



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

UNCCT QUARTERLY PROJECT HIGHLIGHT REPORT

TO THE UNCCT ADVISORY BOARD

2 QUARTER

1 April – 30 June 2021

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Part I: UNCCT Advisory Board	8
Part II: Overview of Programme Implementation	9
Second Counter-Terrorism Week	9
Key UNCCT Side events	10
Pillar I: Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism	14
Pillar II: Preventing and Combatting Terrorism	18
Pillar III: Building States' Capacity and Strengthening the Role of the United Nations	26
Pillar IV: Ensuring Human Rights and the Rule of Law	31
Programme Management Unit (PMU)	39
Part III: Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight	40
Part IV Communications and Visibility	42
Part V: Financial Overview	44
Part VI: Conclusion	48

Abbreviations and acronyms

AIMC	Arab Interior Minister Council
API	Advance Passenger Information
BSM	Border Security and Management
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
CFT	Countering the Financing of Terrorism
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CT	Counter-Terrorism
CTED	Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate
DCO	Development Coordination Office
EOSG	Executive Office of the Secretary-General
ESAAMLG	Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group
EU	European Union
FTFs	Foreign Terrorist Fighters
GCTF	Global Counterterrorism Forum
GCTS	Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
ICSANT	International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
JPoA	Joint Plan of Action
KPMG	Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler International Cooperative
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSAPG	Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide
PAM	Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

PCVE	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
PF	Programme Framework
PMU	Programme Management Unit
PNR	Passenger Name Record
PRB	Programme Review Board
PRR	Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration
PVE	Preventing Violent Extremism
RMME	Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SNCCT	Sudan National Commission for Counter Terrorism
SPIB	Special Projects and Innovation Branch
SSC	South-South Cooperation
StratCom	Strategic communications
STRIVE	Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism
UN	United Nations
UNAOC	United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
UNCCT	United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
UNODA	United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNOSSC	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
UNRCCA	United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

USG	Under-Secretary-General
VEPs	Violent Extremist Prisoners
VoT	Victims of Terrorism
WBSC	World Border Security Congress
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction
YEEP	Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme

Executive Summary

During the second quarter of 2021, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) as part of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) continued to deliver high-value capacity-building support to requesting Member States on the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS) as guided by the extended UNCCT Five-Year Programme of Work (2016-2020).

A major highlight of the quarter was UNCCT's prominent role in the Second United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week (CT Week) held from 24 to 30 June. CT Week garnered significant interest in, engagement with, and visibility of the United Nations system-wide counter-terrorism efforts. This has fostered consensus among Member States on the global counter-terrorism agenda, created and strengthened partnerships among States, international and regional organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs), academia and the private sector, contributing to the Secretary-General's vision for a reinvigorated, networked, and inclusive multilateralism to counter and prevent terrorism.

UNCCT directly contributed to CT Week by organizing and co-organizing numerous side events attended by governments, international and regional organizations, United Nations entities, CSOs, academic institutions, think tanks, and the private sector from around the world. The side events enabled: (1) the launching of the Empowering Dialogue and Interfaith Networks Project campaign website; (2) the launching of the 2021-2022 Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism to mobilize 'all-of-UN' fundraising for global counter-terrorism efforts; (3) the launching of various publications (e.g., UNOCT-United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) report on Science, Technology and Innovation: Understanding Advancements from the Perspective of Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Terrorism; two UNOCT-UNICRI reports on artificial intelligence and counter-terrorism); (4) discussed the particular needs and rights of victims of terrorism (VoT) in the framework of developing national comprehensive assistance plans and national legal frameworks to support VoT; and (5) the creation of networking opportunities and consolidation of existing partnerships with enhanced visibility of and support for the UNCCT counter-terrorism programmes, projects and initiatives. All of this demonstrates the strategic value and importance of side events as an integral component of the CT Week by the United Nations.

Another major highlight was UNCCT's advancement in the drafting of the new Programme Framework (PF) for the period 2022-2025 designed to succeed the UNCCT Five-Year Programme set to conclude in 2021. Aligned with the overarching framework of UNOCT's first Strategic Plan, the draft PF is guided by the recommendations arising from OIOS evaluation of 2018 on UNCCT

and KPMG evaluation of 2020, including those related to developing an enhanced result-based management system. The new PF strengthens UNCCT as the Centre of Excellence, to effectively support Member States in preventing and countering terrorism while providing an innovative capacity development approach that is consistent with the GCTS, as well as with international human rights and gender equality norms, conventions, and Security Council resolutions. The UNCCT Advisory Board has been instrumental in providing strategic guidance in this process, including during the 22nd Advisory Board meeting on 27 May whereby the outline of the PF was presented. The 22nd Ambassadorial-level meeting also focused on the achievements and results reached by UNCCT during 2020.

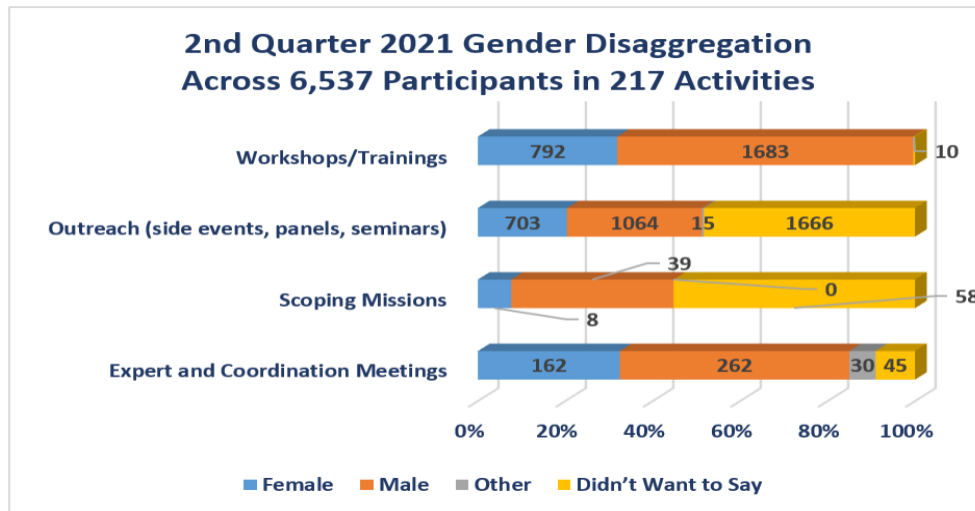
Programmatically, UNCCT continued to strengthen Member States' capacities to implement the GCTS through the delivery of technical assistance in spite of restrictions related to the ongoing pandemic. UNCCT programmes and projects delivered 54 workshops that engaged 2,485 participants. In addition, 80 expert and coordination meetings, and seven scoping missions were held. The Centre also held 76 outreach events (side events, panels, seminars, and briefings) to present its flagship global and regional programmes.

While UNCCT continued to explore opportunities for in-person and hybrid delivery of its capacity-building support, the Centre remained vigilant to the COVID-19 situation in New York as well as in UNOCT's field presences, ensuring that risk management and contingency plans are incorporated into programming. The expected introduction of new interactive methods to our capacity-building approaches through UNOCT's new e-learning platform will expand UNCCT's ability to support Member States' efforts to implement the GCTS and other relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, whether or not movement restrictions remain in place.

2nd Quarter 2021 Activities



Type	Total
Workshops/trainings	54
Expert and Coordinations Meetings	80
Outreach (side events, panels, seminars)	76
Scoping Missions	7
	217



UNCCT progressed in implementing UNCCT’s updated Communications Strategy and Visibility Plan for 2021, which envisions further strengthening of the UNCCT brand and the development of innovative communication products. While the outbreak of COVID-19 has continued to impact the planning and delivery of UNCCT activities, the Office has adapted its communication plans and tools to the new context, now more focused on online rather than in-person activities.

UNCCT continued to build relations with existing and potential donors to solidify and diversify its funding base and further advanced its fundraising efforts. This included the development of the 2021-2022 United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism (the

Multi-Year Appeal), a tool for coordinating United Nations resource mobilization efforts for the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (Global Compact) entities, that requests US\$179 million for 52 projects and programmes from 12 entities. The Multi-Year Appeal was successfully launched on 29 June at a side event during the CT week attended by 158 participants, including 28 Member States, 14 UN entities, five international organizations and nine CSOs, research institutes and other organizations.

Part I: Advisory Board

The 22nd Meeting of the Advisory Board of the UNCCT was convened virtually on 27 May. Ambassador Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Chair of the UNCCT Advisory Board, chaired the meeting. Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, and Mr. Jehangir Khan, Director of UNCCT, briefed the Advisory Board members on the results achieved by UNCCT during 2020. The year 2021 marks the last year of the implementation of UNCCT's 5-Year Programme of Work, extended from 2020. During the meeting, UNCCT briefed members on the outline of the PF, including the alignment between UNCCT and the Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB), with a common Results Framework and theory of change. The main highlight of the PF is its results-focused approach. This reflects a shift from activity-based output level indicators to measuring performance based on outcome-level results.

The Advisory Board discussed the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the programmatic work of the Centre, taking note that in 2020 UNCCT was still able to deliver the largest number of capacity building activities since its establishment. This led to a record number of participants engaged from 175 countries through UNCCT's capacity building work. Finally, an overview of the UNOCT's field presences outside of New York and their objectives was presented to the Board. UNOCT pointed out that the overall objective of operating in a number of duty stations away from New York was to enable UNOCT to deliver its mandate more effectively. This allows UNOCT to be more responsive to Member States' requests and local contexts, ensuring stronger local ownership of capacity building and greater sustainability of impact.

Member State Feedback

The Advisory Board members commended UNCCT on the results achieved during 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board stressed UNCCT's key role in the implementation of the GCTS and encouraged UNCCT's further profiling as a Centre of Excellence. The Board welcomed the Centre's expansion of programmes, including in Africa, and underlined the importance of predictable funding and sufficient regular budget to UNCCT. UNCCT was requested

to provide additional information to the Advisory Board members and organize an expert-level meeting dedicated to UNOCT field presences. UNCCT constructively responded to both requests, including preparatory work for an expert-level meeting which was successfully held in September and will be subject to reporting in the third quarter.

