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UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT)

UNCCT QUARTERLY PROJECT HIGHLIGHT REPORT

TO THE UNCCT ADVISORY BOARD

1st QUARTER
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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
CRSV	Conflict Related Sexual Violence
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CT	Counter Terrorism
CTC	Counter-Terrorism Committee
CTED	Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate
DPO	Department of Peace Operations
DPPA	Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
EAG	Eurasian Group
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EOSG	Executive Office of the Secretary-General
ESAAMLG	Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group
EU	European Union
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FTF	Foreign Terrorist Fighters
GCERF	Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund
GCTF	Global Counterterrorism Forum
GCTS	Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
HRDDP	Human Rights Due Diligence Policy
ICSANT	International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
JPoA	Joint Plan of Action

KPMG	Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler International Cooperative
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPO	Non-Profit Organization
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OLA	Office of Legal Affairs
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	Sudanese National Commission for Counter Terrorism
SPPF	Strategic Plan and Programme Framework
SPIB	Special Projects and Innovation Branch
SPRR	Screening, Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration
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
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNITAMS	United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
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
UNPDF	United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund
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
YPS	Youth, Peace and Security

Executive Summary

In the first quarter of 2021, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) per its mandate as part of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) continued to deliver impactful technical assistance, training, policy advice, and supportive tools and other capacity-building to support requesting Member States in their implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS). While UNCCT's work in the first half of 2021 will continue to be guided by the Five-Year Programme of Work (2016-2020), UNCCT made significant progress in developing the new Programme Framework under the overarching framework of UNOCT's Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan defines UNOCT's strategic direction for the next years, while the Programme Framework (PF) defines UNCCT's capacity development mandate. A common Results Framework will capture all outcomes, outputs and impact indicators of UNOCT and the Centre.

Building on its experience from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, UNCCT has further adapted to a new working environment impacted by social distancing requirements as well as travel and movement restrictions. The introduction of new interactive methods to our capacity-building approaches was therefore critical to supporting Member States' efforts to implement the GCTS and other relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

In 2020 UNCCT launched a series of internal consultations to determine the Centre's direction to develop the PF. During the first quarter, UNCCT conducted over 15 hours of consultations with its programme management officers, drawing on their collective expertise and experience to enhance the PF's design and direction and contribute to a theory of change to help drive enhancement of our results-focused culture. In line with the recommendations of the KPMG evaluation conducted in 2020, the PF reflects a unity of process and capacity-building approach between UNCCT and the Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB). This allows greater coherence in the delivery of technical assistance by UNOCT's two-capacity development structures. As per agreement with the Chair of the UNCCT Advisory Board, and taking into account the seventh review of the GCTS ([A/RES/75/291](#)) and the outcome of the Counter-Terrorism Week in June, UNOCT's Strategic Plan and Programme Framework (SPPF) will be ready to be finalized in September 2021.

UNCCT further strengthened Member States' capacities to implement the GCTS as a result of the delivery of technical assistance through different activities that were agile and responsive to the reality imposed by the ongoing pandemic. UNCCT programmes and projects delivered 19 expert and coordination meetings as well as 15 workshops engaging 1,170 participants. The Centre also held five outreach events (side events, panels, seminars and briefings) to present its flagship global and regional programmes.

1ST QUARTER 2021 ACTIVITIES

Type	Count
Outreach (side events, panels, seminars)	5
Workshops / Trainings	15
Expert and Coordination Meetings	19
Scoping Missions	1

Pie chart segments: Scoping Missions 3%, Outreach (side events, panels, seminars) 12%, Workshops / Trainings 37%, Expert and Coordination Meetings 48%

UNCCT's efforts continued to be geared towards the development of new initiatives and the implementation of existing multi-year programmes. In January 2021, UNCCT launched its **Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism** (PCVE). The programme aims at enhancing individual, community and societal resilience to violent extremism and reducing the threat of violent extremism and terrorism. The three-year Global PCVE Programme operates across nine thematic areas: Policy Assistance, Strategic Communications (StratCom), Education, Youth Empowerment, Mental Health, Gender, Human Rights, 'One-UN' Coordination, and New Frontiers.

Under the UNCCT **Global Coordinated Programme on Detecting, Preventing and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT),** UNCCT trained over 700 stakeholders from 22 different Member States through four different capacity-building events. In addition, UNOCT, through its CFT Programme, co-led two Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Expert Meetings related to the initiative on ensuring the effective use of CFT Measures while safeguarding humanitarian and civic space, which drew together some 100 attendees, including 40 participants from civil society. Several new milestones were reached during the capacity-building events, including the participation of over 30 Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs) in one of the trainings, allowing for meaningful participation of civil society in counter-terrorism trainings.

Under the overall scope of the **Global Counter Terrorism Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies**, UNCCT launched a one-year project on **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,** specifically tailored to the needs of Burkina Faso. The project will support Burkina Faso's counter-terrorism efforts through strengthening the country's resilience against terrorist cyber-attacks and increasing knowledge on investigative techniques and acquisition of digital evidence to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorist cases.

This is a momentous year for the promotion and protection of the rights of the victims of terrorism, with a number of high-profile events and anniversaries, including the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the fourth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism (VoT) and the launch of Model Legislative Provisions, and the third Ministerial meeting of the Group of Friends on the margins of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly. UNCCT conducted preparatory work for these events during the first quarter of 2021 as part of the **Global Victims of Terrorism Support Programme**.

In the Middle East and North Africa region, UNCCT focused on human rights and rule-of-law protection while countering terrorism. The analysis conducted under the UNCCT project to **support the development of a counter-terrorism strategy for the Arab world, in line with the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy**, sought to bring regional policies and the existing Arab CT strategy in line with international human rights obligations and the fourth pillar of the GCTS, and highlight mechanisms to further mainstream human rights and respect of the rule of law into counter-terrorism action in the region, both at the policy and operational levels. UNCCT will subsequently initiate the drafting process of the regional CT strategy, together with the Arab Interior Ministers Council (AIMC), after concluding the analysis of all regional instruments vis-a-vis the GCTS and relevant counter-terrorism obligations and standards.

The UNCCT Director held discussions with the Secretary General of AIMC to provide updates on the status of implementation of the project and discuss the planning of upcoming activities amid COVID-19. In this regard, the Secretary General of AIMC expressed support for a no-cost extension of the current phase of the project for an additional year, and the Interior Ministers endorsed this decision in their meeting in March 2021. This extension will allow UNCCT to plan and implement regional consultations that could not take place last year due to COVID-19.

In the current quarter, UNCCT continued to build relations with existing and potential donors and progressed in its fundraising efforts, including ongoing preparation of proposals for the 2021-2022 United Nations Multi-Year Appeal for Counter-Terrorism. In March 2021, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) approved funding for the UNOCT Programme Office in Kenya from the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund (UNPDF). The Programme Office in Nairobi is a platform designed to enhance UNOCT's support to East African Member States in their efforts to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. The office will facilitate the delivery of UNCCT programmes tailored to the region, with the dedicated field presence supporting more coordinated efforts with local partners for sustained results.

Part I: Overview of Programme Implementation

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

Main Activities	Key Results
Conducted online training for 244 Iraqi youth in Fallujah, Iraq, in the areas of information technology, blacksmithing, cosmetics, and hairdressing.	Increased technical ability and employability, heightening resilience to violent extremism, amongst Iraqi youth in Fallujah.
Two policy dialogue meetings between youth and government representatives from Sweden and Australia (13 females and 10 males participated in the policy dialogues).	Empowerment, inclusion, and meaningful participation of young women and men to design, deliver, and participate in PCVE efforts, enabling them to counter terrorist narratives in their own social networks in Sweden, Australia, and Sudan.
Six technical workshops and three roundtable sessions on interreligious and intercultural dialogue were held with 23 young religious leaders from 12 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe.	Increased understanding and development of technical skills of young religious leaders to develop and implement effective StratCom for PCVE, supporting community resilience and cohesion.
Online PCVE StratCom training delivered to 20 Tunisian officials working with Violent Extremist Prisoners (VEPs).	Increased understanding and development of technical skills of Member States in developing and implementing effective StratCom for PCVE, supporting community resilience and cohesion.
Set of key messages co-developed with the Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group to communicate a consistent, non-discriminatory approach to tackling all forms of terrorism.	Strengthening of 'One-UN' approach to PCVE coordination, contributing to a UN consensus on agreed terminology in relation to terrorism and violent extremism.
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E toolkit for PCVE StratCom developed.	Increased M&E capacity of beneficiaries in measuring the impact of PCVE StratCom and counter narrative campaigns.
Partnerships with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Hedayah, the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) and Etidal established.	Increased capacity to convene PCVE actors and coordinate resources to provide capacity building in response to local, regional and global PCVE threats and issues.

