



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

UNOCT ANNUAL REPORT 2024



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UNOCT ANNUAL REPORT 2024



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

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CONTENTS

	Foreword	ii
1	Our Offer	1
2	Spotlight on Africa	4
3	Policy Leadership	8
4	Coordination and Coherence	11
5	Capacity-building	15
	1. Preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism	18
	2. Securing borders and transport	19
	3. Countering terrorist financing and the use of weapons	24
	4. Innovation and technology	27
	5. Strengthening law enforcement	30
	6. Prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration	33
	7. Human rights, gender mainstreaming and victims support	36
6	Visibility and Advocacy	40
7	Our Partners	43
8	Our Performance	46
9	Team UNOCT	49
10	Our Presence	52
11	Funding	56
12	Forging the Future	61

FOREWORD

Terrorism remains one of the greatest threats to international peace and security. In 2024, the terrorism epicentre shifted further into Africa, where complex and compounding crises demand urgent global action. The evolving situation in the Middle East, including in Syria, risks emboldening other terrorist groups in the region and beyond. These developments, along with renewed terrorist activity in Europe and Central Asia, underscore the need for sustained vigilance, adaptive strategies, and strengthened international cooperation.

Global policy leadership: driving multilateral cooperation



Adopted at the United Nations Summit of the Future in September 2024, the Pact for the Future represents a milestone in revitalizing multilateral cooperation. In support of this vision, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) has intensified efforts to enhance global partnerships, align counter-terrorism initiatives with broader UN priorities, and ensure that international policies lead to tangible outcomes at regional and national levels.

Our leadership in advancing international co-operation was underscored by three high-level events in 2024:

THE THIRD MARRAKECH PLATFORM

hosted by Morocco, brought together heads of African counter-terrorism and security agencies to promote collective action and advance regional strategies.

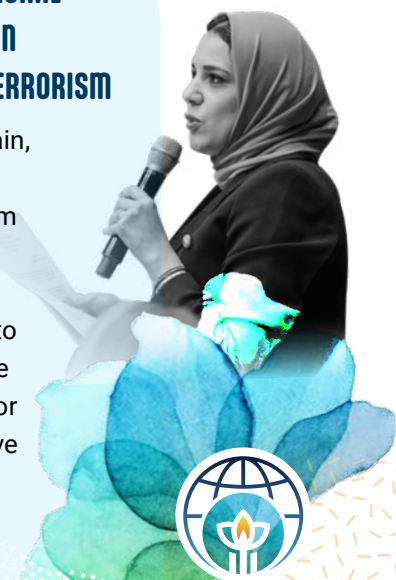


منصة مراكش
MARRAKECH PLATFORM

Coordination and coherence: strengthening the UN system's response

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

hosted by Spain, provided a global platform for survivors and victims associations to emphasize the urgent need for comprehensive support and rehabilitation.



The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (Counter-Terrorism Compact) welcomed UN-Habitat as its 46th member, expanding its network to over 1,000 focal points and offering more than 3,600 resources through its knowledge-sharing platform.



UNOCT joined the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) to strengthen the integration of counter-terrorism efforts within broader UN development and peacebuilding frameworks, reinforcing a unified “One UN” approach that drives meaningful action at all levels.



UNOCT continued to advise the Secretary-General on counter-terrorism and the prevention of conducive to terrorism, helping to shape the UN's strategic direction in accordance with Security Council and General Assembly mandates.

THE KUWAIT PHASE OF THE DUSHANBE PROCESS CONFERENCE

hosted by Kuwait and co-organized with Tajikistan, focused on enhancing international cooperation and border security, culminating in the adoption of the Kuwait Declaration on Border Security Management.



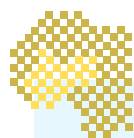
Capacity-building: strengthening national and regional resilience

Capacity-building remained at the core of UNOCT's mission in 2024. We **supported 140 Member States and reached over 10,000 individuals through our global and regional programmes and conferences. Training participation in Africa increased by 15 percent**, while we strengthened investigative and prevention capabilities in Central Asia and other regions.

Africa was a key priority, and we partnered with regional and national stakeholders to promote Africa-led solutions through policy support, capacity-building, and deeper cooperation. Major initiatives included:

THE HIGH-LEVEL AFRICAN COUNTER-TERRORISM MEETING IN ABUJA

Organized by Nigeria with the support of UNOCT, which convened continental leaders to advance Africa-driven responses to terrorism.



I B S M

THE INTEGRATED BORDER STABILITY MECHANISM (IBSM) FOR WEST AFRICA

Launched with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to help West African States enhance regional stability through integrated border governance and security.



THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT APPEAL FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM IN AFRICA

Developed with UNODC, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and 13 other Compact entities which promotes coordinated, multi-partner action grounded in shared strategic priorities.



UNOCT also advanced innovative, evidence-based solutions to strengthen security capabilities worldwide. By deploying advanced software, we enhanced aviation security and financial analysis systems, providing Member States with cutting-edge tools to

detect and prevent threats. The UNOCT Behavioural Insights Hub in Doha has developed the expertise to apply data-driven, human-centered strategies to counter radicalization and violent extremism.

Shared
commitment
to countering
terrorism



None of these achievements would have been possible without the steadfast support of our partners. **I extend my sincere gratitude to our 28 funding partners, whose voluntary contributions – totalling \$19.3 million in 2024 –** have been instrumental in enabling us to deliver impactful programmes around the world. Your continued support is vital to building a safer, more resilient global community.

This first-ever UNOCT Annual Report underscores our commitment to results-driven action, strong partnerships, and transparency. We welcome your feedback as we continue to refine and strengthen our efforts in the years ahead.

Looking ahead

2025 will be a pivotal year for global counter-terrorism efforts. UNOCT is preparing its new strategic plan, gearing up for the ninth review and the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and engaging in the Secretary-General's UN 80 Initiative – a forward-looking effort to shape the future of the United Nations as it approaches its 80th anniversary. This moment calls for renewed collaboration among Member States, international and regional organizations, civil society, and the private sector to build a more unified and resilient global response to terrorism.

I invite all our partners to continue working with us to advance our shared vision: a future where violence and terror are overcome by peace, security, and respect for human dignity.

A blue ink signature of Vladimir Voronkov.

Vladimir Voronkov

Under-Secretary-General,
United Nations Office
of Counter-Terrorism





1 OUR OFFER

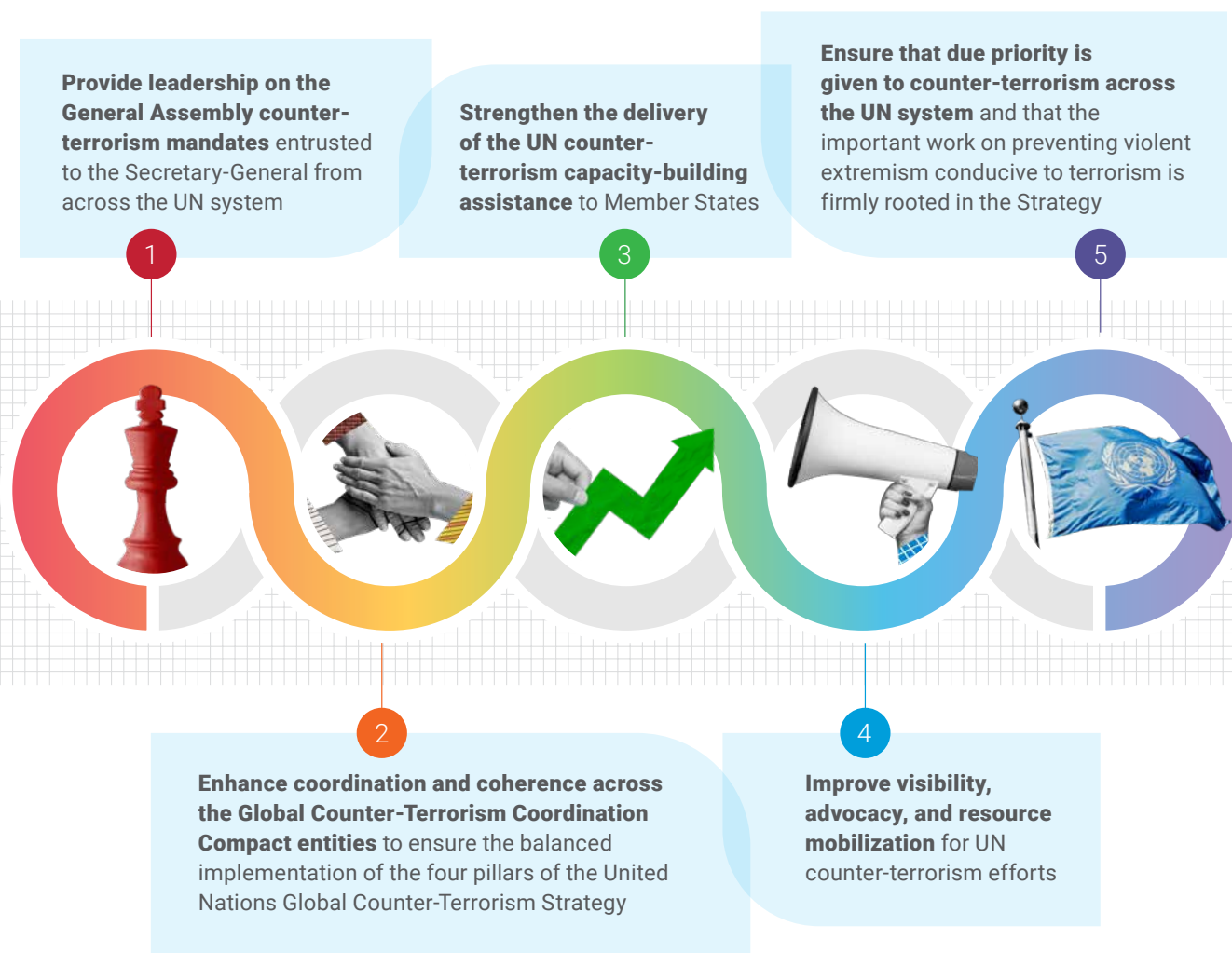
Driving change from global vision to local action

The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) provides a comprehensive, coordinated, and forward-looking response to one of today's most pressing security challenges. Established in 2017 as part of the institutional reform of the United Nations, UNOCT leads, coordinates, and strengthens international counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism efforts, driving policy change, fostering international cooperation, and helping countries build the capacity needed to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Guided by the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS), we support Member States in implementing effective human rights-based approaches to counter-terrorism. Our work addresses the conditions conducive to terrorism, strengthens prevention and response capacities,

and builds institutional resilience. We coordinate system-wide implementation of General Assembly mandates by fostering collaboration through the Counter-Terrorism Compact, contributing to a unified response to evolving threats. **Our approach is built around five core functions:**

FIVE CORE FUNCTIONS (GA RESOLUTION 70/291)



Our value proposition: a smart investment in global security

UNOCT works to transform global counter-terrorism mandates into meaningful policies and effective impact on the ground. Through international cooperation, strategic partnerships, cross-border collaboration, and targeted investments, UNOCT

works with international and regional organizations, civil society, and the private sector to strengthen global resilience and drive sustainable solutions to evolving threats.



As the secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Compact, which comprises 46 UN and partner entities, we operate at the heart of the UN system and are uniquely positioned to reinforce policy and programmatic coherence in our support to Member States.

Why partner with UNOCT?

Global reach, local impact

We turn UN mandates into local solutions

Coordinated action

We align UN-wide efforts for coherence and efficiency

Collaborative platforms

We convene partners to exchange solutions and best practices

Agile response

We adapt quickly to evolving threats

Innovation-driven

We apply tech and behavioral science to counter terrorism

Sustainable impact

We support resilient institutions and long-term security

United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS)

The GCTS stands as a testament to global unity against terrorism. Adopted unanimously in 2006, it marks the first time that all UN Member States have agreed on a common strategic and operational framework to address terrorism. Regularly reviewed to address evolving threats, the ninth review (2026) will mark the 20th anniversary of the Strategy, reaffirming sustained global commitment to international cooperation on counter-terrorism. The Strategy's comprehensive approach integrates prevention, capacity-building, and gender and human rights, emphasizing the need for collaboration across governments, international organizations, and civil society.



Scaling up UNOCT's engagement across Africa

In 2024, Africa remained at the centre of the global fight against terrorism, as affiliates of Al Qaeda and Da'esh continued to expand and consolidate their operations in West Africa and the Sahel, and intensified attacks in Central and Southern Africa, while Al-Shabaab remained the dominant regional threat in East Africa.

In response to the growing threat, UNOCT significantly expanded its engagement with African Member States, regional institutions, civil society and academia, reaffirming its commitment to Africa-led counter-terrorism solutions.

