, such as TruNarc narcotics analysers, drug and precursor field test kits and IT infrastructure, ensuring officers are fully equipped to detect illicit shipments. As a result, in June alone, the Maldives Customs Service successfully seized 18.62 kg of cannabinoids valued at over $1.6 million, based on targeted risk assessments conducted by the Unit. In Mexico, UNODC's continued technical assistance in the port of Manzanillo enabled authorities to detect 22 illicit trafficking cases, resulting in the seizure of 1,503 kg of methamphetamine, 595 kg of cannabis, 159 kg of cocaine, over 13,000 kg of drugs concealed in mixed cargo, 2.5 million counterfeit cigarette packs, and more than 113,000 kg and 6,600 litres of chemical precursors, with an estimated wholesale value of $24 million. The Office also supported the establishment of Port Control Units in Michoacán and Veracruz, further reinforcing national capacities at strategic points of entry and along key trade corridors. These efforts demonstrate the tangible impact of sustained capacity-building efforts in enhancing national responses to drugs and crime.

> *"I learned how to improve my performance in analysing containerized maritime shipments. I gained knowledge from the instructors' shared experience, as well as the ability to process large amounts of information, filter it, and set clear targets for inspection."*
>
> *Veracruz port staff member, beneficiary of UNODC specialized training*[3]

3 Identity anonymized to protect the individual's privacy and/or for security reasons.

THEMATIC AREA

PREVENTING AND COUNTERING CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC CRIME



Participants of the Coding4Integrity Asian Youth Anti-Corruption Hackathon that took place in September 2025 in Hong Kong SAR.

Financial crime is growing in scale and sophistication, affecting every sector from public institutions and private companies to financial systems and essential services. As enablers, money-laundering, corruption and illicit financial flows provide the infrastructure that allows organized crime, cybercrime and terrorism to operate and expand. UNODC assists Member States in strengthening their ability to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute financial crime. Within this context, the Office works closely with States to translate their commitments under the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) into tangible action – an instrument that now has 192 Parties after San Marino's accession in 2025. UNODC's efforts include advancing legislative and policy reforms, supporting asset recovery and building institutional capacity through specialized training. With the launch of the second phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism, UNODC will continue to support States in conducting review processes that build on the experience and results generated by the Mechanism to date and are efficient, effective and fit for purpose.

30 anti-corruption laws and **7** policies enacted across **20** countries with UNODC support	**133** institutions from **61** countries strengthened anti-corruption efforts with UNODC's assistance
> 4,200 anti-corruption practitioners, members of judiciaries and prosecutors from over **136** countries trained	**> 4,600** professionals from **80** countries trained on anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism
$267.3 million in assets seized, confiscated or returned in six countries	**94%** of UNCAC States Parties completed the first review cycle and **68%** the second, totalling **311** completed executive summaries

Leveraging technology to strengthen financial investigations and asset recovery and management

Asset recovery is a central pillar of Member States' efforts to combat corruption and organized crime, ensuring that criminals are deprived of illicit gains and that recovered assets are repurposed for the public good. In Kenya, training to address gaps in financial crime investigations and asset recovery for law enforcement agencies led the Directorate of Criminal Investigations to initiate four new investigations into proceeds of crime totalling approximately $800,000. The adoption of i2 technology – which supports the analysis of financial transactions to improve the detection of financial fraud and money-laundering – by governmental agencies further strengthened cross-agency coordination in ongoing investigations. In Mozambique, UNODC's support to improve the efficiency, transparency and sustainability of the country's asset management framework has generated $15.95 million in revenue from seized assets in 2025. Further, to transform asset management into a technology-driven, financially sustainable system, UNODC supported the development of a digital Asset Management System, including an Electronic Auction Module. Building on the success of the first in-person auctions conducted in 2024, the Module will enable nationwide weekly online auctions, expanding public access, increasing transparency and competition and reducing logistical constraints. Another significant innovation was the introduction of a capitalization mechanism for asset proceeds. In addition to statutory allocations, 60 per cent of the State's share is now invested in low-risk financial instruments. In 2025, $4.8 million was capitalized, generating over $208,000 in interest. This approach secures operational continuity, generates returns for the asset management cycle and reduces dependence on external funding.

The Philippines exits the FATF grey list following sustained UNODC support

UNODC's long-standing support through sustained legislative and policy assistance contributed to flagship legal reforms in the Philippines, which enabled the country's exit from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list in February 2025, nearly three and a half years after its inclusion in June 2021. The Office supported national authorities in enhancing legal provisions, improving enforcement mechanisms and aligning regulatory practices with FATF standards. Further, and in line with FATF Recommendation 24 concerning beneficial ownership transparency, the Philippines Securities and Exchange Commission signed data-sharing agreements in 2025 to enable the use of beneficial ownership data in public procurement. In October 2025, it also launched the Open Data Portal and the modernized Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS). UNODC will continue to support the government in its ongoing efforts to strengthen anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism framework in compliance with international standards.



Senior judicial leaders engage in a high-level discussion in Manila, the Philippines, on strengthening judicial integrity and accountability.



UNODC meets the newly appointed prosecutors handling complex cases of organized crime and corruption, at a former confiscated hotel now providing accommodation for Ukrainian refugees, with more than 13,600 overnight stays so far.

Strengthening anti-corruption systems in Bosnia and Herzegovina

In 2025, Bosnia and Herzegovina advanced key reforms in its fight against corruption and organized crime, with UNODC playing a pivotal role in the implementation of the anti-corruption and organized crime strategies. Institution-building efforts included supporting the establishment of the Asset Recovery Office (ARO) within the Federal Police Administration by facilitating interdepartmental coordination, introducing best practices and establishing operational links to different decentralized database systems. The Office also provided capacity-building for prosecutors, investigators and economic analysts of the Special Department for Combating Organized Crime, Corruption and Inter Cantonal Crime (POSKOK) within the Federation Prosecutor's Office. As a result of these efforts, in less than five months, POSKOK – supported by ARO – took on more than 700 complex cases. Furthermore, UNODC also strengthened asset recovery mechanisms by delivering financial investigation training to the Federal Seized Property Management Agency, which contributed to a 56 per cent increase in financial investigations-related convictions. Illicit proceeds and seized assets are now being reinvested into society by the national authorities.

