



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



UNODC-KOSTAT

Centre of Excellence for Statistics
on Crime and Criminal Justice
in Asia and the Pacific



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Why an international classification of crime for statistical purposes?



What is a statistical classification?



“A set of discrete, exhaustive and mutually exclusive categories which can be assigned to one or more variables used in the collection and presentation of data, and which describe the characteristics of a particular population”



Why an international statistical classification?

Three main factors impact the comparability and interpretation of crime and criminal justice:

- Proportion of crimes reported/detected
- Methods by which the crimes are registered and counted
- **Methods by which the crimes are defined and classified**

Example of inconsistencies between institutions



Police Crime Statistics (Level 1)

1. Seriously violent crimes
2. Theft
3. Violent crimes
4. Intelligent crimes
5. Public moral crimes
6. Special economic crimes
7. Narcotic crimes
8. Health crimes
9. Environmental crimes
10. Traffic crimes
11. Labor crimes
12. National security crimes
13. Offense against election
14. Offense against military service
15. Other crimes



Prosecution: Analytical Statistics on Crime (Level 2)

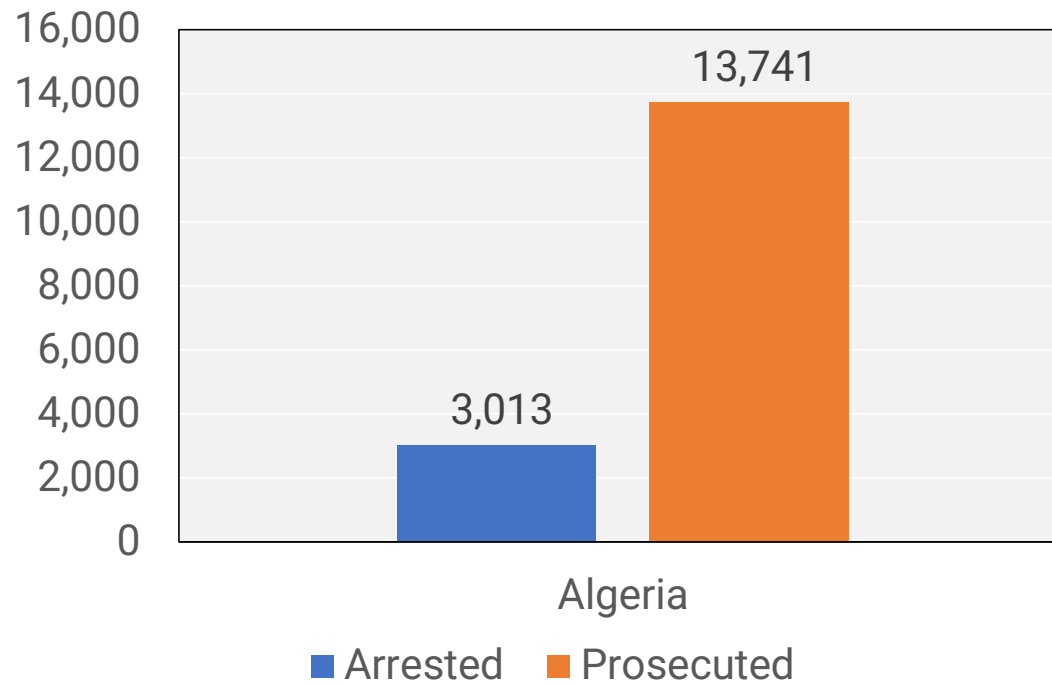
1. Property crimes
2. Seriously violent crimes (Heinous)
3. Seriously violent crimes (Violence)
4. Counterfeiting crimes
5. Government officials' crimes
6. Public moral crimes
7. Negligence crimes
8. Other crimes



