



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**Programme  
Office in Ethiopia**

**Semi-Annual Progress Report**  
1 January – 30 June 2021

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# SUMMARY AND CONTEXT OF ACTION

This Semi-annual Progress Report covers the period January to June 2021 and highlights the progress made in implementation against planned activities by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Ethiopia.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

UNODC has worked with an increasing presence in Ethiopia since 1995. Building on more than 20 years of engagement in Ethiopia, UNODC's current support for the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia is guided by the **National Plan of Action (2019-2022)**, aligned with the Regional Programme for Eastern Africa "*Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Security in Eastern Africa*" (2016-2021).

Endorsed by the government, the plan is designed to meet their specific needs and signals an expansion for UNODC across key pillars, reinforcing our strong presence and relevance in Ethiopia. Implementation is led by our Programme Office in Ethiopia situated in Addis Ababa. Priorities include:

- Countering transnational crime and trafficking;
- Countering corruption;
- Terrorism prevention;
- Crime prevention and criminal justice; and
- Prevention of drug use, treatment of case of drug use disorders and HIV and AIDS prevention and care.

## ETHIOPIA CONTEXT

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia launched a series of bold and comprehensive reforms in April 2018. New initiatives aimed at broadening democratic participation, strengthening justice and rule of law, creating accountable systems of governance have been undertaken. Reforms introduced in the Justice Sector included legislative review, as well as structural and leadership changes in key justice institutions starting at the Federal level. Yet, despite positive changes across the government, there has been a significant amount of instability and unrest across the country including protests, civil unrest and ethnic violence.

On 13 March 2020, the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in Ethiopia. Subsequently, in accordance with Article 93 of the Ethiopian Constitution, the Government declared a five-month State of Emergency on 8 April 2020 which ended in September 2020. With the increase in the transmission of the virus and the State of Emergency in place, the government postponed the sixth general election, which took place in majority of the regions in Ethiopia on 21 June 2021. Other regions are set to vote in September 2021, while the fate of the Tigray region remains unclear. Whilst the State of Emergency has ended and schools have since opened, alternative working arrangements are in place for the UN.

The conflict in Tigray region has continued and caused a humanitarian crisis with concerns rising over lack of food and access to basic services. There is currently a drive by the Ethiopian Government and international partners to address the humanitarian crisis which is reported as still being dire. UN personnel in Ethiopia remain vulnerable to the dynamics of any ethnic violence and internal clashes. These include increased risks of attack on staff, harassment and disrupted travel. These challenges are currently being addressed with constant attention and mitigation measures being placed by UN security.

Under these general circumstances, work has continued with the Federal Police Commission, the Federal Office of the Attorney General (FOAG), the Federal Supreme Court and the Federal Prisons Commission. However, the delay in the extension of the project funded by Japan and delay in the release of funds granted by Sweden caused enormous delay in implementation of activities in the first half of the year.

## UNODC PROJECTS IN ETHIOPIA



In the context of UNODC's mandate and within the framework of the Regional Programme for Eastern Africa (2016-2021) and [UNODC Strategic Vision for Africa 2030](#), UNODC is implementing several projects in Ethiopia. In our strategic vision for Africa, these projects represent our investments in promoting people's health through balanced drug control, securing the safety of people from organized crime, terrorism, and violence; safeguarding people and institutions from corruption and economic crime; and making criminal justice systems more effective and accountable. The programmes and projects in progress in the first half of 2021 include:

- The *National Integrated Programme for Ethiopia (2019-2021)*; *Sub-programme II: Criminal Justice and Integrity*, which is funded by Sweden. The focus of the programme is on supporting the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's efforts against corruption and to strengthen the criminal justice institutions by improving the effectiveness of investigation, prosecution, access to justice, fair trial and execution of penal sanctions, and by securing the protection of vulnerable groups.
- *Supporting Transformation, Peace and Security in the Horn of Africa (2020-2022)* is funded by the Government of Japan. This project is being implemented in conjunction of two sub-programmes of UNODC's regional programme for Eastern Africa, namely the Countering Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking (TOC) Sub-programme and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme (CPCJ). The goal of this project is to contribute immediate tangible measures to conditions furthering peace and stability through secure trade and connectivity in the Horn of Africa region and in particular Eritrea and Ethiopia, by enhancing security of the movement of people, goods, services and across boundaries to and from selected international entry ports (land, sea and air), and improving the criminal justice process in the countries in the region.
- The *Better Migration Management (BMM) programme Phase II (2016-2022)* is funded by the European Union (EU) Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Other partners include British Council, CIVIPOL and International Organization for Migration (IOM). The overall objective of the project is to improve migration management in the Horn of Africa including Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda, and in particular to address the trafficking and smuggling of migrants from and within the region through a human rights based approach.
- The *Enhancing Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons in Ethiopia (2020-2024)* is funded by the U.S. Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. The overall objective

of this project is to strengthen the Rule of Law through more accessible, accountable and effective criminal justice systems by enhancing the strategic and operational capacity of Ethiopia to respond to the crime of Trafficking in Persons and ensure access to justice and fair treatment for victims of TIP. There are two main objectives: 1) Strengthen the capacity of the Witness Protection Directorate to effectively provide victim and witness assistance and protection in cases of TIP; and 2) Enhance effective criminal justice responses to prevent, suppress and punish child trafficking in particular the problems of children in domestic servitude and commercial sexual exploitation.