In 2024, UNOCT delivered:

131

programmatic
activities

6,250

participants

54

countries

High-level African Counter-Terrorism Meeting

The High-level African Counter-Terrorism Meeting, “Strengthening regional cooperation and institution-building to address the evolving threat of terrorism in Africa,” organized by Nigeria with the support of UNOCT in Abuja in April 2024, convened leaders from 29 African countries, the African Union (AU), and key

regional and international partners to advance Africa-led counter-terrorism solutions. The meeting resulted in the Abuja Declaration and the launch of the Abuja Process – a new Africa-driven initiative to enhance coordination, cooperation, and resource mobilization in the fight against terrorism across the continent.



Third Marrakech Platform



The 3rd Marrakech Platform, co-organized and hosted by Morocco in June 2024, brought together heads of counter-terrorism and security agencies from 54 African Member States to enhance regional cooperation in relation to the “evolving field of intelligence analysis in the context of counter-terrorism”. The high-level event focused on adapting intelligence capabilities to evolving terrorist threats and emerging technologies, including the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI). The growing

participation in and demand to join the Platform established by UNOCT underscores its strategic value as a leading forum for Africa-led counter-terrorism dialogue, coordination, and capacity-building.



Building resilience against terrorism in East Africa



As partner of the Global Counterterrorism Forum East Africa Capacity-building Working Group co-chaired by Kenya and Kuwait, UNOCT facilitated a regional workshop on disengagement,

deradicalization, rehabilitation and reintegration (DDRR) in Kuwait City, Kuwait. Supported by the UNOCT Programme Office in Nairobi, the event convened Member States, UN entities, and civil society to advance evidence-based DDRR approaches – reinforcing Nairobi’s role as a strategic hub for counter-terrorism in East and Southern Africa.

Strengthening border governance and security in West Africa



In partnership with IOM, UNODC and INTERPOL, UNOCT established the Integrated Border Stability Mechanism (IBSM) for West Africa in Dakar, Senegal, to support West African States in promoting regional stability through integrated border governance and security. Through consultations in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Togo, IBSM identified key security gaps and facilitated a landmark agreement between Burkina Faso,

Mali, and Côte d’Ivoire to strengthen joint counter-terrorism operations in the Sahel-Koulikoro border operations zone.

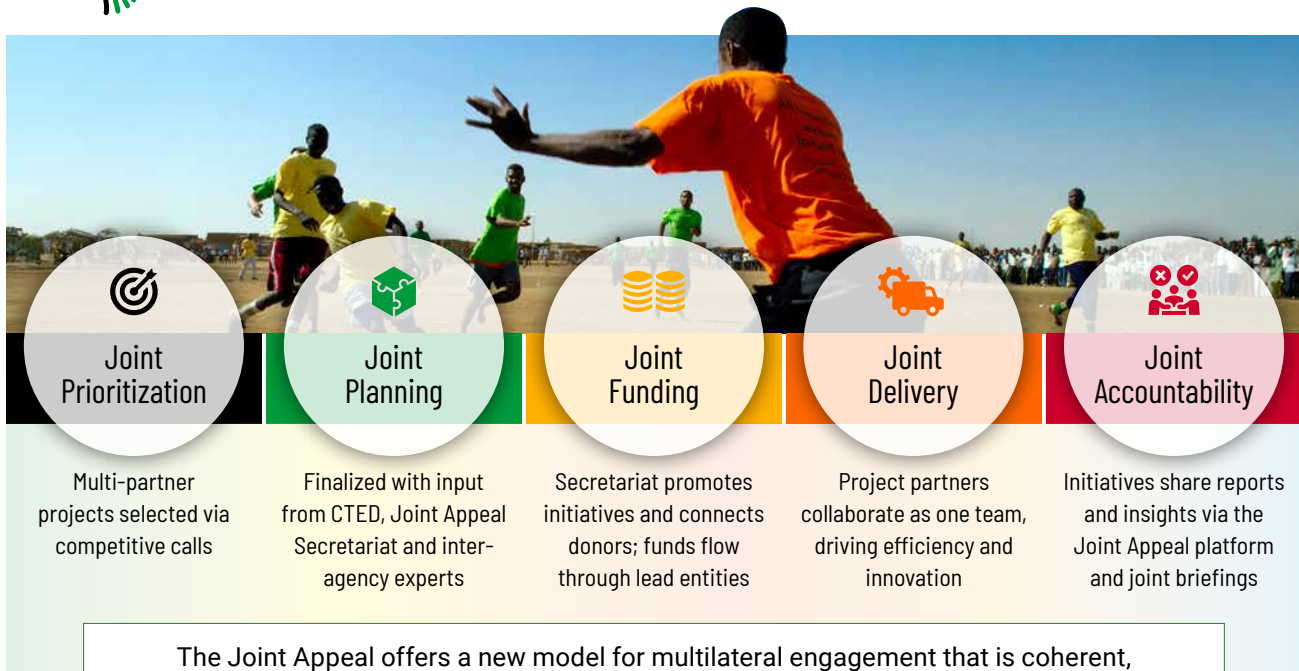




UN Joint Appeal for Counter-Terrorism in Africa

The Joint Appeal is a system-wide initiative comprising 16 partner entities to deliver

coordinated, high-impact, multilateral support in Africa:



The Joint Appeal offers a new model for multilateral engagement that is coherent, transparent, and impact-driven. To learn more, go to: www.jointappeal.org



Youth-led policy change in Nigeria

Young leaders trained under UNOCT's Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism have successfully influenced Nigeria's national counter-terrorism policy. They formed an organization that is now an official partner of the Nigerian National Counter-Terrorism Centre (NCTC). Through close collaboration with the NCTC, these youth leaders helped institutionalize youth participation in the country's policies and programmes.



3

POLICY LEADERSHIP



Shaping the global counter-terrorism agenda

UNOCT provides strategic leadership on counter-terrorism within the UN system, ensuring a coherent, coordinated, and forward-looking response to evolving threats.

Pact for the Future: reinforcing global commitments

At the 2024 Summit of the Future, held in New York on 22 and 23 September 2024, world leaders adopted the Pact for the Future. The Pact outlines commitments to pursue a future free from terrorism, prevent violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations, and strengthen international cooperation on counter-terrorism efforts. UNOCT played a key role in shaping

these discussions, supporting Member States throughout the negotiations and convening the Action Day 2 session, “A call to action for a future without terrorism.” UNOCT will continue to support Member States in their implementation of the Pact for the Future.



The 79th session of the General Assembly reaffirmed counter-terrorism as a top global priority, with 116 Member States addressing terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism in their statements – the largest number since 2019. UNOCT provided sustained policy advice to the Secretary-General and the UN system on counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism, and delivered 12 briefings to Member States, the Security Council, and its Counter-Terrorism Committee to reinforce system-wide efforts against emerging threats. UNOCT also contributed to the Security Council’s work on AU-led peace support operations by integrating counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism into future mission planning.

Assessing the evolving Da’esh threat

As part of its policy leadership, UNOCT coordinated the 19th (S/2024/583) and 20th (S/2025/72) reports of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da’esh) to international peace and security, with CTED and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team assisting the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da’esh), Al-Qaida, and associated individuals. These reports provide critical insights into the shifting dynamics of terrorism and the nature of its evolving threats, particularly in Africa.

Secretary-General's report on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh)

The Secretary-General's report on the threat posed by Da'esh to international peace and security provides a common and comprehensive update on the evolving terrorist landscape for the United Nations, its Member States and partners. The most recent report (S/2025/72) notes that the group's propaganda output remains extensive, and that the group still has access to significant cash reserves. There are concerns that Da'esh could exploit the volatile situation in the Syrian Arab Republic to strengthen its position, particularly by seizing stockpiles of advanced weapons, including unmanned aircraft systems.

Looking ahead

2025 will be a pivotal year for global counter-terrorism efforts as we approach the 20th anniversary and ninth review of the GCTS, and work to implement the commitments of the Pact for the Future. Key priorities include:

Delivering on the Pact for the Future:

Consolidating the Global Commitment to Multi-Stakeholder Approaches to Counter Terrorism through Member States' Leadership and Action.

Shaping global policy:

Preparing the next Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the GCTS ahead of its ninth review.

Strengthening networked multilateralism:

Supporting informal dialogue on regional and thematic priorities, such as a series of workshops co-organized by Austria and the Peacebuilding Support Office on the role of counter-terrorism in sustaining peace.



4 COORDINATION AND COHERENCE

Strengthening global, regional, and national counter-terrorism efforts

As terrorist threats evolve, a coordinated and cohesive response is more critical than ever. UNOCT enhances coordination across the UN system to support the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the GCTS.

UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact

UNOCT serves as the Secretariat of the Counter-Terrorism Compact, the largest coordination framework within the UN system, comprising 46 UN and partner entities, with UN-Habitat joining in 2024. In response to rising threats, particularly in Africa, the Counter-Terrorism Compact plays a pivotal role in knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, and addressing new challenges, including terrorist use of new and emerging technologies.

The tenth meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Compact's Coordination Committee brought together high-level representatives from across the UN system, Member States, regional organizations, the private sector and civil society. Discussions focused on the escalating terrorist threat in Africa, and the need to align efforts with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the AU Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.

In 2024, the eight working groups of the Counter-Terrorism Compact convened 40 consultations to conduct joint research, share best practices, enhance monitoring and evaluation, and mobilize resources. In 2025, the Counter-Terrorism Compact will launch a new working group on Behavioural Science and the Quintet of Change as part of its 2024-2026 Joint Programme of Work, reflecting UNOCT's commitment to innovation-driven counter-terrorism strategies.



UNOCT's Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Platform connected over:

1,000 experts

137 Member States

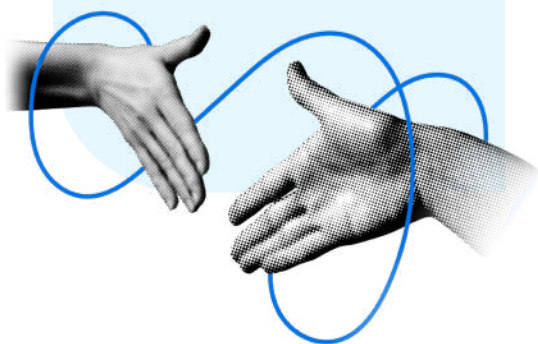
14 regional organizations

3,670 documents

842 technical assistance needs identified by CTED

From assessment to action: UNOCT–CTED partnership

UNOCT and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) work hand in hand to transform assessment insights into operational impact. This collaboration bridges the gap between analysis and delivery, which enables better coordinated and responsive support to Member States.



IN 2024, WE:

Held regular high-level meetings

and joint engagements.

Integrated CTED analysis into UNOCT's global programmes

especially to address needs in border security, countering terrorist travel, and protecting vulnerable targets.

Participated in five assessment visits

conducted by CTED on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mauritania, Turkmenistan, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Launched a dashboard of CTC/CTED assessment data

to support Compact entities in designing targeted capacity-building efforts.

Introduced a tracking tool for UNOCT capacity-building responses

to technical assistance needs identified by CTED.

Contributed to CTC meetings

and showcased UNOCT's Youth Empowerment and Engagement Programme.

Driving innovation in counter-terrorism training

UNOCT and the United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC) were awarded the **Learning Platform of the Year Award for the "Connect & Learn"** digital training platform by the Learning and Performance Institute. Connect & Learn is UNOCT's flagship virtual learning environment designed to support counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism efforts through e-learning modules and communities of practice for Member States, UN entities, regional organizations, academia, civil society, and the private sector. As of 2024, the platform hosts 66 courses and 25 communities of practice, with over 7,200 users from 193 countries.





Integrating counter-terrorism within the UN development agenda

In 2024, UNOCT joined the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), marking a major step in linking counter-terrorism and prevention with the broader UN development agenda. This integration enables closer collaboration with UN Resident Coordinators and Country Teams, ensuring a holistic, system-wide approach to addressing the drivers of terrorism – including poverty, inequality, weak rule of law, and lack of education – while promoting resilience and sustainable peace.

Regional cooperation and strategic responses

UNOCT works closely with **regional and sub-regional organizations** to foster cooperation, knowledge-sharing, and coordinated strategies against terrorism. Key initiatives in 2024 included:

COUNTER-TERRORISM EARLY WARNING NETWORK FOR CENTRAL ASIA

In partnership with the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), UNOCT launched this network to enable regional law enforcement agencies to better share knowledge, analyze threats, and coordinate responses to terrorist activity.

CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL EXPERT COUNCIL ON THE REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION OF RETURNEES FROM CONFLICT ZONES

In collaboration with Uzbekistan, UNOCT organized two meetings of the Expert Council to support regional efforts on rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees.



STRENGTHENING COUNTER-TERRORISM IN THE ARAB REGION

In partnership with the Arab Interior Ministers Council, UNOCT supported the implementation of the Arab Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Enhancing national coordination and coherence

At the **country level**, UNOCT supports coordination among national actors and within the UN system to promote coherent, whole-of-society approaches by:

STRENGTHENING UN RESIDENT COORDINATORS AND COUNTRY TEAMS

Through its engagement with the UNSDG, UNOCT helps to ensure that counter-terrorism efforts are integrated into broader development frameworks.

