



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN
MINISTRY OF COUNTER NARCOTICS

Afghan National Drug Action Plan 2015-2019

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Acronyms

ABP	Afghan Border Police
ANP	Afghan National Police
ANSF	Afghan National Security Forces
ARAZI	Afghanistan Independent Land Authority
AML	Anti-Money Laundering
AGO	Attorney General's Office
CFT	Combating the Financing of Terrorism
CNPA	Counternarcotics Police of Afghanistan
DAB	Da Afghanistan Bank
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
FinTRACA	Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Center of Afghanistan
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
IDLG	Independent Directorate of Local Governance
IIU	Intelligence and Investigation Unit
JWIP	Judicial Wire Intercept Program
MCFT	Major Crimes Task Force
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock
MOCI	Ministry of Commerce and Industries
MCN	Ministry of Counter Narcotics
MOD	Ministry of Defense
MEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoHRA	Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs
MIC	Ministry of Information and Culture
MOI	Ministry of Interior
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOPH	Ministry of Public Health
MOPW	Ministry of Public Works
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NDS	National Directorate of Security
NIU	National Interdiction Unit
NPD	National Program for Districts
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
SIU	Sensitive Investigative Unit
SMW	Special Mission Wing
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

I. Executive Summary

The cultivation of opium poppy and the illicit production, trade and use of narcotics in Afghanistan undermine public health and good governance, fuel corruption, fund insurgents, and further insecurity. Foreign purchasers of illicit narcotics, including countries in the region, contribute to the problem in Afghanistan while also experiencing the debilitating impact of large addicted populations.

In his vision for the government, His Excellency President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani emphasized the need for action:

Drug production and trafficking have brought us shame...thousands of documents have been developed and billions dollars have been spent to reduce poppy cultivation level, but the result is 6400 metric tons of opium production in 2014.

This document addresses the need for a comprehensive, results-based National Drug Action Plan for Afghanistan from **2015** to **2019**. It is based on Article **7** of the Afghan Constitution, which states: “The state prevents all types of terrorist activities, cultivation, and smuggling of narcotic drugs and production and consumption of intoxicants,” as well as on Articles **4**, **8**, and **65** of the Afghanistan Counter Narcotics and Intoxicants Law.

This National Drug Action Plan outlines Afghanistan’s intention to pursue a balanced, comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable approach to combating illegal drug production, trade, and usage. This plan, which integrates alternative development, eradication, interdiction, and drug treatment and prevention programs into a broad effort by the government of Afghanistan to further good governance, economic development, and security and stability, lays out three interrelated goals that the Afghan government will pursue in partnership with foreign and regional governments as well as with private and nonprofit organizations aiming to strengthen counter narcotics efforts in Afghanistan. Those goals are:

1. Decrease the cultivation of opium poppy;
2. Decrease the production and trafficking of opiates; and
3. Reduce the demand for illicit drugs in Afghanistan and increase the provision of treatment for users.

Decrease the cultivation of opium poppy

The motivations of poppy growers’ vary. Although alternative livelihood options alone may be enough to influence the decisions of a subset of farmers, eradication and the application of the rule of law are also necessary to break the cycle of cultivation by opportunistic farmers, affluent landowners, and narco-entrepreneurs, many of whom operate with impunity. Achieving a significant and sustainable reduction in poppy cultivation will also require increased security, improved governance, and implementation of this plan, along with continued international support.

The Afghan government plans to focus on two areas to decrease the cultivation of opium poppy: sustainable alternative development and agriculture and eradication. The Afghan government will pursue the following objectives under these areas:

Objective 1: *Strengthen and diversify licit alternatives to poppy cultivation for farmers, laborers, and rural communities.*

Objective 2: *Increase targeted eradication to levels that, when combined with law enforcement efforts, will significantly deter future poppy cultivation.*

Decrease the production and trafficking of opiates

Decreasing the production and trafficking of opiates is crucial to breaking the link between insurgents and the drug trade, limiting insurgents' access to drug-related funding and support, and reducing the capacity of anti-government elements to undermine the credibility and stability of the Afghan government. This is true especially in the south and southwest, where poppy cultivation and production is a primary source of revenue for the insurgency.

The Afghan government plans to focus on three areas to decrease the production and trafficking of opiates: interdiction; anti-money laundering and asset forfeiture; and regional and international cooperation. The Afghan government will pursue the following objectives under these areas:

Objective 3: *Improve the government's capacity to disrupt and dismantle drug production and trafficking organizations.*

Objective 4: *Improve enforcement of anti-money laundering laws and increase the seizure and forfeiture of proceeds and instrumentalities related to the drug trade.*

Objective 5: *Increase regional and international cooperation on counter narcotics, particularly in the areas of law enforcement and criminal justice.*

Reduce the demand for illicit drugs and increase the provision of treatment for users

Drug use poses a serious public health threat to the people of Afghanistan. It also threatens the stability of Afghan society. Drug use also has long-term negative effects on the economic and social framework of Afghanistan. According to a recent survey, 11% of the Afghan population uses drugs, one of the highest drug use rates in the world. Public information campaigns thus represent a necessary long-term complement to law enforcement and demand reduction efforts.

In order to reduce demand for illicit narcotics and its consequences, the Afghan government plans to focus on prevention and treatment initiatives and expansion. The Afghan government will therefore pursue the following objectives:

Objective 6: *Expand the reach and increase the sustainability of a nationwide continuum of care for the treatment of drug use.*

Objective 7: Increase drug use prevention programs across a range of institutions, including schools, mosques, the workplace, and media.

Objective 8: Increase communication campaigns to reduce drug use and warn of the negative consequences of planting opium poppy.

II. Introduction

Afghanistan produces well over **80** percent of the world's opium. Anti-government actors derive significant financial benefit from poppy cultivation, from narcotics production, and from drug trafficking. Narcotics-derived revenue increases corruption, undercuts the licit economy, and damages trust in public institutions. Domestic drug use severely undermines Afghanistan's economic growth and societal development as well. According to a recent toxicological survey, **11.1** percent of the Afghan population use drugs, one of the highest drug use rates in the world.

