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

UNCCT QUARTERLY PROJECT HIGHLIGHT REPORT

TO THE UNCCT ADVISORY BOARD

QUARTERLY REPORT
1 July – 30 September 2025

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Executive Summary

UNCCT had a busy third quarter of 2025, with three high-level conferences on counter-terrorism issues held, 86 Member States supported by UNCCT capacity-building, and 25 capacity-building activities that drew in close to 2,300 participants.

Highlights included the [Eighth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism](#), held on 21 August 2025, organized by the UNCCT's **Victims of Terrorism Support Programme**. This year's commemorations were held under a theme selected by the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN): "United by Hope: Collective Action for Victims of Terrorism." The commemoration amplified victims' voices as experts, peacebuilders, and agents of change. The Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, and the Co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism (Iraq and Spain) delivered remarks in solidarity, followed by a panel discussion featuring victims of terrorism from across the world.

On 11 September the **Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Use of Weapons** organized a high-level launch of a new project to strengthen the capacities of Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda to prevent and respond to terrorist activities involving improvised explosive devices, in collaboration with CTED and UNMAS. Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, Assistant Secretary-General Alexandre Zouev of the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) of the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), Assistant Secretary-General Natalia Gherman from the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and the Deputy Permanent Representatives of Canada, Kenya and Uganda delivered remarks. Subsequently, on 17 September, Mr. Mauro Miedico, Director of UNCCT, participated with the programme team in a high-level event on the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Amendment of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, co-organized with Morocco, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). This high-level event was organized on the margins of the IAEA Annual Conference in Vienna, Austria.

On 21 September, on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, and in collaboration with the UNOCT **Programme Office in Baghdad**, the **Global Programme on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration** provided technical support to the delivery of the Government of Iraq's [High-Level Conference on the Repatriation of Persons from Al-Hol, Surrounding Camps and Places of Detention in northeast Syria](#). The conference drew attention to the ongoing security, human rights and humanitarian crisis in north-east Syria, advocating for voluntary repatriations, and offered a platform for Member States, regional and international organizations and civil society to share lessons learned and good practices related to repatriation operations and PRR efforts. The President of Iraq mentioned the event in an op-ed to *Le Monde*, further raising the visibility of the cause, and of UNCCT's work.

Key facts and figures

86

Member States supported through capacity-building activities

25

Capacity-building activities delivered

2,299

Participants trained

3

High-level conferences on counter-terrorism-related issues

229

Participants in activities for consultations, advocacy, outreach, and special events

11%

Women participants in capacity-building activities

Distribution of UNCCT Activities by Type
July-September 2025

- **60%** — Workshops & trainings to build capacity on technical thematic issues
- **12%** — Consultation, advice & advocacy, incl. promotion of legal instruments
- **4%** — Regional conferences
- **12%** — Outreach, special events and information material
- **12%** — High-level conference on CT related technical issues
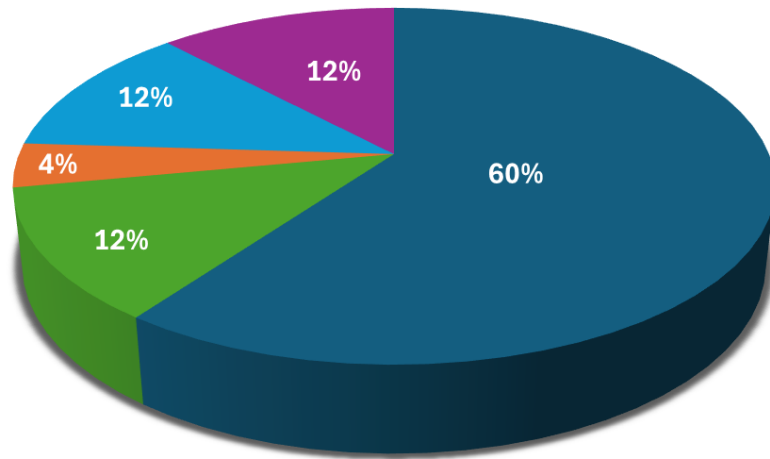
Legend:
- ■ Workshops & trainings to build capacity on technical thematic issues
- ■ Consultation, advice & advocacy, incl. promotion of legal instruments
- ■ Regional conferences
- ■ Outreach, special events and information material
- ■ High-level conference on CT related technical issues

* Note that human rights and gender considerations are mainstreamed throughout UNCCT programming

Border Security and Management (BSM)

During the reporting period, the **Border Security and Management (BSM) Programme** strengthened its engagement with West African Member States to integrate counter-terrorism priorities into national border management strategies, with particular emphasis on enhancing local early warning systems in border communities. In parallel, the Programme continued its collaboration with the Accra Initiative, with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) now under finalization, supporting the Initiative's efforts to restructure border security operations. Following a Maritime Security Workshop held in Lagos during the last reporting period, the *Compendium on Maritime Border Security*—including an annex on the Maritime Travel Cycle—is currently undergoing final editorial review.

