

**PILLAR III:**

## **Measures to build States' capacity to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard**

Drawing on UNCCT expertise/assistance and programme support, Member States, UN entities and other stakeholders cooperate to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism (Outcome 4, UNCCT 5-Year Programme)

**Output 4.1:** I-ACT is promoted and expanded to cover additional requesting Member States and priority gaps are identified and addressed in a coherent manner by relevant CTITF [Global Compact] entities

In 2018, UNCCT continued to implement and promote an integrated, strategic and system-wide approach to capacity building for the balanced implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through its Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative. I-ACT supports requesting governments and regional organisations in their implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in a coordinated and coherent manner. This initiative seeks to strengthen coordination, coherence, and information-sharing among Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities that participate in capacity-building activities under the I-ACT Framework, as well as to improve their joint analysis of counter-terrorism and PVE needs of Member States and regional organisations, including through organising and facilitating joint missions. I-ACT is currently implemented at the national level in Mali, and at the regional level in the G5 Sahel region. The Regional I-ACT Framework for the G5 Sahel responds to the Security Council's request by resolution 2195 (2014) to expand the I-ACT programme to the G5 Sahel region to ensure an 'All-of-UN' approach in the delivery of technical assistance in counter-terrorism and PVE. This Framework consists of several strategic, mutually supportive, and gender-sensitive projects that mainstream human rights, which are implemented in close cooperation with the Permanent Secretariat of the G5 Sahel. During the reporting period, the I-ACT Unit of UNCCT continued to deepen its partnerships with beneficiary countries through regular consultations and conducted its work in line with the priorities identified by these countries and the region.

Regional I-ACT Framework

UNCCT-2017-74:	Supporting the Regional Efforts of G5 Sahel Countries to Counter Terrorism and Prevent Violent Extremism
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Status: Ongoing

This UNCCT project, implemented in close cooperation with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, was launched in April 2017 under the regional I-ACT Initiative for the G5 Sahel to help implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism in the G5 Sahel region. The project’s key thematic areas are based on the needs assessments conducted by CTED and other UN entities, and are aligned with the priorities established by the G5 Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger). These focus areas are: (1) preventing violent extremism; (2) border management and cross-border cooperation; (3) rule of law and criminal justice; and (4) overall counter-terrorism coordination. The project actively engages government officials of the G5 Sahel countries from relevant agencies involved in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism, and civil society organisations from the G5 Sahel region. It further complements and mutually reinforces the support provided by the rest of the UN system through the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS), as well as the support of bilateral partners to the G5 region.

Results/Impact

A key project output is to ensure that the *regional counter-radicalization cell (CELLRAD)*, established within the Permanent Secretariat of the G5 Sahel in 2016 to implement the recommendations of the May 2015 Niamey Declaration, is fully operational. In this regard, UNCCT continued to support the operationalisation of the CELLRAD and its national antennas. On 26-27 April, the Centre, in close



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collaboration with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, helped organise the Second Meeting of Ministers of Religious Affairs of G5 countries in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on the work of the CELLRAD. The meeting served as an opportunity to validate a study commissioned by the G5 Sahel and UNOWAS to identify community indicators of radicalisation and violent extremism. This study and identified indicators are a key tool for the CELLRAD and its national antennas to identify patterns, anticipate radicalisation, and thwart possible recruitment by violent extremist groups.



UN Photo

Another output under the regional I-ACT framework is the development of a Handbook on good practices for community resilience in the G5 Sahel region. During the reporting period, UNCCT, following close consultations with the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat and UNOWAS, recruited a consultant to support the drafting of this Handbook. The Handbook will provide shared experiences and lessons learned on community resilience in the G5 Sahel from selected communities, including cross-border communities, and authorities of the G5 Sahel countries, and will be developed through direct engagement and regional workshops with community members. Following further consultations with various communities in G5 Sahel countries, UNCCT will organise a regional workshop in March 2019 in Nouakchott, Mauritania, to share practical experiences and lessons learned on community resilience in the G5 Sahel. This will be followed by a validation workshop in May 2019. The Handbook will be subsequently printed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders, and will help complement the Centre's support to the CELLRAD.

