

This newsletter informs about the UNODC programme in the region and related events/news of partners. The UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2012-2015) aims at working in strong partnerships to reduce trafficking of heroin from Afghanistan and related crime and drug abuse problems in the region. Structured along the three main pillars - (I) Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime, (II) Enhancement of Integrity and Justice, (III) Prevention, Treatment and Care - this Programme focuses on priority action with Government officials from the justice, enforcement, health and social sectors, and at increasing work with civil society organizations. For feedback, queries or comments regarding this newsletter, please contact: Ms. Ekaterina Kolykhalova (e-mail: [ekaterina.kolykhalova@unodc.org](mailto:ekaterina.kolykhalova@unodc.org)) and Mr. Sinisa Durkulic ([sinisa.durlulic@unodc.org](mailto:sinisa.durlulic@unodc.org)).

## DRUG PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

**Start of the Strengthening Family Programme (SPF) in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, September – November:** the SPF 10-14 in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia started by adopting a training manual customized for the local needs by UNODC and was followed by a training of 28 facilitators in Skopje in October. Five elementary schools identified by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) were provided with presentation equipment in order to support the implementation of the training sessions and project sustainability. In November, 54 families were trained. The programme was rated as excellent by MES: "The implementation of the SFP is of great importance to our education system since the family is a primary group performing... complex functions in very complex relationships."



**Treatnet trainings: In October – December,** UNODC held Treatnet trainings in Tivat and Mojkovac, Montenegro, where 43 professionals were trained, and a regional training on Zlatibor, Serbia, where 21 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania and Serbia successfully completed the training.

**UNODC assists institutions in the region, October – November:** UNODC carried out a drug dependence treatment and care assessment in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** with the aim of providing an overview for the decision makers and allow planning of initial interventions in 2013. The assessment, performed in Tuzla, Banja Luka and Sarajevo, produced a report and recommendations. In **Montenegro**, UNODC assisted in carrying out the final review of the 2008-2012 National Drug Strategy and preparing a draft framework of a new drug strategy in line with findings and guidelines of relevant EU documents. The draft of the new National Drug Strategy was submitted to the National Drug Office in the beginning of December.

**TREATNET Quality Standards training, Vienna, December:** A training to present the UNODC TREATNET quality standard material, discuss the quality standards and design strategies toward achieving compliance was organized in Vienna for participants from five SEE countries. In the words of one of the participants the workshop was "very well organized and constructive". The countries were asked for proposals for future assessment/implementation of treatment quality standards.



**UNODC-WHO present assessment of Albania's capacities on drug treatment, October:** UNODC-WHO launched in Tirana a report "Assessment of the National Capacities on Drug Treatment and in particular Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT) and Provision of Recommendations on Increased Accessibility on MMT Services in Albania". The Minister of Health stressed the importance of drug related matters for the EU integration process. Among challenges with regard to drug dependence treatment and care are fragmentation and limited accessibility of services, especially MMT. UNODC-WHO's assessment envisages the creation of a steering group of all service providers under the lead of the Institute of Public Health and proposes guidance on related budgeting issues and workforce development. *For further info, Mr. Milos Stojanovic, [milos.stojanovic@unodc.org](mailto:milos.stojanovic@unodc.org) and Ms. Ela Banaj, [ela.banaj@unodc.org](mailto:ela.banaj@unodc.org)*

## CORRUPTION

**UNODC presents survey on corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina, October:** UNODC presented the results of its household survey on public sector bribery at a press conference hosted by the Ministry of Security in Sarajevo. The EU-funded report "Corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bribery as Experienced by the Population" reveals that some 21 per cent of respondents had paid at least one bribe during the previous 12 months. "We are talking about real-life experiences. Bribery seems to be a fact of life", said a UNODC representative at the launch. The then Minister of Security also attended the launch which was reported widely in the national media.

**Albania – Workshop on the impact of corruption on women, November:** UNODC, in collaboration with UNWOMEN, held a workshop with government officials, women's groups (WG) and other civil society organizations to discuss the impact of corruption on women and explore ways to address concerns of women in anti-corruption policies. The WGs identified ten key recommendations for the government regarding their efforts to combat corruption and its particular impact on women.



Following the discussions, government representatives agreed to implement some of the recommendations, among which the inclusion of WGs in Albania's UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism next year.