Example of inconsistencies between institutions



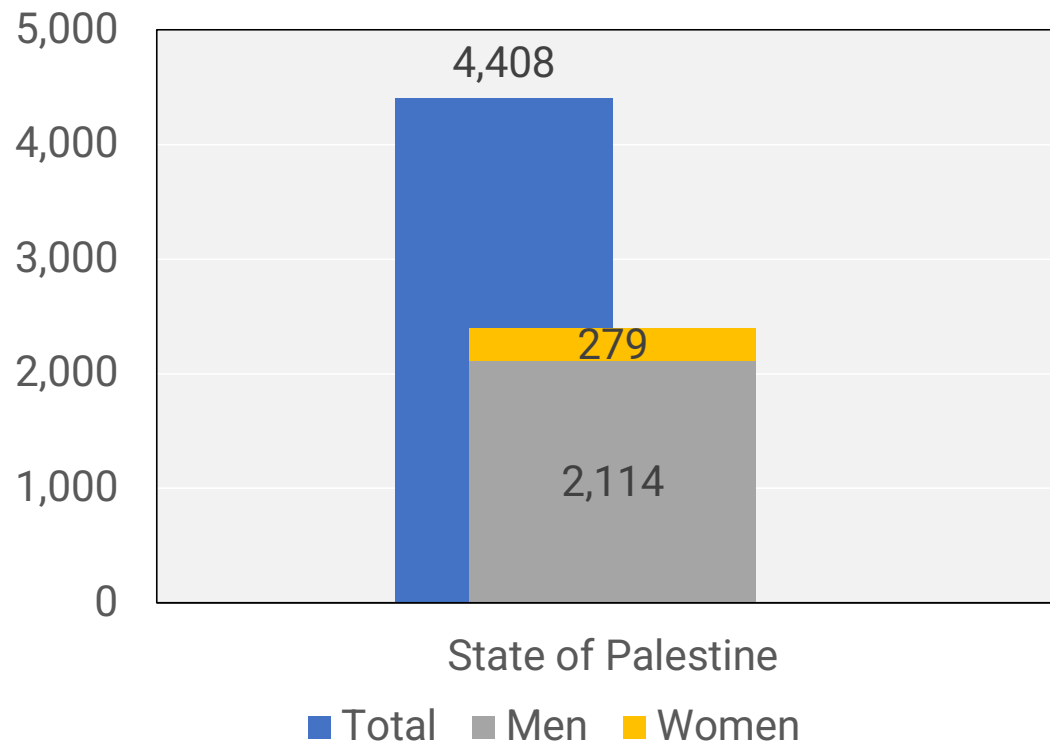
Acts against property involving violence, 2021



