



## Drug Court

# Summary of the Annual Report submitted to the National Drug Control Council 2022

## About the report

This report has been prepared under Article 46 of the Drug Act of 2011, which mandates the Drug Court to submit an annual report to the National Drug Council.

The report contains information on the cases submitted to the Drug Court during the year 2022. Additionally, It provides information on the individuals who were prescribed treatment, including their geographic information and the types of treatment they received.

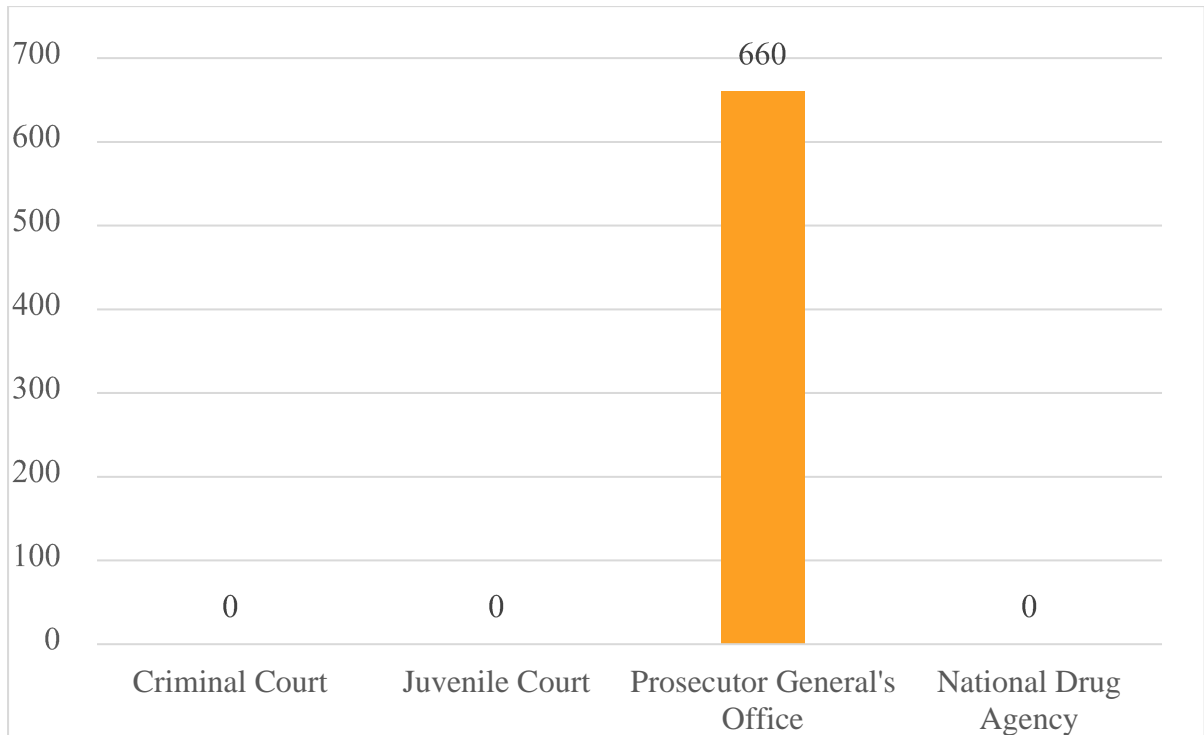
Furthermore, it provides data on the number of individuals who successfully completed their prescribed treatment, as well as those who did not.

It also includes information on the time spent adjudicating cases, from initial filing to final disposition. This information can be used to evaluate the efficiency of the Drug Court's processes and identify areas for improvement.

Finally, the report highlights administrative challenges faced by the Court, such as resource constraints, staffing issues, or other challenges that may impact the Court's ability to fulfill its mandate effectively.