BUILDING NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

Through the Global Fusion Cells Programme, UNOCT assisted 22 African Member States in establishing inter-agency and national security coordination frameworks, and trained 285 law enforcement officials in risk-based approaches to counter-terrorism.

An illustration of three people—two men and one woman—collaborating around a table. The woman, wearing a grey hijab, is pointing at a laptop. One man, wearing a blue shirt and a patterned cap, is gesturing with his hands. The other man, wearing a white shirt, is looking at the laptop. On the table are several open books, a smartphone, and a pink box. In the background, there is a whiteboard with a line graph and some diagrams, and a lightbulb icon. The entire scene is set against a dark purple background with some abstract, colorful brushstrokes.

5 CAPACITY-BUILDING

Strengthening national capacities against terrorism

Capacity-building is central to UNOCT's mission as it equips Member States with the tools to address terrorism effectively. Primarily through the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) and its Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB), UNOCT delivers targeted support across all four pillars of the GCTS via 17 global programmes.

In 2024, we expanded our on-the-ground presence, delivering capacity-building initiatives through **six Programme Offices**, and **deploying over 80 personnel across 13 duty stations**. This enabled us to provide tailored support that directly addressed Member States' specific needs.

Our global programmes and regional initiatives reached **more than 10,000 individuals from over 140 Member States**. In 2024, UNOCT convened 13 high-level and 10 regional conferences, and delivered 130 workshops and training sessions, offering specialized guidance on countering terrorism. In addition, seven outreach events engaged civil society and key stakeholders, and reinforced our commitment to an inclusive and collaborative approach to counter-terrorism.



17
global
programmes

10,000+
beneficiaries

140
countries
reached

United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

Established in 2011 with support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, UNCCT provides comprehensive capacity-building support to Member States at the global, regional and national levels to prevent, counter, and mitigate the impact of terrorism. In 2024, **UNCCT supported over 4,500 individuals from 100 Member States** through tailored trainings, technical assistance, and advisory services.

Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB)

Established with support from the State of Qatar, SPIB leads UNOCT's work on forward-looking, cross-cutting, and innovative initiatives to address emerging threats and complex policy challenges. In 2024, **SPIB supported over 2,300 individuals from 60 Member States**.

UNOCT'S CAPACITY-BUILDING PRIORITIES AND PROGRAMMES

1 Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

Promoting inclusive strategies to address underlying conditions, prevent radicalization, and support communities in building resilience against extremist narratives.



PARLIAMENTARIAN ENGAGEMENT



PCVE

Preventing & Countering Violent Extremism



SPORTS

Security of Major Sporting Events & Sport for PCVE

2 Securing Borders and Transport

Enhancing global cooperation and technological solutions to prevent terrorist movements, safeguard borders, and protect critical transport infrastructure.



BSM

Border Security and Management



CT TRAVEL

Countering Terrorist Travel Programme

3 Countering Terrorist Financing and Use of Weapons

Disrupting financial networks, illicit arms flows, and emerging threats to cut off resources that enable terrorist activities worldwide.



CFT

Countering the Finance of Terrorism



WEAPONS

Countering Terrorist Use of Weapons

4 Innovation and Technology

Leveraging cutting-edge technologies and digital solutions to detect, prevent, and counter evolving terrorist threats in an increasingly interconnected world.



AROS

Autonomous & Remotely Operated Systems



BI HUB

International Hub on Behavioural Insights



CYBERSECURITY and New Technologies

5 Strengthening Law Enforcement

Enhancing capacity-building, intelligence-sharing, and international collaboration to empower law enforcement agencies in combating terrorism effectively and lawfully.



CT INVESTIGATION



FUSION CELLS



VULNERABLE TARGETS

6 Prosecution, Rehabilitation & Reintegration

Supporting fair justice systems, rehabilitation programmes, and reintegration efforts to address terrorist offenders and prevent recidivism.



PRR

Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration

7 Human Rights, Gender Mainstreaming, and Victims' Support

Upholding human rights, ensuring gender-responsive approaches, and providing support to victims as essential pillars of effective CT efforts.



VoT

Victims of Terrorism Support



GENDER



HUMAN RIGHTS

8 Strengthening Global Partnerships

Enhancing cooperation with international organizations, regional bodies, and key stakeholders to foster a unified, multilateral approach to countering terrorism effectively.



EU-UN

Global Terrorism Threats Facility (see page 44)

1 Preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism

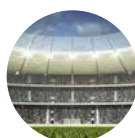
As terrorist groups increasingly exploit digital platforms, societal grievances, and weak institutions, prevention is more critical than ever. Addressing the drivers of violent extremism requires a multi-dimensional approach that fosters social cohesion, builds institutional resilience, and promotes inclusive, rights-based responses. In 2024, UNOCT's prevention efforts focused on empowering local actors – especially youth, women, and parliamentarians – and leveraging innovative approaches such as sport, behavioural insights, and strategic communication.

UNOCT's global approach

UNOCT supported prevention through **three flagship global initiatives**, each tailored to engage different segments of society and Government:



Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism



Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events, and Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism



Programme Office on Parliamentary Engagement in Preventing and Countering Terrorism

HIGHLIGHTS



Empowering governments and communities

89



Young leaders trained across Africa and South East Asia, who, in turn, engaged over **1,200 peers and 89 policymakers** in PCVE.

Supported the national counter-terrorism centres in Kenya and Uganda in enhancing their PCVE and evaluation capabilities.

Contributed to Kenya's National PCVE Strategy in partnership with the EU-UN Global Terrorism Threats Facility.



Securing major sporting events and leveraging sport for the prevention of violent extremism

Engaged 1,800+ individuals in PCVE activities across 30+ African countries through sport.

Partnered with Inter Campus (FC Inter Milan) to run sport-driven resilience programmes for vulnerable children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Trained security officials from 14 African countries on sports security in collaboration with the Confederation of African Football and Italy.

Expanded our global network to 2,300+ experts from 134 countries and launched two specialized e-learning courses on securing major sporting events and sport for PVE.

Developed a three-year security plan for the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations, in partnership with the National Counter-Terrorism Centres of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and the African Union Counter Terrorism Centre, in collaboration with the Confederation of African Football, FIFA and INTERPOL.



FIFA



Advancing parliamentary leadership

Launched a handbook for parliamentarians on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

Hosted the Doha Youth Parliamentary Forum on Counter Terrorism and Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.

Engaged over 100 representatives from 18 parliamentary assemblies through the Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies on Counter-Terrorism.



Scaling women's leadership

Convened the first Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians on Counter-Terrorism and Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism with 100+ women parliamentarians from 55 countries.

2 Securing borders and transport

Terrorist groups continue to exploit vulnerabilities in global border and transportation systems to move personnel, weapons, and illicit funds. Strengthening border governance and transport security is therefore critical to disrupting terrorist mobility while upholding human rights and international law.

UNOCT bolsters national and regional capacities by promoting international standards and recommended practices, supporting the implementation of comprehensive border security strategies that integrate counter-terrorism elements, fostering cross-border collaboration, deploying technology-based solutions, and advancing legal and operational frameworks.

UNOCT's global approach

UNOCT leads **two flagship global initiatives**:



UN Counteracting Terrorist Travel Programme (CT Travel):

A multi-partner initiative that helps Member States to harness passenger data to detect and disrupt terrorist movements across air, land, and sea borders.



Border Security and Management Programme:

Strengthens Member States' operational and institutional capacities to secure borders and manage the movement of persons, while respecting human rights.



HIGHLIGHTS



Advancing passenger data systems

83

Member States

have joined the global CT Travel partnership, with **62 of them benefiting** from comprehensive technical assistance since the programme's launch five years ago.



Ghana, Malawi, Moldova, and Nigeria achieved key milestones by adopting legislation on API, PNR, and/or data protection.

Launched the first Global Exchange for informal working groups as a platform to discuss the processing of passenger data across maritime, rail, and road transport sectors.

56

Coordination events facilitated, reaching **1,114 participants from 88 countries** through four regional informal working groups.



Upholding human rights in passenger screening

Assisted Member States in strengthening legislation on processing passenger data in line with international human rights law, data protection regulations, and technical standards.

Secured commitment from Member States to uphold human rights obligations prior to deploying goTravel.

Embedded safeguards in goTravel to minimize data collection and retention.

Provided technical support to establish national data oversight mechanisms.



Strengthening border security

600+

border officials trained in West Africa on biometric tools, inter-agency coordination, and rights-based counter-terrorism operations.



Launched the Integrated Border Stability Mechanism (IBSM) Secretariat in Dakar, Senegal, in collaboration with IOM, INTERPOL and UNODC.

Integrated human rights-compliant, gender-sensitive approaches and the responsible use of emerging technologies into the Global Counterterrorism Forum's good practices on border security and management.

Enhanced Train-the-Trainer manuals to strengthen national capacities for delivering technical assistance.



Expanding the scope of the Dushanbe Process

UNOCT co-organized the Kuwait Phase of the Dushanbe Process conference in November 2024, in collaboration with Kuwait and Tajikistan, bringing together over 500 representatives from 91 countries, international organizations, and civil society. The event expanded the Dushanbe Process beyond Central Asia to the League of Arab States, Africa, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. It concluded with the adoption of the Kuwait Declaration on Border Security and Management, which commits to modern screening tools, cross-regional cooperation, and the integration of human rights and international legal standards into border security frameworks.



goTravel – Ensuring secure, rights-based passenger data collection



is a UN software solution offered to Member States under the UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme that enables countries to collect and analyze Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Records (PNR) to detect and prevent terrorist travel and serious transnational crimes:

Supports

multi-modal transport (air, rail, maritime)

Enhances

inter-agency and regional cooperation

Built-in compliance

with human rights, privacy, and data protection standards

28.5 million
passengers screened

- ▶ across 178,000 flights
- ▶ generating 2,300 alerts



In 2024, **Mongolia, Georgia, and Luxembourg** joined **Botswana and Norway** in collecting live data from air carriers using goTravel, marking key operational and technical milestones in their counter-terrorism capabilities.

Looking ahead

UNOCT will further scale up goTravel globally, with three new countries becoming operational since March 2025. The system's deployment is expanding to more countries and transport modes, thereby strengthening global border security through coordinated, data-driven, and human rights-compliant approaches. With seven countries expected to be fully operational in 2025, **passenger screenings are projected to surpass 50 million**. We also look forward to supporting the design and roll-out of the next phase of the IBSM in West Africa, promoting regional stability through integrated border governance and security.

3

Countering terrorist financing and the use of weapons

Disrupting terrorist financing and combatting terrorist acquisition and use of weapons are essential to dismantling terrorist networks and preventing attacks. As threats evolve, spanning digital financial systems, virtual assets, and illicit production, trafficking, and diversion of weapons, Member States require agile, coordinated, and technology-enabled solutions. UNOCT supports these efforts while ensuring compliance with international law and human rights norms.

UNOCT's global approach

UNOCT leads **two flagship initiatives** in this domain:



Global Programme on Detecting, Preventing and Countering the Financing of Terrorism:

Supports Member States in strengthening legal, regulatory, and operational frameworks to disrupt terrorist financing, including through new financial technologies.



Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Use of Weapons:

Builds Member States' capacities to address the terrorist acquisition and use of weapons, including weapons of mass destruction (WMD), chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) materials, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and small arms and light weapons (SALW) and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).



HIGHLIGHTS



Disrupting terrorist financing

Risk assessments:

carried out with national and sector-specific partners to identify and address weak spots that could be exploited for terrorist financing.

Virtual assets: launched a Handbook on countering the use of virtual assets for terrorist financing.

Public-private collaboration: deepened partnerships with banks, regulators, and non-profit organizations to safeguard financial systems.

**goFintel software:**

soft-launched the goFintel software with the Financial Intelligence Unit of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, enabling advanced tracking of illicit financial flows.

Safeguarding non-profit organizations in Tajikistan

To combat terrorist exploitation of the charitable sector, UNOCT and partners developed the UN Assistance Plan for Tajikistan on Protecting the Non-Profit Sector. The plan facilitated the introduction of risk-based regulations, training for financial authorities and non-governmental organizations, and legislative guidance, leading to an upgrade in Tajikistan's compliance with Financial Action Task Force recommendation 8 – from “partially compliant” to “largely compliant.”



Countering terrorist acquisition and use of weapons

CBRN prevention and response: supported 20 Member States in bolstering readiness against CBRN threats across Central Asia, North Africa, and South/South East Asia.

SALW counter-trafficking:

targeted training delivered to five Central Asian countries, and a regional workshop organized on the terrorism-arms-crime nexus.

Nuclear and radiological security:

assisted 26 Member States in strengthening nuclear forensics and legal frameworks with a focus on the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT).