- As part of the UNODC Regional Terrorism Prevention programme, UNODC is supporting in the counter-terrorism activities to strengthen human rights-based criminal justice responses to terrorism in Ethiopia, including through implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- As part of the UNODC Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP), Ethiopian officers benefit from international meeting and training opportunities.. AIRCOP aims at strengthening the capacities of international airports to detect and intercept high-risk passengers, including foreign terrorist fighters, illicit drugs and other illicit commodities (such as arms, wildlife or falsified medical products) as well as to detect victims of trafficking in persons and smuggled migrants. It also aims at facilitating communication and coordination between origin, transit and destination countries to disrupt cross-border illicit flows and criminal networks.
- The Programme Office in Ethiopia also implements other regional and global programmes such as that on Anti-Corruption as well as the Qatar-funded Education for Justice (E4J) Programme. The work on Anti-Corruption in the country has included work around Witness Protection and Whistle Blowing. The E4J Programme seeks to prevent crime and promote a culture of lawfulness through education activities designed for primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. In Ethiopia, the focus of the work on E4J has been at the tertiary level, where UNODC works with lecturers from 11 universities across the country. The lecturers teach at the law schools of the respective universities and support UNODC in the integration and implementation of E4J developed modules on areas such as Crime Prevention, as well as Transnational Organized Crime in the school curriculum.

## KEY PARTNERS

Activities implemented in Ethiopia include activities funded by the Government of Sweden, the Government of Japan, the European Union, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the US Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, and the State of Qatar.



The UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia continued working closely with the Federal Police Commission, the Federal Office of the Attorney General (FOAG), the Federal Supreme Court, the Federal Prisons Commission, the Ministry of Women, Children and Youth Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Food and Drugs Authority, Good Samaritan Association (a local NGO) and the Addis Ababa Children's Rehabilitation and Remand Center (AACRRC). In 2020, UNODC began to engage at the regional level within Ethiopia, with the regional counterparts including the Regional Prison Commissions, Regional Police Commissions and Regional Attorney General and Justice Bureaus.

# SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

This report covers activities from January to June 2021. During this period, UNODC continued to support partner institutions by providing expert technical assistance across the UNODC mandate. Key achievements include:



## NORMATIVE AND POLICY SUPPORT

- Legal advice on Witness and Whistle-blowers Protection for the revision of Proclamation No. 699/2010
- Standard Operating Procedures with CIVIPOL on investigating and prosecuting the crimes of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants
- Technical expertise to develop national Prison Training Curriculum in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules
- Technical expertise to develop the Training Curriculum for Investigating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants



## ANALYSIS, RESEARCH, EVIDENCE

- Gaps and needs identified for criminal justice case management systems in Ethiopia
- Training Needs Assessment for prison, police and prosecutors validated by all stakeholders
- Participation in the nation-wide assessment on the import, storage, transportation, prescription and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to understand their use and overall management



## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Provision of equipment

- Handover of equipment to 6 key justice Federal institutions
- Provision of IT equipment to support data collection on the use of drugs to the Ethiopian Food and Drug Administration
- Handover of equipment to the National Partnership Coalition on Migration Secretariat (NPC)

### Training of trainers

- Training workshop for Ethiopian police personnel on investigation of crimes of Trafficking in Persons/Smuggling of Migrants
- Training workshops for law enforcement and prosecution personnel on international best practices and gender norms

### Specialized trainings

- Training workshop for criminal justice practitioners on the protection and promotion of human rights in responding to the acts of terrorism
- Training workshop on effective criminal justice responses to counter serious and transnational organized crimes
- Training on International Cooperation in criminal matters

### Participation in international forums

- Participation in the AIRCOP and CRIMJUST Accra Interregional Investigative Case Forum in Ghana
- Participation in the online event on “Strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters to counter Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants within the horn of Africa”

### Initiating new technical assistance programmes

- Identifying gaps and needs to establish an AIRCOP unit
- Identifying gaps and needs to develop adequate anti-corruption reporting systems

# OUR INVESTMENT TOWARDS THE UNODC STRATEGIC VISION FOR AFRICA 2030



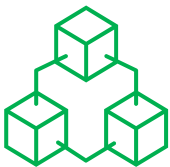
## Promoting people's health through balanced drug control

- Participation in the nation-wide assessment on the import, storage, transportation, prescription and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to understand their use and overall management
- Provision of IT equipment to support data collection on the use of drugs to the Ethiopian Food and Drug Administration



## Securing the safety of people from organized crime, terrorism, and violence

- Standard Operating Procedures with CIVIPOL on investigating and prosecuting the crimes of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants
- Technical expertise to develop the Training Curriculum for Investigating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants
- Identifying gaps and needs to establish an AIRCOP unit
- Participation in the online event on "Strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters to counter Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants within the horn of Africa"
- Participation in the AIRCOP and CRIMJUST Accra Interregional Investigative Case Forum in Ghana
- Training on International Cooperation in criminal matters
- Training workshop on effective criminal justice responses to counter serious and transnational organized crimes
- Training workshop for Ethiopian police personnel on investigation of crimes of Trafficking in Persons/Smuggling of Migrants



## Safeguarding people and institutions from corruption and economic crime

- Legal advice on Witness and Whistle-blowers Protection for the revision of Proclamation No. 699/2010
- Identifying gaps and needs to develop adequate anti-corruption reporting systems



