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PACT

Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Enhance investigation processes and the use of forensic evidence by the Sindh Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) for the preparation of terrorism cases.
- ◆ Strengthen the capacity of the Sindh Prosecution Directorate and Judiciary to effectively prosecute and adjudicate terrorism cases.
- ◆ Improve provincial and inter-provincial coordination on counter-terrorism, to strengthen capacity on counter-terrorism related strategic analysis and to promote greater judicial integrity and human rights compliant judicial processes in terrorism cases.

NEWSLETTER

January - March 2021 (Q1)

Seven Workshops in Provincial Capitals to promote a Common Investigative Approach in Countering the Financing of Terrorism

UNODC, in collaboration with NACTA and EU, hosted seven cross-country workshops for Counter Terrorism Departments (CTDs). The two-day workshops held in Islamabad (22-23 Feb), Peshawar (25-26 Feb), Lahore (1-2 March), Karachi (4-5 March), Quetta (8-9 March), and Muzaffarabad (15-16 March) and again in Islamabad (for Gilgit Baltistan, 18-19 March) were aimed to create common investigative techniques for terrorism financing across provinces and territories. Over the course of these workshops **146 officials from the ranks of Constable to Superintendent of Police participated**, with almost all participants belonging to the Investigation Wing of their respective CTDs.



The workshops were split into lectures, group activities, and case study simulations covering existing frameworks, as well as theoretical and practical implementation of TF investigative techniques. Participants learnt to apply local laws and instruments to cases of terrorism financing, and developed models for enhanced investigative capabilities. Attending investigators were trained on the improved internal processes, as well as on use of global sources and databases for increased international cooperation in terrorism financing cases.

<https://nacta.gov.pk/developing-common-investigative-approaches-in-terrorism-financing-cases-across-ctds/>

<https://www.unodc.org/pakistan/en/stories/developing-common-investigative-approaches-in-terrorism-financing-cases-across-counter-terrorism-departments.html>



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3rd Project Steering Committee Meeting

PACT Sindh's 3rd Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting was held in Karachi on 22 March 2021. The meeting was chaired by NACTA's Member Policy Mr Asif Saifullah Paracha and joined by representatives of the EU, including Deputy Ambassador Thomas Seiler who participated virtually.

During the meeting UNODC programme coordinator Mr Arsalan Malik presented on activities implemented under each Outcome of the Project since November 2020. He demonstrated that despite the pandemic, **the PACT team achieved its target to train over 520 officials, including 85 women, through 27 workshops; and developed 34 manuals, policy tools, guidelines, and SOPs.**

Mr Omar Shahid Hamid, DIG CTD Sindh Police, acknowledged and appreciated UNODC's support, and mentioned that the PACT Project was significantly aligned with Sindh Police's priorities such as CFT, crime scene investigation, use of digital and forensic evidence, and enhanced cooperation with Prosecutors.

Committee members from various departments provided their feedback on the project's implementation and upcoming activities.



Case Management and Monitoring System for Sindh

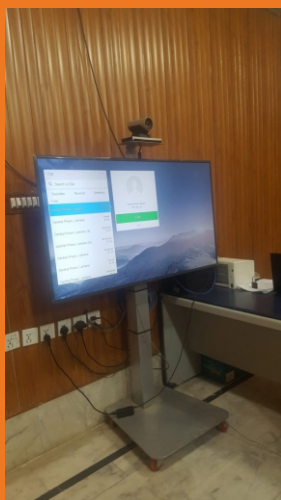
The Case Management and Monitoring System (CMMS), an IT tool being developed for Sindh's Prosecution Department, has now reached its testing phase. Consultative meetings were held to gather stakeholder feedback on actual case scenarios to help develop the most effective CMMS solution.

During the meetings in December and January, stakeholders identified areas for further development and enhancement in the existing software. The suggested features have helped achieve system maturity for CMMS, and led to the development of an effective and efficient system that will ensure timely communication and correspondence between the police and the prosecution in future.

Establishing eCourts in Sindh

In partnership with the Sindh Judicial Academy, UNODC undertook an analysis and enhancement exercise of a functionally limited eCourt facility in Larkana. The purpose of this exercise was to help develop an effective and accessible eCourt system for Sindh.

UNODC's expert team conducted interviews of judges and judicial staff using the current eCourt facility to understand the various challenges faced. The team calculated the cost of implementing an eCourt facility in a single court; and designed the way forward to improve the system with increased security, cost effectiveness, and scalability.



Ensuring Sustainable Success: Train-the-Trainer Approach

A key element of PACT's strategy is to ensure a sustained impact even after the close of project activities. Train-the-trainers is therefore an essential approach and way forward.

Sindh Police ToT

PACT Sindh interviewed numerous officers from various units of Sindh Police to select forty trainers to undergo the Train-the-Trainers (ToT) series of trainings conducted on:-

- ♦ Training Methodologies and Terrorism Investigation (15-19 Feb 2021, Karachi),
- ♦ Legal Proceedings and Court Trial (22-26 Feb 2021, Karachi),
- ♦ Crime Scene Management and Evidence Collection (8-12

- ♦ Crime Scene Management and Evidence Collection (8-12 March 2021 at Punjab Forensics Science Agency (PFSA) Lahore),

Investigation of Heinous Crimes and Gender & Child Related Offences (15-17 March 2021, Islamabad).

