

# UNODC APPROACH TO CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime





*Illegal mining of precious metals is often accompanied by serious human rights abuses and can have severe environmental impacts, including through deforestation, land degradation and pollution.*

## INTRODUCTION

The objective of this paper is to

- **Provide an overview of crimes that affect the environment**
- **Summarize the approach of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to crimes that affect the environment**
- **Provide an overview of UNODC's menu of services in this area**

Crimes that affect the environment are often serious, transnational organized crimes. Crimes that affect the environment threaten the rule of law, governance, and national security; they rob local communities of their livelihoods and negatively impact social and economic development. Criminal groups engaged in these crimes can make use of the same hubs and routes, engage the same facilitators and follow the same trafficking techniques as are used for other illicit commodities. They exploit gaps in national law enforcement and criminal justice systems. The enormous profits generated by this crime type have also been used to finance other criminal activities, and in some cases, have been used to finance conflict and contribute to instability. Crimes that affect the environment are frequently interlinked with corruption and economic crimes, and the ultimate beneficiaries of these crimes are often not brought to justice.

UNODC, as the guardian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), supports Member States' efforts to address crimes that affect the environment. In 2021, Member States further reiterated their commitment to addressing such crimes: ECOSOC resolution 2021/24 details practical actions for Member States and the international community to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment. The resolution requests UNODC to support Member States in this regard, including in relation to corruption and money laundering related to such crimes. The resolution further requests UNODC to expand coordination as well as cooperation with relevant organizations including the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC).

UNODC support to Member States on crimes that affect the environment is led by the Environment Team of UNODC's Border Management Branch. The Environment Team is responsible for bringing in the expertise of other sections within the Branch and elsewhere in UNODC, and ensuring work is synchronized with regional and country offices.

# WHAT ARE CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT?

There is no formally agreed definition of “crimes that affect the environment.” The Kyoto Declaration pronounces Member States’ endeavours to adopt effective measures to prevent and combat these crimes, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife, in timber and timber products, in hazardous wastes and other wastes and in precious metals, stones and other minerals, as well as poaching.<sup>1</sup> In the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes<sup>2</sup>, UNODC divides acts against the natural environment into four areas:



**Acts that cause environmental pollution or degradation**, including acts that cause the pollution or degradation of air, water and soil as well as any other acts that cause environmental pollution or degradation



**Acts involving the movement or dumping of waste**, within and across national borders, including illegal trafficking of waste, illegal movement of waste, and illegal waste dumping



**Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora**, within and across national borders, including trade or possession of prohibited or controlled species of animals



**Acts that result in the depletion of natural resources**, including illegal logging; illegal hunting, illegal fishing or gathering of wild fauna and flora; illegal mining; and other acts that result in the depletion or degradation of natural resources

UNODC assists Member States in the prevention, detection, investigation, disruption and prosecution of these crimes pursuant to its mandate and within the scope of the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and/or the UN Convention Against Corruption.

## UNODC'S MENU OF SERVICES

UNODC engages in several cross-cutting activities related to crimes that affect the environment, including:

1. **Capacity building for Member States in the areas of crime scene management, forensic evidence generation, financial and criminal intelligence collection/analysis/dissemination, financial and criminal investigation, chain of custody, prosecution, and adjudication that are applicable to counter crimes that affect the environment, through training and mentoring.**
2. **Multi-agency, regional and international trainings and workshops to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive approach on crimes that affect the environment.**
3. **Support for drafting and amending legislation to ensure a strong legal foundation for addressing crimes that affect the environment.**
4. **Research to understand the problem and help build the evidence base on what the most effective responses are.**
5. **Raising awareness and strengthening political will through convening of international high-level events and conferences on preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment.**
6. **Preventing and countering corruption and other crimes that facilitate crimes that affect the environment.**
7. **Developing standards, guidelines, data, educational and resource materials to deepen understanding of the challenges and provide policy guidance.**
8. **Identification, analysis, safe handling and disposal of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.**
9. **Working with a variety of stakeholders from government, civil society, academia and the private sector, including to build sustainable livelihoods and prevent crimes that affect the environment.**

1 Kyoto Declaration (2021), OP87. [https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/Congress/21-02815\\_Kyoto\\_Declaration\\_ebook\\_rev\\_cover.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/Congress/21-02815_Kyoto_Declaration_ebook_rev_cover.pdf)