Strengthening the fight against corruption and financial crimes in Colombia

In Colombia, to move beyond corruption risks identification to the implementation of specific prevention and control tools, UNODC strengthened the capacities of more than 3,000 people and 200 public and private entities, including in the port, energy and health sectors. The Office also facilitated the identification of 37 corruption typologies across the eight main seaports and the development of the Corruption Risk Map of the Port Logistics Value Chain System, a key tool to promote transparency and enable the identification, prevention and mitigation of 151 corruption risks linked to organized crime. In public procurement, the Office's support to 18 national agencies resulted in the documentation of 41 types of corruption and 164 warning signs, contributing to strengthening the early detection of irregularities and preventive measures. Additional efforts included the development of the Corruption Alert Analysis and Management Model and the Alerta360 platform, which integrates public data, advanced analytics and artificial intelligence to generate actionable alerts that support the prevention, investigation and prosecution of complex cases. At the normative level, technical assistance for the review and drafting of key bills – such as those related to whistleblower protection, public procurement reform and control in penitentiary centres – further contributed to strengthening transparency standards and closing legal loopholes exploited by criminal networks. The creation of the Legislative Tracker, which monitors more than 190 anti-corruption initiatives, further enabled the systematization of strategic information, supporting decision-making and consolidating a more coherent and effective legislative agenda.



Representatives from public institutions across Colombia's port logistics value chain analysing the Corruption Risk Map of the Port Logistics Value Chain System.



Ukrainian students presenting a project focused on integrity and practical approaches to ethical decision-making in the public sector during the UP Competition, a youth-focused initiative to build the next generation of integrity leaders.

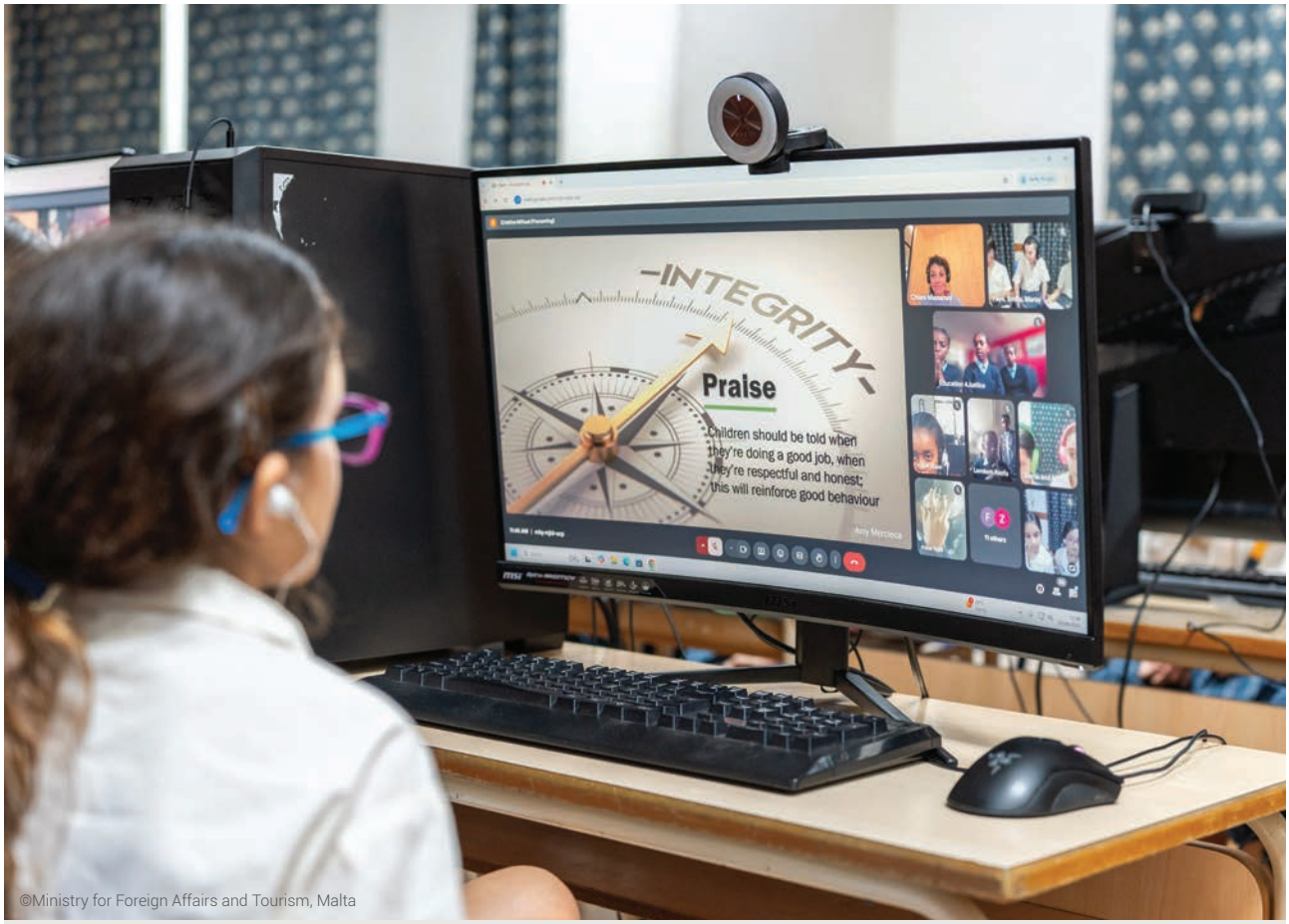
Bolstering the capacities of Ukraine's anti-corruption institutions

In Ukraine, massive inflows of international aid and urgent reconstruction needs have heightened corruption risks and strained institutional safeguards. To support anti-corruption institutions to build clear, transparent and effective anti-corruption mechanisms, in 2025, UNODC worked with the National Agency on Corruption Prevention to promote business integrity, designing clearer ethical standards and more user-friendly reporting procedures. These efforts led to the launch of two practical tools – the Model Code of Conduct and Handbook 2.0 – now being widely used by officials and companies across Ukraine. Additionally, based on the knowledge and skills gained from training and workshops on business integrity, 14 small and medium-sized enterprises have developed various anti-corruption policies and procedures. Further, training-of-trainers sessions on advanced financial investigation, asset-tracing and intelligence methods for 45 detectives and analysts from the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine and the Special Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office further contributed to the establishment of a special department on financial investigations. These efforts were complemented by four anti-corruption education initiatives that reached 226 students and helped build the next generation of integrity leaders.

> *"Participation in the anti-corruption quest allowed us to broaden our understanding of how anti-corruption institutions in Ukraine work in practice (...) This experience demonstrated that effective anti-corruption efforts require not only a thorough knowledge of the law, but also a high level of professional responsibility, integrity, and readiness to act in complex and demanding circumstances."*
>
> **Khrystyna Pereima,**
> *law student and participant of the UNODC Anti-Corruption Quest 2.0 initiative.*



A student participates in a simulated investigative exercise, assuming the role of a detective with the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine during a vehicle search.



©Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Malta

Young Maltese Connecting Classrooms participant.