Example of inconsistencies within institutions



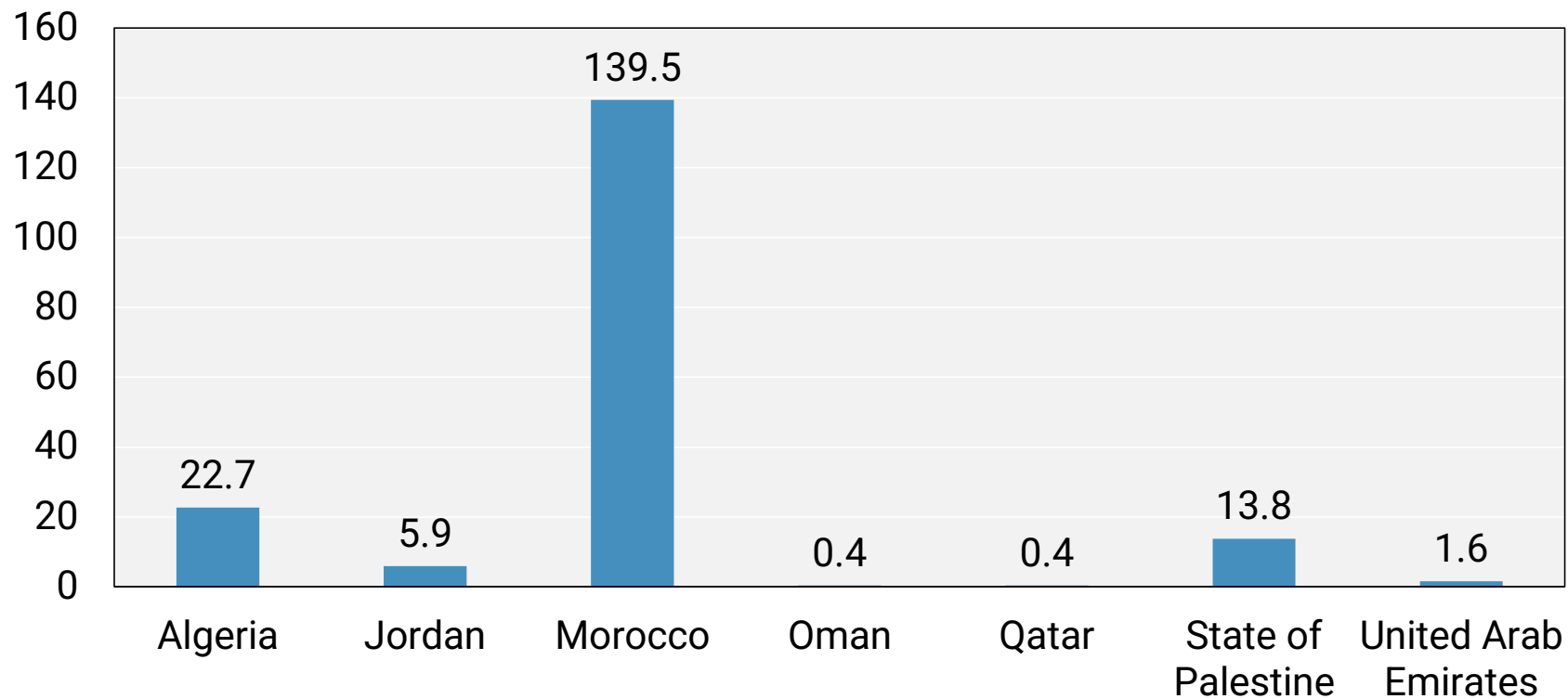
Persons held in prisons, 2021



Example of inconsistencies at the international level



Rate of "serious assault" records per 100,000 in 2021



Conflict between juridical definitions



Statistical data is often organized and classified according to **legal provisions**, such as articles in penal codes, which are not always relevant from an analytical point of view.

Comparability across time and jurisdictions may be hindered by **changes in legislation**.

Regionally and internationally, the same act can be considered a crime in a country but not in another one.



International response



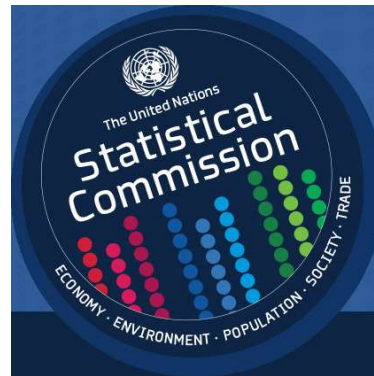
- **2009:** Joint UNODC/UNECE Working Group on the classification of crime established by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES)
- **2012:** International Crime Classification Framework (ICCF)
- **2013:** UNSC and CCPCJ approved the plan to develop a classification of crimes for statistical purposes (as part of the 'Roadmap')
- **2013-2014:** Three Expert Meetings and two testing rounds of ICCS among volunteer countries (77 countries + 10 international organizations contributed to the development of ICCS)



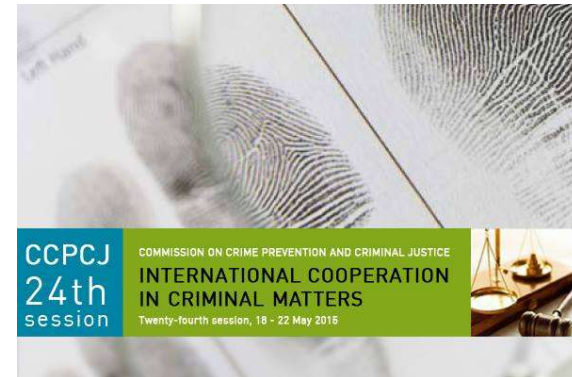
International Classification of Crime for Statistical purposes (ICCS)