During the reporting period, UNCCT helped improve the capacity of the G5 Sahel countries to prevent and counter terrorism. On 4-6 September, the Centre held a regional capacity-building workshop for law enforcement officials in Nouakchott, Mauritania on best practices regarding intra-agency and inter-agency cooperation to address and prevent kidnapping for ransom.

A total of 40 participants, including officials from all countries of the G5 Sahel, and representatives from UNOWAS, UNODC and IOM took part in the exercise. As part of the South-South approach, two officials from Kenya were invited to share their good practices and expertise in this area.

On 6-8 November, UNCCT held a regional workshop for G5 Sahel countries on 'Preventing Violent Extremism through Education (PVE-E)', in partnership with the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, UNESCO, and UNOWAS, in Nouakchott, Mauritania. The workshop gathered 52 participants, including 18 women, from G5 Sahel countries, Kenya and Nigeria invited as observer to promote the South-South initiative, the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, the International Organization of La Francophonie (IOF), UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and UNICEF. The workshop provided participants with the opportunity to discuss their perspectives, exchange information and best practices, and put forward practical proposals, which are expected to be reflected in *the G5 Sahel Integrated Strategy on Youth* that is currently being developed.

**UNCCT-2018-03-85:** Promotion of Sustainable Peace and Development through Building of Skills for Life and the World of Work in the Sahel (UNCCT-UNESCO under I-ACT)

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**Status:** Ongoing

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Launched in May 2018, this project is the initial phase of a programme that aims to support peace and sustainable development through strengthening youth competencies. The project seeks to (1) promote inclusive education policies in favour of disadvantaged groups within society; (2) strengthen the skills, attitudes, and values of young people to increase their socio-economic integration; and (3) build the capacity of teacher trainers and teachers to enable learners to acquire basic knowledge and the values of 'living together'.

In May, the project held a consultative meeting in Bamako, Mali, during which priorities and needs of beneficiary countries were identified and country results frameworks were developed to finalise the programme document. 48 participants, including five women and four youth, attended the meeting from Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal, as well as from the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat, the national antennas of the CELLRAD, and the G5 Sahel Coordination of Journalists (CoJ-G5 Sahel). A senior UNCCT consultant participated in the meeting and provided technical expertise.

In December, a group of 69 national education experts and stakeholders, including 24 women, met in Burkina Faso, to reflect on the principles, values,

knowledge, and competencies that civic and citizenship education can instil among learners. They identified key challenges in implementing civic and citizenship education in terms of institutional arrangements, curricula, and teacher training and practices. The meeting findings will contribute to designing future capacity-building interventions on global citizenship education and prevention of violent extremism through education. In addition, during September-December, two rapped newscasts were produced in Burkina Faso and Mali to provide key messages on PVE and culture of peace. In Mauritania, the project developed the methodology and data collection tools as a preparatory step to conduct a research study on the prevalence and forms of school violence.

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## Results/Impact

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The project is the initial phase of a wider programme, which is implemented in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions and Sustainable Development Goal 4 on inclusive and equitable quality education and promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all. In this regard, the project has brought together a number of experts in order to identify key challenges in implementing civic and citizenship education in terms of institutional arrangements, curricula, and teacher training and practices in Burkina Faso. This will support the development of future capacity-building interventions on global citizenship education and PVE-E. This project will also help spread messages of peace through rapped newscasts in Burkina Faso and Mali.

In this connection, the key activities planned under the project in 2019 include: (1) broader dissemination of the rapped newscasts in Burkina Faso and Mali; (2) development of the methodology of a research study on the prevalence and forms of school violence in Burkina Faso and Niger; (3) promotion and management of the web platform *Learning to Live Together Sustainably*; and (4) adaptation of *Teacher's Guide for Peace and Resilience Building in the Sahel and Surrounding Countries* to Niger's national context. A second phase of this project has been submitted in the first United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism Consolidated Multi-Year Appeal for 2019-2020.