2 UNODC (2015) International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS): <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc15/BG-ICCS-UNODC.pdf>



## UNODC PROGRAMMES OFFERING SUPPORT

Several UNODC programmes provide targeted and specialized technical assistance at particular stages of the enforcement and criminal justice chains when addressing crimes that affect the environment:

- 1.**  
GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT (GPCAE)
- 2.**  
UNODC – WCO CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME (CCP)
- 3.**  
GLOBAL MARITIME CRIME PROGRAMME (GMCP)
- 4.**  
AIRPORT COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME (AIRCOP)
- 5.**  
CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC CRIME BRANCH (CEB)
- 6.**  
LABORATORY AND SCIENTIFIC SERVICE (LSS)
- 7.**  
GLOBAL PROGRAMME AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING, PROCEEDS OF CRIME AND FINANCING OF TERRORISM (GPML)



*The use of illegal chemicals in oil blending compromises the quality of the air we breathe; mercury illegally released from illegal mining into rivers and the sea endangers ecosystems and water supplies; and waste illegally dumped in landfill sites contaminates the soil where food is grown. As a consequence, pollution crimes threaten environmental sustainability, public health, safety and the quality of life.*





## 1. GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT (GPCAE)

Building on research conducted with the Research and Trend Analysis Branch to quantitatively describe the nature and extent of crimes that affect the environment, including assessments of the evidence base on the effectiveness of different responses, the GPCAE follows a **'crime scene to court'** approach, supporting Member States to more effectively prevent, identify, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate crimes that affect the environment. Having expanded beyond wildlife and forest crime, the GPCAE also leads UNODC's work on crimes in the fisheries sector, illegal mining, minerals and waste crimes, with the aim of achieving a holistic criminal justice response that goes beyond seizures. The GPCAE provides technical assistance and capacity building for Member States throughout the prevention, enforcement and criminal justice chain. It has developed a series of tools, training and knowledge products on crimes that affect the environment and works closely with Member states to ensure ownership and empowerment to prevent and address these crimes.

Political will and an agreed global normative approach is critical to preventing and addressing crimes that affect the environment. The GPCAE provides support to Member States in the preparation of resolutions, such as the biennial General Assembly resolution on Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife and the associated Secretary-General's report on its implementation, as well as CCPCJ, UNTOC COP and UNCAC CoSP resolutions on crimes that affect the environment.

The work of the GPCAE in the area of preventing and addressing crimes that affect the environment includes the following:

### 1) **ASSESSMENTS AND EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RESEARCH AND TREND ANALYSIS BRANCH

- The biennial production of the flagship research publication, the World Wildlife Crime Report.
- The Global Study on Crimes that Affect the Environment, an accompanying review to the World Wildlife Crime Report, which will include assessment of the global state of waste trafficking, crimes in the fisheries sector, pollution crime and minerals-related crime.
- Support to the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, notably to develop the monitoring approach for the framework.
- The Women and Wildlife Crime initiative, seeking to better understand the role of gender in wildlife trafficking.
- Links to other products relevant to crimes that affect the environment, including the World Drug Report.

THE GPCAE FURTHER LEADS ON THE FOLLOWING ASSESSMENTS AND RESEARCH WORK

- The ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit and Indicator Framework assessments and implementation of resulting recommendations for technical assistance and capacity building.
- Conduct studies, including value chain analyses, on crimes that affect the environment to identify needs of law enforcement, prosecutors and the judiciary and inform programmatic planning.
- Lead the partnership between UNEP, UNODC and FAO to analyze the links between wildlife crime and public health, with a focus on the prevention of zoonotic diseases.

### 2) **STRENGTHENING NATIONAL LEGAL AND GLOBAL NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON IMPLEMENTING THE ORGANIZED CRIME CONVENTION: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

- Legislative reviews and development of tools, such as legislative guides, in relation to crimes that affect the environment (for example, the Guide on Drafting Legislation to Combat Wildlife Crime, as well as similar guides on Crimes in the Fisheries Sector, on Waste Trafficking, and on Illegal Mining and Trafficking in Metals and Minerals, which are intended to support States in enacting or strengthening domestic legislation to prevent and combat these illicit activities).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> States are encouraged to use these Guides as practical tools as they draft, amend or review relevant national legislation within their constitutional and legislative frameworks.