In January 2021, UNCCT launched its three-year **Global PCVE Programme**, which operates across nine thematic areas: Policy Assistance, StratCom, Education, Youth Empowerment, Mental Health, Gender, Human Rights, 'One-UN' Coordination, and New Frontiers. The Programme delivered activities immediately in January, building on previous successful results of UNCCT's

PCVE programming. This included activities in the thematic areas of StratCom, Youth Empowerment, and 'One-UN' Coordination.

The Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme (YEEP), now integrated within the Global PCVE Programme, continued to build on the progress of 2020 by completing the peer-to-peer training for "brave space" dialogue in the three pilot countries, Sudan, Sweden and Australia. This resulted in two successful youth-designed policy briefings to senior, national CT and PCVE officials, aligning with UNOCT's commitment to youth and Under-Secretary-General Voronkov's call to action on 6 April 2021 in the context of the 10th Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum, where he stated, "It is time to build an alliance with youth. An alliance for today and the future to ensure we deliver on the promise of the UN75 Declaration."

The **Global PCVE Programme** strengthened the mainstreaming of gender and human rights considerations aimed at enhancing Member States' understanding of their obligations to safeguard and ensure the protection of human rights and include gender perspectives while preventing and countering violent extremism. For example, the **Global PCVE Programme** tailored capacity-building products to support and promote human rights and gender in PCVE efforts, worked with Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's (CTED) Senior Human Rights officer to strengthen capacity-building activities in this regard and developed a number of monitoring and evaluation products for UNCCT and beneficiaries to track and report on the integration of gender and human rights.

International travel restrictions, imposed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, continue to impact the delivery of in-person capacity-building and technical assistance. The **Global PCVE Programme** has mitigated this risk by developing hybrid online/offline delivery models, as well as the use of more informal digital engagement, for example "Zoom Cafes" and the use of Google Classroom. More broadly, a challenge remains in effectively engaging some beneficiaries in PCVE capacity-building while governments are overburdened in their efforts to contain and respond to COVID-19.

Global PCVE Programme

UNCCT's **Global PCVE Programme** contributes to strengthening individual, community and national resilience to violent extremism, and reducing the threat of terrorism. The Programme mainstreams gender and human rights within its design, planning and implementation of the Programme's activities, and is based on a rigorous M&E approach with methodology that focuses on measuring impact.

UNCCT delivered, in partnership with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and CTED, a two-day training on PCVE through StratCom to Tunisian officials working with violent extremist prisoners on 25-26 March. The workshop strengthened the capacity of the participating officials to develop PCVE support to prisoners, while promoting good governance, human rights,

and the rule of law. Leveraging its expertise in StratCom and counter narratives with the coordination mandate of UNOCT, UNCCT also co-developed a set of key messages to communicate a consistent, non-discriminatory approach to tackling all forms of terrorism, together with 11 members of the PCVE Working Group of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact , Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), Department of Peace Operations (DPO), the Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights while Countering Terrorism, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (OSAPG), United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNESCO, and UNHCR. Through the development of global and local partnerships, such as those cemented during the reporting period with UNESCO, Hedayah, GCERF and Etidal, UNCCT ensured that PCVE beneficiaries benefit from a combination of global expertise with local delivery. The Global Programme has also strengthened its 'One-UN' approach to PCVE coordination and technical PCVE policy assistance through the development of joint work plans with Global Counter Terrorism Coordination Compact entities and the provision of technical assistance to UN Country Teams, with a focus on Sudan, South-East Asia and Bangladesh.

In January, under the project **Support to Iraq on Youth Employment and Skills Development to Prevent Violent Extremism,** UNCCT conducted a local labour market assessment in Fallujah to support increased employability of youth. In February, UNCCT launched online training programs for 244 youth in Fallujah, who are being trained in information technology, blacksmithing, cosmetics and hairdressing, in response to needs identified in the labour market assessment. The training programmes combine self-paced learning, online learning and in-person exercises, and include collaboration with local businesses to create on-the-job training and apprenticeships and to increase the prospects of gainful employment.

In February and March, the UNCCT **Youth Engagement and Empowerment Programme,** facilitated two policy dialogues between youth and counter-terrorism and national security government officials from Sweden and Australia. Five young women and two young men from Sweden and eight young women and three young men from Australia were empowered to help shape PCVE policy recommendations based on their interactions with over 150 youth peers. A young female facilitator from Australia indicated: "I felt really empowered to be part of this process. The youth is our now!".

The initiative was well received by the Swedish officials, who suggested a follow-up focused dialogue with the young people on how to improve PCVE efforts in schools, as well as their inclusion in the National School Network on Violent Extremism. In Australia, UNCCT was invited to present the youth recommendations to the Australian Government's Countering Violent Extremism Sub-Committee quarterly meeting. One Australian official described the effort as "sensational", with a number of other officials commending the unique value of being briefed on youth-designed policy recommendations by young people, especially in relation to the emerging "threats posed by the rise in terrorist attacks on the basis of xenophobia, racism and

other forms of intolerance". Separately, as a result of the UNCCT capacity-building programme, the Australian youth alumni decided to formalize their network to create Australia's first national coalition on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS).

In another example of impact, a young Sudanese peacebuilder in the Blue Nile State shared the outcome of his peer-to-peer coaching from UNCCT's youth specialists. The alumnus of the training, with joint support from UNCCT and UNDP Sudan, partnered with another Sudanese peacemaker to conduct "brave space" conversations on violent extremism. These sessions, held in small groups of young women and small groups of young men, focused on issues impacting social cohesion and community resilience in their region.

Through the project **Young Religious Leaders: "Peer-to-peer capacity-building training between young religious leaders and young media makers"** UNCCT, in partnership with UNAOC, identified 22 young women and men from the Middle East, North Africa and Europe to improve their technical skills in development communication campaigns promoting social cohesion. In February, UNCCT and UNAOC delivered six technical workshops and three roundtable sessions with global experts on topics related to interreligious and intercultural dialogue, preventing violent extremism through StratCom, hate speech and demystifying digital violence, peace and conflict resolution. The workshops were implemented using a peer-to-peer youth engagement approach, encouraging participants to co-design the training with their facilitators. In quarter two, participants will start designing and implementing their social media campaigns, based on the learnings of the workshops and roundtables, which aim at promoting social cohesion, enhancing interfaith dialogue, and preventing and combating violent extremism and hate speech.

Gender Mainstreaming

To increase understanding and strengthen approaches to gender mainstreaming, the Gender Unit developed two tools to facilitate gender mainstreaming across the Office: one containing all relevant normative framework on gender CT/PCVE and related Women, Peace and Security framework, with summaries of the relevant instruments, key words and links to the documents for quick access; the second tool consists of a database of experts including researchers, Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and think tanks with a focus on gender and CT/PCVE. The Gender Unit also provided several updates to the Gender Taskforce to inform about relevant events, latest research and tools related to gender and CT/PCVE.

The Gender Unit completed an internal gender assessment of 54 projects and programme documents, as part of the quality assurance of the implementation of the UNOCT Gender Marker. The assessment report outlines several recommendations for improving gender mainstreaming practices and was presented to UNOCT Senior Management Team. It was also used as a basis for the development of the UNOCT Gender Policy and Action Plan.

The development of the Canadian-funded **Gender and Identities Platform** project was finalized between UNCCT and Global Affairs Canada. The project consists of a multi-faceted digital platform on gender and CT/PCVE to be integrated within the Global Counterterrorism Forum. UNCCT initiated efforts to put in place an Advisory Board to guide implementation of the project.

Within UNOCT's CT/PCVE efforts, UNOCT joined the UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict with a view to effectively address Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) as perpetrated by terrorists. UNCCT developed the first draft of the concept note that provides UNOCT's approach to addressing the nexus between CRSV and terrorism. The concept note was developed in consultation with the UNOCT Gender Taskforce and includes programming entry points based on UNOCT's programming on PCVE, Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (PRR), VoT, Border Security and Management (BSM) and CT investigations. To provide guidance for strengthening gender mainstreaming, UNCCT in partnership with CTED initiated the development of a series of Issues Papers to support its capacity-building programmes for Member States. The process commenced with a series of consultations with UNOCT and CTED subject matter experts on Cybersecurity and New Technologies; Advance Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) and Biometrics; CFT; and Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). It is envisaged that the papers will be completed in the third quarter.

