

Nepal: Protection and Support of Victims of Terrorism



South Asian countries have taken significant initiatives to overcome the challenges of terrorism affecting peace and stability. While it is critical to criminalise terrorist acts, the protection and support to victims of terrorism has not yet received adequate attention. Although, a number of compensation schemes and protection mechanisms exist in some countries in the region, there is a need to strengthen regional and national frameworks on victim protection. In this context, in September 2014, UNODC under its global programme on counter terrorism, in collaboration with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) held a regional workshop in Kathmandu on 'Promoting and Strengthening National Frameworks for the Protection and Support of Victims of Terrorism and related International Cooperation' for policymakers and criminal justice practitioners from SAARC nations. Experts from Australia, Malaysia, Nepal, Spain and USA shared advice on policies and mechanisms to provide assistance to victims, including the experience of victim associations and the use of counter-terrorism narratives in preventing extremism. Country delegations found the deliberations relevant and useful for adaptation in the local context. They also indicated that the discussion should be taken forward on a regional level by the SAARC. UNODC is committed to continue dialogue and will further conduct national and regional workshops. The workshop was financially supported by USA.

India: Anti-Human Trafficking Trainings



UNODC in partnership with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Government of India is training Labour and Law Enforcement Officers in countering trafficking for forced labour and domestic work in the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Delhi, under the project 'Work in Freedom' which works towards preventing the trafficking of women and girls in South Asia. The trainings seek to strengthen the capacities of the concerned officials to prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute cases of trafficking for forced labour. The first set of trainings was organised in Chhattisgarh in September 2014 for 16 labour officers and 51 police officers from across 18 districts of the state. A second set of trainings will be held in Chhattisgarh in early 2015. Participants expressed a strong need to conduct similar trainings at the district level as well. The trainings were financially supported by the Department for International Development (DFID), UK.

India: UNODC's Computer-Based Training



UNODC's computer-based training (CBT) for drug law enforcement agencies has been well received in South Asia. In September 2014, a new CBT centre was established at the National Academy for Customs Excise & Narcotics, Regional Training Institute, Vadodara, Gujarat. The setting up of the centre was followed by a two-day CBT workshop for officers from the Customs and Central Excise Department of Gujarat. CBT is an online-training platform which includes modules on drug identification and testing, search techniques, interdiction techniques, intelligence gathering, precursor chemicals and money laundering. UNODC has set up 36 CBT centres across South Asia.

Internal News Corner



The Office bids farewell to Ms. Neha Bansal who joined UNODC in 2007 and has worked in different capacities. Thanking her for her whole-hearted commitment, the Office wishes her success in her future career.

India: Training on Drug Treatment for Service Providers Working with Children



Under a UNODC global programme titled 'Prevention of illicit drug use and treatment of drug use disorders for children/adolescents at risk', the Office organized a four-day training programme in New Delhi. The training titled 'Implementing Drug Use Prevention and Drug Treatment Services for Children, Adolescents and Families' aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of drug prevention and treatment staff. The training included sessions on effective drug use prevention, psychosocial protocols, screening and assessment tools, human rights, ethics and counselling techniques. The participatory training used group discussions, role play and interactive games as training tools. The training was followed by a one-day Training of Trainers (ToT). The ToT was attended by select participants from the four-day training who were trained as master trainers. They will in-turn train service providers working in the field of drug use prevention and treatment. The trainings were organized in collaboration with SPYM, an NGO based in New Delhi. It was attended by service providers from across India. A similar set of trainings was conducted in Mumbai in collaboration with NGO - Plan India. A total of 60 service providers were reached through these trainings.

Upcoming events

10 - 12 November 2014, Hyderabad, India - UNODC in collaboration with the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy of India is organizing a three-day workshop for criminal justice practitioners on 'Effective Counter Terrorism Investigations and Prosecutions while Respecting Human Rights and the Rule of Law'. The workshop will be conducted by trainers who were trained in a previous Training of Trainers jointly organized by UNODC and the National Police Academy in July 2014.