Biological security:

enhanced Iraq's capacities to counter biological terrorism including first responder safety, managing biohazard scenes, and fostering multi-agency coordination.

SALW, IEDs and UAS threat mitigation:

organized a regional coordination workshop for seven Sahel Member States, mapping technical assistance across 15 global partners.

Eliminating the supply of weapons to terrorists in the Sahel

In response to the growing terrorist use of IEDs, SALW, and UAS in the Sahel, UNOCT convened a regional workshop with representatives from over 20 national agencies. The workshop proposed a strategic

approach to help Member States curb the supply of these weapons to terrorist groups and offered practical guidance on implementing preventive and response measures.



Looking ahead

UNOCT will expand deployment of the goFintel platform to Member States, while strengthening human rights safeguards and data-protection protocols. We will also scale up efforts to:

Enhance capacities and cross-border cooperation

on addressing SALW, IED, UAS and CBRN threats

Deepen financial intelligence-sharing

across national and regional platforms

Advance the development

of regional legal frameworks on countering terrorist financing on countering terrorist financing

Strengthen engagement

with the private sector and civil society to build resilient systems

4 Innovation and technology

Advancing counter-terrorism through cutting-edge solutions

Innovative, data-driven, and human rights-compliant approaches are essential to anticipating and neutralizing digital-age threats. In 2024, UNOCT intensified its efforts in supporting Member States in harnessing emerging technologies while safeguarding rights and fostering adaptive, inclusive innovation in line with the GCTS.

UNOCT's global approach

UNOCT's innovation-driven efforts are anchored in **three global programmes**:



Global Counter-Terrorism Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies:

Delivers capacity-building support to Member States and international and regional organizations to develop and implement effective responses to the challenges and opportunities ICT presents in countering terrorism.



Global Counter-Terrorism Programme on Autonomous and Remotely Operated Systems (AROS):

Supports Member States in addressing the threat of unmanned systems used by terrorists through technical training, legal and policy guidance, and by promoting the responsible use of these technologies in counter-terrorism operations.



International Hub on Behavioural Insights (BI) to Counter Terrorism, based in Doha, Qatar:

integrates behavioural science into counter-terrorism strategies and policymaking through research, expert consultations, and capacity-building initiatives.



HIGHLIGHTS



Countering terrorist use of technology

Strengthened law enforcement capacities in 30+ countries to use open-source intelligence (OSINT), facial recognition, and darknet and virtual asset investigation tools, in full respect of human rights.

Delivered OSINT and cyber-drill training to 113 participants from 100 Member States at the ITU Global CyberDrill 2024 in Dubai, enhancing investigative responses to terrorist cyber-attacks.

Organized national tabletop exercises in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago to strengthen preparedness for cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure, in partnership with the OAS.



Ensured 30 percent participation by women in cyber-focused capacity-building, advancing gender inclusion in law enforcement.

Co-launched a global report with UNICRI on terrorist use of the dark web and cybercrime-as-a-service, highlighting emerging risks and counter-measures.



UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM
UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNOCT)



INTERPOL



Funded by
the European Union



CT TECH+: A New Frontier in Countering Terrorist Use of Technology

UNOCT and INTERPOL launched CT TECH+, funded by the European Union, to deliver tailored, multi-year support to nine countries – Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Iraq, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan – to strengthen their ability to counter the use of emerging technologies by terrorist actors while upholding human rights and advancing gender-responsive approaches.



Addressing the threat of autonomous and remotely operated systems

Delivered over 450 hours of operational training in Malaysia and Senegal, certifying 32 UAS operators and training 13 national instructors.

Provided legal and policy support on UAS, aligning national regulations with international norms.



Drone technology boosts border security

With support from the AROS Programme, Senegal has significantly strengthened its border security and counter-terrorism efforts through the deployment of real-time drone patrols at key border crossings. Following national consultations with CTED, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the United Nations Global Service Centre (UNGSC), Senegal launched a national roadmap for UAS and procured USD 230,000 worth of drone surveillance equipment.



Integrating behavioural insights

Reached 1,287 participants globally through behavioural insight training and awareness activities.

Partnered with Poland to broaden European Union-wide engagement in behavioural security work.

Co-organized the Beyond Europe Conference, bringing together 40 global experts to explore how AI can support behaviour-related terrorism threat analysis.

2024 UN BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE WEEK

THE FUTURE OF
BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE FOR
PEACE AND SECURITY

Thursday, June 6th - 11 am EDT / 5 pm CET

DPPA | OCT



400+

Participants engaged
from around the world

Behavioural science for peace & security

The UNOCT Behavioural Insights Hub and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) co-hosted a virtual session on the future of behavioural science for peace and security at the 6th UN Behavioural Science Week. Key highlights included:

- ▶ In-depth discussions on ethics and innovation in counter-terrorism policymaking
- ▶ Demonstrations of how behavioural insights and AI can improve cultural sensitivity and strategic effectiveness in counter-terrorism efforts
- ▶ Promotion of inclusive, evidence-based approaches to preventing and addressing radicalization

5 Strengthening law enforcement

Enhancing operational readiness and international collaboration

As terrorist tactics become more agile and transnational, effective law enforcement responses demand advanced training, information-sharing, closer inter-agency coordination, and specialized investigative tools. These responses must be anchored in international legal frameworks and human rights standards to ensure legitimacy, sustainability, and impact.

UNOCT's global approach

UNOCT advances its work to enhance law enforcement capacities through **three flagship programmes**:



Global Counter-Terrorism Investigations Programme:

Strengthens specialized investigative skills of law enforcement agencies, integrating forensic techniques, human rights, and gender-sensitive practices.



Global Fusion Cells Programme:

Builds analytical and intelligence capabilities within the African intelligence community, national fusion centres, and inter-agency coordination platforms.



Global Programme on Countering Terrorist Threats Against Vulnerable Targets:

supports Member States to prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks against critical infrastructure and public spaces.



HIGHLIGHTS



Professionalizing counter-terrorism investigations

Trained officers in data analysis, open source investigations, forensics, biometrics, special investigation techniques, and investigative interviewing models.

Promoted cross-border collaboration and intelligence-sharing among African and international law enforcement.

Developed an e-learning course on kidnapping prevention, embedding global best practices into national frameworks and trainings with UNICC.

Integrated gender-inclusive outreach to promote the full and meaningful participation of women in counter-terrorism investigations.

Accredited counter-terrorism investigations training in Africa

UNOCT's Counter-Terrorism Investigations Programme, delivered through its Rabat Training Centre in partnership with Al Akhawayn University in Morocco, has developed a flagship 11.5-week, 450-hour specialized training, accredited as an Executive Master's by the New England Commission for Higher Education. To date, the programme has equipped over 60 investigators from 18 African countries with advanced counter-terrorism skills, while establishing

a train-the-trainer model to ensure sustainable knowledge transfer. In 2025, the programme will reach a pivotal stage, allocating 50% of its annual training capacity to a pilot initiative in Kenya, which integrates the curriculum into Kenya's national training academy. This effort will test and refine a sustainable delivery model by embedding newly trained experts, advancing a self-sustaining approach to building long-term regional counter-terrorism capacity.





Enhancing intelligence through fusion cells

Trained 285 law enforcement and security officials from 22 African countries through 17 multilingual courses.

Developed a new training module on data analytics and management, to enhance the use of big data and programming tools in counter-terrorism analyses.

Strengthened inter-agency collaboration and intelligence-sharing at the national and regional levels.



Protecting vulnerable targets

Supported 10 Member States: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Senegal, Tajikistan, Togo, and Tunisia, in developing national action plans and building capacity to improve security of critical infrastructure and public places.

Published the *Technical Guide on Protecting Critical Energy Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks*, which is now used by policymakers and practitioners worldwide.

Piloted sector-specific projects for religious sites, tourism sites, and energy infrastructure.

Expanded the Global Network of Experts on the Protection of Vulnerable Targets to 230 members across 87 countries.



Kenya and Indonesia

Developing a training model on vulnerable targets protection

UNOCT partnered with national counter-terrorism centres and public training institutions in Kenya and Indonesia to develop tailored curricula on the protection of vulnerable targets. These curricula will form the basis for a sustainable training model and help establish a pool of certified trainers.



6

Prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration

Ensuring effective prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration (PRR) of individuals associated with terrorism is essential for long-term security and social cohesion. Collaboration within and across governments, civil society, and international partners is critical to ensure that PRR efforts are sustainable, gender and rights-based, and community-supported.

UNOCT's global approach



The Global Programme on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration

provides capacity-building to Member States across Africa, Central Asia, and the Middle East, thereby supporting efforts to:

- ▶ **Strengthen** legal and policy frameworks
- ▶ **Improve** screening
- ▶ **Promote** rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees, in line with international norms
- ▶ **Foster** inter-agency and regional coordination

Delivered in close collaboration with national authorities, civil society, and UN partners, the programme supported a comprehensive, coordinated, and tailored approach to PRR across the UN system and globally.



HIGHLIGHTS



Enhancing PRR capacity in Iraq

Co-led coordination efforts with the Supreme Judicial Council of Iraq through the Security and Accountability for Adults Task Force, advancing national strategies to ensure effective prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration of returnees from Syria.

Trained 20 government officials on applying international legal standards and trauma-informed approaches to screening returnees from Syria.

Contributed technical guidance to the Jeddah 1 rehabilitation centre, improving operational protocols for the reintegration of returnees.



Fostering regional PRR cooperation in Central Asia

Established the Central Asia Regional Expert Council on Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Returnees from Conflict Zones to strengthen regional efforts, knowledge exchange and coherence of PRR approaches.

Organized consultations of the Regional Expert Council, bringing together 65 participants from governments, UN agencies, and civil society.

Advanced consensus on the need for robust legal frameworks, civil society engagement, and measurement of PRR outcomes.

Institutionalizing regional PRR cooperation in Central Asia

In partnership with the Government of Uzbekistan, UNOCT launched the Central Asia Regional Expert Council (REC) – the region’s first institutional platform dedicated to the coordination of PRR efforts. In 2024, the Council convened to advance dialogue on returnee rehabilitation, legal frameworks, and

coordinated reintegration strategies. By establishing a standing regional mechanism, the REC lays a durable foundation for sustained cross-border cooperation, knowledge exchange, and strategic alignment on PRR across Central Asia.





Strengthening capacity in East Africa

Delivered the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) regional workshop on disengagement, deradicalization, rehabilitation and reintegration (DDRR) for 81 participants from 26 countries.

Provided training on gender- and age-sensitive approaches to DDRR.



Looking ahead

By working closely with Member States and facilitating multi-stakeholder cooperation at the national and regional levels, UNOCT will expand PRR programming to meet increasing demand for sustainable, inclusive solutions to terrorism-related reintegration challenges. Priorities include:

Expanding capacity-building

in Iraq, Central Asia, and the Lake Chad Basin/Sahel region

Deepening partnerships

with regional organizations and civil society

Further embedding

human rights, gender, and inclusion into national PRR strategies

7 Human rights, gender mainstreaming and victims support

Rights-based approach to counter-terrorism

Upholding human rights and promoting gender equality are core principles of effective and sustainable counter-terrorism, while supporting victims of terrorism remains a critical component of these efforts, as reaffirmed in the GCTS and its 8th Review Resolution. In line with these mandates, UNOCT works to integrate these principles across its policies, programmes, and partnerships, ensuring that all efforts are firmly grounded in international law.



UNOCT's global approach

UNOCT advances its rights-based work through **two key initiatives**:



The Human Rights and Gender Section

plays a strategic role in mainstreaming, quality assessment, technical assistance and oversight of human rights, gender equality, and women's empowerment across all areas of UNOCT's mandate in line with the GCTS.



The Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme

amplifies the voices of victims, strengthens legal protections, and fosters global solidarity. It promotes recognition and solidarity with victims, while empowering them as agents of positive societal change.



HIGHLIGHTS



Integrating human rights into counter-terrorism

Ensured responsible use of technology by applying human rights due diligence in the deployment of financial intelligence tools.

Strengthened border security guidance by integrating human rights considerations into the Addendum to the GCTF Good Practices in the Area of Border Security and Management.

Supported Somalia in developing its 2024–2027 Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Strategy, fostering a rights-based and inclusive approach.

Partnered with Iraq's National Security Advisory to enhance accountability, promote human rights-based counter-terrorism by security actors, and foster dialogue between human rights bodies and law enforcement.

Advanced coordinated UN support in the Philippines to promote human rights-based approaches in counter-terrorism, alongside UNODC and OHCHR.

Reinforced the application of the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy across programs and projects.



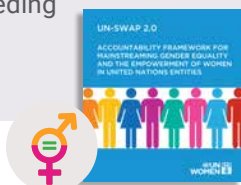
Advancing gender equality and women's empowerment

Achieved strong results under the UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP 2.0), meeting 11 indicators and exceeding four.