In Afghanistan the cultivation of poppy and the production of opiates occur in areas where security is worst, the economy and infrastructure least developed, and governance weakest. Improvements in all three would have a significant influence on the ultimate success of counter-narcotics measures. Experience in other countries has demonstrated that a multifaceted approach that balances alternative development, eradication, interdiction, and the treatment and prevention of drug use integrated with a broader effort to further good governance, economic development, and security and stability is the most effective way to reduce the supply of illicit drugs .

This National Drug Action Plan is therefore grounded in the following principles:

1. **A Comprehensive, Balanced Approach:** The most effective counter narcotics efforts are comprehensive—i.e., aimed at reducing poppy cultivation as well as at opiate production, trafficking and use—and balanced, so that they include both incentives such as alternative development and deterrents such as eradication, interdiction, and vigorous prosecution.
2. **Coordination:** Counter narcotics efforts affect government priorities in public health, law enforcement, security, and agriculture. To achieve the goals of this plan, it will be vital that the ministries and organizations working in these areas actively coordinate and engage on counter narcotics matters both nationally and sub-nationally.
3. **Sustainability:** Achieving lasting results on counter narcotics will require the commitment of both the Afghan government and the international community over many years. Counter narcotics and economic development policies and programs, however, can only be sustainable if they are conducted under Afghan leadership and with Afghan ownership.
4. **International cooperation:** The illicit production, trade, and use of narcotics are global problems. Combating them successfully requires international attention and collaboration.

Goals

With these principles in mind, the Afghan government has set for itself three interrelated counter narcotics goals that, in partnership with foreign governments and private, government and non-governmental organizations, it will seek to achieve by 2019. Those goals include:

1. Decrease the cultivation of opium poppy;
2. Decrease the production and trafficking of opiates; and
3. Reduce the demand for illicit drugs and increase the provision of treatment for users.

The following sections outline the specific objectives under each goal; the actions needed to achieve these objectives; the metrics to be used to measure progress toward the achievement of these objectives; and the targets for these metrics at the end of the first year and at the end state in 2019. This plan will be revised annually to develop targets for outgoing years.

Appendix 1 lists all the metrics and targets in this Plan. Appendix 2 lists the donor support needed to achieve the Plan's objectives. Appendix 3 lists the milestones—specific activities planned for completion by scheduled dates—that will mark progress toward the Plan's targets.

This National Drug Action Plan is based on the Afghan Constitution, Article 7, which states, “The state prevents all types of terrorist activities, cultivation and smuggling of narcotic drugs and production and consumption of intoxicants,” as well as on Articles 4, 8, and 65 of the Afghanistan Counter Narcotics and Intoxicants Law and the National Counter Narcotics Strategy.

III. GOAL: Decrease the Cultivation of Opium Poppy

The Afghan government will focus on two areas to decrease the cultivation of opium poppy: sustainable alternative development and agriculture and eradication.

Sustainable Alternative Development and Agriculture

Objective 1: *Strengthen and diversify licit alternatives to poppy cultivation for farmers, laborers, and rural communities.*

The key drivers of poppy cultivation include the high price of opium relative to licit crops, low productivity of licit crops, limited access to markets, and limited availability of credit. Enhancing the profitability of licit crops, together with improving rural employment options and rural incomes, is necessary to reduce incentives to engage in poppy cultivation. The Afghan government will therefore strive to make the cultivation of licit crops more economically attractive and to increase rural economic opportunity. It will focus its efforts primarily on the largest poppy producing provinces and districts, as security permits, with a secondary focus on provinces that were previously poppy-free and have regressed. It will also align these economic development efforts with improvements in law enforcement and the rule of law, security, governance, and social mobilization.

To strengthen and diversify legal rural livelihoods, particularly in the agricultural sector, the Afghan government will:

- 1. Provide assistance to farmers:** The Ministries of Counter Narcotics (MCN), Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL), and Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) will, in communities affected by counter narcotics campaigns, develop locally-tailored interventions in consultation with farmers and farmers' associations that generate legitimate long-term sustainable alternatives to poppy cultivation, including high-value perennials and off-season vegetables.
- 2. Increase access to land and water:** The Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW), MAIL, MRRD, and the Afghanistan Land Authority (ARAZI) will increase fair and equitable access to natural resources, including arable land and water, through land reform of Afghan government-owned land and through the creation of water harvesting and watershed management systems. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) will seek to reach transboundary water-sharing agreements with neighboring countries.
- 3. Support Afghan producers:** MAIL will promote the establishment of crop producers' associations, which will represent farmers' interests, provide access to credit, help create markets for their products, and expand the use of improved seed and livestock varieties. In addition, these associations will strengthen social cohesiveness and provide community support for development programs. MAIL will also seek to improve these associations' access to domestic and regional markets and increase private investment in high value crops through the establishment of incentives and protections for foreign investors willing to establish "for profit" enterprises.

4. **Incorporate counter narcotics goals into agricultural and rural development assistance:** MCN, MAIL, and MRRD will coordinate the efforts of the Afghan government, non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and partner countries to ensure that investments in agriculture and rural development by these entities include counter narcotics objectives and outcomes, that they are integrated with related projects (e.g. adaptive research, extension services, training, microfinance, processing facilities, and marketing), and that they complement each other in order to make the entire agricultural sector more resilient and competitive with poppy.
5. **Develop rural infrastructure:** Ministry of Public Works (MOPW), MEW and MRRD will develop rural infrastructure and reliable and low-cost energy sources which support the development of agricultural value chains and rural enterprise, particularly in areas where their absence is a key driver of poppy cultivation.