- Training and roll-out of Legislative Guides.
- Support for knowledge management on crimes that affect the environment through the population of the SHERLOC knowledge management portal with relevant legislation, case law, bibliographies, strategies, etc.

### 3) **STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION AND ADJUDICATION**

- Train investigators and prosecutors on crimes that affect the environment, including long-term mentorships through advisory programmes and mock trial exercises.
- Develop tools to support investigators and prosecutors, such as rapid reference guides/points to provide guides, crime scene guides, forensics manuals, first responder guides, diagnostic assessments, mutual legal assistance guides, case digests etc.
- In partnership with TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network and the African Wildlife Forensics Network, as well as the UNODC Laboratory and Scientific Services team, design, develop and implement tools, guidance and best practices, and provide support and training for crime scene first responders and laboratories working on cases of crimes that affect the environment.

### 4) **STRENGTHENING COOPERATION**

- Convene and coordinate national, regional and international inter-agency workshops to enhance cooperation, including through Wildlife Enforcement Networks and the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) meetings, and the joint OECD-WCO-UNODC Informal Law Enforcement Network on Minerals Related Crimes.
- Support the cooperation amongst law enforcement authorities, including matters involving illicit supply chains, coordination and follow-up to law enforcement and customs operations to combat crimes that affect the environment, also in partnership with CRIMJUST.
- Lead the partnership between UNEP, UNITAR and UNODC to support the strengthening of the partnership between the EU and various destination countries to address illicit flows of waste.

### 5) **RAISING AWARENESS AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE**

- Convene awareness-raising events with the aim of increasing understanding on the importance of preventing and addressing crimes that affect the environment.
- Develop educational and resource materials on crimes that affect the environment and links to other forms of transnational organized crime, including in partnership with the UNODC GRACE initiative.
- Social media campaigns and other awareness-raising campaigns and events, including the Wildlife Wednesday series for Permanent Missions.
- Building public-private partnerships to leverage expertise and raise awareness amongst key stakeholders.

### 6) **PREVENTION AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS**

- Work with youth at risk of involvement in crimes that affect the environment through sustainable livelihoods development and social entrepreneurship.

### 7) **UNODC AND UN INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION**

- Coordinate UNODC's Response Framework on Illegal Mining and Illicit Trafficking in Precious Metals.
- UNODC's focal point for the UN Environment Management Group and its associated working groups.
- Chair of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife and Forest Products.
- UNODC's focal point within the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime (ICWC – a partnership between the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, UNODC, WCO and World Bank).
- Coordinate the Asia Environmental Enforcement Award process.
- Lead the discussions with the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), UNEP and other UN partners on the issues of crime prevention, criminal justice and climate change and biodiversity loss.



## 2. UNODC – WCO CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME (CCP)

The Container Control Programme (CCP) works in partnership with the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to improve risk management, supply chain security and border management in seaports, airports, dry ports, rail terminals and land border crossings to disrupt the trafficking of illicit goods, including protected species of wild flora and fauna, timber, fish, and waste, and strengthen trade facilitation.

Within the structure of the UNODC approach to crimes that affect the environment, CCP offers the following areas of assistance:

### 1) ENHANCING DETECTION CAPACITY

- Builds and strengthens capacity and knowledge of relevant staff of Port and Air Cargo Units responsible for targeting, profiling, and inspecting high risk cargo shipments through targeted and tailor-made training, mentoring and support. For example:
  - Works with national targeting centres.
  - Provides support to back-tracking investigations of seizures and facilitates collaboration with prosecution, including basic evidence handling training.
- Develops specialized training materials, including a timber identification handbook for customs; waste trafficking handbook.
- Strengthens mechanisms to improve the work with pre-arrival and pre-departure information and supports post-clearance audits.
- Provide technologies for more effective identification of timber trafficking, e.g. Xylotron, Tradelens, Dart MS at Port and Air Cargo Units.
- Digitalize and harmonize secure data and information exchange, e.g. through Blockchain technology, ePorts etc., in collaboration with UNCTAD.

### 2) OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

- Provides operational support to targeted operations/ controlled deliveries in coordination with INTERPOL, GPCAE, WCO.

