



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



Strengthening responses to detect, prevent and counter terrorism, its financing and serious crimes in the tri-border area (TBA) of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay

The project aims at strengthening the technical and regulatory capacity at the tri-border area (between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay) to prevent and counter crime and terrorism.

Description of the Project

The project aims at strengthening the technical and regulatory capacity of relevant actors at the Tri-Border Area (TBA) between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay in crime and terrorism prevention and security matters. **The project will focus on preventing, detecting, controlling and prosecuting acts of terrorism and its financing, including possible linkages with transnational organized crime, illicit financial flows and other possible serious related crimes.** The target groups of the proposed activities would include criminal justice officers, customs and border control officials, law enforcement officers, financial intelligence officers, policymakers as well as private sector entities and associations and the general population, depending on the outcome of the project proposal, i.e. prevention, control or persecution. To this end, the proposal envisages the creation of an Observatory in Ciudad del Este (TBA-Paraguay) to prevent, detect and counter these criminal offences.

Rationale

As terrorist and criminal organizations show patterns of collaboration, terrorist support networks emerge as training, weaponry, intelligence, support and planning suppliers. An effective counter-terrorism strategy requires a solid legal framework, in compliance with international provisions and standards as well as highly trained law enforcement and criminal justice institutions. Significant steps have been taken in this regard at the national and regional levels. In December 2011, Argentina adopted measures to strengthen the criminalization of terrorism financing offences. The Government has also taken the necessary administrative steps towards ratifying the five remaining international counter-terrorism instruments. Similarly, in March 2016, Brazil introduced amendments to its counter-terrorism legal framework by criminalizing activities related to foreign terrorist fighters. Brazil is party to 13 of the 19 international legal instruments against terrorism. In June 2010, Paraguay modified three conducts of the Criminal Code (Terrorism, Association with Terrorism Purposes and Terrorism Financing), and has ratified 14 of the international instruments against terrorism.

UNODC, CTC/CTED country assessments and national stakeholders identified a need to enhance prevention, control and prosecution capacity. The project responds to technical needs identified in and will complement CTC assessments in selected countries. Associations of private and national entities requested technical assistance to enhance the capacity to identify, detect and manage risks related to terrorism financing, money laundering, as well as illicit financial flows. Criminal justice and law enforcement authorities informed UNODC of the need to enhance stakeholders' performance during the investigation, pre-trial and trial stages when prosecuting offences related to terrorism and transnational organized crime.

Effective criminal justice systems constitute the foundation of a common fight against terrorism. Thus, guaranteeing the apprehension and prosecution or extradition of perpetrators of serious crimes and terrorist acts is essential. Bringing to justice those who participate in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts while promoting the rule of law and respect for human rights is also critically important.

To do so, UNODC aims to establish an interdisciplinary Observatory in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay, which will oversee activities to help prevent, detect and control criminal/terrorist activity. The observatory will also serve as a think tank and database for the development of holistic and comprehensive response through analysis, reports and methodologies to build a common operative approach to detect, prevent and prosecute terrorism and transnational organized crime-related cases. The project will also deliver training and technical assistance, integrating diverse UNODC mandates that aim at countering terrorism, its financing, as well as organized crime and illicit financial flows.

Outcomes

The project seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: PREVENTION: Enhanced understanding of the threat and vulnerabilities, and analysis and identification of needs, priorities and responses.

Outcome 2: DETECT/CONTROL:Enhanced coordination among public and private sectors, and measures to detect and address terrorist financing, organized crime and illicit financial flows.

Outcome 3: PROSECUTION:Enhanced capacity to investigate and prosecute terrorism and its financing, organized crime and illicit financial flows.

Outputs/Indicative Activities

The project seeks to deliver the following outputs:

Output 1.1: Facilitating the establishment of an Observatory (and related resources website) in Ciudad del Este to provide strategic and integrated responses to terrorism, its financing, transnational organized crime and illicit financial flows in the TBA.

Output 1.2: Identifying, understanding and analyzing terrorism and transnational organized crime's trends, threats and activities, including through risk assessments, to design public policy and strategies.

Output 1.3: Review regulatory frameworks and/or legislation in line with international obligations and standards.

Output 1.4: Work with the private sector to develop AML/CFT tools tailored to each relevant economic sector to enhance responses of public and private actors on threats posed by terrorism, its financing and other serious crimes, including through risk-management systems and private-public partnerships.

Output 1.5: Raising awareness among the communities and relevant public and private actors about the negative impact of crime and terrorism.

Output 2.1: Strengthening a coordinated response of public and private sector to control risks associated to terrorism and its financing and to organized crime and illicit financial flows, including through establishing a public-private partnership on secure and responsible business.

Output 2.2: Strengthening a coordinated response among public entities to enhance the strategy against crime and terrorism and its financing, including through establishing an Inter-Institutional Committee to Prevent and Fight Serious Crime, Terrorism, and Financing.

Output 2.3: Operationalizing Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces (JAITFs) at airports in the TBA, including in international airports of Cataratas de Iguazú (IGR) (Argentina) and of Ciudad del Este (AGT) (subject to confirmation of Paraguay to be a beneficiary country of AIRCOP).

Output 2.4: Improving communication, cooperation and exchange of information between JAITFs at selected international airports.

Output 3.1: Enhancing capacity to investigate offences related to terrorism, its financing, as well as organized crime and illicit financial flows, including through elaborating a guide of judicial responses against these crimes.

Output 3.2: Enhance national capacities to prosecute offences related to terrorism, its financing, as well as organized crime and illicit financial flows, including through mock criminal trials and a case management tool.

Output 3.3: Enhance international cooperation among countries in the TBA and with other relevant countries based on existing and previous judicial cases, including by conducting round table discussions and mock criminal investigations and trials.

Human Rights Mainstreaming

Human rights and gender will be streamlined throughout the project, from consultative missions to the establishment of the articulation mechanisms, and the delivery of capacity building. In this context, UNODC will pay due attention to the importance of a human rights and rule of law-based approach to the adoption and implementation of regulations, protocols and creation of coordination mechanisms. The project will look at promoting and enhancing the rule of law among beneficiaries, including both public and private entities. To this end, UNODC will support due diligence analysis before deciding on any engagement with private entities and/or associations.

Gender Mainstreaming

UNODC will also pay due attention to gender mainstreaming when corresponding with stakeholders and regarding the diversity of participants during the implementation of the project. In this sense, measures will be taken to enhance gender aspects both in internal and external scenarios. Regarding internal proceedings, the initiative will be mindful of gender balance and parity among project team members. At the implementation phase, the goal will ensure that at least half of the participants are women in all activities. The equal participation of women will be especially encouraged by UNODC when addressing beneficiary entities of the project and requesting designations for activities. Moreover, some key outcomes of the project (such as risk analysis and specialized studies related to preventing crime) will consider, collect, analyse and provide visibility to specific data and analysis of women. Recommendations will also be provided to policymakers to ensure that gender aspects are observed by national and local authorities.

Budget

\$3,000,000.00

Pillar

Pillar II -Measures to prevent and Combat Terrorism, Pillar III -Building States' Capacity and Strengthening the Role of the United Nations

Project Status

Initiation

Implementation Period

2021-2023

UN Org

UNODC

UN Global CT Compact Partners

Countries

Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay

Current Donors

This project is currently unfunded.