



UNODC



Countering Illicit Firearms
Trafficking and Related Crimes

HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL LAUNCHING EVENT OF THE GLOBAL STUDY ON FIREARMS TRAFFICKING 2020

UNODC Support to Enhance Evidence-based
Action to Counter Illicit Firearms Trafficking

Vienna, 15 July 2020

Monitoring Illicit Arms Flows initiative

Development of Tools

Development and roll out of the Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire

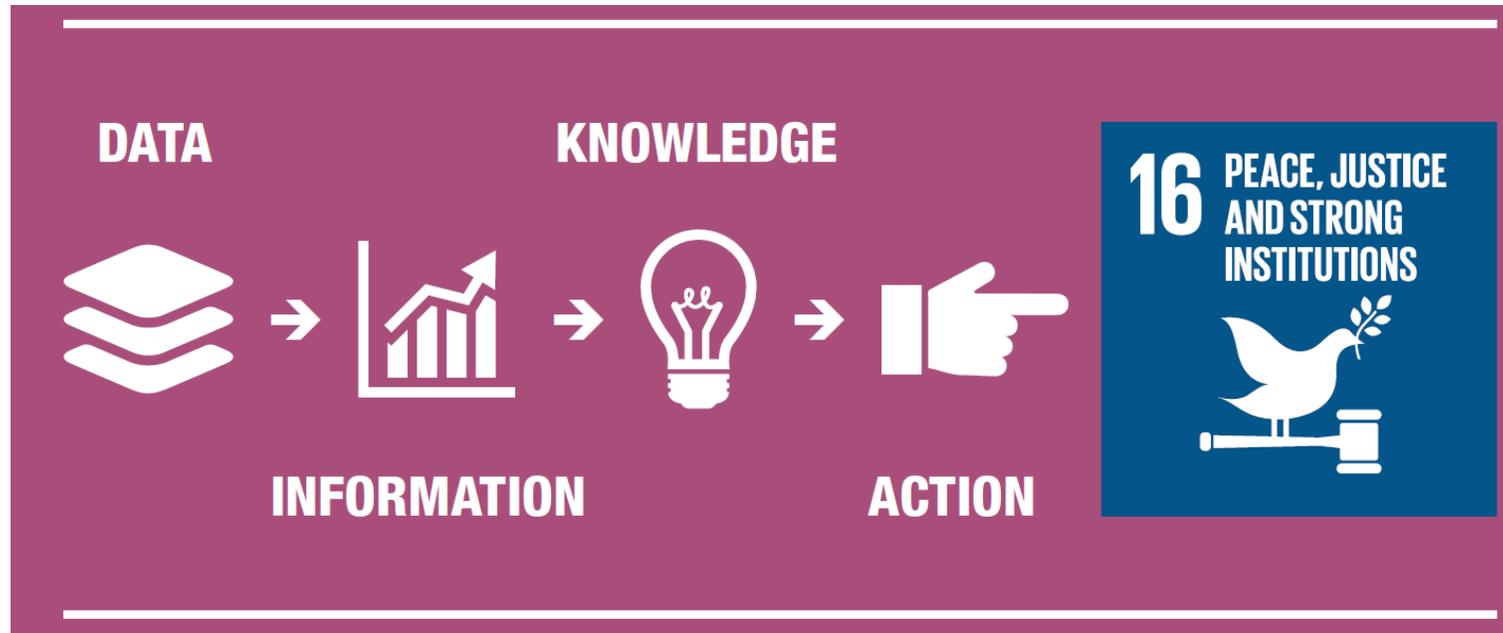
Technical Assistance

Raising awareness and strengthening the capacity of Member States in collecting and analyzing firearms-related

Research and Analysis

Producing and supporting the drafting of analytical outputs at global, regional and national levels

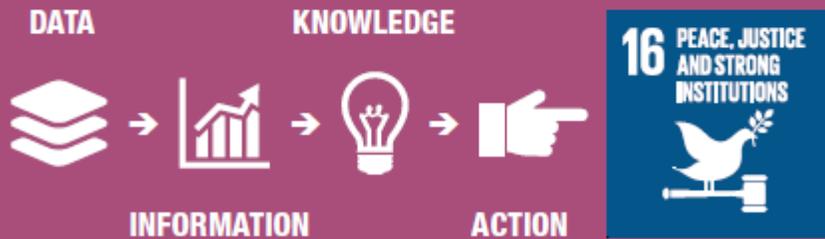
Monitoring Illicit Arms Flows initiative



How ? Creating link between criminal justice work and analytical efforts through technical assistance activities.