**UNCCT-2018-03-86:** Strengthening Rule of Law-Based Criminal Justice Measures and Related Operational Measures against Terrorism and Violent Extremism (UNCCT-UNODC under I-ACT)

**Status:** Ongoing

International judicial cooperation in criminal matters remains a key element in the fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime, especially in the Sahel where these growing threats are increasingly transnational in nature. In this regard, the project aims to (1) strengthen judicial cooperation among the G5 Sahel countries; (2) enhance capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice officials to address legal and criminal justice challenges related to FTF and violent extremism; (3) enhance national capacity for human rights compliance in criminal justice responses to terrorism and violent extremism; (4) strengthen operational cooperation among the G5 Sahel law enforcement and intelligence authorities; and (5) enhance operational capacity to conduct complex investigations and apply special investigation techniques on the investigation of terrorism and related cases.

While activities under this project will be implemented in 2019, progress was made during the reporting period to lay the necessary foundation for the successful implementation of the project through the organisation of two key events. One was the 8th Annual Meeting of the Sahel Judicial Cooperation Platform (the Sahel Platform), composed of Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Chad, which took place on 25-27 September in Dakar, Senegal, to identify challenges and exchange best practices on current cooperation cases, including the effective handling of requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition. 20 participants, including the Sahel Platform focal points and substitutes, representatives of the G5 Sahel and INTERPOL, and UNODC experts attended the meeting.

The second event was the sub-regional seminar for Sahel countries on the development of Plans of Action to strengthen criminal justice responses to terrorism held on 23-25 October. As part of a series of meetings with national stakeholders involved in counter-terrorism efforts, UNODC assisted national partners in Burkina Faso and Mauritania in developing a list of the operational objectives to be achieved and an adequate division of labour among criminal justice actors. The objective of this seminar was to present the lessons learned from this experience to other G5 Sahel countries, including the methodology, results, challenges, and best practices, to explore opportunities to replicate such action plans in other countries and to initiate discussions on the establishment of a regional network of cooperation between judicial and investigation units specialising in counter-terrorism.

## Results/Impact

In 2019, UNCCT will collaborate with UNODC on organising (1) a national training workshop on building terrorism cases for investigators, prosecutors and investigating judges; (2) the first sub-regional meeting of the specialised counter-terrorism judicial and investigative units for the establishment of a regional network; (3) a national training workshop on witness protection for investigators, prosecutors, and investigating judges in charge of terrorism cases; (4) a high-level meeting that would result in a MOU between the Sahel Platform and the G5 Sahel to support the operationalization of judicial cooperation; and (5) the first sub-regional workshop of the integrated structure between the Sahel Platform and the G5 Sahel. Through these activities, the Centre will seek to increase and operationalise regional judicial cooperation, and strengthen the capacity of criminal justice and law enforcement officials of the G5 Sahel countries to build terrorism cases.

### UNCCT-2018-03-87: Programme Coordination of the G5 Sahel Framework (I-ACT)

#### Status: Ongoing

The regional I-ACT Framework consists of eight regional, mutually reinforcing, gender and human rights sensitive projects submitted by UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO, UNODC, ICAO, IOM, and UNCCT, and implemented in cooperation with UNOWAS and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretariat. This project supports the programmatic needs of the regional I-ACT framework through the recruitment and deployment of required professional and general service staff. UNCCT has two Programme Management Officers based in New York and in Nouakchott, respectively. The Centre's field deployment has helped strengthen cooperation with the G5 Sahel countries, and other key partners in the region.

## National I-ACT Framework

### UNCCT-2014-36: Enhancing the Capacity of Mali's Security and Justice Sectors to Counter Terrorism (I-ACT)

#### Status: Completed/Quarter 4

In 2018, UNCCT continued to assist Mali in strengthening the capacity of its security and justice sectors to counter terrorism under the national I-ACT Framework. In close cooperation with the Government of Mali, the United



Photo: MINUSMA-Marco Dormino

Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), CTED, UN Country Team, particularly UNDP Mali, and other relevant stakeholders, UNCCT supported the development of a comprehensive national policy on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism in Mali entitled *Politique Nationale de Prévention et de Lutte Contre l'Extrémisme Violent* and its *Plan of Action* for 2018-2020. The National Policy encompasses five pillars: prevention, protection, prosecution, response, and social cohesion.

