

Preventing and Solving Gun Crimes through Forensic Ballistics



What is forensic ballistics?

The application of science to the process of examining the characteristics of firearms and any cartridges or bullets left behind at a crime scene.

Our Approach

Improve **forensic ballistics capacities** through training and equipment.

Reinforce national **forensic procedures** for tracing illicit small arms and prosecuting criminals and traffickers.

Improve the **handling and processing of evidence** in firearms-related crime scene to reduce and combat impunity.

With the support of:



Beneficiaries



Forensic ballistics work contributes to the implementation of the International Tracing Instrument and the Programme of Action on Small Arms.

Facts

Developed

17

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Over

120

firearms examiners, law enforcement officials and related personnel trained.

Forensic ballistics

is an important part of forensic science. Ballistic evidence is used in criminal proceedings to absolve the innocent and convict the perpetrators.

The Caribbean region experiences an average rate of

20.5*

homicides per 100,000 inhabitants. Guns are used in approx.

65%

of homicides.

*Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Global Burden of Armed Violence: Every Body Counts, Cambridge University Press, 2015



United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC)

UNLIREC forms part of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and is headquartered in Lima, Peru. UNLIREC is mandated to strengthen the capacity of Member States to achieve sustainable peace and security through disarmament, conventional arms and ammunition control, and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It also provides technical assistance in line with international best practices and standards.