



FIREARMS CHAMPION COUNTRY INITIATIVE

Fact Sheet

Background

To effectively detect, prevent and combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to achieve and monitor target 16.4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG)¹, Member States need to develop and implement integrated approaches that address the issue of firearms from a preventive as well as a criminal justice angle.



Acknowledging the increasing threat posed by illicit firearms to peace, security and development, Member States across the globe are enhancing firearms control as well as criminal justice systems and practices. To consolidate, highlight and encourage replication of these efforts, the UNODC Global Firearms Programme launched, in the framework of its joint EU-UNODC project on *“Supporting Global Data Collection and Analysis on Firearms Trafficking and Fostering Cooperation and Information Sharing, in particular Among Countries along Major Trafficking Routes to/from the EU”*, the **Firearms Champion Country Initiative (FCCI)**.

Objective

The main objectives of the FCCI are:

- To foster implementation of the **Firearms Protocol**²;

¹ With target 16.4, Member States commit to “by 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of

- To support achievement and monitoring of **SDG target 16.4**;
- To promote **international cooperation, information sharing and exchange of good practices** to prevent and combat illicit trafficking and access to firearms; and
- To increase **understanding on firearms trafficking** and related crimes.

Scope

The FCCI subsequently aims at identifying and sharing good practices at national or regional levels related to salient aspects of countering illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and preventing unauthorized access thereof to criminal or terrorist groups.

Linked to UNODC’s broader efforts as co-custodian of SDG indicator 16.4.2, **in this first phase, the FCCI focuses in particular on efforts aimed at enhancing understanding on firearms trafficking and monitoring SDG target 16.4** by looking at good practices in:

- Generating, collecting, and recording of firearms data;
- Analysing such data at national or regional level to enhance the intelligence picture and understanding on illicit firearms;
- Operationally using firearms data to strengthen the criminal justice responses to related threats.

stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime”.

² See A/RES/55/255.



Participation in the FCCI

All Member States are invited to join the initiative by sharing their experiences and good practices and by developing (joint) analytical products on firearms trafficking.

Participation in the FCCI is flexible. The concrete modalities in which each champion country wishes to contribute is determined on a case by case basis and should be aligned with the capacities and interests of the individual Member State.

Generally, participating countries are committed to:

- Identifying and sharing good practices of procedural or institutional settings to enhance the generation, collection and/or analysis of firearms data;
- Actively supporting and advocating for a broad participation in the UNODC firearms data collection exercise through the Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire;
- Providing in depth insights into the firearms trafficking context - or a particular aspect of it - at national level and its links to other forms of organized crime or terrorism; and/or
- Enhancing their own or third countries' ability to identify and monitor illicit firearms flows.

UNODC is committed to support national and regional efforts on a case by case basis, with the aim to give broader visibility and recognition of such efforts and good practices and encourage their replication and use.

Expected results

Expected results include:

- **Good practices and examples** regarding the effective implementation of the Firearms Protocol, the achievement and monitoring of the arms component of SDG target 16.4, as well as the enhancement of understanding on firearms trafficking and

related crimes will be identified, collected and disseminated by UNODC;

- **Understanding on firearms trafficking is increased through national or regional studies** focusing on particular firearms related aspects and issues of interest or concern to the country or region;
- Member States **exchange and share information** and **increase their commitment** regarding the prevention and countering of illicit firearms flows, exchange with and learn from each other.

Should your country wish to share or replicate good practices in the framework of the Firearms Champion Country Initiative, please contact:

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