UNODC supported sport as an enabler of sustainable development through developing and implementing the Global Programme on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption and Crime. Its main aim is to support effective implementation of relevant resolutions adopted by the Conference of the States parties to United Nations Convention against Corruption ¹ and the General Assembly. ² Key to UNODC’s work has been its partnerships with INTERPOL and the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the support of the European Union, Italy and the Russian Federation, as well as enhanced collaboration with the Asian Football Confederation, the International Cricket Council, the Union of European Football Associations, Fédération Internationale de Football Association and World Rugby, amongst others. Over the reporting period, the Global Programme supported over 5923 officials from law enforcement, criminal justice authorities, sport organizations and other relevant stakeholders from 127 Member States through awareness raising, capacity development and technical assistance activities. Notable among these were: organizing two international conferences entitled “Safeguarding Sport from Corruption” supported by Brazil, the Russia Federation, India, Italy, China and South Africa; organizing the inaugural General Conference of the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport; developing and launching, in cooperation with the IOC, a publication entitled “Reporting Mechanisms in Sport: A Practical Guide for Development and Implementation” and; delivering workshops with INTERPOL and the IOC for officials from Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, Malaysia, Colombia Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Japan, Qatar and Uruguay.

In 2019, the General Assembly adopted resolution 74/170 entitled “Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies”, which encouraged States to use sport-based activities in the context of youth crime and social reintegration of young offenders, and, in this regard, to promote research, monitoring and evaluation of relevant initiatives. It inter alia requested UNODC to provide advice, raise awareness and continue identifying and disseminating information and good practices. As requested by the resolution, UNODC with support from Thailand organized an expert group meeting at the end of 2019 to examine effective ways and means to integrate sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice, considering the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant United Nations action plans and standards. The meeting highlighted that that there are many different types of sport-based programmes which, depending on their goals and design, can help divert youth from crime and other problematic activities, including difficult to reach groups; offer a hook to other interventions and services; and embed or be embedded into specific interventions to address risk factors for crime, achieve certain social objectives and positive personal developmental outcomes. The report on the meeting will be submitted to the 29th session of the CCPCJ and made available to the 14th Crime Congress (A/CONF.234/14). UNODC’s Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration with support from Qatar, continued to support Member States to use sport and sport-based learning for youth crime prevention, including by providing life skills training in a sport context through the Line Up Live Up curriculum and creating safe public spaces in marginalized communities for youth to develop and positively interact with peers. Since the start of its implementation in 2016, many Member States engaged in this initiative, building capacity of schools, other community-based entities and civil society organizations to enhance life skills and strengthen resilience of at-risk youth through sport-based programmes including Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Peru, South Africa, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Uganda and Uzbekistan. In 2018 and 2019, over 700 sport trainers received training on UNODC’s Line Up Live Up curriculum and over 11,000 boys and girls benefitted from its implementation. UNODC’s set of tools will be complemented with a guide on the use of sport in preventing violent extremism, to be published in 2020.

¹ These include resolution 8/4 on Safeguarding sport from corruption, adopted by the Conference at its Eighth Session in December 2019 and resolution 7/8 on corruption in sport, adopted by the Conference at its Seventh Session, in November 2017.
² Resolution 73/24 of the General Assembly on sport as an enabler of sustainable development