

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) and Mr. Sinisa Durkulic (sinisa.durlulic@unodc.org).

DRUG PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

UNODC expands Strengthening Family Program (SFP) Trainings to six more schools in Tirana and Shkodra

May-July: After the completion of the initial pilot phase of the SFP in which 100 families were involved, the UNODC Project Office in Albania expanded its activities to include another 61 families in the SFP to prevent drug abuse, HIV/AIDS and crime.

A seven week program for families (10 per each school) and children (20 per each school) were held in 6 schools of Tirana and Shkodra in May and June 2012.

The facilitators running these programmes had been trained by UNODC-Albania in April 2012. The training sessions had a strong theoretical foundation and were also designed to include a lot of structured family activities, child plays, communications skills, reinforced positive behaviours providing an opportunity for parent-child bonding.

To conduct the trainings, UNODC and the Ministry of Education of Albania applied a classified approach as regards demographic and other factors thought to be associated with attitudes and behaviours regarding drug use. UNODC review demonstrates the positive effects that family strengthening interventions can have on multiple dimensions of family processes and in turn on children's outcomes.



In the period September 2011 – June 2012, UNODC Project Office in Tirana organized trainings for 51 facilitators, 12 trainers and 161 families (483 parents and children).

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CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME

Albanian and Montenegrin officers trained on Container Control

10-14 September: Twelve officers from the Customs, Border Police and Anti-Drug Units of the ports of Durres (Albania) and Bar (Montenegro) participated in a training on Container Control organized in Durres, Albania.

The training provided a mix of theory and hands-on exercises and covered various subjects regarding different types of smuggling via maritime containerized traffic, such as risk analysis about commercial documents, risk indicators, container search, types of concealments, seal tampering and other methods of detailed search as well as practical exercises in the port of Durres.

This first practical activity demonstrated that the UNODC/WCO Global Container Control Programme will indeed be useful for assisting the ports Bar and Durres in establishing sustainable enforcement structures, so as to minimize the risk of maritime containers being exploited for trafficking of various illicit goods, including drugs, precursor chemicals, weapons of mass destruction, nuclear material, and other forms of organized crime activity. The ports of Bar and Durres are the first ones in the region to join the UNODC/WCO Global Container Control Programme.



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DRUG PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

UNODC-WHO Joint Program trains medical staff on Volume C of Treatnet Training Package

25-26 July 2012: A two-day training on Volume C of TREATNET package “Detoxification, Pharmacotherapies and Special Populations” took place in Korca, Albania. 25 participants from the primary health care service, Regional Hospital and Regional Health Directorate attended the training, which was conducted by a local trainer who had benefited from a UNODC/WHO funded Training of Trainers.

UNODC developed a detailed training plan for the TREATNET and implemented it in January-July 2012, including in the training professionals from the Regional Health Directorates of Durres, Shkodra and Elbasan. Special attention is paid to the issues of monitoring and evaluation of the training results to determine if the gained skills are applied in the regions. So far, the feedback questionnaire from the trainees has indicated a high score of satisfaction.

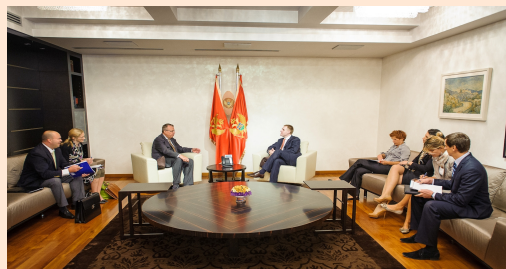
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NEWS AND EVENTS

UNODC Executive Director pays first visit to Montenegro

5 September 2012: UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov paid his first official visit to Montenegro, during which he met with Prime Minister Mr. Igor Lukšić, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Justice Mr. Duško Marković, Minister of the Interior Mr. Ivan Brajović and Minister of Health, Mr. Miodrag Radunović. During the visit, Mr. Fedotov discussed the UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2012-2015) and its implementation in the region and in Montenegro in particular. During all meetings conducted, the UNODC Executive Director acknowledged the efforts of Montenegro in tackling transnational organized crime, drug trafficking and corruption and noted that these efforts were particularly important in view of Montenegro’s EU accession. He also noted that UNODC is willing and able to support these efforts and provide assistance that can be beneficial to the accession process through its Regional Programme. All counterparts agreed that the UNODC Regional Programme is an effective tool in addressing important areas, including those indicated in the Chapters 23 and 24 of the EU acquis.



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Paris Pact Initiative: Evaluation of Achievements so far and Planning of the Next Phase

3 September 2012: Following presentation of preliminary results of the independent evaluation of the Phase III of the Paris Pact Initiative, delegates of countries participating in the Paris Pact Reconvened Policy Group Meeting agreed on the extension of the current Phase III until the end of March 2013 and on the continuation into Phase IV. While the Paris Pact Initiative will keep its current three components (Consultative Mechanism, National Strategic Analysts and ADAM), more sharpened activities will be developed using the Vienna Declaration as a road map.

Paris Pact INITIATIVE
A partnership to counter the trafficking and consumption of opiates originating in Afghanistan

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