## Making criminal justice systems more effective and accountable

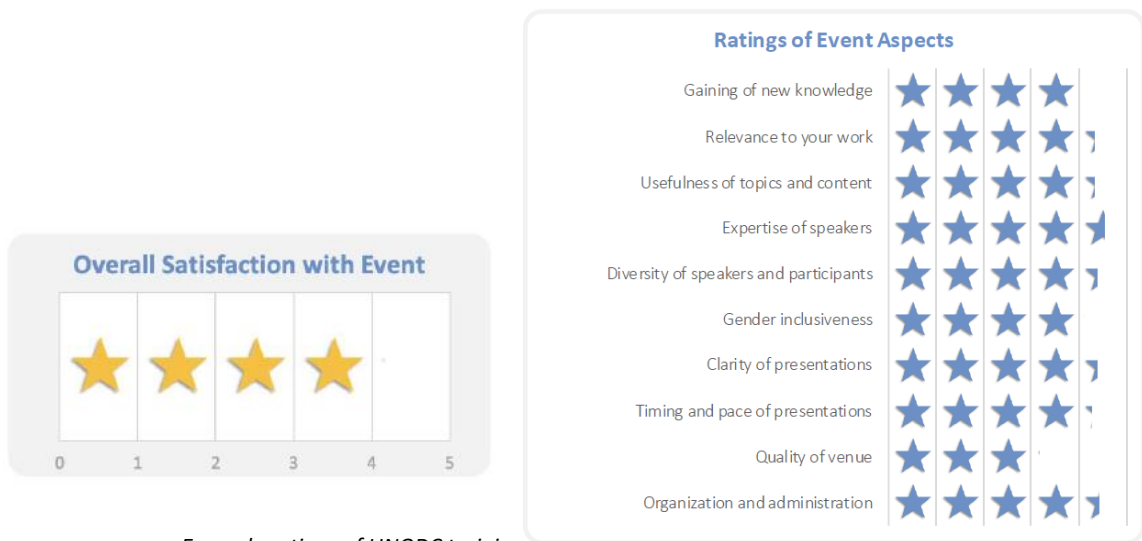
- Technical expertise to develop national Prison Training Curriculum in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules
- Gaps and needs identified for criminal justice case management systems in Ethiopia
- Training Needs Assessment for prison, police and prosecutors validated by all stakeholders
- Handover of IT equipment to the Ethiopian Federal Police Special TIP/SOM Unit
- Training workshop for criminal justice practitioners on the protection and promotion of human rights in responding to the acts of terrorism
- Training workshops for law enforcement and prosecution personnel on international best practices and gender norms

# OUR IMPACT

Throughout this reporting period of January to June 2021, the interventions in Ethiopia have been measured for quality and effectiveness using project monitoring tools developed and piloted in December 2020. The suite of tools includes an indicator tracker, a participant feedback form, a product quality form, an equipment feedback form, and training pre-test/post-tests.

## Participant Feedback

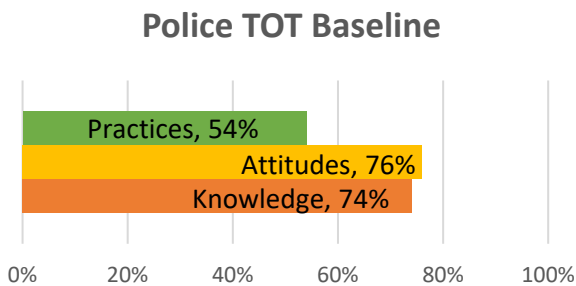
After each event, the participants are given the opportunity to rate various aspects of the event and share their suggestions on how to improve our services. Most participants of UNODC events completed the Participant Feedback form. The interventions measured this period were rated overall as highly satisfactory by the responding participants. Frequent suggestions provided by the participants include the desire for longer training courses and continued training online and in-person. Many participants stated they would cascade the knowledge gained by training their colleagues and would incorporate the knowledge into their day-to-day work activities.



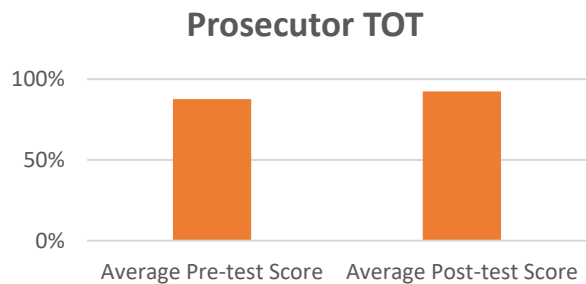
Example ratings of UNODC training...

## Training Effectiveness

To measure the effectiveness of our training interventions, baseline data is collected through a pre-test form with questions on knowledge, attitudes and practices. At the end of the course, trainees complete a post-test form to measure change in these areas. Examples of data collected for this reporting period are as follows:



Collecting baseline data



Measuring impact



# RESULTS ACHIEVED AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

The following interventions in Ethiopia were designed in accordance with the Regional Programme for Eastern Africa (2016-2021) and the National Action Plan for Ethiopia (2019-2021)

## CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

### Overview of results achieved and activities undertaken

#### ***Better capacity to investigate and prosecute transnational organized crimes***

- Finalization and validation of the UNODC Training Needs Assessment for prison, police and prosecution personnel by a national consultation group (February 2021)

#### ***Prison reform***

- Launch of the national Prison Training Curriculum supported by UNODC and in line with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules) by the Ethiopian Federal Prison Commission (February 2021)

#### ***Police reform***

- Completion of training for 22 law enforcement national trainers (including 7 women) to enhance and sustain expertise in the Ethiopian criminal justice system (March 2021)

#### ***Better capacity to prosecute and adjudicate***

- Completion of training for 26 prosecution national trainers (including 8 women) to enhance and sustain expertise in the Ethiopian criminal justice system (March 2021)

### Finalization and validation of the UNODC Training Needs Assessment for prison, police and prosecution personnel (February 2021)



In the second half of 2020, UNODC conducted a **Training Needs Assessment (TNA)** focusing on police, prosecution and prison services and corresponding training institutions at the federal level and in the Amhara National Regional State. The TNA is based on an initial programming assessment and an equipment needs assessment conducted earlier in December 2019 at the federal level and in the Amhara Region. It is focused on a review of the institutional frameworks for the training of core personnel in the criminal justice system as well as on the identification of existing capacities, needs and core priorities of the targeted institutions. The findings of the TNA also aimed to inform the development of trainings of trainers and specialized

training curriculum, manual preparation, and training workshops.

In February 2021, a national consultation group composed of federal and regional criminal justice institutions and their corresponding training institutions, came together in Addis Ababa to review the training needs of police, prosecutors, and prison officers. The priority of this team is to support the delivery of quality and effective investigation, prosecution and custodial services that can be institutionalized by the Ethiopian criminal justice system and training institutions and both regional and federal levels.