Reviewed over 50 project documents, evaluations, and training materials to ensure gender inclusion.

Delivered 13 expert presentations at seven capacity-building events.

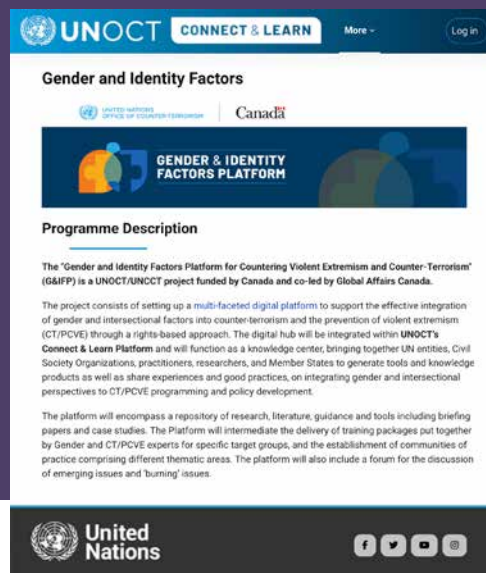
Coordinated the UNOCT Gender Task Force, providing guidance to 23 focal points, and supporting the development of 10 gender-related workplans.





Gender and Identity Factors Platform

The Gender and Identity Factors Platform (GIFP) enhances the integration of gender and intersectional identity factors into counter-terrorism and preventing violent extremism efforts. Hosted on the Connect & Learn platform, GIFP serves as a global hub for research, tools, training, and expert engagement. In 2024, GIFP expanded to 279 users from 76 countries and curated over 128 key publications. Its resource library reached more than 812,000 views – the most-accessed section of the platform.



Supporting victims of terrorism globally

Advanced national legislation and support systems on victims' rights in the Philippines and Nigeria through the Model Legislative Provisions initiative to support the needs and protect the rights of victims of terrorism, reaching 115 stakeholders.

Launched the Memories Campaign, a multimedia initiative featuring testimonies of victims of terrorism through film and photography. Exhibited in Spain, France, and in New York, the campaign drew over 30,000 visitors.



Conducted consultations in five regions to inform the establishment of the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN).

International Conference on Victims of Terrorism

Held in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain, on 8-9 October, 2024, the United Nations International Conference on Victims of Terrorism convened under the theme “Education as a Tool for Prevention, Peacebuilding, and Empowerment.” It brought together **430 participants from 67 countries, including 59 victims, 62**

civil society representatives, and 220 government delegates. Opened by His Majesty King Felipe VI of Spain, the event emphasizing the need for coordinated international action against terrorism and highlighted the role of victims as educators and agents of peace.



Looking ahead

UNOCT will continue to place people at the centre of its counter-terrorism efforts, with focus on:

Expanding

the integration of human rights across counter-terrorism policy, training, and legal frameworks.

Advancing

gender-responsive programming, and promoting women's leadership in global counter-terrorism.

Launching

the Victims of Terrorism Associations Network (VoTAN) to formalize engagement and strengthen collective advocacy on victims' rights and needs.



6 VISIBILITY & ADVOCACY

Strengthening global awareness and engagement

By raising awareness of the drivers and impacts of terrorism, UNOCT promotes comprehensive approaches that prioritize prevention, resilience and multilateral cooperation. Through high-level briefings, impactful events and dynamic digital outreach, UNOCT strengthens global engagement, amplifies the global counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism conducive to terrorism agenda and mobilizes much-needed political and financial support. Tailored messaging to Member States, the Security Council and key stakeholders fosters coordinated action and reinforces a shared commitment to global security.

HIGHLIGHTS



Briefings and reports

Delivered

12 high-level briefings to Member States, the Security Council, and the Counter-Terrorism Committee.

Coordinated two reports (S/2024/583 and S/2025/72) of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and UN counter-terrorism efforts, including CTED and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team.



Strategic communications



ATTRACTED

close to
1 million
website
views



PUBLISHED

90
official documents
and 13 multimedia
videos



REACHED

32,000
social media followers and generated
214 million
impressions

Global action against violent extremism

On 12 February 2024, the United Nations commemorated the second **International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism**, a global milestone in prevention-focused engagement:

Featured high-level discussions, expert panels, and grassroots initiatives.

Convened Member States, civil society, and youth leaders to share good practices.

Amplified community-driven approaches to address drivers of violent extremism.

Honouring victims of terrorism

On 21 August 2024, the United Nations commemorated the seventh **International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism**, honouring all those affected by terrorist violence around the world:

Highlighted

survivors' resilience and the importance of long-term support

Facilitated

high-level discussions and storytelling initiatives in collaboration with Member States, victims' associations, and civil society

Advocated

for stronger legal protections, justice, and recovery pathways

Looking ahead

UNOCT continue to scale up its visibility efforts in 2025 through:

Organizing

high-level strategic dialogues with UN entities and Member States, including ambassadorial briefings and Security Council engagement.

Curating

a traveling exhibition showcasing the work of UNOCT through interactive displays, videos, and podcasts.





Strengthening global collaboration

At the core of UNOCT's mission is our commitment to building strategic, inclusive, and action-oriented partnerships that enhance international efforts to prevent and counter terrorism. Through collaboration with Member States, international and regional organizations, civil society, academia, think tanks, and the private sector, UNOCT brings together diverse expertise and resources to address the complex and evolving threat of terrorism in line with the GCTS.

Enhancing engagement with regional and sub-regional organizations is a core strategic priority of UNOCT. Throughout the year, UNOCT has engaged with regional organizations – including the AU, CIS,

ECOWAS, EU, GCC, OSCE, OAS-CICTE, SCO and SADC through briefings, data sharing, and expert consultations.

Deepening strategic collaboration with the European Union

UNOCT's partnership with the European Union (EU) continued to grow through the EU-UN Global Terrorism Threats Facility, a flagship initiative launched in 2022 to provide rapid, flexible, and demand-driven support to Member States facing urgent or evolving terrorist threats. Funded by the EU and implemented by UNOCT, the Facility enables the deployment of experts, delivery of targeted training, and provision of light, non-lethal equipment, tailored to technical assistance needs identified by CTED and aligned with international law and the GCTS.

The Facility stands as a powerful example of how targeted, field-based support – delivered through a multilateral framework – can achieve measurable results.



HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ **Expanded** its expert roster to 58 specialists across 14 thematic areas.
- ▶ **Received** five new requests – from the Maldives, Mauritania, Nigeria, Somalia, and Uzbekistan – bringing the total number of beneficiary countries to 12.
- ▶ **Supported** Togo in protecting vulnerable targets and countering IEDs.
- ▶ **Enhanced** digital forensic capacity in Kyrgyzstan and coordination to protect vulnerable targets.
- ▶ **Assisted** Malawi, with UNODC and CTED, in drafting new anti-terrorism legislation.
- ▶ **Strengthened** radiological security along the Tajik-Afghan border by equipping and training Tajikistan's border guards and CBRN security agency personnel.
- ▶ **Strengthened** Iraq's capacities to register its nationals seeking voluntary repatriation from Al Hol camp.
- ▶ **Supported** Kenya's National Counter-Terrorism Center in measuring PCVE progress and advancing strategic communications.
- ▶ **Strengthened** investigative and prosecutorial collaboration in Uganda.

Expanding civil society, academic, and private-sector engagement

In 2024, UNOCT significantly broadened its outreach, engaging with over 150 civil society organizations, private-sector partners, and academic institutions. This growing network has been critical in bringing

community-based, grassroots, and expert perspectives into global counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism efforts.

Elevating grassroots voices

UNOCT facilitated engagement with civil society at key moments, including the United Nations Civil Society Conference, which contributed to informing the Summit of the Future, and the Civil Society Roundtable, “Engaging civil society in its crucial role to address the evolving threat of terrorism in Africa”, both held in Nairobi in 2024. These dialogues created



space for women- and youth-led organizations to inform global policy conversations.

Advancing collaboration in the digital sphere

As the digital landscape becomes increasingly central to both terrorist operations and counter-terrorism measures, UNOCT deepened its partnerships in relation to cybersecurity and online resilience:

- **Participated** in the INTERPOL Metaverse Governance Group and the Global Internet Forum

to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) Incident Response Working Group.

- **Contributed** to GIFCT Crisis Response and Technical Approaches working groups to address counter-terrorism and prevent and counter violent extremism.

Looking ahead

Partnership
priorities
for 2025

Enhancing civil society engagement

especially with grassroots, women-led, and youth organizations.

Expanding collaboration with academia and think tanks

to support evidence-based, forward-looking strategies.

Strengthening legal cooperation

to promote rule-of-law-based responses and facilitate information-sharing.

Deepening partnerships with the technology sector

to counter emerging digital threats through innovation and shared solutions.

Scaling the impact

of the EU-UN Global Terrorism Threats Facility through new support packages and expanded regional engagement.



OUR PERFORMANCE

Driving results, accountability, and continuous learning

In a rapidly evolving global security landscape, staying effective means staying accountable and adaptive. At UNOCT, we are constantly refining how we work to ensure that our support delivers meaningful results for Member States. From embracing data-driven decision-making to building a stronger culture of learning and innovation, we are investing in the systems, tools, and mindsets that drive long-term impact.

Strengthening results-based management

In 2024, UNOCT deepened its results-based management (RBM) approach to reinforce a culture of accountability, efficiency, and measurable impact. Guided by our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan and Results Framework, we introduced new and updated policies and internal guidance that support effective planning, monitoring, and reporting across our programmes.

A key milestone was the launch of a new Standard Operating Procedure for Programme and Project Management alongside a revised policy for our Programme Review Board, streamlining internal processes and strengthening



the consistency and quality of our work. Our Programme Management Unit continued to actively support RBM efforts by providing performance monitoring, technical advice, and quality assurance to ensure effective programme delivery.

We also scaled up the use of data for smarter, faster decision-making, leveraging both the UNOCT internal information system and the UMOJA Integrated Planning, Management, and Reporting (IPMR) solution to better align financial planning with performance indicators and strategic goals. These digital platforms enhance our operational agility and help ensure our initiatives remain responsive to the needs of Member States.

Enhancing evaluation for accountability and learning

To promote accountability and organizational learning, our Evaluation and Compliance Unit developed a

new evaluation plan to guide evaluation planning and implementation for the next two years.



In 2024, we completed seven programme and project evaluations across key areas such as border security, rehabilitation and reintegration, prevention of violent extremism (PVE), and sports security and sports-based PVE. These evaluations – available publicly on our website – have generated lessons learned and actionable recommendations to inform programme design and delivery. We also implemented five independent evaluations and supported partner-led evaluations to strengthen transparency and shared accountability of joint capacity-building efforts.

Assessing performance: first independent evaluation of UNOCT

In 2024, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) launched the first independent evaluation of UNOCT since its creation in 2017. Spanning from April 2024 to March 2025, the evaluation focuses on our relevance, effectiveness, and coherence, especially in relation to Member State support and implementation of the GCTS.

The findings will guide organizational learning and the development of UNOCT's next strategic plan, reinforcing institutional performance and impact.



Charting the future: strategic plan for 2026–2028

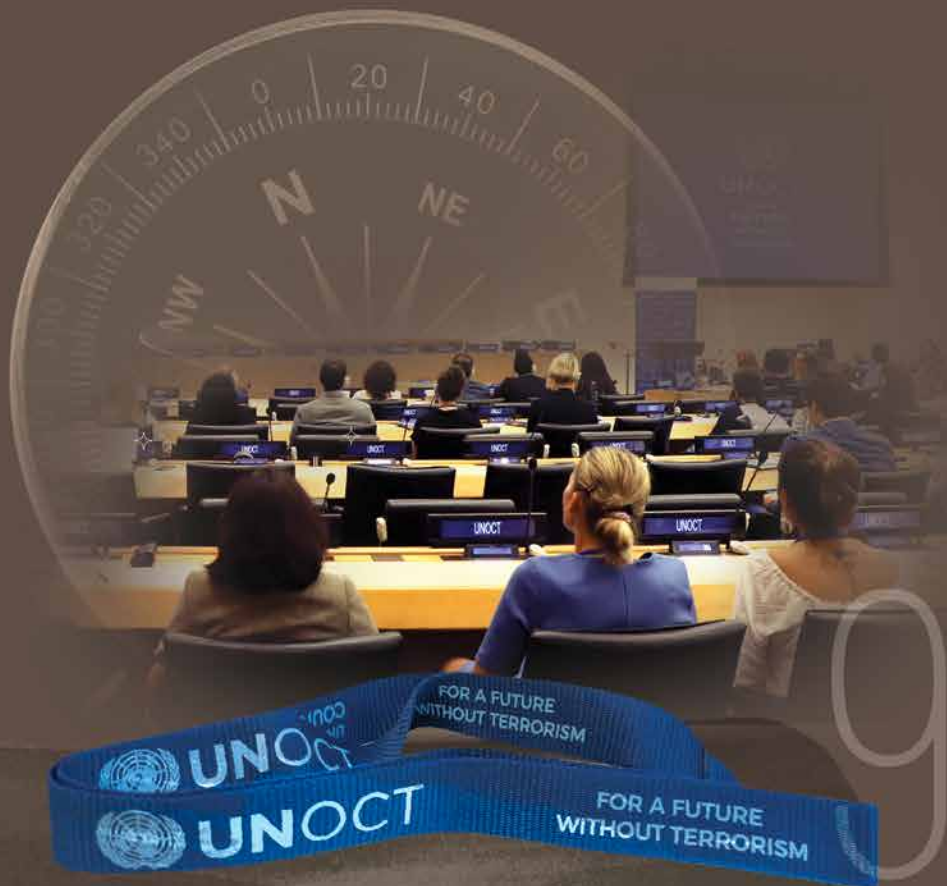
UNOCT has begun developing its strategic plan for 2026–2028 to guide our priorities and actions across all areas of work. The plan will promote greater internal coherence, accountability, and alignment with broader UN system goals.