### 3) STRENGTHENING COOPERATION

- Supports the establishment inter-agency Port and Air Cargo Control Units (PCUs and ACCUs) with the participation of Customs, police and other law enforcement officers, at selected seaports, dry ports, land border crossings, rail terminals and airports at the request of the participating countries.
- Supports the establishment of specialised mobile law enforcement units / rapid response teams in cooperation with GCMP to connect water ways with ports.
- Supports the cooperation and real-time information exchange of customs authorities (as well as selected law enforcement agencies) via WCO secure channels (ContainerCOMM and AirCargoCOMM) at national, regional and international levels through connecting countries of origin, transit and destination to ensure cooperation, efficient inspection and increased seizures.
- Builds strategic partnerships among law enforcement and shipping industry, freight forwarders, academia, civil society, and scientific labs engaged in the fight against crimes against nature, including other UN agencies such as UNCTAD, CITES, WIPO, WHO, etc., in collaboration with GPCAE.



### 3. GLOBAL MARITIME CRIME PROGRAMME (GMCP)

The Global Maritime Crime Programme focuses on providing maritime law enforcement personnel and prosecutors with the skills they need to handle crimes that affect the environment during patrolling at sea, in ports and in court, as well as the exercise of flag state jurisdiction related to crimes committed onboard vessels. GMCP ensures that those who work for maritime law enforcement agencies understand the typology of these crimes and responses to incidents, including the means to collect evidence and the skills to present that evidence in court, the prosecution capacities to use maritime related evidence in court, and the capacities of the judicial authorities to interpret this evidence. The technical assistance offered in this area is provided based on engaging with relevant states in mapping their needs/gaps, and support for the development, implementation and enforcement of legal frameworks and national plans, with a particular focus on cross-agency coordination and cooperation. Moreover, GMCP engages in flag state jurisdiction related legal reforms enhancing capacities to try crimes that affect the environment, and as such is the UNODC focal point for ship-source marine pollution crimes.

Within the structure of the UNODC approach to crimes that affect the environment, GMCP offers the following areas of assistance, with a focus on capacity building in maritime law enforcement:

#### 1) STRENGTHENING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

- Support the reform of marine pollution and marine waste disposal legislation and training on its implementation.
- Support legal reforms tackling ship-source marine pollution crimes at national level.
- Support harmonized standard operating procedures concerning crimes that affect the environment for coastal and flag states.
- Assist states to develop good practices, governance frameworks and regulations for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

#### 2) ENHANCING DETECTION CAPACITY

- Support Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) exercises in protection of identified MPAs through the coordination of a joint platform in cooperation with technology provider AI2 and its Skylight system.
- UNODC's focal point for EMSA on marine pollution surveillance.
- Improve MDA capability with specialized analytical training and patrolling supported with the use of satellite imagery, UAV patrols, terrestrial surveillance sensors and the adoption of algorithm-based machine learning systems for vessel tracking.
- Promote intelligence sharing and the monitoring and flagging of vessels involved in the illegal disposal of waste at sea.
- Deliver cross-agency training through exercises using case studies based on previous maritime incidents and responses, considering how the case was handled, what legal instruments were applied, and which agencies were involved.

#### 3) STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION AND ADJUDICATION

- Train coast guard officers to collect and present evidence to support prosecutions.



- Deliver training on marine pollution enforcement relating to intentional and accidental discharge and dumping of waste substances by vessels at sea, including the provision of specialized equipment such as dispersants, spill kits and booms to enhance responses to incidents of pollution at sea and minimize the impact on the marine environment.
- Enhance and enforce port regulations in partnership with CCP that concern waste management and transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal.
- Offer riverine VBSS training to maritime law enforcement agencies, including river police.
- Strengthen the operational capacity of maritime law enforcement agencies to conduct enforcement action and maritime traffic management for deep-sea mining activity.
- Support port and maritime law enforcement agencies ensure compliance on ballast water management by vessels and similar activity by small craft to prevent relocation of pathogens and invasive species.
- Train prosecutors on marine pollution and illegal waste trafficking in the maritime domain and relevant national and international legal frameworks in cooperation with UNEP and the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions in partnership with GPCAE.
- Deliver legal training for prosecutors and maritime law enforcement agencies on the Law of the Sea and other relevant international legal frameworks including the 1973 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).
- Support training on investigation and prosecution of falsified logbooks related to bilge waters discharge.
- Facilitate simulated trials for prosecutors to test their legal frameworks and increase skills on evidence admissible in court, case preparations, court proceedings and knowledge on marine pollution.
- Support training on investigation and prosecution techniques related to ship-source marine pollution crime, including targeting corporate entities in line with UNTOC art. 10.