On 29-31 January, UNCCT held an interagency coordination workshop in Bamako with the participation of approximately 70 representatives from the government, security forces, civil society, and the United Nations. The opening ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister of Mali, Mr. Soumeylou Boubèye Maïga, the Minister of Religious Affairs and Worship, Mr. Thierno Amadou Oumar Hass Diallo, senior government officials, members of the security forces, the diplomatic corps, civil society representatives, MINUSMA and UNDP officials, and the national press. During this workshop, participants highlighted that Mali and the region is at a critical turn, and that the workshop presented an important opportunity to set the foundation for necessary progress in counter-terrorism and PVE efforts. The workshop enabled participants to review the National Policy and to prioritise its objectives and activities in five thematic working groups focusing on the five pillars of the Policy. Furthermore, participants developed recommendations aimed at supporting the implementation of the Policy, including on communication mechanisms, the role and participation of communities, the involvement of young people and women as facilitators in de-radicalisation efforts, and resource mobilisation.

The National Policy was approved on 26 February through a presidential decree and launched on 10 July at a launch event organised with the support of UNCCT, and attended by more than 300 people, including government officials, the diplomatic corps, local defence and security forces, civil society representatives, and UN officials.



## Results/Impact

The project supported the delivery of the key output – the development of the National Policy and Plan of Action on counter-terrorism and PVE for Mali. The 'All-of-UN' support ensured a participatory process in the development of the National Policy, and the adoption of a balanced approach to integrate key issues into the document, including on gender, human rights, rule of law, and victims of terrorism. The cumulative and coordinated support from UN agencies to the drafting process also helped ensure the timely completion of this policy document. During the interagency coordination workshop in January 2018, UNCCT received very positive feedback from participants who stressed the need to expedite the implementation of the National Policy. Going forward, upon the request of the Government of Mali, UNCCT will support government efforts to establish effective interagency coordination mechanisms to support the implementation of the National Policy and its Action Plan.

**Output 4.2:** Relevant CTITF [Global Compact] entities have an enhanced capacity, within their mandate, to address terrorism and violent extremism, including in particular through joint efforts

The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) was established by the Secretary-General in 2005 and endorsed by the General Assembly in 2006 through the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288) "to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system." The General Assembly, through resolution A/RES/71/291 adopted on 15 June 2017, established the Office of Counter-Terrorism and welcomed the initiative of the Secretary-General to "transfer the current Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, together with their existing staff, as well as all associated regular and extrabudgetary resources, out of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, into the Office of Counter-Terrorism."

The establishment of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism was the first reform initiative of the UN Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres who stressed the need to bring together all relevant UN agencies at the highest level to foster an 'All-of-UN' partnership in counter-terrorism through a more effective coordination framework. To this effect, the Secretary-General, in February, signed the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, which establishes a set of guiding principles aimed at significantly improving the coordination and coherence of the UN system to support Member States in their implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The Coordination Compact is an agreement between 36 UN entities that support Member States on countering and preventing terrorism and violent extremism according

to their respective mandates. The Compact was signed by the heads of these entities, as well as INTERPOL and WCO, as a symbol of their commitment to coordinate activities at Headquarters and in the field. This document also provides a common framework for monitoring and evaluation to help assess the impact of UN efforts in this area.

On 6 December, the Secretary-General launched the first meeting of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee, which supports the implementation of the Coordination Compact, during which he announced that the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Task Force would now replace CTITF. During this meeting, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, noting that the Coordination Committee would function through the Global Compact Working Groups, emphasised that it was essential to revitalise and reform these Working Groups so that they can operate more efficiently and reflect developments in the UN counter-terrorism architecture, including the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact. The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism will provide secretariat support to the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Coordination Committee.

The Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and the revitalised Global Compact Working Groups will further strengthen cooperation and coordination among the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Task Force entities in the joint development and implementation of capacity-building projects.