The following donor support is needed:

- Financial support and technical assistance to ensure that essential products (e.g. improved and locally-adapted seed, fertilizer, chemical and bio-pesticides, and veterinary services), technology, and training are available for locally-tailored interventions through assistance packages or through the private sector.
- Investment to improve the value chains of and expand access to markets for high-value perennial crops and off-season vegetables.
- Funding to improve rural roads, irrigation canals, check-dams, and access to electricity.
- Political support and cooperation to coordinate and align donor programs with the Afghan National Drug Plan.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 1 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
1	Amount of Poppy Cultivated	224,000 ha	Decrease the net cultivation of opium poppy, by 10 percent by 2016	Decrease the net cultivation of opium poppy by 40 percent by 2019
1	Number of poppy-free provinces	15	17	22
1	Number of provinces reducing cultivation by more than 10%	7	8	10

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

Eradication

Objective 2: *Increase eradication to deter poppy cultivation.*

Eradication can discourage the cultivation of illicit crops by injecting risk into farmers’ planting decisions. To do so effectively, however, it must be accompanied by improvements in law

enforcement, security, good governance, and economic development. National, provincial, and district officials must simultaneously combat the corruption that undermines eradication efforts. Currently, eradication is executed under the direction of Provincial Governors with encouragement by the MCN and support from Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF).

To increase eradication to levels that will deter future poppy cultivation, the Afghan government will:

1. **Develop and Implement an Annual, Targeted Provincial Eradication Plan:** The Ministry of Counter Narcotics, in cooperation with provincial governors and provincial directorates of the line ministries, including Ministry of Defense (MOD), the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), and the National Directorate of Security (NDS), will produce a realistic annual eradication plan that targets districts with the highest cultivation levels, where agricultural assistance is being provided, and where development projects have already created alternatives to poppy cultivation. Eradication will take place before the lancing stage of growth, particularly on land identified as belonging to “government land users.” A key component of the plan will be the travel of senior government officials, including the ministers for counter narcotics, interior, and defense, to targeted provinces, particularly to Helmand, Kandahar, Farah, Badakhshan, and Nangarhar, to coordinate implementation of the annual eradication plan with provincial governors. MCN will report to the Permanent Cabinet Committee on Counter Narcotics on the number of hectares eradicated.

2. **Strengthen Eradication Coordination:** Senior officials from the MCN, MOI, NDS, IDLG and MOD will lead, control, guide, and monitor poppy eradication campaigns nationally and will coordinate with provincial authorities under the governors’ leadership. MCN will report the results of these coordination efforts to the High Commission on Counter Narcotics and Eradication Working Group meetings.

The following donor support is needed:

- Funding to offset eradication costs.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 2 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
2	Number of hectares eradicated	2015 results	Verified eradication of 5 percent of the 2015 poppy cultivation total	Verified eradication of 10 percent of the 2019 poppy cultivation total.
2	Number of hectares eradicated on government lands	2015 results	An increase of 10 percent nationwide	An increase of 20 percent nationwide

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

IV. GOAL: Decrease the production and trafficking of opiates

The Afghan government will focus on the following areas to decrease the production and trafficking of opiates: interdiction; anti-money laundering and asset forfeiture; and regional and international cooperation.

Interdiction

Objective 3: Improve the government's capacity to disrupt and dismantle drug production and trafficking organizations.

Interdiction interrupts insurgent access to drug-related funding and support, thereby reducing the capacity of anti-government elements to undermine the Afghan government's stability. This is especially true in areas where poppy cultivation and production are primary sources of revenue for the insurgency. Interdiction efforts address the growing challenge of insurgent-aligned traffickers who have developed export routes and now profit from controlling shipments farther along the export continuum. Bringing traffickers to justice raises the risk associated with the drug trade and deters officials from corruption.

To improve the capacity of law enforcement entities to disrupt and dismantle drug production and trafficking organizations, the Afghan government will:

- 1. Increase Political and Financial Support to Specialized Counter Narcotics Units:** The Afghan government will continue to support the operation of an independent Counter Narcotics Police of Afghanistan (CNPA) and its specialized investigative and interdiction units (the SIU and NIU, respectively), including their logistics, facility operations and maintenance, budgeting, and human resources. It will also support and assist other government entities—the Intelligence and Investigation Unit (IIU), customs police, border police—to improve their capacity to interdict illicit narcotics.
- 2. Develop an Approach to Vigorously Prosecute Major Traffickers:** In coordination with international partners, the Afghan government will develop a common strategic approach to bringing major drug traffickers to justice, including the Top Ten Afghan traffickers and those designated under the U.S. Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act.
- 3. Provide Nationwide Mobility to the NIU and CN Units to Improve Effectiveness:** The Afghan government will continue to support the Special Mission Wing, which provides law enforcement with the ability to prosecute drug laboratories and storage facilities, and to meet other CN objectives. This support includes making three sorties per month available for CN missions.
- 4. Support the Counter Narcotics Justice Center:** The Afghan government will continue to provide the Counter Narcotics Justice Center (CNJC) with the support to meet logistics, facility operations, maintenance, budgeting, and human resources requirements.

5. **Improve Border Control:** The Customs, Border, and Counter Narcotics Police will continue to provide personnel to operate the UNODC/World Customs Organization Joint Port Control Units in Kabul, Torkham, Sherkhan Bandar, and Hairatan to share information, profile high-risk shipments, and inspect containers suspected of carrying illicit cargo, and it will work to replicate this model at border ports elsewhere in Afghanistan. The Afghan Government will also work to further integrate tax collection into border control activities.