At the event, UNODC Programme Advisor Ermiyas Kostre, guided participants through the assessment methodology, the data assessment, and the recommendations. Participants then provided feedback on the findings of the assessment and how to best embark on the actual training development and delivery at Ethiopian criminal justice training institutions. The participating officials raised a number of additional training gaps in the UNODC 2021 Training Needs Assessment Report, ultimately validating the document. Its recommendations will now provide the groundwork for further collaboration on curriculum development and specialized training, and UNODC and its partners have already sprung into action by planning the first series of trainings.

## Key findings of the Training Needs Assessment for prison, police and prosecution personnel

### *Institutional training framework*

Key institutions responsible for the training of criminal justice personnel include the human resources or training directorates of the police, prison and prosecution services:

- the Ethiopian Police University and regional police training centers;
- the Prison Commission Training Centre, serving both federal and regional levels;
- the Office of the Attorney General and the Federal Justice and Legal Research and Training Institute and Regional Justice Organs Professionals' Training Centres.

### *Existing challenges in the delivery of in-house trainings to criminal justice practitioners*

**There are generally different levels of consistency in the trainings delivered at the federal and regional levels.** Significant gaps were identified in trainings delivered at the regional level in general. The gaps were especially acute with the police commissions and its training center, where key learning components pertaining to crime prevention, human rights and emerging crimes were missing. To a lesser extent, similar gaps were identified in prosecution services. Key thematic areas identified to be included in the trainings in all criminal justice training institutes are emerging crimes and new concepts in transnational organized crime and the corresponding roles of law enforcement, prison and police institutions.

**Availability and accessibility of online training platforms are non-existent at all levels of the criminal justice system,** in line with the findings of the previous equipment needs assessment. This finding reflects the level of skills of training staff, the availability of the necessary equipment and awareness of existing online training platforms. The institutions expressed a clear interest for providing space and securing Internet connections for the establishment of dedicated online training rooms within their respective facilities.

### *Recommendations for future in-house trainings for police, prosecution and prison institutions*

Drawing up these findings, the TNA has identified four key recommendations:

- Facilitating access to online e-learning;
- Supporting the establishment of resource centres;
- Engaging and utilizing the specialized training institutions already in place to organize short-term training workshops to address training needs in a more sustainable manner;
- Organizing and delivering targeted training workshops on key thematic areas identified.

In particular, the TNA has identified **specific topics around which capacity-building trainings could be provided** to support the police, prosecution and prisons. These included human rights-based and democratic policing (investigation skills), human rights in the administration of justice, prosecution-led crime investigation, core international standards on crime prevention and criminal justice, e-learning skills (UNODC, prison reform, etc.), training/facilitation skills for trainers, gender mainstreaming and gender-based violence, witness and victim protection, protection of whistle-blowers and international standards such as the Bangkok Rules and Mandela Rules.

### **Ethiopian Federal Prison Commission launches new national prison training curriculum during the Annual Conference of Commissioners (February 2021)**

The Ethiopian Federal Prison Commission launched a national prison-training curriculum at the annual consultation forum of Federal and Regional Prison Commissions organized by the Federal Prison Commission. The curriculum, developed with UNODC support, targets all prison wardens and prison officials in Ethiopia. The curriculum has included certification in the online training on [the Nelson Mandela Rules](#), part of the education process thereby institutionalizing human rights, rehabilitation and security related best practices, setting an example for other countries in the region.

The annual conference was attended by 120 prison officials representing all regional prison commissions within Ethiopia. The curriculum focuses on human rights, security and rehabilitations and is informed by lessons learned from the targeted [trainings conducted for Ethiopian](#)

[prison officials on Nelson Mandela Rules and the Bangkok Rules in December 2020.](#)

At the event, UNODC invited participants to register on the UNODC Global e-Learning online training platform and take two certified foundational courses, The Nelson Mandela Rules and Alternatives to Imprisonment for Women Offenders. 33 prison trainers and officials have already received their corresponding certifications for the two learning modules from previous training events.



The annual forum was also an occasion to reflect on the progress made in 2020, assess the impact of nationwide prison reforms and discuss ways forward to address existing and emerging challenges ahead, including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Representatives from the Ministry of Health and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) shared best-practices in the protection of prisoners in detention facilities and who remains one of the most vulnerable groups during the pandemic.

In the last year, out of a prisoner population of over 110,000, close to 40,000 prisoners have been released to decongest prisons during the COVID-19 pandemic. “The annual forum was an occasion to raise awareness on ways to protect women, children and young offenders, including the importance of mental health services in prisons” shared Ermiyas Kostre, UNODC Programme Advisor and Trainer. He added that the curriculum also includes treatment of specific groups of prisoners including foreign nationals and said that [between 2018-2019, 80 individuals from 17 countries were arrested for trafficking cocaine, heroin and cannabis.](#)

**Training of trainers for police and prosecution personnel: enhancing expertise in the criminal justice system in Ethiopia (March 2021)**



Over the period December 2020-March 2021, the UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia partnered with key training institutes and academies in Ethiopia to deliver **three weeks of trainings to a total of 78 personnel (58 men/20 women) who train prison wardens, police officers, and prosecution personnel**, in order to enhance and sustain capacities in the criminal justice system.

This first series of training of trainers’ workshops is built on the key findings of the Training Needs Assessment mentioned above, conducted during the second half of 2020 and validated during a stakeholders’ consultation in February 2021.

Apart from UNODC experts, participants benefitted from inputs from various local partners and counterparts, including experts from the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, the Federal Supreme Court Child Justice Office, the Office of the Attorney General and the Federal Prison Commission. Civil society organizations including the Center for Justice and the International Committee of the Red Cross were also invited to share insights and contributions.

