

“Facing the Challenges of Organized and Serious Crimes in the Western Balkans”

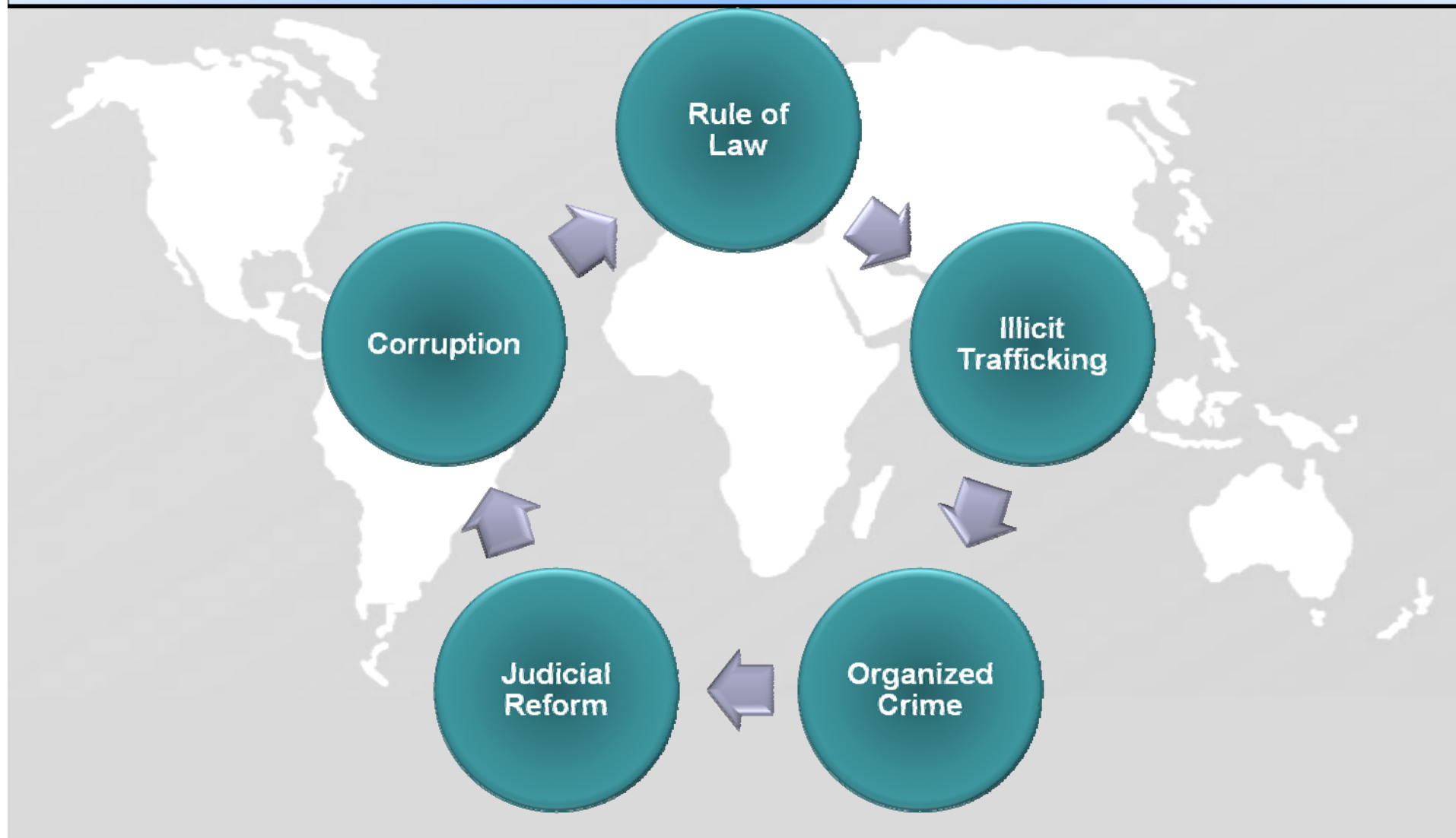
**PROMOTING JUSTICE AND SECURITY
IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE
UNODC Regional Programme (2009-2011)**