Pillar II: Preventing and Combating Terrorism	
Main Activities	**Key Results**
Four capacity-building activities with a total of 729 participants (42 per cent female), covering strategies, legislation and policies on countering the financing of terrorism.	Increased awareness, strengthened ability and enhanced Member States capacity to address and counter terrorist use of fundraising strategies and procedures.
Two expert group meetings under a joint UNCCT- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) Initiative "Building Knowledge on Counter-Terrorism in the Age of Artificial Intelligence".	Building global knowledge on AI in counter-terrorism context through the reports on *"Algorithms and Terrorism: The Malicious use of Artificial Intelligence for Terrorist Purposes* and *Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Combat the Terrorist Use of the Internet and Social Media – A Focus on South Asia and South East Asia".*
Launch of 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".	Enhanced capacities of Burkina Faso's officials to effectively use new technologies for the protection against terrorist cyber-attacks and for the investigation of terrorists and violent extremists with a particular focus on the acquisition of digital forensic evidence.

Implemented four virtual activities and trained 491 individuals, including 123 female participants, on the prevention of cross-border movement of terrorists, cross-border cooperation and information sharing, and the responsible use and sharing of biometric data to detect, prevent, investigate and prosecute terrorist offences and other serious crimes at borders. **Implemented a virtual technical roundtable with the Government of Burkina Faso to present the benefits of implementing a national border security strategy as well as a national action plan inclusive of counter-terrorism elements.**	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.
Six conventional and non-conventional weapons capacity-building and awareness raising activities (virtual and hybrid) with 386 participants (including 110 female officials), on law enforcement, legislation, and international cooperation.	Heightened awareness of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)/ Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) terrorism threat, the importance of adherence to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) and its implementation and the issue of terrorism-arms-organized crime nexus, increased capacities, and interaction between national agencies.

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 Member States through direct consultations and a number of webinars. As a Centre of Excellence, UNCCT also took part in webinars and virtual conferences organized by partners both within the United Nations and beyond. This has allowed UNCCT to reach a broad range of stakeholders as the events are often attended by several hundred participants across the globe.

Global Programme on Countering Financing of Terrorism (CFT) Programme

Main Activities	Key Results
Four CFT capacity-building activities, 729 participants (42 per cent female), covering strategies, legislation and policies on countering the financing of terrorism.	Increased awareness, strengthened ability and enhanced Member States capacity to address and counter terrorist use of fundraising strategies and procedures.

The **CFT Programme** conducted a number of activities in the first quarter of 2021. The CFT Programme trained over 700 stakeholders from 22 different Member States in four different virtual capacity-building events. In addition, UNCCT served as co-lead with the Netherlands and

Morocco for two Expert Meetings under the GCTF Initiative on the Impact of CFT Measures on Humanitarian and Civic Space that saw participation of 100 attendees each, including 40 participants from civil society. The Programme delivered regional virtual trainings to Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe as part of the Centre's engagement with the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG).

This was the fourth 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 recently adopted by the ESAAMLG Plenary. The ESAAMLG training counted 291 participants and surveyed a 96 per cent satisfaction rate.

Aside from ESAAMLG, the CFT Programme also conducted trainings for Sudan, Tajikistan and Mongolia. These events were organized in partnership with SPIB, the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and the Eurasian Group (EAG) and the European Union, respectively. The Programme is currently developing an Action Plan based on the training with Tajikistan, which will aim to increase protection to the non-profit sector from terrorism abuse. The event in Sudan was also of strategic importance in counter-terrorism policy and in supporting the country's re-entry into the international financial system.

The CFT Programme software development procedure of goFintel also received positive feedback for further development from both the Netherlands and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in Paris.

UNCCT Global Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies

Activities	Key Results
Two expert group meetings under a joint UNCCT-UNICRI Initiative "Building Knowledge on Counter-Terrorism in the Age of Artificial Intelligence".	Building global knowledge on AI in counter-terrorism contexts through the reports on *Algorithms and Terrorism: The Malicious use of Artificial Intelligence for Terrorist Purposes* and *Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Combat the Terrorist Use of the Internet and Social Media – A Focus on South Asia and South East Asia.*
Launch of 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".	Enhanced capacities of Burkina Faso's officials to effectively use new technologies for the protection against terrorist cyber-attacks and for the investigation of terrorists and violent extremists with a particular focus on the acquisition of digital forensic evidence.

In the first quarter of 2021, the **Global Counter Terrorism Programme on Cybersecurity and New Technologies** initiated the implementation of a national one-year project on **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.** Funded with a generous contribution from the Federal Republic of Germany, the project will support national officials to enhance awareness of the threat of malicious uses of new technologies by terrorists, and increase collaboration and information exchange on the matter, while strengthening capacities to implement solutions that respond to these threats with full respect for human rights.

To build global knowledge and increase awareness of potential risks and opportunities regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI) and counter-terrorism, UNCCT, in collaboration with UNICRI's Centre on Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, organized two expert group meetings to discuss and solicit feedback on initial findings of two joint reports. Fifty-four experts from Member States, academia, non-governmental organizations, and industry shared their views and provided their recommendations to inform the finalization of the two reports: *"Algorithms and Terrorism: The Malicious use of Artificial Intelligence for Terrorist Purposes and Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Combat the Terrorist Use of the Internet and Social Media – A Focus on South Asia and South East Asia",* which will be launched, published and made available in June 2021.

Border Security and Management Programme (BSM)

Main Activities	Key Results
Implemented four virtual activities and trained 491 individuals, including 123 female participants, on the prevention of cross-border movement of terrorists, cross-border cooperation and information sharing, and the responsible use and sharing of biometric data to detect, prevent, investigate and prosecute terrorist offences and other serious crimes at borders. **Implemented a virtual technical roundtable with the Government of Burkina Faso.**	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.

During the first quarter of 2021, UNCCT, through its **BSM Programme**, has implemented one hybrid and three virtual capacity-building activities with nearly 500 participants. A new sequence of the series *"A View to a Border"* was developed in partnership with the World Border Security Congress (WBSC). The webinars aimed at delving deeper into the importance of timely access to critical information about identified or suspected terrorist activities, a matter central to counter-terrorism efforts. Two out of four webinars were implemented during the first quarter and were attended by more than 350 people worldwide, including over 100 female participants.

Moreover, with the support of SPIB, UNCCT organized a National Capacity-Building Workshop on Controlling and Securing Borders in alignment with UN Security Council Resolutions on Counter-Terrorism. The training was held in a hybrid format in Khartoum, under the UN-EU Counter-Terrorism Partnership for Sudan and in collaboration with the Sudanese National Commission for Counter Terrorism (SNCCT). It was attended by 77 Sudanese officials, and advanced the realization of Outcome 1 of the BSM Programme by enhancing awareness and understanding of established good practices in the area of BSM as related to countering terrorism. Responding to a request for technical assistance and supporting Outcome 3 of the BSM Programme to increase the capacities of Member States to include counter-terrorism considerations within their national BSM strategies, UNCCT organized a virtual technical round table with the Government of Burkina Faso. The objective was to present the benefits of implementing a national border security strategy as well as a national action plan inclusive of counter-terrorism elements. Finally, jointly with the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology, UNCCT organized a virtual panel discussion on the use of contactless biometrics technologies to monitor the cross-border movement of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) and returnees. The activity was attended by 56 participants, including 21 female officials.

In addition to its own programming, UNCCT also supported several virtual events and activities organized by other organizations, including to the GCTF Watchlisting Guidance Manual Initiative. UNCCT contributed substantive support to the third and final technical workshop, focused on international cooperation, redress and oversight mechanisms, and quality control. UNCCT also provided technical support to two virtual consultations on the global implications of terrorist travel in the maritime domain, conducted under the GCTF Initiative on Maritime Security and Terrorist Travel.

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

Main Activities	Key Results
Six conventional and non-conventional weapons capacity-building and raising awareness activities (virtual and hybrid) with 386 participants (including 110 female officials), on law enforcement, legislation and international cooperation.	Heightened awareness of WMD/CBRN terrorism threat, the importance of adherence to ICSANT and its implementation and the issue of terrorism-arms-organized crime nexus, increased capacities, and interaction between national agencies.

The UNCCT programme on **Preventing and Responding to WMD and CBRN Terrorism** continued implementation under all of its outputs.