United Nations Statistical Commission
46th session
March 2015



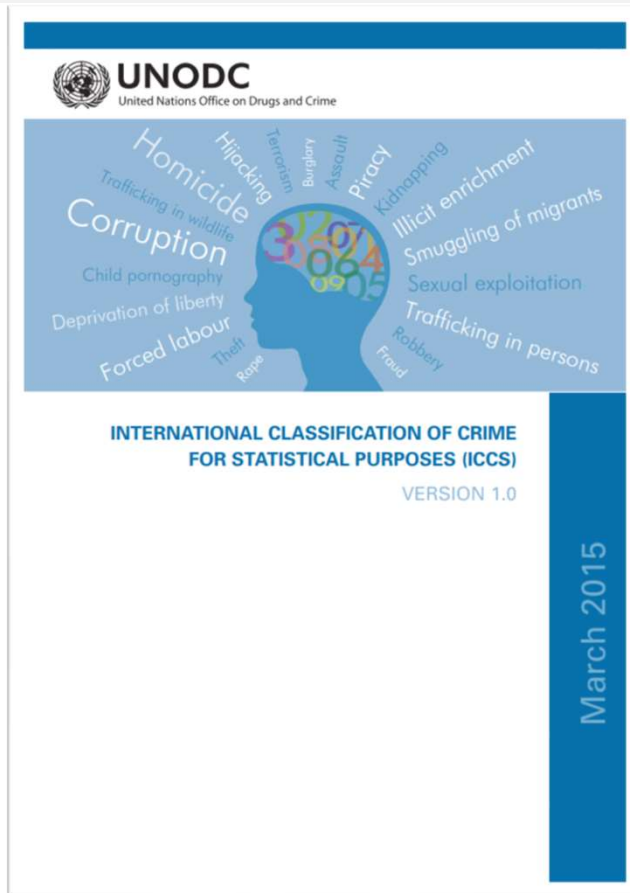
United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)
24th session
May 2015



- International Statistical Standard for Crime Data Collection
- UNODC as custodian



International Classification of Crime for Statistical purposes (ICCS)



Available in:
[Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#),
[French](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#)



What is the ICCS?



- The first international classification of crime for statistical purposes which impacts the collection of crime data of every country.
- Based on the **description of behaviours and acts, not on criminal laws**, which means it is equivalent for all jurisdictions.
- A tool to understand and track crime patterns and specificities.



ICCS principles



Exhaustiveness – All behaviours that are generally regarded as crimes in a significant number of countries

Structure – Hierarchically organized with sections on subsequent levels which are manageable and balanced

Mutual exclusion – Every crime is assigned only to one category

Description – Description of each conduct and each section as accurate and detailed as possible



Advantages of the ICCS

- Build a statistical comprehensive framework on all crimes to **facilitate their analysis**
- Improve the **consistency and coherence** of data at the national level
- Improve the **comparability** between countries and along time
- Develop better **evidence-based public policies**



Not only international



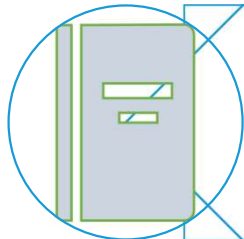
Among:

- national provinces and subnational entities
- data being produced at different stages of the justice criminal system
- different sources (administrative records and surveys)

Data governance



Data governance is like the governance of any other field. The act of governance, or at least of good governance, involves establishing policies and ensuring their consistent application.



Data governance requires the development of a clear set of rules and the assignment of roles and responsibilities to ensure that these rules are consistently applied.



The ICCS is part of this set of rules, transversal to all crime and criminal justice institutions.