Belgrade, September 28-29, 2009



Main Challenges in SEE





Trends in OC, Corruption & Trafficking

- **Impact of Organized Crime outside the region is of concern**
- **OC groups increasingly involved in more than one type of crime**
- **Drug trafficking highest value criminal activity in SEE**
- **HT might become less visible due to adjustment of operation methods and corruption**
- **Willingness to testify against HT low due to weak witness protection**
- **Shift of modus operandi of smuggling operations away from clandestine crossings towards use of forged documents**
- **Existence of law enforcement corruption**
- **Highest rates of payment of bribes & costumer fraud worldwide**



Impact of crime in SEE

- **Negative impact on democracy, rule of law, and therefore human rights, stability, social and economic progress**
- **Corruption and consumer fraud erode confidence of citizens in each other**
- **Crime and corruption erode confidence in government and institutions**
- **Corrupt investment climate deter foreign direct investment and promote capital flight**
- **Remaining domestic business may have to operate off the books or move into informal sector**
- **In past conflicts, organised crime in SEE proved to become very powerful**



Steps towards the Regional Programme

March 2008 - UNODC publishes “Crime and its impact on the Balkans”

22-23 May 2008 - UNODC organizes an Expert Meeting with participants from all SEE countries

January - March 2009 - UNODC conducts a regional/national needs assessment with the support of six national and one regional consultants

30-31 March 2009 - UNODC organizes a High-Level Regional Conference in Belgrade to present and launch the *Regional Programme on Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Security In South Eastern Europe (2009 -2011)*

During the working sessions, the Technical Assistance component of the Regional Programme is further elaborated in order to reflect the most pressing regional cooperation needs

A Joint Statement is signed by the Governments of Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia and FYR of Macedonia

Beneficiary countries recognize the significance of the Regional Programme as added value in the joint effort aimed at strengthening good governance and the rule of law on the way towards European integration and confirm their willingness to work with UNODC on the implementation of the Programme and the TA component



Regional Programme will target:

- Albania
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Croatia
- FYR of Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Serbia incl. Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244)

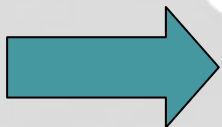




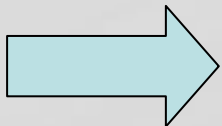
Programme overall objectives



Respond to identified threats emanating from illicit trafficking and organized crime



Strengthen the criminal justice systems, integrity of institutions and fight corruption



Prevent and treat drug-related problems, including the spread of HIV/AIDS

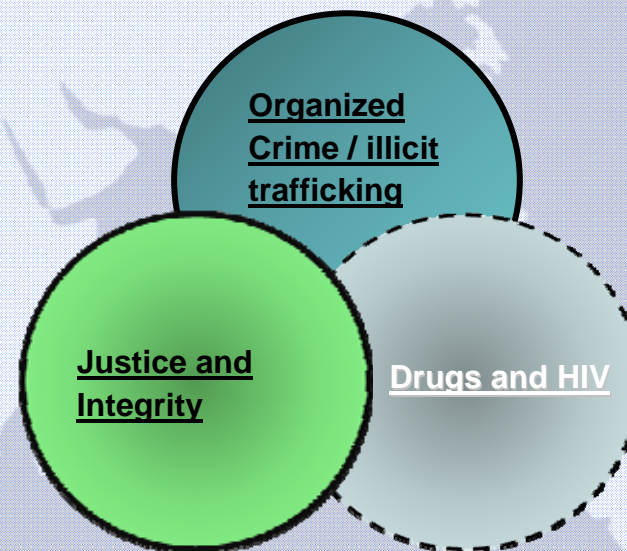


Programme overview: pillars

1. Organized crime and illicit trafficking

2. Justice and integrity

3. Drug prevention and treatment, HIV treatment and care





Organised Crime and Illicit Trafficking

Legislative assistance and capacity building

- Promulgation and implementation of domestic legislation in line with international standards; harmonization of legislation
- Mutual recognition of admissibility of evidence and judicial decision, mutual legal assistance and extradition
- Strengthening capacity for the implementation of legislation