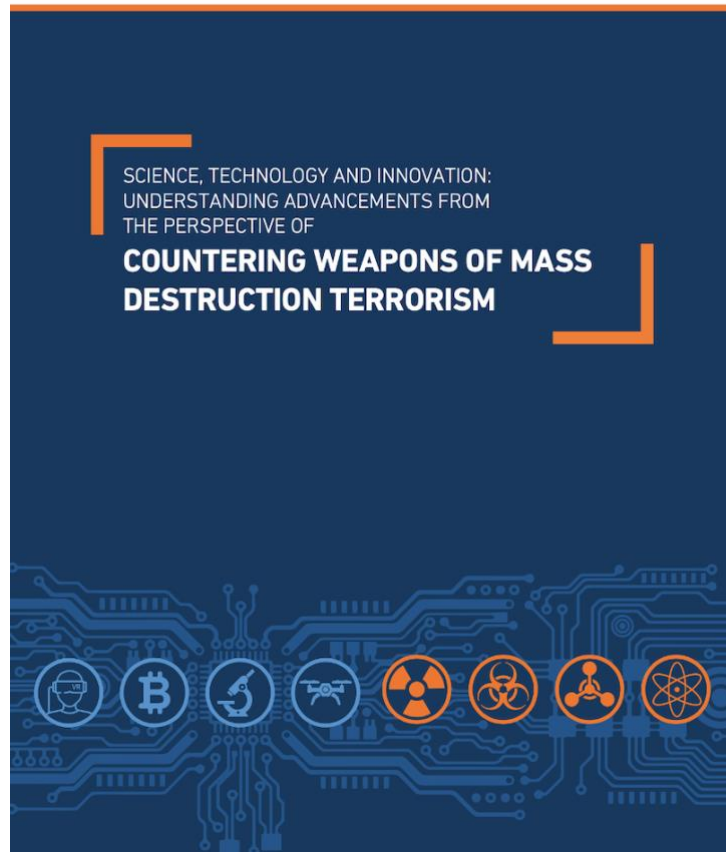
Part II: Overview of Programme Implementation

Second Counter-Terrorism Week (CT Week)

The second CT Week was initially scheduled to take place from 29 to 30 June 2020 at the UN Headquarters in New York. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing decision of the General Assembly to postpone the review of the GCTS to its 75th session, the 2020 Counter-Terrorism Week was postponed to June 2021. The second CT week comprised two high-level events¹ and 36 UNOCT side events, amassing a total of over 25,000 participants and viewers, where a total of 280 speakers have participated in the discussions, representing 44 Civil Society Organizations, 10 private sector entities, and 21 academic institutions.

In connection with the second CT Week theme of ‘countering and preventing terrorism in the age of transformative technologies’, UNCCT’s side events highlighted the key role of new and emerging technologies (e.g., artificial intelligence, unmanned aerial systems, ‘big data’, new communication platforms) in counter-terrorism, as well as the need to engage a multiplicity of actors in the public and private sectors, particularly young people, to benefit from the potential of new technologies and manage associated risks. The side events also underscored the need to mainstream human rights, age, and gender considerations in the use of new technologies.

¹ The Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to adopt the seventh biennial GCTS review resolution and the Second United Nations High-Level Conference) of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States from 28 to 30 June.



Launching of the UNICRI-UNCCT Report on Science, Technology and Innovation: Understanding Advancements from the Perspective of Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Terrorism, 25 June 2021.

The side events offered an inclusive and interactive global platform for both policymakers and practitioners to exchange perspectives and recommendations across a wide array of prioritized thematic issues covering all four pillars of the GCTS. Furthermore, these side events featuring the participation and attendance of CSOs will serve to enrich existing engagements, and facilitate future partnerships between UNCCT and CSOs, by expanding the existing UNCCT/UNOCT CSO network and encouraging follow-up engagement. The CT week also provided an opportunity to further promote UNCCT and its activities through media and social media (see communications and visibility section page 41).

Key UNCCT side events

On 24 June, UNCCT co-organized with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) the virtual side event on Preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons: towards technical guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370

(2017), related good practices and international standards. The side event, attended by 483 participants from different Member States, international organizations and CSOs, enhanced awareness regarding the diverse ways through which terrorists acquire small arms and light weapons (SALW), unmanned aircraft systems, and improvised explosive devices, and promoted technical guidelines to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

The joint **SALW Project Addressing Terrorism-Arms-Crime nexus in Central Asia** implemented with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was selected as an appropriate platform to test the technical guidelines that are expected to be launched in September 2021.

On 24 June, the side event *Life After ISIS: Returning individuals with links to terrorist groups from Syria and Iraq and the United Nations support available to Member States through the Global Framework on UN Support on Syria/Iraq Third Country National Returnees (the Global Framework)* was co-convened by the United States Department of State, UNCCT and OHCHR. The event emphasized the urgent need for Member States to repatriate foreign nationals from Syria and Iraq and clarified some of the key challenges related to protection, prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration (PRR) of returning individuals. For UNCCT, a key result achieved was the showcasing of support available to Member States under the Global Framework. The severe human rights, humanitarian and security concerns related to those who remain stranded in Syria and Iraq were highlighted. The event showcased positive examples of return as well as presented key human rights, age, and gender specific considerations. This included presenting the comprehensive United Nations support available to Member States through the Global Framework, which is adaptable to any country of return that has repatriated or is willing to repatriate its nationals from Syria and Iraq.

On 25 June, UNCCT, in partnership with Jordan, Norway, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the United Nations Office for the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), and the United Nations Office of the Special Representative on Violence against Children (SRSG/VAC) delivered the side event *From Offline Hate to Online Violence: addressing and countering hate speech and violent extremism through education in a digital world*. Attended by 117 participants, the event addressed key challenges in countering hate speech, online and offline, and set out some options for joint action. For UNCCT, a key result was the showcasing of the work of the alumni youth leaders and peer-to-peer group under the framework of the **Global Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE) Programme** who had engaged in countering hate speech as a result of UNCCT's training. OSAPG and the UNICRI offered to involve these same youth leaders in their prospective work.

On 25 June, UNCCT co-organized with UNICRI a virtual side event on *the Launch of the Report on Science, Technology, and Innovation: Understanding Advancements from the Perspective of Countering WMD Terrorism*, sponsored by the Government of Iraq. The event was attended by over 260 participants, coming from Member States, international organizations,

CSOs and academia. This side event is within the framework of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection (ETCIP) Working Group project on **Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge about Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism**. In addition to the launch of the report, the event highlighted how advances in science and technology could augment or enhance terrorist capabilities to acquire and/or deploy WMD and the innovative ways in which technology could be applied to counter these threats. Additionally, within the framework of the same Working Group, a UN Agency to UN Agency Contribution Agreement has been signed with the Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) for the implementation of Phase III of the project.

On 25 June, UNCCT, SPIB, the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism (VoT), UNODC, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Office of the Special Rapporteur Fionnuala Ni Aolain organised the side event on *The Importance of Model Legislative Provisions to Develop and Strengthen Comprehensive National Assistance Plans for Victims of Terrorism*. The event was addressed by the Permanent Representative of Spain on behalf of the Group of Friends of VoT, Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, UNODC Under-Secretary-General Waly, and IPU Secretary-General Chungong. The event, attended by more than 150 participants, including VoT, Member State representatives, parliamentarians, United Nations entities and CSOs, discussed the particular needs and rights of VoT in the framework of developing national comprehensive assistance plans and national legal frameworks to support VoT.

The side event *Engagement of CSOs in the management of VEPs and prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons* was organized by the EU, Netherlands, Tunisia, UNOCT, UNODC and CTED on 25 June. It was attended by 132 participants and panellists from Jordan, Mali, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Germany, North Macedonia, and Uganda. The event highlighted how the local expertise of CSOs places them in a favourable position to assist in rehabilitation of Violent Extremist Prisoners (VEPs). CSOs shared experiences on capacity building with prison officers to improve their ability to identify threats and provided tailored plans of support to prisoners and other staff members. Speakers highlighted the importance of adopting an all-of-society approach that prioritizes the social, emotional, and psychological needs of VEPs. Coordination amongst regional partners with the support of United Nations partners and Member States is crucial to effective programming and strategies that reduce the threat of radicalization in prisons and ensure the empowerment and growth of societies.

In addition, on 25th June, UNCCT through **the UNOCT-UNCCT Global Coordinated Programme on Detecting, Preventing and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (the CFT Programme)**, supported the side event on CFT in the post COVID-19 pandemic landscape and published a web story sharing insights and lessons learned by Member States on the ongoing improvement of enhanced due diligence, ‘know-your-customers’ requirements and the monitoring of virtual assets service providers.

The side event *Integrating Gender into Cybersecurity and New Technologies in the Fight Against Terrorism* was held on 29 June and co-organized between UNOCT/UNCCT, CTED, the National Security Council of Thailand, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Canada, and Norway. The event helped raise awareness across the industry, academia, governments, civil society organizations and the United Nations of challenges, good practices, and substantive entry points for the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into counter-terrorism policies and programming that make use of new technologies and cybersecurity. It focused on the controversies of how violent extremist and terrorist groups use cybersecurity and new technologies to recruit, raise funds and operate. Conversely, it addressed how these technologies offer new ways to analyse trends and developments in violent extremism and strengthen efforts to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism. The event underscored the need to understand the ways in which technology design is gendered, as well as how the gendered impacts of cybersecurity and new technologies are essential to avoid bias and ensure human rights compliance and gender responsiveness.

On 29 June, UNCCT in collaboration with UNICRI, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), CTED, the European Union (EU) and Japan organized the side event *Counter-Terrorism in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Risk, Opportunities and Safeguarding Human Rights*. The event launched two joint UNOCT-UNICRI reports on the risks and opportunities that artificial intelligence brings to the counter-terrorism domain, informing the global community on potential malicious uses of artificial intelligence by terrorist actors and how artificial intelligence can be employed to counter terrorism in a responsible and human-rights compliant manner. The event gathered 166 participants and representatives from Member States, United Nations partners, regional organizations, civil society, tech companies and academia and addressed opportunities, risks, and the human rights challenges that technology brings to counter-terrorism efforts.

On 30 June, UNCCT partnered with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), and CTED to deliver the side event *Prevention and the Misuse of New Communications Platforms*, attended by 120 participants. The event was opened by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, Under-Secretary-General Moratinos from UNAOC and Assistant-Secretary-General Coninx from CTED. The event featured speakers from Moonshot, TikTok, and Etidal, who explored the changing online environment, channels and methods used by terrorists and violent groups, particularly in the context of COVID-19, and new and unconventional methods of communication in the digital space, such as “new generation” social media and online gaming networks.

At the event, UNCCT, through its **Global PCVE Programme**, launched the **Empowering Dialogue and Interfaith Networks Project** campaign website² and showcased the project through

² <https://edin.uncct.unaoc.org>

an interactive panel discussion with three young media makers. The project, implemented in partnership with UNAOC, provides young religious leaders and young media makers with a peer-to-peer learning space and builds their capacity to prevent sectarian violence and counter terrorist narratives online.

Pillar I: Addressing the Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism

Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism

UNCCT's **Global PCVE Programme** progressed to strengthening individual, community, and national resilience to violent extremism, and reducing the threat of terrorism to implement Pillar I of the GCTS. Despite the ongoing limitations posed by COVID-19, UNCCT continued its hybrid offline/online capacity building and technical assistance model to provide support to beneficiaries from the Middle East, North Africa, East Africa, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Southeast Asia. UNCCT provided tailored workshops, coaching and technical assistance in Policy Assistance, Strategic Communications (StratCom), Youth Engagement and Empowerment and Technical Vocational Education and Training, all designed to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.