The following donor support is needed:

- Continued training for CNPA Specialized Unit personnel as well as limited operations and maintenance (O&M) support for SIU and NIU facilities.
- Continued technical and financial support for the Afghan Judicial Wire Intercept Program (JWIP).
- Continued operational support of the Afghan Special Mission Wing (SMW) to include training and qualifying Afghan SMW instructor pilots, and developing qualified Afghan maintenance and logistics managers.
- Continued operations and maintenance support of the CNJC detention center.
- Support for similar special vetted units in Central Asian republics and fostering ties between these units and their Afghan counterparts through specific programs.
- Support for the Joint Port Control Units, including continued training of Customs, Border Police, and Counter Narcotics Police officials on container profiling, drug testing methodologies, and support for necessary testing equipment.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 3 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
3	Verified seizures of opium, heroin, and precursor chemicals (in metric tons)	2015 amounts	Opium, heroin, and precursor chemical seizures increase by 10 percent respectively over the 2015 level	Opium, heroin, and precursor chemical seizures increase by 25 percent respectively over the 2015 level
3	Number of major narcotics traffickers convicted	2015 amounts	Two individuals named on an official list of major violators	Five individuals named on an official list of major violators.
3	Number of narcotics trafficking organizations disrupted or dismantled	2015 amounts	One organizations	Two organizations
3	Narcotics traffickers prosecuted at CNJC	660	5 percent increase	20 percent increase
3	Percentage of shipments correctly profiled by each JPCU	N/A	10 percent	50 percent

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

Anti-Money Laundering and Asset Forfeiture

Objective 4: *Improve enforcement of anti-money laundering laws and increase the seizure and forfeiture of proceeds and instrumentalities related to the drug trade.*

Drug trafficking and smuggling fuel corruption, terrorism, organized crime and instability worldwide. The United Nations (UN) has estimated the international drug trade generates \$322 billion per year in revenue, making drugs by far the most lucrative illicit activity. Drugs provide many different avenues of revenue. If this revenue and the assets purchased with it are not seized, they can continue to fund illicit activity. Laundered illegal revenue funds illicit activities and undermines the creation of a sustainable licit economy.

To improve the enforcement of anti-money laundering laws and increase the seizure and forfeiture of proceeds and instrumentalities related to the drug trade, the Afghan government will:

1. **Complete the Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Action Plan with Financial Action Task Force (FATF):** The Afghan government will finish the International Cooperation Review Group (ICRG) process and address the deficiencies identified in its AML/CFT regime through the implementation of an action plan developed with the FATF.
2. **Support the Sensitive Investigative Unit (SIU):** The Afghan government will continue to support the SIU and its Financial Investigation Team (FIT)'s investigations into AML/CFT.
3. **Increase the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Center of Afghanistan (FinTRACA)'s cooperation with regional and international FIUs:** In coordination with international partners, FinTRACA will improve its strategic analysis, regulatory, and operational capabilities and increase its cooperation and information sharing with regional and international FIUs.
4. **Improve Non-Banking Sector Compliance with AML/CFT Laws and Implementation of Sector Supervision:** In coordination with international partners, the Afghan government will work with non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs), including microfinance institutions, money changers, and other money service providers (MSPs)—particularly, traditional Islamic money transfer businesses (hawaladars)—to increase licensing and registration rates, as well as reporting to FinTRACA on suspicious transactions. The Afghan government will also implement a more robust regime of NBFI and MSP supervision and enforcement to include regulatory actions and examinations outside Kabul, and issuance of fines and other civil penalties for noncompliance.
5. **Improve National Coordination on AML/CFT:** The Afghan government will form a national coordination committee on AML/CFT with representatives from law

enforcement agencies, FinTRACA, and supervisory agencies for all sectors—in particular, Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB)—to increase national cooperation and coordination on the issue and provide strategic guidance governing Afghanistan’s national AML/CFT policies. In coordination with international partners, this committee will also oversee the implementation of a National Risk Assessment (NRA) and work with operational agencies to generate action plans to remediate the risks identified.

6. **Establish an Asset Forfeiture Fund:** The Afghan government will establish an Asset Forfeiture Fund to collect revenue from seized narco-assets, money laundering, and other crimes connected with narcotics. The Afghan government will manage the assets to make sure they are maintained in a transparent manner. The Afghan government will also share information on criminal assets sought and seized with international and regional partners and will become a robust partner in the Asset Recovery Interagency Network – Asia Pacific (ARIN-AP). The Afghan government will also designate how participating agencies will share the proceeds from asset sales, and enact regulations related to the sale of seized assets that cover among other things, the interim management of assets, the disposition and sale of forfeited property, and international asset sharing.

The following donor support is needed:

- Continued mentoring and support of the SIU/FIT.
- Targeted technical assistance for FinTRACA.
- Technical assistance for DAB and other regulatory and supervisory bodies to work with non-banking financial institutions.
- Technical assistance on how to conduct a NRA.
- Technical assistance with developing an Asset Forfeiture Fund and associated regulations.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 4 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
4	Number of case referral packages to CNPA and ANP from FinTRACA			
4	Number of convictions for AML/CFT by AGO			
4	Value of narco-assets seized, forfeited or shared			

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

Regional and International Cooperation

Objective 5: *Increase regional and international cooperation on counter narcotics, particularly in the areas of law enforcement and criminal justice.*

The production, trade, and use of Afghan-sourced narcotics extend far beyond Afghanistan's borders. Afghanistan alone cannot eliminate the drug trade. Cooperation with transit and destination countries is thus essential for Afghanistan to be successful in its counter narcotics efforts.

As an integral part of its National Counter Narcotics Strategy, the Afghan government will seek to increase its cooperation with other countries in border and container control, in reducing smuggling, and in interdiction. These efforts will support Afghanistan's efforts to eliminate cultivation of poppy, the production of narcotics, the trafficking of opiates and precursor chemicals, and the illegal use of drugs.

To increase regional and international cooperation on counter narcotics, the Afghan government will:

1. **Increase Cooperation with Regional Countries:** The Afghan government will seek to increase cooperation with countries in the region on border control, precursor chemical smuggling, interdiction operations, controlled deliveries, container controls, and drug demand reduction programs.
2. **Establish or Reaffirm Bilateral Agreements on Controlled Delivery:** The Afghan government will coordinate with regional partners and narcotics destination countries to establish or reaffirm bilateral agreements that allow the movement of controlled-narcotics deliveries. The MCN and the MOI will also work domestically with the relevant agencies and ministries such as the Afghan Border Patrol (ABP), the Attorney General's office, the MoJ, and the Customs department to ensure that all are informed of and trained in methods of controlled deliveries.
3. **Seek Support of this National Drug Action Plan in Multilateral fora:** The Afghan government will encourage multilateral fora to take action-oriented, concrete steps to support this National Drug Action Plan.
4. **Incorporate Counter Narcotics indicators into the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF):** The Afghan government will work with the international community to incorporate counter narcotics indicators into the TMAF in recognition of the threat that the narcotics trade poses to shared development and governance goals.