The finalization of the Joint Baseline Assessments (JBAs) by the Integrated Border Stability Mechanism (IBSM) for West Africa Programme focused on identifying the gaps, needs, and priorities of the seven IBSM focus countries - Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Togo. IBSM held its first Regional Conference, in Dakar on 9–10 July. This event marked the official launch of Phase 2 of the mechanism, which aims to operationalize over 900 recommendations identified by the IBSM Secretariat addressing national priorities related to land border governance and security to strengthen regional stability.

The conference brought together more than 150 participants, including high-level representatives from 9 West African countries, the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), funding and implementing partners for strategic discussions focused on implementation of IBSM Phase 2. Senegal was officially welcomed as the eighth IBSM member following engagements by the Secretariat. Subsequently, on 17 September, a Call for Proposals was launched – with German Federal Foreign Office support – inviting pre-vetted partners to submit projects aligned with the identified priorities, with a goal of delivering impact quickly on the basis of the identified needs of IBSM participating countries.

Countering Terrorist Use of Weapons

During the reporting period, over 250 officials participated in capacity-building and awareness-raising activities delivered by the **Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Use of Weapons**. Highlights included a high-level event in September on the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism on the margins of the International Atomic Energy Agency Annual Conference organized with Morocco, IAEA, and UNODC, and a high-level launch of a new project to strengthen the capacities of Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda to prevent and respond to terrorist activities involving improvised explosive devices, in collaboration with CTED and UNMAS.

The Programme also briefed the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) open-ended working group on terrorism in July and co-organized, together with UNOCT's Global Programme on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets and the Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network, a conference on the 7th of July London bombings and transport security. In July, the Programme delivered a training in Jordan on enhancing the capacities of Iraqi authorities on critical infrastructure and key resources protection. In September, the Programme delivered specialized seminars in Turkmenistan, on trafficking of small arms and light weapons, their diversion to terrorists, and collection and use of evidence.

Cybersecurity and New Technologies

The **Cybersecurity and New Technologies Programme** continued supporting Member States in strengthening their capacities to counter the use of digital tools by terrorist actors in a human rights-compliant and gender responsive manner. The CT TECH+ initiative delivered national workshops on law enforcement capabilities for new technologies in countering terrorism for Ghana and Nigeria, facilitating a self-assessment of their legal, policy, and institutional readiness to adopt new technologies for counter-terrorism. The workshops culminated in a report outlining a set of recommendations and a roadmap for Ghana and Nigeria on how to improve their law enforcement readiness for new technologies in countering terrorism.

CT TECH+ also supported Iraq and Nigeria in the revision of their national counter-terrorism strategies by providing tailored capacity-building assistance on assessing threats stemming from the use of new technologies for terrorist purposes, identifying and prioritizing national risks and developing policy responses to mitigate the risks to be embedded in the next reiteration of their counterterrorism strategy. The threat assessment training will feed directly into Nigeria's National Counter-Terrorism threat assessment process in 2026. The initiative trained 180 investigators on the responsible use of AI in law enforcement.

The Programme supported Somalia through the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Strengthening National Capacities for Detecting and Disrupting the Use of ICT for Terrorist Purposes, co-organized by CTED and UNODC. Specifically, the Programme contributed interventions on public-private-partnerships, law enforcement approaches using new technologies to counter terrorism, and moderated a panel discussion on regional cooperation and capacity building. The workshop will result in a roadmap developed for Somalia to enhance its capabilities in detecting and disrupting the use of ICT for terrorist purposes to guide future capacity-building efforts.

Detecting, Preventing, and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT)

The **Global Programme on Detecting, Preventing, and Countering the Financing of Terrorism** supported two trainings hosted by the Terrorist Financing Targeting Centre (TFTC) in July with substantive lectures on CFT topics, delivered in cooperation and coordination with the US Department of the Treasury and the Presidency of State Security (PSS) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The event brought together global and regional stakeholders to examine how emerging technologies are reshaping terrorist financing threats and countermeasures.