#### 4) **STRENGTHENING COOPERATION**

- Support the improvement of regional border management strategies to ensure stronger protection of maritime zones and MPAs.
- Facilitate regional meetings for maritime law enforcement agencies involved in the response to marine pollution to promote the exchange of best practices and information sharing as well as to foster interregional cooperation.
- Facilitate inter-agency coordination and dialogue between law enforcement stakeholders and environment authorities, in partnership with GPCAE.
- Facilitate legal cooperation and mutual legal assistance related to ship-source marine pollution crime.

#### 5) **ASSESSMENTS AND EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH**

- Produce research reports on the transport and movements of plastics, toxic waste and other hazardous waste by sea and the revenue systems of criminal groups benefiting from this practice.



## 4. AIRPORT COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME (AIRCOP)

The Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP), implemented by UNODC in partnership with INTERPOL and WCO, aims at strengthening the capacities of international airports to target and intercept high-risk passengers, illicit drugs and other illicit commodities, including protected species of wild flora and fauna and minerals. It also aims to facilitate communication and coordination between origin, transit and destination countries to disrupt cross-border illicit flows and criminal networks.

Within the structure of the UNODC approach to crimes that affect the environment, AIRCOP offers the following areas of assistance:

### 1) ENHANCING DETECTION CAPACITY

- Build the capacities of the JAIFs towards an intelligence-led identification, detection and interception of known and unknown high-risk passengers travelling by air as well as suspicious mail and cargo.
- Deliver awareness raising, training and mentoring sessions for all law enforcement officers working in AIRCOP task forces on the identification and detection of different crimes that affect the environment in passenger, luggage and air freight; intelligence and risk analysis, and rule-based targeting based on indicators; identification and safe handling of seized production, and collection of evidence for post-seizure investigations; implications of such crimes (such as health hazards and broader connections to other transnational organized crime).
- Develop standard operating procedures and rapid reference guides for law enforcement agencies present at airports, to detect, intercept and handle products related to crimes that affect the environment to bolster post-seizure investigations.
- Promote the use of secure, real-time transmission and sharing of information between law enforcement services at national, regional and international levels, including through access to INTERPOL I-24/7 databases, and the WCO's CENcomm system.

### 2) OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

- Ensure participation of AIRCOP task forces in relevant joint international operations targeting wildlife trafficking in coordination with other relevant organizations and national/international stakeholders such as WCO, UK Border Force etc.

### 3) STRENGTHENING COOPERATION

- Support the establishment of nationally owned inter-agency Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces (JAIFs), bringing together law enforcement agencies operating at airports (police, customs, etc.).
- Support targeted inter-agency cooperation by encouraging the nomination of relevant law enforcement agencies in the Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces.
- Ensure coordination between frontline officers and investigators on ongoing cases, exchange of information, preservation of evidence, etc. to support follow-up investigations at national level.

### 4) ASSESSMENTS AND EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH

- Support assessments, develops and contributes to reports on trends, airport exposure, trafficking routes and modus operandi (such as providing information to the World Wildlife Crime Report), including potential links to transnational organized crime and related networks, in particular through data stemming from the WCO's CENcomm, available to all Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces.





## 5. CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC CRIME BRANCH

The Corruption and Economic Crime Branch (CEB) provides support to Member States to implement their responsibilities and functions related to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). In addition to acting as the Secretariat to the Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC, CEB provides support to the Implementation Review Mechanism and delivers technical assistance and develops tools, including legislative assistance, policy and strategy development, and capacity building on corruption and economic crime.

Within the structure of the UNODC approach to crimes that affect the environment, CEB works in close partnership with the GPCAE to offer the following areas of assistance:

### 1) ASSESSMENTS AND EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH

- Facilitate corruption risk assessments.
- Develop knowledge products to help policy makers identify specific points in their legal and regulatory frameworks that are vulnerable to corruption risks, and to act to address those weaknesses. For example, publications include:
  - a. *[Rotten Fish: A guide on addressing corruption in the fisheries sector](#)*
  - b. *[Scaling Back Corruption: A guide on addressing corruption for wildlife management authorities](#)*
  - c. *[Rooting Out Corruption: An introduction to addressing corruption driving forest loss.](#)*

### 2) STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES TO ADDRESS CORRUPTION

- Provide support for the development and implementation of corruption mitigation measures for national authorities with a mandate to protect the environment.
- Support for Member States to identify opportunities to conduct parallel financial investigations into corruption and economic crimes, including strengthening national capacities to prevent money laundering, trace, seize and confiscate proceeds of crime, in partnership with the Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime, and Financing of Terrorism, linked to crimes that affect the environment.
- Enhance capacity to investigate and prosecute corruption and other economic crimes to help target more senior members of criminal groups and the actual beneficiaries of crimes that affect the environment, and to disrupt organized criminal groups.