Main Activities	Key Results
<p>As part of the joint UNCCT/UNAOC Empowering Dialogue and Interfaith Networks Project the following activities were held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three Strategic Communication workshops; - Eight Zoom Cafes providing small group coaching and mentoring; - Launched a website for 20 young religious leaders and media makers from 12 countries in Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. 	<p>The level of inclusion, participation, and technical skills of 20 young religious leaders from Europe, the Middle East and North Africa in the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of PCVE-efforts was enhanced. The Projects participants amplified their communication campaigns in support of social cohesion.</p>
<p>Series of interviews with young leaders that participated in the pilot Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme (YEPP) course in Australia, Sudan, and Sweden, as part of a digital storytelling series aimed to amplify youth impact and experiences with PCVE</p>	<p>Empowerment, inclusion, and meaningful participation of young women and men to design, deliver, and participate in PCVE efforts was enhanced, enabling them to counter terrorist narratives in their own social networks in Sweden, Australia, and Sudan and emerge as peer leaders in their communities. As a result of their participation in the Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme (YEPP), 35 young participants had the opportunity to discuss their policy recommendations on PCVE with government officials</p>

	and policymakers in their respective countries. This included 15 Australian, 5 Swedish, and 15 Sudanese YEEP participants, who were able to arrange policy dialogues with governmental experts.
Policy technical assistance to the Government of Tajikistan for the drafting of its Strategy and Action Plan on Countering Extremism and Terrorism for 2021-2025	Tajikistan’s technical capacity to develop and implement PCVE NAPs was enhanced and refined, in line with international standards and emerging good practice, culminating in the conclusion and publication of its National Action Plan on 1 June 2021.
Work Agreement with UNDP/Sudan and the Sudan Commission for Counter-Terrorism (SNCCT) to assist in the development of the Sudan PCVE National Action Plan Process UNCCT coordinated resources and collaborated with implementing partners on the group, primarily UNDP, to provide capacity building in response to local PCVE threats and issues in Sudan	UNCCT mobilised support and action from different PCVE actors in Sudan, including SNCCT and UNDP/Sudan, and finalised the SNCCT/UNDP/UNOCT Work Agreement for the Development of the Sudan PCVE National Action Plan. Strengthened UNCCT field partnership with UNDP/Sudan; and enhanced Sudan’s ability to develop a National Action Plan in compliance with international practice and standards.
Workshop on Strategic Communications for PCVE with the joint US/UAE Sawab Center	The Sawab Center increased its understanding and technical skills to develop and implement effective strategic communications for PCVE, and also shared their expertise on countering Daesh narratives online in the Middle East region.
Technical Vocational and Education Training for 244 Iraqi youth in Fallujah, Iraq, focused on growth employment areas in the region.	Increased technical ability and employability of Iraqi youth in Fallujah and overall strengthened their resilience to violent extremism.
Three-day virtual workshop with UNCCT’s Cyber team and CTED to 83 officials from the Government of the Philippines on human rights-based approaches to preventing and countering terrorist use of the internet.	The Government of the Philippines increased its understanding and technical skills to develop and implement effective strategic communications for PCVE, in alignment with international standards and good practice.
Reintegration Communications’ research to practice approach, including a draft Handbook.	A draft Reintegration Communications Handbook was developed, which, once finalised, will be provided to Member States, regional organisations, UN entities and CSOs . The Handbook will increase end users’ capacity to develop strategic communications for PCVE to support effective reintegration of returnees and their families.

UNCCT, through its peer-to-peer capacity building project **Empowering Dialogue and Interfaith Networks Project** in partnership with UNAOC, engaged 20 young religious leaders and

media makers (11 female, 9 male) from 12 countries in the Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. Between April and June, these participants received in-depth coaching sessions and took part in Zoom Cafes to enhance their social media communication skills. During this period, the Project delivered: eight Zoom Cafes on designing and implementing social media campaigns; a technical session on StratCom; a workshop on Scriptural Resources for Peace Identifying Reliable Resources on Religion; a workshop on Promotion of Social Media Campaigns: Crafting Messages through Images; and launched the Project's website during the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Week.

As a result of the training, project participants developed their own social media campaigns. A number of these campaigns gained solid audience engagement during the reporting period. For example, one of the participants launched a campaign aimed at safeguarding religious sites through their own TV show "The Revelation" which was broadcasted on Nile TV in Egypt. Another integrated social media campaign was developed to counter "religious abuse," exploring the experience of young women, and included interviews by British Muslim TV and Islam Channel in the UK.

Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme (YEEP)

In April, UNCCT began conducting and collating an impact storytelling series with alumni of its YEEP. In 2020 and 2021, the YEEP completed the peer-to-peer training for "brave space" dialogue in Australia, Sudan, and Sweden. The YEEP also hosted two successful youth-designed policy briefings to senior national-level CT and PCVE officials in the same countries. These digital stories are being captured in a variety of long and short multimedia formats-podcast, video, social media and are designed to highlight the most impactful stories from the young people participating in the YEEP, giving young leaders the opportunity to share their inspiring journey of resilience and experiences preventing and countering violent extremism and to amplify their impact within their own communities and at the global level.

Also, in April, in response to a request from the Office of the Prosecutor General of Tajikistan, UNCCT alongside the UNOCT colleagues in Central Asia, provided and consolidated technical inputs to Tajikistan's Strategy and Action Plan on Countering Extremism and Terrorism for 2021-2025, which was approved on 1 June 2021. According to the report provided to UNOCT by the Office of the Prosecutor General, approximately 80 percent of the technical inputs provided by the United Nations - the preponderance of which was produced by UNCCT - were integrated into the National Strategy and Action Plan. Building on this, UNCCT presented a tailored assistance package for PCVE technical assistance to Tajikistan to help them implement their Strategy and Action Plan.

In May, UNCCT in partnership with UNDP Sudan and SNCCT developed a United Nations Work Agreement of deliverables, with a detailed timetable, as part of a joint work agreement for the drafting of a Sudanese National Action Plan (NAP) on PCVE. The United Nations Work

Agreement implements the PCVE NAP Roadmap laid out by UNCCT, UNDP, and the SNCCT in February 2020, which was put on hold between 2020 and 2021 as a result of COVID-19. The PCVE NAP allows Sudan to develop and implement a ‘whole-of-government’ and ‘whole-of-society’ approach to PCVE and is expected to be completed in early 2022.

In May, UNCCT launched its new operational information-sharing partnership with the Sawab Center³ with the delivery of a co-designed workshop on StratCom. UNCCT supported the Sawab Center with the development of an effective communication strategy. The two-day workshop included campaign design, audience analysis, stakeholder mapping and crisis response, in addition to terrorist use of storytelling, hate speech and misinformation. The workshop also resulted in a joint strategic engagement plan for future collaboration between UNCCT and the Sawab Center.

Technical and Vocational Training Programme

On 27 May and 7 June, UNCCT marked the completion of its **Technical and Vocational Training Programme** targeting young people in Fallujah, Iraq, through two graduation ceremonies. The events were organized in partnership with the provincial authorities of Anbar, the Mayor’s Office in Fallujah, the Iraqi National Security Agency, the Vocational Training Center, the management consulting firm “Canadian Leaders in International Consulting” and the civil society organization “Iraqi International Organization for Love and Peace.” The ceremonies marked the culmination of the training programme delivered by UNCCT in the period between February and May 2021, to 240 young trainees (167 men, 73 women), in the areas of information technology, carpentry, blacksmithing, tailoring, hairdressing, and cosmetology. The training resulted in 51 of the young participants, 23 males and 28 females, gaining employment during and after the internship phase of the project, potentially reducing their vulnerability to violent extremism in Iraq.

In June, UNCCT PCVE and Cyber and New Technology teams jointly delivered a three-day virtual workshop to 83 officials from the Government of the Philippines (45 men and 38 women) on *Human Rights-based Approaches to Preventing and Countering Terrorist Use of the Internet*. The workshop focused on enhancing understanding of the ways in which violent extremists and terrorists exploit the Internet, and the role StratCom can play in building community resilience and supporting PCVE efforts. The workshop was co-developed and co-delivered with the International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol), CTED, UNODC and OHCHR.

In June, UNCCT finalised two strategic communication capacity-building products. The first one is a research-to-practice approach on reintegration communications, including a handbook and training module. The product is designed to support Member States with the repatriation and reintegration of returning foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) and their families. The handbook and training modules identify good practices based on extensive research and

³Sawab Center - A joint United States and United Arab Emirates centre focused on countering Daesh narratives online.

interviews with experts and practitioners in the field. These products will be adapted and translated to suit the requirements of Member States where possible.

Pillar II: Preventing and Combating Terrorism

Despite continued challenges posed by COVID-19 in supporting Member States to implement Pillar II of the GCTS, UNCCT was able to deliver technical assistance to the Member States through direct consultations and webinars. As a Centre of Excellence, UNCCT provided expertise by participating in webinars and virtual conferences organized by partners both within the Global Compact and beyond. This has allowed UNCCT to reach a broad range of counterparts and stakeholders as the abovementioned events are attended by several hundred participants across the globe.

Global Coordinated Programme on Detecting, Preventing and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (the CFT Programme)

Main Activities	Key Results
<p>One CFT capacity building workshop, 65 participants covering strategies, legislation, and policies on countering the financing of terrorism.</p>	<p>Strengthened ability and enhanced Member States capacity to address information sharing, domestic coordination, international cooperation among all relevant CFT stakeholders to counter terrorist financing more effectively.</p>

In the second quarter, **the CFT Programme** worked closely with the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) on the development an Action Plan for the second and third quarter of 2021 in order to implement some pillars of the ESAAMLG CFT Operational Plan through awareness raising, capacity-building and technical support. The Action Plan focuses on three priority actions from the operational plan, including enhancing the domestic coordination and information sharing and developing a horizontal desk-based study on challenges, barriers and best practices on domestic coordination, and information sharing, improving regional terrorist financing risk understanding in the non-profit sector, and raise awareness and strengthen political will.

In June, the CFT Programme conducted the first workshop under the UNCCT/ESAAMLG joint Action Plan. The capacity-building workshop addressed the first priority area of the Operational Plan on domestic coordination and information sharing by providing guidance and examples of good practices among all relevant CFT stakeholders domestically and cross-border and discussing possible strategies to counter the identified barriers and to share information among member countries and across different institutions. Approximately 85 public sector

officials and the private sector representatives from Democratic Republic of the Congo , Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, and Seychelles took part in the workshop.

This was the fifth capacity-building event that UNCCT delivered for ESAAMLG on CFT, which was completed under the second and new ESAAMLG CFT Operational Plan that was developed with the assistance of the CFT Programme and adopted by the ESAAMLG Plenary in late 2020. The ESAAMLG training reached 291 participants and attained a satisfaction rate of 96 percent.

More capacity building and awareness raising events were confirmed and will further enhance domestic coordination and information sharing, protecting the non-profit sector from terrorist financing abuse, and raise awareness and strengthen political will. These events will cover ESAAMLG member jurisdictions that will include all 16 members of SADC.

Aside from ESAAMLG, the CFT Programme served as the UNOCT co-lead coordinator, with the Netherlands and Morocco, for two Expert Meetings under the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Initiative on the Impact of CFT Measures on Humanitarian and Civic Space. There were 100 participants, 40 attendees from civil society. The Expert Meetings were part of the GCTF process to issue a Good Practices Memorandum on the subject.

The CFT Programme software development procedure of goFintel received technical support from the Pusan National University (PNU). Additionally, a new, improved version of the goFintel video demonstrating the key functionalities of the system has been released. OICT continues to take the lead on further development of the proof of concept of goFintel.