The following donor support is needed:

- Active participation at multilateral meetings on counter narcotics.
- Assistance in amending the TMAF.
- Donor support for the objectives outlined in this National Action Plan.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 5 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
5	Number of projects on border control, precursor chemical smuggling, interdiction operations, controlled deliveries, and container control, among other areas, implemented with international partners	N/A	4	8

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

V. GOAL: Reduce the demand for illicit drugs in Afghanistan and increase the provision of treatment for users

The Afghan government will reduce demand for illicit narcotics and its consequences through both prevention and treatment initiatives.

Drug Treatment

Objective 6: Expand the reach and increase sustainability of a nationwide continuum of care for the treatment of drug use.

Afghan drug use not only generates crime and funds insurgency, it also costs the Afghan government hundreds of millions of dollars in health care expenses, crime mitigation, and lost economic productivity. The 2015 Afghanistan National Drug Use Survey, the first survey to use 100% toxicological screening to assess drug use across Afghanistan, showed Afghanistan's national drug use rate is 11%, one of the highest in the world. Rural drug use rates were shown to be nearly three times higher than in urban areas, with 13% of the Afghan rural population testing positive for drug use, versus 5% in urban areas. Approximately 9% of Afghan children overall in the survey tested positive for one or more drugs; in rural areas 11.3% of children tested positive. Opioids, including opium, were shown to be the most prevalent class of drugs used in Afghanistan, with the survey showing a national opioid use rate of 7%. In rural areas, opioids were found in one quarter (25%) of all households surveyed, while 7.5% of children in the survey in rural areas tested positive for opioids. For children, the survey also showed that drug exposure was primarily second-hand or passive occurring through exposure in the home or administration by a parent as an alternative to licit analgesic medicine.

This information underscores a clear and urgent need to expand the reach and increase the sustainability of a nationwide continuum of care for the prevention and treatment of drug use. To do so, the Afghan government will:

- 1. Address the high level of drug use in rural areas, including underlying factors:** Given the disproportionate rate of drug use in rural areas, the Ministry of Public Health, in coordination with the Ministry of Counter Narcotics, will increase the availability of treatment in rural areas, prioritizing those areas with the highest drug use rates, as shown in the Afghan National Drug Use Survey. The government will also take measures to address the underlying factors behind the use of illicit narcotics in rural areas—which include a lack of access to licit analgesic medicines—by employing religious, family health, and community messaging.
- 2. Intensify and take leadership for training and credentialing clinical staff of treatment programs:** The Ministry of Counter Narcotics and the Ministry of Public Health will lead the training and credentialing of clinical staff in accordance with international standards in coordination with the Colombo Plan.

3. **Continue progress on Transition Plan for the “Substance Use Treatment System in Afghanistan”:** The Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Counter Narcotics will lead the transition to transfer U.S.-supported treatment programs to Afghan control in coordination with the United States, the Colombo Plan, and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
4. **Expand recovery support services:** The Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Counter Narcotics, and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs will expand the promotion of recovery support services for former addicts.

The following donor support is needed:

- Support for government clinical staff salary supplements.
- Support for NGO- and government-operated treatment program budgets.
- Support for evidence-based treatment programs, and particularly for new programs in rural areas that currently lack treatment options.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 6 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
6	Number of non-government operated treatment programs transitioned to Ministry of Public Health	13	15	76
6	Percent of target population that have not used drugs after treatment		5	15
6	Person hours of drug prevention and treatment training provided to addictions workers			
6	Number of villages receiving village-based treatment programs	0	6	25
6	Number of permanent mobile pharmacies established	0	6	25

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

Drug Prevention

Objective 7: Increase drug prevention programming across a range of institutions, including schools and mosques.

Stopping drug use before it starts is critical to reducing demand. It is also cost-effective. Prevention activities must accordingly increase knowledge in Afghan institutions of how to

design, conduct, and adapt prevention outreach programs, particularly those that reach youth. The Afghan government therefore will:

1. **Increase drug use prevention activities:** The Afghan government will conduct a broad range of evidence-based drug use prevention activities and incorporate them into ministry action plans. The activities will focus on messaging within families, in schools and at workplaces, and by the media.
2. **Develop an Addiction Studies Department at University of Kabul:** The Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Counter Narcotics will establish of an addiction studies department in the University of Kabul. The department will include curriculum on both evidence-based treatment and prevention.

The following donor support is needed:

- Support for development and adaptation of prevention curricula for use in training government officials and in establishing the proposed Addiction Studies Department at Kabul University.
- Support for the continuation of in-school anti-drug education programs as the Ministry of Education prepares to integrate this curriculum into the National Education Curriculum.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 7 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
7	Number of provinces implementing PDE	22	24	34
7	Number of ministries trained in UPC	0	2	6

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

Strategic Communication

Objective 8: *Increase communication campaigns to reduce drug use and warn of negative consequences of planting opium poppy.*

Making the public aware that there are alternatives to as well as consequences from growing opium poppy is an essential component of reducing cultivation and domestic drug use. To increase public awareness of alternative development programs and of the negative consequences of planting poppy, the Afghan government will focus on developing, coordinating, and implementing public information campaigns in line with H.E. the President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani’s priorities. MCN will be the lead government agency for these public information activities, but all ministries, particularly Ministry of Information and Culture (MIC) and the Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs (MoHRA), will participate to ensure that a broad audience is reached.