Supporting Evidence-
based Action to
**Counter Illicit Firearms
Trafficking and related
Forms of Crime**

ISSUE PAPER



Technical assistance component

The issue paper:

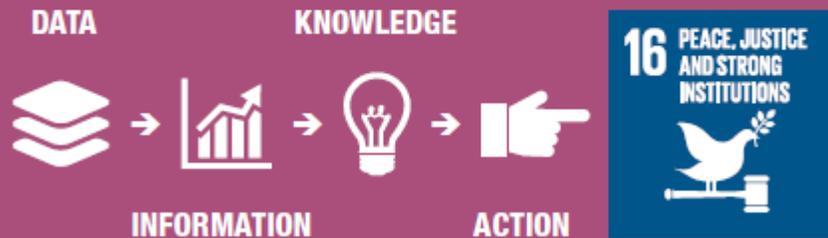
- Provides arguments for evidence-based action against firearms trafficking;
- Explains data points collected via the IAFQ;
- Suggests additional indicators along which data can be collected; and
- Identifies concrete ways for authorities to institutionalize the approach.



What is evidence-based action to counter illicit firearms trafficking?

A culture of decision making at policy and operational levels, that is informed and guided by the results of an ongoing analytical process of systematic collection and analysis of firearms-related data and information.

Guiding Templates for Firearms-related Investigations



Technical assistance component

The templates:

- Build on templates shared by various authorities and organizations;
- Aim to harmonize firearms data collection procedures;
- Indicate the type and scope of information to record in four stages:
 - the seizure of the item,
 - its in-depth analysis,
 - its tracing and, later on,
 - its judicial storage and disposal.

Possibilities for making use of the templates include:

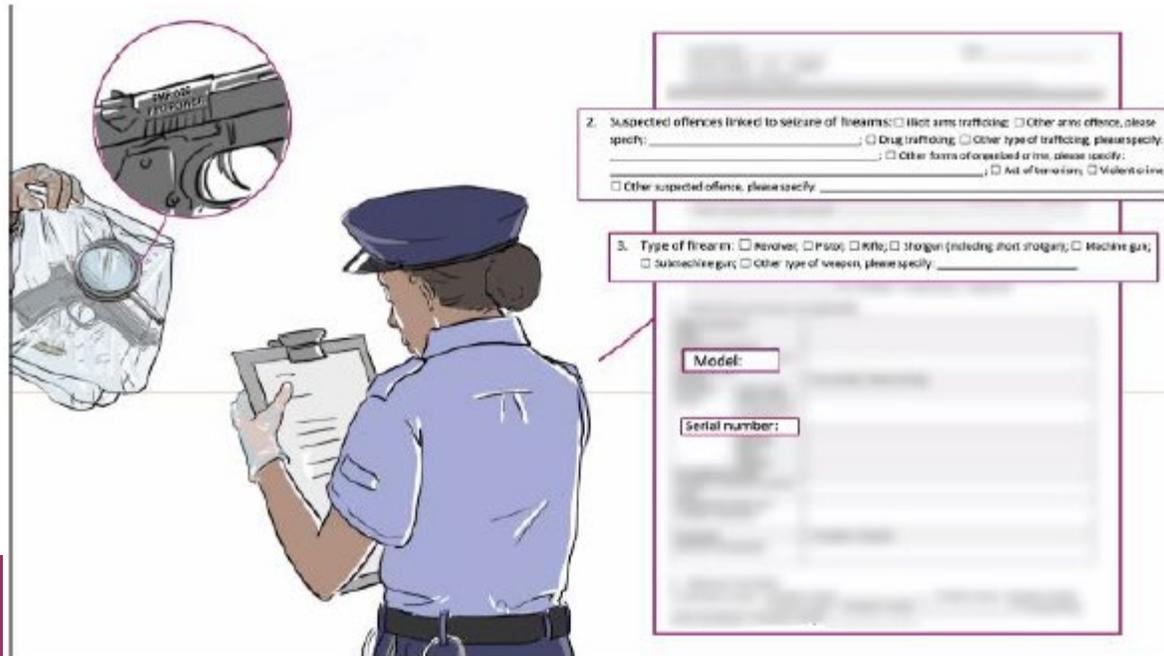
- Filling the gaps in existing templates;
- After contextualization, adopting the templates for regular use in criminal investigations; or
- Adopting the templates for specific purposes, such as cross-border law enforcement operations.