UNCCT Global Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies

	Activities	Key Results
AFRICA	BURKINA FASO: National workshop on cybersecurity for the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist cyber-attacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 Burkina Faso officials trained (44 men and 6 women) • 100 percent of surveyed participants gained better understanding of current and emerging cyber-threats to critical infrastructures posed by terrorist actors • 94 percent of surveyed participants acquired new skills and knowledge on how to strengthen the resilience of national critical infrastructure against terrorist cyber-attacks and develop national cybersecurity strategies in this regard • 91 percent of surveyed participants stated they will apply acquired skills and knowledge to change work processes, use new techniques, implement new solutions to protect critical infrastructure and strengthen collaboration and information sharing with other national agencies
	ETHIOPIA: Training on counter-terrorism investigations online as part of the counter-terrorism training organized by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Security Sector Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43 Ethiopia’s officials (37 men and 6 women) trained on how to conduct counter-terrorism investigations online in a human-rights compliant manner
ASIA	MALDIVES: National workshop on methodologies for the collection of open source information from the Internet and social media for counter-terrorism investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42 Maldives officials (29 men and 13 women) trained • 100 percent of surveyed participants improved knowledge and awareness regarding terrorist use of the Internet and how to investigate it using open source techniques • 96 percent of surveyed participants stated they will apply acquired skills and knowledge in performance of their duties.
	THE PHILIPPINES: National workshop on human rights-based approaches to preventing and countering terrorist use of the Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83 Filipino officials (45 men and 38 women) trained • 100 percent of surveyed participants improved their knowledge of human rights-based approaches to preventing and countering terrorist use of the Internet • 100 percent of surveyed participants will use acquired skills and knowledge in performance of their duties

The **Global Counter Terrorism Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies** progressed in building global knowledge on the potential risks and opportunities of new technologies for counter-terrorism and provided capacity building assistance to Member States in Africa and Asia on critical infrastructure protection from terrorist cyber-attacks and use of open-source information from the Internet and social media for counter-terrorism investigations in a human rights compliant manner.

UNCCT provided capacity building assistance to Burkina Faso under the project **Strengthening the capacities of officials from Burkina Faso on the use of digital forensics and cybersecurity technologies for counter-terrorism in the COVID-19 era**. UNCCT trained 50 Burkina Faso officials on the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist cyber-attacks, and 84 Burkina Faso officials on the responsible use and sharing of biometrics.

In South and South East Asia, under the project **Enhancing skills of officials from South Asia and South East Asia in relation to structured methodologies for the collection of open source information from the Internet and Social Media**, UNCCT trained 42 Maldivian officials (29 men and 13 women) on application of online investigation methods and techniques in counter-terrorism investigations. In addition, UNCCT organized a hybrid workshop for the Philippines on human rights-based approaches to preventing and countering terrorist use of the internet, attended by 83 officials (45 men and 38 women).

Border Security and Management Programme (BSM)

Main Activities	Key Results
Four virtual activities, for a total of 492 attendees, including 143 female participants, on the prevention of cross-border movement of terrorists, cross-border cooperation, and the responsible use and sharing of biometric data to detect, prevent, investigate as well as prosecute terrorist offences and other serious crimes at borders.	Increased awareness and enhanced capacity of Member States to include counter-terrorism elements in their border management strategies, in compliance with international law, including the rule of law, international human rights law, humanitarian law and refugee law.
Scoping Mission to the Republic of Korea to expand the UNCCT BSM Good Practices in response to COVID-19 pandemic.	Enhanced Member States' border security and management operational capacities to counter and prevent terrorism, related transnational organized crime, and bioterrorism by all modes of cross-border travel, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

National Workshop on the Responsible Use and Sharing of Biometric Data to Counter Terrorism in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Strengthened national efforts to counter terrorism through the use of biometric data in the context of border security.

During the second quarter, UNCCT, through its **Border Security and Management Programme**, implemented one hybrid and three virtual capacity-building activities with nearly 500 participants and participated in one hybrid event organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on *Cargo Controls for Turkey* and one virtual event (*CT Inflow Project Strategic Cooperation Forum*) organized by the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training. In the framework of the new series “A View to a Border,” which was developed in partnership with the World Border Security Congress during the first quarter of 2021, the last two remaining webinars of four were delivered virtually during the second quarter, on *the role of border communities and BSM strategies* and *the use of new technologies and challenges on data protection in the context of counter-terrorism*, respectively. Both webinars were attended by more than 300 participants worldwide, including nearly 100 female attendees. Additionally, in June, UNCCT together with the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT) co-organized a virtual technical expert discussion on how to operationalize and ensure compliance with human rights while using biometric technologies in the context of border security to counter-terrorism. 100 participants from 21 countries attended the event, out of which 32 percent were female participants.

Furthermore, on 26 May, UNCCT conducted a national workshop in Burkina Faso on the responsible use and sharing of biometrics within the framework of the project on **Strengthening the capacities of Burkinabe officials on the use of digital forensics and cybersecurity technologies to counter terrorism in the COVID-19 era**. The training was held in a hybrid format in Ouagadougou and was attended by 84 Burkinabe authorities (from National Police, General Directorate of Border Police, Special Police of Ouagadougou’s International Airport, Special Brigade of Anti-Terrorist Investigations, National Gendarmerie, Customs, Permanent Secretariat of the National Border Commission, and the Ministry of Security of Burkina Faso), including 4 female participants. This is the first of a series of activities aimed at strengthening Burkina Faso’s capacities to counter terrorism through the use of biometric data in the context of border security.

Responding to a request for technical assistance from the Costa Rican Government, in May, UNCCT held a briefing with counter-terrorism authorities from the capital city of San Jose to further discuss the benefits of implementing an integrated border management strategy along with a national action plan inclusive of counter-terrorism elements, to strengthen national capacities in response to the emerging threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters.

Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Terrorism

Main Activities	Key Results
<p>13 conventional and non-conventional weapons capacity building activities on outbreak containment, critical infrastructure protection, biological incidents, law enforcement, legislation, and international cooperation with 640 (467 male, 166 females, 7 unknown) participants and three awareness raising activities with 983 participants.</p>	<p>Raised awareness of WMD/CBRN terrorism and terrorism-arms-crime nexus, increased capacities of national agencies facing the challenges of CBRN threats and improved collaboration of agencies on the national and regional levels.</p>

During the reporting period, the UNCCT **Programme on Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism** continued implementation under all of its activities.

With regard to the outputs on visibility and partnerships, the programme continued working with several United Nations agencies and other actors in the WMD/CBRN field⁴, exchanging information on the programme activities and objectives and joining hands in implementation wherever suitable. UNCCT attended eight meetings of the United Nations Biorisk Working Group and contributed to the drafting of its guideline document. The programmes' activities have also been promoted at the fora such as the African Regional Workshop on the Amended Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM), the Global Compact Working Group on Border Management and Law Enforcement related to Counter-Terrorism, the Global Partnership (GP) Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 20th Information Exchange Meeting, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Firearms and the United Nations Coordinating Task Force meeting on a Whole-of-UN System Approach on Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

Under the threat and risk analysis output, the first draft of the report of Phase I - Middle East and North Africa (MENA) - of the Global Threat Study on Non-State Actors and their Potential Use of CBRNE Materials was prepared.

Under the capacity-building output, the programme implemented six WMD/CBRN training courses benefitting 265 participants (including 65 female participants) from Iraq, Jordan,

⁴ IAEA, (INTERPOL, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), UNICRI, UNODC, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 (2004) Group of Experts, United States Department of State, World Customs Organization (WCO), World Health Organization (WHO)

Kenya, Nigeria, and the Philippines. In line with the Member States' requests the courses addressed the following areas: Bioterrorism incident table-top exercise, Critical infrastructure protection, and Outbreak containment for law enforcement.



The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre's Programme on Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Terrorism seeks to advance Member States' understanding of the level of WMD/CBRN Terrorism threat and supports their prevention, preparedness and response efforts. In 2021, the Programme launched 20 capacity-building training courses aiming to increase the capabilities of Member States in targeted CBRN areas. The courses are available upon request.

WMD/CBRN Unit Image: Brochure on twenty new courses on countering WMD/CBRN terrorism, presented during a side event under the auspices of the UNOCT Counter-Terrorism Week.⁵

Additionally, in June, the programme, jointly with the Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN), organized a *Virtual Strategic Bioterrorism Table-Top Exercise (TTX)*, addressing strategic and tactical response to leaders from 12 cities in North America, Europe, and Oceania as well as international organizations such as INTERPOL, NATO and WHO. The meeting was attended by 68 participants (50 male, 18 female) and was based on scenarios framed in the context of a combination of globalization, the dark web and serious organized crime on the one hand, and the advances in technology and biosciences on the other, increasing the ability of malicious actors to learn how to create bioagents.

Under the pilot project on **Enhancing capabilities to prepare for and respond to CBRN terrorist attacks in Jordan**, NATO and UNCCT organized *Virtual meeting on lessons learned on the COVID-19 pandemic response*, which was held in April in cooperation with Jordanian national

⁵ For more information, please go to UNOCT UNCCT WMD/CBRN Unit webpages (<https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct/chemical-biological-radiological-and-nuclear-terrorism><https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/chemical-biological-radiological-nuclear-terrorism>)

agencies, with participation and contribution of representatives of WHO. The meeting allowed sharing of the experiences that Jordan, NATO and the United Nations had at the national, regional, and international level in managing the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sharing the different experiences, gave stakeholders a sense of how different approaches could enrich their own response. Within the framework of the pilot project on **Promoting the Universalization and Effective Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT)**, held in June, in collaboration with the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and the France Prime Minister’s Secretariat-General for National Defence and Security (SGDSN) a *Case study on the detection of Radiological/Nuclear (RN) material and international exchanges of information* was organized, engaging 211 participants (136 male, 68 female, 7 unknown) from 28 Member States. Under the pilot project on **Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: Preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of SALW and their illicit supply to terrorists in Central Asia**, jointly with UNODC and in collaboration with CTED and UNODA, the programme held capacity consultations with Kyrgyzstan, two national workshops on national legislation and two trainings on SALW and their illicit supply to terrorists, engaging Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan and reaching 96 beneficiaries (81 male, 15 female).



SALW project, Hybrid Training Course on Preventing and Combatting the Illicit Trafficking of SALW and their Illicit supply to Terrorists for Uzbekistan, June 2021

Pillar III: Building States' Capacity and Strengthening the Role of the United Nations

Despite continued challenges posed by COVID-19, UNCCT was able to deliver technical assistance to Member States through continued consultations and webinars in Central, South East Asia, Middle East, West and East Africa. UNCCT regional coordination officers on the ground continued supporting UNCCT global thematic programmes, coordinating CT and PCVE efforts in the field and providing tailored capacity building to the beneficiary countries. As a result, it enhanced coordination of UN system's support to Members States in the region on CT and PCVE matters, strengthened institutional relationship with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Central Asian states, as well as with regional and international partners, such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO RATS).