In July the programme also supported with substantive presentations a regional training for Southeast Asian countries organized by the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law in Semarang, Indonesia, held under the theme "Follow the Money": Advanced Tools for Investigating Illicit Financial Networks and Prosecuting Terrorist Financing Cases".

Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE)

During the reporting period, the **Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism** (PCVE) focused on the development of a new Practice Guide and curriculum on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and PCVE. This has involved the implementation of a global survey, reaching more than 120 PCVE practitioners from 46 countries. The results of the survey showed that uptake of AI is still relatively low in the PCVE field, yet there is strong demand among PCVE practitioners to build their skills in the use of AI tools, their understanding of how they can apply AI to their PCVE work, and their ability to manage

human rights, legal and ethical risks when using AI. Rooted in the findings from the survey, additional desktop research and consultations with experts, the Guide will provide advice for practitioners and policymakers looking to adopt AI in the PCVE field.

Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration (PRR)

In August, the **Global Programme on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration** (PRR) delivered a workshop, jointly with IOM, on accountability for alleged members of ISIL/Da'esh, in Iraq. The workshop reached 20 Iraqi judges, increasing their knowledge of emerging good practices relating to prosecutorial approaches, individual criminal responsibility and sentencing in other countries.

In September, on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, and in collaboration with UNOCT's **Programme Office in Baghdad**, the Global Programme on PRR provided technical support to the delivery of the Government of Iraq's High-Level Conference on the Repatriation of Persons from Al-Hol, Surrounding Camps and Places of Detention in northeast Syria. The conference drew attention to the ongoing security, human rights and humanitarian crises in north-east Syria, advocating for voluntary repatriations, and offered a platform for Member States, regional and international organizations and civil society to share lessons learned and good practices related to repatriation operations and PRR efforts. The Conference convened regional organizations and 50 of their Member States, 17 UN Compact entities and 14 civil society partners. A total of 300 participants attended, including from prominent media organizations that broadcasted a call for action around the world.

Victims of Terrorism Support Programme (VoT)

During the reporting period, UNCCT advanced victim-centered support through the **Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme** and its Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN). Launched in April 2025, VoTAN now includes 120 victims and associations worldwide. The First Global VoTAN Forum on 1 July 2025 convened 55 victim representatives to shape collaborative frameworks for victim-centered approaches. The Second Forum on 3 September 2025 gathered 42 participants to focus on media engagement, facilitating peer exchange of experiences, practices, and resources. VoTAN members also nominated a geographically representative Steering Committee, in line with the Terms of Reference, to support victim-centric network governance.

The Programme held the first dedicated consultations with victims and survivors of terrorism since the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy's adoption in 2006, integrating VoTAN inputs on strengthening protections, support mechanisms, and depoliticizing victim experiences into its report to the Secretary-General. VoTAN also contributed to UNOCT's new strategic programme and results framework and to initiatives including the AI in PCVE Practice Guide and the Digital Tool Gap Analysis, reinforcing UNOCT's commitment to victim-centered policy development across its range of work.

On 21 August 2025, the eighth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, under the VoTAN-selected theme "United by Hope: Collective Action for Victims of Terrorism," amplified victims' voices as experts, peacebuilders, and agents of change. The Secretary-General, the Acting Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, and the Co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism delivered remarks in solidarity.

On 24 September 2025, the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism, supported by UNOCT, held its sixth ministerial meeting on the margins of UNGA 80. Acting Under-Secretary-General Alexandre Zouev

delivered opening remarks. Twenty-six Member States and Permanent Observers discussed progress since VoTAN's launch and the 2024 International Conference on Victims of Terrorism in Spain and identified measures to strengthen cooperation to uphold victims' rights, address their needs, and recognize their role in countering terrorism.

Regional programmes

Counter – Terrorism Early Warning Network for Central Asia

On 8 July 2025, UNCCT held a High-level Briefing in New York on Phase I of the Counter-Terrorism Early Warning Network (CT EWN) for Central Asia. Attended by UN agencies, regional organizations, and 27 Permanent Missions, the event presented key research findings and launched Phase II, focused on expanding national and regional activities.

In July, UNCCT and UNRCCA organized seminars in Tashkent (21–22 July) and Astana (24–25 July), training officials from five Central Asian countries on OSINT and AI tools for threat detection and radicalization analysis. Both events concluded with discussions on the CT EWN Threatwatch platform and future collaboration.

From 17–19 September, a regional training in Termez, Uzbekistan, focused on countering disinformation and online jihadist propaganda. Participants explored risk assessment methods and visited the NGO "Barqaror Hayot," which supports Afghan citizens and promotes P/CVE efforts.

