

## Strengthening capacities to address the nexus between terrorism and transnational organized crime in Africa

### Context

There is increasing recognition that terrorists can benefit from organized crime, whether domestic or transnational, through trafficking in arms, persons, drugs, cultural property, the illicit exploitation and trafficking of natural resources such as oil, precious metals and minerals, as well as timber, charcoal, and wildlife, the abuse of legitimate commercial enterprise, non-profit organizations, external donations, crowdfunding and proceeds of criminal activity, including kidnapping for ransom, extortion, bank robbery, as well as transnational organized crime at sea. The nature and scope of these linkages varies by region. Depending on the region, terrorists and organized crime groups can be linked in different ways, with many States noting how **linkages with organized crime can help finance terrorist activities**.

**Security Council resolutions 2482 (2019), 2462 (2019) as well as resolutions 2388 (2017), 2331 (2016), and 2195 (2014)**, amongst others, address the links between terrorism and specific forms of criminality, and call upon States to better understand and address linkages between organized crime and terrorism as a threat to security and development.

Addressing these interlinked and destabilizing challenges of terrorism and organized crime, which in many regions are significant threats to security and undermine development, presents an important opportunity to **respond to the Secretary-General's vision of alignment between peace and security, human rights, and development**.

**Partner countries** Algeria, Benin, Mali, Togo

**Additional countries** Burkina Faso, Chad, Libya, Niger

**Timeline** 2023 - 2024

**Donor** United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund



## Objectives



**Analyzing the trends and challenges** existing in the beneficiary countries and regions on the nexus between organized crime and terrorism.

**Increasing awareness and better understanding** by criminal justice actors of the nexus for more effective investigations and prosecutions of related cases.



Ensuring that practitioners are provided with the **policies, skills, and tools** to deal with the nexus, and cooperate effectively.

## Activities



**Scoping & consultations:** interact with key stakeholders and relevant agencies involved in countering organized crime and terrorism, to enhance their understanding of the phenomenon, evaluate the existing capacities and capacity-building needs and to appropriately tailor interventions and develop a detailed technical assistance plan.



**Review national legislation and provide legal guidance** to support coherence between domestic anti-crime and counter-terrorism legislation and international legal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and organized crime.



**Provide technical support to policymakers** on inter-agency coordination mechanisms to facilitate cooperation between law enforcement and criminal justice actors on counterterrorism and organized crime, including developing standard operating procedures and other guidance documents to support and facilitate inter-agency cooperation.



**Develop training curricula and exercises and deliver training activities** to criminal justice officers, to effectively prevent, investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate cases of trafficking in cultural property and other related offences; on the financing of terrorism through illicit trafficking and other forms of crime; on effective inter-agency cooperation.



**Enhancing cross-regional cooperation and information sharing capabilities:** promoting cooperation in addressing the linkages between organized crime and terrorism; examining regional cooperation possibilities for a comprehensive region-wide approach to addressing the nexus and discuss potential financial linkages and lessons learned regarding the financing of terrorism; enhancing skills and agility for information exchange, extradition, mutual legal assistance; and interconnecting existing cooperation networks and multi-agency task forces.



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