Making anti-corruption education equally accessible to all in Indonesia

Persons with disabilities are often exposed to corruption, and yet frequently have limited access to the tools and channels needed to take action against it. In 2025, the civil society organization Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW), with support from UNODC, redesigned the Anti-Corruption Academy e-learning platform to ensure that persons with disabilities can fully participate in learning, discussion and action against corruption. Enhanced accessibility was approached as a co-design process, with ICW working closely with disability-focused organizations and individual users with disabilities throughout the planning, designing and testing phases. Based on users' lived experiences and feedback, the platform was upgraded to improve navigation, readability and learning flow, while integrating accessibility features aligned with international standards. Courses were simplified, captions and transcripts strengthened and the overall user experience refined – allowing learners with visual, hearing, physical and cognitive disabilities to engage more comfortably and independently. Socialization and coaching sessions were also conducted, introducing the platform to diverse disability organizations and providing hands-on guidance on its features.



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Members of UNODC's YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board advocating for meaningful youth engagement in anti-corruption efforts at the 2025 Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC.

THEMATIC AREA

PREVENTING AND COUNTERING TERRORISM



Security and criminal justice officials from Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Yemen participating in a three-day workshop on enhancing cross-border cooperation mechanisms to prevent and counter terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters.

Terrorism and violent extremism remain serious and evolving global threats that disrupt international peace and security, undermining stability, socio-economic and sustainable development and human rights. With terrorist groups benefiting from organized crime as a source of funding and logistical support, addressing the link between these two issues has become an increasing priority for the international community. UNODC works with Member States to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism, including by supporting the revision of domestic counter-terrorism legislation in line with international standards, strengthening institutional capacity for inclusive, whole-of-government and whole-of-society criminal justice responses to terrorism and facilitating global cooperation. The Office also continues to promote effective partnerships, engaging the private sector, civil society organizations and victims of terrorism to advance comprehensive and innovative approaches to preventing violent extremism.

33
Member States supported in revising domestic counter-terrorism legislation

> 3,250
officials in **97** countries trained on criminal justice responses to terrorism through **183** tailored capacity-building interventions

16
new adherences by 7 Member States to the international legal instruments against terrorism

71
new designations or updates of competent authorities and liaison points by States Parties to ICSANT under article 7, paragraph 4 of the Convention



A religious educator of the Chamsoul Islam Koranic School in Saint Louis, Senegal leading an awareness-raising session during the International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism.

Strengthening capacities in countering the financing of terrorism in West Africa

Terrorist organizations often rely on illicit financial flows to sustain their operations, highlighting the importance of strengthening Member States' capabilities to detect, investigate and disrupt terrorism financing to safeguard national and regional security. In 2025, UNODC advanced this objective by delivering specialized training to 150 officials across the region and by assisting Côte d'Ivoire in embedding financial intelligence processes into judicial procedures, ensuring that viable evidence contributes to prosecutions. As a result of these efforts, Côte d'Ivoire secured eight terrorist-financing convictions — the first such convictions for the country. In Nigeria, targeted technical assistance helped strengthen the country's anti-money-laundering and countering financing of terrorism frameworks, contributing to its removal from the FATF grey list on 24 October 2025. By enhancing national capacities to investigate and prosecute terrorism financing, strengthening criminal justice systems and supporting Member States' adherence to international instruments, UNODC contributes to more effective, coordinated and accountable national responses to terrorism.

Malawi reviews its National Strategy for Countering Terrorism and Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism with UNODC's support

In 2025, UNODC supported the Government of Malawi in assessing progress in the implementation of the four pillars of the National Strategy for Countering Terrorism and Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. The interministerial and interagency review examined achievements delivered between 2023 and 2025 and highlighted improved coordination across government institutions, stronger engagement with civil society and progress in community-level prevention, aviation security reforms and early warning mechanisms. In this context, UNODC provided legislative assistance on the drafting of the Counter Terrorism Law, currently being developed by the Malawi Law Commission, and delivered capacity-building activities for criminal justice officials, including on the prevention of violent extremism. The Office also supported the development of the new biannual workplan for 2026–2028, based on technical assistance recommendations issued by the UN Security Council Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate. Through technical assistance, UNODC continues to support Malawi in strengthening national capacity to prevent and counter terrorism through rule of law and human rights-based approaches.



Participants at the "Regional Meeting of the UNODC Youth-led Action to Prevent Violent Extremism in the Digital Space in South-East Asia" in Bangkok sharing experiences, good practices and priorities for youth-led violent extremism prevention efforts in the digital space.

Engaging the private sector in addressing online radicalization and violent extremism in South and Southeast Asia

Emphasizing a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to counter terrorism, in 2025, UNODC expanded its engagement with digital service providers and tech and online gaming companies to address online radicalization and the spread of violent extremism in South and Southeast Asia. Through structured dialogues that brought together private sector actors, civil society organizations and law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners, stakeholders developed practical, cross-sectoral recommendations to enhance the prevention of violent extremism in digital environments. These efforts further established the foundation for more robust public-private partnerships to counter online radicalization and strengthened regional cooperation under the South Asian and Southeast Asia Networks on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, supporting better information-sharing and the exchange of tools and best practices to respond more effectively to evolving digital threats.





Participants at the "Regional Meeting of the UNODC Youth-led Action to Prevent Violent Extremism in the Digital Space in South-East Asia" reviewing their project concepts, strategies and budgets.



Participants of the second edition of the ICSANT Universalization Youth Academy.

Promoting the universalization of international legal instruments against terrorism

Following a successful first cohort in 2024, UNODC held a second edition of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) Universalization Youth Academy in 2025. Aiming to foster the next generation of ICSANT advocates, this initiative engages early-career officials from States not yet party to the Convention and enhances their knowledge and skills through targeted legal and policy training and mentorship sessions delivered by ambassadors and international experts. The 2025 Academy welcomed 12 participants from 11 countries from West and East Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia and the Pacific, representing a range of national authorities that play active roles in their country's treaty adherence process. This initiative has already yielded concrete results, with Ecuador becoming the 127th State Party to the Convention in March 2025, after the participation of a national representative in the first edition of the Academy and sustained UNODC technical assistance and advocacy.