Key knowledge areas covered in the TOT sessions included modern prison management and oversight, evidence management, advanced soft skills for trainers and the use of UNODC eLearning and adult learning tools. All courses had a specific focus on **human rights and gender best practices and the role of prison, police and prosecution officials**, reflecting international best practices and recent transformative changes in the Ethiopian criminal justice legal framework. Training sessions also provided an updated overview of national legislation changes and transnational organized crime trends in Ethiopia and the region

These trainings are part of a long-term plan to support law enforcement and criminal justice institutions in Ethiopia. Participants were also introduced to the UNODC Global e-learning modules and a second round of trainings later this year will specifically focus on online courses. In parallel, UNODC is procuring ICT equipment and materials that will be installed with the aim of enhancing the online capabilities of the targeted institutions. Activities are supported by the Government of Japan under the project *Supporting Transformation, Peace and Security in the Horn of Africa*, and by the Government of Sweden.

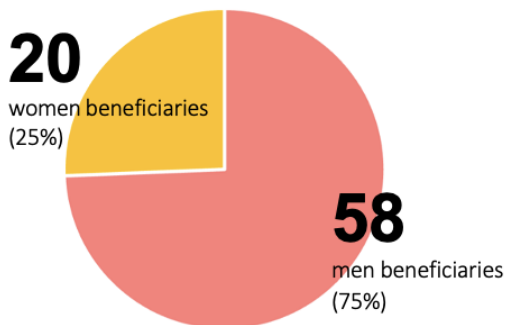
### Way forward

- Continue the engagement to deliver tailored trainings as identified in the Training Needs Assessment (TNA)
- Increase partnerships including with civil society organizations to deliver the trainings identified in the Training Needs Assessment
- Deliver online training courses to reach a broader audience and participants
- Support inter-agency coordination through joint trainings with prison officials, police and prosecutors
- Provide the necessary ICT equipment to enhance online capabilities and access to online trainings

### TOT workshops in number\*

**78**

trainers in total benefited from the UNODC training courses (trainers for prison, police and prosecution officers), including:



**13**

Invited speakers, including from:

#### The Ethiopian Government

- Federal Prison Commission
- Ethiopian Human Rights Commission
- Attorney General's Office (Federal and Amhara Regional State)
- Federal Police Commission
- First Instance Court
- Amhara State Police Commission

#### Civil Society Organizations

- International Committee of the Red Cross
- Center for Justice

\*These figures also include the Training of Trainers for prison personnel, conducted in December 2020.



Participants in the Training Needs Assessment validation workshop, February 2021

*Insights from participants from the Ethiopian Police University*



*“I am an instructor for future police recruits. The skills and knowledge I have gained during this training has been very useful. When I am back to the university, I will use the tools and materials shared to raise awareness on ways to protect human rights, children and women in the law enforcement process. This is my main take-away from the training” – Enat Mengistu, Inspector from the Ethiopian Police University*



*“I will use the materials we received to guide my students at the Police University. I learnt a lot from the instructors with national and international experiences, especially on the teaching methods and how to handle children, women and vulnerable groups in the criminal justice system”- Gossaye Tadesse, Inspector from the Ethiopian Police University, Director of the Peace Keeping Training Center*



*Pictures taken during TOT workshops*

## COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL CRIME AND TRAFFICKING

### Overview of results achieved and activities undertaken

#### ***Better understanding of threats on transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking***

- Development of a UNODC Needs Assessment Toolkit to assess capacities in countering transnational organized crime in Ethiopia, with a focus on enhancing the capacity to counter TIP/SOM (March 2021)
- Completion of a rapid needs assessment for criminal justice case management systems in Ethiopia when investigating and prosecuting cases of TIP/SOM (March 2021)

#### ***Stronger legal frameworks***

- Legal advice to identify practical and legal gaps under subsidiary laws developed for the Proclamation no.699/2010 on witness and whistle-blower protection

#### ***Better capacity to investigate and prosecute transnational organized crimes***

- Endorsement of the training curriculum and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for investigating and prosecuting crimes of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (TIP/SOM) (January 2021)
- Completion of training for 27 national trainers (including 5 women) on investigating TIP/SOM in partnership with CIVIPOL (January 2021)
- Completion of a two-week scenario-based training for 24 officers (including 4 women) on reinforcing criminal justice responses to transnational organized crimes (March 2021)
- Validation of the UNODC and CIVIPOL-supported curriculum on Investigating TIP/SOM, in collaboration with the Police University (March 2021)
- Handover of IT equipment to the Ethiopian Federal Police Special Investigation Unit in countering TIP/SOM and to the National Partnership Coalition (NPC) secretariat within the Federal Attorney General's Office to strengthen the unit in countering TIP/SOM (March 2021)
- Completion of a training workshop for 22 prosecutors (including 5 women) on TIP/SOM (March 2021)

#### ***Better capacity on international and interregional criminal justice cooperation***

- Participation of Ethiopian officials in UNODC AIRCOP and CRIMJUST Accra Interregional Investigative Case Forum in Ghana (January 2021)
- Completion of training on international cooperation in criminal matters for 11 criminal justice practitioners (including 4 women) (February 2021)
- Participation in the online side event of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) on "Strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters to counter TIP and SOM in the horn of Africa" (March 2021)

### **Increased understanding of threats on transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking**

#### ***Development of a UNODC Needs Assessment Toolkit to assess capacities in countering transnational organized crime (March 2021)***

In March 2021, a UNODC Needs Assessment Toolkit was developed to specifically assess the capacities of the Criminal Investigation Bureau of the Ethiopian Federal Police in countering transnational organized crimes, with a focus on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) and Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) related crimes. This assessment aimed to:

- Identify gaps in existing structures, knowledge, skills and specialized equipment;

- Facilitate the formulation of technical assistance projects that adequately respond to the gaps and needs identified;
- Facilitate the development of performance indicators for evaluating the progress in the capacity in countering Transnational Organized Crime and more specifically TIP/SOM related crimes.

This toolkit will be used to develop appropriate evidence-based policy and operational responses to current and emerging threats in Ethiopia and continue to adjust training topics.