### **UN FTF Capacity Building Implementation Plan**

Pursuant to the Security Council Presidential Statement S/PRST/2015/11, UNCCT developed a United Nations capacity building implementation plan for countering the flow of foreign terrorist fighters in close consultation with the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team and CTED. Security Council resolution 2396 (2017) requested the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism to review and update the FTF Implementation Plan to ensure that it supports Member States in their efforts to implement the priorities in the resolution, including the establishment of effective API systems, the development of PNR capabilities and biometric data systems, the improvement of judicial procedures and cooperation, and the development of comprehensive and tailored prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies.

The latest version of the Plan released in June 2018 has 40 projects by 12 entities, including UNCCT, CTED, UNODC, OHCHR, UNODA, UN Women, the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, UNESCO, IOM, the Department of Peace Operations (DPO, formerly the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/DPKO), ICAO, and INTERPOL, with a total budget of USD 94.7 million. More than half of these projects are focused on the tail-end of the FTF lifecycle, namely, border security and information sharing, judicial measures and international cooperation, and prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, in line with resolution 2396 (2017).

During the latest update of the Plan, which included consultations with implementing Global Counter-Terrorism Compact entities and donors, 10 unfunded projects were

removed, and 7 new projects were included on supporting counter-FTF efforts in Somalia (DPO), strengthening criminal justice systems to address the FTF threat (UNODC), and mainstreaming gender into the efforts to counter FTFs (UN Women). In 2018, 7 projects were completed by UNCCT, CTED, UNODC and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC). There are currently 8 active UNCCT projects under the Plan, including programmes and projects on prison de-radicalisation, information sharing on FTFs, the use of social media and the Internet, border security and management, PVE and youth empowerment in Jordan, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia, human rights based treatment of children associated with or accompanying FTFs, women's rights in the Sahel region, and prevention of the acquisition of arms and ammunition by terrorists (phase II). The update process contributed to significantly raising the funding rate from 41 per cent to 68 per cent (USD 65 million). UNCCT contributes 10 per cent (USD 10 million) of the total budget.

During meetings to revitalise the Global Compact Working Groups, the Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Task Force entities agreed to hand over the FTF Plan to the newly established Working Group on Resource Mobilization, Monitoring & Evaluation. This move is expected to increase advocacy for joint fundraising for this 'All-of-UN' Programme addressing the full life-cycle of the FTF phenomenon, and to improve monitoring and evaluation of the projects implemented under the FTF Plan, as requested by Member States.

#### UNCCT-2017-73: Seed-Funding for Global Compact Working Group Projects

UNCCT initiated seed funding to select projects developed by the 12 UN Inter-Agency (Global Compact) Working Groups for 2017-2018 with a total budget of USD 1,356,000. The seed funding is intended to incentivise the work of the Working Groups, promote coordination and coherence and allow for additional fundraising for projects. It also provides the Chairs of the Working Groups with more flexibility to address programmatic needs, within the overall strategic framework of their Annual Work Plans. The initiative creates shared responsibility among Global Counter-Terrorism Compact Task Force entities within the different Working Groups and leverage their resources and expertise to promote an 'All-of-UN' approach in project development and implementation.

In 2018, the Programme Review Board of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism has approved seed funding for nine (9) project proposals in the thematic areas of border management and law enforcement, protection of critical infrastructure, legal and criminal justice responses, promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law, national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, countering the financing of terrorism, preventing and responding to WMD attacks, communications, and gender-sensitive approach to preventing and countering terrorism. A proposal in the area of supporting and highlighting victims of terrorism is under consideration. During the reporting period, work was undertaken within the scope of five seed projects, as outlined below.