Specialised investigative & analytic techniques

- Enhancing national capacities for investigating OC, THB, SM;
- Providing specialized equipment/software for data collection and analysis
- Specialized regional multi-agency trainings and multi-disciplinary teams for criminal intelligence officials
- Providing guidelines on standardized data collection, sharing, monitoring

Money laundering, financing of terrorism & asset forfeiture

- Harmonizing legislation on anti-money laundering, financing of terrorism and asset forfeiture in line with international standards
- Strengthening and better integration of institutions involved in freezing, seizing, confiscating and disposing of proceeds of crime
- Enhancing use of financial/criminal intelligence in support of multi-department teams for cross-border financial investigations



Organised Crime and Illicit Trafficking

Border Control

- Promotion of joint task force approaches and operations
- Exchange of experience and knowledge, incl. Schengen regulations
- Establishing multi-country specialized teams to lead parallel and joint investigations

Witness & victim protection

- Establishment of regional witness protection programmes
- Promotion of networks of contact points for information exchanges for the identification, referral, protection, repatriation and reintegration of the victims of human trafficking and smuggling of migrants

Forensics

- Supporting the introduction of forensic best practices at crime scenes and in the laboratory and promoting the use of scientific and forensic data
- Strengthening national and regional cooperation among law enforcement, judicial authorities and forensic science laboratories

Terrorism prevention

- Providing technical legislative assistance and training
- Holding thematic workshops on pertaining to biological, chemical and nuclear terrorism, maritime terrorism
- Providing ad-hoc advisory services and contributions to activities of partner entities and other relevant actors



Justice and Integrity

Judicial integrity

- Providing technical expertise and support for the development of standards of professional conduct
- Designing a monitoring system to assess the compliance of judges and other judicial staff with the rules and principles of professional conduct

Independence & integrity of criminal justice institutions

- Promoting a mechanism for civilian oversight of police and prosecution
- Building the capacity of justice officials to perform in a highly professional manner in respect of the international standards
- Strengthening institutional coordination and cooperation and the establishment of institutional measures and oversight systems

Anti-corruption

- Supporting an extension to the scope of regional cooperation networks with anticorruption bodies serving as a forum for exchange of experience
- Establishment of more effective cooperation mechanisms, in particular with regard to asset forfeiture and asset recovery
- Exchange of information on corruption cases among judges/prosecutors



Justice and Integrity

Linking law enforcement and justice

- Facilitating exchange of information and transfer of best practices in the area of prosecution-led investigations
- Strengthening the capacities of law enforcement agencies, judges and prosecutors in the area of OC, incl. THB and child abuse, and handling persons convicted for child abuse, incl. transfer of prisoners

Prison reform

- Improvement of prison management system to respect international standards
- Regional exchanges for the rehabilitation and re-socialization of prisoners, particularly of vulnerable groups
- Promoting the implementation of alternative measures



Strategic partnership

▶ **Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) - MOU between UNODC and RCC**

Objectives of MOU:

- to mutually benefit from and develop cooperation in areas of common concern with emphasis on Justice and Security
- to support the efforts of the countries in the SEE region to respond to identified threats emanating from illicit trafficking and organized crime
- to support the efforts of the countries in the SEE region strengthen their criminal justice systems, promote integrity of institutions and fight corruption

▶ **Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI)**

▶ **Regional Centre for Combating Trans-Border Crime (SECI Centre)**

▶ **Southeast Europe Police Chiefs' Association (SEPCA)**

▶ **Close consultations with other key organisations:**

- EU Agencies: EMCDDA, EUROJUST and EUROPOL
- UN Agencies, OSCE and IOM



Steps taken

Overall objective:

To launch the Regional Programme for Promoting the Rule of Law and Human Security in South Eastern Europe and make it fully operational

Main goals:

- ▶ **Secure the required UNODC expertise** to implement the Regional Programme
- ▶ **Launch the implementation** of the Regional Programme through kicking off some of its selected activities approved by the Belgrade Conference (selected activities are extracted from the three pillars of the Regional Programme)
- ▶ **Identify and elaborate a further set of activities** as a result of the initial implementation process of the Regional Programme
- ▶ **Ensure regional ownership**, proper coordination and no duplication through the establishment of a Steering Committee in agreement with beneficiary countries

Core objectives in the implementation of Pillar One- Organized crime and illicit trafficking

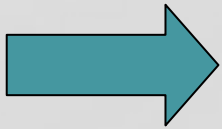




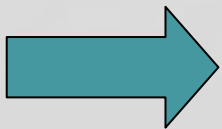
Undertaken activities



1. Regional expert meeting to review the domestic legislation and its compliance with international standards in the area of OC
18-20 November 2009




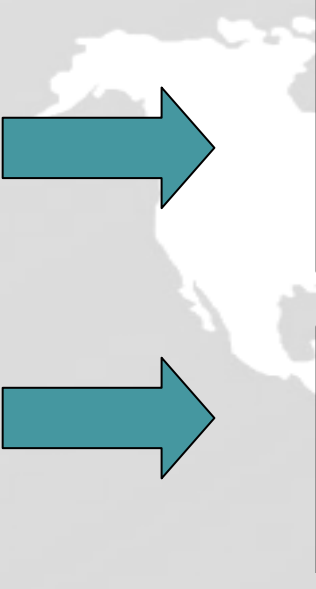
2. Regional expert meeting to review regional cooperation in SEE in the area of asset recovery in view of creating a regional network of practitioners and building a platform for exchange of information, experience and best practices, 2-4 December 2009



3. Regional expert meeting to review cooperation mechanisms to combat corruption at regional level and improve regional anti-corruption networks 9-11 December 2009



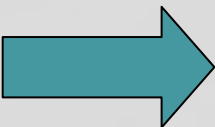
Undertaken activities



4. Training of law enforcement and illicit trafficking prosecutor officers in best practices of prosecution-led investigations and mounting joint prosecution-law enforcement operations and investigations



5. Regional expert meeting to elaborate guidelines on standardized data collection, sharing and monitoring drawing on the regional expertise



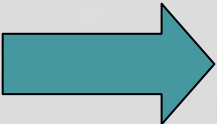
6. Assessment missions to the six countries to assess the capacities of the forensic laboratories and their national infrastructure, in order to identify gaps and shortfalls in their capacity and operation.



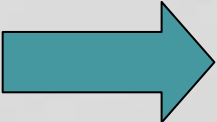
Undertaken activities



7. UNODC will deliver a Regional Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) analyst course covering the six countries to train their FIU analysts to identify suspected money laundering and financing of terrorism.



8. Assessment missions for border management capacities of the law enforcement agencies of the countries of the region , in particular those related to selection and inspection of containers in sea and dry ports



9. Building the capacity of front-line Law Enforcement Agencies and Financial Intelligence Units on an e-learning platform of Computer Based Training (CBT)



Elaboration of a further set of activities

- Based on the results of the initial strategic activities implemented, a set of new Programme activities will be formulated in further details
- Programme's set of activities will be placed under the guidance of the established Steering Committee
- Programme's set of activities will be presented to the beneficiary countries and other partners



Establishing a Steering Committee

- Steering Committee will be established in agreement with beneficiary countries as consultative and reporting body for the Regional Programme. The SC will also ensure regional ownership and help avoiding duplication of regional activities
- First meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) will be organized in order to introduce the set of initial activities of the Regional Programme and discuss the SC terms of reference, structure and tasks – 30 September 2009, Vienna



UNITED NATIONS
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SUSTAINABILITY AND FOLLOW-UP

The success of the implementation of the Regional Programme will result in establishing a regionally owned framework of cooperation among countries in the region and coordination of their efforts to promote the rule of law and human security meant to compliment the efforts already underway in the region and beyond

THANK YOU!