#### ***Rapid needs assessment for criminal justice case management systems (March 2021)***

In March 2021, UNODC Conducted a virtual rapid case management needs assessment with the Ethiopian Federal Attorney General's Office. Gaps

and needs of criminal justice institutions were assessed and more specifically those of law enforcement in relation to effective case management when investigating and prosecuting transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

### **Legal advice provided to protect witnesses and whistle-blowers**

Following a request from the Attorney General office to support the drafting of the new Proclamation that will provide for the protection of witnesses and whistle-blowers of criminal offences, UNODC held a series of consultative and technical workshops over the period Jan-June 2021 to support the Witness Protection Directorate and partners drawn from the Legal Drafting Directorate within the Attorney General's Office. The workshops aimed at identifying practical and legal gaps under subsidiary laws developed for the Proclamation 699/2010 on witness and whistle-blowers protection.

As part of the J/TIP Programme and continuation of the discussions held in March 2021 with the Witness Protection Directorate, UNODC further supported a one-day consultation session on 17 April 2021 with partners from the Courts, Witness Protection and the Legal Drafting Directorates and the Ethiopia Police Force to finalize on the report including addressing the gaps and challenges within the Proclamation. The final draft has been presented to the Attorney General as UNODC continues to discuss on the next phase of drafting a new proclamation and amendment of the current proclamation 699/2010 and as per the international standards.

In May 2021, UNODC conducted a roundtable meeting with the Ethiopian Attorney General office and Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption commission to have policy level discussion on the amendment and way forward of proclamation 699/2010 on Witness protection and Whistleblower as discussion on the drafting process was discussed.

As a follow-up, UNODC technical experts conducted a two-day workshop on the protection of whistle-blowers from 8-9 June 2021, jointly organized with the project on accelerating the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) implementation funded by the Government of Germany.

### **Investigating and prosecuting transnational organized crimes of TIP/SOM related crimes effectively**

#### *Development and endorsement of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for investigating and prosecuting crimes of TIP/SOM (January 2021)*

A technical workshop was held on 19 March 2021 to validate the training curriculum developed for investigating TiP and SoM in Ethiopia. Participants included trainers and expert investigators who participated in the Training of Trainers conducted in January 2021.

UNODC facilitated the delivery of an endorsement ceremony related to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Investigating and Prosecuting Trafficking in persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Ethiopia.

The Officer in Charge – Mr. Abraham Ayalew delivered opening remarks at the event and reiterated UNODC's support towards efforts against the two crimes. The endorsement ceremony, funded under the Better Management (BMM) Programme, followed months of extensive UNODC and CIVIPOL's support to the development of the SOPs as well as provision of technical support to various key national agencies, mainly the Office of the Attorney General and Federal Police Commission.

#### *Training of trainers (TOT) on investigating TIP/SOM (January 2021)*

In partnership with the Ethiopian Police University and in collaboration with CIVIPOL, UNODC conducted a Training of Trainers based on the training curriculum "Investigating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants (TIP/SOM)". This curriculum is divided into three components which cover:

- The criminal phenomena and national and international responses
- Investigation methods
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for investigating and prosecuting TIP/SOM
- Simulation-based multi-agency counter-trafficking and victim identification and protection training.

Part of the Curriculum are also the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for investigating

TIP/SOM that were endorsed in January 2021, developed by CIVIPOL with UNODC and a Drafting Committee led by the Attorney General Office and the Federal Police.

*Key stakeholders' consultation and validation workshop of the training curriculum for investigating TIP/SOM (May 2021)*

UNODC and CIVIPOL in collaboration with the Ethiopian Police University, developed the curriculum on Investigating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, piloted it through Training of Trainers, and held a validation Workshop on 19 May 2021, which resulted in the formal endorsement of the Training Curriculum. The curriculum is now to be used by all Ethiopian Police Training Institutions.

The validation workshop and endorsement ceremony were held with the Directors of the Police training centers from the whole country. The Curriculum was endorsed by the Ethiopian Police University, with the consequent agreement and commitment of all Police Academies and Colleges and Training Institutions of the Regional States and the two City Administrations of Ethiopia to include the Training Curriculum in their Regular Training and Education Programmes.

*Training on International Cooperation in criminal matters (February 2021)*



In February 2021, UNODC delivered a 2-day virtual training course on international cooperation in criminal matters for criminal justice practitioners, including public prosecutors, from the Federal Attorney General's Office, police officials from the Federal Police Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, from 9-10 February 2021. A total of 11 selected participants (including 4 women) enhanced their practical skills related to the drafting

of outgoing and execution of incoming requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition.

*Two-week scenario-based training on reinforcing criminal justice responses to transnational organized crimes (March 2021)*

On 22-31 March 2021, UNODC delivered a two-week scenario-based training to reinforce criminal justice responses to counter transnational organized crimes and illicit trafficking. Planned in close cooperation with the Federal Police Commission and Federal Office of the Attorney General, the training included inter-agency scenario-based training exercises to reinforce specialized criminal justice responses to serious and transnational organized crime, and illicit trafficking. A total number 24 representative were trained (including 4 women) on the following priorities:

- Investigation strategy planning in complex criminal investigations;
- Raising awareness of specific and supportive investigation activities;
- Enhancing cooperation between investigators and prosecutors, to work jointly in detecting, preventing and investigating serious and transnational organized crime, and illicit trafficking;
- Promoting inter-agency cooperation and coordination, both informally and formally, to share information and use intelligence as appropriate; and
- Using international cooperation in criminal matters, both informally (joint investigations, joint operations and sharing of information and intelligence) and formally (mutual legal assistance extradition and confiscation of proceeds of crime), as a strategy to investigate and prosecute transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking.

*Training workshop on prosecuting TIP/SOM cases (May 2021)*

In May 2021, UNODC held a 3-day workshop to further support and strengthen the Attorney's General Office of Ethiopia in its efforts to cooperate to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, with a focus on effectively prosecuting trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. Following a recent request by the Attorney's General Office of Ethiopia for technical assistance, UNODC presented the training workshop for 22



criminal justice practitioners (including 5 women) in Ethiopia on the investigation and prosecution of cases on Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants.