The Afghan government will:

1. **Conduct Public Awareness Campaigns:** Such campaigns will be carried out in conjunction with the appropriate season in the poppy cycle. For example, in the period prior to planting, when farmers are making decisions on what crops to plant, public information campaigns on alternatives to poppy, including information on where and how farmers can gain access to resources and technical assistance to assist them to make the transition to planting those crops instead of poppy, as well as the negative consequences of ultimately producing illicit narcotics, will be launched.
2. **Show Counter Narcotics is a Priority at the National Level:** Senior government officials, including the ministers of Interior, Justice, Public Health, Hajj and Religious Affairs, and MAIL, among others, along with provincial governors, will make statements both publicly and internally to their ministries that counter narcotics is a priority and narcotics cultivation inflicts harm on all Afghans.
3. **Conduct Local Outreach:** The central and provincial governments will encourage local officials, ulemas, community leaders, and other significant provincial and district authorities to promote awareness of alternative livelihood options and the negative consequences of poppy cultivation.

The following donor support is needed:

- Continued support for developing the capacity of the Ministry of Counter Narcotics Public Information Directorate and other relevant ministries.
- Support for developing civil society and community-based organizations to implement local public information and awareness programming.

Short- and long-term metrics for progress on Objective 8 include:

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
8	Number of poppy-cycle timed campaigns implemented	0	1	4

Please see Appendix 3 for the milestones that will enable movement toward these targets.

VI. Action Plan Implementation

To implement the National Drug Action Plan, Afghan government ministries will engage in sustained, coordinated, and complementary efforts together with their public and private sector partners and foreign governments. Their Excellencies the President, the First Vice President and the Chief Executive Officer will work with Parliament to underscore the importance of counter narcotics efforts and to ensure that those appointed under them are held accountable for the effectiveness of counter narcotics initiatives in their areas of responsibility. Governors will answer to the offices of Their Excellencies the President, the First Vice President and the Chief Executive Officer for the success or failure of provincial eradication campaigns.

The Permanent Committee on Counter Narcotics (PCCN), composed of representatives from 15 ministries, will coordinate efforts on the National Drug Action Plan. This committee will meet monthly and will develop a 100-Day Plan in order to begin to achieve the goals, objectives and milestones of the National Drug Action Plan. Responsibility for oversight over the implementation of this plan will fall to relevant deputy ministers under the leadership of the Deputy Minister of Counter Narcotics for Policy and Coordination. MCN and the line ministries, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, will at the same time develop the budget, organizational, and personnel requirements necessary to achieve the goals of the National Drug Action Plan.

In addition, the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG), in close consultation with MCN and other ministries, will develop sub-national plans for counter narcotics for inclusion in the District-based National Program on Counter Narcotics (DBNP-CN). The IDLG will report to the MCN each week on the implementation of the counter narcotics sub-national plans in the NPDs. MCN will in turn report on their progress to the Permanent Cabinet Committee on CN.

Evaluation of the Action Plan

MCN will publish annual reports on the implementation of the National Drug Action Plan. These reports will discuss the milestones and targets achieved over the preceding year as well as any shortfalls in meeting these milestones and targets, and, if necessary, outline plans to improve performance. The Permanent Committee will revise the National Drug Action Plan annually based on these annual reports in order and will report to the National Commission on Counter Narcotics on progress on meeting the goals and objectives of the plan. The National Commission will in turn meet three times a year under the chairmanship of His Excellency the President of Afghanistan to review progress on counter narcotics and the National Drug Action Plan.

Resources

Narcotics pose a myriad of problems, not just for Afghanistan, but also for its neighboring countries and for the wider international community as well. Afghanistan's instability is funded

to a large extent by foreign purchasers of illicit narcotics, including countries in the region whose demand contributes to the problem and who also experience the debilitating effects of large domestic addict populations. There thus needs to be shared responsibility and action among Afghanistan, its neighbors, and the wider international community, and particularly the transit and end-user countries, in countering narcotics.

This National Drug Action Plan is comprehensive. With the support of the international community, it is also achievable. While the Afghan government understands the resource constraints of its international partners, it hopes that the renewed dedication to countering the scourge of narcotics that this plan demonstrates will inspire international action and support to assist and enable it to achieve the goals set out here. A full list of the donor support needed to implement the goals and objectives of this plan can be found in Appendix 2.

VII. Conclusion

This action plan demonstrates Afghanistan's commitment to addressing the serious problems associated with the cultivation, production, trade, and use of illicit narcotics. With the combined efforts of the Afghan government and support from the international community, by 2019 Afghanistan will have the capability to implement holistic counter narcotics programs nationwide. Cultivation levels will be on a steady downward trajectory towards pre-Taliban era levels and narcotics will be a less significant revenue source for insurgent groups. Narcotics traffickers will be deterred through robust interdiction and prosecutions. There will be broad awareness of the dangers of the use of illicit narcotics, and Afghans even in rural areas will have access to treatment. The Afghan government is committed to implementing the actions outlined in the National Drug Action Plan and it is confident that it can achieve this plan's goals and objectives.

VIII. Appendix 1: Metrics

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
1	Amount of Poppy Cultivated	224,000 ha	Decrease the net cultivation of opium poppy, by 10 percent by 2016	Decrease the net cultivation of opium poppy by 40 percent by 2019
1	Number of poppy-free provinces	15	17	22
1	Number of provinces reducing cultivation by more than 10%	7	8	10
2	Number of hectares eradicated	2015 results	Verified eradication of 5 percent of the 2015 poppy cultivation total	Verified eradication of 10 percent of the 2019 poppy cultivation total.
2	Number of hectares eradicated on government lands	2015 results	An increase of 10 percent nationwide	An increase of 20 percent nationwide
3	Verified seizures of opium, heroin, and precursor chemicals (in metric tons)	2015 amounts	Opium, heroin, and precursor chemical seizures increase by 10 percent respectively over the 2015 level	Opium, heroin, and precursor chemical seizures increase by 25 percent respectively over the 2015 level
3	Number of major narcotics traffickers convicted	2015 amounts	Two individuals named on an official list of major violators	Five individuals named on an official list of major violators.
3	Number of narcotics trafficking organizations disrupted or dismantled	2015 amounts	One organizations	Two organizations
3	Narcotics traffickers prosecuted at CNJC	660	5 percent increase	20 percent increase
3	Percentage of shipments correctly profiled by each JPCU	N/A	10 percent	50 percent
4	Number of case referral packages to CNPA and ANP from FinTRACA			
4	Number of convictions for AML/CFT by AGO			
4	Value of narco-assets seized, forfeited or shared			
5	Number of projects on border control, precursor chemical smuggling, interdiction operations, controlled deliveries, and container control, among other areas, implemented with international partners	N/A	4	8