# Exhibit V

## Overview of 2018 seed projects

<b>UNCCT-2017-73-a</b> Border Management and Law Enforcement Relating to Counter-Terrorism (seed project)	Raise awareness, increase knowledge and strengthen capability of Member States and relevant international and regional entities on collecting, recording and sharing of biometric information on terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters at the international level, and through the establishment of a Compendium of existing good practices and recommendations	12 months (subject to extension) <b>Ongoing</b>	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2
<b>UNCCT-2017-73-d</b> National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies (seed project)	Develop national comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategy in light of Security Council resolutions 1963 (2010) and 2129 (2013)	12 months (subject to extension) <b>Ongoing</b>	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2
<b>UNCCT-2017-73-h</b> Protection of Critical Infrastructure Including Internet, Vulnerable Targets and Tourism Security (seed project)	Develop Guidelines and a Compendium of Good Practices on the protection of critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks	12 months (subject to extension) <b>Ongoing</b>	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2
<b>UNCCT-2017-73-i</b> Communications (seed project)	Counter terrorist narratives through the development of good practices, recommendations for effective monitoring and evaluation and toolkit	12 months (subject to extension) <b>Ongoing</b>	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2
<b>UNCCT-2017-73-j</b> Legal and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism (CTED seed project)	Develop guidelines on the role of the military in supporting the collection, sharing and use of evidence for promoting rule of law and human rights compliant criminal justice responses to terrorism	12 months (subject to extension) <b>Ongoing</b>	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2
<b>UNCCT-2019-02-79-D</b> Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge About Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism (UNCCT-UNICRI seed project)	Enhance knowledge and awareness of scientific and technological advances relevant to WMD terrorism through the preparation and dissemination of a research-based report	15 months (March/April 2019-May/June 2020) <b>Initiated</b>	Global	Outcome 4 Output 4.2

**UNCCT-2017-73-a:** Border Management and Law Enforcement Relating to Counter-Terrorism

With UNCCT seed funding and under the Global Compact Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement related to Counter-Terrorism, chaired by CTED, a project was developed which aimed to raise awareness, increase knowledge and strengthen the capability of Member States to collect, use and share biometric data on terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters in a responsible manner. Under this project, a Compendium of recommended practices for the responsible use and sharing of biometrics in counter-terrorism was developed in association with the Biometrics Institute. The Compendium was officially released and presented during the High-Level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States held in June 2018. The Compendium provides key principles and recommendations for consideration by Member States and other partners when implementing actions related to biometric data at the national and regional levels. A four-month extension of the seed funds from 1 January 2019 will be used to produce and print a leaflet of the Compendium and have it translated into all official UN languages.

**UNCCT-2017-73-d:** Developing National Comprehensive and Integrated Counter-Terrorism Strategy in light of Security Council Resolutions 1963 (2010) and 2129 (2013)

The seed funding project implemented by the Global Compact Working Group on National and Regional Strategies seeks to advise and support requesting Member States on the steps to be taken to develop a comprehensive and integrated counter-terrorism strategy, through the temporary on-site presence or visit by qualified experts. In 2018, an expert consultant was engaged under this project to support the Government of Iraq in the development of a comprehensive strategy and to provide advisory support. The consultant will be deployed for technical and advisory visits to Iraq over the course of 2019.

**UNCCT-2017-73-h:** Development of Guidelines and a Compendium of Good Practices on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks

This seed project, implemented by the Global Compact Working Group on the Protection of Critical Infrastructure Including Internet, Vulnerable Targets and Tourism Security, developed and published the *Compendium of Good Practices for the Protection of Critical Infrastructures against Terrorist Attacks* in June. This Compendium was designed as a tool to support a wide range of actors, including policy makers, law enforcement authorities and private sector stakeholders with



responsibilities for designing, improving and implementing policies and measures to protect critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks, in compliance with Security Council resolution 2341 (2017). The underlying practical and legal challenges faced by States are examined from the perspective of current and potential solutions adopted by specific governments and organisations. In line with resolution 2341 (2017), the Compendium does not focus on any particular infrastructure type but highlights common principles, processes and methodologies that countries are encouraged to translate into concrete strategies as well as action plans and measures focusing on specific areas. The Compendium draws on case studies to provide concrete examples and implementation options, including examples of sector-specific mitigation measures.