**International Day against Corruption Observed in Albania, December:** To mark the International Day Against Corruption,

a round table discussion was organized in Tirana by UNODC, UNDP and the European University of Tirana. Students, civil society, media, academicians and policy makers came together at a forum called "ACT Against Corruption Today". *For further info, Ms. Ela Banaj, [ela.banaj@unodc.org](mailto:ela.banaj@unodc.org)*

## COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**Joint Programme on Anti-human trafficking in Serbia:** In October, a Regional Conference “Criminal Justice Response to Human Trafficking in South East Europe” was held in Belgrade within the Joint Programme of UNHCR, UNODC and IOM to Combat Human Trafficking in Serbia with 80 professionals from the region. Also under the JP, four round tables were organized in the Appellate Courts in Belgrade, Kragujevac, Nis and Novi Sad for more than 100 judges, prosecutors and police officers who went through trainings organized in partnership with the Judicial Academy of Serbia. Their aim was to monitor implementation of the Special Protocol on Proceedings of the Judiciary in Protection of Victims of Trafficking; to present the Case Law Database analysis of 30 human trafficking court cases and to produce conclusions to relevant decision-makers in the criminal justice system of Serbia.



In October, a 3-day workshop for police officers “Analysis of the cases of HT in 2012” was held in Vrnjacka Banja with over 30 participants to present experiences from concrete cases instituted by different police units in Serbia and lessons learnt from work on these cases. Several public debates were held for a set of criminal justice and systemic judiciary laws (Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, etc.), which enabled direct communication with

the working groups drafting this legislation and allowed to incorporate recommendations from the four mentioned round tables into this new legislation, focusing on victim protection. Finally, in November equipment was provided to the Ministry of Interior for frontline specialized units for identification of victims of HT. *For further info: Mr. Davor Rauš, davor.raus@unodc.org*

**Training on Proactive Investigation of HT Cases in Albania, December:** The training for a mixed gender group of 16 officers from AHT Sector was held in Tirana. The course was conducted by two experienced former police officers from the Royal Ulster Constabulary/Police Service of Northern Ireland. The topics covered included Risk and Threat Analysis, Risk Matrix, Intelligence into Evidence, Covert Human Intelligence Source Targeting, Investigative Strategy, Understanding Cognitive Interviewing, Witness Interviews and Victim Interviews. *For further info: Ms. Ela Banaj, ela.banaj@unodc.org*

## CONTAINER CONTROL

**Albania and Montenegro:** Activities continued the ports of Durres and Bar. Agreement was reached with both Governments (formal agreement is in process and will soon be shared for signature). In Durres, UNODC completed procurement and installation of communications and computer equipment, analytical software, furniture, office supplies and basic search and protection equipment. Albanian Government provided premises which are now being refurbished by UNODC. In November, a Work Study Tour was organized for 15 selected personnel from inter-agency container profiling units to Gothenburg, Sweden. *For further info: Ms. Ela Banaj, ela.banaj@unodc.org*



## TERRORISM PREVENTION

**Montenegro, November:** UNODC and OSCE assist Montenegro with drafting the 2013-2014 Action Plan for the implementation of the 2010-2014 National Strategy for Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism, Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing. UNODC will provide assistance in promoting the Universal Anti-Terrorism Instruments and capacity-building for criminal justice officials. UNODC will support setting up of specialized trainings for judges and prosecutors in the area of recognizing forms of terrorism, prosecution of criminal acts of terrorism and financial investigations. Discussions to continue in early 2013. *For further info: Ms. Ekaterina Kolykhalova, ekaterina.kolykhalova@unodc.org*

## MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

**Regional Workshop on Mutual Legal Assistance, November:** A Workshop on Strengthening International Cooperation in Criminal Matters in SEE was held in Arandjelovac, Serbia to enhance capacity to request and render MLA in the region to fight TOC, drug trafficking, corruption and terrorism under the various UN instruments, and to better understand the issues and challenges faced by participating countries, through the exchange of experiences and examples. *Info: Mr. Davor Rauš*

## NEWS AND EVENTS

**UNODC Executive Director pays first visit to Serbia, October:** UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov



paid his first official visit to Serbia and met with Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Justice and Public Administration and other officials. Mr. Fedotov discussed the UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2012-2015) and its implementation in the region and in Serbia. All counterparts supported the Regional Programme as an excellent tool in providing a response to drugs, crime and terrorism. Prime Minister Dačić informed Mr. Fedotov of Serbia’s willingness to provide UNODC with free of charge premises. Mr. Fedotov encouraged advocacy for the UNODC work in front of the international community.

**Steering Committee of the Regional Programme for SEE meets in Vienna, December:** the second meeting of the Programme Steering Committee of UNODC's Regional Programme was held in Vienna



to discuss progress of the Regional Programme in 2012, its achievements and challenges. Some of the recommendations of the meeting include stronger partnership in local resource mobilization and support by the PSC members regarding expression of interest of the national institutions to the EU to work with UNODC as implementing partner. At the same time, UNODC will seek opportunities to allocate further resources towards an increasing presence in the region. *For further info, Ms. Ekaterina Kolykhalova, ekaterina.kolykhalova@unodc.org*