Under the outputs on *visibility, partnerships and threat and risk analysis:* the Programme presented its work at 10 outreach international events, including the *Bioterrorism Livestream*

Conference: Thinking the Unthinkable (487 delegates, including 120 female participants) organized by the United Kingdom academia and private sector in March, which featured a keynote speech by USG Voronkov. The Programme continued to strengthen its partnerships with relevant stakeholders in the WMD/CBRN arena, such as the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, the Group of Seven Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA). Moreover, the Programme and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) provided information on the joint report of Phase I - Middle East and North Africa (MENA) of the *Global Threat Study on Non-State Actors and their Potential Use of CBRN Materials*.

Under the *capacity-building output*, the Programme finalized development of a portfolio of 20 training courses aiming to increase the capacities of Member States in targeted CBRN areas. These courses were piloted in virtual format in the Philippines and in Nigeria, in February and March, respectively, through two *Virtual Trainings on outbreak containment for law enforcement* with 127 participants (44 female and 83 male).

> *"The lessons learned from this exercise will be used to develop actionable steps for our response Agencies"*
>
> *In the closing remarks, Dr. Levin Damisah, Head of Medical Intelligence, Office of the National Security Adviser, Nigeria, stated: "At no other time in history, has the world faced current nature, complexity and types of threats to global security and peace. The threat of Bioterrorism in particular is becoming more real than ever before; even as the world evolves rapidly. Building capacity of stakeholders across the globe remains the only pre-emptive panacea to mitigating this threat […] Moving forward, the lessons learned from this exercise will be used to develop actionable steps for our response Agencies."*
>
> WMD/CBRN programme, Virtual training on outbreak containment for law enforcement, Nigeria, March 2021

In the context of the pilot project on **Enhancing National Capacities to Prevent and Respond to Chemical and Biological Attacks in Iraq**, in March, the Programme concluded an amendment of the Exchange of Letters with the Department of State of the United States to extend the partnership on the project for an additional 12 months. Within the framework of the pilot project on **Promoting the Universalization and Effective Implementation of ICSANT, in February, the Programme held a briefing on implementation of ICSANT** in New York, attended by over 80 representatives (36 females and 50 males) from 64 Permanent Missions and hosted an *ICSANT National Advocacy Event* for Tajikistan, with 40 participants, which aimed at bringing the country closer to the ratification of the Convention.

WMD/CBRN Unit Image: ICSANT project, Briefing for the Permanent Missions in New York on the ICSANT project implementation, 24 February

In addition, under the pilot project on the **Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: Preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their illicit supply to terrorists in Central Asia,** the Programme together with CTED, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and UNODC held a *Virtual Deep-dive Assessment Meeting* on legislation and operational frameworks in Kazakhstan in January, attended by 30 participants (five female and 25 male). Furthermore, in March, the Programme, CTED, UNODA, UNODC and UNRCCA organized a *Virtual Regional* Workshop *on Fostering Judicial and Law Enforcement Cooperation* for more than 100 participants (14 female and 87 male), including high-level officials from Central Asia and the Russian Federation.

Under the *international inter-agency coordination output* and within the framework of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group project on **Technology and Security: Enhancing Knowledge about Advances in Science and Technology to Combat WMD Terrorism**, the Programme and UNICRI conducted a review of the final report which aims to understand the risks associated with the malicious use of technology to develop and deploy WMD, and to identify technology solutions that can be used to match the needs of Member States to prevent and combat WMD terrorism.

Additionally, the Programme supported the participation of Under-Secretary-General Voronkov in the Second Meeting of Principals of the United Nations Bio-risk Working Group, led by UNODA and World Health Organization. These activities contributed to the programme outcome whereby international organizations and UN entities support Member States in the prevention, preparedness and response to WMD/CBRN terrorism in a more informed and coordinated manner, reflecting the "All-of-UN" approach.

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

Main Activities	Key Results
Implemented one national workshop and one regional workshop jointly with UNOCT-UNCCT global thematic programmes.	Increased awareness and enhanced capacity of Central Asian states to implement the Joint Plan of Action (JPoA) and Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) recommendations at national and regional levels.
Led and coordinated with the UN Country Team, the comprehensive mapping and consolidation of the UN support to Tajikistan to implement national CT and PCVE strategy and action plan.	Enhanced coordination of UN system in Tajikistan on the implementation of the national CT and P/CVE Strategy and action plan.
Conducted expert consultation with government officials on the issue of FTFs, including prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration in Central Asia.	Enhanced regional coordination and exchange of good practices in the area of FTFs, including repatriation, rehabilitation and reintegration.
Prepared 10-year review of JPoA on the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia. It takes stock of what has been achieved in the past decade since the adoption of the JPoA in the region. On the basis of this review, the revised regional strategy is being prepared and is expected to be adopted by Central Asian States in November 2021.	Assessment of the implementation of the Joint Plan of Action, regional strategy by Central Asian States since its adoption in 2011.

Towards the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia (JPoA)

Within the framework of the Phase III of the project **Towards the Implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia** (JPoA), UNCCT, together with the **CFT Programme**, and in partnership with UNRCCA and the EAG Secretariat, delivered a capacity-building workshop to at least 30 officials (11 female, 19 male) from Tajikistan on the FATF Recommendation 8 on the protection of the non-profit sector from terrorist abuse. The workshop took place on 14 and 15 January in Dushanbe in a hybrid format. Based on Tajik Government's commitment and strong interest in this subject, UNOCT and its partners are developing a road map for implementing activities with the goal of achieving rerating of Tajikistan's rank on FATF Recommendation 8.

In addition, UNCCT, under the JPoA project and together with **Addressing the terrorism-arms-crime nexus: preventing and combatting the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons and their illicit supply to terrorists** project, held a regional virtual thematic regional workshop on fostering judicial and law enforcement cooperation and information-sharing. The regional workshop, which brought together more than one hundred representatives from all five Central Asian States, relevant United Nations entities and regional organizations, addressed the challenges posed by the terrorism-arms-crime nexus. The workshop also included a scenario-based exercise on cases of information-sharing and cooperation about trafficking. As a result, the participants were able to take stock of the national and regional progress in the practical implementation of the UN counter-terrorism legal framework in the area of illicit trafficking of SALW. They also enhanced their knowledge on national and international cooperation in the sharing of information and intelligence.

In March, UNCCT jointly with the UN Resident Coordinator Office, co-chaired a coordination meeting with the UN country team in Tajikistan to explore potential support in a coordinated matter to the implementation of the revised national counter-terrorism strategy. UNCCT, under the JPoA and Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism (STRIVE) Asia projects, coordinated and consolidated the comments provided by the entities of the National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies Working Group of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact. According to the report provided by the Office of the Prosecutor of Tajikistan, approximately 80 per cent of these comments and suggestions were integrated into the National CT and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) Strategy of Tajikistan. As a result, a consolidated document with United Nations initiatives and programmes will be submitted to the Government of Tajikistan and the United Nations Country Team, which will support the implementation of the national strategy in a comprehensive manner, taking into consideration best practices and lessons learned.

UNOCT-UNCCT in cooperation with UNRCCA, OHCHR, United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is developing an e-learning course on human rights and terrorism. The overall objective of the online training course is to focus on Pillar IV of the UN GCTS through enhancing knowledge as well as increasing awareness of human rights in the context of CT/PVE and taking into consideration the Central Asian context. The training course is tailored to representatives and experts from law enforcement and counter-terrorism. It will be delivered online in Russian in the course of 2021.

During the reporting period, 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 Syria and Iraq with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, the UN Resident Coordinator and the UN Country Team in Kyrgyzstan. In March, the Government of Kyrgyzstan has repatriated 79 children from Iraq and UNCCT is involved in the joint UN efforts to support the Government of Kyrgyzstan. UNCCT is also holding consultations with the Government of Kyrgyzstan on the provision of necessary technical assistance in the area of rehabilitation and reintegration of the returnees specifically in the light of preparation for the anticipated repatriation of Kyrgyz nationals from Syria.

