



Project Launch

Supporting Eastern Africa in countering terrorist use of improvised explosive devices

11 September 2025
15:00-16:30 (New York EDT)

Conference Room 7 ► United Nations Headquarters, New York



Register here: bit.ly/IED-Sep2025

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) is pleased to invite you to the launch of the project: “Supporting Eastern Africa in countering terrorist use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs)”, on 11 September 2025.

The three-year project aims to enhance the security of Kenya, Somalia and Uganda by improving the application of legislative frameworks and building capacities of national authorities to prevent and respond to terrorist activities involving IEDs. Funded Global Affairs Canada, the project is implemented by UNOCT with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) as a technical partner and in collaboration with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

The launch event will contribute to raising awareness on the threat and risks of terrorist use of IEDs in Eastern Africa as well as the joint efforts to counter them.

Background

From 2020 to 2024, the use of IEDs by non-state actors in Africa has been increasing by 12% annually. IEDs have become the weapon of choice for many terrorist groups. The number of incidents in the first half of 2025 alone demonstrates that the trend will remain the same this year. East Africa is one of the regions with the largest number of such incidents and it has seen a continuous evolution in the way terrorists obtain, produce, and deploy IEDs.

In its 8th review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) (A/RES/77/298), the General Assembly urged Member States to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons and expressed concern that IEDs, including explosive precursors, continue to be used extensively in terrorist activities.

Opening remarks

- United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)
- Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations
- Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI)
- Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)

Perspectives from Member States

- Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya
- Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Somalia (TBC)
- Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uganda

Countering the terrorist use of improvised explosive devices in East Africa

- CTED
- United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)
- UNOCT/UNCCT

Closing remarks

- UNCCT, UNOCT