Drawing on lessons from previous implementation cycles and evaluations, the strategic plan will be developed in close consultation with Member States and partners throughout 2025.

Measuring the UN system's collective impact

In response to the 8th Review Resolution of the GCTS, the United Nations is developing a unified, system-wide results framework to measure the impact of its support to Member States. Led by UNOCT through the Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group of the Counter-Terrorism Compact, this framework will underpin a comprehensive,

independent assessment of UN efforts across all four pillars of the GCTS. It represents a critical step toward strengthening coordination, transparency, and accountability, while ensuring that counter-terrorism initiatives are evidence-based, strategic, and responsive to national needs.



TEAM UNOCT

A diverse, inclusive and committed team

At the heart of UNOCT's work is a team of over 170 dedicated professionals from more than 65 countries. Their diverse expertise, cultural backgrounds, and regional insights power our global response to preventing and countering terrorism.

Led by the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism and a diverse senior leadership team, UNOCT is firmly committed to gender equality. With women making up 58 per cent of our workforce, UNOCT exemplifies UN values and shows how diversity and inclusion drive stronger, more effective outcomes.



170
dedicated
professionals

65+
countries

58% women
in our
workforce

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov

Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism

Mr. Rafi Shah

Chief,
Policy, Knowledge
Management
and Coordination
Branch



Ms. Oguljeren Niyazberdiyeva

Chief,
Office of the Under-
Secretary-General

Ms. Guadalupe Megre

Officer-in-Charge,
Special Projects
and Innovation
Branch



**Senior
leadership
team**



Mr. Mauro Miedico

Director,
United Nations
Counter-Terrorism
Centre



Mr. Steven Siqueira

Deputy Director,
United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre

Investing in future leaders

Since its creation in 2017, UNOCT has welcomed 35 Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) sponsored by Member States – young professionals who make meaningful contributions across thematic and regional areas while gaining hands-on experience in the UN system.

Many JPOs go on to assume professional roles within UNOCT or elsewhere in the United Nations, building on the skills and insights developed during their assignments. Their journeys reflect UNOCT's commitment to mentorship, talent development, and nurturing the next generation of global counter-terrorism leaders.

Member States sponsoring Junior Professional Officers in 2024



Estonia



France



Germany



Hungary



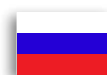
Italy



Kazakhstan



Republic of
Korea (the)



Russian
Federation



United States
of America

CURRENT AND FORMER UNOCT JPOs



Rana Alotaibi
OUSG*

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



"Being a JPO with UNOCT gave me the opportunity to cultivate my capacity-building experience as well as to lead fulfilling projects, supporting beneficiaries in creating resiliency to violent extremism within their communities."



Alexandre Gouffier
Cybersecurity team

France and Italy



"As a JPO, I had the opportunity to deliver capacity-building projects worldwide, collaborating with diverse partners and cultures united in making the world safer from technology-enabled terrorism."



Margherita Natali
CT-Travel Team

Italy



"Serving as a JPO with UNOCT gave me hands-on experience across the full programme cycle and allowed me to build lasting professional relationships while contributing to substantive portfolios."



Endrik Raun
Cybersecurity team

Estonia



"As a JPO, I've had the chance to engage in substantive work from day one. UNOCT has given me a platform to improve my skills and knowledge, particularly in cybersecurity and new technologies. Seeing the meaningful impact of our work in countering terrorism is truly rewarding."

*Office of the Under-Secretary-General

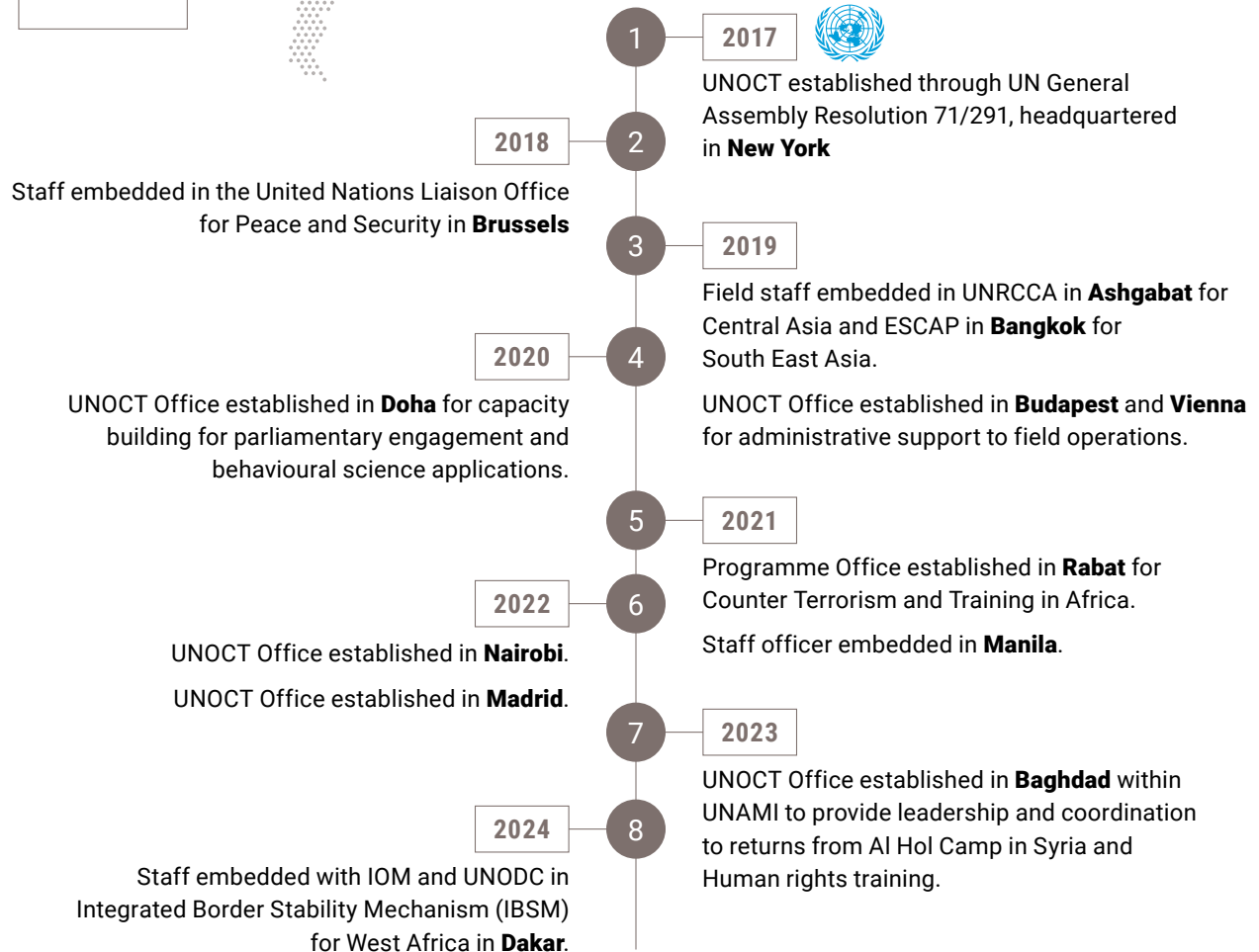
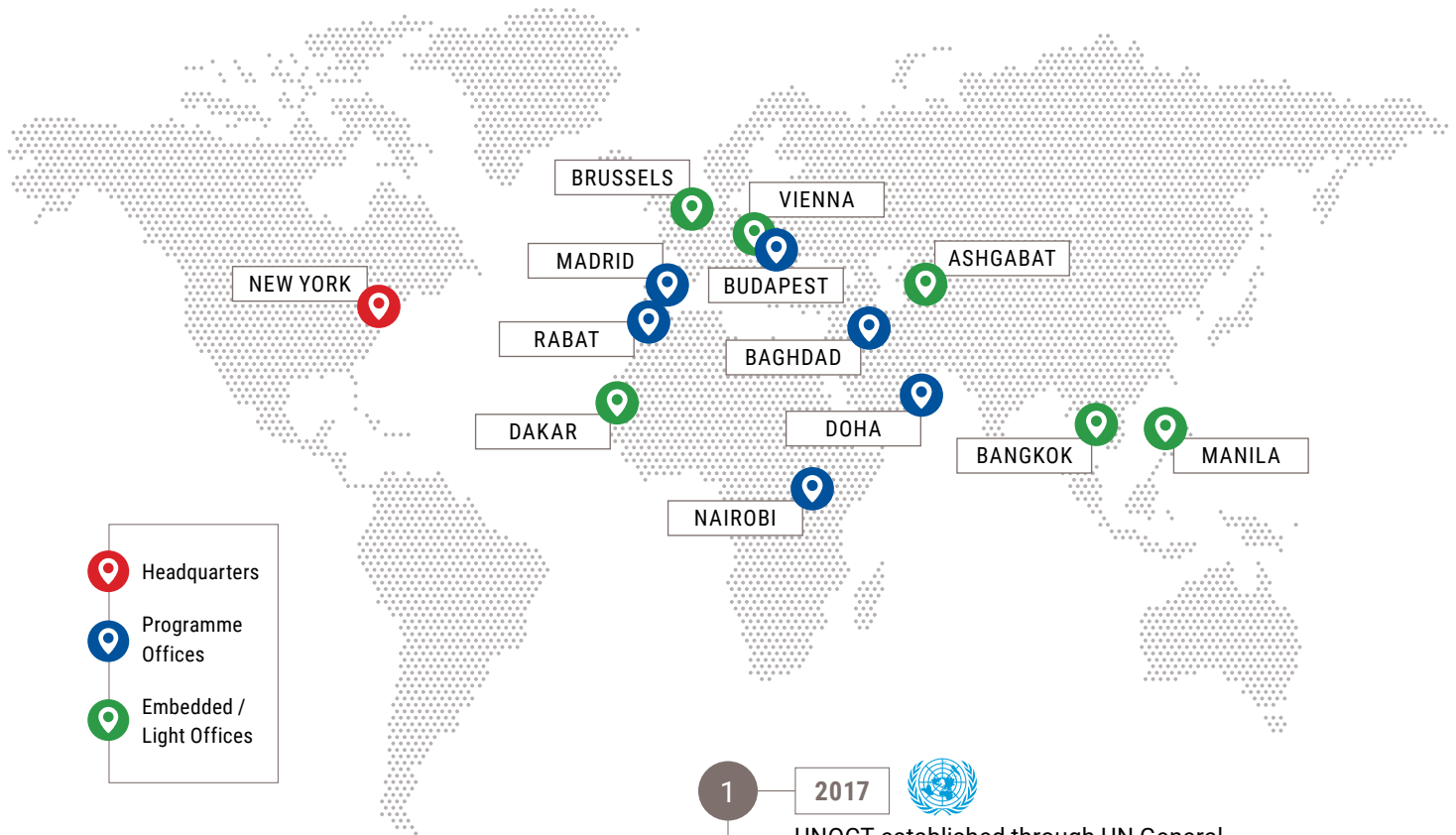


Bringing support closer to those who need it most

As global threats evolve, so must the UN's ability to respond with agility, expertise, and sustained presence. Since its creation in 2017, UNOCT has steadily expanded its footprint to ensure that support is timely, tailored, and grounded in local realities.

In 2019, just three staff members were based outside New York. By 2024, that number had grown to 78 a strategic shift that brings our technical assistance and policy expertise closer to the regions most affected by terrorism, strengthening responsiveness and long-term impact.

UNOCT GLOBAL PRESENCE



Programme offices: purpose and focus

UNOCT's global mandate is advanced through a growing network of field offices with two distinct yet complementary functions. Some serve as centres of expertise, hosting global thematic programmes in partnership with host countries. Others act as regional coordination hubs, delivering targeted,

context-specific support in areas facing acute or evolving terrorist threats. This growing, field-responsive network enhances UNOCT's ability to deliver agile, impactful support to Member States – while improving coordination and cost-efficiency.