The objective of the training was to enhance and strengthen the knowledge and skills of prosecutors in identifying, investigating and prosecuting cases of TIP/SOM. The training consisted of presentation of the relevant international and national frameworks and best practice principles, group discussions and hypothetical exercises. Participants were specifically trained on:

- The international and national framework for prosecuting TIP and SOM (Proclamation 1178/2020)
- The differences between TIP and SOM; indicators of TIP and SOM;
- Achieving best evidence from victims - victims' reactions and needs; protection and support for victims/witnesses in TIP and SOM cases;
- Evidence collection including use of specialist techniques and international cooperation;
- Case presentation – including countering common defense strategies and sentencing considerations.

### **Providing IT equipment to support data collection tools and evidence-based responses to counter crimes of TIP/SOM**



With the aim to strengthen the operational capacities of the criminal justice institutions to counter Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, enhance their IT infrastructure, data collection tools, and help providing the necessary online training opportunities, UNODC is providing IT equipment to key actors in Ethiopia. Over the period

Jan-June 2021, IT equipment was delivered to the following agencies:

- Ethiopian Federal Police Special Investigation Unit in countering TIP/SOM (March 2021)
- National Partnership Coalition (NPC) secretariat within the Federal Attorney General's Office (March 2021)

### **Participation of Ethiopian officers in interregional and international forums**

*Participation in the online side event of the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) on “Strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters to counter TIP and SOM in the horn of Africa”*

Within the framework of the UNODC Regional Programme for Eastern Africa (2016-2021) and the Better Migration Management (BMM) programme, Phase II, UNODC ROEA, together with the UNODC Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section (HTMSS), hosted a dedicated online High-Level Side Event on the topic of “Strengthening International Cooperation in Criminal Matters to Counter Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants within, and from the Horn of Africa” during the 30<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ). This Side Event was attended by Representatives from the different countries including Ethiopia and represented by the Deputy Attorney General.

### **Participation of Ethiopian officials in UNODC AIRCOP and CRIMJUST Accra Interregional Investigative Case Forum in Ghana**

On 27 and 28 January 2021, AIRCOP and CRIMJUST jointly facilitated an Inter-regional Investigative Case Forum, bringing together senior law enforcement officials and prosecutors from Benin, Belgium, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Italy, Nigeria, Togo and the United Kingdom, to discuss the surge in arrests of drug couriers traveling to European airports and transiting through Cotonou International Airport (COO) and Addis Ababa Bole International Airport (ADD).

This surge is likely the result of the closures of the usual air drug trafficking routes to Europe due to COVID-19, leading to the emergence of Benin as a strategic transit hub. During the forum, 61 drug seizure cases were discussed. AIRCOP and CRIMJUST

provided West African authorities with technical and strategic guidance, enabling authorities to identify cases and draw links between the different couriers. INTERPOL detailed the type of operational support they have available and the European Judicial Network (EJN) discussed their cooperation actions outside the European Union.

In April 2021, UNODC AIRCOP conducted a mission to Ethiopia to discuss the Airport Communication

Project (AIRCOP) and other TOC projects with relevant counterparts. The mission met with senior officers from all relevant agencies including the Ministry of Peace, National Intelligence Security Service (NISS), Federal Police, Customs, Immigration, Ethiopian Airlines and Airport Authority, and the European Union. The next step in the implementation of the project is the establishment of a Joint Airport Interdiction Task Force (JAITF) at Bole International Airport.

## COUNTERING CORRUPTION

### Overview of results achieved and activities undertaken:

#### *Better stakeholder engagement to corruption prevention*

- Participation of Ethiopia anti-corruption practitioners in the UNODC Regional workshop on Public Procurement and Financial Investigations (June 2021)

### Raising awareness and understanding of progress achieved and remaining challenges in UNCAC implementation in Ethiopia

In recognition of the global character of the threats posed by corruption, which requires a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, the United Nations Convention against Corruption was adopted as the sole global legally binding international instrument against corruption. While most countries in East Africa have ratified the Convention, challenges remain with regard to its implementation, in particular concerning the effective and timely implementation of the recommendations emanating from the country reviews conducted under the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism. Ethiopia has ratified the UNCAC in 2007. The [executive summary](#) and [country report](#) of the reviews of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle were finalized in 2015 and Ethiopia is now being reviewed by Greece and Egypt for its 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle.

Recognizing the importance of the regional approach, States parties have established regional and sub-regional platforms to enhance their work to combat and prevent corruption. In Eastern Africa, the Eastern African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (EAAACA) has been established and is

recognized as a subsidiary organ of the East African Community (EAC). Its members comprise the six East African Community Member States: Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda, together with observer States Ethiopia and Djibouti.

With the support of the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), these States parties gathered in February 2017 in Nairobi for a Regional Workshop on Fast-tracking the Implementation of UNCAC to build and foster partnerships and create a regional platform to fast track the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Eastern Africa. The regional platform focuses on four thematic areas identified by the countries as regional priorities: financial investigations, public procurement, whistleblower protection and international cooperation.

On 22-25 June 2021, Ethiopia participated in the discussions on the work undertaken in the region, along with new anti-corruption and detection efforts for public procurement and financial investigations, and on the progress made and success achieved. The online workshops included specific sessions on public procurement and a session on policies and procedures for financial investigations.

## TERRORISM PREVENTION

### Overview of results achieved and activities undertaken:

#### ***Stronger legal frameworks***

- Translation of UNODC resources materials from English to Amharic (March 2021)

#### ***Better capacity to investigate and prosecute terrorism***

- Completion of two training workshops for 37 practitioners (including 5 women) on the protection and promotion of human rights in responding to acts of terrorism (May 2021)

From January to March 2021, UNODC translated the UNODC resource materials from English into Amharic for countering terrorism programme and will be disseminated to the different national partners:

- International Cooperation in Criminal Matters Countering Terrorism;
- Handbook on Gender Dimension of Criminal Justice Response to Countering Terrorism;
- Human Rights Response and Criminal Justice Response to Terrorism;
- Practical Guide for Requesting Electronic Evidence across Borders.

