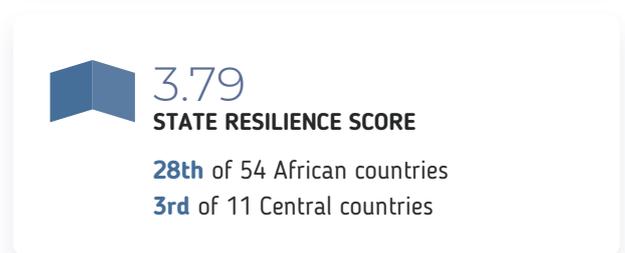
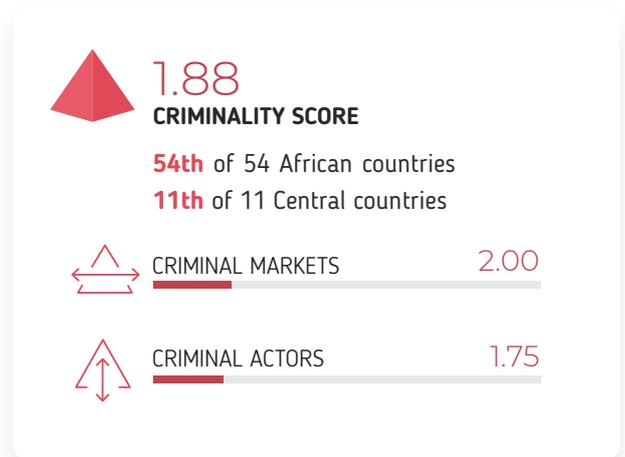
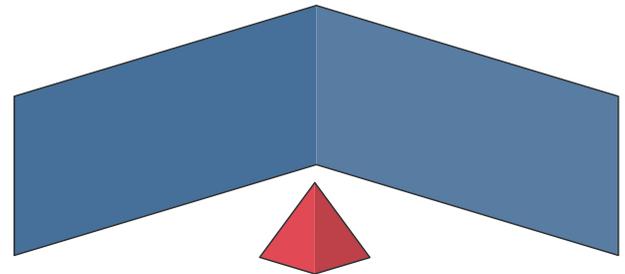


 **SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE**

São Tomé and Príncipe has a **criminality** score of 1.99, the lowest on the continent.

There are no criminal markets present in the country that have more than a non-existent to minor influence on society. The most prominent criminal markets in the island state are **human smuggling, arms trafficking** and **cannabis**, but all three receive scores of 3, indicating no more than a limited, and manageable, influence. Similarly, there are no **criminal actors** in the country that score higher than 2.5, indicating a very limited reach of organised-criminal actors.

With regard to resilience to organised crime, São Tomé and Príncipe lies just below the African average, with a **resilience** score of 3.79. Although the country has a robust **legislative framework** in place, both domestically and with regard to international treaties and legal frameworks, there is significant room for improvement in areas, and pro-activeness is required around introducing measures aimed at **prevention** of organised crime and **support for witnesses and victims** of organised crime.



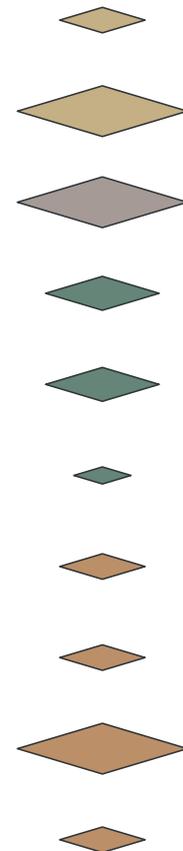
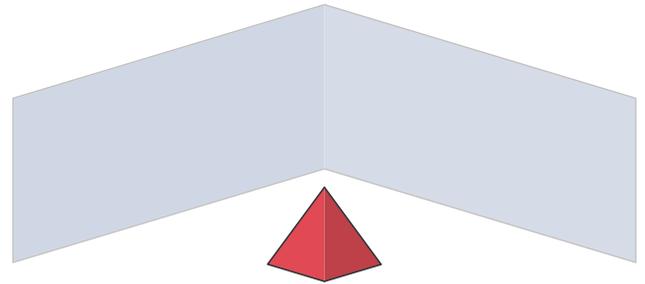
# CRIMINALITY SCORE



<b>CRIMINAL ACTORS</b>	<b>1.75</b>
<b>MAFIA STYLE GROUPS</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>CRIMINAL NETWORKS</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>FOREIGN ACTORS</b>	<b>2.5</b>



<b>CRIMINAL MARKETS</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>HUMAN TRAFFICKING</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>HUMAN SMUGGLING</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>ARMS TRAFFICKING</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>FLORA CRIMES</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>FAUNA CRIMES</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>HEROIN TRADE</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>COCAINE TRADE</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>CANNABIS TRADE</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE</b>	<b>1.5</b>



## Criminal Markets

São Tomé and Príncipe has the lowest **criminal markets** score of all African countries, reflecting the near absence of the illicit economies that are assessed in the Index. Indeed, in seven of the ten criminal markets measured in the Index, the country registers scores of 2 or below; three criminal markets have a limited but manageable influence in São Tomé and Príncipe, with scores of 3: **human smuggling**, **arms trafficking** and the **cannabis trade**.