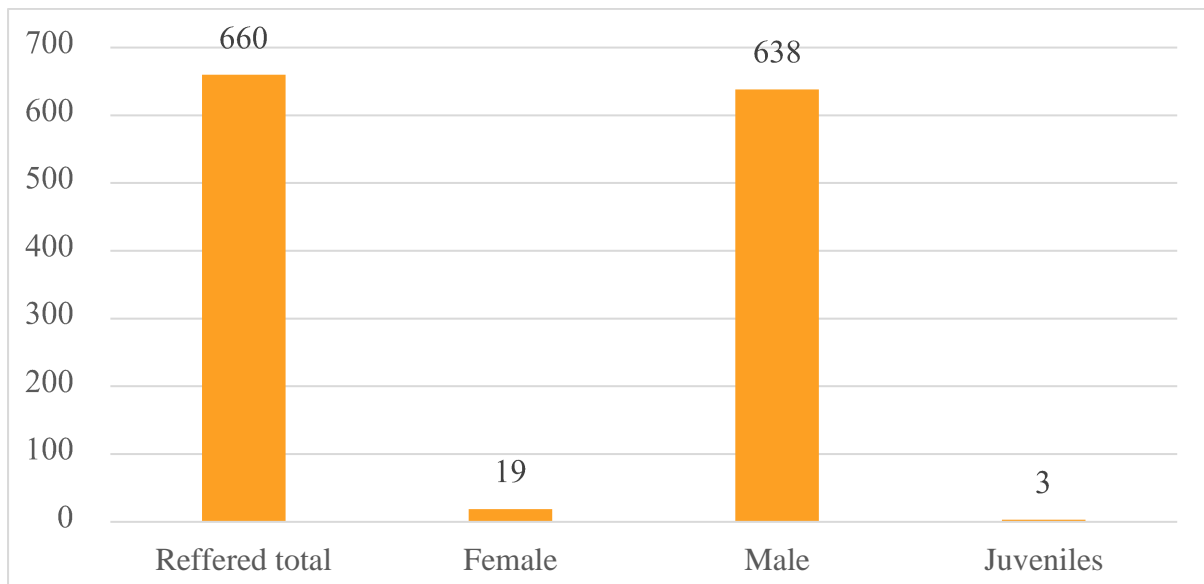
Overall, this report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the Drug Court's activities during the reporting period, to support evidence-based policymaking and promote transparency and accountability.

## 1-Referral authorities



This graph illustrates the referral authorities responsible for directing drug-related cases into the Drug Court System in 2022. Notably, all referrals were made by the Prosecutor General's Office, with no cases referred from the courts during this period.

