



2021-2022 United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism



UNOCT Programme Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

This project seeks to operationalise the UNOCT Programme Office for Specialized Counter-Terrorism and Law Enforcement Training in Africa, based in Rabat, Morocco.

Description of the Project

The UNOCT Programme Office for Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Training in Rabat, Morocco **will serve as a regional counter-terrorism training hub**. Together with the Kingdom of Morocco, the Programme Office will develop capacity-building assistance in the form of accredited training programmes that leverage local, regional, and international expertise to deliver specialized skills training. The Programme Office will help address two major challenges in the region: 1. Limited access to accredited, sustainable, and regularly updated counter-terrorism, border security and law enforcement training; and 2. Ineffective and delayed sharing of investigative information and evidence. The work delivered by the Programme Office on counter-terrorism (CT) investigations, border security management (BSM) and prison management will be delivered under the umbrella of UNOCT's existing Global Programmes in these specialist areas. Coordination will be a key priority of the Programme Office to guarantee complementarity and synergies with current and future counter-terrorism capacity-building efforts carried out by UN and other stakeholders in the countries covered by the office, while mitigating duplication and overlap risks.

Rationale

Developing the capacity of Member States to investigate complex cases, make well-formulated decisions, and gather evidence in support of investigative activities is essential to all counter-terrorism efforts. This is best accomplished by raising professional standards through advanced and specialized counter-terrorism-related training, such as that envisioned for the Programme Office. Moreover, ensuring effective border security and management is essential for preventing and countering the flow of suspected terrorists and foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) across land, air, and maritime borders, as well as the cross-border movement of illicit cargo, including weapons, arms, and munitions that may be used for terrorist purposes.

The Programme Office will aim to ensure:

- The identification/development of a cadre of specialist national and regional trainers.
- The development of national CT policing, border security and management, and prison management, prevention, deradicalization, and reintegration curricula comprising the national learning standards for learning and development (and related national qualifications and assessment), together with a comprehensive range of learning programmes and materials.
- The identification, development, and promotion of good practices within safe learning environments.
- The provision of knowledge, skills, and tools specific to the professional development of those working in specialist CT, border security and management, and prison management, prevention, deradicalization and reintegration roles.
- The identification, development and promotion of ethics, values, and standards of integrity, as well as the protection of human rights.
- The building of adequate and necessary capacity to investigate and to disrupt terrorist plots, while ensuring the integrity of evidence-based prosecution efforts.
- The improvement of national, regional, and international partners' capacity to share covert investigatory information and evidence with national, regional, and international authorities.
- The development of regionally tailored training materials to be used by prison staff, post release programmes, and specialists involved into disengagement work.

Outcomes

The programme seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Increased understanding of national level capacity, training needs and priorities.

Outcome 2: Establish capacity to train counter-terrorism, border security and management, and prison management, disengagement and reintegration officers at national and regional levels.

Outcome 3: Enhanced capacity of national law enforcement, border security management and prison management, prevention, disengagement, and reintegration officers is developed, in cooperation with national and regional training institutions.

Outcome 4: The core skills of training staff that expected to oversee, deliver and update counter-terrorism investigations, border security management, and prison management, disengagement and prevention or radicalization training courses are improved.

Outputs/Indicative Activities

The programme will achieve the following outputs:

Output 1: Scoping assessment reports, including training needs assessments which result in the production of a recommended plan of action (PoA) per identified country.

Output 2: An accredited and professional training programme exists that lays the foundations for a successful long-term career.

Output 3: A series of specialized certified training courses are delivered. (subjects based on need assessments).

Output 4: Train-the-trainer courses are successfully delivered.

These outputs will be achieved through the indicative activities below:

- Conducting national level scoping missions to comprehensively assess Member States' existing capacities, challenges, procedures/mechanisms, and specific priorities and threats;
- Creating a draft national action plan per Member State to develop a comprehensive and strategic approach, incorporating best practices and involving local authorities, the private sector and civil society;
- The development of national CT policing, border security management and prison management, training curricula comprising national learning standards for learning and development (and related national qualifications and assessment), together with a range of learning programmes and materials;
- The provision of knowledge, skills, and tools specific to the professional development of those working in specialised CT investigations, including border security management and prison management, prevention, deradicalization and reintegration roles;
- The identification/development of a cadre of specialized national and regional trainers;
- The building of adequate and necessary capacity to investigate and to disrupt terrorist plots, including through cross-border mechanisms, while ensuring the integrity of evidence-based prosecution efforts.

Human Rights Mainstreaming

The issue of human rights and due process is critical to the effective implementation of countering terrorism regulations and capacity building. In the Programme Office, all capacity building activities will integrate human rights focused trainings. Moreover, specific human rights focused modules will be developed for the Hybrid training and for the courses planned to be developed.

The Programme will closely monitor the development of System-Wide Guidance on Human Rights Due Diligence for CT Investigations and stands ready to apply it to specific areas of work related to responsible investigations and the use of related new technology. Gender and human rights considerations will also be continuously assessed and mainstreamed into the delivery of all programme outputs and activities. Each programme outcome will have its own human rights compliance monitoring plan to assess and measure the compliance and performance of security measures with international human rights standards.

Gender Mainstreaming

In countries where gender imbalances are palpable across the workforce, additional measures will be taken to encourage female participation as trainees and decision-makers. Gender considerations will also be mainstreamed throughout the project's training modules to ensure that trainees understand the gender dimensions of their work. This includes UNOCT's emphasis on reducing any adverse effects of CT regulations on small-scale women's organizations.

Budget

\$1,400,000.00

Pillar

Pillar II -Measures to prevent and Combat Terrorism

Project Status

Initiation

Implementation Period

2021-2026

UN Org

UNOCT

UN Global CT Compact Partners

CTED, UNODC, UNPOL

Countries

North and West Africa

Current Donors

This programme is currently funded by the Kingdom of Morocco and Hungary.