Improving access to legal aid and medical and psycho-social services for victims of terrorism

Terrorist attacks inflict horrific physical and emotional damage on victims, survivors, and families, with many often encountering barriers to access legal, psychological and psychosocial services. To address this issue, in 2025, in Iraq, UNODC supported the development of a guide on victims' rights and access to justice in terrorism cases to strengthen institutional coordination and promote victim-centred approaches. Additionally, to enhance survivor-led support systems and ensure their long-term sustainability, the Office equipped victims with the necessary skills to take leadership roles in the forthcoming national victims' association. In Pakistan, UNODC developed Standard Operating Procedures to institutionalize victim support services, which will guide the provision of medical and psycho-social assistance in a timely, coordinated, and trauma-informed manner, and clearly define the roles and responsibilities of health workers, social welfare officials and victim support organizations. Further, through consultations with victim support officers and relevant government departments, the Office developed a Centralized Database for Victims of Terrorism as a secure and comprehensive national platform to record, manage, and track victim-related data across all provinces.



Survivors of terrorism in Iraq participated in a workshop designed to strengthen their resilience, enhance peer support skills and empower them as advocates for recovery.

THEMATIC AREA

CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE



A national boxing class in Mexico supported by UNODC mobilized over 42,000 people to highlight the importance of sports in steering youth away from violence and drug use.

Criminal justice systems across the world are increasingly overstretched, strained by both persistent and rapidly evolving forms of criminality that demand more resources, expertise and coordination than many institutions can provide. Simultaneously, with unequal, inaccessible, or malfunctioning systems, impunity increases, public trust deteriorates and the rule of law is steadily undermined, opening the door for corruption, violence and organized crime to flourish. As the guardian of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, UNODC supports Member States in developing criminal justice responses that are in accordance with international legal instruments. The Office works with Member States to enhance investigations and prosecutions of crime, community-centred and accountable policing, access to justice, penal reform – including improving prison management, ensuring humane treatment for prisoners and expanding rehabilitation – child protection and national responses to violence against women. The Office also provides data, analysis and policy assistance to Member States seeking to develop evidence-based strategies and programmes to prevent crime.

75
Member States supported in strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice institutions through technical assistance and capacity-building

35,000
prisoners and persons under non-custodial measures benefited from targeted interventions

> 8,251
crime prevention and criminal justice practitioners and other key relevant stakeholders supported through training and technical assistance

578
socio-economic interventions in collaboration with civil society, benefiting children perceived as being associated and/or affiliated with terrorist groups



Correctional training officers participating in a Training of Trainers workshop on prisoner classification in Lagos.

Strengthening prison management and fostering prisoners' social reintegration in Nigeria

A well-designed and managed classification process is a critical element of an effective prison system, ensuring the safe, secure and humane custody of pre-trial detainees and sentenced prisoners, individualized case and sentence planning and the efficient use of resources. With technical support from UNODC, in 2025, the Nigerian Correctional Service achieved a major institutional milestone by formally adopting and approving its first set of prisoner classification tools, including a Standard Operating Procedure for prisoner classification, a Rapid Assessment Tool, and a Risk and Needs Assessment Tool. UNODC further strengthened national capacity by training 118 senior and field-level Nigerian Correctional Service officers on prisoner classification and the application of the new tools, equipping them with practical skills to design and implement tailored interventions that promote effective rehabilitation and reintegration. Simultaneously, UNODC continued to support the Chess in Prisons programme, with over 100 prisoners participating in recreational activities that cultivated critical thinking, self-control and decision-making skills, attributes fundamental to personal growth and breaking free from cycles of violence and crime. These efforts directly contribute to advancing the implementation of the UN Minimum Standards for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) and the UN Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), both of which reached significant milestones in 2025, marking their tenth and fifteenth anniversaries respectively.

Helping build conditions for peaceful and credible electoral processes in Bangladesh

In 2025, UNODC's support was extended to the Bangladesh Police in preparation for the February 2026 national elections, delivering a rapid and comprehensive programme of policy advice, dialogue and training across the full chain of command to strengthen election-related preparedness and responses. Through a national dialogue that brought together senior police leadership, Ministry of Home Affairs officials and international experts, the Office contributed to the development of a training-of-trainers programme that equipped 89 police supervisors with the skills and tools needed to cascade learning within their units. At the frontline, 574 officers participated in scenario-based sessions covering situations they could face before, during and after the election day. The programme also reinforced victim and witness support practices, and officers were trained to accurately document injuries, incidents and any allegations of misconduct to support accountability and institutional review processes. Structured post-event debriefing techniques were also introduced to help commanders capture lessons learned and translate them into improved policing strategies for future electoral events. By supporting Member States in developing innovative, cost-effective and human rights-compliant solutions for peaceful and inclusive electoral processes, the Office contributes to strengthening public trust, promoting accountable and transparent institutions and reducing the risk of violence and conflict.



Ahead of the general elections in Bangladesh, UNODC, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Bangladesh Police strengthened election preparedness by training over 600 command-level officers nationwide.

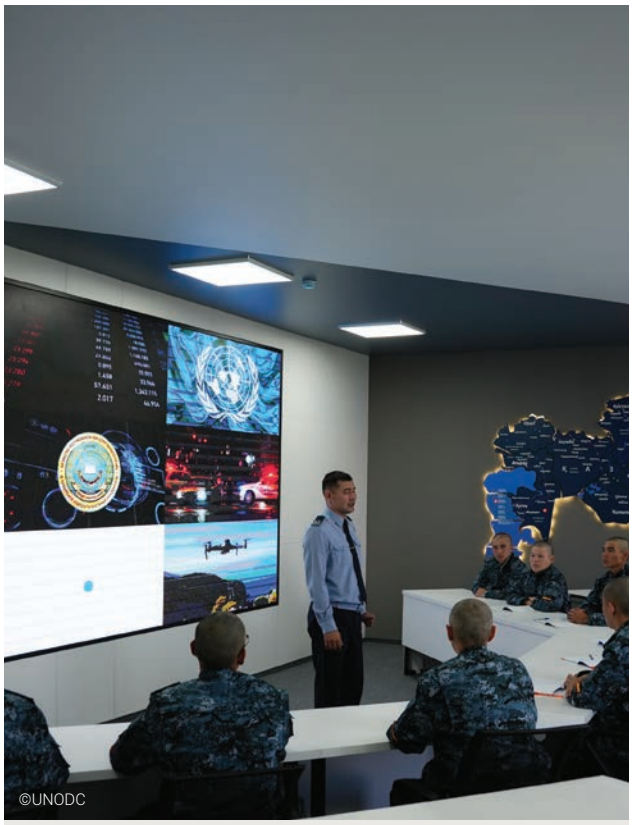
Expanding access to justice in Uganda through coordinated legal aid and alternative dispute resolution delivery

Following UNODC's support, in 2025, access to justice for prisoners and vulnerable persons in Uganda expanded through a coordinated legal aid model integrating legal representation, legal advice and alternative dispute resolution. By providing grants to civil society organizations to provide legal aid services and alternative dispute resolution, more than 17,600 suspects and inmates received legal assistance. As most cases involved petty offences, interventions directly contributed to the resolution of cases and reduced custodial detention through non-custodial outcomes whenever appropriate, including police acquittals, bail, community service orders, reconciliations, dismissals, cautions, fines, withdrawals, conditional sentences and *nolle prosequi* decisions. Civil society staff were trained on international standards on crime prevention and criminal justice, further enhancing their ability to provide effective and sustained assistance.



