Operational Recommendations:

- 3(g): “Strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies [...] in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes such as trafficking in firearms”

- 3(k): “Respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking and trafficking in firearms […], by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and […] intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions”

- 3(m): “Strengthen […] measures […] aimed at enhancing operational cooperation to prevent transnational organized criminal networks involved in illicit drug-related activities from trafficking and acquiring firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, explosives and other related material;”
Firearms related violence

Mechanisms of Homicide Perpetration

Global

- Sharp weapons
- Others
- Firearms

Americas

- Sharp weapons
- Others
- Firearms
Systemic link between armed violence and drug trafficking

A t o o l t o p e r p e t u a t e p o w e r

1. Crime-internal disputes
   Solving territorial, contractual, disciplinary or successional issues within and between drug trafficking organizations

2. Undermining rule of law
   Retaliating against state law enforcement or pressuring state officials not to enforce the law

3. Policy-shaping
   Inducing changes in legislation or policy that affect criminal activities
Statistical evidence for link between firearms trafficking and drug trafficking

Average proportion of arms seized in the suspected context of drug trafficking by rank of drug seizures per capita of reported countries, 2016

- High rates of drug seizures per capita
- Medium rates of drug seizures per capita
- Lower rates of drug seizures per capita

Firearms and drug trafficking link

- Larger share of firearms seized in the context of drug trafficking in countries with high levels of drug trafficking in general

Firearms trafficking-homicide-link

- Larger share of firearms seized in the context of violent crime in countries with high homicide rates
Integrated approach to counter Illicit firearms trafficking

The Global Firearms Programme’s 5-pillar approach

CROSSCUTTING ISSUES

- Gender,
- Human Rights,
- Civil Society Participation and oversight,
- Public awareness and visibility
Operation KAFO 2
- Check of 12000 individuals
- Seizure of 50 firearms, 40,593 sticks of dynamite, 6,162 rounds of ammunition
- Seizure of 1,473 kilos of drugs (cannabis and khat), 2,263 boxes of contraband drugs and 60,000 liters of contraband fuel

Operation TRIGGER VI
- Arrest of 4,000 suspects
- Seizure of with some 200,000 illicit firearms, parts, components, ammunition and explosives
- Collective seizure of more than 21 tonnes of cocaine, marijuana and precursor chemicals
- Destruction of 27 cocaine labs
Evidence based knowledge

- Annual Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire
- First publication on illicit arms flows at global scale
- Contextual seizure data to analyze the linkages between arms trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including drug trafficking
- Monitoring the achievement of SDG 16.4 – “by 2030 significantly reduce illicit arms flows”
Thanks for your attention!

Ms. Simonetta Grassi
Chief of the UNODC Global Firearms Programme

Tel: +43-1-26060-5484
E-Mail: gfp@un.org | simonetta.grassi@un.org
@UNODC_Firearms | Website: www.unodc.org