Objective	Indicators	Baseline	Benchmark: Year 1	Benchmark: End State
6	Number of non-government operated treatment programs transitioned to Ministry of Public Health	13	15	76
6	Percent of target population that have not used drugs after treatment		5	15
6	Person hours of drug prevention and treatment training provided to addictions workers			
6	Number of villages receiving village-based treatment programs	0	6	25
6	Number of permanent mobile pharmacies established	0	6	25
7	Number of provinces implementing PDE	22	24	34
7	Number of ministries trained in UPC	0	2	6
8	Number of poppy-cycle timed campaigns implemented	0	1	4

IX. Appendix 2: Donor Support

Program Areas	Donor Asks
Sustainable Alternative Development and Agriculture	Support to ensure that quality essential inputs (e.g. improved and locally-adapted seed, fertilizer, chemical and bio-pesticides, and veterinary services), technology, and training are available through assistance packages or through the private sector for locally-tailored interventions.
	Support to improve the value chains of and expand access to markets for high-value perennial crops and off-season vegetables.
	Support to improve rural roads, irrigation canals, check-dams, and access to electricity.
Eradication	Funding to offset eradication costs.
Strategic Communication	Continued support for developing the capacity of the Ministry of Counter Narcotics Public Information Directorate.
	Support for developing civil society and community-based organizations to implement local public information and awareness programming.
Interdiction	Continued training for CNPA Specialized Unit personnel as well as limited operations and maintenance (O&M) support for SIU and NIU facilities.
	Continued technical and financial support for the Afghan Judicial Wire Intercept Program (JWIP).
	Continued operational support of the Afghan Special Mission Wing (SMW) to include training and qualifying Afghan SMW instructor pilots, and developing qualified Afghan maintenance and logistics managers.
	Continued operations and maintenance support of the CNJC detention center.
	Support for similar special vetted units in Central Asian republics and fostering ties between these units and their Afghan counterparts.
	Support for the Joint Port Control Units, including continued training of Customs, Border Police, and Counter Narcotics Police officials on container profiling, drug testing methodologies, and support for necessary testing equipment.
Anti-Money Laundering and Asset Forfeiture	Continued mentoring and support of the SIU/FIT.
	Targeted technical assistance for FinTRACA.
	Technical assistance for DAB and other regulatory and supervisory bodies to work with non-banking financial institutions.
	Technical assistance on how to conduct a NRA.
	Technical assistance with developing an Asset Forfeiture Fund and associated regulations.

Program Areas	Donor Asks
Regional and International Cooperation	Support for the Joint Port Control Units, including continued training of Customs, Border Police, and Counter Narcotics Police officials on container profiling, drug testing methodologies, and support for necessary testing equipment.
	Action-oriented participation at multilateral meetings on counter narcotics.
	Assistance in amending the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework (TMAF).
	Donor support for the objectives outlined in this National Action Plan.
Drug Demand Reduction	Support for government clinical staff salary supplements.
	Support for NGO and government operated treatment program budgets.
	Support for evidence-based treatment programs, particularly new programs in rural areas currently lacking treatment options.
Drug Prevention	Support for development and adaptation of prevention curriculums, for use in training key government officials and in the establishment of the proposed Addiction Studies Department at Kabul University in relevant faculties.
	Support for continuation of in-school anti-drug education programs as the Ministry of Education prepares to integrate this curriculum into the National Education Curriculum.

X. Appendix 3: Action Plan Milestones

The dates below are subject to change, based on the approval date of the Action Plan.

2015	
July	The Afghan Government continues to resource specialized units e.g., the NIU, SIU, IIU, and CNPA mobile units, devotes dedicated facilities for their use, and key logistical support. The Afghan government supports the continued functioning of the Judicial Wire Intercept Program (JWIP).
	MOI and MOD continue to provide NIU and SIU with access to Special Mission Wing assets for with a goal of resourcing a minimum of three counter narcotics air missions per month.
August	Afghan government officials from MCN, MOD, MOI, and provincial governors have responsibility for eradication coordination.
	Provincial governors each designate a key provincial official to be responsible for leading provincial eradication efforts.
	The Counter Narcotics Police of Afghanistan (CNPA), the Afghan National Police (ANP), the Attorney General's Office (AGO), FinTRACA, DAB, and other relevant agencies designate officials responsible for national AML/CTF coordination.
September	MCN and MAIL will conduct at least 100 facilitator-led discussions with communities affected by GIROA counter narcotics campaigns to identify local drivers of poppy cultivation and design interventions to address those drivers.
	Eradication Coordination meetings at the national and provincial level begin on a monthly basis.
	AML/CTF national coordination meetings begin on a monthly basis.
	Identify counter narcotics reform priorities and indicators for inclusion in the refreshed Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework and present them to the International Community at the Senior Officials Meeting in Kabul.
October	MoPH and MCN evaluate village-based treatment programs and determine if these programs are successful and appropriate for the Afghanistan rural context.
	Finalize the Eradication Plan for the next year, including Targeted Campaigns. The plans will focus on districts with the highest cultivation levels and where poppy is grown on government owned land.
	Key ministry officials, including the Minister of MCN, travel to Helmand, Kandahar, Farah, Badakhshan, and Nangarhar to coordinate with provincial governors.
	Convene a Paris Pact Policy Senior Officials Meeting and utilize it to present the National Drug Action Plan to and solicit support from international donors.
December	MCN and MoPH convene the first of regular stakeholders meeting with a broad range of Afghan ministries, including Haj and Islamic Affairs, Labor and Social Affairs, Education, Higher Education, and Rural Rehabilitation and Development. The first meeting will develop a plan for the establishment of recovery support groups.
	MAIL will explicitly tie the receipt of alternative development assistance with the requirement to stop growing poppy.
	MCN and MAIL will host a ministerial-level meeting with the international community with a goal of ensuring that agriculture and rural development programs in Afghanistan, especially those in the priority development areas and including those implemented by the Afghan government, NGOs, international organizations, and partner countries, include counter narcotics objectives and outcomes and are coordinated to achieve and sustain rural economic development, with the long-term goal of eliminating poppy cultivation.
	MCN will identify government land to be monitored for illicit poppy cultivation.
	MOI, working under the auspices of the National Security Council, publishes an annual list of major drug traffickers and landowners associated with the drug trade.