Central Asia

Main Activities	Key Results
Regional round table discussion with Central Asia member-states on sport, CT, and P/CVE	Increased awareness of Central Asian states on sport and counter-terrorism

Within the framework of the Phase III of the project **Towards the Implementation of the UN GCTS in Central Asia**, UNCCT and United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) finalized the ten-year review of the Joint Plan of Action (JPOA), which takes stock of what has been achieved since the adoption of the JPOA in November 2011 and analyzes outstanding challenges and new trends. Based on the outcomes of this review, UNCCT updated the regional strategy to address new CT and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) threats. In May, UNCCT briefed Members of the Global Compact Working Group on National and Regional Strategies to collect observations and recommendations regarding the structure and other technical challenges faced while developing the regional strategy. The members of the group shared their expertise and provided comments on the development of the regional strategy. It is expected that Central Asian states will adopt the new version of the strategy in February 2022 during the regional Conference in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The Conference is co-organized by the Government of Uzbekistan and UNOCT-UNCCT, OSCE and UNRCCA. It will mark the 10th year anniversary since the adoption of the JPOA by the Central Asian states.

On 1 June, UNCCT, in partnership with SPIB Global Sports Programme, held a regional round table discussion with 15 representatives (11 male and 4 female participants) from the five Central Asia states. The Member States' officials provided insights about the relevance of sport to their CT and PVE obligations by sharing several initiatives undertaken recently and seeking engagement with UNCCT. As a result, the participants enhanced their knowledge on national and international cooperation in the areas value of sports as PVE tool. Further to this roundtable, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan expressed interest in collaborating with UNCCT regarding the

enhancement of their security capacity to major regional or national sport events. In this regard, UNCCT is currently developing a detailed road map for the selected states.

UNCCT also shared information and discussed future areas of possible collaboration with the SCO RATS within a series of meetings held during the reporting period.

Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between UNOCT and SCO RATS, partners identified priority areas and agreed to hold joint capacity building activities, such as the upcoming regional workshop *Strengthening cross-border cooperation and information sharing to interdict terrorist travel in Central Asia and its neighbouring regions*. The workshop is planned for November 2021 and is timed to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the founding of the SCO and the adoption of the Shanghai Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism.

UNCCT, under the **Central Asian project**, together with the **Global Framework on UN Support to Member States on Individuals Returned from Syria and Iraq**, closely coordinated on issues related to protection, prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration of the Kyrgyz nationals to be repatriated from Iraq with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Kyrgyzstan. UNCCT also conducted preliminary consultations with the United Nations agencies in Kyrgyzstan and coordinated a series of working-level meetings with the Government of Kyrgyzstan regarding the anticipated repatriation of Kyrgyz nationals from Syria. UNOCT FTFs Coordination Officer for Central Asia organized over 40 consultations with relevant stakeholders. This led to the development of a situation report to provide an overview and analysis of the conditions conducive to the spread of extremism and terrorism in Kyrgyzstan which contributed to the emergence of FTFs from Kyrgyzstan. It also outlined the current factors that create the risks of the emanation of new flows of FTFs.

In April, the Office of the RC in Kyrgyzstan, with the leading role of UNCCT, launched the United Nations Repatriation Task Force, which became the first coordination mechanism within United Nations system in Central Asia for repatriation and PRR of FTFs and their family members. Through the Task Force, UNCCT together with the RC Office supported the coordination of support to women and children from Kyrgyzstan detained in the Al-Hol camp in northeast Syria. Presently, UNCCT works to replicate this good practise and establish similar Task Forces in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan in order to strengthen coordination at the national level and provide tailored solutions to increase the capacity of beneficiary countries.

UNCCT progressed in the coordination on the CT and PCVE capacity building in Tajikistan. Further to the successful coordination and consolidation of the inputs provided by the entities of the National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies Working Group (NARS) of the Global Compact, the National Strategy and Action Plan on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism for 2021-2025 was adopted in June. Following its adoption, UNCCT collected information from

the UNCT and prepared a matrix of potential technical assistance that will serve Tajikistan in its efforts to implement the Strategy. A meeting with the General Prosecutor is expected in July 2021 to discuss UNCCT support to the Government of Tajikistan in implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan.

Under the **Strengthening Resilience Against Violent Extremism in Asia (STRIVE Asia) project**, as a result of the activities targeting the justice sector in Kyrgyzstan, the training module on the peculiarities of criminal cases related to terrorism and extremism was developed and approved by the Supreme Court. This training module was further adopted by (and mainstreamed through) the curriculum of the Higher School of Justice under the Supreme Court. This activity, led by UNDP, resulted in a total of 60 judges from different regions of Kyrgyzstan having completed the Train the Trainers' courses and the training module on C/PVE related topic. The support to the Institute of Probation also continues with training of probation officers on PVE related issues.

In addition, the STRIVE Asia project also established 10 PVE Advisory groups in Turkmenistan and developed a series of trainings, in partnership with Hedayah (international organization dedicated to using its expertise and experiences to counter violent extremism) to build capacity of the groups. These materials will also benefit other countries once their groups are established. PVE Advisory groups in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan were also established.

UNODC, alongside UNDP, convened a meeting with Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) government representatives, during which the need for Early Warning Early Response (EWER) through community policing was reaffirmed. This achievement serves as a milestone and solid foundation for STRIVE Asia to further enhance the operational capacity of the local government, civil society, and local community actors in BARMM by developing the context-specific SOP on EWER for violent conflict prevention through Community Service Oriented Policing.

East Africa

The operationalization of the UNOCT **Programme Office in Nairobi** (Kenya) has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions, including the lockdown of the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON). Although these exceptional circumstances delayed the delivery of activities in the field, as well as the deployment of staff, UNCCT plans to implement CT and PCVE activities online or via a hybrid format in the event in-person delivery of planned activities (tentatively scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2021) is not possible.

West Africa

Main Activities	Key Results
Deployment of a UNOCT/UNCCT Programme Coordinator to Burkina Faso fulfilling a coordination and resource mobilization role on the ground, in close coordination with relevant partners and key stakeholders.	Increased resource mobilization efforts and enhanced coordination among partners and national stakeholders towards the implementation phase of the project

In May, as part of the initiation phase of the project **Strengthening Burkina Faso's Criminal Justice Response to Caseload of Detainees Suspected of Terrorist Offences**, UNCCT successfully deployed its Programme Coordinator for Burkina Faso to the country. Following this deployment, UNCCT engaged with key stakeholders based in Burkina Faso, including the EU, the Office of the RC, the Special Security Sector Reform Advisor to the President of Burkina Faso, and United Nations partner agencies, such as the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNDP, UNODC, OHCHR and IOM. This strategic engagement aimed at advancing the discussions and meeting the requirements (i.e., a proposed division of responsibilities and allocation of funds among the partner agencies) to secure a potential financial pledge for the implementation phase of the project.

Middle East and North Africa

Under the joint project with the **Arab Interior Ministers Council (AIMC)**, UNCCT continued the development of an Arab counter-terrorism strategy, in line with the GCTS and its four pillars. In particular, UNCCT conducted an analysis on matters pertaining to the fourth pillar, namely human rights, and rule of law considerations. In parallel, UNCCT held remote and virtual technical workshops and meetings with AIMC counterparts to mainstream regional priorities into the analytical process, ensure their full integration into the new strategy, and address other relevant matters. The findings will be discussed during the upcoming regional consultative workshop gathering, supported by UNCCT.

Under the **joint project with CTED to deliver advice to the Government of Iraq** on the development of a comprehensive National Counter-Terrorism Strategy, UNCCT advised the Government of Iraq in a whole-of-UN fashion, through meetings with the Global Compact Working Group on National and Regional Strategies (NARS) and in collaboration with UNAMI. As the Government adopted a National Counter-Terrorism Strategy in February 2021, UNCCT consulted key partners on repurposing the existing project aimed at providing support for the implementation of their adopted strategy. During the reporting period, consultations also took place with Government interlocutors, UNAMI, and the UN Country Team for a visit by UNOCT Headquarters to Iraq for in-depth consultations as well as a capacity-building workshop on countering the financing of terrorism.

Southeast Asia

Main Activities	Key Results
Technical inputs for the component on human rights-based approach to counter terrorism of the United Nations Joint Programme on Human Rights for the Philippines drafted and consolidated by UNOCT/UNCCT, in partnership with OHCHR and UNODC.	Concrete progress made towards developing a comprehensive programme for the provision of technical support on human rights issues in the Philippines, in accordance with Human Rights Council Resolution 45/33 (2020).

Under the programmatic framework of the EU-funded, joint UNCCT-UNDP-project **Preventing Violent Extremism through Promoting Tolerance and Respect for Diversity**, Phase II in Southeast Asia, UNCCT, through its presence in Bangkok, continued to organize, service and/or participate in regular consultations and coordination meetings between different United Nations entities in the South East Asia region, aimed at identifying synergies, avoiding overlaps and, ultimately, enhance coordination of the United Nations’ support to Members States in the region on CT and PCVE matters.

UNCCT, in partnership with OHCHR and UNODC, continue to lead the drafting and consolidation of technical inputs for the concept note entitled “Human Rights Based approaches to counter-terrorism,” as a component of the draft **UN Joint Programme: Technical Cooperation and Capacity-Building for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in The Philippines, 2021–2023**. UNCCT contributed with its expertise to both the technical working group meetings, held with a wide array of government and non-government stakeholders, and at the briefings with the diplomatic community and development partners on the joint programme. The joint programme follows up on the Human Rights Council resolution 45/33 on Technical Cooperation and Capacity-building for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Philippines, adopted on 7 October 2020. The resolution, co-sponsored by the Philippines, reaffirmed the Philippines’ Government commitment to engage actively with the international community to address human rights challenges facing the country.

UNCCT’s institutional partnership with the main regional body, ASEAN, was strengthened at the ASEAN’s Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights “Online Consultation to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism in ASEAN from Human Rights, Gender Sensitive and Child Rights-Friendly Approaches” through a UNCCT presentation outlining the role of the United Nations to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism. In addition, UNCCT briefed the members of ASEAN’s Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime Working Group on Counter-Terrorism on the role and work of the United Nations to prevent and counter violent extremism and terrorism during a specially dedicated “open session” of the Working Group’s 17th Meeting. These contributions were also conducive to promoting UNCCT’s technical and programmatic capabilities among ASEAN Member States.

South-South Cooperation

Under the **South-South Cooperation Programme (SSC)**, UNCCT finalized the Handbook of CT/PVE initiatives from the global South. The Handbook aims to showcase the wealth and diversity of Southern CT/PVE expertise and documents major achievements and initiatives from Global South countries that could be shared and replicated. It defines a framework for SSC engagement in CT/PVE and enhances the visibility of Southern CT/PVE expertise. The handbook will be published and disseminated in the fourth quarter of 2021.

On 22 April, UNOCT/UNCCT organized, jointly with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), the first meeting of the online Network of Southern CT/PVE Experts, which will be hosted on South-South Galaxy that is UNOSSC's digital knowledge-sharing portal. The meeting presented the online network and its interactive features on the portal and consulted Member States to get their feedback for further refining UNOCT space. The meeting provided an opportunity for interactive discussions with members on their CT/PVE initiatives and priorities in terms of SSC and how the online network could facilitate South-South knowledge and experience sharing. UNOCT/UNCCT, UNOSSC, representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Kenya, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, and Uruguay attended the meeting.