Data quality



Through the ICCS data can be more:

Identifiable

- Data must be uniquely identifiable and persistent (i.e. systematically organized in a way that allows specific data to be easily located or retrieved)

Reusable

- Data must be well described by metadata (reference and structural, according to ICCS categories and disaggregation variables)

Interoperable

- Data must work well with or link to other relevant systems



Interoperability and the ICCS



The concept of interoperability implies that the different data sources are easily combined.

Data must be standardized to be interoperable. There must also be unique identifying information, so cases are not counted more than once.

ICCS helps standardize the way in which information is recorded and disaggregated, standardizing the content of the different data sources on crime and criminal justice.



A tool for sustainable development



ICCS and SDG indicators



Indicator 5.2.1
ICCS 02+0301

Indicator 5.2.2
ICCS 0301



Indicator 11.7.2
ICCS 0208+030122



Indicator 15.7.1
ICCS 100312



Indicator 16.1.1
ICCS 0101

Indicator 16.2.2
ICCS 02043

Indicator 16.4.2
ICCS 09012

Indicator 16.1.3
ICCS 02+0301

Indicator 16.2.2
ICCS 02044

Indicator 16.5.1
ICCS 07031

Indicator 16.2.2
ICCS 02041

Indicator 16.2.3
ICCS 0301

Indicator 16.5.2
ICCS 07031

Indicator 16.2.2
ICCS 02042

Indicator 16.3.1
ICCS 02+0301



Use and Structure



What is a crime according to ICCS?

A “crime” is the punishable contravention or violation of the limits on human behaviour as imposed by national criminal legislation.

Each criminal offence has a perpetrator, which can be a person, a corporation or an institution.



When is ICCS applied?



Acts that are:



not crimes in the country



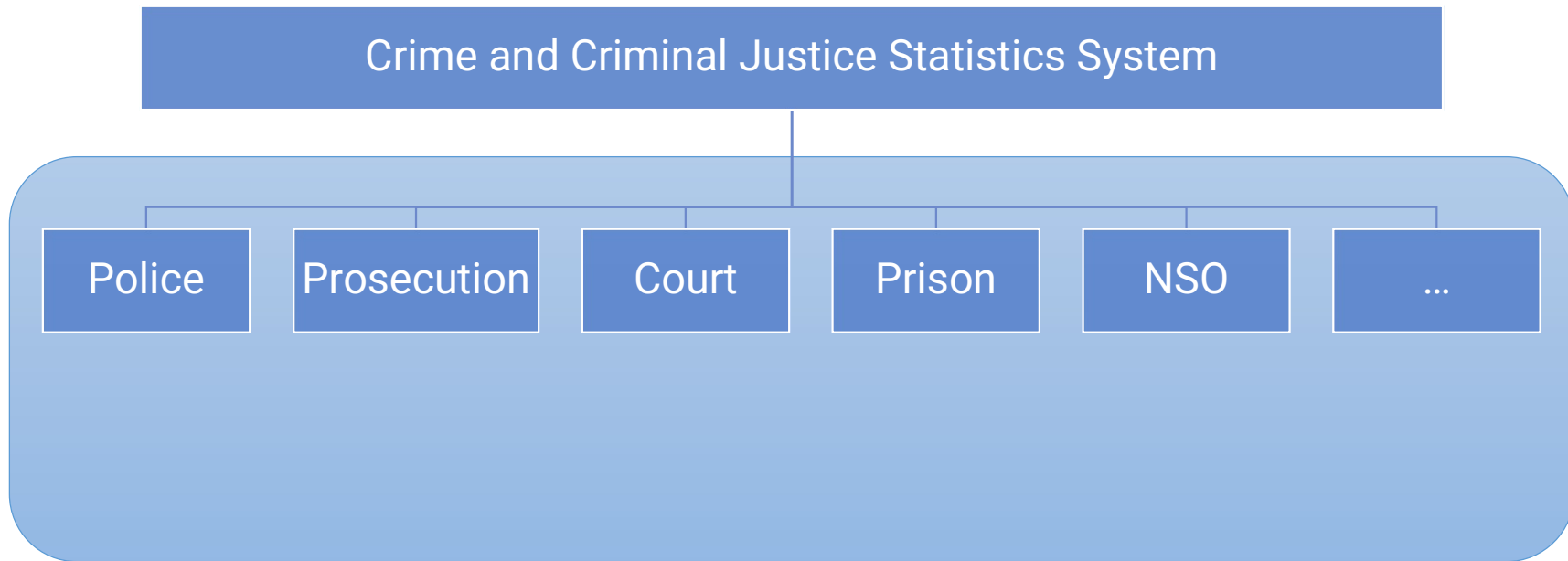
administrative offenses in the country



crimes in the country (national criminal justice system)



Who?



How?

- **Categorize** crime data through the use of numerical codes
- Information is not lost, deleted or modified; it is **ordered** according to the structure of the ICCS
- The administrative records incorporate a **nomenclature** to "label" or "catalogue" each data
- **The criminal legislation is not modified** nor is the recording of information, the only change is the way in which the information is interpreted

ICCS structure



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF CRIME
FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES (ICCS)**
VERSION 1.0

March 2015

Intentional homicide
01 Acts leading to death or intending to cause death
0101 Intentional homicide
0102 Attempted intentional homicide
Violent crimes
02 Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person
020111 Serious assault
020221 Kidnapping
0208 Acts intended to induce fear or emotional distress
03 Injurious acts of a sexual nature
0301 Sexual violence
03011 Rape
03012 Sexual assault
03019 Other acts of sexual violence
0302 Sexual exploitation
030221 Child pornography
04 Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person
0401 Robbery
Other crimes
05 Acts against property only
0501 Burglary
0502 Theft
05021 Theft of a motorized vehicle or parts thereof
06 Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs
0601 Unlawful acts involving controlled drugs or precursors
06011 Unlawful possession, purchase, use, cultivation or production of controlled drugs for personal consumption
06012 Unlawful trafficking, cultivation or production of controlled drugs or precursors not for personal consumption
07 Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption
0701 Fraud
0703 Corruption
07031 Bribery
07032 Other acts of corruption
07039
07041 Money laundering
08 Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State
08051 Smuggling of migrants offences
09 Acts against public safety and state security
09012 Trafficking of weapons and explosives
09031 Unlawful access to a computer system
09032 Unlawful interference with a computer system or computer data
09033 Unlawful interception or access of computer data
09051 Participation in an organized criminal group
09061 Participation in a terrorist group
09062 Financing of terrorism
10 Acts against the natural environment
1001 Acts that cause environmental pollution or degradation
1002 Acts involving the movement or dumping of waste
1003 Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora
1004 Acts that result in the depletion or degradation of natural resources



ICCS structure: level 1



LEVEL 1 CATEGORIES	
1	Acts leading to death or intending to cause death
2	Acts leading to harm or intending to cause harm to the person
3	Injurious acts of a sexual nature
4	Acts against property involving violence or threat against a person
5	Acts against property only
6	Acts involving controlled psychoactive substances or other drugs
7	Acts involving fraud, deception or corruption
8	Acts against public order, authority and provisions of the State
9	Acts against public safety and state security
10	Acts against the natural environment
11	Other criminal acts not elsewhere classified



ICCS structure: level 1



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Definitions for statistical purposes

0101 Intentional homicide

Unlawful death inflicted upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury.