The regional FTF Coordination Officer held over 40 expert consultations with relevant state organs, diplomatic missions, UN agencies, international organizations, research and academic institutions on the main security issues, trends and needs of Central Asian States in different spheres of counter-terrorism, including the protection, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of FTFs, and PCVE. As a result, a detailed report is being prepared with recommendations on addressing conditions conducive to terrorism, particularly the FTF phenomenon, as well as on the rehabilitation and reintegration of returnees from the conflict zones in the Middle East. In addition, in partnership with the Resident Coordinator's Office, a Repatriation Task Force has been established for delivery of a coordinated UN support to the Government of Kyrgyzstan in rehabilitation and reintegration of FTFs and their family members. Similar PRR Task Forces are planned to be established in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

South-South Cooperation (SSC)

Under its global initiative on **Enhancing South-South exchange of expertise between experts from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean on CT/PVE**, UNCCT remained engaged with countries from the Global South to identify CT/PVE experts who would take part in the online Network of Southern CT/PCVE Experts that is to be hosted on "South-South Galaxy", which is the digital interactive portal managed by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). The network is scheduled to be launched in the second quarter of 2021.

As the implementation of the project generated interest among several Member States that requested UNOCT to facilitate the provision of technical assistance, UNCCT identified flagship projects that could be leveraged to engage Member States, having corresponding expertise and willingness to share it, to provide experts for capacity-building support in specific technical areas.

UNCCT progressed in mainstreaming SSC as an implementation modality in line with the recommendations of the UN Strategy on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (2020–2024). In that regard, UNCCT raised awareness among UNOCT staff through briefings and included South-South related language in the Terms of References of relevant Working Groups.

Lastly, UNCCT contributed to the drafting of the Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South Cooperation coordinated by UNOSSC.

Programme Office Nairobi

The UNOCT Programme Office Nairobi is a platform designed to enhance UNOCT's support to East African Member States in their efforts to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. In March, the EOSG approved funding of $873,120 from the United Nations Peace and Security Sub-Fund (China contribution) for the UNOCT Programme Office in Kenya. Initial areas of capacity-building support include UNCCT programmes for strengthening whole-of-society capacities to use StratCom to counter terrorist narratives in Africa and strengthening capacities to counter terrorism and stem the flow of FTF through enhanced border security and management.

The Programme Office will also include the UNOCT programme to strengthen capacities for terrorism investigations, in addition to other UNOCT activities. Depending on funding availability, other UNOCT/UNCCT programmes may also be delivered through this Programme Office as additional needs are identified with Member States. UNOCT/UNCCT developed a detailed workplan for the Programme Office Nairobi to efficiently coordinate the delivery of programmes and projects on the ground. Indeed, even though the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed the delivery of activities in the field, as well as the deployment of staff, online CT and PCVE activities are planned to be delivered in the next few months. Logistic efforts are ongoing to prepare the deployment of staff in the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) as soon as conditions permit. Overall, fundraising efforts are underway to ensure the sustainability of the UNOCT Programme Office in Nairobi.

Pillar IV: Ensuring Human Rights and the Rule of Law

Main activities	Key results
Launch of United States-funded UNCCT-UNODC-UNICEF-OHCHR-UN WOMEN Global Framework implementation in Uzbekistan.	Enabled assistance to develop, coordinate, and implement a country-wide PRR strategy and policy in line with international frameworks and through a whole-of-UN approach.
Presentations provided to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) Special Committee on Counterterrorism and the Global Coalition Against ISIS FTF Working Group.	Raised awareness on the Global Framework and the UN support available to Member States on the protection, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals returned from Syria and Iraq.
UNCCT, UNODC, and CTED supported the Ugandan Prison Service to develop a specialized PCVE course and a tailored PCVE toolkit for instructors.	Strengthened PCVE capacity of the prison staff working with VEPs.
UNCCT-UNODC-CTED convened Interagency Working Group meeting as well as expert meeting with the Kostanay Police Academy in Kazakhstan.	Strengthened capacity of prison and probation officers to manage high-risk prisoners, including violent extremist prisoners and FTFs prisoners.
UNCCT-UNODC-CTED organized four workshops to train 128 (45 women, 83 men) prison staff in Tunisia, provided assistance to the National Prison Service in establishing a Center for Research and Studies on Violent Extremism at the National School of Prison and Rehabilitation as well as recommendations for designing rehabilitation programmes for violent extremist prisoners and a StratCom plan for the prison service.	Enhanced capacity of National Prison Service staff in risk management, designing rehabilitation programmes, engaging local communities into disengagement programmes.
Three UNCCT-UNODC workshops on Child Returnees for 116 professionals working with child returnees and legal professionals (66 women, 50 men) in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to reinforce existing government efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate child returnees as well as strengthened capacity to protect children from re-traumatization and secondary victimization while providing them with legal services.	Strengthened capacity of the governmental services to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate child returnees.

UNCCT-UNODC-CTED regional workshop for 119 participants (58 women and 61 men) on the gender dimensions of PRR approaches for persons associated with Boko Haram which resulted in a set of expert recommendations to mainstream gender perspectives.	Raised awareness on gender dimensions of PRR approaches throughout the implementation of the Regional Screening, Prosecution, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration (SPRR) Strategy.

Recognizing that upholding human rights and the rule of law is fundamental for effective and sustainable CT/PCVE efforts, UNOCT places human rights at the centre of its work on all four pillars of the GCTS through specific programmes as well as through mainstreaming human rights in all engagements and capacity-building efforts. UNCCT also focuses on integrating gender into all UNOCT programmes, to ensure that UNOCT support to and engagement with Member States complies with international gender and human rights standards and norms.

Victims of Terrorism Support Programme

The year 2021 is an important one for the promotion and protection of the rights of the victims of terrorism, with a number of high-profile events and anniversaries. This includes the 20th anniversary of 9/11 attacks, the Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, the fourth commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, the launch of the Model Legislative Provisions and the third Ministerial meeting of the Group of Friends to be held on the margins of the 76th session of the UNGA. To ensure that messaging for the various events is effectively communicated, in this quarter, UNCCT developed an annual communications strategy on victims of terrorism and the Global Congress.

UNCCT made significant advancement in developing its handbook on "Guidelines and Principles to Assist, Protect and Support Victims of Terrorism Associations in Asia Pacific". During the reporting period, UNCCT organized a series of virtual validation meetings with experts from Afghanistan, Australia, Europe, Indonesia, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, and South Korea on 18 and 25 January, and 1 and 8 February 2021. These meetings focused on key issues affecting victims of terrorism in relation to assistance and support, access to justice and compensation and protection. The meetings also explored some of the additional vulnerabilities that some victims face, for example cross border victims, and sensitivities related to gender and age. Discussions also included how civil society organizations should seek to collaborate with national authorities, including how to develop laws and policies that improve outcomes for victims. The handbook is expected to be launched in the second part of 2021.

UNCCT, as part of the tripartite initiative on the Model Legislative Provisions for victims of terrorism (the provisions), with UNODC and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held the last two expert consultations, in a series of six, in January. The provisions will be launched in the second part of 2021. The provisions are not intended to replace the national legislative drafting process and to be incorporated directly into national legislation, but propose a basis to assist in

strengthening the national response and are tailored to the national needs in line with the constitutional principles and legal tradition of each Member State. Additionally, the provisions can systematize and promote the exchange of information regarding existing good practices.

The UN Victims of Terrorism Support Portal continues to be a resource hub for information on issues related to victims of terrorism, also serving as a resource on rehabilitation, providing solidarity and raising awareness on national and international support efforts. In the reporting period, the Portal attracted 62,660 views, an increase of 75 per cent in relation to the same quarter last year. UNCCT is revitalizing the Portal to better serve users, focusing on expanding and updating key pages such as the government resources pages and directory page, which details services and information provided to victims by Member States and civil society, and to increase its accessibility and reach to users across the world.

Global Programme on PRR

UNCCT in partnership with participating UN entities advanced the **Global Framework on UN Support on Syria/Iraq Third Country National Returnees**. In this regard, the Global Framework co-chairs, UNCCT and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), coordinated closely with the UN Country Team in Iraq to roll out the Global Framework's first joint scoping exercise, which will establish needs, gaps and minimum human rights conditions related to the return of Iraqi citizens currently detained or stranded in camps in north-eastern Syria. The joint scoping exercise, planned for mid-2021, is funded through a generous contribution from the Netherlands.

UNCCT, in cooperation with UNODC, OHCHR and UN Women, also launched the security and accountability component of the Global Framework support to Uzbekistan, with funding from the United States. This support includes the provision of an Expert Advisor, as well as rehabilitation and reintegration support to Uzbekistan. UNCCT, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, OHCHR and UNDP have also coordinated closely to roll out the Global Framework support to Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. In light of recent repatriations from Iraq to Kyrgyzstan, the project partners decided to expand support to Kyrgyzstan to address the emerging needs on the ground.