Pillar IV: Ensuring Human Rights and the Rule of Law

Despite COVID-19 continuing to challenge implementation on the ground to support Member States to implement Pillar IV of the GCTS, UNCCT was able to effectively mainstream human rights and gender considerations into its activities, including capacity building activities. UNCCT organised and provided expertise in webinars and virtual conferences with Member States, civil society, and the Global Compact entities. This has enabled UNCCT to expand its breadth to include new stakeholders and relevant participants in its activities. UNCCT also strengthened its global coordination efforts and strengthened its key partnership on PRR through the Global Framework.

Global Programme on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration

Main Activities	Key Results
UNOCT/UNCCT-UNODC e-Learning course on PRR strategies for East/Horn of Africa.	Strengthened Member States' ability to develop, adopt and implement comprehensive and tailored PRR strategies for persons allegedly associated with terrorist groups.
Global Framework briefing to RCs	Increased cooperation with the Development Coordination Office (DCO) and raised awareness on the Global Framework and the United Nations support available to Member States on PRR of individuals who may have alleged or actual links or family ties to designated terrorist groups returned from Syria and Iraq.
Cameroon-Nigeria Bilateral Consultation	Strengthened cooperation regarding investigation and prosecution of Boko Haram offences between relevant stakeholders in Cameroon and Nigeria and raised awareness on the West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors.
In-person training in partnership with the Kostanay Police Academy on prison-based rehabilitation programmes for violent extremist prisoners for prison officers.	Enhanced capacity of prison administration to deliver inter-disciplinary disengagement interventions for violent extremist prisoners
Provision of office equipment to the PCVE Research Center in Tunisia	Ensured functional and operational independence of the PCVE Research Center in Tunisia.
Workshop for teaching staff of the Uganda Prison Academy Training School to develop specialized PCVE training materials for prison officers	Delivered training material to strengthen security and safety mechanisms and enhance the institutional capacities of prisons.

UNCCT, in partnership with participating United Nations entities continued to advance the Global Framework for *United Nations Support on Syria/Iraq Third Country National Returnees* (the Global Framework), which will be officially launched on the margins of the 76th UN General Assembly in September. As part of efforts to engage and involve the RCs in countries that may benefit from the Global Framework, UNOCT/UNCCT, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and DCO convened a meeting with relevant RCs and briefed on the support available to Member States who have repatriated or are willing to repatriate their nationals from Syria and Iraq and the roll out of the Global Framework in Uzbekistan and Iraq. As a result of the briefing, DCO affirmed its commitment to support the rollout of the Global Framework and RCs now have an increased understanding of the Global Framework and are therefore in a stronger position to take advantage of the “all-of-UN” mechanism in their countries.

UNCCT and UNICEF continued to coordinate closely with the UNCT in Iraq to roll out the Global Framework's first joint scoping exercise to establish needs, gaps and minimum human rights conditions related to the return of Iraqi citizens who may have alleged or actual links or family ties to designated terrorist groups currently detained or stranded in camps in north-eastern Syria.

UNCCT and its partners are jointly implementing the Global Framework in Central Asia. Together with UNODC, UNICEF, OHCHR and UN Women, UNOCT/UNCCT launched the roll-out of the Global Framework, under which the United Nations provides an Expert Advisor and rehabilitation and reintegration support to Uzbekistan. UNCCT, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, OHCHR and UNDP also coordinated the rollout of the Global Framework, under which the United Nations provides support to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan for citizens returned from Syria and Iraq. A joint hybrid event on 27 May organized by the United Nations, the EU and the United States in Tashkent, Uzbekistan successfully launched both projects.

UNCCT, in cooperation with UNODC and CTED, is also developing a Compendium on Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Suspected Terrorists, which will collect the PRR practices of 31 Member States across the globe and distill relevant lessons learned and policy recommendations. UNCCT, UNODC and CTED convened regional kick-off meetings for Central Asia and the Russian Federation, Western Europe & Others, the MENA region, South East Europe, as well Eastern Africa and the Horn of Africa. The Compendium will additionally be informed by ongoing projects and engagements in the Lake Chad Basin, the Sahel, and South East Asia.

Under the UNCCT-UNODC e-Learning course on PRR strategies, the first cohort of approximately 30 participants (16 female, 14 male) from national security and counter terrorism coordinating agencies, Ministries of Justice or public prosecution, corrections services, local government authorities, national human rights institutions, and CSOs from East/Horn of Africa Region were trained. The training strengthens participant's capacity to develop, adopt and implement comprehensive and tailored PRR strategies for persons allegedly associated with terrorist groups.

In Kazakhstan, the UNCCT-UNODC-CTED project on **Supporting the Management of Violent Extremist Prisoners and the Prevention of Radicalization to Violence in Prisons** organized an in-person training in partnership with the Kostanay Police Academy on prison-based rehabilitation programmes for VEPs for 51 prison officers (PVE inspectors, prison psychologists and prison security officers) in five prisons in the Karaganda Region in May and in three prisons in the Pavlodar Region in June.

In Uganda, the project strengthened the capacity of 12 teaching staff of the Uganda Prison Academy Training School to develop specialized PCVE training materials for prison officers. In

May, the teaching staff developed the course's content and structure, which aims to strengthen security and safety mechanisms and enhance the institutional capacities of prisons and completed a two-week piloting exercise of the Prisoner Classification Framework in Uganda, focusing on the Prisoner Immediate Needs Assessment Tool. The project also facilitated virtual court hearings in pilot jurisdictions such as Jinja Court Circuit and ensured that prisoners had continued access to justice during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In May, UNOCT/UNCCT and UNICRI launched a joint project on **the Establishment of a System for the Generation and Collection of Data on Violent Extremist Prisoners**. The aim of the project is to provide an accurate understanding of the scope of the VEPs phenomenon through the generation and collection of harmonized and comparable data on the number of VEPs detained by Member States. This is done through the identification and analysis of existing VEP data, the establishment of a methodology for VEP data generation and collection and the provision of a data hub within the UN system to serve as a central repository of for VEPs data.

Under the joint UNCCT-UNODC-CTED project on **Supporting Lake Chad Basin Countries to Develop and Implement Strategies for the Screening, Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Boko Haram-Associated Persons**, Cameroon and Nigeria had a bilateral consultation on cooperation regarding investigation and prosecution of Boko Haram offence. The meeting advanced the discussion between the Ministries of Justice and specialized prosecutor's offices on priority areas of cooperation regarding the investigation and prosecution of Boko Haram offences. It also served as a platform at which representatives of Nigeria, UNODC, UNOCT and CTED presented information about the West African Network of Central Authorities and Prosecutors to Cameroonian officials. Participants used the event as a coordination platform and exchanged experiences from their respective national criminal justice and judicial cooperation systems in regard to Boko Haram cases. These engagements are expected to facilitate cooperation in future cases.

Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme

Main activities	Key results
UNOCT/UNCCT, UNODC, IPU Model Legislative Provisions for Victims of Terrorism	Successful development and implementation of Model Legislative Provisions (MLP) through a series of six expert working groups over the first and second quarter. A draft report of the MLP is currently being developed that should be ready by the middle of the third quarter for review.
Victims Support Asia annual conference	Participated in the conference to highlight the work of UNOCT/UNCCT in support of victims of terrorism worldwide and to present the ongoing development of the Guidelines and Principles to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism Associations in Asia Pacific.
UNOCT, the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS PA) Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe –Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) International Parliamentary Conference on Global Challenges and Threats in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Terrorism and Violent Extremism. The victims’ session on Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Victims of Terrorism and Addressing Their Needs	Participated in the victims’ session of the conference that provided an opportunity for UNOCT to discuss the crucial role of Parliament in ensuring that the rights and needs of victims are included in national laws and that victims are provided with the necessary assistance.

In April, UNCCT supported international cooperation and coordination in addressing challenges faced by victims in cross-border situations through sharing its experience and good practises at the online Symposium on Supporting Victims of Terrorism in Cross-Border Situations. The Symposium was organised by the Council of Europe (CoE) and the German Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, under Germany’s Presidency of the Committee of Ministers. The discussion focused on the challenges faced by victims in cross-border situations whilst exploring good comparative practices of possible support services from national experiences. It resulted in a commitment by all Member States to the Council of Europe to establish a network of single contact points for the exchange of procedural information regarding the legal standing of VoT. This is a step forward in ensuring stronger and more efficient international cooperation and coordination. UNCCT highlighted steps taken by the United Nations to support victims of cross border attacks, including the establishment of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the VoT, the Group of Friends of VoT, and the adoption of GA resolution 73/305 calling for Member States to develop National Comprehensive Assistance Plans for victims.

In April, UNCCT also organized a session on VoT under the *International Parliamentary Conference on Global Challenges and Threats in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Terrorism and Violent Extremism*, co-organized by UNOCT, the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA-CIS), OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM). The victims' session on Promoting and Protecting the Rights of VoT and Addressing Their Needs, moderated by UNCCT, featured a high-level segment that included the participation of a Member of the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism and Member of Parliament from Spain. An interactive discussion with victims from Iraq, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the United States of America followed, focused on the importance of national legislations to protect the rights, and needs of VoT. The discussion also stressed the important collaboration between Parliaments and civil society organisations. UNCCT and representatives of victims' support agencies from France and Indonesia briefed parliamentarians on existing United Nations frameworks related to victims' support. UNCCT presented the VoT programme and a short film "Not Forgotten: Stories of Remembrance from VoT," which demonstrated the individual journeys of ten victims of terrorism, their experience with remembrance, particularly since the onset of the pandemic. Discussions following the film, resulted in recommendations on how parliamentarians can promote victim-centric policies and legislation at the national level.

In May, UNCCT participated in the annual conference organized by Victim Support Asia, a network of victim support agencies from across the region. The conference explored how to activate fast and effective victim support across Asian countries. UNCCT presented the work of the United Nations and UNOCT/UNCCT in promoting and protecting the rights of victims since 9/11 and how it builds on existing international law relating to victims of crime, human rights violations and VoT to shape its work. UNCCT also emphasized the importance of working with victims, victims' associations and CSOs to ensure a victim-centric response when working with Member States and CSOs, and that victims' needs, and concerns are reflected in programmatic activities. Other speakers highlighted the collective responsibility of the international community to acknowledge the loss of the victims and reassuring them that they are not alone, and that VoT require long term support from friends, family, and the community, as well as from Member States. The discussion also pointed out the importance of court processes to become more victim-centric in their approaches, and coordination of victim support across borders in order to ensure consistent services as far as possible.

As part of the High-Level Conference on Human Rights and Civil Society Partners on Building a Better Paradigm to Prevent and Counter Terrorism, UNCCT organised a session on Victims of Terrorism and Women's Voices of Spain. The session, moderated by UNOCT, was attended by high-level representatives including the Director of UNCCT, and the Director General -Support to Victims of Terrorism, Ministry of Interior, Spain who highlighted the gender dimension of VoT. UNCCT premiered its short film, "VictimA" that features the voices of five

women VoT from Spain over the course of several decades from the 1960s to 2017, and how they have used the experience of the attacks to become agents of change.

Human Rights

Main activities	Key results
Three Workshops in April under the project Human Rights Aspects of the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Counter-Terrorism.	Knowledge exchange on artificial intelligence for counter-terrorism use cases which feed into a comprehensive report that addresses the opportunities and challenges for artificial intelligence in counter-terrorism.