UNODC's support to enhance access to justice and advance criminal justice reform in Bolivia included capacity-building assistance to the Plurinational System for Assistance to Victims (SEPDAVI) to ensure that victims receive high-quality services in a timely and efficient manner.

> *"UNODC has provided us with new tools to make our work more effective (...) We have acquired knowledge and specific tools that we can apply when conducting criminal proceedings and achieving guilty verdicts against the reported and accused offenders, and in favour of our victims."*
>
> **Carla Paredes,**
> *lawyer and Departmental Director of SEPDAVI*



UNODC and the Kostanay Academy of Kazakhstan's Ministry of Internal Affairs launched the Dynamic Security Training Centre to strengthen prison staff training.

Strengthening learning and innovation across criminal justice systems

In 2025, the Office unveiled the SPARK App, a part of UNODC's SPARK eLearning Platform, providing multilingual online and offline courses to bring flexible, high-impact learning to criminal justice practitioners worldwide and enhance responses to diverse human security and health challenges. With over 800 online learning resources in more than 30 languages, SPARK reached more than 300,000 users in 2025, covering topics such as prison reform, access to legal aid and crime prevention through sports. In the area of prison and penal reform, for example, UNODC further advanced regional professionalization by translating its scenario-based e-learning course on the Nelson Mandela Rules into Kyrgyz, Tajik and Uzbek. Marking the tenth anniversary of the Nelson Mandela Rules, these new translations bring this course to a total of 17 languages, significantly improving accessibility for practitioners across Central Asia.



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Launch event of "Growing Up in Peace: A Justice and Public Security Strategy for the Protection of Children and Adolescents."

Strengthening child protection in Brazil

Children and adolescents in Brazil are particularly affected by violence and crime driven by poverty, racial inequality and weak community cohesion, which can lead to drug use or involvement in criminal activities, further perpetuating the cycle of violence and marginalization. To reduce risk factors, UNODC supported the Ministry of Justice and Public Security in Brazil in launching the first-ever national strategy to protect children from violence, crime and drugs. Developed through extensive consultations with all sectors of government, civil society organizations and youth, "Growing Up in Peace" integrates Ending Violence Against Children and Child Amplified Services of Prevention (CHAMPS) methodologies into a coordinated national framework resulting in 46 actions, strengthening evidence-based and child-centred responses. In line with the strategy, UNODC further assisted the Ministry in operationalizing the Prevention and Citizenship Programme, promoting more structured, territorially grounded and inter-institutional prevention mechanisms. As a result, more than 750 child protective services officers strengthened their capacity to activate coordinated referral and protection pathways, while 280 community actors consolidated locally driven prevention mechanisms, impacting around 14,951 students in 38 municipalities. Together, these efforts reinforced protection networks, improved early identification and response to risks and advanced more sustainable, community-anchored violence prevention systems nationwide.

Advancing security and justice for women victims of violence

Femicide is the ultimate form of violence against women and girls, and measuring it is the first step toward developing effective policies to prevent it. In 2025, the UNODC–INEGI Center of Excellence in Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice supported national authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean in improving the availability, quality and comparability of crime and femicide data across the region. As a result, Chile and the Dominican Republic adopted standardized statistical methodologies, produced national analytical reports and established inter-institutional coordination mechanisms linking statistical offices, justice institutions and other relevant governance structures, thereby strengthening the institutionalization of femicide measurement. Furthermore, as part of the efforts to improve victims' access to justice, in Egypt, the Office supported the establishment of two women-friendly secured areas at the New Cairo Primary Court, providing victims and witnesses, including children, a protected environment throughout judicial proceedings and preventing secondary victimization. Communication technology and CCTV systems connected to courtrooms now enable victims to provide testimony without direct contact with perpetrators, safeguarding the well-being of those involved and the integrity of statements.


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Inauguration of women-friendly areas at the New Cairo Court.

RESEARCH



UNODC research generates a global evidence base on drugs, crime and related threats. Through close collaboration with Member States, regional bodies and technical partners, UNODC provides timely, accurate and transparent data and analyses to inform more targeted and effective policies.

Flagship reports, including the World Drug Report, the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, the World Wildlife Crime Report, and the Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment, offer comprehensive, evidence-based assessments that help stakeholders understand evolving trends and emerging challenges. Regional and thematic briefs on issues such as on the impact of the invasion of Ukraine on organized crime, migrant smuggling, gender-related killings of women and girls, and global prison trends complement these publications by combining quantitative and qualitative insights. All research products adhere to institutional quality standards to ensure methodological rigor, ethical integrity and impartiality, and are built on a solid data foundation.

UNODC research employs advanced analytical tools such as artificial intelligence to capture information on seizure events and other illicit activities, and geospatial techniques such as satellite imagery, drones and field surveys to assess illicit crop cultivation, illegal mining and related drivers. It also uses its strong regional presence to enhance national capacities to monitor drugs and crime. Capacity-building and technical assistance efforts strengthen national data collection, which feed into global data collection tools. The UNODC Data Portal provides open access to drugs and crime statistics, including Sustainable Development Goal indicators and country profiles.

UNODC Data Portal:
640,000
data points on drugs and crime-related topics

23
research publications released in 2025, including **3** publications produced jointly with other UN entities

> 1,500
participants from over **140** countries trained on drug and crime statistical methodology

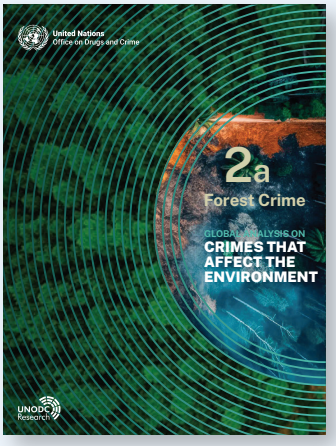
> 8.1
million views and downloads of UNODC research

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS RELEASED IN 2025



World Drug Report 2024

The World Drug Report 2025 highlighted that global instability is worsening the world drug problem, enabling organized crime and driving drug use to record levels. In 2023, 316 million people used drugs – 6 per cent of the global adult population up from 5.2 per cent in 2013 – with cannabis, opioids, amphetamines, cocaine, and ecstasy being the most common substances. Drug use disorders impose heavy health and societal costs, with 463,000 deaths and 27.7 million healthy life years lost due to disability and premature deaths in 2021. Despite this, one in 12 affected individuals received treatment in 2023. Cocaine markets have expanded rapidly, with production, seizures, and consumption hitting all-time highs and spreading into Asia, Africa and Europe, accompanied by growing violence. The synthetic drug market continues to grow due to low production costs and easier concealment. Effective disruption requires better mapping of criminal networks and stronger technological and investigative capacities. The report also notes the environmental impacts of drug production and trafficking in Europe, including pollution, deforestation, and costly cleanup from clandestine laboratories, urging policymakers to better integrate environmental considerations into drug responses.



Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment

Part 2a - Forest Crime of the Global Analysis on Crimes that Affect the Environment focuses on illegal deforestation and illegal logging. Forest crime infiltrates legal supply chains and processes, making its enforcement challenging, and is especially harmful when converging with other crimes. The study gives an overview of the involvement of organized criminal groups, compromised corporations, corrupt officials and individuals. The analysis also assesses the entire supply chain – harvesting, processing, transport, trade and sales – to highlight where it is vulnerable to criminal activity. Part 2b - Minerals Crime focuses on illegal gold mining. Individual miners, organized crime groups, traders and companies of varying size all help to shape illegal activities in the gold mining sector. Each entity brings its own risks and wider effects, ranging from forced labour and sexual exploitation to deepening corruption and armed conflict. The study provides an overview of how these criminal actors are structured and how they perpetrate these crimes.

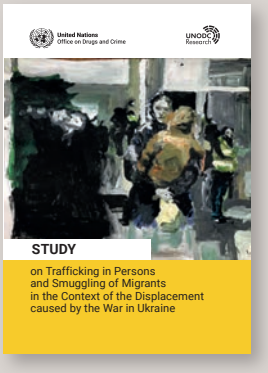


Femicides in 2024 – Global estimates of intimate partner/ family member femicides

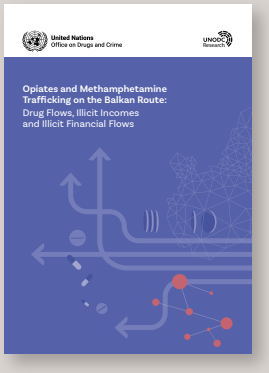
The femicide report provides new global and regional estimates of the number of women and girls killed by intimate partners or other family members, with updated data for 2024. It estimates that around 50,000 women and girls were killed in the private sphere in 2024 – about 60 per cent of all intentional killings of women and girls – meaning an average of 137 women and girls are killed every day by someone in their own family. The report also highlights how technology-facilitated violence – such as cyberstalking, coercive control, and image-based abuse – can be a risk factor that escalates into offline harm and, in some cases, leads to femicide.



Ukraine: Organized Crime Dynamics in the Context of War



Study on Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in the Context of the Displacement caused by the War in Ukraine



Opiates and Methamphetamine Trafficking on the Balkan Route: Drug Flows, Illicit Incomes and Illicit Financial Flows



Emerging threats: The intersection of criminal and technological innovation in the use of automation and artificial intelligence in the cybercrime landscape of Southeast Asia



Synthetic Drugs in East and Southeast Asia: Latest developments and challenges



Minerals Crime: Crimes in the supply chains of critical energy transition minerals



Global prison population and trends: A focus on rehabilitative environments



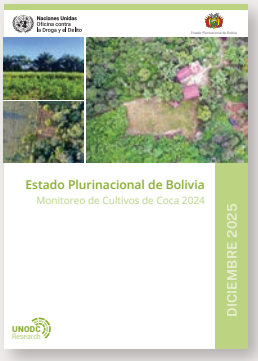
Development Goal 16 Indicators on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

Illicit crop monitoring

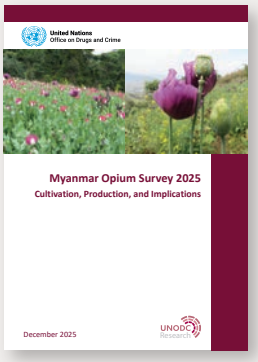
In 2025, UNODC continued to strengthen monitoring and analysis of the world drug problem by providing technical support in the development of efficient monitoring systems for illicit drug cultivation and production in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, Mexico, Myanmar and Peru, and releasing three coca and opium surveys.



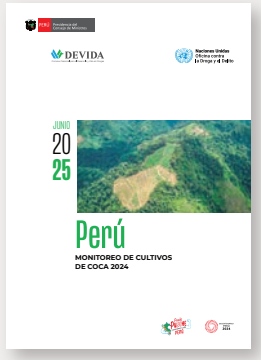
Afghanistan Opium Survey 2025 and the series Afghanistan Drug Insights



Bolivia Coca Cultivation Monitoring Report 2024



Myanmar Opium Survey 2025



Peru Coca Cultivation Monitoring Report 2024

NORMATIVE WORK



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Sixty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) are policymaking bodies within the UN system and guide international action against drugs and crime. They are functional commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and governing bodies of UNODC. The Office supports these Vienna-based Commissions to strengthen cooperation with the UN General Assembly, ECOSOC and its various subsidiary bodies, as well as with a broad range of UN entities, international and regional organizations.

At its 68th session in March 2025, the CND brought together over 2,000 participants and adopted resolutions covering various issues, including evidence-based drug prevention for children, research on stimulant use disorder treatment, alternative development, officer safety in dismantling opioid labs, and addressing the environmental impacts of drugs. The CND also decided to establish an expert panel to strengthen the global drug control system, tasked with developing recommendations for consideration by the Commission at its 70th session, ahead of the review of international drug policy commitments in 2029.

CND 68th session

> 2,000

participants from **137** countries

- » **119** CSOs involved
- » **7** Resolutions adopted
- » **8** Decisions adopted

CCPCJ 34th session

> 1,300

participants from **134** countries

- » **64** CSOs involved
- » **8** Resolutions adopted
- » **1** Decisions adopted

UNCAC COSP11

> 2,600

participants from **170** countries

- » **134** CSOs involved
- » **11** Resolutions adopted
- » Adoption of the Doha Declaration



34th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

The CCPCJ 34th session in May 2025 attracted over 1,300 participants and strengthened global responses to crime and justice challenges, ranging from reoffending and prison conditions to crimes that affect the environment and migrant smuggling. The CCPCJ also advanced preparations for the 15th UN Crime Congress, scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi in 2026.

In 2025, UNODC further serviced five regional preparatory meetings of the 15th UN Crime Congress across Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and Western Asia, at which Member States engaged in substantive discussions on the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress. Based on the outcomes of these regional preparatory meetings, the CCPCJ initiated negotiations on the draft Abu Dhabi Declaration to be adopted at the opening of the 15th UN Crime Congress.