Objective element: Cause the death of a person



Subjective element: Intent to kill or seriously injure



Legal element: Illegality

ICCS structure: level 2-4

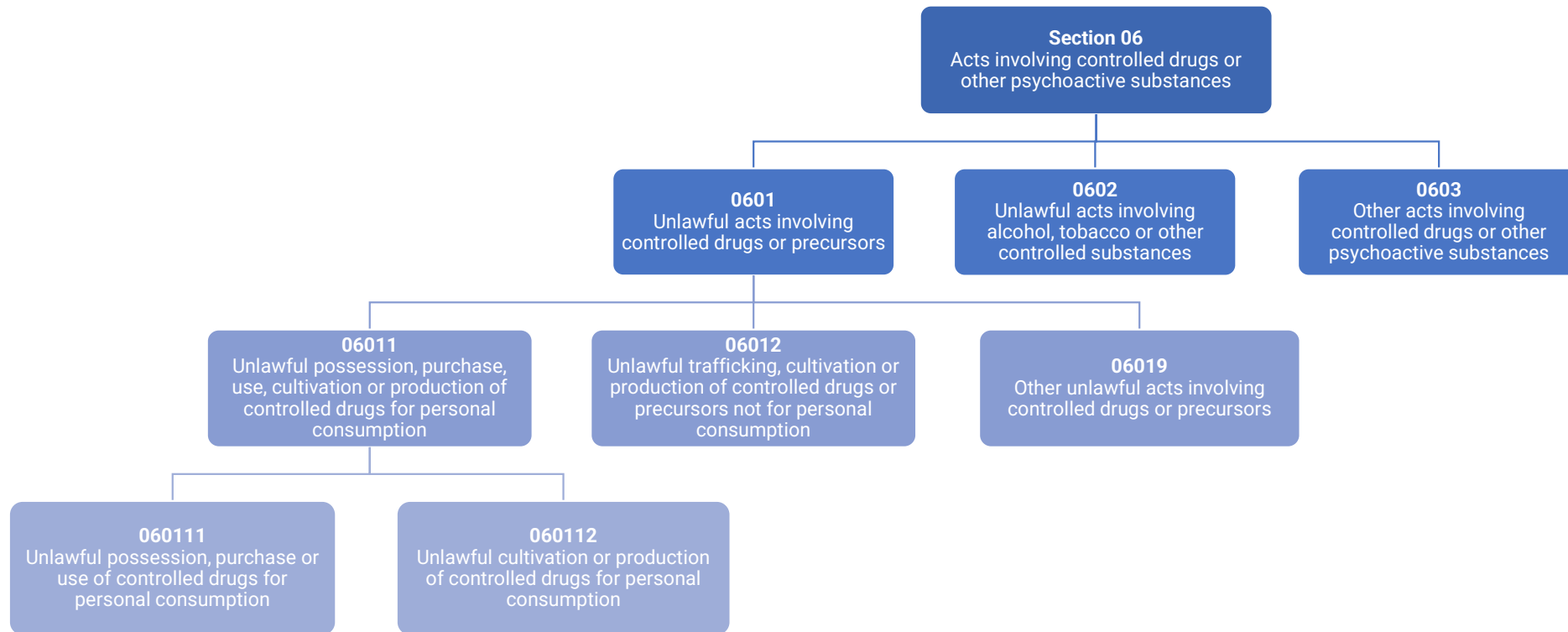


Section 01 Acts leading to death or intending to cause death

LEVEL 02	LEVEL 03	LEVEL 04	CRIME
0101			Intentional homicide
0102			Attempted intentional homicide
0103			Non-intentional homicide
	01031		Non-negligent manslaughter Negligent manslaughter
		010321	Vehicular homicide
		010322	Non-vehicular homicide
0104			Assisting or instigating suicide
	01041		Assisting suicide
	01049		Other acts of assisting or instigating suicide
0105			Euthanasia
0106			Illegal feticide
0107			Unlawful killing associated with armed conflict
0109			Other acts leading to death or intending to cause death