These series of events culminated with the 5th Regional CT EWN Conference held in Baku from 13–16 October. It gathered experts and officials to review threat trends, discuss terrorist financing, and evaluate Phase I. The Threatwatch platform was presented, and participants agreed to strengthen data-driven early warning and regional coordination.

Programme offices

The UNOCT Programme Office in Ashgabat continued providing programmatic and operational support to all UNOCT programmes and projects for their implementation in Central Asia while further strengthening the partnership with regional organizations including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Collective Security Treaty Organization, UN Agencies on the ground and the host country.

The UNOCT **Programme Office in Baghdad** continued its outreach to the diplomatic community and further strengthened the national partnership with various counterparts in Iraq while facilitating the implementation of six Global Programmes in Iraq. The office secured funding for the sustainability of the office until the end of 2026 from the Government of Iraq in June 2025. Over this reporting period, the Office collaborated closely with Iraqi counterparts in preparation of the *High-Level International Conference on the Repatriation of Persons from Al Hol, Surrounding Camps and Places of Detention* held at UNHQ on the margins of UNGA80. Furthermore, the office provided operational and strategic support to activities under the PRR program.

The UNOCT Programme Office in Nairobi continued to serve as a key regional coordination hub for the delivery of UNOCT Global Programmes across the Horn, East, and Southern Africa. It advanced its regional engagement through strategic participation in the Fourth Nairobi Caucus on border security, delivering high-level remarks and contributing to discussions on enhanced regional cooperation. The Nairobi Office also convened its second 2025 coordination meeting with Nairobi-based funding partners to align efforts and strengthen collaboration, while continuing to provide strategic support to UNOCT Global Programmes delivering in the region, including the Human Rights and Gender Section, the EU–UN Global Terrorism Threats Facility, and P/CVE initiatives. The Office further secured formal inclusion in the upcoming United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2026–2030 for Uganda, reinforcing its role in UN system-wide planning at the national level. Additionally, the Nairobi Office contributed to the GCTF East Africa Working Group session on women in P/CVE, promoting gender-responsive and community-based approaches across the region.

In Q3 2025 the **UNOCT Bangkok presence** provided dedicated support to UNOCT/UNCCT's Global Programme on Detecting, Preventing and Countering the Financing of Terrorism and continued to serve as a regional coordination hub for the delivery of UNOCT Global Programmes across South-East Asia and with ASEAN.

The UNOCT **Programme Office in Madrid** continued to host staff from several UNCCT Global Programmes, including the Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme, the Global Programme on CBRN and Weapons, and the Global Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies. During the reporting period, the Office provided programmatic and operational support to activities under these three programmes, while also fostering strategic engagement with Spanish counterparts and regional partners. Its growing presence reflects UNOCT's commitment to proximity to key stakeholders.

The UNOCT Regional **Programme Support Office in Budapest** hosted staff from several UNCCT Global Programmes, including the Global Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies and the **Global Programme on Detecting, Preventing, and Countering the Financing of Terrorism**. During the reporting period, the Office provided programmatic and operational support to activities under these programmes.

Coordination and coherence

During the third quarter of 2025, UNCCT contributed substantively to the work of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact through its active engagement in Working Group meetings. This engagement serves as a platform for advancing UNCCT's programmatic priorities and sharing technical expertise across the UN system.

Within the **Counter-Terrorism Compact Criminal Justice, Legal Responses and CFT Working Group**, UNCCT briefed on its activities including the introduction of its Virtual Assets handbook at the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) plenary held in Moscow, and the organization of a workshop with the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) in Addis Ababa. UNCCT also reported on progress in deploying goFintel at the Netherlands Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), and outlined upcoming activities including parliamentary awareness sessions in South Sudan, Mozambique, and Madagascar; advanced financial intelligence training with

Italy's Guardia di Finanza for Central Asia; as well as upcoming joint initiatives with the Islamic Military Counter-Terrorism Coalition (IMCTC) for the Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt), Chad, and Comoros.

Human rights and gender

UNCCT continues to prioritize integrating international human rights, humanitarian, and refugee law across its programme and policy efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism. With the technical support, oversight and quality assurance provided by the UNOCT Human Rights and Gender Section (HRGS), UNCCT programmes strengthened their human rights compliant and gender-responsive approaches to CT/PCVE efforts, including on the application of the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). A Standard Operating Procedure (SoP), developed by HRGS to systematize the integration of the HRDDP in all UNOCT support to non-UN security forces, was adopted in September to guide these efforts.