The Conference of the States Parties (COSP) to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is the Convention's main policymaking body, supporting States Parties to implement the Convention and giving policy guidance to UNODC to develop and implement anti-corruption activities. COSP11 was held in Doha, Qatar in December 2025 and brought together a record number of over 2,600 participants from almost 170 countries. During the session, States Parties adopted by consensus 11 resolutions including a key resolution on the second phase of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism, defining the scope, thematic sequence and procedural details, and setting the start of reviews for May 2027. The second phase will strengthen the effectiveness of the Mechanism in key areas, including technical assistance, transparency, visibility of review outcomes, the role of non-governmental stakeholders and structured follow-up procedures, ensuring that reviews translate into tangible, results-oriented impact for States Parties and reinforcing collective action against corruption worldwide. COSP11 concluded with the adoption of the 'Doha Declaration 2025', a pivotal resolution that highlights artificial intelligence as both a threat and an opportunity and calls on States to leverage digital technologies to strengthen international law enforcement cooperation and improve national efforts to measure corruption risks. The COSP benefited from a high level of participation by civil society organizations during a preparatory day and numerous special events.

In 2025, UNODC strengthened its engagement across major global fora to advance the role of criminal justice and law enforcement in addressing crimes that affect the environment (CAE) and their links to climate, biodiversity and ocean governance. At the COP30 UN Climate Change Conference in Belem, UNODC organized six side events, building on momentum from the Baku Call to Action on Mobilizing Law Enforcement for Enhanced Climate Action. UNODC's active participation shed light on the impact of illegal gold mining in the Amazon, as well as on innovative responses to crime convergence in the region, among other topics. The Office also participated in the Seventh Session of the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, which concluded with a landmark Ministerial Declaration that, for the first time, explicitly references CAE and calls for strengthened international cooperation and responses on this issue. At the 20th Conference of the Parties to CITES (COP20) in Samarkand, UNODC's engagement, through the

International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), reached over 360 participants via side events and high-level discussions. The Office also took part in the Third UN Ocean Conference in Nice, and in the second session of the Preparatory Commission for the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction, in which it launched an issue paper on the surveillance and enforcement of high seas marine protected areas. Across these engagements, UNODC consistently promoted three strategic priorities: strengthening governance and enforcement frameworks, addressing corruption and illicit financial flows, and ensuring that climate and biodiversity efforts are underpinned by effective criminal justice responses.



Eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption.

Signing ceremony of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime

In October 2025, a major milestone was reached with the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime, adopted unanimously by the General Assembly in December 2024. In cooperation with UNODC, the Government of Viet Nam convened the High-Level Signing Conference for the Convention in Hanoi, where 71 States and the European Union signed the Convention. The ceremony brought together 2,500 participants representing 119 governments and over 170 stakeholders, including international organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector. The Convention will enter into force 90 days after it is ratified by the fortieth signatory. UNODC serves as the secretariat to the Ad Hoc Committee and to the future Conference of the States Parties, and supports Member States in the process of ratification and implementation of the Convention.



UN Convention against Cybercrime Signing Ceremony.

KEY CONFERENCES, EVENTS AND MEETINGS

JANUARY

21-23 Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Crime Congress

27-28 2nd Open-ended expert group meeting on "Enhancing and strengthening international, regional cooperation and domestic efforts to address the global synthetic drug problem"

FEBRUARY

4-6 Latin American and Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Crime Congress

MARCH

10-14 68th session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and 2025 Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention



APRIL

8-10 African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Crime Congress

23-25 Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Crime Congress

25-27 European Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Crime Congress

MAY

19-23 34th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice



JUNE

13 High-Level Debate of the General Assembly on Addressing the Global Prison Challenge

24-25 Voices of Resilience: Global Forum for Human Trafficking Survivors

First Global Meeting of the International Network for Legislation on Drugs



20-23 Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities Sixth Plenary Meeting

JULY

30-2 First Meeting of the Open-ended intergovernmental expert group on crimes that affect the environment falling within the scope of UNTOC and related offences covered by the Convention

18 Nelson Mandela Day: 10th anniversary of the Nelson Mandela Rules and 15th anniversary of the Bangkok Rules

AUGUST

26-28 Expert Group Meeting on Strengthening National Capacities for Detecting and Disrupting the Use of Information and Communication Technology for Terrorist Purposes in Eastern Africa



SEPTEMBER

2-4 5th Forensic Science Symposium: Forensic Science Solutions for Emerging Challenges in International Drug Control



3 Regional Forum of Judges in Latin America: Cybercrime Investigations

OCTOBER

14-16 9th Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) Forum

21-22 Regional expert working group meeting on mapping trafficking in cultural heritage in the Middle East

25-26 Signing ceremony for the UN Convention against Cybercrime



NOVEMBER

11 High-Level event on the 25th Anniversary of UNTOC



20-21 UNODC takes part in COP30 UN Climate Change Conference

26-27 High-Level International Conference on Countering the Smuggling of Migrants in Pakistan

DECEMBER

2-4 2nd Global Conference on Harnessing Data to Improve Corruption Measurement

3-4 6th Regional Forum on Judicial Cooperation in the Western Balkans: "Interinstitutional and International Response to Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling"

15-19 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption



16-17 Expert Group Meeting on Comprehensive Assistance Plans for Victims of Terrorism

UN-WIDE COMMITMENTS

In 2025, UNODC strengthened its support to Member States by integrating human rights, safeguards and due diligence across its programmes, ensuring that assistance in areas such as drugs, organized crime, corruption, terrorism and access to justice is delivered in line with international standards. Through the systematic application of human rights due diligence and risk mitigation measures, UNODC contributed to more accountable, inclusive and people-centred policies and institutions, particularly in addressing the needs and concerns of women, youth and persons with disabilities, and reinforcing the rule of law and sustainable outcomes.

The following examples highlight UNODC's work on UN-wide commitments, showcasing the Office's efforts related to women and youth empowerment, human rights, and disability inclusion.



Esma, a member of the UNODC's Youth LED Integrity Advisory Board who is visually impaired, providing a youth statement at the 2025 Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC.

Strengthening criminal justice responses to violence against women in the State of Palestine

In November 2025, the Office enhanced the Police Forensic Science Laboratory's capacity to provide accurate and reliable forensic services by supplying equipment and delivering specialized training programmes, particularly in DNA analysis and interpretation and in the handling of biological forensic evidence at crime scenes. Further, the Office scaled up support services for victims of violence, equipping professionals from the health, social services, police, and judiciary sectors with the necessary skills to provide trauma-informed responses to survivors.

