Foreign terrorist fighters continue to pose severe challenges to the stability of many African countries, as they return to their countries of origin or relocate to other destinations.

Greater support from the international community is needed. This support must prioritize prevention and more inclusively engage women and youth to build community resilience.

Furthermore, we must target linkages with organized crime and drug trafficking; challenges posed by FTFs and issues of prosecution, rehabilitation, and reintegration; measures to counter terrorism financing, money laundering and corruption; and evidence collection from the battlefield and digital spaces.

Working together, we need to further strengthen legislative assistance as well as capacity building to enhance criminal justice responses, and enable cross-border law enforcement and judicial cooperation, including through biometrics systems, watchlists, and databases, while respecting human rights.

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime is working with partners to assist African countries in promoting such counter-terrorism responses. In 2021, we implemented 25 projects in Sub-Saharan Africa, delivering more than 160 activities and training over 2,500 people.

To support the Sahel in dealing with a new wave of violent terrorist attacks, UNODC is working with countries in the region to enhance the technical capacities of their specialized jBTF3 12 Tf1 0 0