**UNCCT-2017-73-i:** Countering Terrorist Narratives: Good Practices, Recommendations for Effective Monitoring and Evaluation and Toolkit

This seed project, implemented by CTED within the scope of the Global Compact Working Group on Communications, in consultation with UNCCT, seeks to support Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 2354 (2017). The project seeks to gather best practices, provide evidence-based recommendations for effective monitoring and evaluation, and produce a tool kit to guide Member States and other key stakeholders in their efforts to develop counter and alternative narratives. The Programme Review Board approved the project in August and a consultant was recruited late 2018 to prepare key findings based on desk review and produce a compilation of best practices as well as a comprehensive report and toolkit.

**UNCCT-2017-73-j:** Development of Guidelines on the Role of the Military in Supporting the Collection, Sharing and Use of Evidence for Promoting Rule of Law and Human Rights Compliant Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism

This seed project aims to strengthen criminal justice responses to terrorism by facilitating the use and the admissibility as evidence of information preserved, collected and shared by the military. This project is led by CTED and UNODC,

in close consultation with the member entities of the Working Group on Legal and Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism, with financial support from the Government of Switzerland in addition to the seed funding provided by UNCCT. The project has been implemented in close collaboration with the International Center for Counter-Terrorism – The Hague (ICCT).

One key output is the development of guidelines for practitioners on this topic. In preparation of the first draft which was presented to the Working Group in June 2018, a number of activities have been implemented in 2018. First, in April 2018, CTED organised a high-level expert meeting, attended by around 40 international experts (including prosecutors, military actors and expert representatives of international, regional and national organisations), to discuss related challenges and existing practices and exchange ideas on the development of the guidelines. Second, the ICCT, in consultation with CTED, developed a questionnaire for policymakers, military practitioners and counter-terrorism prosecutors to facilitate development of the guidelines. Third, CTED informed the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the development and the status of the UN guidelines at the closed briefing in May 2018. And finally, in September 2018, CTED organised a joint side event with UNODC and the International Association of Prosecutors on 'Collection, Use and Sharing of Evidence for the Purposes of Criminal Prosecution in Terrorism Cases' during the General Debate of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

At year's end, the guidelines were undergoing the technical editing and design phase. An extension of the seed funds will be used to translate the guidelines into all six official UN languages, as well as for printing and distribution.

<b>UNCCT-2019-02-79-D:</b>	Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge About Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism
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**Status:** Initiated

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New scientific developments and emerging technologies are transforming life, industry, and the global economy in positive ways. At the same time, some of these technologies, such as synthetic biology, artificial intelligence, drones and additive manufacturing, also known as 3D printing, present significant potential for misuse by terrorist groups. ISIL is known to have already used drones to deliver explosives in Iraq and Syria and there are reports that the group has considered using the same technology to deliver chemical weapons. ISIL has also conducted fundraising using bitcoins on the dark web, the same marketplace that has been used to buy and sell radioactive materials in the past. It is therefore crucial for Member States and international and

regional organisations to keep up with the speed, complexity and innovation of advancements in science and technology to foresee potential risks and to determine how such advances can be most effectively applied to global counter-terrorism efforts, such as detection of illicit trade, cost-effective medical counter-measures, among others.

The project seeks to enhance knowledge and awareness of scientific and technological advances relevant to WMD terrorism through the preparation and dissemination of a research-based report. The report will first consider how advances in science and technology could augment or enhance terrorist capabilities to acquire and/or deploy WMD, to raise awareness about rapidly evolving WMD terrorist threats. The report will then identify innovative technology solutions that could be applied to countering WMD terrorism, to help inform strategic investments in counter-terrorism technologies. Finally, the report will conclude with strategic recommendations for concrete follow-up actions.

This project will be implemented over a period of 15 months by UNICRI within the framework of the Global Compact Working Group on Preventing and Responding to WMD Terrorist Attacks and in close cooperation with UNCCT, the Group of Experts of the 1540 Committee, OPCW and UNODA. The project will draw on the cumulative experience and technical expertise of operational experts of the Global Compact Working Group to help identify key emerging technologies and support the development of realistic risk scenarios based on relevant case studies. In 2019, the project will develop its methodology, hold two workshops to discuss risks and technology solutions, and begin drafting the report and recommendations.