Enhancing justice systems through the responsible use of AI while safeguarding human rights

In December 2025, an Expert Group Meeting in Vienna, Austria, advanced the curriculum for the upcoming UNODC Executive Academy on Artificial Intelligence for Law Enforcement, aimed at strengthening practitioners' capacity to integrate advanced technologies into justice processes, while ensuring adherence to international human rights standards. Expert guidance focused on reducing risks of bias, discrimination and interference with privacy and due process protections in the integration of AI-driven tools. The insights gained also supported UNODC in strengthening its technical assistance programming on human-rights-compliant criminal justice reform.

Amplifying youth voices in intergovernmental fora

In 2025, with UNODC's support, the GenJust Youth Network presented at the five regional preparatory meetings for the 2026 UN Crime Congress a "BluePrint" of recommendations for the consideration of Member States in the negotiations for the Abu Dhabi Declaration. Participants of the 3rd Global Youth Forum for a Culture of Lawfulness delivered 23 actionable recommendations on artificial intelligence and justice at the 34th session of CCPCJ. Further, the YouthLED Integrity Advisory Board addressed the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to UNCAC, calling for meaningful inclusion of young people in anti-corruption frameworks, with a member with a disability as the lead advocate.

Promoting partnerships to advance accessibility and opportunities for people with disabilities

During the Zero Project Conference in March 2025, UNODC and the Zero Project/Essl Foundation signed a new partnership to enhance data collection and advance innovative approaches to mainstream disability rights and protection into crime prevention and criminal justice responses, while also increasing event accessibility and employment prospects for persons with disabilities within the Office. The new partnership builds on previous joint efforts and enables UNODC to leverage the expertise of the global Zero Project Network and more than 1,000 good practices and policies identified through research.

STRATEGY ENABLERS

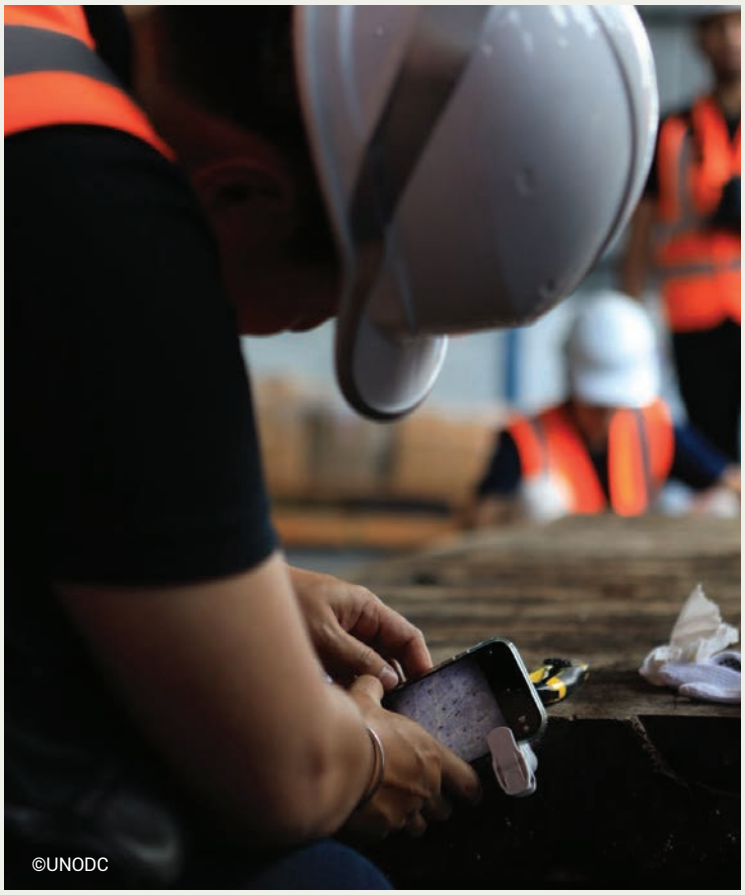
To advance justice and security around the world, UNODC leverages the expertise of its partners, conducts systematic monitoring and evaluation and employs strategic communication. By collaborating closely with other UN entities, international and regional organizations, governments, civil society, academia and the private sector, UNODC fosters innovative, comprehensive and sustainable solutions tailored to the specific needs of local communities. In 2025, the Office strengthened interagency cooperation, including by signing a new cooperation agreement with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and reviewing the Joint Action Plan with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The Office also launched two new public-private partnerships in the Dominican Republic and Nigeria, bringing together government, private sector and civil society leaders to address rising cybercrime challenges. Effective communication strategies are crucial to demonstrate how UNODC contributes to tackling drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism challenges and their impacts on people. Thus, in 2025, the Office adopted a media and social media monitoring platform that provides in-depth analysis of coverage, audience engagement and media pick-up to further enhance its outreach, which reached over 980,000 followers at the end of the year. Independent evaluation strengthens UNODC's accountability, transparency and impact by informing decision-making, strengthening programme and project design and implementation. In 2025, evaluations were carried out on system-wide initiatives on countering and preventing terrorism and SDG16 evidence synthesis. The expansion of United Evaluations – UNODC's web-based evaluation application – to the United Nations Environmental Programme further contributed to enhancing evaluation efficiency and effectiveness across the UN system. Together, these elements reinforce UNODC's capacity to take strategic and effective actions against global peace and security threats.

Partnerships, Communications and Monitoring and Evaluation

321 implementing partners	**1,214** civil society actors engaged through online multistakeholder platforms (WhatsOn and NGO MarketPlace)	**> 3,960** civil society actors trained through **40** initiatives and activities
14 projects and programmes with funding of over **$272** million evaluated	Funding of **24** donors evaluated	**1.87** million monthly views of UNODC corporate website **> 30%** increase from 2024

Advancing results-based monitoring and reporting at UNODC

Results-based management supports project managers in enhancing performance, integrating lessons learned into management decisions and improving monitoring and reporting, enabling UNODC to design robust projects and adapt them to the evolving needs of beneficiaries. In 2025, the Office strengthened the project monitoring and results-based reporting capacities of over 500 personnel through targeted training sessions at country and regional offices. Simultaneously, the continued roll-out of the DevResults platform – a monitoring and evaluation web-based software for the international development community – also enhanced accountability, with mandatory project enrolment improving oversight and alignment with donor requirements. Additional efforts included the establishment of an internal task force to create a UNODC reporting and monitoring tool that ensures a more coherent and efficient approach to data collection and analysis, promoting accountability and transparency, improving impact-level reporting and streamlining internal processes. These efforts reflect UNODC's continued commitment to becoming more effective and efficient in the achievement of its results and those of its partners.









MAKING THE WORLD SAFER FROM DRUGS,CRIME, CORRUPTION AND TERRORISM




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