

Trafficking in drugs is one of the major sources of revenue of organised crime. The threats posed by drug trafficking for the regions involved, including source, transit and destination countries are multiple. The impact on the economic and social development from drug abuse and the linked money laundering is estimated to be more than double to the corresponding criminal proceedings.

An inherent problem in enhancing co-operation in the fight against drugs, is the lack of multi-layer co-operation that starts from the lack of inter-agency co-operation within a single country and extends to the lack of co-operation amongst countries and (sub-) regions, which is the handicap exploited by organised crime groups that capitalize on the lack of trust amongst the different key stakeholders.

Moreover, given the dynamism and complexity of the organised crime phenomenon, a capacity for strategic analysis and threat assessment is needed to ensure that responses designed by beneficiary countries are focused on the most relevant areas of intervention. Therefore, a regional approach should encourage the gradual adoption by beneficiary authorities of compatible methods and indicators which in turn should facilitate information sharing and cooperation.

PROJECT MANAGED BY: International Foundation of Administration and Public Policies from Spain.

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AMOUNT: €12 Million.



EU Action against Drugs and Organised Crime

Enhanced Evidence-Based and Intelligence-Led Cooperation and Capacity Building to address Drug-Related Organised Crime along the Heroin Route

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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The Project

Designed to promote the comprehensive and balanced EU approach on drugs and enhance synergies with the EU policy cycle for organised and serious international crime, this action under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) is in line with the EU Drugs Strategy (2013-2020) and the European Agenda on Security (2015) and shall contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG 16.a), the 2016 UNGASS Outcome Document on the World Drug Problem and the 2012 Vienna Declaration.

The Project aims at building capacities to increase regional and trans-regional law enforcement cooperation and coordination in the fight against organized crime and trafficking activities along the heroin route, as well as supporting the development of drugs policy and drug demand reduction activities



Overall objective

To contribute to the prevention and effective fight against organised crime, including the illicit trafficking in drugs, along the so-called "Heroin Route"

Specific objective

The specific objective is to reinforce the due process-compliant capacities of countries along the different variants of the so-called "Heroin Route" from/to Afghanistan to better address drug-related organised crime and build meaningful trust and networking amongst them that will enable them to cooperate (trans-) regionally.

Components

National Policy and Operational Responses (NAPOR)

To respond to a concrete need for hands-on practical training primarily for law enforcement and intelligence officers, investigators and prosecutors, promoting case integrity by strengthened application of due process and compliance with international law and human rights law.



Technical Assistance Facility Component (TAF)

will enable short-term transfer of knowledge, practices and experience to support partner countries and (regional) organisations in improving different aspects of their drug policies and response in a holistic manner both regarding drug-supply and drug-demand reduction aspects as well as relevant cross-cutting issues, corresponding to their national and/or institutional priorities and needs.



Cooperation Initiatives (COPI)

Involves the implementation of small-scaled (trans-) regional co-operation initiatives, which can be linked to both NAPOR & TAF, or be delivered as separate "stand-alone" events.



Expected results

Strengthened due process-compliant capacities and operational skills of criminal justice authorities, especially in their ability to undertake intelligence-led and evidence-based criminal investigations as well as strategic analysis and threat assessments in the fight against drug-related organised crime, in compliance with human rights and the rule of law.

Enhanced expertise and intensified promotion of good practices on drug-supply, drug-demand reduction and cross-cutting issues, compliant with international human rights standards and coherent with EU strategies and policies, through a demand-driven technical assistance facility providing short-term, tailor-made technical advice and peer-to-peer cooperation to countries and regional organisations along the so-called "heroin route" from/to Afghanistan.

Reinforced trust and trans-regional co-operation as well as improved networks through cooperation initiatives on drug-related issues amongst beneficiary countries as well as with their counterparts in the EU.