**Output 4.3:** Through UNCCT support, professional linkages between relevant global, regional and national counter-terrorism centres have been enhanced

Information sharing and exchange of good practices is essential to the fight against terrorism. There is a need to leverage the expertise available in the centres of excellence, training centres, resource institutions, think tanks and Government-sponsored entities and initiatives dedicated to countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism as conducive to terrorism. UNCCT seeks to respond to the growing need for strengthened information exchange and cooperation among counter-terrorism centres and institutions at the global, regional and national levels, as well as to improve collaboration between these institutions and the United Nations. In this regard, the Centre is working actively on maintaining and enhancing digital platforms and initiatives to facilitate the collection and sharing of counter-terrorism and PVE information and expertise among Member States and UN entities.

**UNCCT-2013-24:** Fostering International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Promoting Collaboration between National, Regional and International Counter-Terrorism Centres and Initiatives (Network Against Terrorism, Phase II)

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**Status:** Ongoing

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UNCCT seeks to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation and collaboration both within the UN and among counter-terrorism centres at global, regional and national levels through the 'Network Against Terrorism' (NAT) digital platform. The NAT is an online custom software accessible to Member States and counter-terrorism centres that includes four separate portals on UN technical assistance programmes and projects related to foreign terrorist fighters, prevention of violent extremism, the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism (I-ACT) Initiative, and a fourth portal on counter-terrorism centres, experts, projects and publications. The NAT seeks to serve as an online resource hub for counter-terrorism focal points of Member States and UN entities on counter-terrorism and PVE activities, projects, and programmes, and to facilitate the sharing of experience, expertise, and best practices in counter-terrorism and PVE. The web portal has more than 200 users and contains over 600 projects. Following a soft launch in 2017, the NAT was officially launched on the margins of the United Nations High-Level Conference on Counter-Terrorism in June 2018.

In 2018, UNCCT made enhancements to the four portals to improve and expand their functionality, design and presentation, and to increase performance in terms of usability and accessibility. Following its official launch, the NAT has seen an increase in the volume and sharing of data, and participation in the web portal increased by 433 per cent. Going forward, the Centre will explore options for an integrated digital information sharing platform with improved performance and functionality.

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**Output 4.4:** Through UNCCT support, South-South and triangular counter-terrorism capacity building cooperation has been enhanced

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Countries in the Global South are among those most affected by the threat of terrorism and violent extremism. Many of these countries are actively implementing innovative counter-terrorism measures as well as initiatives that address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism at local, national and regional levels, and possess a wealth of expertise and experience in counter-terrorism and PVE. Yet, these counter-terrorism and PVE approaches and expertise are not sufficiently known or shared between

developing countries, and the potential of South-South cooperation to prevent and counter terrorism is not fully realised. UNCCT is therefore committed to advancing South-South cooperation in the counter-terrorism context through its global project targeting interested countries in Africa, Asia, Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean and designed to strengthen the sharing of knowledge, expertise and good practices across the Global South in the field of counter-terrorism and PVE.

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**UNCCT-2018-03-84:** Project to Foster South-South Cooperation in Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism

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**Status:** Ongoing

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This project aims to help promote and strengthen the exchange of expertise in the field of counter-terrorism and PVE between experts from selected countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, and to enhance capacities to design and implement related policies and mechanisms. The initiative will help build new partnerships, strengthen institutional and technical capacities, improve the exchange of experience and know-how among developing countries and respond to their specific challenges in counter-terrorism and PVE. It will further seek to mainstream South-South cooperation into the activities, policies and projects of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Entities.

During the reporting period, UNCCT finalised the framework for the South-South Cooperation project, in consultation with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). The project will be undertaken in two phases. The inception phase will include a scoping of pilot countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean to map and identify relevant best practices in counter-terrorism and PVE, as well as subject matter experts and Centres of Excellence. The implementation phase will include the operationalisation of a digital knowledge sharing platform and a Forum of Experts; publication of a handbook of counter-terrorism and PVE best practices available in the Global South; and mainstreaming of South-South cooperation into the activities and projects of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Global Compact Entities. The project is funded by the Peace and Security Sub-Fund of the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund and will be launched in January 2019.