



## TRANSNATIONAL THREATS

### Background

Many threats to security and development are unconstrained by national borders. Networks of criminal behavior that manage cross-border operations require nuanced approach on the national level, as well as a degree of regional and international cooperation for an effective response. Of these, human trafficking is a particularly heinous crime that involves grave encroachment on basic human rights and dignity. It is not only committed across boundaries, but also within the boundaries of states. It is made possible through fraud, deception, threat and coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor and organ removal, among others.

Smuggling of migrants is also a transnational crime, involving the facilitation of illegal entry of a person into a state of which that person is not a national or resident, for financial or other benefits. Due to their irregular status, migrants especially women and children, become vulnerable to a full range of threats to their physical integrity, well-being, and fundamental rights. Irregular migrants may be exposed to direct harm to their physical and mental health, as well as to exploitation, abuse, and human trafficking.

Conflicts, state collapse, protracted instability, and the erosion of the rule of law present traffickers and smugglers with enabling environments within which such crimes thrive. In tandem, poverty, unemployment, and the lack of economic opportunity increase the propensity of crises-affected populations to adopt negative coping mechanisms.

The impact of conflict and climate change on migratory trends present the African continent with a complex set of challenges to peace, security and development. In particular, the increasing rates of forced displacement across the continent pressures access to natural resources, complicates peacebuilding processes, and puts the resilience of local communities to the test.

Despite existing commendable efforts, Africa continues to face difficulties in contending with these challenges. This can be traced back to the lack of the resources necessary to

address the vulnerabilities of target communities as well as lack of effective prevention, mitigation, and response mechanisms to ensure protection of target communities while adopting human-rights based, victim-centered and trauma-oriented approaches.

In Africa, Egypt is a major contributor to the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), including the African Standby Force (ASF) and the African Capability for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC). It is also a member of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) (2020-2022).

Going hand-in-hand with the above is Egypt's contribution to training and capacity building through the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (CCCPA).

### Training

CCCPA's training courses on "Combating Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants" target mid-career officials with direct responsibilities for combating these crimes. They adopt a unique integrated multidimensional approach which brings together civilian, police and military professionals. Other beneficiaries of CCCPA trainings include officials from regional and sub-regional organizations, including the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States (LAS), and African Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs). They are also tailored for the specific needs of peacekeeping missions.

Based on highly interactive, scenario-based, and peer learning tools, CCCPA training courses cover the following modules (while adopting the 3Ps+1 approach--Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnership):

- Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants: Fundamental Concepts, Root Causes and Trends.

- International and Regional Partnership Instruments, Normative Frameworks: including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its supplementary Protocols and relevant International Conventions and Compacts, the Ouagadougou Action Plan, the "Khartoum Process" and the "Rabat Process."
- Prevention Measures, which do not only focus on tackling the symptoms but also structural root causes of both crimes, on the international, regional and national levels.
- Prosecution including:
  - Identification of Victims
  - Case Investigation and Interviewing Victims
  - Crime Scene Investigation
  - International Cooperation in Investigating Transnational Crimes
- Protection of Vulnerable Groups: Women and Children (Unaccompanied and Separated Children)
- National Experiences of African Countries in Combating Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, including
  - Challenges, Lessons Learned and Good Practices
- Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants in Conflict Situations and the Legal Obligations for Peacekeeping Operations

CCCPA partners with Egyptian national authorities, including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Defense, and Justice; the Office of the Prosecutor General; as well as the Egyptian National Coordinating Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons (NCCPIM & TIP). CCCPA also works closely with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

From January 2011 to date, CCCPA has organized 41 training courses addressing transnational threats, focusing on Combating Human Trafficking, Smuggling of Migrants, Illicit Transfer of SALW, Crisis Management, and Border Management. More than 814 trainees (18.2% of which were female) from 47 African countries attended these trainings. CCCPA has also upscaled its efforts in capacity-building activities for African officials to include trainings on "Mainstreaming Migration into National and Local Development Policies" and "Investigating Illicit Financial Flows Pertaining to Organized Crime".

CCCPA has also launched a leading training program addressing the complex, transnational risks to security and development in the Red Sea region. It focuses on the opportunities to strengthen the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in the face of pre-existing fragilities, threats and humanitarian crises in this conflict-affected region.

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## Research and Convening

CCCPA's research interests focus on the inter-linkages between mass movement of people and various challenges to peace and security, with a particular focus on Africa and the Arab world.

Specifically, CCCPA conducts research on the following linkages:

- Migration and Conflict;
- Migration and Development;
- Migration and Climate Change;
- Migration and the Women, Peace and Security (WPS)

CCCPA has organized two workshops on "Mainstreaming Migration in Development Planning".

As part of the preparatory process for the first edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, CCCPA held the Expert Workshop titled "Africa's Forcibly Displaced: From Ad Hoc Responses to Durable Solutions" in August 2019. The workshop aimed to inform the ongoing deliberations concerning the operationalization of the African Humanitarian Architecture, including the African Humanitarian Agency, and the integration and coordination of its work with that of other relevant AU Departments, so as to provide an integrated response to forced displacement.

## Next Steps

CCCPA is currently in the process of validating its training manual on "Combating Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants". The Center will also further scale up its activities to include trainings on mainstreaming migration in development planning and peacemaking and peacebuilding processes. Future training activities will specifically target officials from North, East and Sub-Saharan Africa, specifically from migrant- and refugee-producing countries, as well as host African states with large numbers of migrants and forcibly displaced populations. CCCPA is also developing expert workshops exploring the nexus between migration, climate change, and conflict, as well as the integration of forced displacement in post-conflict reconstruction efforts.

## CCCPA

Founded in 1994 by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and re-charted in June 2017 by a Prime Ministerial Decree, the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding, is an Egyptian public agency specialized in training, capacity building and research in the fields of peace and security. It is the successor of the Cairo Regional Center for Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa (CCCPA).