

## JAN 2020

- The UNOCT Fusion Cells Programme is launched on 1 January 2020, in partnership with CTED, UNPOL, INTERPOL AND CAERT, funded by the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund (UNPDF) China, and a small contribution from the State of Qatar. The Programme will initially focus on African countries.

## MAY 2020

- Additional beneficiary country identified (Uganda).
- In support of Mozambique, a country specific Fusion Centre Programme is presented to the 27th Programme Review Board.
- A communications and visibility strategy is launched.

## JULY 2020

- Expert consultants Maria Lozano and Gil Gordian are onboarded for the Programme.
- UNOCT Fusion Cells webpage and newsletter are developed.

## AUGUST 2020

- First virtual scoping mission with Botswana completed.

## FEB 2020

- Nigel Lazarus is appointed Programme Manager.
- Beneficiary counties identified (Burkina Faso, Botswana, Ghana and Mozambique).

## MARCH 2020

- Olga Gurevich is appointed Programme Officer.

## APRIL 2020

- One UNV joins the Programme management team.

## JUNE 2020

- Jointly with CTED developed a country specific engagement framework for virtual scoping missions launched.
- Ongoing discussions with Ghana and Botswana in preparations for scoping missions to be held in July.
- Uganda virtual scoping mission planned for September.
- UNPDF Biannual report is submitted.
- Four CT webinars developed for implementation in August and September.



UNOCT Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB) has launched its new global Programme on 'National-Level Interagency Coordination Mechanisms', commonly known as Fusion Cells which will help Member States to strengthen their national capacity through specialist technical assistance, such as training and mentoring, leading to improved decision making, planning and operational capability to counter terrorism.

*"Homegrown terrorists are also testing the capacities of domestic security and intelligence agencies. So, as the threat from terrorism continues to evolve, we must adapt and learn lessons from what works and what does not. Our response needs to be as agile and multifaceted as the threat."*  
Secretary-General's opening remarks at High-level Conference on Counter-Terrorism, 28 June 2018

The Programme is funded by the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund and will be initially tailored to African countries. The Programme will build on, and deepen the understanding gained through CTED assessments, as well as UNOCT's other ongoing programmes, while working closely with each beneficiary Member State to set its priorities, bearing in mind the complex and sensitive nature of national interagency intelligence cooperation. The programme also complements, and benefits from the regional Fusion Centres being established by INTERPOL in Africa and promotes integration and full synergy at the regional and national levels.





## Next steps:

- Drafting of the Compendium of Good Practices and related guidelines on establishing and operating Fusion Centres.
- Organizing an Expert Working Group (EWG) and Expert Group Meeting (EGM) to support the drafting process of the Compendium of Good Practices and related guidelines.
- Developing Fusion Centres training materials and handbooks...

Fusion Centres enable enhanced threat assessment and informed decision-making, which can help to prevent terrorist attacks from taking place, ensure appropriate preparedness and response measures are in place, as well as drive investigations to ensure best evidence is gathered and contribute to a more effective response to and recovery from a terrorist attack.

The development of new terrorist modus operandi and features calls for constant monitoring, adaptability and increased effort. This requires enhanced capacities from Member States to collect, collate, analyse and quickly exchange the information between all relevant institutions and entities in charge of preventing, countering and responding to terrorism threats.



Understanding threats, trends and prospective pursuits is key to developing effective domestic and international CT strategies and essential to day to day mitigation activity. The adaptive nature of global terrorist groups as movements and networks and the ongoing threat they project onto national, regional and international security interests, make it necessary to ensure that national criminal justice, intelligence and law enforcement efforts can respond adequately.



## PLANNED WEBINARS

- Crisis Response and Preparedness: the importance of information
- Leadership and Decision-Making
- Fusion Centres: origins, challenges and the way forward
- Fusion Centres in Operations: their role in support of law enforcement, counter-terrorism and military operations