While evidence of **arms trafficking** is limited, the Gulf of Guinea, in which São Tomé and Príncipe is located, is prone to the illicit trafficking of small and light weapons. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that the country is vulnerable to the threat of arms proliferation if the Gulf of Guinea is not secured. **Cannabis** is the most widely consumed drug in São Tomé and Príncipe, where it is cultivated by local citizens with links to criminal gangs. Overall, the drugs markets in the country are relatively



muted, however. Nevertheless, taking into account the island state's location and geographic characteristics, there is the potential for it to become a transit zone for trafficking drugs, and this is a threat that must be managed by the government.

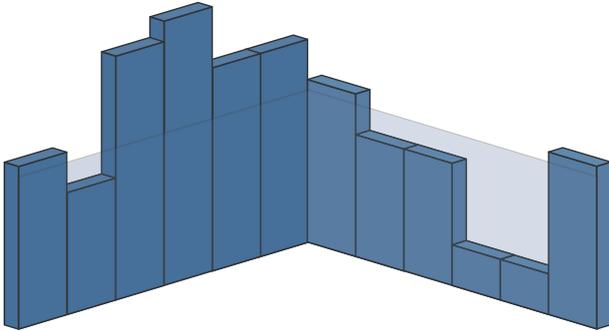
## Criminal Actors

The influence of criminal actors in São Tomé and Príncipe is almost non-existent, as evidenced by the

lack of any established illicit economies in the island state. While **mafia-style groups** and **state-embedded actors** do not exist in the country, **criminal networks** and **foreign actors** are marginally more prevalent. There are gangs in the country that engage in robberies and evidence that communities are increasingly suffering from the presence of criminal organisations linked to cells operating overseas. The role of foreign actors in São Tomé and Príncipe is limited, but they are known to facilitate the drugs trade by recruiting locals to operate as drug mules.



# RESILIENCE SCORE



<b>POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND DETENTION</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>ECONOMIC REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>PREVENTION</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>NON-STATE ACTORS</b>	<b>4.0</b>

São Tomé and Príncipe is an example of a country with both low levels of **criminality** and low levels of **resilience** to organised crime, ranking 28th in Africa for **resilience**. The country's **resilience** indicators scores vary greatly, with scores as low as 1 for certain indicators and as high as 6.5 for others.

The government has shown some political will to combat organised crime. In 2017, a strategic government plan for 2017 to 2021 was unveiled, which includes the creation of more stringent and effective rules to combat organised crime, including its financial aspect, reviewing the criminal procedural legislation, allowing a more coherent criminal process and reviewing the execution of the sentence, and allowing a greater use of alternative forms of punishment. In the same year, the government also promised to establish a judicial police service within three years, which would include specialists in combating and preventing crime.

The country has ratified nine of the ten international treaties and conventions pertaining to organised crime. In 2018, prosecutors from São Tomé and Príncipe, Portugal, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Macau, Brazil and Angola established a network of anti-drug, anti-corruption and anti-money-laundering prosecutors. The objective of the network is to institute a channel for exchanging information and sharing experiences to help address these forms of crime, and to encourage joint strategies of action. As such, the country scores 6 for **international cooperation**.

The country's highest-scoring **resilience** indicator is that of **national policies and laws** (6.5). São Tomé and Príncipe has numerous laws pertaining to organised crime and a robust legislative framework. The country's Penal Code includes provisions pertaining to the drug trade, including the criminalisation of the trafficking and use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The criminal-justice system overall in São Tomé and Príncipe is moderately effective, but a lack of resources and some levels of corruption pose challenges.

Where the country falls considerably short is, firstly, with regard to the economic and financial resilience measures to organised crime, and secondly, its social-protection measures. The country has limited resources to invest in **anti-money laundering** enforcement and fails to meet international standards in this regard. The country is vulnerable to potential money laundering and terrorism financing activities given its weak regulation of financial institutions and lack of effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions against those who do not comply with national anti-money-laundering requirements. The government is, however, working to address these deficiencies. **Prevention** measures and **victim and witness support** are almost non-existent in São Tomé and Príncipe.