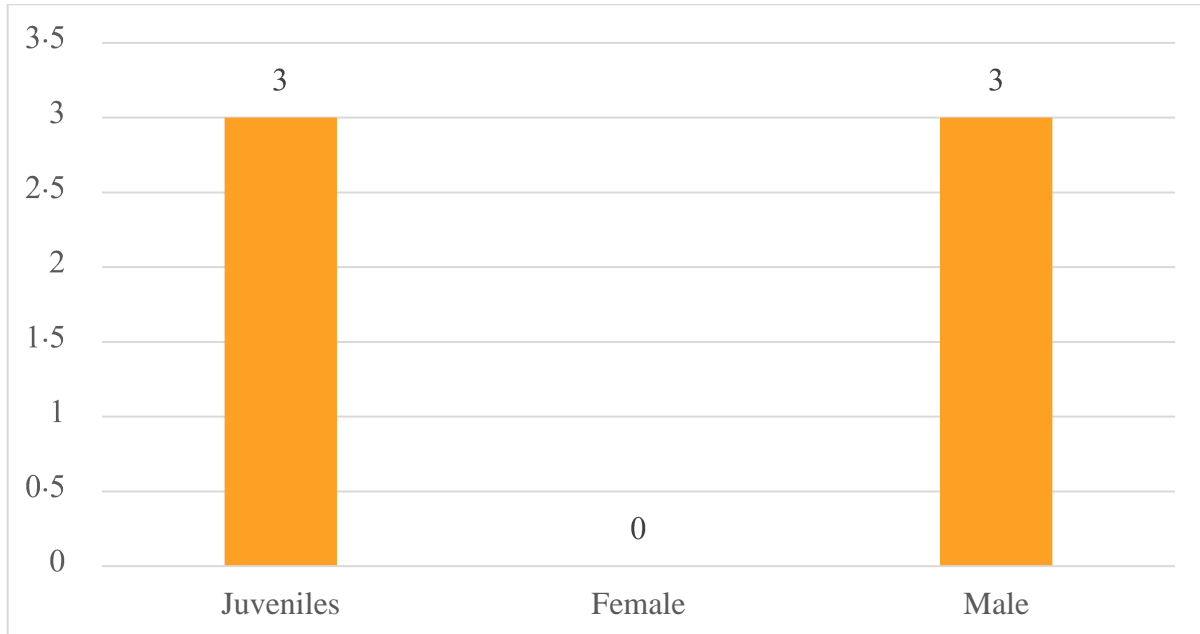
## 2-Referred individuals



This graph represents the gender distribution of individuals referred to the Drug Court in 2022. Among the 660 filings, the vast majority, over 96%, were male offenders, with only three

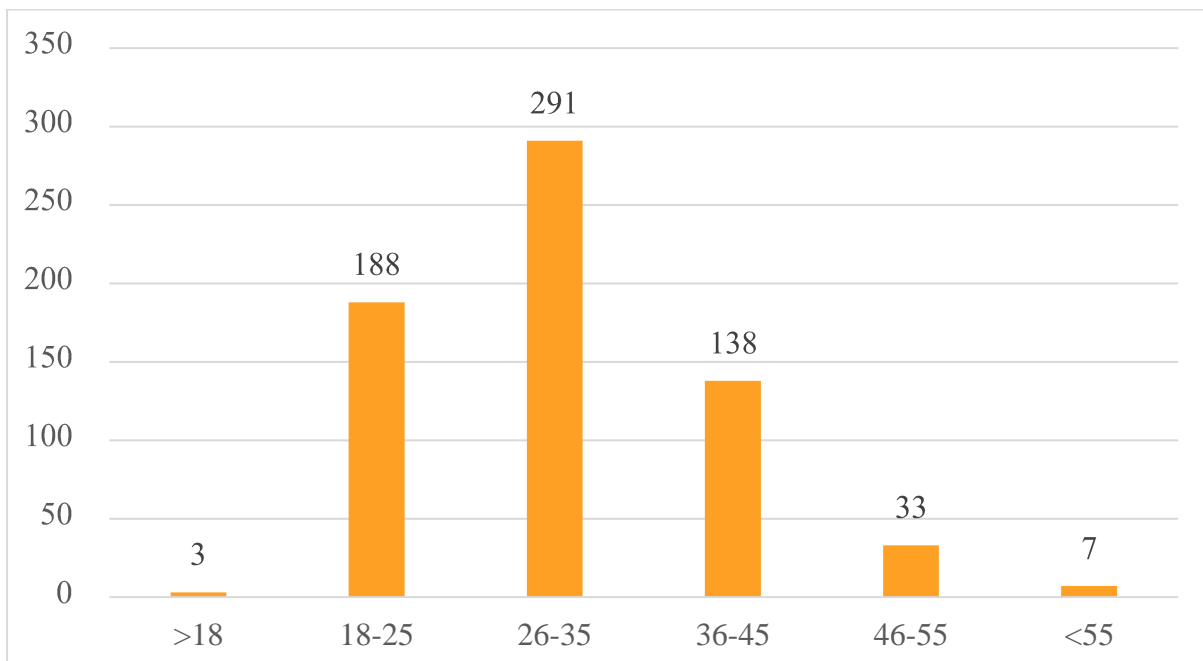
juveniles. These findings suggest that drug-related offenses in the jurisdiction covered by the Drug Court System are predominantly committed by males.

