

FOREWORD

Reducing reoffending is of critical importance to enhancing public safety and to achieving sustainable development. On the basis of this recognition, Workshop 2 on “Reducing reoffending: identifying risks and developing solutions” was convened on 8 March 2021 in Kyoto, Japan, within the framework of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (the “Kyoto Congress” or the “Congress”).

The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), an institute of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI), in collaboration with the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), took the leading role in the administration, organization and preparation of Workshop 2 as an official component of the Congress. As it has done since the Tenth Crime Congress in 2000, UNAFEI offered to publish the report of the workshop.

Workshop 2 drew links between reducing reoffending and sustainable development and underscored the importance of providing effective, evidence-based treatment and support to facilitate offender rehabilitation and reintegration in rehabilitative environments throughout all relevant stages of the criminal justice system. Consisting of three panels – creating rehabilitative prison environments, community-based approaches that contribute to reducing reoffending, and taking a multifaceted approach to ensure continuous support and services for rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders – the workshop offered an opportunity for government representatives, experts and practitioners to exchange information on strategies and best practices for reducing reoffending. The conclusions of the panel discussions, as summarized by the Chair of Committee II, appear at the end of the Workshop Report, which is published herein.

The present publication is a compilation of all the presentations and discussions and all the reference papers made available to the workshop. It is our great pleasure to publish this comprehensive report of the workshop to further disseminate its outcomes globally.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the keynote speakers and the panellists of the workshop – prominent experts from all over the world without whose strenuous contributions the workshop would not have been such an outstanding success. Furthermore, I would like to thank the UNODC for its guidance and support, the Thailand Institute of Justice for its assistance in planning and preparation and all the individuals whose unselfish efforts behind the scenes contributed significantly to the realization of both the workshop and this publication.

Finally, I am convinced that this publication is essential reading material for all those who are interested in reducing reoffending, including criminal justice practitioners, policymakers and academics. I am also confident that it will serve as a valuable reference source for international, as well as local, training activities.

November 2021



MORINAGA Taro
Director of UNAFEI