In January, UNCCT gave a presentation to the PAM Special Committee on Counterterrorism on the United Nations support available to Member States on prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals returned from Syria and Iraq. In February, UNCCT and UNICEF also presented the Global Framework to the Global Coalition Against ISIS FTF Working Group. The presentations resulted in the wide dissemination of information on the Global Framework and increased engagement with Member States on the Framework.

Activities under the UNCCT-UNODC-CTED project on **Supporting the Management of VEPs and the Prevention of Radicalization to Violence in Prisons** continued to be implemented in Kazakhstan, Tunisia, and Uganda to strengthen the management of Violent Extremist Prisoners

and their disengagement, rehabilitation and reintegration. In Uganda, the project partners facilitated the development of a PCVE road map, which includes a specialized PCVE course for the Ugandan Prison Service and a tailored PCVE toolkit for instructors. In Kazakhstan, the VEPs project conducted an Interagency Working Group meeting to review current prison-based disengagement interventions and available social reintegration programmes for violent extremist prisoners and FTF prisoners after release. VEPs project partners also co-hosted an expert meeting online with the Kostanay Police Academy in Kazakhstan on strengthening the capacity of prison and probation officers to manage high-risk prisoners, including violent extremist prisoners and FTFs prisoners.

In Tunisia, the VEPs project implemented four virtual workshops resulting in strengthened communication skills of the trained prison staff, in conjunction with the UNCCT Global Programme on PCVE. The workshops provided assistance to the National Prison Service in establishing a Center for Research and Studies on Violent Extremism at the National School of Prison and Rehabilitation. The workshops also produced recommendations for designing rehabilitation programmes for violent extremist prisoners and a StratCom plan for the Tunisian prison service. Participants had the opportunity to exchange with experts from the Netherlands, Germany, Jordan, Belgium, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Uganda as well as from UNCCT's PCVE team and the UNOCT Programme Office in Doha.

Under the joint UNCCT and UNODC project on **Enhancing the Capacity of States to Adopt Human Rights Based Treatment of Children Affected by Terrorism**, in particular, by the FTF phenomenon, three hybrid workshops took place in March in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The workshops were tailored to professionals who work directly with child returnees and are involved in the juvenile justice system and addressed how to prevent and respond to violence against children by terrorist and violent extremist groups, including children returning from conflict zones. As a result, the capacity of existing government efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate child returnees was strengthened, as well as the capacity of legal practitioners to protect children from re-traumatization and secondary victimization while providing them with legal services.

Under the joint UNCCT-UNODC-CTED project on **Supporting Lake Chad Basin Countries to Develop and Implement Strategies for the SPRR of Boko Haram-Associated Persons**, project partners organized a 3-day regional workshop on the gender dimensions of PRR approaches for persons associated with Boko Haram, in cooperation with the Lake Chad Basin Commission. The in-person workshop took place in March with participants from Maroua, Abuja, Niamey and N'Djamena, with others joining virtually from the region and around the globe. The regional workshop resulted in a set of expert recommendations, including key principles and practical measures, which will strengthen the capacity of Member States to mainstream gender perspectives throughout the implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience of the Boko Haram-affected areas of the Lake Chad Basin.

Human Rights Mainstreaming

UNCCT produced a draft **Global Human Rights Programme**, focused on an enhanced holistic framework for a more comprehensive human rights dimension in the CT/PVCE work of UNOCT, and expanded its technical assistance to programmes. In addition, UNCCT developed draft standard operating procedures for the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP) for UNOCT projects and programmes, in line with the directive of UN Secretary-General's Decision No 2011/18, with the objective of ensuring the implementation of the UN HRDDP across UNOCT.

During the reporting quarter, UNCCT planned three workshops on the project **"Supporting the Design of Human Rights Compliant Models for the Use of Artificial Intelligence for Counter-Terrorism"**. The workshops were designed to validate the UN's own understanding of possible use of AI in counter-terrorism cases and explore possible human rights safeguards and risk management frameworks that could be implemented to avoid infringement of human rights during use of AI.

By March, the joint UNCCT-OHCHR publication, Human Rights at International Borders: A Trainer's Guide, and accompanying training and reference materials, had been edited and the initial professional design/layout completed. This Guide built on training modules developed in 2018 and piloted in four regional training courses in 2018–19. The Guide will be released electronically towards the beginning of the third quarter of 2021, followed by issuance of a printed version and agreed translated editions.

In line with UNCCT's coordination role in the Global Compact, UNCCT continued to support the Quarterly Meetings of the Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group on Promoting and Protecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law while Countering Terrorism and Supporting Victims of Terrorism and act as its rapporteur. UNCCT also continued to work closely with OHCHR in the design and implementation of projects for law enforcement and security officers on human rights law and human rights compliant responses to countering terrorism, and followed up on activities in Iraq and Cameroon.

Civil society organization engagement

Following the postponement of UNOCT's Malaga Conference on human rights, victims and CSOs to early 2022 due to COVID-19-related travel restrictions, and in order to keep the momentum on UNOCT-UNCCT's strong engagement with civil society, UNOCT planned a virtual dialogue on human rights and civil society on building a Better Paradigm to prevent Counter Terrorism. In preparation for this Dialogue, UNOCT-UNCCT engaged with numerous CSOs working on different aspects of CT/PCVE, including women organizations, victims organizations and human rights defenders, with the result that many CSOs accepted to participate as speakers from the participants contributing to enrich the dialogue.

In support of better and more effective integration of civil society into UNOCT's programmatic activities, UNCCT and SPIB drafted a concept note on the development of a Public-Private Innovation Group. The concept's focus is to bring together academia and the private sector to engage in research- to- practice on the Office's CT and PCVE programmes. One outcome of this outreach to academia and research centres was the invitation for the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Raffi Gregorian, to showcase UNOCT/UNCCT's work in CT/PCVE to the academic journal of the Counter Terrorism Center at the US Military Academy at West Point, New York, United States, for summer 2021.

During this reporting period, the functions related to CSO engagement were transferred to UNOCT's SPIB. Prior to this transfer, the UNOCT CSO Strategy was operationalized starting with the drafting of a baseline survey and a concept note for the launch of a CSO online platform.

Programme Management Unit (PMU)

During the reporting period, PMU continued supporting the integrated delivery of the UNOCT/UNCCT mandate, including through quality assurance, monitoring and reporting of performance data, information management, and coordination. Activities undertaken in the first quarter of 2021 include the provision of technical support for developing UNCCT's new Programme Framework under the framework of UNOCT's Strategic Plan, producing Programme Performance reports, and identifying training needs of UNCCT/SPIB in the areas of finance and programme budget; enhancing the UNCCT database with metadata function; maintaining coordination between UNCCT and functionally related entities across UNOCT for different joint products, such as the multi-year appeal for 2021-2022; and sensitizing staff on the new UNOCT Evaluation Policy.

In January, PMU supported UNCCT senior management in delivering the quarterly briefing to Member States, by preparing substantial materials and providing logistical support.

PMU delivered three monthly Project Performance Activity Reports outlining the initiatives and activities undertaken by UNCCT. These reports provide an overview of activities per Pillar, highlight where Member States and regions are receiving services, and provide the number of participants in each activity, including gender disaggregation, where available. The monthly activity reports provide statistics and highlights used in the UNOCT monthly review brochure, which is shared with Member States, contributing to UNCCT's visibility and transparency of its work.

PMU progressed in enhancing and expanding the UNCCT project database with metadata function (the database). In order to increase the monitoring of UNOCT programmes, as also recommended by the KPMG report, SPIB programmes and projects have also been integrated into the database, to allow for increased oversight and monitoring of all UNOCT capacity-building

activities. PMU successfully integrated SPIB programmes and projects into the database and applied different enhancements, launched on 1 April. The expansion of the database scope was followed by trainings to the SPIB programming teams.

This new version of the database also brought new features. In cooperation with the UNOCT Programme Review Board (PRB) secretariat, PMU linked in the database the PRB recommendations and USG approvals to respective projects/programmes. Significant updates to the database also include expanded gender markers related to participants attending UNOCT workshops and the capability to track and analyse partnerships across jointly organized activities.

Additionally, the development of the style and content of monthly reports has incorporated ongoing enhancements of the database, allowing users to easily perform analysis directly within the report, as well as alignment of content to address data trends that are of interest to senior management and donors.

KPMG in its recommendations of 2020 stressed the necessity for UNCCT to close projects which meet the project closure criteria and underlined PMU's supportive role in the process. As a result of PMU's technical support, project managers were able to successfully close eight projects during the reporting period.