In April, UNCCT, in partnership with OHCHR and UNICRI, under the joint project **Human Rights Aspects of the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Counter-Terrorism** delivered three expert workshops focused on: 1) Artificial intelligence to combat online radicalisation and terrorist use of the internet; 2) Artificial intelligence for online content moderation and countering terrorist use of the internet; and 3) Artificial intelligence for the screening of travellers watch lists, passenger data and fusion centre. The workshops fed into a comprehensive report that addresses the opportunities and challenges for artificial intelligence in counter-terrorism, surveys select counter-terrorism use cases and analyses key considerations of artificial intelligence and human rights law and approaches to its regulation, ethical oversight, and governance. Publication of the report is anticipated in the fourth quarter of 2021.

Gender Mainstreaming

Main activities	Key results
Produced tool for effective consultations with women organizations for CT/PCVE programme, policy, and strategy development.	Increased capacity for undertaking meaningful consultations with women and women organizations for more inclusive CT/PCVE
Draft Issue Papers on gender within Cybersecurity and New Technologies; Advance Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) and Biometrics; CFT; and SALW.	Increased understanding of CTED and UNOCT programme teams for substantive gender mainstreaming within technical areas of counter-terrorism

To further improve gender mainstreaming practices within UNOCT, the Gender Unit drafted a tool for effective consultations with women CSOs for the development of programmes, policies, and strategies. Upon consultations with the Gender Taskforce and relevant partners, the tool is expected to be adopted in the third quarter of 2021.

Furthermore, to provide guidance for strengthening gender mainstreaming, UNCCT in partnership with CTED completed the first draft of a series of Issue Papers to support its capacity-building programmes for Member States. The drafts were submitted for the review of UNOCT and CTED subject matter experts on Cybersecurity and New Technologies; Advance Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) and Biometrics; CFT; and SALW. It is envisaged that the papers will be completed in the third quarter.

The UNOCT Gender Unit initiated preparations for the implementation of the Gender & Identities Platform, such as the drafting of the relevant TORs for the governance structures, the mapping of relevant organizations and potential members of the platform, as well as the development of the digital platform itself. The project consists of a multi-faceted digital platform on gender and CT/PCVE to be integrated within the GCTF. It is expected that the implementation of the project will initiate in the third quarter of 2021.

CSOs engagement

During the second CT Week, UNCCT's side events featured the participation and attendance of CSOs, enriched existing engagements and facilitated future partnerships between UNOCT and CSOs, by expanding UNOCT's existing CSO network and encouraging follow-up engagement.

In terms of future arrangements, the CSOs Online Platform is currently being developed and will be featured on the new "UNOCT Connect & Learn Platform" to be launched in the third quarter of 2021. This platform offers an innovative and highly accessible tool for UNOCT and external partners to access UNOCT training modules and a rich pool of resources related to CT and P/CVE matters. The CSOs Online Platform will serve as a password-protected online space, where UNOCT/UNCCT will promote the work of the CSOs network by offering a virtual library for CSOs, academia, and research institutes, to exchange resources with one another. Furthermore, the Platform will promote and uplift the voices and perspectives of CSOs on pertinent issues related to CT and P/CVE. Finally, the CSO Online Platform will streamline and enhance the participation of civil society in UNCCT programmatic development and implementation by providing a virtual Working Group space where CSOs can brainstorm new initiatives with each other.

UNOCT is also currently expanding its existing CSOs Partnership Database to cover a more diverse vetted network of CSOs in terms of geographic representation and thematic focus. This CSOs Network will be launched and showcased on the CSOs online platform and will facilitate the mainstreaming and strengthening of CSO partnerships and collaborations between UNCCT CSOs. Programme Managers within UNOCT/UNCCT will be able to consult this vetted network for consultations on best practices and lessons learned, in addition to partnerships and collaborations with CSOs, therefore maximizing the participation of a diverse scope of civil society around the world in CT and PCVE related efforts.

During the reporting period, PMU continued supporting the integrated delivery to the UNOCT/UNCCT mandate, quality assurance, monitoring and reporting and information management. Activities undertaken in the second quarter of 2021 include technical support in developing UNCCT's new PF under the framework of UNOCT's Strategic Plan. PMU produced Programme Performance reports, provided support to the Strategic Planning and Programme Support Section (SPPSS) in implementation of the new UMOJA Integrated Planning, Management and Reporting (IPMR) solution and identified training needs of UNCCT/SPIB in the areas of Finance and Programme Budget and enhanced the UNCCT database.

PMU progressed in enhancing and expanding the UNCCT project database with metadata function (the database). As of 1 April, PMU successfully integrated SPIB programmes and projects into the database. As a result, the monitoring of UNCCT and SPIB's work as UNOCT's capacity building arms is performed in a holistic and centralized way as recommended by the KPMG evaluation.

In areas of capacity-building of UNCCT and SPIB, in this quarter PMU received and analysed the results of the first UNCCT/UNOCT survey for identifying needs and developing a plan for targeted Finance and Budgetary trainings. PMU further evaluated the survey results and provided feasible recommendations to the Senior Management Team. PMU provided technical advice to UNCCT programming teams in fund allocation and budget preparation in line with United Nations budgetary guidelines and donor agreements, in close collaboration with SPPSS and the Executive Office. PMU assisted the programming teams in analysing the financial expenditures of projects, thus assessing the fund utilization and project implementation, highlighting the relevant findings to the Section Chief, and providing support to follow actions and cross-correction when required. As part of the internal capacity building, PMU provided financial and budgetary training enhancing the capabilities of its team members and PMU's staff back-up resources.

As a result of PMU's activities and outputs, the senior leadership and the programming teams were in a position to make informed decisions, such and in relation to effective and harmonized forecasting, implementation, and programming oversight. The internal UNOCT/UNCCT processes and products for planning, monitoring, and reporting are strengthened, and the Member States and the beneficiaries are informed on the progress and results of the capacity-building activities.

Part III: Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight

Monitoring and Evaluation Results Based-Training

UNOCT delivered a five-day online training to equip UNOCT/UNCCT staff members with the necessary tools and knowledge on results-based monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project/programme implementation. The training covered topics related to monitoring and evaluation methodologies and their application to programme/project design. The training also discussed M&E frameworks linking activities to outputs/outcomes and impact with accompanying indicators to enable the measurement of progress against targets. Finally, the training discussed different data collection tools and the use of information from M&E processes to identify problems and learn lessons. A total of 29 participants (14 from UNCCT) attended the training, of which 18 were females and 11 males. An assessment of the training conducted at the end of the training session indicated an overall satisfaction rate of 87 percent. In terms of the usefulness of the training, 87 percent of the participants indicated that the training would improve their professional knowledge and skills in M&E, while 91 percent felt that the training was relevant to their work.

Evaluation Policy

After the launch of the Evaluation Policy in the first quarter of 2021, UNOCT/UNCCT conducted two sensitization meetings for UNOCT staff and senior managers. The meetings outlined the contents of the evaluation policy including the different roles and responsibilities in the Office. The meetings resulted in a mutual understanding of the requirements for evaluation, and as a means to promote a results-oriented culture for accountability and learning in the Office. The meetings also facilitated the gathering of inputs towards the development of the evaluation handbook, and evaluation guidelines to operationalize the evaluation policy. The handbook and guidelines will be launched during the first quarter of 2022.

Independent Meta-Synthesis of evaluations conducted by Global Compact Entities under the UN GCTS

UNOCT continued to cooperate with other Global Compact entities in undertaking the meta-synthesis of evaluations undertaken by Compact entities on counter-terrorism in the United Nations system. The meta-synthesis of evaluations is being undertaken within the framework of the Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation (RMME) Working Group of the Global Compact. The meta-synthesis will offer insights for designing more effective and efficient programmes, contribute to learning across the Global Compact entities and at the same time connect the results of individual entities in a structured manner. Findings from the meta-synthesis will also provide insight into a potential future evaluation of the UN GCTS

During the second quarter, following the establishment of the meta-synthesis team, the Inception Report was finalized which outlined detailed methodological approach, theory of change and assessment matrix including data collection tools and instruments. Following the development of data collection protocols, the team began to collect primary data through interviews with selected entities including a survey to all Global Compact entities to augment data collected from the reports submitted by Global Compact entities.

Due to the low response in the data collection process, the data collection phase was extended to increase participation and ensure high-quality of data collected. However, the extension will not affect the timely delivery of the meta-synthesis report which is scheduled for October 2021.

UNOCT Programme Review Board

The UNOCT Programme Review Board (PRB) held meetings on 29 April (the 35th meeting) and 27 May (the 36th meeting), during which 12 agenda items were considered (11 related to UNCCT). The total value of activities recommended for approval during the second quarter amounted to US\$ 1,059,378, although none of such amount pertained to UNCCT-managed activities. Presentations made to the Board, and its resulting recommendations included the extension through 31 July 2021 of the project **Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge about Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism**, the extension through 30 November 2022 of the project **Promoting Universalization and Effective Implementation of ICSANT**, the extension through 31 March 2022 of the Financial Agreement with the UNOPS for various UNCCT activities in Iraq, the extension of the Kenya Programme Office through 30 June 2022, and an extension of Phase 3 of the **Joint Program of Action (Central Asia) Project** through 30 September 2021. The Board also received a briefing on concept note entitled Human Rights Based approaches to counter-terrorism, as a component of the draft **UN Joint Programme: Technical Cooperation and Capacity-Building for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in The Philippines, 2021–2023** and recommended UNOCT's role in the joint Programme, pending final approval by the Government of the Philippines at the time of the briefing. During the second quarter of 2021 the Board received project updates on the **Seed-funding project of the Global Compact Working Group on National and Regional Strategies** and the **UN Women Project on Mainstreaming Gender within the Security Sector in the Sahel**. Furthermore, the Board recommended the approval of the closure of the project **Development of a Compendium for Collecting, Recording, and Sharing of Biometric Information on Terrorists, Including Foreign Terrorist Fighters**.

The resulting 11 recommendations pertaining to UNCCT programmes or projects made over the course of the two meetings that took place during the second quarter were approved by Under-Secretary-General Voronkov.

Part IV: Communications and Visibility

UNCCT/UNOCT progressed in implementing UNCCT's updated Communications Strategy and Visibility Plan for 2021, which envisions further strengthening of the UNCCT brand and the development of innovative communication products. The aim is to continue enhancing the promotion of UNCCT's activities, projects, and results. While the outbreak of COVID-19 has continued to impact the planning and delivery of UNCCT activities, the Office has adapted its communication plans and tools to the new context, now more focused on online rather than in-person activities.

Under-Secretary-General Voronkov, Mr. Gregorian, Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General, and Mr. Khan, Director of UNCCT, continued to promote the activities of UNCCT through in-person and video statements (live and pre-recorded) on the occasion of high-level events and for UNCCT workshops. All these statements are available on the website and YouTube and were promoted on the @UN_OCT Twitter account.

Promoting UNCCT activities

In the second quarter, UNCCT continued to raise awareness on the activities of UNCCT through dedicated communications strategies and visibility plans in collaboration with partners.