### 3-Referred juveniles



This graph shows the gender distribution of juveniles referred to the Drug Court in 2022. There were no female juveniles referred during this period.

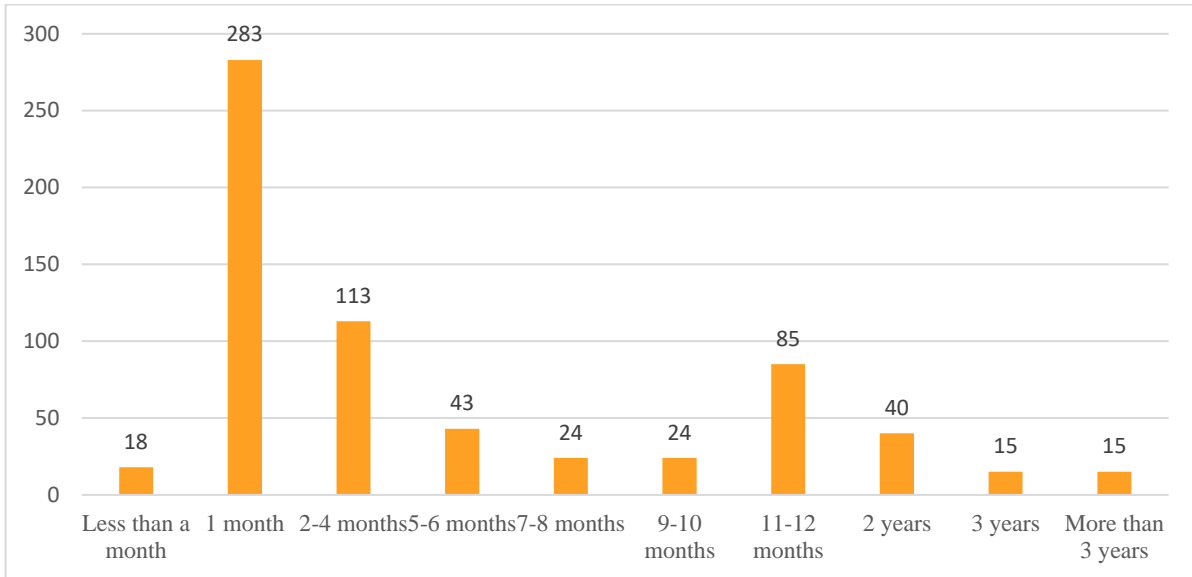
### 4-Age range of the referred individuals



This graph shows the age distribution of individuals referred for drug abuse cases, with the dominant age range falling between 18 and 25 years old. The oldest individual referred was 64