In areas of capacity-building of UNCCT and SPIB, PMU conducted the first UNCCT/UNOCT survey for identifying needs and developing a plan for targeted finance and budgetary trainings in 2021. The results of the survey and related training plans will be finalized in the second quarter.

PMU provided technical advice to UNCCT programming teams in fund allocation and budget preparation in line with UN budgetary guidelines and donor agreements, in close collaboration with UNOCT Strategic Planning and Programme Support Section and the Executive Office. PMU assisted programme teams in analysing the financial expenditures of projects, and assessing fund utilization and project implementation. PMU, within its coordination function, assisted the preparation of proposals for the 2021-2022 UN Multi-Year Appeals for Counter-Terrorism, to identify the funding gaps thereby enhancing the process of planning and forecasting.

In March, PMU launched a 2020 end-of-year survey and annual feedback mechanism to beneficiaries that provides UNCCT and senior managers with information on 1) demographics of UNCCT capacity-building events; 2) effectiveness of the Centre's capacity-building support to Member States; and 3) how capacity-building support can be further improved. The survey is one of the instruments that allows UNCCT to monitor satisfaction levels regarding its capacity-building work and facilitates a collection of first-hand testimonials from beneficiaries.

As a result of PMU's activities and outputs, UNOCT/UNCCT continued to deliver its capacity-building mandate and the senior leadership was provided with the necessary programmatic information and data to make informed decisions and undertake oversight.

Through PMU's work, internal UNOCT/UNCCT processes and products for planning, monitoring and reporting are strengthened, institutional memory and lessons learned are maintained, and Members States and beneficiaries are informed of the progress of capacity-building activities.

Part II: Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight

Evaluation Policy

During the first quarter, the UNOCT Evaluation Policy was launched which provides the overall framework for the planning and undertaking of evaluations by the Office. The development of the Evaluation Policy is partly in response to the KPMG recommendations arising from the evaluation of the UNCCT 5-Year Programme Evaluation to strengthen impact evaluation of UNOCT Programmes. The Policy was also developed as part of systematic processes the Office is undertaking to enhance its results-focused culture.

Following the launch of the Policy, two sensitization meetings were held with UNOCT programme managers. The sensitization meetings are also intended to solicit inputs towards the development of the evaluation handbook and guidelines to operationalize the evaluation policy.

Independent Meta-Synthesis of evaluations conducted by Global Compact Entities under the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Within the framework of the Resource Mobilization, Monitoring and Evaluation (RMME) Working Group of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, UNOCT is cooperating with other entities to undertake a meta-synthesis of evaluations undertaken by Compact entities on counter-terrorism in the United Nations system. The goal of this innovative analysis is to provide aggregated findings on the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, systematically disseminate lessons learned and good practices, and provide recommendations for strengthening the evaluation framework for Counter-Terrorism Compact entities. The meta-synthesis is also intended to inform a potential strategic evaluation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and identify possible related requirements.

In the first quarter, an information package was developed and shared with members of the RMME working group to provide a common understanding for the meta-synthesis exercise, including timelines, deliverables and terms of reference for consultants. This also laid the groundwork for the preparation of the inception report. In terms of the deliverables, the inception report is expected to be produced in May while the preliminary findings will be produced in June. The meta synthesis final report will be produced in October.

UNOCT Programme Review Board

During the first quarter of 2021, the UNOCT Programme Review Board (PRB) held three meetings: the 32nd meeting in January, the 33rd meeting in February, and the 34th meeting in March, during which a total of 24 agenda items were considered, 22 of which related to UNCCT. The PRB will now be held on a monthly basis to ensure more consistent review of programme submissions. The recommendations of the PRB made during the first quarter of 2021 pertaining to UNCCT programmes and projects did not have any additional financial recommendations. UNCCT-related recommendations issued by the PRB during the first quarter pertained largely to no-cost extensions of existing programmes or projects largely due to COVID-19 related challenges in implementation, or the acceptance of project closure presentations made to the Board by programme managers.

Part III: Communications and Visibility

While finalizing the new 2021 UNOCT Communications and Visibility Strategy and Plan in line with the Office's strategic vision and UNCCT priorities, UNOCT continued to progress in implementing UNCCT's updated Communications Strategy and Visibility Plan for 2020, 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 impacted 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.

For example, a video entitled "UNOCT: Year in Review" was produced for the Member States briefing at Ambassadorial level in January showcasing UNOCT achievements, including UNCCT's, and thanking donors for their contributions. The video, which is hosted on the homepage of the UNOCT website was also posted on UNWebTV and on the UN YouTube channel, generating more than 2,500 views. The video was also hosted on the new UNOCT YouTube Channel where it generated 950 additional views totalling close to 3,500 views on YouTube alone. For this same briefing, 20 tweets were issued from the @UN_OCT twitter account to promote its activities including 11 using the hashtag #UNCCT, which generated 159,000 potential impressions. All the statements of participating UN entities were posted on the website.

Under-Secretary-General Voronkov also continued to promote the activities of UNCCT through video statements (live and pre-recorded) which he delivered on the occasion of high-level events and for UNCCT workshops, including for example events related to the project on prison deradicalization. All these statements are available on the website and YouTube and were promoted on the @UN_OCT twitter account. On the International Women's Day on 8 March, Mr.

Voronkov issued a video statement on gender mainstreaming within UNOCT, highlighting UNCCT's achievements in this context.

Promoting UNCCT activities

In the first quarter, UNCCT continued to raise awareness on the activities of UNCCT through dedicated communications strategies and visibility plans. For example, on 8 February, the Office promoted the launch of the UN-EU Counter-Terrorism Partnership for Sudan, which included a workshop on CFT, in collaboration with United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), the European Union (EU) and the Sudanese authorities. A press release as well as five tweets were issued in English and in Arabic. As a result, the event was featured in the United Nations Secretary-General Spokesman's morning headlines of 9 February. For this event, 111 tweets were issued by 35 contributors generating over 300,000 potential impressions.

As part of the CFT programme, another press release was issued on 17 February on the EU-UN partnership in Mongolia in addition to two web stories including on the Development of a Good Practice Memorandum on Safeguarding Civic Space and a second on CFT in Eastern and southern Africa. All these activities were also promoted on the @UN_OCT Twitter account.

The Centre also produced several communication products such as three issues of the UNOCT Monthly Review newsletter, which featured UNCCT's work prominently. This newsletter, which is published on UNOCT's website, is shared with all Permanent Missions in New York and the 43 Global Compact entities and is promoted through the UNOCT Twitter account. The product continues to be highly welcomed by interlocutors in briefings and bilateral meetings.

Social media

On 3 February, the @UN_OCT reached 10,000 followers (100 per cent increase in the number of followers in 2020) and in January UNOCT created a new YouTube channel in order to host its audio-visual materials, including Under-Secretary-General Voronkov's video statements and promotional videos.

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, 54 tweets (and 193 retweets) with #UNCCT were issued by the @UN_OCT twitter account generating a total 553,600 owned impressions (potential views via @UN_OCT). According to Union Metrics, #UNCCT generated 1.3 million potential impressions on Twitter during the reporting period with 314 tweets (including 250 retweets) by 157 contributors and

the main contributor being @UN_OCT. The most popular tweet, which generated a total of 177,200 potential impressions, focused on the UNCCT regional workshop pertaining to the Small Arms and Light Weapons project on countering the terrorism-arms nexus in Central Asia. This event was also promoted through a web story published on UNOCT's website.

Website

During the reporting period, UNOCT updated its website 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 153,644 pageviews in the first quarter of 2021, with the UNCCT sub-website recording 14,834 pageviews—an increase of 19 per cent compared to the same period last year. The most popular pages were the UNCCT landing page[a] and the CBRN and Cybersecurity programme pages. During the reporting period, seven web stories on UNCCT activities were posted on the event page, on the ICSANT, SALW CBRN and CFT programmes.

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 the 2021 UNOCT Communications and Visibility Strategy and Plan, considering the recommendations of the KPMG report.

Part IV: Financial Overview

Pledges and contributions for UNCCT

UNOCT senior managers continue to engage actively with existing and potential donors to mobilize more flexible unearmarked funding and diversify the donor base to ensure sustainable and predictable funding for UNCCT's programmatic activities.