2016	
January	Led by CEO Abdullah, senior Afghan government officials from a wide array of ministries make ongoing public statements to stress the importance of counter narcotics efforts to Afghanistan's future.
	Ministry leaders will encourage local leader participation in counter narcotics messaging.
	Run three fully operational Joint Port Control Units which include officials from Customs, Border, and Counter Narcotics Police.
	15 additional donor-managed treatment programs transition to MOPH operation.
March	Institutional partners and national trainers begin training in the five UPC tracks and begin dissemination of the training within their institutions.
	Ministries and officials implementing prevention programs have begun review and adaptation of existing programs in line with UPC training, and are conducting internal trainings.
March	MOI will identify and begin to prosecute corrupt government officials and other key individuals who collect transportation bribes on main roads. MoPH advertises and selects NGOs to manage village-based treatment programs.
April	Provincial health directorates direct urban pharmacies to travel to rural areas as mobile pharmacies in selected high-drug use villages, in coordination with village-based treatment programs.
May	ARAZI will begin issuing temporary titles to government land for landless farmers who commit not to grow poppy.
	MCN and MOI will conduct trainings on controlled deliveries for the Afghan Border Control, the Attorney General's office, the MoJ, and the Customs department, and will coordinate with regional partners and destination countries in order to establish or reaffirm bilateral agreements that allow the movement of controlled deliveries.
June	MAIL and MOCI will complete a series of capacity building workshops for the top producers' associations of key agricultural products on regional marketing, organizational development, and other relevant topics to strengthen the ability of the associations to effectively represent their members and expand markets.
	MCN will independently target public awareness campaigns to farmers to highlight alternative livelihood options.
	The AML/CTF national coordination committee works with MoF to establish an Asset Forfeiture Fund.
July	MOPH leads conversion of urban inpatient centers to outpatient and redirect operational cost savings to expand geographical treatment center coverage.
	MAIL and MOCI will establish incentives and protections for foreign investors willing to establish "for profit" enterprises for high-value perennial crops and off-season vegetables.
August	MCN develops and begins implementation of a nationwide post-eradication awareness campaign.
September	The national committee on AML/CTF conducts a National Risk Assessment.
October	Finalize the Eradication Plan for the next year, including Targeted Campaigns. The plans will focus on districts with the highest cultivation levels and where poppy is grown on government owned land.
	Key ministry officials, including the Minister of MCN, travel to Helmand, Kandahar, Farah, Badakhshan, and Nangarhar to coordinate with provincial governors.
December	MOPW, MEW, and MAIL will conduct geographical assessments in the largest poppy-growing provinces to identify areas where the lack of rural infrastructure, such as water for irrigation or electricity for storing licit crops, contributes significantly to the cultivation of opium poppy.
	MAIL and MOCI will host 4 national buyer-seller conferences to expand Afghan participation in product value chains and increase national trade of products.
	MCN begins quarterly reporting to the Subcommittee on Counter Narcotics on the number of government land users' hectares eradicated.
	Make counter narcotics a prominent element in multilateral fora, including the International Contact Group, the Istanbul Process, and other relevant venues where counter narcotics have not previously been a primary focus.
	MCN and MoPH organize meetings with key village leaders from high drug use rate provinces as identified in the Afghan National Drug Use Survey to discuss village-based treatment programs.

2017	
January	Confirm new commitments from regional partners and international donors on the National Drug Action Plan. 21 additional donor-managed treatment programs transition to MOPH operation.
March	MOPW and MEW will allocate the resources necessary to develop the infrastructure of the areas identified in December 2016 as most vulnerable to poppy cultivation due to a lack of infrastructure. The Subcommittee on Counter Narcotics will report to the National Commission on Counter Narcotics on the number of government land users' hectares eradicated.
April	MoPH and MCN evaluate village-based treatment programs and determine if these programs are successful and appropriate for the Afghanistan rural context.
June	In areas where government presence and security permit, MOJ will use existing laws to seize 1,000 ha of land used in the drug trade from convicted large landowners and major traffickers and reallocate it to subsistence farmers or itinerant laborers for the cultivation of licit crops.
October	Finalize the Eradication Plan for the next year, including Targeted Campaigns. The plans will focus on districts with the highest cultivation levels and where poppy is grown on government owned land. Key ministry officials, including the Minister of MCN, travel to Helmand, Kandahar, Farah, Badakhshan, and Nangarhar to coordinate with provincial governors.
2018	
January	MoPH and MCN evaluate village-based treatment programs and determine if these programs are successful and appropriate for the Afghanistan rural context.
October	Finalize the Eradication Plan for the next year, including Targeted Campaigns. The plans will focus on districts with the highest cultivation levels and where poppy is grown on government owned land. Key ministry officials, including the Minister of MCN, travel to Helmand, Kandahar, Farah, Badakhshan, and Nangarhar to coordinate with provincial governors.
2019	
October	Finalize the Eradication Plan for the next year, including Targeted Campaigns. The plans will focus on districts with the highest cultivation levels and where poppy is grown on government owned land. Key ministry officials, including the Minister of MCN, travel to Helmand, Kandahar, Farah, Badakhshan, and Nangarhar to coordinate with provincial governors.
December	The Afghan government will complete the Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Action Plan with Financial Action Task Force (FATF). MFA will endeavor to reach transboundary water-sharing agreements with neighboring Central and South Asian countries, including Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, and Pakistan.