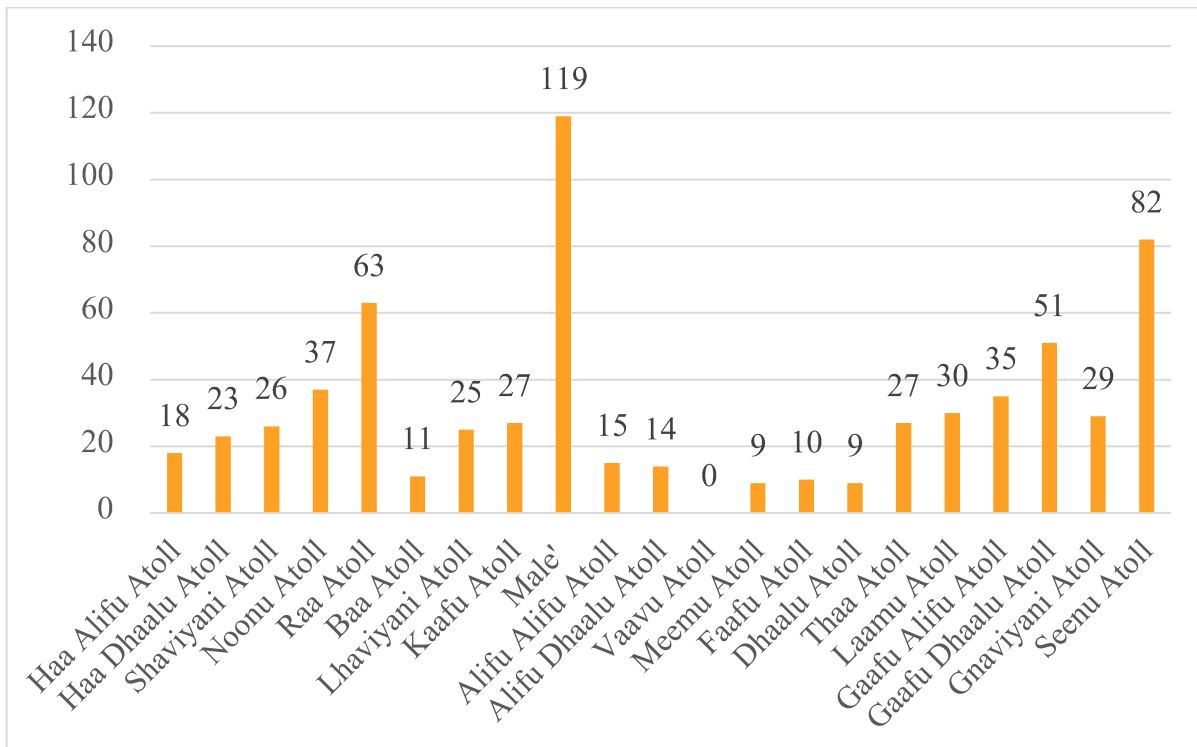
years old, while the youngest was 16 years old. These findings suggest that drug abuse affects individuals of different age groups, with a higher prevalence among young adults.

### 5-Duration of referral process from time of Incident to filing of the case



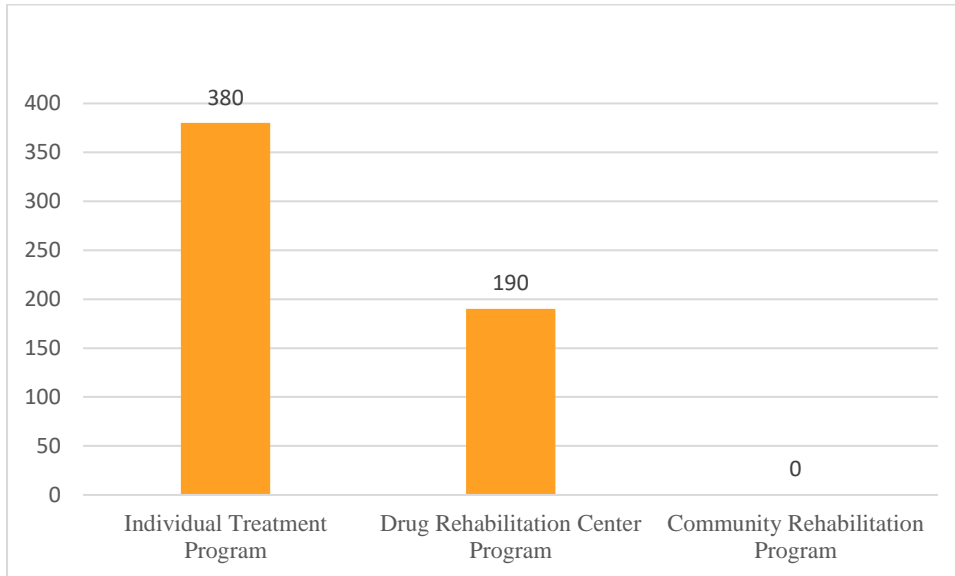
This graph displays the distribution of the period taken to file cases from the time of incident. The majority of cases were filed within a month, while the average duration was between 6 to 15 months.