Complementary to this, UNCCT, with HRGS support, will also be guided by the system-wide Human Rights Due Diligence Framework Policy (HRDDFP), which creates due diligence requirements in the UN's interactions with partners beyond security forces, namely state authorities and non-state actors, suppliers, private sector partnerships and implementing partners. During the reporting period, UNCCT's **Global Programme on Countering the Terrorist Use of Weapons** incorporated dedicated human rights and gender components into its national trainings in Cambodia and in Jordan, supported by expert sessions facilitated by HRGS. The Programme also benefited from tailored guidance to strengthen Member State capacities to apply rights-based safeguards in national legislation and practice, as well as by adopting a gender and intersectional lens in their counter-terrorism efforts.

In parallel, UNCCT's **Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme** integrated human rights and gender perspectives into its consultations to establish the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN), including through collaboration with the **Global Compact Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law and Support to Victims of Terrorism**.

On gender equality, UNCCT programme managers remained active members of the UNOCT Gender Task Force, contributing to the review and implementation of the Organization's Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Action Plan. With HRGS support, UNCCT continued to apply gender-sensitive approaches across its programming, helping to ensure more inclusive and context-specific interventions.

Communications

During the reporting period the Office's website totaled over 267,000 pageviews. The UNOCT X account received 180,000 impressions, including 7,300 for the #UNCCT hashtag.

With the support of the UNOCT Communications Team, a number of UNCCT activities also gained visibility coverage during the reporting period, including the Eighth International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism (21 Aug), the launch of the Weapons project on supporting Eastern Africa in countering terrorist use of improvised explosive devices (11 Sept) and the High-Level Conference on the Repatriation of Persons from Al-Hol, Surrounding Camps and Places of Detention in northeast Syria (26 Sept). The Conference and its proceedings were reported on asocial media and by a

number of media outlets such as [Arab News](#), [BBC](#), [the Iraqi News Agency](#), [Le Monde](#), as well as coverage on the website of [US Central command](#), contributing to advocacy efforts on the issue.

Other events included the [High-Level Briefing](#) on the Counter-Terrorism Early Warning Network for Central Asia (8 July), [IBSM](#) regional conference (9-10 July), the [call for application](#) for the PCVE gaming initiative (4 Aug) and the [CTTech+](#) workshops series (14 Sept).

The [briefing](#) to Member States contributed to highlight UNCCT flagship programmes, as well as the expansion of activities through the UNOCT Programme Offices, ensuring visibility of activities and expertise.

Update on contributions

From 1 January to 30 September, UNOCT mobilized $31,810,652 in new pledges from twenty funding partners. Of the funds raised to date, $2.7 million was earmarked for the UNOCT Policy Knowledge Management and Coordination Branch, $11.5 million was earmarked for the UNOCT Special Projects and Innovation Branch, and $16 million (55 percent) was earmarked to support UNCCT. Some of this money is for multi-year or multi-agency partnerships through the Trust Fund.

Funding Partners providing contributions to UNCCT from 1 January to 30 September 2025

Funding Partner	Contribution amount	Purpose
Australia	$ 451,045	PCVE Online Gaming South East Asia
Canada	$ 2,872,603	Supporting Eastern Africa in countering terrorist use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs)
Germany	$ 7,622,965	Integrated Border Stability Mechanism (IBSM) for West Africa - Phase II
Germany	$ 92,615	Border Security Management (BSM) West Africa
Germany	$ 381,263	Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (PRR) of Iraqi Nationals in Northeast Syria.
Iraq	$ 2,000,000	UNOCT Office in Baghdad
Iraq	$ 750,000	UNOCT Office in Baghdad
Iraq	$ 239,618	International Conference of the Repatriation of Individuals and Families from Northeast Syria
Iraq	$ 100,000	Global Victims of Terrorism (VOT) Support Programme
Italy	$ 175,080	Integrated Border Security Mechanism (IBSM)

Italy	$ 174,743	BSM through UNOCT Programme Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa, based in Rabat
Kazakhstan	$ 100,000	Countering WMD/CBRN terrorism - Training courses for Central Asia
Philippines	$ 10,000	Global Victims of Terrorism (VOT) programme
United Kingdom	$ 67,568	UNOCT Programme Office in Nairobi
UNPDF	$ 938,010	CT Early Warning Network in Central Asia - Phase II (until Feb 2026)
UNPDF	$ 31,026	YEEP PCVE Programme (Evaluation)
Uzbekistan	$ 50,000	Uzbekistan - UNOCT Roadmap for Cooperation 2024-2025
Total	**$ 16,056,536**	