Expanding our reach

2024 MILESTONES

UNOCT deepened its regional footprint through new deployments, strengthened partnerships, and facility development:

Rabat: Began establishing a regional training academy, with support from Morocco, to expand capacity-building across Africa and beyond.

Nairobi: Strengthened collaboration with Kenya and the GCTF to support its East Africa Working Group.

Dakar: Deployed staff to the secretariat of the IBSM led by IOM with UNODC and INTERPOL.

Budapest: Initiated discussions with Hungary to expand back-office operations, positioning the office as a hub for logistics, human resources, and administration.

Looking ahead

UNOCT will continue to enhance its field-oriented presence in line with emerging needs:

Scale up in Africa

delivering more embedded and sustained support to address evolving threats across the continent.

Advance prosecution, reintegration and rehabilitation

with focus on returnees from Al-Hol Camp, particularly in Iraq, in close coordination with national authorities.

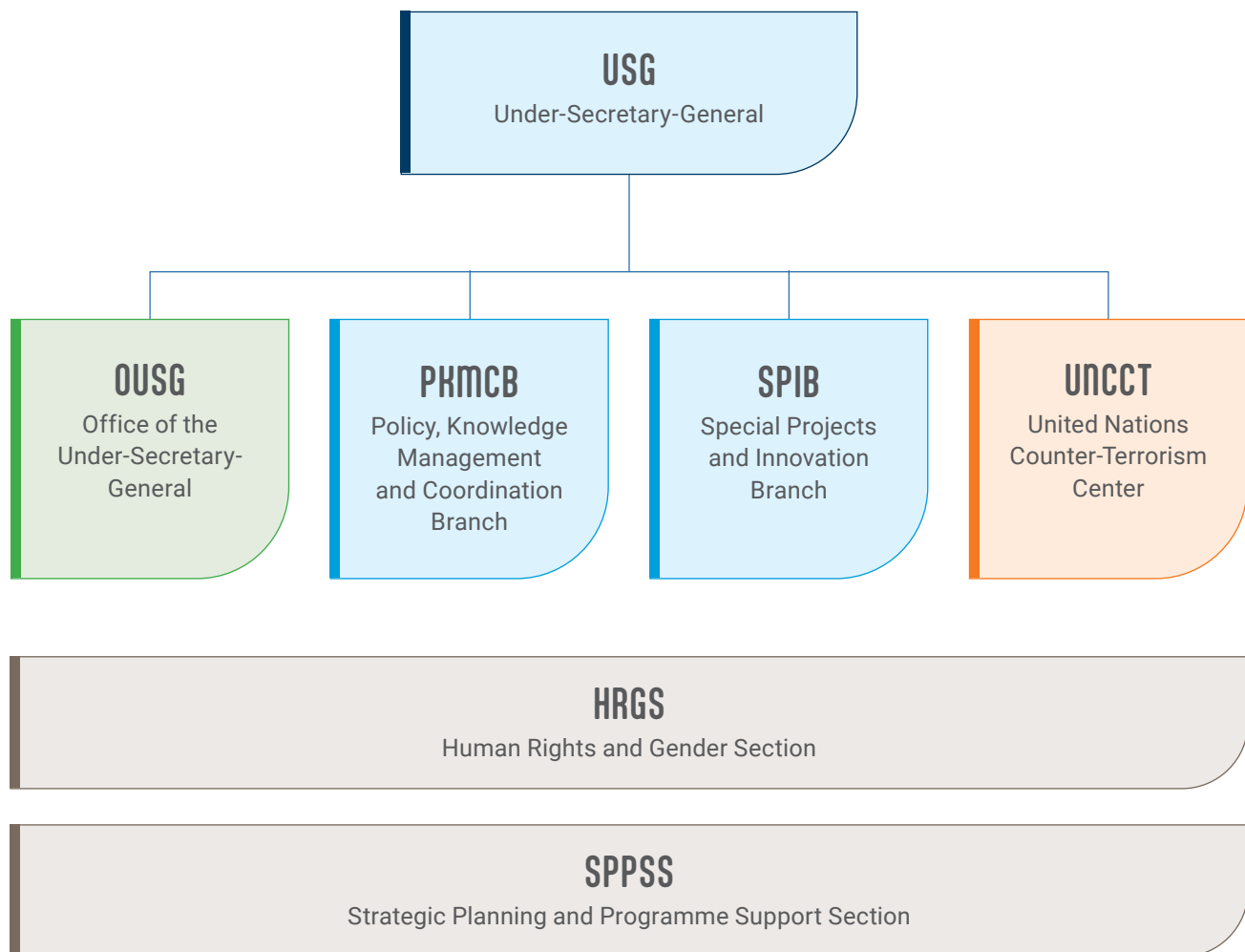
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM

We organize our work around four core units that reflect the breadth of our mandate. This structure enables us to deliver integrated, accountable, and

field-oriented support to Member States in line with the GCTS:





FUNDING

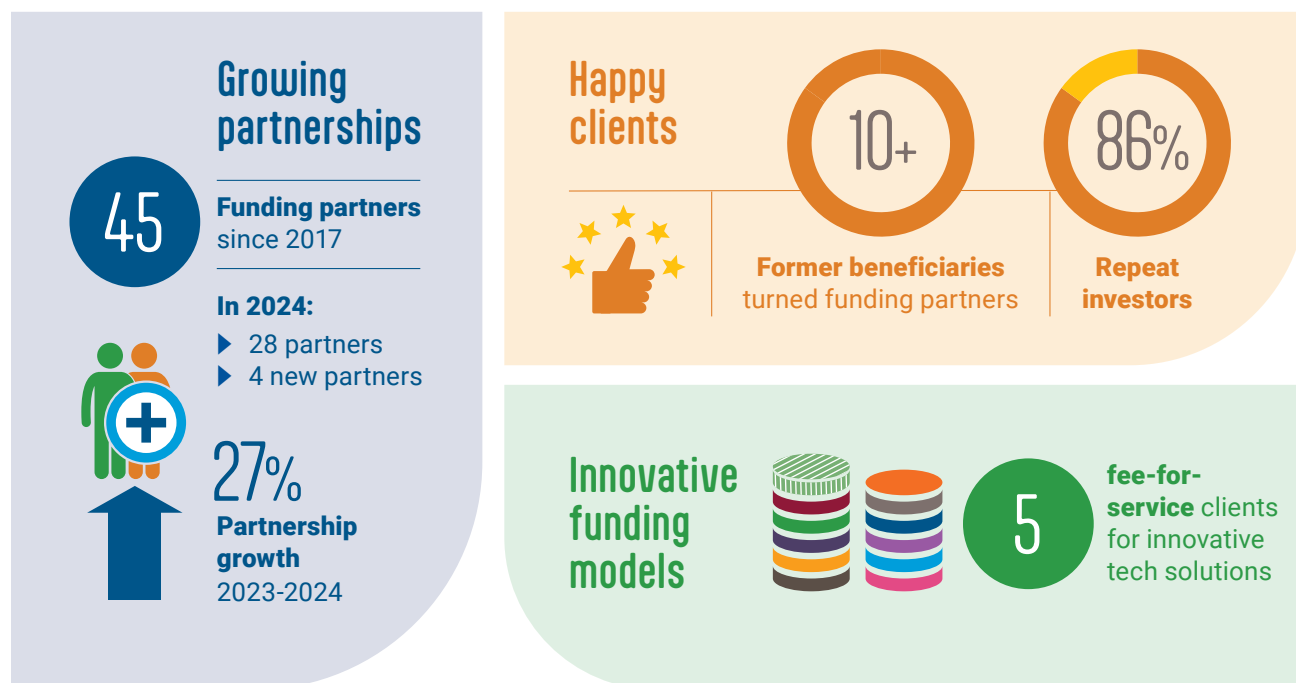
Investing in sustainable counter-terrorism solutions

UNOCT's capacity to deliver impactful, demand-driven support is made possible through the strategic investments of Member States and partners via the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism, which totalled \$19.3 million in 2024. This was complemented by a growing share of funding from the UN regular budget.

Initially established in 2017 with only eight regular budget posts, UNOCT was almost entirely dependent on voluntary contributions. Between 2022-2024, the General Assembly approved the conversion of 52 extrabudgetary post into regular budget posts, raising the total number of regular posts to 60. Consequently, the share of UNOCT's budget funded by the regular budget rose from 3 per cent in 2022 to 20 per cent in 2025.

This evolution has been critical to enabling the Office to fulfill its core mandates and reflects increasing institutional recognition of, and sustained confidence in, UNOCT's role within the United Nations counter-terrorism architecture.

HIGHLIGHTS



Enhancing the quality and impact of funding

While total contributions have increased, the flexibility, predictability, and duration of funding remain key to enabling strategic, cross-cutting programming.

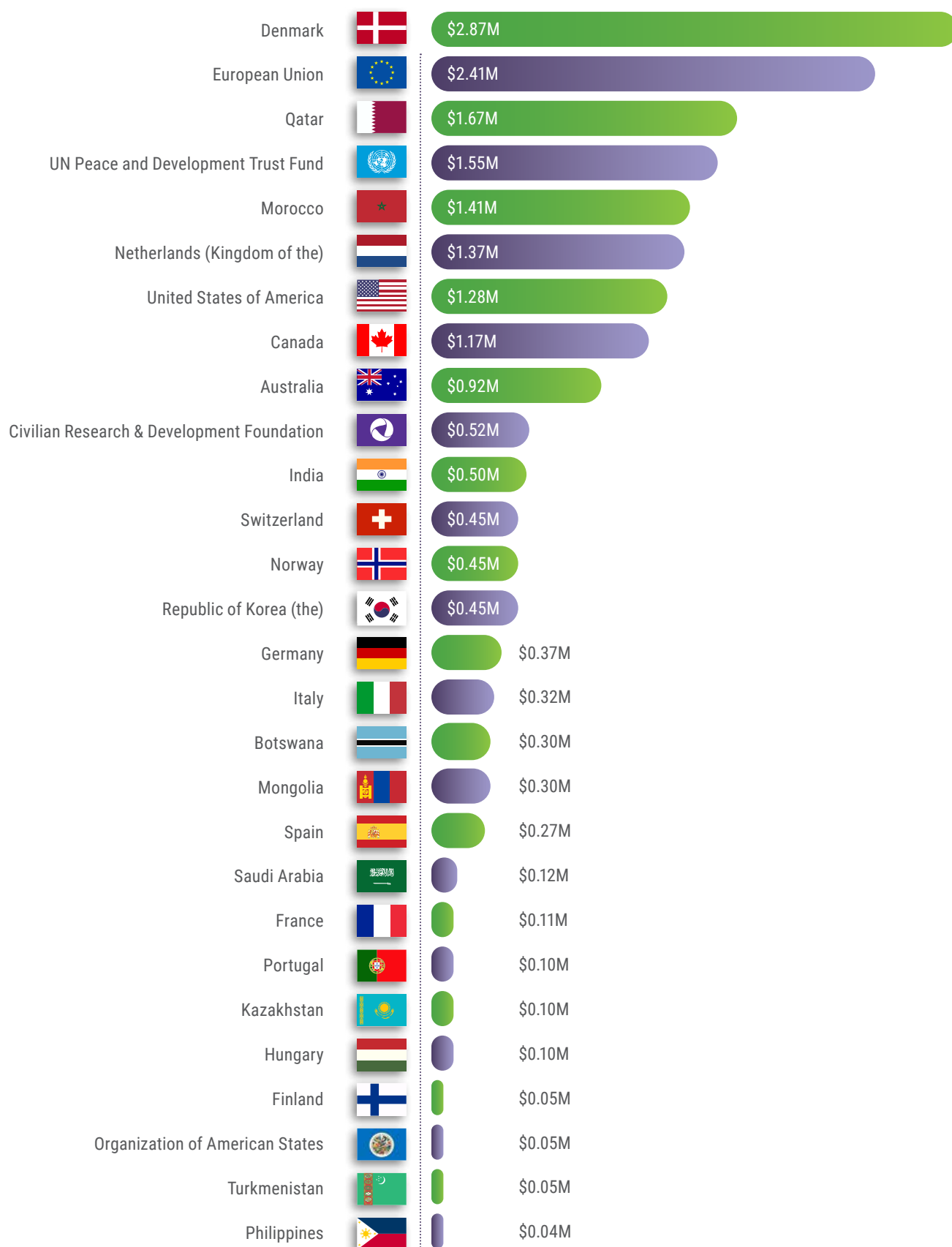
In 2024, 46 per cent of new contributions were multi-year agreements, supporting improved planning and continuity. However, only 5 per cent were un-earmarked or softly earmarked, limiting UNOCT's capacity to address emerging needs or invest in system-wide initiatives.