Technical assistance component



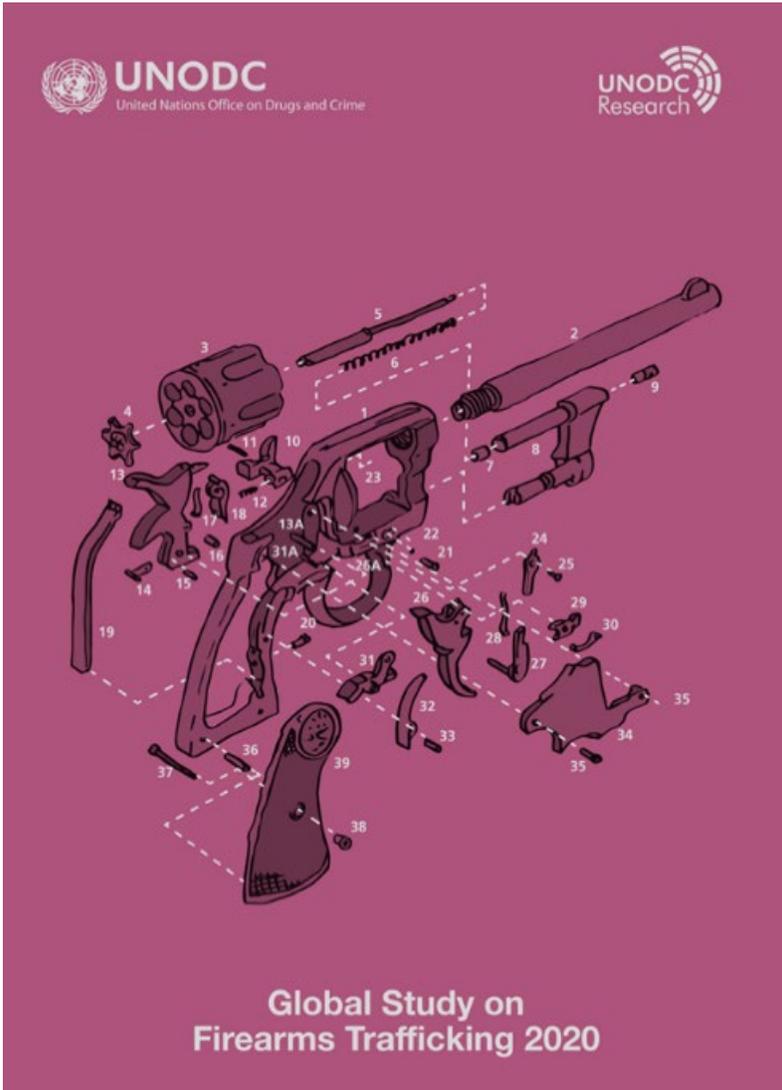
The video:

- Highlights data to be collected during investigative steps;
- Explains how systematic firearms data collection can support effective responses against illicit firearms trafficking;
- Is available in English, French and Spanish.



Key policy implications drawn from the study:

1. Seizure data need to be enriched with complementary analysis on the criminal context and on the illicit origin of the seized items.
2. Firearms trafficking remains a largely invisible phenomenon
 - Countries must double their efforts to prevent, detect and intercept illicit firearms flows, especially at borders and during transfers.
 - Enhanced border control and risk profiling capacities are required to prevent and intercept illicit movement of firearms, including those arriving through less conventional means such as parcel and postal services deliveries.
3. More strategic vision and proactive responsiveness from criminal justice is needed to look beyond the seized firearms and give priority to the objective of investigating and prosecuting the illicit trafficking activity.



Key policy implications drawn from the study:

4. Setting up systems to better understand, analyze and react to domestic and transnational extent of firearms trafficking.
5. Scaling up capacities, procedures and tools to trace and identify the illicit origin of seized, found and surrendered firearms and to record the results in an accessible manner.
6. Enhancing efforts to detect and seize parts and components of firearms, including via fast parcel deliveries, and to fight against various types of illicit manufacture of firearms, including conversion, assembly and craft production.
7. Law enforcement efforts should target different types of transportation, in particular vehicles and vessels.
8. Strengthen communication between countries seizing trafficked firearms and countries of manufacture and of diversion to improve or put in place preventive measures at the early stages of the supply chain and provide essential information for the export risk assessment to be undertaken by the exporting country.
9. Integrated and comprehensive data collection mechanisms and standardized templates and tools would help to attain and monitor SDG Target 16.4, as well as an increased participation and support for global data collection efforts.
10. States and the international community should invest in further research into existing links to other security threats and develop appropriate, multi-sectorial approaches.



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Thank you for your attention.

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