### 6-Geographic details



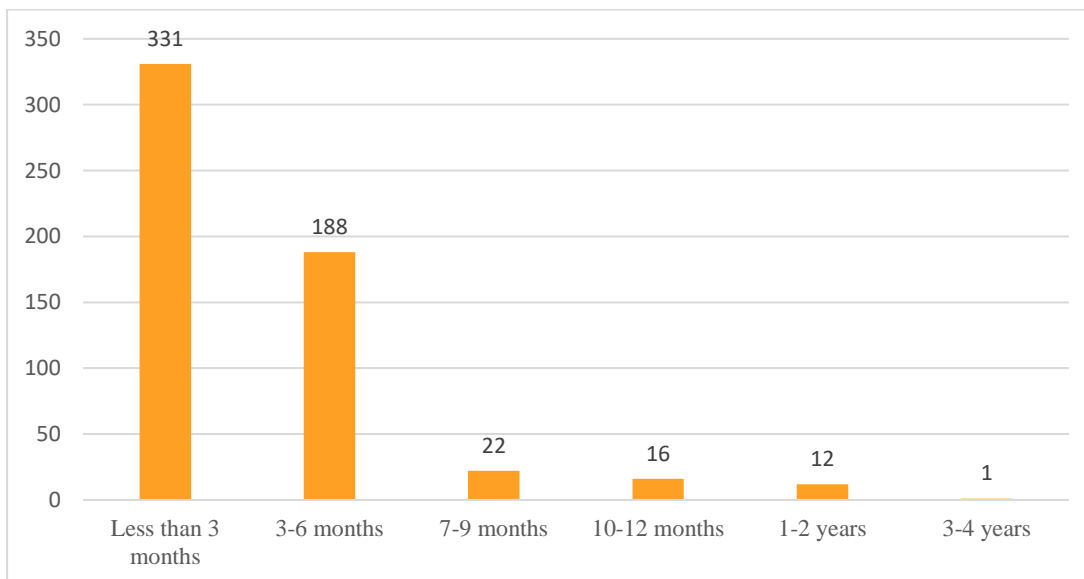
This graph displays the distribution of individuals referred to the Drug Court in 2022 by their belonging atolls or cities. Notably, the majority of the referred individuals belonged to Male', the capital city, while the second-largest group belonged to Addu City. Conversely, the least number of individuals referred to the Drug Court came from Vaavu Atoll, with no individuals belonging to that location.

## 7-Details of Rehabilitation Orders



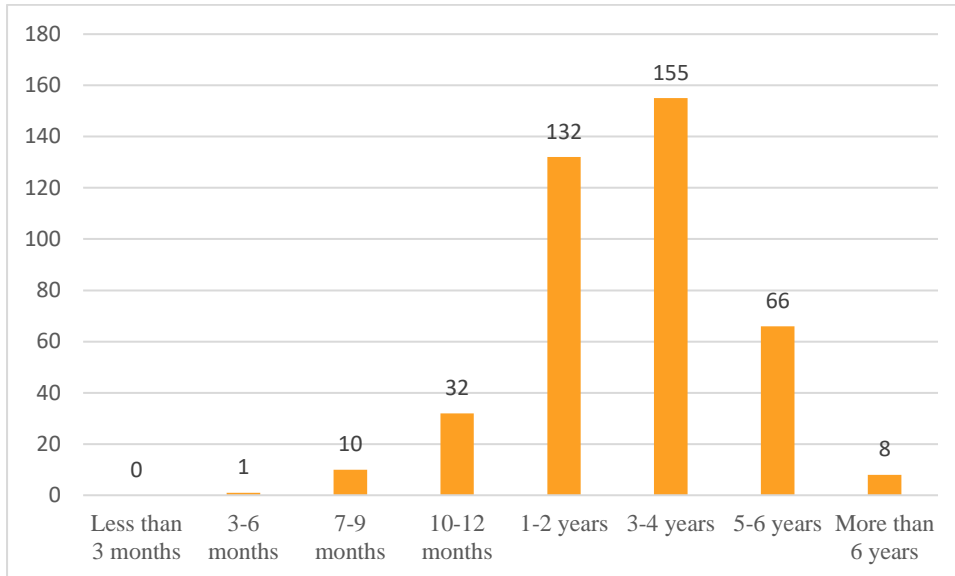
This graph represents the distribution of Rehabilitation Orders issued by the Drug Court system. Notably, out of the 570 Rehabilitation Orders, the majority of individuals were prescribed individual treatment plans, while 190 were sent to in-house rehabilitation programs