More than 100 partner-specific reports were produced in 2024, illustrating both the administrative

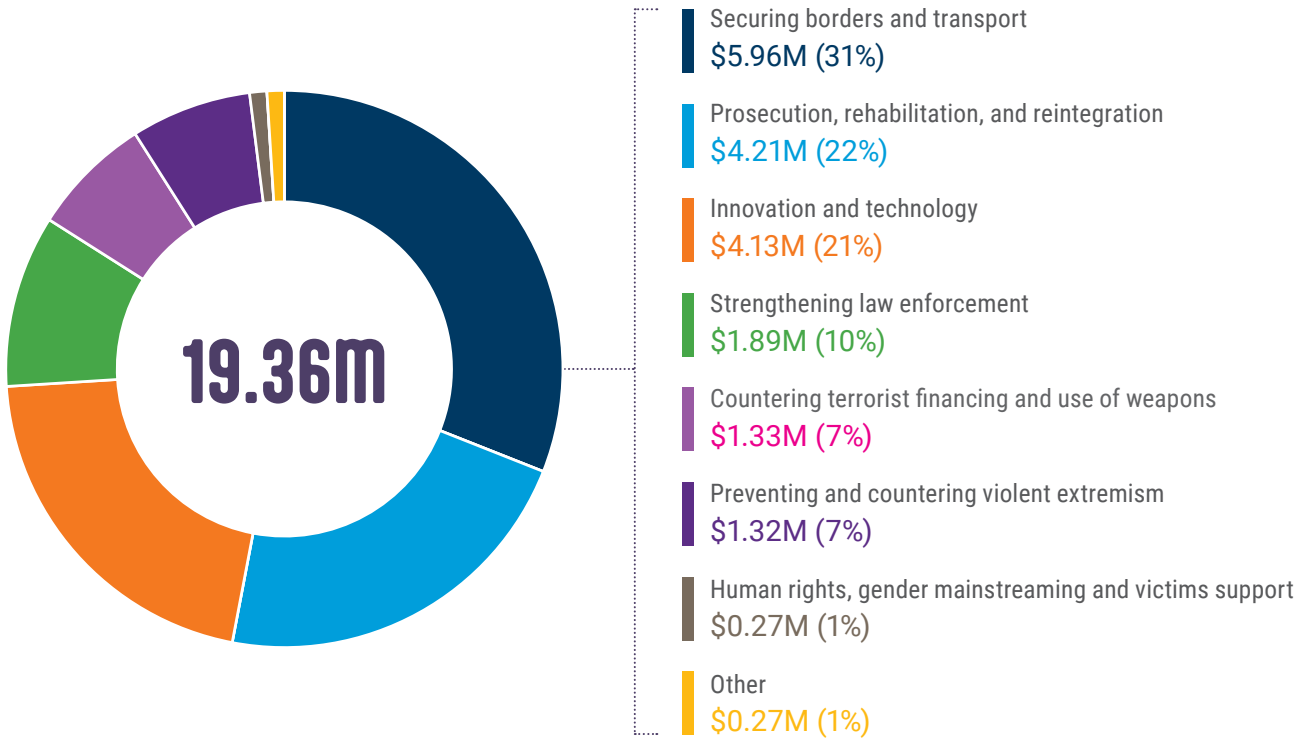
burden of current reporting requirements and the fragmentation in results capture – challenges that hinder the consolidation and communication of UNOCT's broader impact.

To address these challenges, UNOCT is actively promoting more flexible and pooled funding models. These are essential to reducing duplication, strengthening coordination, and maximizing strategic outcomes. High-quality funding enables the Office to operate more efficiently, respond more rapidly to shifting priorities, and deliver greater value for every contribution.

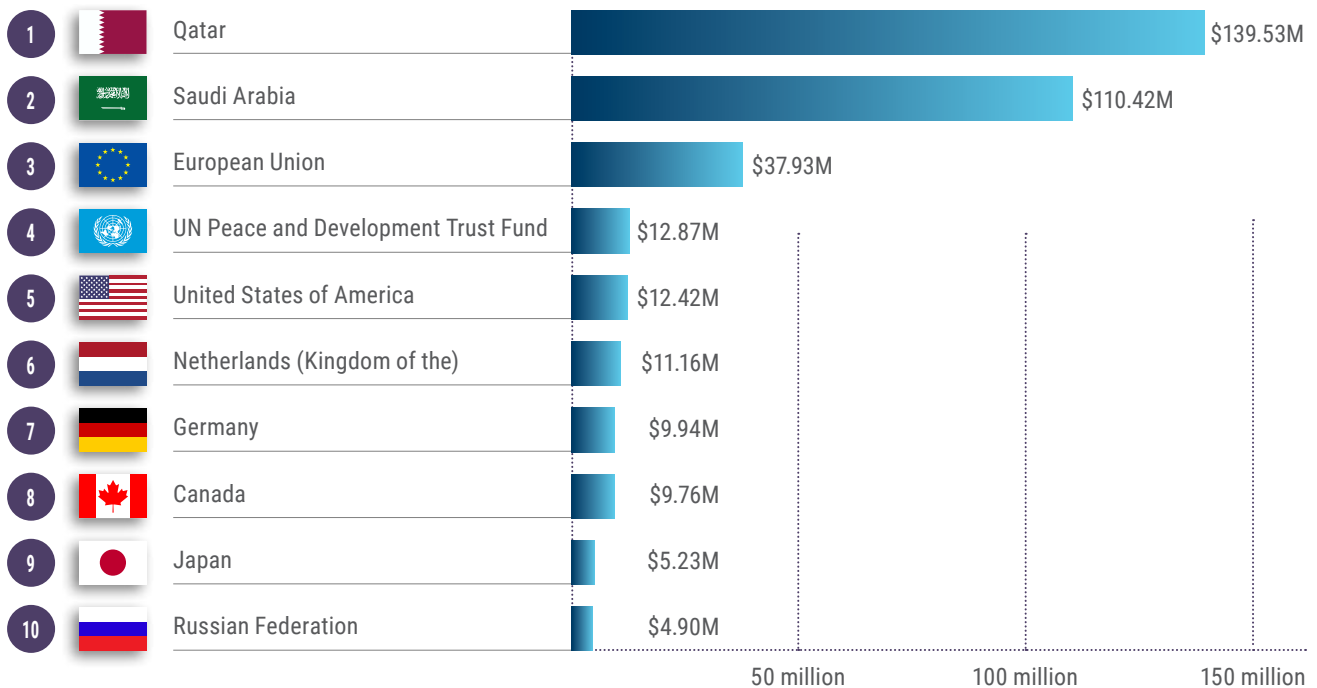
2024 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CT TRUST FUND (IN MILLION)



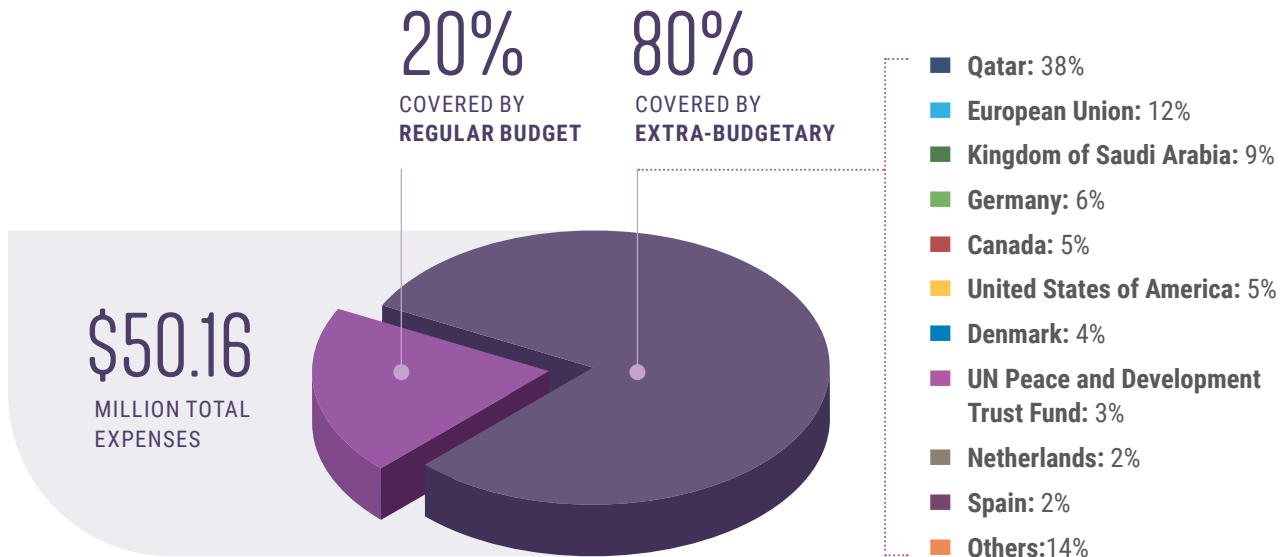
2024 CONTRIBUTIONS BY THEMATIC AREA (IN MILLION)



TOP 10 ALL-TIME CONTRIBUTORS (IN MILLION)



2024 EXPENDITURES



Looking ahead

As demand for UNOCT's services continues to grow, securing sustainable, predictable and flexible funding remains a priority. We are committed to ensuring that every contribution, large or small, helps build a safer, more resilient world. In 2025, UNOCT will focus on:

Increasing the share of flexible contributions

to support responsive, integrated programming.

Expanding multi-year and pooled funding

to support long-term impact and operational efficiency.

Enhancing transparency and dialogue

with partners to reinforce trust and mutual accountability.

Ensuring that all funding

is aligned with strategic priorities and focused on delivering measurable, high-impact results.

A man in a dark suit and glasses is walking towards the right. Behind him, two women in business attire are also walking. They are in a futuristic, brightly lit space that looks like a tunnel or a large hall. The walls are covered in large, colorful digital projections of human hands reaching out. A large, glowing blue globe is visible in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of forward movement and global connectivity.

12 FORGING THE FUTURE

2025 presents a moment of uncertainty for the United Nations, as multilateralism faces significant challenges, and the global threat landscape continues to evolve rapidly. Yet, within this moment lies a unique opportunity to reaffirm our collective commitment and move forward with renewed focus and innovation in advancing international peace and security.

Building on the achievements in 2024, UNOCT will provide strategic leadership and support for the implementation of the Pact for the Future fostering global and regional discussions on preventing and countering terrorism. Strengthening multilateral cooperation remains central to our efforts, ensuring deeper engagement with Member States, regional organizations, and civil society to foster a cohesive, whole-of-government, and whole-of-society approach.

Enhancing coordination and coherence across the UN system

Now more than ever, enhancing coherence across the UN system is essential. Through the Counter-Terrorism Compact, we will drive coordinated action and policy alignment, reinforcing Member State capacities, and facilitating a unified global response to terrorism. The UN Joint Appeal for Africa exemplifies this approach, mobilizing collective action to strengthen prevention, cooperation, and resilience-building across the continent, while ushering in new ways of working across the UN system.

Preparing for the 2026 review of the GCTS will be a defining moment in shaping policies to address emerging threats and opportunities. A unified results

framework for the UN system will be key to measuring progress and assessing impact across all four pillars of the Strategy.



Embracing reform and leveraging innovation



Innovation remains central to our mission. UNOCT will align with the Secretary-General's UN80 Initiative, collaborating with the UN80 Task Force to identify efficiencies and improvements in counter-

terrorism programming. This effort will involve reviewing mandates, implementing deeper reforms, and realigning our programmes for maximum impact.

We will double down on advancing technology-driven solutions and behavioural insights to enhance counter-terrorism efforts. Through initiatives like our Behavioural Insights Hub in Doha and digital tools like goTravel and goFintel, we will step up our efforts support Member States in deploying data-driven, forward-looking strategies to counter evolving threats.



Sustaining impact through strategic partnerships

Maximizing impact and ensuring long-term sustainability relies on deepening engagement with Member States, regional organizations, the private sector, and civil society. By strengthening multi-stakeholder collaborations, UNOCT aims to expand resources and mobilize efforts to address both immediate security needs and long-term prevention of violent extremism.

As we develop our new strategic plan for 2026-2028, UNOCT will prioritize an inclusive, consultative approach. Engaging directly with Member States, funding partners, and stakeholders will help us ensure our priorities are aligned with the most pressing global needs. By fostering stronger, more sustainable partnerships, UNOCT will continue to drive proactive, well-resourced, counter-terrorism efforts that can respond to emerging threats with agility and impact.



Looking ahead

A shared responsibility to end terrorism

The path forward calls for sustained commitment, strategic foresight, and united efforts. UNOCT remains dedicated to addressing emerging threats by fostering collaboration, strengthening resilience, and enhancing the effectiveness of global counter-terrorism efforts. With innovative ideas, adaptability, and a focus on continuous improvement, UNOCT will help shape the next chapter in international counter-terrorism cooperation.





UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF COUNTER-TERRORISM



@UN_OCT | #UNCCT | #UNiteToCounterTerrorism



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un.org/counterterrorism