As part of its Regional Programme for Eastern Africa (2016-2021), the regional Terrorism Prevention Programme and the Global Terrorism Programme, UNODC has been providing technical assistance and capacity building to Member States in Eastern Africa, including Ethiopia, to respond to terrorist threats, including through implementation of the UN Global-Counter Terrorism Strategy. Following a recent request for technical assistance by the

Federal Attorney General Office of Ethiopia, and utilizing funding received from the Kingdom of Norway as part of its annual voluntary unearmarked contribution (2020/21) to UNODC ROEA, UNODC presented two training workshops (21-23 May 2021 and 28-30 May 2021) for criminal justice practitioners in Ethiopia on the protection and promotion of human rights in responding to acts of terrorism.

The objective of the two training workshops was to strengthen the knowledge and skills of criminal justice practitioners in Ethiopia in applying counter-terrorism legislation in line with international legal requirements, including human rights obligations. The workshops will lead to more effective human rights-based criminal justice responses to terrorism, including investigations and prosecutions, and increased legitimacy for the criminal justice response to acts of terrorism. The first round of training included 17 participants (including 1 women) while the second round included 20 participants (including 4 women).

## PREVENTION OF DRUG USE, TREATMENT OF CASE OF DRUG USE AND HIV AND AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE

### Overview of results achieved and activities undertaken:

#### ***Better data access and understanding on drugs use and HIV***

- Provision of IT equipment to improve data collection and evidence-based policy to the Ethiopian Food and Drug Administration (EFDA) (April and June 2021)



**Technical expertise provided for a nation-wide assessment on the import, storage, transportation, prescription and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (February-June 2021)**

The Ethiopian Food and Drug Administration (EFDA) is initiating a nation-wide research study on the use and management of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in Ethiopia. A technical working group and stakeholders has been formed and UNODC has been invited to join this group to contribute with technical expertise to the study. The study should be completed by July 2021. The technical working group is chaired by the EFDA. UNODC has provided existing materials, toolkits and research documents on undertaking such assessment. The technical working group will meet once a month, with ad-hoc meetings when necessary.

**Provision of IT equipment to improve data collection and evidence-based policy to the Ethiopian Food and Drug Administration (EFDA) (April 2021)**

UNODC Representative *a.i.* Margaret Akullo handed over equipment to the Ethiopian Food & Drug Authority (EFDA) on 6 April 2021. Through funding from the Government of Sweden, UNODC provided an initial support comprising 5 computers and 2 television sets that would support the collection of data that would inform health-centered, rights-based and gender-responsive approaches to drug related issues by the Authority. Speaking on behalf of the Authority, the Deputy Director General, Mr. Seyoum Wolde stated that the equipment would be vital for the operations of the institution and looked forward to a further strengthened collaboration with UNODC. The rest of the ICT items were distributed in June 2021.

## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



In March 2021, the UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia launched its [first Gender Newsletter](#)! Inside, reflections and insights on UNODC's work to empower women and men in the criminal justice system in Ethiopia, stories of gender champions and selected resources and materials.

## FOCUS : PRISON REFORM AND REHABILITATION



In June 2021, the UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia published a [Factsheet on Prison Reform and Rehabilitation in Ethiopia](#), reflecting on the work and progress made over the period 2018-2021.

## COVID-19 CRISIS AND RESPONSE



UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia's [Short Update on COVID-19](#) provides information on activities undertaken by the Office (March 2020– April 2021) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The report includes specific interventions within the COVID-19 context and concludes with suggestions for the way forward.

# VISIBILITY AND ADVOCACY

You will find here the links to our latest web-stories, factsheets, newsletters, videos and publications covering the period January-June 2021. These are published on our [UNODC Ethiopia webpage](#).

## Factsheets and newsletters

- January 2021- [UNODC Ethiopia Newsletter Issue #1 covering the year 2020](#)
- April 2021- [UNODC Ethiopia COVID-19 Support Update \(March 2020-April 2021\)](#)
- May 2021- [UNODC Ethiopia Gender Newsletter \(2020-April 2021\)](#)
- June 2021- [Factsheet on Prison Reform and Rehabilitation in Ethiopia \(2018-2021\)](#)

## Webstories

- 12 February 2021 – [UNODC supports quality and effective investigation, prosecution and custodial services in Ethiopia](#)
- 4 March 2021 – [Ethiopian Federal Prison Commission launches new national prison training](#)
- 8 March 2021 – [Women leading the way towards gender equality within UNODC](#): an interview with Lelise Terfasa, Associate Programme Officer, UNODC Ethiopia.
- 21 March 2021 – [Promoting diversity and inclusion in my work](#): an interview with Margaret Akullo, Representative a.i. of UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia.
- 12 April 2021 - [Training of trainers: Enhancing expertise in the criminal justice system](#)

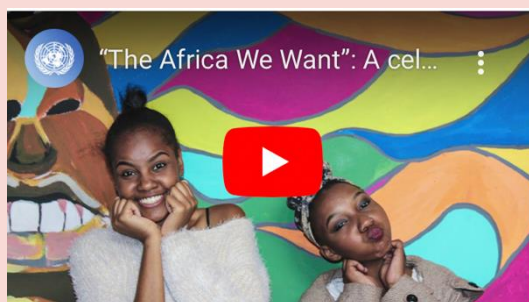
## Our latest videos



April 2021 – [UNODC Ethiopia Team Retreat and Programme Implementation Support 2021](#)



April 2021 - [Addressing COVID-19 in Ethiopian prisons: Interview with Ermiyas Kostre, UNODC Ethiopia](#)



June 2021 - ["The Africa We Want": A celebration of Africa Day 2021 by the UNODC Programme Office in Ethiopia](#)

# MEET THE TEAM



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