An evaluation committee, through an established criterion, has further shortlisted 15 potential trainers from the ToTs conducted. A comprehensive plan has also been drafted with the new pool of trainers for the Training Schools of Sindh Police, to be used in future as core curricula.

<https://www.unodc.org/pakistan/en/stories/training-of-trainers-on-training-methodologies-and-terrorism-investigation.html>

Prosecution Department ToT

The first ToT session on CT Modules for Sindh's Prosecution Department was conducted in Q1 of 2021.

Over a four-day intensive course, potential trainers were not trained solely on the required teaching principles and methodologies, but also evaluated for selection as eventual Master Trainers for PACT, based on their performance.

A UNODC developed guide was used to help trainers conduct training analysis, design trainings, present information effectively, respond to participant questions, and lead activities that reinforce learning. The training candidates were introduced to Instructional Design Methodology and the Training Cycle, as well as to Kolb's Theory of Learning. The sessions were further supplemented with activities and group discussions, and participants were asked to design a draft agenda for a training on Sindh's Witness Protection Law. They were also trained on conducting an effective training needs analysis.

identify, analyse, and interpret patterns in complex data sets using criminal analysis tools such as Call Data Records (CDRs), Geo Fencing Data, Internet Protocol Data Records (IPDR), Suspicious Transaction Records (STR) and other Open Data sources. The training also equipped the technical teams of CTD Sindh Police with theoretical knowledge on threat assessment, enabling them in group profiling as well as in development and dissemination of threat assessment reports.

To complement the trainings delivered earlier, 20 computers were handed over to Inspector General Sindh Police Mr Mushtaq Mahar by UNODC Country Representative Dr Jeremy Milsom on 30 March 2021 for CTD's technical wing.

www.unodc.org/pakistan/en/stories/use-of-digital-forensics-in-counter-terrorism-cases.html



Streamlining Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition Requests

During January 2021, UNODC organized two workshops on 'Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition in Terrorism and other Predicate Offences' in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior.

The workshops were held in Islamabad and Karachi, aimed to train participants belonging to various provincial and federal departments on the required practices and channels for effective MLA and Extradition as a way to enhance international cooperation.

MLA and extradition are often necessary instruments for effective adjudication and prevention of terrorist activities, where traditional techniques prove inadequate or inaccessible for timely intervention. The participants were imparted with knowledge and skills on preparing MLA requests to other jurisdictions. Experts from UNODC Vienna demonstrated the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool (MLARWT), model forms on MLAR related to digital evidence; and SHERLOC (Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime), a web-based knowledge portal. Presentations were delivered by experts from INTERPOL and the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs, followed by a question and answer session on the recently enacted MLA Criminal Matters Act 2020.

<https://nacta.gov.pk/nacta-moi-and-unodc-organize-workshops-on-mutual-legal-assistance-and-extradition-in-terrorism-and-other-predicate-offences/>

<https://www.unodc.org/pakistan/en/stories/workshop-on-mla-and-extradition-requests-in-terrorism-and-other-predicate-offences.html>



Strengthening CTD capacity on Digital Forensics & Delivery of Equipment

Following a comprehensive assessment of Sindh's Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) in the previous quarter, PACT along with NACTA held mentorship sessions to strategically boost the use of latest tools and techniques in criminal analysis, threat assessment, and forensics. Three key trainings were held in Q1 of 2021 to enhance the capacity of CTD's Technical Wing:-

- ♦ Basic Training on Use of Digital Forensics in Counter Terrorism Cases (11-15 Jan 2021 at PFSA Lahore)
- ♦ Mentoring Session on Criminal Analysis and Threat Assessment (3-4 Feb 2021, Karachi)
- ♦ 2nd Threat Assessment Workshop (23-26 Feb 2021, Karachi)

The above sessions succeeded in enabling the technical teams to



Expert Group Meetings

Expert Group Meetings were held in continuation of the following initiatives:-

Customising the Practical Guide on Electronic Evidence

On 11 February 2021, UNODC organised a meeting with representatives from the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Ministry of Interior, Sindh Judicial Academy, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), and Counter Terrorism Departments (CTD) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh, to discuss customization of the electronic evidence guide. Pakistan is Asia's pilot country to undertake the customisation of UNODC's Practical Guide on Electronic Evidence Across Borders. This guide has been commissioned under the Global Initiative launched in 2017 by UNODC, CTED, and IAP: 'Strengthening the Capacity of Central Authorities and Counter-Terrorism Prosecutors and Investigators in Obtaining Digital Evidence from Private Communications Service Providers (CSPs) in Cross-Border Investigations, with a Particular Focus on Counter-Terrorism Matters'.

Tailoring the South Asia Toolkit for Judges

On 24 March 2021, UNODC held a meeting with anti-terrorism judges from Sindh to present the first draft in the process of this tailoring toolkit, developed by CTED with the active support and engagement of judges from all SAARC countries including Pakistan. It elaborates and builds on relevant Security Council Resolutions and international instruments on counter-terrorism. During the meeting the judges provided important feedback and input on key areas of the toolkit which UNODC would incorporate before organizing a validation workshop later in the year.

This activity is taking place in collaboration with the Sindh Judicial Academy.

VISIBILITY



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