During the quarter, a total of US 2.7 million in new hard pledges were earmarked for UNCCT activities. The government of Canada concluded a contribution in support of the 'Gender & Identities Platform' over a two-year period. The project aims to increase the integration of gender and intersectional identity factors into the design, planning, delivery and assessment of global, regional, national-and local level CT/PCVE policies, programmes, and activities.

[aa] www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct which is also accessible through www.un.org/uncct.

The government of the People's Republic of China, through the Executive Office of the Secretary-General's Peace and Security Sub-Fund, provided a generous allocation to support the establishment of the **UNOCT Programme Office in Nairobi** and specifically for programmatic activities implemented in the region, which included financial support for UNCCT in the areas of border security and management and StratCom.

The Government of India continued its support of UNCCT's work on countering the financing of terrorism, with a contribution of $250,000 for the expanded **CFT Programme** that commenced in 2020. An additional contribution from India of the same amount was provided to the UNOCT's Counter-Terrorism Travel Programme.

The Government of Japan provided a generous contribution to the project on **Strengthening supervision and community-based rehabilitation and reintegration of terrorist and violent extremist defendants and offenders in Indonesia during the COVID-19 pandemic** that is part of the **Global Programme on PRR**. This project is implemented in cooperation with UNODC and CTED. The project is implemented through the Peace Hub, which is an innovative, multi-agency platform established in 2019. The project supports the development of a mechanism to ensure effective supervision and community-based reintegration of terrorist and violent extremist defendants and offenders, at all stages of the criminal justice process through an "all-of-society" approach, and the development of interventions designed to reduce the risks of recidivism.

And finally, the Government of the United States of America, through its Department of State, provided a generous contribution in support to the Government of Uzbekistan in the reintegration and rehabilitation of individuals returned from Syria and Iraq. This project is part of implementation of the **Global Framework on UN Support to Member States on Individuals Returned from Syria and Iraq** and will be implemented in partnership with OHCHR, UNODC, and UN Women, and will assist in developing, refining, coordinating, and/or implementing, a country-wide RRR strategy and policy in line with international frameworks and through a whole-of-UN approach to ensure coherent and comprehensive UN support on future and prior repatriation efforts, thereby strengthening national legislative, policy frameworks and institutional capacities.

It will also strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations and government entities to provide monitoring and evaluation of services delivered to returnees. Finally, the project will support the identification of cities / regions that are receiving FTF family members so that they can be targeted for training and support in providing evidenced-based, trauma-informed health and psychosocial care, resocialization, and disengagement as well as initiatives that encourage community acceptance of returning FTF family members and community programs designed to prevent future support for violent extremism.

Table 1 - New pledges made in 2021 to UNOCT

(in thousand United States dollars (S'000), as of 31 March 2021)

Donor	For UNCCT (a)	For other UNOCT (b)	Total Pledges (c)=(a)+(b)
Canada	**1,139.0**	-	1,139.0
EOSG PDF funds (China)	**507.4**	365.7	873.1
United States of America	**493.8**	-	493.8
Japan	**350.0**	-	350.0
India	**250.0**	250.0	500.0
United Kingdom	**-**	323.6	323.6
Hungary	**-**	12.1	12.1
Grand Total	**2,740.2**	**951.4**	**3,691.6**

As of March 2021, cumulative pledges made to the UN Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism since it was established in 2009, and to UNOCT from other trust funds, amount to $271 million, of which, $202.1 million has been received. Out of the total pledges mobilized cumulatively, 57 per cent ($154.2 million) has been earmarked to UNCCT programmes and projects.

Distribution of cumulative pledges to UNCCT and to other UNOCT units, 31 Mar 2021 (US$m, %)

Other UNOCT, $116.8 , 43%

UNCCT, $154.2 , 57%
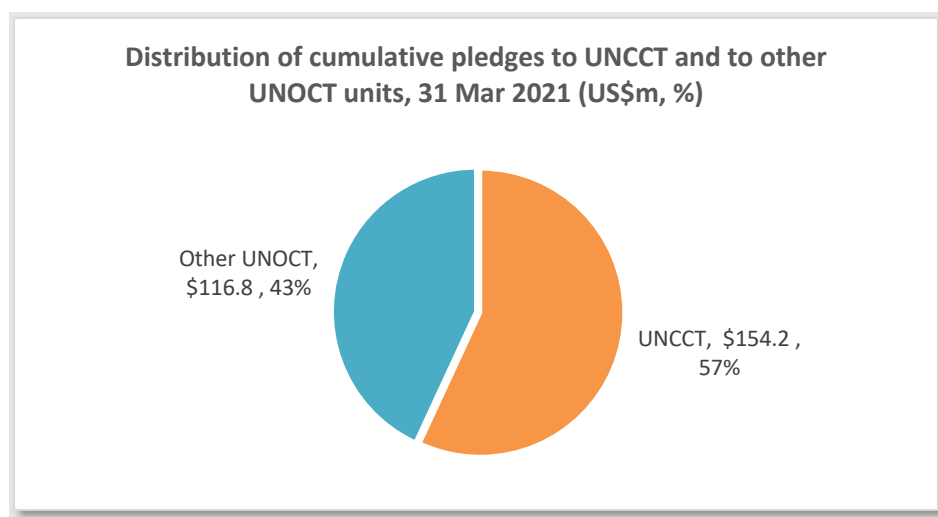
The generous contribution from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has provided 71 per cent of the cumulative pledges and contributions in support of UNCCT projects and activities. The work of UNCCT is made possible with the pledges and contributions of the 32 donors, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Cumulative pledges to the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism[b] and other extra-budgetary allocations, and cumulative distribution of resources to the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism programme of work

(in United States dollars, as of 31 March 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	9,995,745	6,632,042	16,627,786
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	EOSG PDF funds (China)*	2,575,472	5,565,737	8,141,209
8	Germany	2,403,853	-	2,403,853
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	Rep. 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	454,586	684,644
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
29	Morocco	30,000	903,333	933,333

[b] since inception of the Trust Fund in 2009

30	Nigeria	10,000	-	10,000
31	Kenya	5,000	-	5,000
32	Algeria	2,500	20,000	22,500
	Portugal	-	-	220,896
	Hungary**	-	-	22,125
Grand Total		**154,179,424**	**116,790,967**	**270,970,391**

* Allocation from the UN Peace and Security Sub-Fund

** In addition, in-kind contribution provided by the Netherlands (valued at $11.5million in 2018) and Hungary ($16.7k in 2021).

As of 31 March, the utilization against the released budget of $**26,481,289** was $**8,830,550** or 33 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 31 March 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	6,047,612	3,923,718	65%	44%
II	Combatting Terrorism	10,078,174	935,666	9%	11%
III	Supporting International Cooperation on Counter-Terrorism	2,927,925	575,578	20%	7%
IV	Human Rights and Victims	7,427,577	3,395,588	46%	38%
Total		**26,481,289**	**8,830,550**	**33%**	

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

Part V: Conclusion

UNCCT entered 2021 well prepared to adapt to the new working requirements imposed by COVID-19 and ready to respond to the needs of Member States to be defined in the seventh review of the GCTS in June 2021. As a Centre of Excellence, UNCCT continued to provide high-impact programming to Member States towards their implementation of the GCTS.

During the first quarter of 2021, UNCCT advanced in developing the Programme Framework under the overall framework of UNOCT's Strategic Plan. The Programme Framework is informed by the recommendations of the KPMG evaluation, advice from the UNCCT Advisory Board, and is aligned with the strategic direction of UNOCT's Strategic Plan. The outcomes of the seventh review of the GCTS will also be incorporated to reflect Member States' priorities.

Reflecting its adaptability and efficiency, UNCCT prioritised assignments that can be completed under the circumstances and travel limitations imposed by the pandemic, while identifying and developing solutions to carry out activities using virtual tools and platforms such as: online trainings, mixed virtual/in-person formats, simulation platforms, and virtual needs-assessment tools. UNCCT remains committed to continued learning, as it applies identified good practices and lessons learned from 2020 programming, while consistently working to maximize the quality of its work towards the successful delivery of UNCCT's mandate.

UNCCT's expertise continues to be requested globally by Counter-Terrorism Compact entities as well as by other partners. The Centre remains dedicated to deepening its existing engagements and developing new partnerships with relevant regional organizations. Through these partnerships, and UNOCT's increased field presences, UNCCT's technical assistance and capacity-building continues to move closer to the beneficiaries. This allows UNCCT to build on local knowledge and expertise and tailor its programming to specific beneficiary needs, while addressing global counter-terrorism threats.