For example:

- On the occasion of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Etidal (2 April), a press release was issued in English and in Arabic. The hashtag #UNCCT received 2,1 million potential impressions with 100 tweets generated by 42 contributors including mainly @Etidal and @UN_OCT.
- The tweets issued on the 22nd UNCCT Advisory Board (27 May) generated 88,300 potential impressions.
- On 27 May, a press release and tweets were issued in French about the 2 workshops organized on the use of new technologies to combat terrorism.
- On 18 June, a joint web story was issued by the Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN) and UNCCT on a virtual table-top exercise on bioterrorism preparedness.
- Additional web stories were issued and promoted through UNOCT's Twitter account (@UN_OCT), including on Outbreak Containment for Law Enforcement in Iraq (8 April), and the assessment mission addressing terrorism-arms-crime nexus in Kyrgyzstan (23 April).

Additionally, the work of UNCCT was promoted on the occasion of two main special events organized by the Office, namely the Virtual Dialogue on Human rights and Civil Society partners (25-26 May) and the CT Week. A fully branded communications package was developed and disseminated to the participants and side event organizers to ensure visibility of the #CTWeek in the media and online, in close collaboration with Department of Global Communications and United Nations Information Centers. Communications activities included a background media briefing and the participation of Under-Secretary-General Voronkov at the noon briefing on 30 June as well as press releases, tweets, and live broadcasting on UNWebTV. The programme of the CT Week, statements and the calendar side events are available online⁶. During the CT Week, the #UNCCT hashtag generated 5.4 million potential impressions with 652 tweets by 289 contributors including @Etidal, @UNAOC, @UN_OCT, @UNICRI and @UN_CTED, among the top 5.

UNOCT also produced several communication products, such as three UNOCT Monthly Review newsletters, which featured UNCCT's work prominently. These newsletters are published on UNOCT's website, sent to all Permanent Missions in New York and the 43 Global Compact entities, and promoted through the UNOCT Twitter account. They continue to be highly welcomed by interlocutors in briefings and bilateral meetings.

Media

Three interviews were conducted specifically on the work of UNCCT, one with the CBRN World and another one on the UNCCT PRR programme with BBC.

Social media

During the reporting period, UNCCT continued to promote its virtual activities through the UNOCT Twitter account using UNCCT's hashtag (#UNCCT) in a timely and consistent manner. In this quarter, 92 tweets (and 320 retweets) with #UNCCT were issued by the @UN_OCT twitter account generating a total 1.1 million owned impressions (potential views via @UN_OCT). This represents 98 percent increase as compared to the first quarter. According to Union Metrics, #UNCCT generated 9.2 million potential impressions on Twitter during the reporting period with 1,091 tweets (including 880 retweets) by 472 contributors and the main contributor being @Etidal followed by @UN_OCT.

Website

⁶ <https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/CTWeek-2021-calendar>

During the reporting period, UNOCT updated its website⁷ including UNCCT content, and gave visibility to the work of UNCCT through dedicated web stories and other communication products (e.g., audio-visuals). The website registered a total of 195,000 pageviews in the second quarter of 2021, with the UNCCT sub-website recording 16,000 pageviews—an increase of 23 percent compared to the same period last year. The most popular pages were the UNCCT landing page⁸ and the CBRN and Cybersecurity programme pages. During the reporting period, four web stories on UNCCT activities were posted on the event page in addition to ten press releases

Going forward, the Office will continue its efforts to increase the visibility of the Centre and enhance the transparency of its activities, with a flexible, creative, and dynamic approach, also responsive to the COVID-19 impact on UNCCT's operations. To showcase the work of the Centre, UNOCT will implement the updated UNCCT Communications Strategy and Visibility Plan and 2021 UNOCT Communications and Visibility Strategy and Plan, guided by the new Strategic Plan and PF.

Part V: Financial Overview

Pledges and contributions for UNCCT

UNOCT continues to proactively engage with current and potential donors to secured sustainable, predictable, and flexible funding from an increasingly diverse donor base.

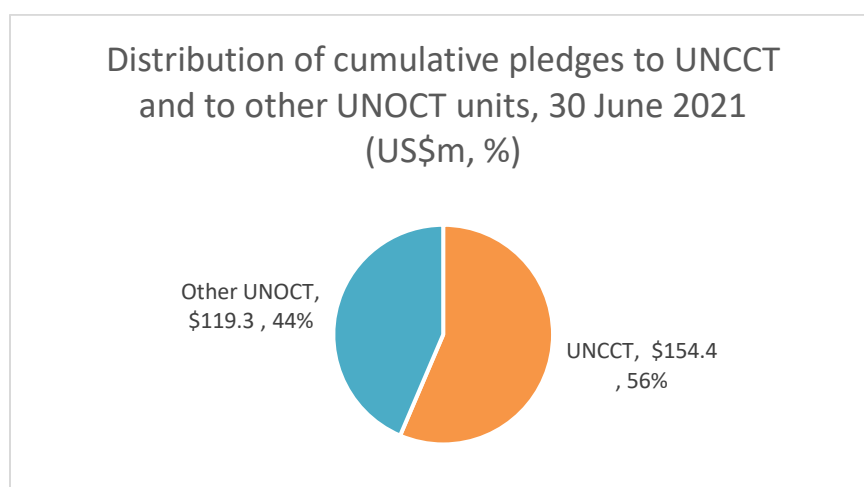
Since the start of the year, UNCCT has secured a total of US \$ 2.7 million in hard pledges and allocations from Canada, India, Japan, the United States of America, and the United Nations' Peace and Development Trust Fund funded by the People's Republic of China. These contributions are helping advance key projects and programmes in UNCCT such as: the gender and identities platform, CFT, a community-based reintegration and rehabilitation project in Indonesia, the implementation of the Global PRR Framework in Uzbekistan, and the establishment of a UNOCT Programme Office in Nairobi.

⁷ www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct which is also accessible through www.un.org/uncct

Table 1 - Pledges to UNOCT since January 2021
(in United States dollars (US\$), as of 30 June 2021)

Donor	For UNCCT (a)	For Other UNOCT (b)	Total Pledges (c) = (a)+(b)
Australia		1,268,834	1,268,834
Canada	1,138,987		1,138,987
United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund (China)	507,392	365,737	873,129
Germany		1,227,547	1,227,547
Hungary		12,125	12,125
India	250,000	250,000	500,000
Japan	350,000		350,000
United Kingdom		323,572	323,572
United States of America	493,827		493,827
Grand Total	2,740,206	3,447,815	6,188,021

As of 30 June 2021, cumulative pledges made to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism since it was established in 2009, and to UNOCT from other trust funds, amount to \$273.7 million, of which, \$206.4 million has been received. Out of the total pledges mobilized cumulatively, 56 per cent (\$154.4 million) has been earmarked to UNCCT programmes and projects.



The generous contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has provided 71 per cent of the cumulative pledges and contributions in support of UNCCT projects and activities. The work

of UNCCT is made possible with the pledges and contributions of the 32 donors, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Cumulative pledges to the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism^{/9} and other extra-budgetary allocations, and cumulative distribution of resources to UNOCT programme of work (in United States dollars, as of 30 June 2021) ^{/a}

No	Donors	For UNCCT (a)	For other UNOCT (b)	Total Pledges (c= a + b)
1	Saudi Arabia	110,000,000	-	110,000,000
2	European Union	10,239,663	6,632,042	16,871,705
3	United States of America	5,952,730	1,481,327	7,434,057
4	Japan	4,734,945	500,000	5,234,945
5	Norway	3,747,148	-	3,747,148
6	Canada	2,624,730	-	2,624,730
7	United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund (China)**	2,575,472	5,565,737	8,141,209
8	Germany	2,403,853	1,227,547	3,631,401
9	Spain	2,382,699	-	2,382,699
10	Russia	1,541,500	1,058,500	2,600,000
11	United Kingdom	1,434,721	371,584	1,806,305
12	UNDP/European Union	1,016,623	-	1,016,623
13	Netherlands*	905,135	5,681,818	6,586,953
14	Denmark	683,858	-	683,858
15	Sweden	677,040	-	677,040
16	Switzerland	548,621	-	548,621
17	India	525,000	525,000	1,050,000
18	Republic of Korea	501,937	805,467	1,307,404
19	United Arab Emirates	350,000	-	350,000
20	Kazakhstan	300,000	28,552	328,552
21	Belgium	270,855	-	270,855
22	Qatar	250,000	92,520,000	92,770,000
23	Australia	230,058	1,723,420	1,953,478
24	Italy	166,400	-	166,400
25	Colombia	125,000	-	125,000
26	Finland	87,854	-	87,854
27	Turkey	60,000	-	60,000
28	Liechtenstein	40,000	-	40,000

^{/9} since inception of the Trust Fund in 2009

29	Morocco	30,000	903,333	933,333
30	Nigeria*	10,000	-	10,000
31	Kenya	5,000	-	5,000
32	Algeria	2,500	20,000	22,500
	Portugal	-	220,896	220,896
	Hungary	-	22,125	22,125
	Grand Total	154,423,342	119,287,349	273,710,691

^a since inception of the Trust Fund in 2009

* In addition, in-kind contribution provided by the Netherlands (valued at \$11.5 million in 2018) and Hungary (\$534k in 2021).

** Allocation from the United Nations Peace and Security Sub-Fund

Financial Performance

As of 30 June March, the utilization against the released budget of \$29,786,732 was \$14,545,278 or 49 per cent of the total released budget which represents the budget of projects implemented by UNCCT during 2021.

Table 3: UNCCT Total budget and expenditure for 2021 and expenditure distribution by pillar, to 30 June 2021*

Pillar	Pillar Description	2021 Budget (US\$) (a)	2021 Expenditures (US\$) (b)	Utilization Rate (%) (c) = b/a	Expenditure distribution by pillar (%) (d)
I	Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism	6,194,242	4,492,948	73%	31%
II	Combatting Terrorism	10,928,739	2,907,551	27%	20%
III	Supporting International Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism	3,204,002	1,280,565	40%	9%
IV	Human Rights and Victims	9,459,749	5,864,214	62%	40%
TOTAL		29,786,732	14,545,278	49%	

*Includes funds allocated from the UN Sub-Fund for Peace and Security administered by the EOSG.

Part VI: Conclusion

In the second quarter, UNCCT demonstrated that its agile approach to the challenges imposed by COVID-19 ensured not only stable delivery of the Centre's mandate but also brought innovative and creative modalities to the Centre's response to the needs of Member States. The Centre looks with enthusiasm to the third quarter when its business model will be further enhanced factoring in the KPMG recommendations. Capitalizing on the results, good practises and lessons learned from the UNCCT 5-Year Programme, the Centre will launch its new PF and further strengthen its result-based management system and culture . The delivered results and the positive changes position UNCCT, as a Centre of Excellence, to provide sustainable and high-impact programming to Member States to support their implementation of the GCTS and the priorities set in its seventh review.

UNCCT's expertise continues to be requested by Member States, Global Compact entities, as well as by other partners. Through various partnerships and UNOCT's increased field presence, UNCCT's capacity-building assistance continues to build on local knowledge and expertise and moves closer to the beneficiaries. This way, UNCCT ensures that the Centre's programming is responsive to specific beneficiary needs, while designed to address global counter-terrorism threats efficiently and effectively.