## 8-Duration taken for delivering Rehabilitation Orders



This graph displays the distribution of the time taken by Drug Court to issue a Rehabilitation Order from the moment the case was filed. The majority of cases were resolved within a time frame of three months or less, indicating a relatively prompt processing time.

### 9-Duration taken for Final Verdicts



This graph shows the time taken by the Drug Court to issue a Final Verdict from the moment a case was filed, with an average duration of 35 months and 9 days. The primary reason for the extended timeline appears to be related to delays in completing rehabilitation programs. This finding suggests that further efforts could be made to streamline the rehabilitation process and reduce delays, which could potentially lead to shorter timelines for case resolution.

### 10-Completion / Termination

Notably, 404 individuals successfully completed the programs in 2022. This is a positive outcome that suggests that the majority of individuals who received rehabilitation services were able to successfully overcome their drug addiction and reintegrate into society. However, the graph also shows that 182 individuals were terminated from treatment due to non-compliance, committing crimes while on treatment, and other reasons.

### 11-Administrative challenges

- 1- There is a lack of adequate training programs for judges presiding over the Drug Court. As the Drug Court plays a critical role in addressing drug-related offenses and promoting rehabilitation, it is essential that judges are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to handle these cases more effectively.
- 2- There are challenges in conducting videoconference hearings due to a lack of adequate facilities. While several Magistrate Courts are connected via videoconferencing, there is a shortage of rooms equipped with the necessary systems to conduct these types of hearings. This issue is causing delays and inefficiencies in the court process, as many

hearings that could have been conducted via videoconference are now being postponed or rescheduled. It is also causing significant inconvenience to the individuals involved in these cases, who may have to travel long distances to attend in-person hearings.

- 3- Drug Court is facing budgetary inadequacies for visiting rehabilitation centers. As per the Drug Act of 2011, the Drug Court is mandated to monitor the execution of treatment programs conducted in accordance with Rehabilitation Orders. However, due to budgetary constraints, the Court is finding it difficult to conduct regular visits to rehabilitation centers to ensure that treatment programs are being implemented effectively.
- 4- There are challenges in completing rehabilitation programs due to a lack of adequate rehabilitation centers and personnel. This issue is causing long delays in the completion of rehabilitation programs, with individuals having to wait for extended periods to access prescribed rehabilitation plans. The shortage of rehabilitation centers and personnel is a significant challenge that undermines the effectiveness of the Drug Court's mandate. Without access to adequate rehabilitation facilities and personnel, individuals may not receive timely support they need to overcome their drug-related issue.
- 5- We ask from relevant authorities to prioritize the completion of the ongoing project to design a case management software for the Drug Court. By investing in the necessary resources to develop and implement a case management software, we can ensure that the court is able to manage cases more efficiently.
- 6- We ask from relevant authorities to prioritize the completion of the proposed new Male Courts Complex to address the issue of inadequate space at the Drug Court.
- 7- We ask from relevant authorities to prioritize the recruitment process for the Drug Court to ensure that vacancies are filled promptly and with qualified personnel.