## 6. LABORATORY AND SCIENTIFIC SERVICE (LSS)

Through the Global Forensic and Scientific Support Programme, the Laboratory and Scientific Service develops international guidelines and strengthens the capacity of law enforcement and forensic personnel in Member States.

Within the structure of the UNODC approach to crimes that affect the environment, LSS offers the following areas of assistance:

### 1) **SETTING STANDARDS**

- Develop guidelines to ensure that appropriate forensic methods and procedures are used throughout the entire investigation process, from the crime scene and sample collection to shipping, analysis, interpretation of results and database maintenance so that forensic data are credible and admissible in court.
- Develop guidelines for the safe handling and disposal of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, including in remote locations, to minimize or eliminate risks to the health of people and the environment.

### 2) **STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITY**

- Build the capacity of Member States to generate forensic data and use appropriate forensic tools and methods to detect and analyse crimes that affect the environment.
- Build the capacity of personnel in crime scene management and safe handling of evidence and substances that can pose a threat to health and the environment.
- Build the capacity of Member States to develop national disposal plans for chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and apply safe, environmentally responsible methods for their disposal.

### 3) **STRENGTHENING COOPERATION**

- Support the collaboration between forensics laboratories, law enforcement and the judiciary to ensure forensic data is considered and interpreted adequately.





## 7. GLOBAL PROGRAMME AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING, PROCEEDS OF CRIME AND FINANCING OF TERRORISM (GPML)

The Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and Financing of Terrorism (GPML) is mandated by the General Assembly to support Member States to meet their commitments to SDG16.4 "Reduce illicit financial flows." GPML delivers training, mentoring and resources to national competent authorities responsible for assessing money laundering and terrorist financing risk, investigating and prosecuting financial crime and using other non-prosecution disruption methods such as UN sanctions, regulation and private sector engagement, to prevent and disrupt financial crime. GPML is the focal point for UNODC's observer representation at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and its regional bodies, and has co-chaired research products, supported policy development, influenced the focus of the FATF's mutual evaluation methodologies and hosts the annual FATF Private Sector Forum.

In the context of crimes that affect the environment, GPML works in partnership with the GPCAE to deliver the following support:

### 1) STRENGTHENING NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

- Provide analysis and advise on reforming legislation, policy coherence, standard operating procedures and interagency/international frameworks for cooperation in relation to financial crime and in accordance with relevant UN Conventions, UN Security Council Resolutions, and FATF Recommendations.

### 2) STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES TO PREVENT MONEY LAUNDERING, CONDUCT PARALLEL FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS, TRACE, SEIZE AND CONFISCATE PROCEEDS OF CRIME

- Mentor and advise on the collection, analysis and dissemination of financial intelligence in order to assist the initiation of financial investigations and/or the development of national assessments on thematic financial crime risks.
- Mentor cold cases, current and new investigations to support the use of parallel financial investigations, seizures and confiscation of proceeds of crime and use of financial intelligence and evidence to support wider investigations.
- Develop and support teams of national trainers with localized training materials, including inter-agency and international trainings.
- Mentor and advise on the progress of international investigations, including proceeds of crime confiscation cases, including through various networks (FIU, policy, prosecutor, asset recovery).
- Train and mentor on the creation of financial disruption strategic planning tools to maximize impact against organized criminal groups and terrorist networks.

### 3) OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

- Advise and support Member States on the creation of accreditation frameworks to manage the professional development of competent authorities and maintain a sustainable framework to deliver and assess risk-based training.
- Provide resources such as software, hardware, specialist equipment and building facilities to support teams engaged in mentored investigations.

### 4) STRENGTHENING COOPERATION

- Advise and mentor on the creation and management of formal or informal inter-agency teams to maximize agility and impact against criminal and terrorist networks.
- Advise on and facilitate Member States creation and maintenance of two-way information sharing partnerships with civil society, the private financial sector and non-financial reporting entities.