ICCS structure: Aggregation



ICCS structure: Inclusions and exclusions



SECTION 01		ACTS LEADING TO DEATH OR INTENDING TO CAUSE DEATH	
0101 Intentional homicide Unlawful death inflicted upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury.	+	Inclusions: Murder; ³⁶ honour killing; ³⁷ serious assault leading to death; ³⁸ death as a result of terrorist activities; ³⁹ dowry-related killings; ⁴⁰ femicide; ⁴¹ infanticide; ⁴² voluntary manslaughter; ⁴³ extrajudicial killings; killings caused by excessive use of force by law enforcement/state officials ⁴⁴	
	-	Exclusions: Death due to legal interventions; ⁴⁵ justifiable homicide in self-defence; ⁴⁶ attempted intentional homicide (0102); homicide without the element of intent is non-intentional homicide (0103); non-negligent or involuntary manslaughter ⁴⁷ (01031); assisting suicide or instigating suicide (0104); illegal femicide (0106); euthanasia (0105)	
0102 Attempted intentional homicide Attempt to inflict unlawful death upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury.	+	Inclusions: Attempted murder; attempt to inflict death as a result of terrorist activities; attempted infanticide; attempted femicide;	
	-	Exclusions: Conspiracy to procure or commit illegal femicide (0106)	
0103 Non-intentional homicide Unlawful death unintentionally inflicted upon a person by another person.	+	Inclusions: Involuntary manslaughter, causing death by dangerous driving; apply all inclusions listed in 01031 - 01032	
	-	Exclusions: Serious assault leading to death (0101); voluntary manslaughter (0101)	



Disaggregating variables



Minimum categories within each disaggregation variable

VICTIM DISAGGREGATIONS

SV – Sex of victim ¹⁶⁶	STV – Age status victim	Cit – Citizenship ¹⁶⁷	LS – Legal status of victim ¹⁶⁸
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male 2. Female 3. Not applicable 4. Not known 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minor 2. Adult 3. Not applicable 4. Not known 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National citizen 2. Foreign citizen 3. Not applicable 4. Not known 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natural person¹⁶⁹ <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Private individual¹⁷⁰ b. Public official¹⁷¹ 2. Legal entity¹⁷² <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Private entity¹⁷³ b. Public entity¹⁷⁴ 3. Other entity 4. Not known



Implementation Roadmap



Phase 1 – Launching the process, raising awareness and building the case



Phase 2 - Assessing the current status of the national criminal justice statistics system



Phase 3 – Developing the plan for national ICCS implementation



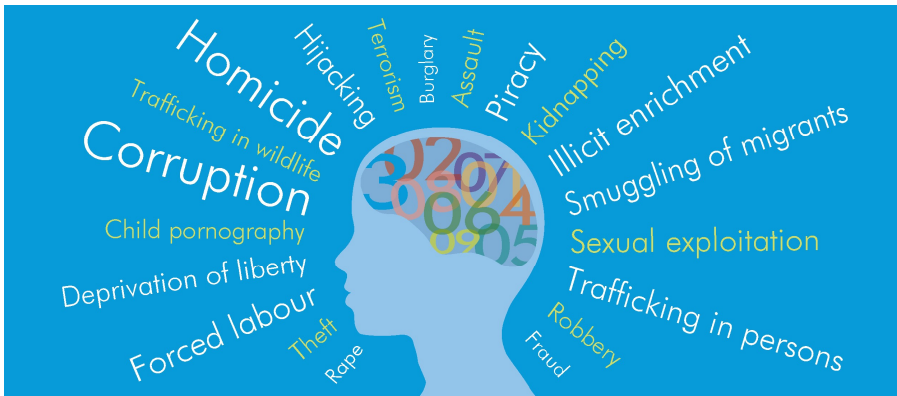
Phase 4 – Gradual implementation of ICCS



Phase 5 - Producing statistical outputs in line with ICCS



ICCS eLearning course



This course outlines what the ICCS is and how it enables the cross-cutting monitoring of criminal offences across all criminal justice institutions.

- Self-paced
- 2 modules
- Duration: 110 min
- Available in: English
- Free



Thank you



Claudia Pontoglio / Associate Research Officer
claudia.pontoglio@un.org

Martijn Kind / Statistician
martijn.kind@un.org

